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JUNE 2009
TO
AUG. 2009

Semi-finals dominate very busy weekend

AN INDICATION of just how quickly the season has progressed is that already the U12 league competitions have reached semi-final stages and there is a full fixture sheet down for decision this weekend.

Last evening the first semi-final of the A competition will have been decided when Ballinhassig and Courcy Rovers met in Carrigaline, this morning the second semi-final has Éire Óg in action against Valley Rovers in Coachford at 11.15am.

It will be a busy day in Coachford with seven games in total taking place with two pitches in operation.

The B semi-finals will be decided when Na Piarasigh meet Killeagh and Sarsfield's do battle against the local side Aghabullogue. Attention will then turn to the C competition where Kilbrittain / Timoleague meet Newtownshandrum and Ballinascarty oppose Ballyhea.

The final games on the busy time-sheet are the D semi-finals where Clonakilty face Carrigrohilly and Mallow 2 are in opposition to Ballinacurra.

A hectic day's camogie to look forward to.

FIXTURES TODAY

U12 B semi-finals both games at 12.30pm: Na Piarasigh v Killeagh; Aghabullogue v Sarsfield.

U12 C semi-finals both games at 1.45pm: Kilbrittain / Timoleague v Newtownshandrum; Ballinascarty v Ballyhea.

U12 D semi-finals both game at 3pm: Mallow 2 v Ballinacurra; Clonakilty v Carrigrohilly.

NA PIARASIGH

WE would like to congratulate Amy O'Connor, Rebecca Sheehan, Erin McElhinney and Louise Dorgan on being picked to play for the Cork Primary School teams that played in the James Hurley Blitz in Mallow last weekend. Our girls came up against county teams from Dublin, Kilkenny, Galway, Limerick, Clare and Waterford.

Our U12 team will be competing in the league semi-final in Coachford today and we would like to wish them all the best of luck.

FR O'NEILL'S

Presently training continues for all ages but with exams all U16, U18, Minor and Intermediate matches are on hold. The U12 B team and U14 team are still in action.

U12s: Our U12 girls along with Killeagh and Sarsfield ended in their section of the league with level points. So we needed to play both of these teams again. We had beaten Sarsfield but had lost to Killeagh. We headed to Sarsfield but luck was not on our side. The girls tried hard but Sarsfield were the stronger on the day, final result Sarsfield 4-2, O'Neill's 0-2.

We travelled to Killeagh where our girls lined out with determination, this was their only chance left to qualify for the final. The first-half saw two very balanced sides with nothing between them, Killeagh got a point, Fr O'Neill's got two points, followed by Killeagh's equalising point. With a few wides

from both sides we were left at full-time score of Killeagh 0-2 Fr O'Neill's 0-2. Extra time of 10 minutes was called where Fr O'Neill's got the first point but Killeagh responded with a goal. Devastation sunk in and our weary girls tried their best but Killeagh went ahead with another goal and two points. Our girls gave us a match that we were all extremely proud of how each girl had played. Final score after ten minutes extra time was Killeagh 2-4 Fr O'Neill's 0-4.

Scorers: Keelagh Cullinane 0-4.
Team: Ashling Bernard, Elaine Smiddy, Clara O'Neill, Orla O'Neill, Sarah O'Sullivan, Caoimhe Sexton, Aoife Dunne, Rebecca Walsh, Rachel Dunne, Nicole Harrington, Keelagh Cullinane, Aoife Millerick, Teresa Pomphrett, Sarah Lee, Sinead Broderick.

Subs: Niamh Bernard, Kate Finn, Rachel Millerick, Lauren O'Donoghue, Chloe Bolton.

BRIAN DILLON'S

A very exciting match played in Whites Cross in magnificent sunshine. Fantastic team play was evident from Brian Dillon's. A point from Emma Sharpe and a superb goal from Caoimhe Rodgers ensured Brian Dillon's were winning by a goal at half-time.

Dillon's put Buttevant under pressure from the start and this was evident in the first half where most of the play took place between midfield and Buttevant's goal.

Shauna Walsh stood strong and made some great saves. Buttevant made efforts to

score but were stopped by strong defenders Sadhbh Shannon, Niamh Cotter, Nicole Malone, and Emma Carroll and Niamh O'Leary.

Shauna Ring passed some great ball up the field. Ruth Brosnan and Kayleigh Luby played very well in midfield and forwards Alison Smith, Jessica Aigbologa, Chloe O'Mahony and Essie O'Connell kept up the pressure.

Caoimhe Rodgers drove the ball at every opportunity. In the second-half points were got by Caoimhe Rodgers and Emma Sharpe and Ruth Brosnan. At this stage the teams were equal and Buttevant scored a goal. The Dillon's girls pulled out all the stops to get a goal in the final minutes and were unlucky not to equalise.

Thanks to coach John Ring and all the parents who came along to support the team. Full-time score Buttevant 3-2, Brian Dillon's 1-5.

Team: S Walsh, S Shannon, N Malone, N Cotter, E Carroll, S Ring, N O'Leary, R Brosnan, K Luby, A Smith, C Rodgers, E Sharpe, C O'Mahony, J Aigbologa, Essie O'Connell.

Subs: Kira O'Sullivan, Sinéad Mills.

Scorers for Brian Dillon's:
First Half Scorers: Caoimhe Rodgers 1-2, Emma Sharpe 0-2, Ruth Brosnan 0-1.

Congratulations to the U14B Cork Colleges team who won the James Hurley Memorial

Glen girls maintain their winning run

Glen Rovers
Kilbrittain / Timoleague

5-11
0-8

GLEN ROVERS kept their one 100% record intact as they finished their games in section two of the Senior B League with a victory over Kilbrittain / Timoleague in Kilbrittain on Wednesday last.

By MARY NEWMAN
Senior B League

The going was tough as both sides battled against the intense heat on a glorious summer evening and it was the home side who took an early lead with a point from Marion Murphy inside the opening five minutes.

The Glen girls had to be at their best to deny Kilbrittain further scores as they sought to stretch their lead. Aileen Guiton and Lydia Cunningham working hard to hold off the challenges of Miriam Deasy and Sadie McCarthy who worked hard for Kilbrittain, while at the other end Avril Desmond in the Kilbrittain goal was in excellent form denying the Glen forwards with some good saves.

Glen settled into the game with a goal and a point from Leeann O'Sullivan and with Aoife Walsh, Sinead Gallen, Sinead Fahy, Michelle Hegarty and Lydia Cunningham adding to their tally with points, they led by seven before Miriam Deasy pegged one back for Kilbrittain / Timoleague as the visitors led 1-6 to 0-2 at the interval.

Glen kept the pressure on from the restart. Cornelia Shortt and Denise Luby firing over points before Leeann O'Sullivan grabbed her second goal,

in between Sadie McCarthy points for Kilbrittain as the West Cork side battled to find a way past Kelly Newman in the Glen goal who turned in a superb hour for her side denying Kilbrittain on several occasions.

With Sinead Gallen magnificent at midfield, Glen Rovers enjoyed plenty of possession and when her long range effort found the net on the three quarter stage the Glen began to pull away.

Goals from Aoife Walsh and Lydia Cunningham ensured the points were secured despite the best efforts of Marion Murphy, Emer O'Sullivan and Miriam Deasy.

Scorers for Glen Rovers: L O Sullivan 2-2, A Walsh S Gallen L Cunningham 1-1 each, D Luby C Shortt 0-2 each, S Fahy M Hegarty 0-1 each.

Kilbrittain / Timoleague: M Murphy 0-4, M Deasy S McCarthy, Emer O'Sullivan Eiblish O'Sullivan 0-1 each.

GLEN ROVERS: K Newman: Z Buckley, A Guiton, T Cunningham, M Hegarty, L Cunningham, B Walsh, S Gallen S Fahy, E Riordan, C Shortt, D Luby, L O Sullivan, A Walsh, S Callanan.

KILBRITTAIN: A Desmond; S Lehan, G O'Brien, E O'Donovan; A O'Sullivan, Emer O'Sullivan, M Murphy, S O'Mahony, Eiblish O'Sullivan; M Delea, S McCarthy, M Fullam; M Deasy, S Hurley, R O'Mahony. Subs: M Hodnett for S Hurley.

Referee: Pat Keohane.



Glen Rovers officials Mary Sheehan, Mary McCarthy-Newman and Denise Luby (Glen Rovers, Cork minor and Cork senior 2 player) presented a set of jerseys to the Scoil Oilibheir, Ballyvolane camogie team recently. Included are the camogie panel with their coaches Fiona McSweeney and Deirdre Daly. Picture: Mike English

Competitions for U11 players in Seandún will run through June

COMPETITIONS for U11 players in the Seandún division get underway this week in three grades and as all of the players in this grade are primary school pupils the competitions will run through the month of June with all games in the sections to be completed by June 30. However with some city clubs still involved in the play-off stages of the county U12 competitions there will be a one week leeway for any unplayed matches, these to be played by Sunday September 13.

The groups will be U11 Premier,

U11 A and U11 B thus giving a chance to all clubs to compete at a level suitable to their standard. Find the fixtures below and contact no for the various teams.

The groupings are as follows: Premier: Glen Rovers 1, Douglas 1, Vincent's 1, Brian Dillon's 1, Na Piarasigh 1; A: Passage, Bishopstown, Barrs 1, Blackrock; B: Glen Rovers 2, Douglas 2, Barrs 2, Vincent's 2, Na Piarasigh 2.

Fixtures are as follows with the first team named having home venue games will be 20 minutes a side on a

short pitch.

FIXTURES

PREMIER: Glen Rovers 1 v Douglas 1, St Vincent's 1 v Brian Dillon's, Na Piarasigh 1 v Glen Rovers 1, Douglas 1 v Vincent's 1, Brian Dillon's v Na Piarasigh, Glen Rovers 1 v Vincent's 1, Douglas 1 v Brian Dillon's, Na Piarasigh 1 v Douglas 1, Brian Dillon's v Glen Rovers 1, Vincent's 1 v Na Piarasigh 1.

A GRADE: Passage v Bishopstown, St Finbarrs 1 v Blackrock, Bishopstown v Blackrock, Passage v St Finbarrs 1, Blackrock v Passage, St Finbarrs 1 v Bishopstown.

B GRADE: Glen Rovers 2 v Douglas 2, St Finbarrs 2 v St Vincent's 2, Na Piarasigh 2 v St Vincent's 2, Douglas 2 v Na Piarasigh 2, St Vincent's 2 v Na Piarasigh 2, Douglas 2 v St Vincent's 2, St Finbarrs 2 v Glen Rovers 2, Glen Rovers 2 v Barrs 2, Na Piarasigh 2 v Douglas 2, St Vincent 2 v Glen Rovers 2.

Camogie clubs news and

Shield held in Mallow last weekend. Ruth Brosnan, Shauna Ring and Caoimhe Rodgers played great games and it was a great privilege for the Brian Dillon's Camogie Club when Captain Shauna Ring accepted the Shield on behalf of the Cork team. Well done girls.

ST CATHERINE'S

Senior League: Rockban were recent visitors to Ballynoe to fulfil this league fixture. This was a unique occasion as it was the first meeting of these two teams at senior level. Rockban proved strong opposition despite being without last year's Cork captain, Cathiona Foley and were competitive right to the end. We led at half time by one goal and had extended our advantage by the full time whistle to seven points. A feature of the game was Annemarie Hayes' two goals and also the strong play of Denise Twomey who notched up 1-4. Full time scores St Catherine's 4-12 Rockban 2-11.

Team: D Leahy, F Noonan (c), N Mulcahy, D Mulcahy, Y O'Neill, L Power, C Metherway, O Cotter, M Daly, A Hayes, F Neville, J Hurley, L Higgins, C McGovern, D Twomey.

Subs: A Mangan for M Daly, M O'Keefe for J Hurley.

Scorers: D Twomey 1-4, A Hayes 2-0, O

Cotter 0-5(f), F Neville 0-2, L Higgins 1-0, C McGovern 0-1.

U12 League: We recently played Bride Rovers in the U12 league and ran out comfortable winners notching up 5-4 in the process. All our girls played very well on this night with strong performances from Maeve Walsh, Emer O'Brien, Aine Mulcahy and Nicole Coughlan.

Panel: S Corcoran, F Leahy, A O'Keefe, C Galvin, E O'Keefe, A Mulcahy, A Dineen, M Walsh, E O'Brien, E Walsh, N Coughlan, L Hayes, C Hayes, E Roche, J Leahy-Dingivan, G Ahern, R Dooley.

Scorers: E O'Brien 2-2, E Roche 1-0, N Coughlan 1-1, A Mulcahy 1-0, M Walsh 0-1.

Inter-county activities: Pride of place this week goes to our juvenile members Rachel O'Callaghan and Meabh Mulcahy. Rachel played on the Cork Colleges U14 team who took part in the Cork blitz. This competition was held at the Mallow GAA Complex on Saturday last the Cork colleges being defeated at the quarter-final stages. Meabh Mulcahy must have been one of the busiest players about last weekend. On Saturday Meabh played with Cork U14 development squad in Mallow and on Sunday represented Cork in the primary game competition in Thurles. Con-

JUNE 2009



LINDA MELLERICK

Dublin, Limerick to face uphill fight

THE two sides left to look at in the run into this year's All-Ireland senior championship are Dublin and Limerick.

Dublin are managed by Peter Lucey and have 26 titles to their name, the last won in 1984.

Back-to-back Junior titles in '05 and '06 saw Dublin progress to senior ranks for the 2007 season.

Twenty six senior titles between 1932 and 1984 led to a barren run for the capital and they are still a bit off the mark.

Kathleen Mills to this day holds the record for the most senior titles at 15. Her record is unlikely to be equalled. I hope this is one record that is never matched as it will mean that at national level Camogie would be in a very poor state.

Dublin has had a pointless run in this year's National league campaign. Defeats to Kilkenny and Tipperary were possibly expected but the Dubs loss to newcomers Clare would have been a bitter pill to swallow after the steady progression they felt they have made to date at senior level.

Dublin would have been better served if selected in group 2 for the championship which contains Wexford, Galway, Clare and Limerick.

Come championship time they would hope to account for Clare and Limerick. However, they are instead paired with Cork, Tipperary and Kilkenny and realistically they will end their 2009 championship with the wooden spoon.

Limerick under the management of Phelim Mackey have not won any titles.

I'm always pretty critical of Limerick and I'm sure they're not very happy with me about that but it's a shame to see talent go to waste and Limerick have had so much of it over the years.

All Stars Vera Sheehan and Eileen O'Brien are players I hold in high esteem. Grace McNamara, Aoife Sheehan, Niamh Mulcahy are other good hurlers. This is the reason why the All Star Awards is a great ceremony, acknowledging players regardless of whether they achieve important Silverware. There was much talk about Limerick when Ciarán Carey took over at the helm and the side won the All Ireland B title two years ago.



Passage U12 C camogie team who played Dungourney. Anne McSweeney, Chloe Corkery, Danielle Burke, Elaine Coleman, Lisha Heffernane, Emma Harrington, Katie O'Shea, Kate Dorgan, Grainne Quirke, Enya Breen, Orla Higgins, Ellen O'Mahony, Rea O'Mahony, Amy O'Neill, Niamh Santry, Laura Byrne.

But they got past Cork's second team at the second attempt and were always going to be up against it once they stepped back up to the top flight. Now that Limerick is back up there, the belief and enthusiasm they displayed in the B grade is hopefully not gone. You would hope that the step down and gradual pro-

gression back up would have developed the team.

Limerick are training hard since last November. They shipped a heavy defeat to Galway in the opening round of the national league, scoring a humiliating single point during the hour.

To their credit they didn't throw

in the towel even when faced with the daunting task of facing All-Ireland contenders Wexford in round two. The Slaneysiders were clearly the dominant force in the opening 30 minutes, but Limerick stayed in touch with Niamh Mulcahy pointing from placed balls. Unfortunately Limerick remained pointless after

their 10-point defeat to Cork. A competitive Limerick side looked more balanced than usual but they couldn't match Cork's flair and experience and the outcome never in doubt.

Limerick are unlikely to trouble Galway and Wexford come Championship time. Their opening encounter on June 20 is a home venue to Wexford. Clare follows on July 18 and should Limerick fail to take points from the debutants then their future at this level would be a concern. Playing Galway in the West on August 1 is as tough an encounter as you'll get and with Galway possibly fighting for a place in the semi-final at that stage a victory for Limerick would be very doubtful. Wexford and Galway will be the sides who advance to the semi-finals from group two.

Re-introduction of intermediate grade

THE recent decision by the county board to re-introduce the intermediate grade was welcomed by the clubs as a lot of clubs felt 13 teams was too many in the top junior grade, therefore it was a matter of dividing up with the top six making the step up to Intermediate with the

remaining seven forming the junior A grade. League competitions are well underway in both grades but championship will be the main focus for all the clubs and to this end the county board we delighted to recently accept a trophy for the Intermediate

championship when the Presentation Sisters kindly donated the Nano Nagle Cup to the board with the help of the county board's president Kay Dunne a past pupil and former player from the South Presentation convent. There will be plenty of determination to become the

first holders of the magnificent trophy and certainly the six clubs are looking forward to doing battle to become the first name on the trophy, those doing battle will be Newtownshandrum, Fr O'Neills, Clonakilty, Tracton, Mallow and Sarsfields.

reports by Mary Newman

gratulations to both players.

SCIATH NA SCOIL

Congratulations to Ballynoe NS on reaching the camogie final in their section in this competition. Playing against near neighbours, Dungourney, we had to give best to a stronger opposition. Well done to our girls who nevertheless put in a tremendous effort throughout this competition and especially in the final. Well done also to their teacher and coach Annette Fitzgerald.

Panel: Katie England, Laura Ahern, Meabh Mulcahy, Joanne O'Keefe, Maeve Walsh, Bláithín O'Keefe, Mariella Leahy Teehan, Leanne Hartnett, Frances Leahy, Alice O'Keefe, Nadine Philpott, Aileen Hegarty, Emily Walsh.

Wedding bells: Congratulations to senior team member Maria Daly on her recent marriage to Brendan Mulcahy and we wish them both health and happiness in their married life together.

ST FINBARR'S

St Finbarr's put in a tremendous performance against Douglas in the U12 C League recently. From the throw-in St Finbarr's were on top and played some first class camogie. Erin Ryan, Aoife Hallahan, Caoimhe McCarthy, Rachel Lynch, Orla McCarthy and Hayley

O'Byrne were in great form for the winners. Scorers: Caoimhe McCarthy 2-5, Rachel O'Regan 1-0, Amy Cotter 1-0 and Erin Ryan 0-1.

St. Finbarr's: Aisling Twohig, Katie Lynam, Hayley O'Brien, Karen Santry, Rachel Lynch, Aoife Hallahan, Orla McCarthy, Erin Ryan, Clara Keating, Kevea McCarthy, Kendal O'Connor, Rebecca O'Sullivan, Amy Cotter, Aisling Ahern, Rhiannon Walsh, Nadine Carroll, Sarah Robinson, Megan Cahill, Roisin Boyle, Muireann Holland, Rachel O'Regan and Michelle Crowley.

GLEN ROVERS

Plenty of action in the week gone by as the sun continued to shine last weekend Ballinacraig paid a visit to the Glen Field on Saturday when the youngest members of both clubs played several games. Over 80 young and enthusiastic players from aged five to 10 enjoyed a great morning's camogie. Well done to all the young players, to the parents who lent a hand organising pitches etc, and to our players from the U12 U14 and U16 teams who turned out to help out, well done to everybody.

U14s: Our U14 team travelled to Ballygarvan to play the home side in a league game and came away with the points on offer,

throughout the contest we had some great performances from everybody. We took an early lead with a point from Jennifer Hosford and with Aisling O'Brien adding a goal, we held the lead. Ballygarvan struck back with two points but points from Lauren Callanan and Jennifer Hosford helped us hold the lead, before the break Jennifer Hosford added her second goal before two goals from Sarah Bridgeman gave us a 4-3 to 0-3 half-time lead.

The second half was a much closer affair Ballygarvan added 1-1 to their tally but we extended our lead with further scores from Lauren Callanan and Kay Lynn Lee to run out winners, well done girls on an excellent display.

Seniors: Our senior team played the final game in their section of the league with a trip to Kilbrittain on Wednesday last and they continued their progress with a superb victory to go top of their section and ensure themselves of a semi-final spot. Our opponents took an early lead with a point and we had to withstand a lot of pressure but with our defence in superb form their was no way through. We opened our scoring with a superb goal from our young corner forward Leeann O'Sullivan. Aoife Walsh followed with a point and with Lee Ann O'Sullivan her firing over a point we settled into the game. Before the half time whistle points from the two Sinead's, Gallen and Fahy, Cornelia Shortt, Michelle Hegarty

and Lydia Cunningham gave us a half time lead of eight points.

Through the second half we continued to work hard, our defence standing firm under pressure while up front we picked off scores, goals from Sinead Gallen, Aoife Walsh and Lydia Cunningham kept us on the road to victory while Denise Luby, Cornelia Shortt and Leeann O'Sullivan added points to see the points safely secured.

Scorers for Glen Rovers: L O'Sullivan 2-2, A Walsh S Gallen L Cunningham 1-1 each, D Luby C Shortt 0-2 each, S Fahy M Hegarty 0-1 each.

GLEN ROVERS: K Newman : Z Buckley, A Guiton, T Cunningham; M Hegarty, L Cunningham, B Walsh; S Gallen S Fahy; E Riordan, C Shortt, D Luby; L O Sullivan, A Walsh, S Callanan

Congratulations: Well done to Scoil Oilibhéir who captured the hurling Sciath na Scoil Roinn A title on Thursday last, well done to everybody on a great day for the school.

Sympathy: We extend our sympathy to our club player Laura Davis and her family on their recent bereavement our thoughts and prayers are with Tracy and her family at this time.

Fixtures: U11 Seandun league Monday June 8th at the Glen Field; Glen Rovers "1" v Douglas "1" at 5.15pm

Glen Rovers "2" v Douglas "2" at 6 pm; Thursday June 11th at Glen Field; Glen

Rovers "1" v St Vincent's "1" at 6pm

Glen Rovers "2" v St Vincent's "2" at 6.45pm

INNISCARRA

U14 League: Newtownshandrum were our opposition recently in the U14 league where Inniscarra put the pressure on from the throw-in resulting in early scores from Niamh McCarthy and Joanne Walton. However, the game soon settled with Newtownshandrum placing pressure on the Inniscarra backs resulting in a goal.

Inniscarra returned with excellent play between the centre field and the half forward line resulting in a further four points. Newtownshandrum were not shaken and again returned to score another goal and a point before the end of the first half.

The beginning of the second half saw a pretty even game with backs and forwards being fed lots of ball. Inniscarra were finally successful in breaking through with a goal from Niamh Burns. This was followed by three goals from Joanne Walton (2) and Laura O'Carroll (1). Niamh McCarthy went on to score two further points. And the final goal of the game was a penalty taken by Niamh McCarthy. Full time score: Inniscarra 6-10, Newtownshandrum 2-1

Niamh McCarthy 1-9, Niamh Burns 1-1, Joanne Walton 3-0 Laura O'Carroll 1-0.

Under 12 camogie leagues reach final stage

IT was a busy weekend for under age camogie with the eight semi-finals of the Under 12 leagues from A to D grade played.

First into the action were Ballinacorney and Courcy Rovers who met in the first of the A semi-finals in Carrigaline and in a close encounter Ballinacorney advanced with a goal to spare at the final whistle on a 1-1 to 0-1 scoreline. The second semi-final was the first game on seven fixture calendar in Coachford where the host club provided two pitches for the full day which enabled seven games to take place. The second semi-final proved to be just as close as the first game, one score again between the teams at the full-time whistle as Eire Og booked their place in the final with

Right, Coachford, the Munster Colleges first year champions.

Under 12 A Final: Ballinacorney v Eire Og
Under 12 B Final: Killeagh v Sarsfields
Under 12 C Final: Clonakilty v Kilbrittan / Timoleague
Under 12 D Final: Ballinacorney v Ballyhea

a one point victory over Valley Rovers on a 3-5 to 4-1.

The B semi-finals were next on the agenda and it was Killeagh who prevailed over Na Piarasigh on a 4-1 to 0-4 score line, the second semi-final proved a tough clash between Aghbullogue and Sarsfields. Level at full time one goal apiece, it took extra time to find a winner, again in extra time their was little between the sides as they turned



around level at the short break neither side managing to break the deadlock. However Sarsfields were

the side who breached the home sides defence to record a Sars 2-1 to 1-0 victory and grab themselves a

place in the final.

The C semi-finals had Kilbrittan / Timoleague in action against Newtownshandrum while Ballinacorney met Ballyhea, it was Kilbrittan who held the upper hand over Newtownshandrum as they recorded a five point victory on a 2-4 to 1-2 score line, and Ballyhea had two goals to spare over Ballinacorney to book their spot in the final 2-1 to 0-1 the final score.

In the D semi-finals Clonakilty held out for a narrow one point win over Carrigtwohill 2-1 to 1-3 the final score, their opponents in the final will be Ballinacorney who proved to strong for Malloys second team 5-2 to 3-1.

The finals take place next weekend.

Seandún under-11 competitions underway

COMPETITIONS for under 11 players in the city division get under way this week. There will be three grades of competition with games running through the month of June to be completed by June 30. The groups are Under 11 Premier, Under 11 A and Under 11 B thus giving a chance to all clubs to compete at a level suitable to their standard. The groupings are as follows:

Premier: Glen Rovers 1, Douglas 1, Vincent's 1, Brian Dillon's 1, Na Piarasigh 1.
A: Passage, Bishopstown, Barrs 1, Blackrock.
B: Glen Rovers 2, Douglas 2, Barrs 2, Vincent's 2, Na Piarasigh 2.
Fixtures are as follows with the first team named having home venue games will be twenty minutes a side

on a short pitch.

Premier
Glen Rovers 1 v Douglas 1
St Vincent's 1 v Brian Dillon's
Na Piarasigh 1 v Glen Rovers 1
Douglas 1 v Vincent's 1
Brian Dillon's v Na Piarasigh
Glen Rovers 1 v Vincent's 1
Douglas 1 v Brian Dillon's
Na Piarasigh 1 v Douglas 1
Brian Dillon's v Glen Rovers 1
Vincent's 1 v Na Piarasigh 1
A GRADE
Passage v Bishopstown
St Finbarrs 1 v Blackrock
Bishopstown v Blackrock
Passage v St Finbarrs 1
Blackrock v Passage
St Finbarrs 1 v Bishopstown
B GRADE
Glen Rovers 2 v Douglas 2
St Finbarrs 2 v St Vincent's 2
Na Piarasigh 2 v Glen Rovers 2
Douglas 2 v St Finbarrs 2
St Vincent's 2 v Na Piarasigh 2
Douglas 2 v St Vincent's 2
St Finbarrs 2 v Na Piarasigh 2
Glen Rovers 2 v Barrs 2
Na Piarasigh 2 v Douglas 2
St Vincent 2 v Glen Rovers 2

James Hurley Under 14 blitz a runaway success

KILKENNY again showed that they are continuing to make huge progress at under age level when they annexed the James Hurley under 14 blitz titles recently.

It was a first victory for Kilkenny since the tournament's inception 10 years ago and they will be pleased with the continued success they are enjoying at under age level with All Ireland titles at under 16 and minor in recent times. With teams from Galway, Tipperary, Dublin, Kilkenny, Clare, Limerick and holders Cork Colleges playing games in a round robin format action was non stop through the day.

Cork defeated Clare and Dublin but lost to Limerick by a point in the round robin series of games as they booked



Cork Colleges Under 14 B, winners of the James Hurley Memorial Shield.

their spot in the quarter final where they lost out to Galway. Kilkenny worked hard to book their place in the decider where they grabbed a late goal

to defeat Tipperary in an exciting final.

In the B competition, there were celebrations for the Cork Colleges B teams as they made

it three-in-a-row. In the round robin series they had victories over Clare, Dublin and Tipperary to set up a final meeting with Galway whom they defeated by one goal in a close final.

In the C final the Dublin under 13 squad overcame the challenge of Offaly to take the spoils, and so another successful James Hurley blitz reached its conclusion and was a fitting memory to the late James who worked so hard to promote camogie before his untimely death.

Gala Year for Camogie Players!

- Gala All-Ireland Camogie Championships are launched in Croke Park -

The 2009 Gala All-Ireland Camogie Championships were launched today, 10th June, in Croke Park by President Joan O'Flynn, Denise Lord, Customer Service Manager of Gala, and the captains of the 27 counties competing in this year's Championships at senior, intermediate and junior level.

The Gala All Ireland Senior Championship will be the most hotly contested in recent years with eight teams now competing for the O'Duffy Cup. Clare have joined the senior ranks this year following success in the Gala All Ireland Junior Final in 2008 when they beat Offaly in a thrilling final in Croke Park. Recognising the awesome contributions of the players involved Gala has introduced an award for the Senior Camogie player who delivers the most outstanding performance of the season, as voted for by the public - the Gala Performance Award. The player will win the Gala Performance Award trophy and a 5* luxury weekend break.

Newly-appointed President of the Camogie Association, Joan O'Flynn, said at the launch:

"This year's Championships have been ten years in the making as 2009 marks the transition from a 12-a side to a 15-a side game. In the last decade there is no doubt the inter-county game has been transformed and the standard has increased to new levels. I welcome too the Gala award which is an excellent addition to our senior championships as it recognises the individual and is not based on an entire team's performance. It enhances Gala's outstanding support for Camogie."

"Attending matches is one of the most important ways of giving recognition to our players and increasing attendances is something we can improve on. In this context, the support of national and local media is much appreciated. Web broadcasting by RTE of some of our senior championships games is an innovative aspect of this year's Gala All Ireland series, while the Sunday Game will show highlights of our weekly senior matches.

"Our relationship with the GAA is also crucial. This year we look forward to staging a number of our championship games in county grounds around the country and, of course, to All Ireland finals day here on September 13th in Croke Park."

Reigning champions Cork will be hoping to move a step closer to the top of the roll of honour by retaining the crown they won last year for the 23rd time. However, there will be several teams waiting to relieve them of the O'Duffy Cup including last season's runners up Galway and 2007 winners Wexford who made a significant statement already this season by winning the National League Division One and Two titles. Tipperary is another county looking to add to their five titles accumulated in the early 00's. Newcomers to this year's Senior Championship, Clare, will be out to make a good impression while Dublin will be looking to make an impact in their opening clash away to Cork. Kilkenny too come in search of silverware having built on massive underage successes while Limerick are seeking to get back to All Ireland glory having secured the intermediate title two years ago.

Gala, the Championship's title sponsors are celebrating four years of involvement with the Camogie Association and have pledged their support until 2010.

Speaking at the launch, Denise Lord, Customer Service Manager of Gala, said: "Our partnership with the Camogie Association has been immensely successful for the Group over the past three years. Many of our shoppers, staff, family and friends have close ties with Camogie, an iconic female sport, which is why the sponsorship is so highly-regarded in our stores' communities."

"Gala stores are unique and from our research, we found that Gala stands for great value, quality stores and the friendly community spirit of Gala. Every day of the year, Gala stores are performing to the best of their ability therefore we wanted to extend this by rewarding a Camogie player who delivers a unique performance. Most importantly, the award is voted for by the public."

The Gala All-Ireland championship action begins on Saturday June 20th. At senior level All Ireland champions Cork entertaining Dublin, while Wexford travel to play Limerick. On the same day 12 teams will compete in the junior championship of which Offaly and Antrim are vying to get back to centre stage. Derry will be hoping to impress in the intermediate grade.

Details on how to vote for the player who you think should win the Gala Performance Award will be posted on www.gala.ie and www.camogie.ie by the 20th June 2009. The Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship action begins on Saturday June 20th with All Ireland champions Cork entertaining Dublin, while Wexford travel to play Limerick.

Gala Notes to Editors:

- > The Gala brand was established in 1998 and celebrated ten years in business in 2008.
- > Gala is Ireland's fastest-growing convenience retailer of the decade.
- > Gala has in excess of 200 stores across Ireland.
- > Gala employs over 3,000 people in both retail and wholesale operations.
- > Gala's projected group retail sales in 2009 will be in excess of €550 million Gala currently sources €200 million from Irish suppliers.
- > Gala Retail Services, through the company's association with the Stonehouse buying group has access to buying power in excess of €2 billion

Gala All Ireland Senior Championship Roll of Honour

Dublin	26
Cork	23
Kilkenny	12
Antrim	6
Tipperary	5
Wexford	4
Galway	1

Gala All Ireland Championships - Participating Counties

Grade	Cup	Counties
Senior	O'Duffy Cup	Cork, Clare, Dublin Galway, Kilkenny, Limerick, Tipperary, Wexford
Intermediate	Jack McGrath Cup	Cork, Derry, Galway, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Wexford, Clare
Junior A	New Ireland Cup	Antrim, Down, Dublin, Laois, Waterford, Meath, Offaly
Junior B	Nancy Murray Cup	Roscommon, Carlow, Kildare, Armagh, Tyrone, Westmeath
Junior C	Maire Ni Chennedie Cup	Donegal, Monaghan, Mayo, Louth, Cavan, Wicklow

Additional information

Over 100,000 women and girls play camogie throughout Ireland and abroad
There are almost 550 Camogie Clubs
The All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship Final was first played at Croke Park in 1934.
There was a record attendance of 34,000 people at the 2007 Gala All Ireland Senior & Junior Finals last year
The first Player Welfare Camogie Committee was recently set up by President Joan O'Flynn
Camogie is played overseas in the United States, Europe, Australia, Dubai
For further information on Camogie visit www.camogie.ie

COMPETITIONS ALREADY COMPLETED THIS YEAR

Wexford won the 2009 Division One and Two Camogie National League finals. Wexford captain Aoife O'Connor delayed her honeymoon by two weeks to play in the final. Aoife married former Wexford hurler Declan Ruth.
Down won the Division Three title the same day the Down footballers claimed Division Three honours - Ross Carr managed the football team while daughters Sara Louise and Fionnuala featured on the camogie team
Joan O'Flynn who resides in Celbridge presented her first trophy to Kildare following their defeat of Westmeath in the Division Four league final
Galway are All Ireland U16 camogie champions - rising stars Niamh, Orlaith and Clodagh McGrath who played major parts are daughters of Hopper McGrath. Niamh is a member of the Galway Senior Camogie panel for 2009

JUNE 2009

Camogie's profile hits new highs

by Daragh Ó Conchúir

THIS year's Gala All-Ireland championship will be the highest profile in the history of the sport, according to Camogie Association president Joan O'Flynn.

For the first time, the majority of games will be played in county grounds, which is envisaged will help increase standards and attendances.

It also means that television coverage can be facilitated more easily. RTE has committed to showing highlights of one game from every round in the group stages and will put up webcasts on www.rte.ie, while another first will be an award handed out at the end of the year for the best performance of the season.

The Gala Performance Award will be presented as a result of the public's votes through www.gala.ie and www.camogie.ie, with the winner getting a special custom-made gong and a five-star luxury weekend away.

For new president of the Camogie Association O'Flynn, it is all about building on the progress that has been made in recent years.

"It is great to secure the county grounds for the first time as a platform for showcasing the game," she said at yesterday's launch in Croke Park. "We approached the counties and there's been a positive reaction to it."

"It ensures the girls are going to have the highest standard of facilities available in the county which is important in terms of the standard of the game."

"It's also important that facilities are good for supporters because public recognition of the game is crucial in terms of the effort that players put in."

"As well as that, it is about the status and recognition of players as sporting equals within the GAA family and that would be important for the future."

Efforts will be made to increase publicity to attract greater attendances to games but it is the product itself that is crucial in this regard.

Splitting up the senior championship into two groups of four, with each team only playing each other once, will help peak interest, O'Flynn maintains.

"What helps attendances is competitive action. This year's championship is quite unpredictable so that means all the games are going to be interesting. If there's an uncertainty about the result, there's more interest in the game."

"We'll be doing our utmost to promote the games. Hopefully the games themselves are going to be attractive in their own right."

The championship gets under way on Saturday week with champions Cork facing Dublin at Páirc Uí Rinn, while league winners Wexford travel to Limerick.

New president Joan O'Flynn with the intermediate and junior captains at yesterday's launch of the Gala All-Ireland camogie championships in Croke Park.

Picture: Inpho



Joan O'Flynn, President of the Camogie Association and Denise Lord, Gala Customer Service Manager, with Senior, Intermediate and Junior players at the launch of the All-Ireland Camogie Championships at Croke Park yesterday

'CHICKS WITH STICKS' TO RAISE PROFILE ON COUNTY GROUNDS

CAMOGIE: This year's Gala All-Ireland championship will have the highest profile yet, according to Association president Joan O'Flynn, WRITES DARAGH Ó CONCHÚIR.

For the first time the majority of this year's games will be played on county grounds, which, it is envisaged, will help increase standards and attendances.

It also means that television coverage can be facilitated more easily. RTE has committed to showing highlights of one game from every round in the group stages and will put up webcasts.

There are also plans for a special new award, which will be handed out at the end of the year, for the best performance of the season. The Gala Performance Award will be presented as a result of the public's votes through www.gala.ie and www.camogie.ie, with the winner

getting a special custom-made gong and a five-star luxury weekend away.

For new president of the Association, O'Flynn, it is all about building on the progress that has been made in recent years.

"It is great to secure the county grounds for the first time as a platform for showcasing the game," she said at yesterday's launch in Croke Park. "We approached the counties and there's been a positive reaction to it."

"First of all, it ensures that the girls are going to have the highest standard of facilities that are available in the county, so obviously that's really important in terms of the standard of the game."

"It's also important that facilities are good for supporters, because public recognition of the game is really important in terms of the effort that players put into the game."

"As well as that, it is about the

status and recognition of players as sporting equals within the GAA family and that would be very important for the future."

Efforts will be made to increase publicity to attract greater attendances to games and the product itself will be crucial in this regard.

Splitting up the senior championship into two groups of four, with each team only playing each other once, will help peak interest, O'Flynn maintains.

"What helps attendances is competitive action. This year's championship is quite unpredictable, so that means all the games are going to be interesting."

"If there's an uncertainty about the result, there's more interest in the game."

"We'll be doing our utmost to promote the games through local and national media and hopefully, the games themselves are going to be attractive in their own right."

The championship gets under way on Saturday week with defending champions Cork taking on Dublin at Páirc Uí Rinn, while league winners Wexford travel to Limerick.

CAMOGIE

with



world

CAMOGIE PLAYER WELFARE COMMITTEE ANNOUNCED

Camogie President Joan O'Flynn has announced the establishment of the Association's first Player Welfare Committee. The Committee, headed up by Stella Sinnott manager of the 2007 senior All Ireland winning Wexford team, will be comprised of eight current inter-county players and Paula Rankin, Head of Sports Science in Carlow Institute of Technology.

O'Flynn said, As the national governing body of camogie, it is important that we exercise an active interest in and support for the health, safety and welfare of our players. The establishment of a Player Welfare Committee, headed up by Stella Sinnott, is a very significant demonstration of this.

She continued Player welfare is a shared responsibility between players, coaches, mentors and administrators. There are now more camogie players, more camogie clubs and more camogie competitions than ever before. This means that there are more girls and women playing and undergoing intensive training for camogie.

Camogie players, as female athletes, have specific issues and experiences, different to their male counterparts. As sporting equals, it is really important that we provide good guidance and best practice on health and well-being issues in recognition of this.

This Committee, with a clear focus on women in gaelic games, includes a range of members with professional backgrounds in health and sports science. It is an important initiative and I am confident that it will be a positive influence in the future development of camogie and it is recognition of the centrality of the player in our game.

The Committee will focus on key elements of player welfare. These will include increasing awareness and knowledge of the relationship between good nutrition and sporting performance, and promoting awareness of compliance with anti-doping requirements as set down by the Irish Sports Council.

It will also focus on gathering objective evidence on the extent and nature of player injuries, promoting awareness and education on injury prevention and recovery, and examining the adequacy of player insurance and developing standards of player welfare. This development will culminate in a national strategy and action plan on player welfare.

The eight players are Sally O'Grady (Waterford, Physiotherapist), Jane Adams (Antrim, All Ireland winning senior club captain), Aoife Lane (Galway, undertaking related research in WIT), Rena Buckley (Cork, Physiotherapist, All Ireland winning dual player), Susan O'Carroll (Kildare, UCD Ashbourne Cup captain 2008), Elaine Dermody (Offaly, All Ireland junior finalists 2008), Aileen Donnelly (All Ireland winning Division 4 Meath captain, Physiotherapist), Aine O'Mahony (Laois, member of Harps three-in-row All Ireland junior club champions, undertaking related research in UCD).

28 June 2009 www.hoganstand.com

Cork captain O'Regan is taking nothing for granted

By LOUISE BROWNE
Camogie news

REIGNING GALA All-Ireland senior camogie champions Cork will take on Dublin in their first group stage game in the new look championship format of two groups of four at Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday week, June 20.

Speaking at yesterday's Gala All-Ireland Championship launch at Croke Park, Cork captain Amanda O'Regan is optimistic going into the championship but is in no doubt as to the challenges they will face in retaining the O'Duffy Cup.

"I suppose we are optimistic but at the same time we know that there is a lot of competition out there and teams are getting closer every year. It's going to be a tough championship for us but hopefully we can come out of it."

Cork's other group one opponents are Kilkenny and they'll face a tough away trip to Nowlan Park on Saturday, July 11, before entertaining Tipperary back on home soil in their final group match on Saturday, August 1.

"Most of teams in it if not all of the teams are very evenly balanced so on any given day there's only going to be a puck of a ball between us, it's very tight," added O'Regan.

Another member of the O'Regan family at the event was Mick O'Regan, Cork selector and father of the Rebels' captain who spoke of the team's preparations.

"Training is going well. We had a slow start in the league but once we got past that we settled down and we've been training very hard now for the last two weeks and looking forward to getting the championship started, starting with Dublin on Saturday week and we'll take it from there," said Mick.

The former minor All-Ireland football winner then touched on their hopes of retaining the title.

"Once you're up there everybody is out to knock you. From that point of view when you're looking at the opposition they're all looking at us and saying we have to take them down this year."

"So our job is to try and do the opposite to retain it. It won't be easy but the girls are looking forward to it and they know what's required as they've been there before and that will help but it won't be easy."

The camogie association also celebrated acquiring county grounds for the first time in the Championship, joining forces with RTE, who will be web broadcasting several games along with highlights on the Sunday Game and cementing a fourth year of sponsorship from Gala at the launch.

Group One: Cork, Dublin, Tipperary, Kilkenny.

Group Two: Limerick, Wexford, Galway, Clare.

JUNE 2009



TINNELLY DEMOLITION REJOICES IN DOWN CAMOGS' SUCCESS

The Down camogie team ended an 11-year wait for national honours recently when they claimed the National League Division 3 title, and delighted to be associated with their success was team sponsor Tinnelly Demolition.



Down celebrate their National League Division 3 camogie triumph

Down will go into this year's Ulster senior camogie championship on a real high after their thrilling 0-15 to 2-8 victory over Laois in the National League Division 3 final at Ashbourne, Co. Meath on Easter Sunday last.

The final whistle bore witness to joyous scenes as the Down camogs celebrated their first major success at adult level in 11 years. Their victory certainly augurs well for the championship which gets underway for the Mourne County in a few weeks' time against Derry.

The Tinnelly family had plenty of reasons to be cheerful as not only does the family business Tinnelly Demolition sponsor the Down team, but mother-and-daughter Lillian and Karen were directly involved in selecting and playing capacities.

"It was a big day in our house," explains Damien Tinnelly, who is a director of Tinnelly Demolition.

"My wife Lillian was a selector and my daughter Karen

lined out at left half back. It was a great win for the team and fully deserved because they had put in a huge effort since last December. Hopefully, this is just the start of it and they will have more success to look forward to in the championship."

Tinnelly Demolition first sponsored Down in 2006 when they won the All-Ireland minor 'B' title with Karen playing and Lillian in the role of joint-manager along with Kitty Fagen. Karen was named Player of the Match for her performance in the final against Antrim, and was subsequently nominated for an All-Star award.

"They were looking for a sponsor at the time and we were delighted to help out," Damien recalls.

"And we couldn't have asked for a better start to our sponsorship as the minors won the All-Ireland that year. We got a huge amount of publicity from it and have been on board ever since. It's a real family affair you could say."

Damien and Lillian's other daughter Ciara is a member of the Down under 16 camogie squad, while their son Ciaran lines out for the Ballyholland under 12 football team.

Lillian, who joins manager Joe Baldwin and Ray Cunningham on the management team, was delighted to see so many of her 2006 proteges involved in this year's league triumph.

"It's great that so many of the girls have made it this far and are continuing their camogie careers at such a high level. Joe Baldwin, who has done brilliant work with this team, introduced a good few of them this year and they blended superbly with the older players on the team. We had the perfect mix of youth and experience in my opinion," she says.

"This success was a big breakthrough for Down camogie and gives us a lot of confidence going forward. Two years ago, many of the girls were on the losing side when Waterford beat us by 1-18 to 2-13 in the National League final, so this day had been coming for quite a while.

"They proved themselves when the pressure came on, and I'm thrilled for all of them who worked so hard over the past few months."

Down's only defeat in the divisional campaign was to Laois, but they made amends in the final after the O'Moore County had beaten Offaly in a play-off to qualify.

Conditions in Ashbourne were perfect for camogie, and Down drew first blood when Catherine McGourty slotted



Down camogie team manager Joe Baldwin (centre) and selectors Ray Cunningham and Lillian Tinnelly hold the Division 3 trophy

JUNE 2009



Half back Karen Tinnelly clears her lines before her Laois opponent can get in a block

over a '45. Down were on the attack again when Lisa McCrickard's shot hit the crossbar, and a relieved Elaine Mahony was on hand to clear the danger for Laois.

The O'Moore County took the lead in the ninth minute when Sarah Cuddy rifled to the net. Down were soon level, though, thanks to two frees from McGourty before Sarah Louise Carr – daughter of Down football manager Ross Carr – restored their lead. Louise Mahony replied for the midlanders, only for McGourty to find the target again and give the Mourne girls a 0-7 to 1-1 lead at the break.

Pre-match favourites Laois improved in the second half, though points from Sarah Louise Carr and McGourty kept Down ahead. Joe Baldwin's side were five points to the good when Sarah Ann Fitzgerald pounced for Laois' second goal, and Aine Mahony immediately followed up with a point to leave the minimum between the sides with less than 10 minutes remaining.

But two further frees from McGourty eased Down nerves, and despite conceding the last two points of the game, they held on for a dramatic 0-15 to 2-8 victory.

Based in Newry, Tinnelly Demolition is a division of John Tinnelly & Sons which is celebrating 50 years in business. John Tinnelly & Sons, which also incorporates Tinnelly Recycling and Tinnelly Environmental, was founded by John Tinnelly and is now run by his son Patsy. Patsy's seven children – Damien, Dessie, Martin, Patrick, Gareth,

Roisin Franklin and Joanne Campbell – are all group directors.

Tinnelly Demolition specialises in demolition and dismantling, asbestos removal, facade retention, metal recycling and architectural salvage. Tinnelly's extensive experience includes major site clearance, the safe removal of asbestos and other dangerous substances, dealing with emergency fire and bomb damage and even ship demolition, and facade retention of preserved and listed buildings.

The company carries out contracts throughout Ireland and the UK, with a client list of Blue Chip companies including Guinness/Diageo, Irish Cement PLC, John Sisk & Sons and Treasury Holdings.

In conclusion, Damien says: "On behalf of Tinnelly Demolition, I would like to congratulate Down on their National League success and wish them all the best in their forthcoming Ulster championship match against Derry."

The Down camogie team which captured the National League Division 3 title was: Marian McAleenan; Laura Brennan, Fionnuala Carr, Grainne O'Higgins; Maria McNally, Lisa McCrickard, Karen Tinnelly; Karen McMullan, Ciara McGovern; Catherine McGourty, Nicola Braniff, Kelly O'Higgins; Orla McGinn, Sarah Louise Carr, Peggy Matthews. **Subs used:** Niamh Mulhern, Joanne Fitzpatrick and Emma McCormick.

LILY SPENCE - A LIFETIME OF CAMOGIE



Our longest serving club member Lily Spence, holder of a senior All Ireland Camogie medal, recalls decades of close association with Rossa CLG. Since the 1940's with the St Teresa's Camogie Club, Lily can recall countless joint events and memorable occasions when the two Clubs joined forces to celebrate our Gaelic culture through sport and recreation. Lily also recalls the now little known Rossa Drama Society. St Laurence's Hall on the Andersonstown Road played host to some

sparkling performances and she looked back earlier this week and recalled many of the thespians who graced the stage and performed plays to enthralled audiences. During the transition from St Teresa's Camogie to Rossa Camogie Club, Lily was saddened to see what, for her, was the end of an era. However she has remained a stalwart of the club. As a tribute to her we would like to extend our appreciation for all her help and advice over the years.

FÉILE NA nGAEL 1995 by Margaret Flynn

1995 was an historic year in the annals of our club and county. Rossa's camogs, hurlers and footballers became the county Féile Na nGael champions and also represented the County in the All-Ireland competitions.

The Camogs under the management team of Margaret Armstrong and Sinead Boyle had a tough passage through their County competition. Having won the South Antrim division they met Loughgiel in the County Final in Dunloy. It was a tough game full of incidents and action, but Rossa managed to hold on to a 2 point narrow lead. Hurls, helmets, water bottles, tracksuit-tops etc were strewn over the pitch while the girls ran to embrace each other. Of course, afterwards Sinead and Margaret were left to tidy the pitch! On the way home in the minibus while the girls talked over all the events of the day in between choruses of "Whack for the Diddle" and "We are the Champions", Sinead and Margaret discussed tactics for Limerick.



There were only four weeks to prepare for Limerick and during that time the girls and boys went to school, trained three nights a week, played league matches and fund raised. The girls were really motivated and there was the added incentive that any thing the boys could do, they could do better. Then on Thursday 22nd May, a blistering hot day, the Camogs and Hurlers set off on their journey to Limerick. On arriving in Limerick both teams went their separate ways. Our host team was Croagh-Kilfinny, they made us feel very welcome and took our girls into their families.

The competition started the next day with three matches to play, the first against our host team at 9 am, the second in the afternoon and the third in the evening. The first match was slow to start and hard to judge what way it would pan out. Sinead and Margaret had that feeling of déjà vu because in 1992 when they were in the Féile competition in Galway the team drew against their host club, that result eventually led to their demise from the competition on score differences. With this in mind and a few chosen words of encouragement a different team went out in the second half. We won the match and preparations began for the next game. Word had filtered through to the hurling entourage that the camogs had won their first match and by the time we played our second match our support had grown. The second match against Keady was also a closely contested affair, the whole team had to be focused as loss of concentration would have had vital

consequences. Towards the end of the second half when both teams were on level scores Rossa were awarded a free in front of the Keady net. Jane Adams stepped up to take it and scored a most opportune goal to give us the lead and the match. It must be remembered these games were being played in sultry heat.

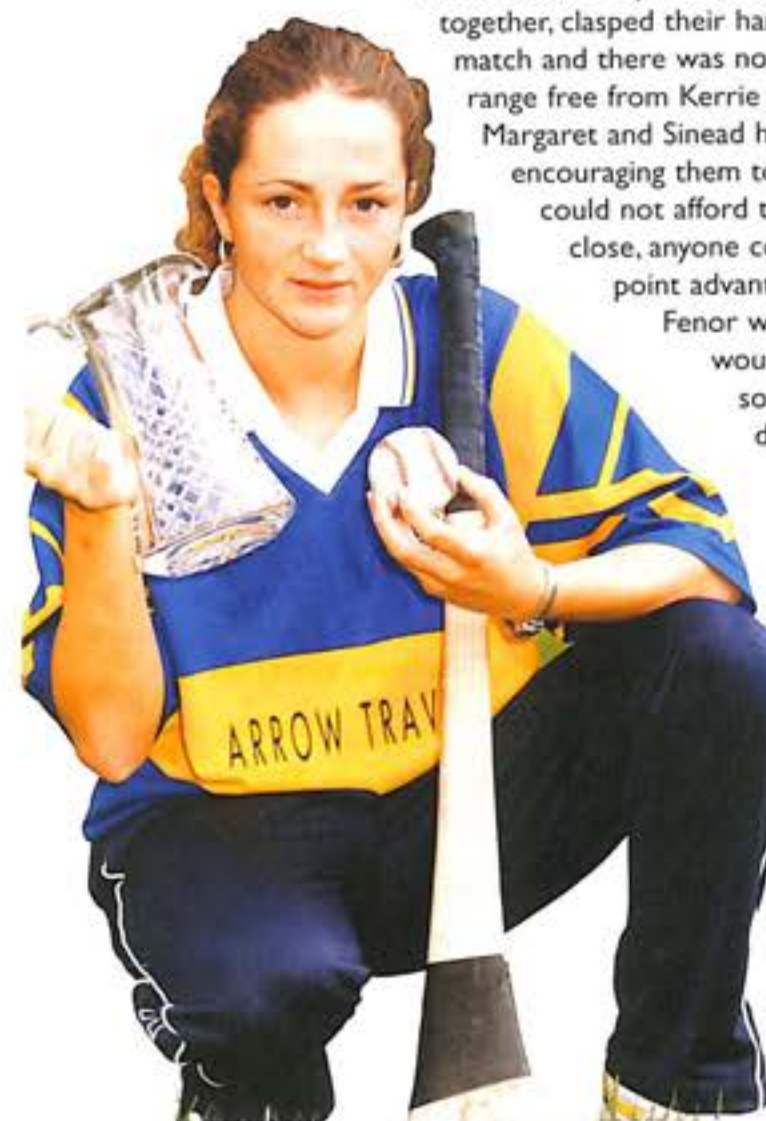
It was hard to curtail the girls' excitement after winning two games but they were told not to over exert themselves, to drink plenty of fluids and they were given permission to douse each other in water. We won the last game of that day and the girls were now in the Féile semi-final. Frantic phone calls were made home to tell the results and then the host families took the girls home. The next day when our bus pulled into the Gaelic grounds for the semi-final match against Na Piarasigh of Limerick we could not believe the number of supporters waiting to greet us.

Parents had travelled through the night to come and watch their daughters play and all the hurlers were there to add their support. The opposition were in awe of the sea of Blue and Saffron. The match was tense from beginning to end, our midfields led by captain Kerrie O'Neill never let up, they covered all areas of the pitch, the defence marked tight and tried not to give frees away. Our forwards were alert and eager to increase our lead. Again when the final whistle blew we had won by two points. The management of Na Piarasigh were gracious in defeat; they praised the skills of our players and their never let die attitude. We had made it!

The Final was to take place on Saturday evening against Dunhill-Fenor of Waterford, but first we had the Féile parade through Limerick City to contend with and we knew this would be physically draining on our girls. We appealed to the Féile committee and they agreed that we could withdraw from the parade once we passed the bandstand of dignitaries. The girls rested in the shade and watched the rest of the parade past, occasionally wolf whistling at the boys' teams as they went by. This was the distraction they needed to keep their minds off the forthcoming final. The time of the final arrived, the opposition looked very big in comparison to our girls, but we were skilful, agile and determined. Team positions were given, warm-ups carried out and the captain took the

toss. Before they lined out the Rossa girls along with Margaret and Sinead huddled together, clasped their hands and chanted ROSSA!! The whistle blew to start the match and there was no going back. We went into an early lead with a superb long range free from Kerrie O'Neill and by half-time we were two points ahead.

Margaret and Sinead had the difficult job of settling everyone at half-time and encouraging them to build on their present score and remind them that they could not afford to let up. In the second half both teams knew it was very close, anyone could win. Throughout the game we still held on to that 2-point advantage but towards the dying minutes disaster struck. Dunhill-Fenor were awarded a free right in front of our goals, we knew they would go for goal. Our backs along with the mid-field made a solid wall, the Dunhill-Fenor player went for goal, but it deflected off one of our players, the wall had served its purpose. Now we had the thirty to contend with, shouts of "mark tight", "no free shots", "don't foul", came from the sideline. The free was taken, the ball dropped into our back-line, everyone held their breath, the ball was cleared out of defence and the referee blew!! We Had Won!!! Everyone went mad, supporters ran onto the pitch, mothers cried, everyone was hugging each other, people cheered and sang. It was one of the most memorable days in Rossa's history. After the presentation to the captain, the Rossa hurlers and male mentors formed a guard of honour and applauded the camogs and their managers as they left the pitch. It was a gesture, that to this day the girls have never forgotten.



ROLLING BACK THE YEARS

- Rossa Camogie Club by Margaret Flynn

At its inaugural meeting on 28 January 1985, members of the St Teresa's Camogie Club took the difficult decision to change the Club's name to Cumann Camogaíochta Uí Dhonnabháin Rosa. For decades members of the St Teresa's club had forged a great friendship and sporting partnership with the Rossa GAC Club. With so many Camogs being related by strong family ties within the Rossa Club and in an endeavour to forge a new identity, it was challenging to settle in with the new arrangement.

Although it would be wrong to say that the merger was well received by all members, the G.A.C. Committee in charge during that period did all they could to accommodate the Camogs. Having said that, anyone who remembers the "Green Goddess" changing accommodation will wonder how we ever survived the inclement weather for so long.

The Minute Book recalls the Officer Board and the following is an extract, which covers the first five years 1985-1990.

	Cathaoirleach	Leas Cathaoirleach	Runai
1985	Celine Turley	Margaret Armstrong	Jane McKee
1986	Carmel McCavana	Sally McCambridge	Jane McKee
1987	Margaret Armstrong	Anne McGlue	Jane McKee
1988	Lorraine Kelly	Margaret Armstrong	Sinead Boyle
1989	Margaret Flynn	Roisin McKay	Marcella Rogan
1990	Margaret Flynn	Roisin McKay	Marcella Rogan

Current Officer Board:

2001	Grainne Connolly	Ciara McGinley	Seannin McGourty
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ACHIEVEMENTS:

1986: The Rossa Camogie Club contested many competitions in both South Antrim and in All County games. The Club built up a reputation for being well trained with well-disciplined players and managers. In recognition of the hard work put in by members and to encourage members to get involved, annual awards were handed out to the Club Person of the Year and Player of the Year. Jane Armstrong, emerged as winner of the first ever Rossa Player of the Year, and received her trophy from Chairperson Carmel McCavana and Patsy Hennessy, one of our staunchest supporters and playing manager for many years.

1987: Success came to our juvenile squads with wins for the Under 16 and Under 14 squads. The minute book records that Sinead Donnelly and Rachael Brown captained these winning teams.

1988: The Club's First County Antrim Junior Championship Title.

On a sunny day in Glenariffe, Rossa took on the Deirdre Camogie Club in a Belfast club head to head. Deirdre that year were celebrating their 60th. anniversary but Rossa emerged victors and the celebrations began in earnest. Pictured below is the winning squad with Captain Anne McGlue and Manager Fra Walsh. Fra stood by



the team for many years and led us to many victories both in Belfast and within the County.

Also that year the Club took the South Antrim Junior, Under 16 and Under 14 Leagues. It was clear that the Rossa Camogs were well and truly established.

1989: - Rossa were again involved in a County Championship but failed to defend their title this year by losing to Loughgiel in a thrilling final.

Rossa returned to Senior status and contested well at All County Level. The Club was instrumental in forming South Antrim Senior League and Championship competitions and improved the profile of Camogie in Belfast, which had suffered due to the civil unrest at the time.

1990: - No major County titles came our way but our juvenile and adult squads remained top of the South Antrim Leagues. The wearing of helmets for all juvenile squads became compulsory.

1991: - Success came again to the Rossa Junior Squad when in a breathtaking final in the Glens of Antrim, they emerged victors over a superb Dunloy Team. Jane Armstrong, seen below accepting the trophy from the County Chairperson Madeline O'Neill led out the team. One special note in this 75th Anniversary year for Rossa GAC was the success of the Minor Rossa Scor team.

The young players showed talent off the pitch by clinching the County title.

1992: - Pictured below is the victorious Minor Championship team of 1992. This was the first year that a South Antrim Club had lifted the County title. Maureen Barry had the honour of representing the Team as Captain of the Minor squad.



Another highlight for many of our players this year was our entry into the Pan Celtic Games held in Galway. Many fond memories are held of the weekend spent in Salthill. One valuable lesson we learned that year was to bring an extra set of uniforms on future trips as we were faced with torrential rain from Friday to Sunday. However, the rain did nothing to dampen our team spirits.

1993: - Competition successes are recorded for the Under 12, 14, and 16 teams and the Under 14 Feile squad. In appreciation of their hard work, Margaret Armstrong and Sinead Boyle received a joint Club Person of the Year Award. Disappointment for the Junior Championship Team, which narrowly lost to Dunloy but was victorious in the South Antrim Junior League.

1994: - During renovation work at Rossa House agreement had been reached to provide changing and showering accommodation for the Camogs. This was a decision well received by all our players and it was a great day when the Green Goddess was removed from the car park. A special opening ceremony was held and pictured below are members of the Committee officially opening the new facility.



1995: - All Ireland success came to the Rossa Camogie Club with the memorable achievement of our Feile team. Unforgettable scenes followed the final game when the Under 14 hurlers, also involved in Feile that same weekend, formed a guard of honour to applaud the girls off the pitch.

Pictured below is Kerry O'Neill, Captain of this victorious Rossa Team receiving the trophy from President Belle O'Loughlin. Kerry's own brilliance contributed greatly to the success of this very talented Feile squad.

This proved to be a great year for the Club, in its 10th Anniversary year. The occasion was marked with a very successful Dinner Dance in Rossa House and success for all our squads.

1996: - Rossa on Tour - it was decided to break away from local competition this year and Rossa



accepted an invitation to play in a senior competition in London. Many Clubs from Ireland crossed the Irish Sea to meet with teams from London, Manchester and Birmingham. Under the leadership of senior manager Gerard Armstrong, the team gave a good account of themselves on the field and won several hard fought games, impressing the opposition with some sparkling performances.

1997: - No major victories came our way at County level but continued success at South Antrim level. Many of our minor and junior players had been called on to the County panels and helped to bring an All Ireland title back to Antrim.

1998: - Rossa Seniors were entered in Division 1 of the restructured league system within the county and gave a great account of themselves with many memorable games.

The squad went on tour again this year and this time came home with a trophy. The competition was held in Birmingham and proved to be a good morale booster for the team. Further successes came with first place in the Ulster 7's at Castledawson and also the All Ireland Kilmacud 7's. Rossa really excelled in both these competitions and along with the hard work from the players, special mention should go to the managers Donal Armstrong and Conal Heatley for their tactical approach to the games. Jane Adams, the worthy winner of the Player of the Tournament is seen below receiving a special trophy for her outstanding performance in the competition.



Jane Adams (nee Nelson), age 31
Captain Rossa Senior Camogie team
Educated: St Dominic's Grammar School & Queen's University Belfast
Profession: Branch Library Manager
Status: Married
Playing Career: Has won 2 County Junior Championships, 1 Intermediate Championship and 1 Senior Championship with Rossa.
County Achievements: 5 Ulster Championships, 5 Maguire Club Ulster championships, one All-Ireland Junior Championship medal, one All-Ireland Intermediate title (2001) Jane captained the team this year and collected the trophy on behalf of County Antrim.

1999: - Senior success came sweetly for the Club on winning the Country Antrim Division 1 competition. Success for the second time also in the Castledawson 7's. Disappointment came bitterly when Rossa was beaten in the County Senior Championship final. The juvenile squads continued to grow and many South Antrim wins are recorded in the Minute Book.

2000: - "Hold the back page" seemed to be the watchword of the day as Deirdre Heatley fulfilled her role as Club PRO. The publicity generated for the Club was the envy of other Camogie clubs in Belfast and afar. We really had something to shout about when Rossa won their first ever County Antrim Senior Championship. What a day that was and what a night of celebration it turned out to be. As County representatives, Rossa took on the challenge of Armagh Club Champions Keady. Alas, progress in the Club Championship was halted and Keady finally overcame our squad at the second attempt.

Congratulations went to Jennifer Donnelly, Shauna Shannon and Julia Walsh who represented Belfast in the Millennium Games.

Newtown
seen off
by Harte
pressure

Kilbrittain 2-4
Newtown 1-3

FIRST-HALF goals from Amy O'Sullivan and Elsa Harte helped Kilbrittain book their place in the U12 C league final as they overcame the challenge posed by Newtownshandrum.

Kilbrittain lead by four points at the break after Alva Dowling and Oonagh Sheehan had added point to their goal tally.

Cliona O'Callaghan kept Newtown in touch with a goal and a point.

Through the second half Newtown applied plenty of pressure but the Kilbrittain girls were equal to the challenge as they added further points from Aine Crowley and Alva Dowling to ensure they kept pace with Cliona O'Callaghan, who added two points to the Newtownshandrum tally.

Scorers for Kilbrittain: A O'Sullivan, E Harte 1-0 each, A Dowling 0-2, A Crowley, O Sheehan 0-1 each.

Newtownshandrum: C O'Callaghan 1-3.

KILBRITTAIN: R Harrington, R Collins, S O'Donovan, L O'Sullivan, S Burke, O Sheehan, N Butler, A Dowling, A Crowley, E O'Neil, L O'Leary, A Conidine, A O'Sullivan, S Byrne, C Walsh. **Subs:** S Butler, E Harte, E Crowley.

NEWTOWNSHANDRUM: C Morrissey, V Lane, R McNamara, R Morrissey, E Lavery, C Ryan, E O'Callaghan, C O'Callaghan, A Hooper, L Cagney, C O'Sullivan, M Noonan, E McNamara, T O'Donnell, B O'Neill. **Subs:** L O'Connell for T O'Donnell, A Buckley for C Morrissey.

Rockbán seal their first league victory

Rockbán 1-10
St Finbarr's 2-5
By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie

NEWLY promoted to the senior A grade this season Rockbán recorded their first league victory with a two-point victory over St Finbarr's at Togher recently.

The home side made the better start with a Valerie Maher goal after just four minutes but Rockbán replied with two points from Sile Burns.

With both defences coming under pressure there was plenty of goal-mouth action and aided by the strong wind Rockbán took control with points from Therese Howard Sile Burns Elaine Casey and Maire Griffith.

A Sile Burns goal from a free extended the advantage before Therese Howard pointed before the break, helping them enjoy a seven-point interval lead of 1-9 to 1-2.

Through the opening half St Finbarr's kept in touch and stayed in the game with points from Catherine Barrett and Rachel Myers, but lining out minus the influential Gemma O'Connor and Jenny Duffy, they found the going tough against a determined Rockbán side.

If the first half belonged to Rockbán it was the St Finbarr's girls who controlled the second half and they battled back with points from Barbara Ann Corcoran and Heather

Morgan, while a goal from Vivienne Harris brought them right back into the game.

Rockbán had to withstand the Barrs rally but they held their composure, adding just one score to their half-time tally with Burns on target, converting a free.

But it was enough to give them the extra breathing space as they held out for a two-point victory after a game, which both sides will have found beneficial.

Both sides were missing some of their big names.

Last year's Cork captain Cathriona Foley lined out in goal for Rockbán in the absence of Elaine Harte but both clubs will have enjoyed the run out in the run-up to their respective championship opening round games which take place shortly.

Scorers for Rockbán: S Burns 1-7, T Howard E Casey M Griffith 0-1 each.

St. Finbarr's: V Maher 1-0, V Harris 1-0 each, H Morgan 0-2, C Barrett 0-1, R Myers 0-1, B Corcoran 0-1 each.

ROCKBÁN: Cathriona Foley, M McSweeney, S Ryan, L Ryan, Colleen Foley, D Foley, M Burns, L Crowley, E Casey, M Griffith, S Burns, C Conway, S Brickley, T Howard, O Mulcahy. **Subs:** K Howard for O Mulcahy (40).

ST FINBARR'S: M Phelan, C Myers, T Doyle, C Harrington, M McCarthy, L O'Connell, C Spellman, C Barrett, S Kennelick, R Myers, V Harris (cl), N Goulding, V Maher, H Morgan, B A Corcoran.



All-Ireland U14B captain Shauna Ring with Ruth Brosnan and Caoimhe Rodgers. The girls all play for Brian Dillon's and did their club proud when they lifted the James Hurley Memorial Shield at the recent All-Ireland Camogie

Sclly shows great composure to fire in penalty and clinch place in the decider

Éire Óg 3-5
Valley Rovers 4-1

A CLOSE one in this U12 A league semi-final where Éire Óg and Valley Rovers played out a thriller.

Twice Éire Óg had to come from behind after Valley Rovers forged ahead.

In the finish it was the Ovens girls who booked their place in the final with a point to spare but not before a close and exciting contest.

Valley Rovers set the pace of the game with three early goals after just 10 minutes with Katie Lynch,

Chloe O'Halloran and Marog Murphy on target for the Innishannon side.

Recovering from the early setback Éire Óg dug deep and. With their captain Eimear Sclly leading by example they pulled back the deficit to be on level terms at half-time.

Valleys got the second half off to the perfect start with a goal from Elaine Hallahan but having weathered a first half setback the Éire Óg girls held their composure.

With the clock ticking towards full-time Éire Óg were awarded a penalty in the dying moments of the game Sclly showed great compos-

ure pointing to ensure her side booked their place in the final.

Scorers for Éire Óg: E Sclly 2 — 5, A O'Callaghan 1 — 0.

Valley Rovers: K Lynch, C O'Halloran, M Murphy E Hallahan 1-0 each, L Lynch 0-1.

Éire Óg: E O'Leary, C O'Mahony, R Murray, C O'Connor, C Love, N Gleeson, A Heronsey, L O'Shea, A O'Callaghan, E Sclly, E O'Connell, L O'Keeffe, G McSweeney, A Cronin, G Murphy. **Subs:** C McCarthy for G McSweeney, K Brennan for C Love.

VALLEY ROVERS: C Murphy, E Kiely, J Woods, M O'Brien, M Cottrell, M O'Sullivan, E Wall, L Lynch, J Murphy, R O'Regan, E Hallahan, C Kilduff, C O'Halloran, K Lynch, M Murphy. **Sub:** S Murphy for J Woods (nj).

DOUGLAS

THE senior championship has been fixed for Wednesday, June 24 in Ballinlough at 6.45pm against St Finbarr's.

We beat them in last year's final so this is going to be the big game of the first round, a number of last year's panel are not available so we will definitely see a few new faces making their debut in this game.

The Cork senior team won the Munster final recently against Tipperary.

Amanda O'Regan started the game but went off injured with five minutes to go to half time and Katriana Mackey came on in her place.

Other Douglas players on the panel were Pamela Mackey and Jessica Kavanagh.

Amanda accepted the cup on behalf of her team mates and to our knowledge this is the first time a Douglas

player has captained a winning Cork senior team. The senior team are preparing for the championship which is being played on a round-robin format with two sections of four teams.

A number of players played for Munster in the Gael-Linn Inter provincial competition recently. Amanda O'Regan was on the senior team who went on to win the senior competition against Connacht, Helen O'Mahony, Jessica Kavanagh, Pamela Mackey and Cathriona Mackey were on the junior team who were beaten by Leinster in the final.

BRIAN DILLON'S

A very exciting U14B league match played in Killeagh in dry conditions where a superb team play was evident from Brian Dillon's.

A point from Caoimhe Rodgers and a superb goal from Sadhbh Shannon ensured Brian Dillon's were level at

half-time. Dillon's played a great first-half and put Killeagh under pressure from the start. Shauna Walsh made some great saves, the Dillon's defence Niamh Cotter, Nicole Malone, Emma Carroll, Deirdre Keane and Ellis Porter worked hard to stop and clear any ball coming in to them.

Shauna Ring played a blinder while Ruth Brosnan fought hard at every opportunity to pass the ball into the forwards running the pitch whilst Kayleigh Luby played very well also in midfield.

Forwards Chloe O'Mahony, Essie O'Connell, Emma Sharpe kept up the pressure while Caoimhe Rodgers drove the ball at every opportunity and Alison Smith showed great fight and determination. Sadhbh Shannon seized the opportunity to get a well needed goal in the first half. In the second half the teams were equal and

Camogie clubs news and

Killeagh scored a goal.

Niamh O'Leary came on in the second half for Essie O'Connell and played a great match.

The Dillon's girls pulled out all the stops to get a goal in the final minutes and were unlucky not to equalise.

Huge team play was visible and all the girls gave 100%.

Well done girls and thanks to coach John Ring and all the parents who came along to support the team.

Team: S Walsh, E Porter, N Malone, D Keane, E Carroll, S Ring, N Cotter, R Brosnan, K Luby, A Smith, C Rodgers, E Sharpe, C O'Mahony, S Shannon, E O'Connell.

Subs: Niamh O'Leary, Kira O'Sullivan, Sinéad Mills.

Fulltime Score Killeagh 2-1 Brian

Dillon's: 1-1

Scorers for Brian Dillon's: Sadhbh Shannon 1-0, Caoimhe Rodgers 0-1.

BISHOPSTOWN

Our U12s and U14s have kept up their winning ways with two more good results. The U12 team beat Douglas by 7-3 to 0-0 and the U14s had a great win over Millstreet by 4-6 to 2-3 in a very exciting game. Keep up the good work!

The seniors played Newcestown recently in the senior league and recorded a 4-19 to 1-7 victory.

Our team was Catherine Fogarty, Joanne Browne, Juli Crowley, Louise O'Riordan, Sinead Kelly, Eileen Foyle, Aimee Corcoran, Rhian Nunan, Miriam Crowley, Mags Kearney, Ciara Healy, Maeve Scannell, Deirdre Coughlan,

JUNE 2009



LINDA MELLERICK

Keen training is key to summer campaign

IT'S been quiet on the senior inter-county front these past few weeks and with the Leaving and Junior Cert all is quiet on the club scene until next Wednesday June 17 when Avondhu and Seandún will kick-start this year's championship.

Cork commence their campaign with a home game to Dublin next Saturday.

With no senior inter-county players involved with Seandún or Avondhu this midweek game was one which could go ahead.

14 teams will take to the field the following week between the of June 24-28.

While the divisional sides proceed to round 2 on July 14/15 the club sides will not play round 2 (their back door) until August 22.

The club victors in round one will play later again.

This is a huge gap of eight weeks between rounds. One would have thought that it would have been easier to schedule games in this year but July and early August is completely full with inter-county senior, minor and U16 championship that August 22nd was the only next available date.

There has to be a certain amount of recovery time afforded to the players. With players representing their county at a far younger age than in previous years U16 and minor championship fixtures heavily affect senior fixtures.

I'm not sure if there's much room in the club schedule to allow for draws and replays.

It was surprising how the single draw of Douglas and St Catherine's in the quarter final threw the schedule out 12 months ago.

Clubs can look at this one way, i.e. that its ridiculous that they have to wait two months to play a second round championship game.

I'd like to take the view that the glass is half full, not half empty. It's keeping 99% of clubs playing the entire summer and surely that's what everyone wants.

Mentors will possibly feel that it's hard to keep players focused and driven during training counting down eight weeks but that is their obstacle to overcome.

There are dozens of ways of keep-



Senior captains at the launch Gala All-Ireland Camogie: Deirdre Murphy of Clare, Aoife O'Connor of Wexford, Aisling Connolly of Galway, Amanda O'Regan of Cork, Louise O'Hara of Dublin, Deirdre Fitzpatrick of Limerick, Geraldine Kinane of Tipperary and Ann Dalton of Kilkenny. Picture: INPHO/Morgan Treacy

ing the bite in training and they need to source and utilise these.

The Cork panel went on a training day to a local forest a number of weeks ago.

They broke into teams and held various activities, e.g. a competition on the speed of camp building with all materials sourced from in the

surrounding area.

They trained hard, up hill through obstacles, etc and by all accounts the banter, teamwork and physical activity was excellent.

Keeping players playing during the summer or clubs will lose them to other sports.

● Pick of the games listed for the

week after next is the meeting of Douglas v St Finbarr's, Milford v Ballygarvan, Cloughduv v St Catherine's. You really know you've arrived at summer when the heat of championship battle commences.

● June 27 is seen as a pivotal day in British camogie.

Camogie In Britain — Our future

in Our hands — is a high profile conference being held in the Camden Irish Centre, Murray St London.

The conference is aimed at developing Camogie in Britain with input from current members, former coaches, players and supporters.

The Camogie Association wants to hear their views. Along with the GAA Games Development Project in Britain they want to build on the current interest, which is very high, develop new and emerging clubs and schools.

With the number of Irish living in Britain and possibly going there in the future, the drive is very welcome.

Joan O'Flynn, president of our association will attend.

"I'm making the trip, as are many others in what hopefully turns out to be a very beneficial weekend for all involved."

Sars strike late to move into U12 final

Sarsfields 2-1
Aghabullogue 1-0
(aet)

IT TOOK extra-time to find a winner in this exciting U12 B league semi-final

One goal a piece at full time, it was Sarsfields who prevailed grabbing two extra

time scores to secure their place in the final.

Courtney McCarthy gave Sars the lead when she scored the games opening goal, but both defences scores very hard to come by.

Aghabullogue's Emma Flanagan found the net with a well-struck free with four minutes remaining.

It was still one all as the sides went into extra time but the deadlock was broken by Michelle Barry point and an Emma Casey goal for Sars.

Scorers for Sarsfields: C. McCarthy, E Casey 1-0 each, M Barry 0-1.

Aghabullogue: E Flanagan 1-0.
SARSFIELDS: C Casey, A Turpin, L Casserly, C Ryan, C Mullane, K Barry, C Crowley, M McCarthy, H

Herlihy, M Barry, C McCarthy, C Tobin, E Casey, J Quirke, R Hyde.
Subs: K Stacey for J Quirke, R O'Donovan for J Quirke.

AGHABULLOGUE: A O'Sullivan, M Browne, A Healy, R Kelleher, T Desmond, E Curtin, L Buckley, E Flanagan, M McCarthy, C McCarthy, B Hartnett, C Healy, K Ward, N O'Sullivan, K McCarthy.
Subs: N O'Sullivan, L O'Driscoll (10), E Twohig for M McCarthy (45).

reports by Mary Newman

Cathrese Fahey, Nicole Butler

Subs: Olivia Lane for Mags Kearney, Aisling Corcoran for Deirdre Coughlan, Katie O'Riordan for Nicole Butler, Gillian O'Riordan for Catherine Fogarty Nicole Butler for Miriam Crowley.

Best for us on the night were Ciara Healy, Jo-Anne Browne, Julie Crowley, Eileen Foyle, Miriam Crowley, Cathrese Fahey and Nicole Butler he team were also delighted to have Catherine Fogarty back in goal having missed her for the last two seasons.

NA PIARSAIGH

We played our U12 semi final in Coachford on Saturday last and played against strong wind in first half. Our girls got off to slow start with none of our shoots hitting target second half saw our girls raise there game and put pres-

sure on Killeagh backs but luck wasn't with us and we couldn't get the scores.

Our team was: Sinead Warren, Eimear Guest, Amanda O'Leary, Elizabeth Guinnane Louise Dorgan, Rebecca Sheehan, Sinead Simpson Niamh O'Sullivan Erin mc Elhinney, Chloe Murphy Amy Leahy, Niamh Conway, Carmel Kelly, Emma Buckley Lauren Twohig.

Subs all used were Andrea Moynihan, Saoirse O'Sullivan, Ciara O'Mahony, Holly Ahern.

Scorers Erin McElhinney 0-3, Emma Buckley 0-1.

Those who tried hardest were Rebecca Sheehan, Emma Buckley, Lauren Twohig, Erin McElhinney, Sinead Simpson, Louise Dorgan, and Niamh Conway.

KILLEAGH

Killeagh travelled to Coachford on Saturday last to play the county semi-final against Na Piarasigh.

We won the toss and opted to play with the wind. Within five minutes Leah McEvoy scored a lovely goal and this was followed shortly by a second.

Then Hannah Looney went on a run and this resulted in goal number three.

A short while later Killeagh got a free which was well taken by Leah McEvoy and here we had goal number four, the half time score was four goals to no score.

On the resumption Na Piarasigh piled on the pressure and scored two lovely points then Hannah replied with another point for Killeagh.

But Na Piarasigh was not finished and they scored a further two points, the final score was Killeagh 4-1 Na Pi-

arsaigh 0-4 points. The Killeagh team were Ciara Metherway, Donna Hennessy, Niamh O'Farrell, Elana McSweeney, Katherine Mulcahy, Clodagh Tyrell, Lauren O'Mahony, Hannah Looney, Emma Treacy, Leah McEvoy, Gemma Hickey, Amy Benaim, Katie O'Mahony, Sinead Landers, and Rachel Geary. Subs were Kelly Coleman, Ava Burns, Laura Cosgrove, Neasa Daly and Clara O'Brien.

GLEN ROVERS

Our U14 team made the trip to Ballygarvan a winning one when they recorded a fine victory over the home side in the U14 league, we had good displays from Lauren Callanan, Jennifer Hosford Aisling O'Brien and Kelly Falvey.

The Seandun leagues got under way recently and we entered U11 teams in two sections, our two young sides were in action against Douglas in their open-

ing games and despite some excellent performances, we lost out in both games.

Our senior team continued their games with a trip to Aghabullogue for a game with the home sides and after a good hour we came away victorious on a 4-9 to 2-9 score line.

With exams concluding it back to the training and playing fields for our minor and U16 teams, both panels are asked to be in the Glen Field on Tuesday for training at 7pm.

Our U16 teams resume their league games when they play Ballygarvan on Thursday in the Glen Field players to meet at 7.15pm. Milford will be our visitors on Friday times to be arranged.

Best of luck to our girls who line out with the Seandun senior team in the championship on Wednesday night in Castle Road at 7.30pm



The victorious Douglas team celebrate their fourth Féile na nGael title after victory over St Vincent's yesterday.

Douglas girls and Grainne steal the show at Féile finals

WHAT A weekend for camogie in Cork writes MARY NEWMAN.

Douglas captured the Féile na nGael title and Milford's Grainne Sheehy captured the individual skills championship.

Douglas overcame the challenge of St Vincent's from Dublin to capture their fourth title in the last six years, with camogie superstar Claire Shine joining an exclusive club with four winners medals.

Grainne Sheehy from the Milford club held off the challenge of Limerick and Tipperary representatives to be crowned Féile na nGael skills champion in Tullamore on Saturday.

Sheehy, 14, scored a superb 218 out of a possible 230 to finish seven points ahead of second placed Caoimhe Costello from the Adare club in Limerick, while Ann Eviston from the Drom and Inch club in Tipperary ensured it was a Munster treble when she secured third place.

Grainne became the first Cork winner

since 1991 and her success is a tribute to the hard work put in both at club level and by her parents, Robert and Breda.

Grainne, who was born in Dublin came to live in Cork three years ago when the family moved back to their parents native county, and along with sisters Amy and Rebecca, she has become an integral part of the Milford under age set up.

It's a huge achievement for Grainne and her family and she is to be congratulated on her success.

She certainly is a name to watch out for in the future.

Douglas came through their group in style winning their two qualifying games in style.

They got off to a flyer in the final with a goal from Joy Leo in the opening minutes.

Further points from Claire Shine who ended the game with seven saw the trophy return to Cork's southside for another 12 months.

• More on Page 10.



Féile na nGael skills winner Grainne Sheehy is presented with All-Ireland skills trophy by president of the Camogie Association Joan O'Flynn.

Douglas girls make it four Féile

Douglas (Cork)
St Vincent's (Dublin)

1-7
2-2

was a superb team effort.

Claire Shine now joins a small band of players who have won four Féile titles.

This young star is a superb all-round sports player and not alone excels at camogie, but also at ladies football and soccer.

She scored some magnificent points for her side yesterday and one person from St Vincent's was heard to remark that you wouldn't

see accuracy and point scoring like it on All-Ireland final day.

Playing with the aid of a slight wind, Douglas got the dream start with a goal from Aoife Downey after just two minutes and with Shine adding three points they were in control.

St Vincent's failed to breach the strong Douglas defence, thanks in the main to a superb save from goalkeeper Chelsea Noonan, and

Douglas led at the break by 1-3 to no score.

St Vincent's got a great start to the second half with a Máire Cronin goal inside a minute and applying huge pressure on the Douglas defence they had the lead down to a point thanks to points from Louise Walshe and Elaine O'Leary.

Clare Shine settled Douglas as she converted two frees before

DOUGLAS took the National Féile Na nGael Division one camogie title yesterday when they stood firm against a strong St Vincent's, Dublin side, writes MARY NEWMAN.

After the game special mention was made of one player, in what

title victories in six years

adding a point from play, but St Vincent's battled back.

Louise Walshe grabbed a goal to put just one point between the sides.

In the final minute Clare Shine pointed a free to give Douglas a two-point cushion which was enough to see them through, but not before a mighty effort from two committed sides.

Captain Aisling Fox collecting the trophy on behalf of her team who had

many stars, no more so than their defence who had to withstand tremendous St Vincent's pressure.

Jess Horgan was outstanding at full back and she had good support from Amy Curtin and Mairead Mulrooney.

This win was Douglas' fourth title in the last six years as they continue to dominate a competition they have taken to their hearts, with a lot of their 2004 winning team now starring on their senior side who won the

county championship last year.

Scorers for Douglas: A Downey 1-0, C Shine 0-7 (0-4).

St Vincent's: L Walsh 1-1, M Cronin 1-0, E O'Leary 0-1.

DOUGLAS: C Noonan, E Lynch, J Horgan, A MacDonald, A Curtin, J Leo, M Mulrooney, Martin, C Shine, R McCarthy, A Fox (c), Kavanagh, L O'Brien, A Cremin, A Downey.

Subs: R Quinn for E Lynch.

ST VINCENT'S: A Maher, H Rice, C Buckley, E O'Leary, E Coyle, E McElliot, F Leaney, J Crean, L Smith, L Walsh, N Perry, N Witter, O Hanessy, R Ryan, R Quinn.



Douglas captain Aisling Fox with the cup at the Douglas clubhouse.

Douglas crowned All-Ireland camogie champs

Douglas (Cork) 1-7
St Vincents (Dublin) 2-2

DOUGLAS were crowned All Ireland National Féile na nGael division 1 Camogie champions when they overcame a tough challenge by Dublin representatives St Vincents.

The Douglas girls made all the early running and built up a six point interval lead but through the second half they had to be at their best as St Vincents upped the pace and challenged for the title.

A goal from Aoife Downey after just two minutes and three points from Clare Shine put them in control. St Vincents failed to breach the strong Douglas defence thanks in the main to a superb save from goal-keeper Chelsea Noonan and they tied at the half time whistle 1-3 to no score.

Maire Cronin gave St Vincents a great start to the second half when she grabbed a goal inside a minute, and applying huge pressure on the Douglas defence they had the lead down to a point thanks to points from Louise Walshe and Elaine O'Leary. Clare Shine settled Douglas as she converted two frees be-



Douglas: C Noonan; E Lynch, J Horgan, A MacDonald; A Curtin, J Leo, M Mulrooney; E Martin, C Shine; R McCarthy, A Fox(c), E Kavanagh; L O'Brien, A Cremin, A Downey. Subs: R Quinn for E Lynch. Scorers: A Downey 1-0, C Shine 0-7 (0-4f).

St.Vincent's: A Maher; H Rice, C Buckley, E O'Leary; E Coyle, E M Elliot, F Leaney; I Crean, L Smith, L Walshe; N Perry, N Witter; O Hennessy, R Ryan, R Quinn. Scorers: L Walsh 1-1, M Cronin 1-0, E O'Leary 0-1.

The Douglas side celebrating their success in Féile na nGael.

fore adding a point from play, but St Vincents battled back, Louise Walshe grabbing a goal to put just one

point between the sides. In the final minute Clare Shine pointed a free to give Douglas a two point cushion

which was enough to see them, through but not before a might effort from two committed sides.

Captain Aisling Fox collected the trophy on behalf of her team who had many stars, none more so than their defence who had to withstand tremendous St Vincents pressure. Jess Horgan was outstanding at full back with good support from Amy Curtin and Mairead Mulrooney.

O'Sullivan puts Kilbrittain on the road to victory

Kilbrittain 6-4
Ballyhea 0-0

AN all round team display ensured Kilbrittain took the Under 12 C league title when they had too much strength for a sporting Ballyhea side. Amy O'Sullivan gave Kilbrittain the perfect start, striking

two early goals. Ballyhea worked hard but failed to breach the Kilbrittain defence, while Alva Dowling added two point to the Kilbrittain tally before the break to leave her side ahead by eight points a the half time whistle.

Through the second half Alva Dowling caused the Ballyhea de-

fence problems with a goal, whilst Aine Crowley added two goals as Kilbrittain began to pull away.

To their credit the Ballyhea girls never allowed the score line get to them and they threw everything they had into trying to pin back the Kilbrittain lead. However, with Alva Dowling adding a goal and two

points for Kilbrittain they ran out deserving winners after a contest where the scoreline doesn't do justice to the efforts of two committed and dedicated young sides.

Kilbrittain's Alva Dowling received the player of the match award for an outstanding display all through the contest.

Kilbrittain: R Harrington; E Collins, E O'Neill, S O'Donovan; L O'Leary, L O'Sullivan, S Burke (c); A Considine, O Sheehan; N Butler, C Walsh, A Crowley; E Harte, A Dowling, A O'Sullivan. Subs: S O'Donovan for N. Butler, S Butler for A.O'Sullivan, G Hunt for E. Harte, S Byrne for A. Considine, A Crowley for C. Walsh. Scorers: A Dowling 2-4, A O'Sullivan, A Crowley 2-0 each.

Ballyhea: C Keogh; C Dundon, A Buckley, K Browne; R Killeen, M Fitzgibbon(c), S Hudner; N Killeen, L Dundon; A O'Shea, M C Carroll, R Harty; K Reidy, C Morrissey, H Carroll.

Caherlag take U12 B title with good win

Killeagh 2-1
Sarsfields 0-2

AN exciting under 12 B league final in Caherlag saw Killeagh take the title with five points to spare overcoming a Sarsfields side that battled every inch of the way in their effort to secure the title.

It was deep into the first half before the game's opening score, Holie Herlihy pointing Sarsfields into the lead as Killeagh worked hard to get on the scoreboard. With the half-time whistle looming Killeagh took the lead as Leah Mc Evoy finished to the net for the game's opening goal.

A point from Leah McEvoy early in the second half extended the Killeagh lead to three points, but keeping in touch Sarsfields replied with a point from a Lauren Casserly free. Keeping the Killeagh defence under pressure Sars battled hard but they met stern resistance from a Killeagh defence who were superb with goalkeeper Ciara Motherway

denying them with some excellent saves.

With their defence holding out Killeagh applied pressure on the Sars defence and when Hannah Looney grabbed their second goal the gap was at five points.

Sars continued to keep the pressure on but they could find no way through the strong Killeagh defence superbly marshalled by goalkeeper Ciara Motherway and it was Killeagh who annexed the crown.

Given her superb display it was Killeagh goalkeeper Ciara Motherway who was named as player of the match.

Killeagh: Ciara Motherway; D Hennessy, N O'Farrell, E McSweeney; K Mulcahy, C Tyrrell, L McEvoy; H Looney, L O'Mahony; E Treacy, Cleeva Motherway, S Landers; A Benaim, K O'Mahony, R Geary. Subs: G Hickey for K O'Mahony, C O'Brien for A Benaim, L Cosgrave for R Geary. Scorers: L Mc Evoy 1-1 H Looney 1-0.

Sarsfields: C Casey; A Turpin, L Casserly, C Ryan; C Crowley, K Barry (c), C Mullane; H Herlihy; M McCarthy; M Barry, C McCarthy, J Quirke; C Tobin, E Casey, C Tobin. Scorers: H Herlihy, L Casserly (f) 0-1 each.

Cork's Grainne Sheehy takes national Féile na nGael title

A SUPERB result for Cork representative Grainne Sheehy from the Milford club who was crowned National Féile Na nGael skills champion when she held off the challenge of Limerick and Tipperary representatives to be crowned Champion in Tullamore on Saturday.

Fourteen-year-old Sheehy scores a superb 218 out of a possible 230, seven ahead of second placed Caoimhe Costello from the Adare club in Limerick, while Ann Eviston from the Drom and Inch club in Tipperary ensured it was a Munster treble when she secured third place. Grainne become the first Cork winner since 1991 and her suc-

cess is a tribute to the hard work put in both at club level and by her parents Robert and Breda.

Grainne who was born in Dublin came to live in Cork three years ago when the family moved back to their parents native county, and along with sisters Amy and Rebecca she has become an integral part of the Milford under age set up. It's a huge achievement for Grainne and is to be congratulated on her success. She's a name to watch out for.



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Douglas players celebrate after they were presented the Division 1 Camogie trophy by Joan O'Flynn president Camogie Association at the Féile na nGael at O'Connor Park, Tullamore. See page 1 and 10 of sports supplement for more.

Picture: Jeff Harvey/HR Photo

Champions begin defence superbly

By MARY NEWMAN

Gala All-Ireland camogie championship

nbCork 3-21
Dublin 1-7

THE signs were ominous from the early stages that this was going to be a one-sided contest as defending champions Cork got their Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship campaign up and running.

From the throw in, Cork looked focused and indeed even before the throw in there seemed to be that little bit more urgency in the Cork camp as both sides went about their warm-up there was just that little bit of an extra zip to the Cork routine.

All over the pitch Cork held the upper hand. Their defence was solid and reliable dealing well with anything Dublin threw at them, in mid-field Brieghe Corkery and Orla Cotter were well on top while the shooting of three goals and 21 points tells its own story.

Cork forwards availed of every chance that came their way. Indeed going into the game there was a few concerns that Cork hadn't been scoring goals through their league campaign but on Saturday they answered the doubters with three goals, team captain Amanda O'Regan leading the way with a sweet stroke just six minutes into the game.

Cork played with the aid of the strong wind that blew towards the Blackrock end of a sun-drenched Páirc Uí Rinn and they quickly exerted their authority on the game. Emer Dillon, Síle Burns and Gemma O'Connor firing over early points before Síle Burns linked up with Amanda O'Regan for the all-important early goal that helped Cork put their early stamp proceedings.

Rachel Moloney and Síle Burns had added points to the Cork tally before the Dubs grabbed a life line when Clara Lucey's 45-metre free looked to have gone directly to the net through a maze of hurleys in the Cork square.

Emer Dillon and Clara Lucey traded points inside 18 minutes but it was to be the last score of the half for the Dublin girls as Cork struck some delightful points from all angles. Gemma O'Connor, Eimear O'Sullivan and Rachel Moloney all on target as Cork notched up a 1-15 to 1-1 interval lead.

Cork remained focused from the restart and playing against the strong wind, their backline did come under a bit of pressure but they dealt efficiently with anything the Dubs threw at them and as a unit they excelled and were never troubled.

Rachel Moloney pointed twice in reply to Eimear Brannigan's point for Dublin and seven minutes in, Eimear O'Sullivan struck Cork's second goal and the gap widened.



Dublin's Rachel Ruddy pursues Cork's Síle Burns, during their Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship game at Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday.
Picture: Larry Cummins

Zincant: The focus was to get the campaign up and running

"Job done" was the reaction of Cork selector Lillian Zincant after her side's victory over Dublin in a one sides Gala All-Ireland senior champions opener in Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday.

Zincant was certainly very pleased at the way her side played: "Yes we are delighted with the girls and the way they played today, we could not have asked for a better start. We have worked very hard since the national league and all our focus was on today and getting our campaign up and running. Today we settled quickly and the girls struck some great

scores, 21 points is a great return and we got three goals and that's very pleasing as well. We spread the ball around the pitch very well and our reading of the game was excellent, we moved the ball around quickly and there was no messing around."

"I suppose in last years championship it was a lot closer but that's the way it goes, today we were very focused and determined to give a good account of ourselves and they did that we will look ahead to the next game now, Kilkenny will provide very tough opposition, and it's a game we are really looking forward to."

their way to victory.

Cork will be pleased with their performance but they will not allowed themselves to get carried away as they know Kilkenny and Tipperary will provide much stronger opposing in the weeks ahead.

Cork did look very impressive their fitness was superb a tribute to coach Frank Flannery while their overall play was excellent. Their

reading of the game and team play was most impressive and their ability to picking out team mates with precision passes and generally switching the play around was excellent, they looked fresh and hungry and they showed huge improvement from earlier in the season.

Cork also have a strong bench as was evident from the substitutes that were introduced.

Kilkenny are next on the agenda in the round robin series of game for Cork that goes ahead on July 11 in Nowlan Park and certainly that will be a much closer affair and a huge test as the defence of the title remains on course

Scorers for Cork: R Moloney 0-10 (0-5f), E O'Sullivan 1-2, G O'Connor 5 Burns 0-3each, A O'Regan, E O'Farrell 1-0each, E Dillon 0-2, B Corkery 0-1.

Dublin: C Lucey 1-2 (45'st), A Griffin, J Hoary (t) 0-2 each, E Brannigan 0-1.

CORK: A Murray; J O'Callaghan, R Buckley, L O'Connell; J Duffy, M O'Connor, S Hayes; O Cotter, B Corkery; E Dillon, G O'Connor, E O'Sullivan; S Burns, A O'Regan (c), R Moloney.

Subs: U O'Donoghue for G O'Connor (38), E O'Riordan for L O'Connell, E O'Farrell for A O'Regan, A Geary for J Duffy (44), D Cronin for B Corkery (46).

DUBLIN: S McCarthy; A Fitzpatrick, T Corrigan, R Ruddy, A Maguire, S Ryan, C Power, C Lucey, L Twomey; R Costello, L O'Hara, N Taylor; E Lucey, A Murphy, J Hoary.

Subs: E Brannigan for R Costello (41), E O'Meara for A Maguire (35), A Griffin for L Twomey (43).

Referee: Ciaran Quigley (Kildare).

Kavanagh sees stars of the future at Douglas

By COLIN DUFFY

Camogie

DOUGLAS U14 camogie manager Philip Kavanagh believes that a large part of his successful All-Ireland Division 1 Féile winning side have the capabilities to make it big on the inter-county stage with Cork over the next few years.

Douglas were crowned All-Ireland Division 1 Féile Camogie champions for the fourth time in five years on Sunday at O'Connor Park, Tullamore.

Kavanagh says that with a large number of the squad already on Cork juvenile panels the potential is there to have strong representation in the Senior and Junior sides in the not too distant future.

"Involved with Cork (at the moment) between Primary games and U14, and Claire Shine was asked into the U16 team this year — there are eight or nine of that team involved with Cork at the minute between these teams," Kavanagh said.

He added: "I reckon Claire would play with the Cork Senior team tomorrow morning and would shine with them if asked."

"With the Coillte development squads coming up we have Ashling Fox on the Cork panel. We have an array of talent."

A slender 1-7 to 2-2 win over St Vincent's, Dublin, earned Douglas this years title on Saturday and Kavanagh says it's an unbelievable feeling to see All-Ireland silverware come back to the club.

"It's just unbelievable — words don't express how I feel. The emotions — these girls are just absolute class. Paul Lynch, Paul Fox, Helen Noonan and I have had these girls since they were eight and nine and whatever we ask of them, they are just legends — absolutely brilliant."

And Kavanagh says that the buzz in his side was not just on-field with the players, as the parents and supporters fully embraced the unique spirit of the Féile weekend also.

"We went on to do a treble two years ago having been beaten in the semi-final previously. Féile in Douglas is just huge. We had parents with us over the weekend and they are just absolutely incredible. The spirit back in the hotels and the fun was great."

Kavanagh also concedes that luck was on his side over the weekend.

"Without a shadow of a doubt, we got lucky in one or two matches," he said.

Douglas left no stone unturned in the quest for this victory with Kavanagh revealing that they had done their homework on players from other teams involved in the top-flight division in order to gain that extra edge.

"We did the homework. Cork U14 colleges was on two weeks ago and we watched all of the St Vincent's girls playing and Kilkenny girls playing. There must have been about 10 counties there, and we had a couple of them marked."

Féile na nGael results

Féile na nGael results

Douglas of Cork claimed a thrilling 1-7 to 2-2 win over St Vincent's, Dublin in the Division One camogie final of Féile na nGael yesterday. This is the second time the Dublin team suffered heartbreak at the hands of the Cork side, having shipped defeat again in 2005 when the Munster representatives completed three-in-a-row titles in '04, '05 and '06. In the Division Two decider St Brenda's Armagh were victorious over O'Moore's of Laois (2-4 to 2-2), while it was a memorable day for Kerry who beat Kiltale from County Meath in the Division Three final after an exciting 0-4 to 0-3 triumph. It was an equally remarkable day for Mayo side Na Brideoga who claimed a Division Four win over Seir Kieran of Offaly, 5-3 to 0-1.

Division 1 Camogie: Douglas, Cork 1-7 St Vincent's, Dublin 2-2
Division 2 Camogie: St Brenda's, Armagh 2-4 O'Moore's Laois 2-2
Division 3 Camogie: Kerry 0-4 Kiltale, Meath 0-3
Division 4 Camogie: Na Brideoga, Mayo 5-3 Seir Kieran, Offaly 0-1



Féile na nGael Skillstar results Camogie

- 1st: Grainne Sheehy, Cork (Milford)
- 2nd: Caoimhe Costelloe, Limerick (Adare)
- 3rd: Ann Eviston, Tipperary (Drom and Inch)

Camogie stars will travel to Kerry for funeral

By RONAN BAGNALL

MEMBERS of the Cork camogie community will travel to Kerry tomorrow to pay their respects to a couple who were killed in an horrific crash in the US last Sunday.

Former Glen Rovers camogie player, Ann Coleman, aged 44, and her husband Joe O'Connell, aged 50, will be laid to rest tomorrow in Kerry.

The couple, who have been living in the US for eight years, were travelling with their three children on holiday from their home in Wisconsin last Sunday when the horrific crash occurred.

While living in Kerry, Galway woman Ann played for Cork's Glen Rovers camogie team that won All-Ireland club titles and county championships in the early 90s.

She starred in the 1992 winning team that defeated Rathnure of Wexford.

A number of Glen Rovers former players and club officials are travelling to Kerry for the funeral mass.

Club secretary, Mary Newman-McCarthy said: "Former players who knew Ann and are still involved in the club will travel down. We may form a guard of honour as a mark of respect."

The club's U16 team also held a minute's silence on Saturday for Ann and her husband.



Anne Coleman, who was killed in an accident in the United States along with her husband, who played with Glen Rovers, Cork, in 1992 and 1993.

Mr O'Connell is a former Kerry hurler, while Ann also played camogie for her native Galway.

Mr O'Connell, an engineer, formerly worked with the Kerry Group and regularly travelled back and forth from the US.

Gala All Ireland championship results

Gala All Ireland championship results

GALA SENIOR C'SHIP 1st rd.

Cork 3-21, E O'Sullivan 1-2, A O'Regan, E O'Farrell 1-0 each, R Moloney 0-10 (0-5f), G O'Connor, S Burns 0-3 each, E Dillon 0-2, B Corkery 0-1.
Dublin 1-7, C Lucey 1-1 (1-1'45), J Hoary 0-2f, A Griffin 0-2, E Brannigan 0-1.

Wexford 5-20, R Breen 3-2, M Hearne 1-1, A Codd 1-0, K Kelly 0-5 (0-4f) J Dwyer 0-3, L Holohan, U Jacob, U Leacy, C Murphy 0-2 each, M O'Leary 0-1.
Limerick 0-6, N Mulcahy 0-4, E O'Brien, J Clifford 0-1 each.

GALA JUNIOR C'SHIP, New Irl. Cup.

Waterford 3-11, A Lyng 1-3 (0-1'45), K Kelly 1-3 (0-1), T Jackman 1-1, M Murphy 0-2, J Simpson, N Morrissey 0-1 each, Offaly 0-7, E Dardomy 0-4 (0-1f), M Morkan 0-2f, S Flannery 0-1.

Down 4-16, N Branniff 2-1, F Carr 1-2 (1pen, 0-2f), R Mc Polin 1-0, C Mc Gourty 0-6 (0-5f), S L Carr 0-3, N Mc Nally, K O'Higgins, O Maginn, K Mc Mullian 0-1 each.
Dublin 0-0.

Meath 2-11
Antrim 3-6

GALA JUNIOR C'SHIP, Nancy Murray Cup.

Kildare 1-12, S O'Carroll 0-10 (0-8f, 0-1'45), C Tallon 1-0, R Gorman, C Mc Sweeney 0-1 each, Roscommon 3-6, N Coyle 1-2, A Mc Geaney, E Daly 1-0 each, K Hopkins 0-3 (0-1f), S O'Brien 0-1.

Armagh 3-12
Carlow 1-7
Wexmeath 2-3
Tyrone 0-9.

CAMOGIE

Saturday

Gala All-Ireland Championships

Senior: Tipperary v Kilkenny, Semple Stadium, 4.15pm. (E Mac Suibhne, Dublin); Galway v Clare, Kenny Park, Athenry, 3.30pm. (U Kearney, Armagh).

Intermediate: Tipperary v Kilkenny, Semple Stadium, 2.30pm. (M O'Kelly, Cork); Galway v Clare, Kenny Park, Athenry, 1.45pm. (M Sheehan, Cork); Derry v Wexford, Naomh Peregrine, Blakestown, 2.30pm. (A Lagrue, Kildare).

Junior: Westmeath v Kildare, Westmeath, TBA. (D Connolly, Galway); Armagh v Roscommon, Athletic Grounds, Armagh, 3pm. (C Cunningham, Antrim); Tyrone v Carlow, Derrytrasn, 6pm. (D Elliott, Antrim).

Minor B: Offaly v Waterford, Mountbulous, 3pm. (E Mansfield, Kilkenny).

Sunday

Minor B: Meath v Derry, Donaghmore Ashbourne, TBA. (P Bercher, Dublin); Limerick v Kildare, Athane, noon. (J O'Leary, Cork); Down v Wexford, Down, TBA. (TBA).

Minor C: Westmeath v Laois, Westmeath Venue TBA. (C O'Ceadaigh, Wicklow); Roscommon v Mayo, Roscommon Venue TBA. (D Carroll, Clare); Wicklow v Carlow, Wicklow Venue TBA. (A O'Brien, Wexford); Louth v Cavan, Louth Venue TBA. (K O'Brien, Dublin).



JUNE 2009

Kerry bids sad farewell to couple killed in US crash

by Donal Hickey

A COMMUNITY united in grief yesterday paid a moving farewell to an Irish couple killed in a car crash in the US.

The Church of St John the Baptist, in Causeway, Co Kerry, was full to overflowing for the funeral Mass of Joe O'Connell, 50, and his wife, Anne, 44, whose three orphaned children led the mourners.

The children — Sarah, 15, Colman, 13, and Meave, 10 — were supported by family members from Kerry and Galway.

Causeway GAA club, of which Mr O'Connell had been a leading member, provided a guard-of-honour

for the cortege. Anne O'Connell (nee Coleman), from Abbeyknockmoy, Co Galway, had been a prominent camogie player and winner of two All-Ireland medals.

Taoiseach Brian Cowen was represented by Comdt Michael Treacy.

An engineer by profession, Mr O'Connell was also a successful businessman who frequently travelled between Ireland and the US, while Ms O'Connell was a teacher's aide in the Madison school district, near Chicago.

At the start of the Mass, Mr O'Connell's only brother, William, compared the families to an olive tree which, he said, had been

struck by lightning on June 14, the day of the fatal crash, in Iowa.

"Some branches were damaged but we know the wood of an olive tree is never discarded. It is taken by an overseer and crafted into pieces which are cherished as time goes on, as Joe and Anne will be," he said.

While the main branches of the tree had been broken, he said the families would now have to protect the most exposed shoots.

A cousin of Mr O'Connell's, Fr Seamus O'Connell, of NUI Maynooth, described the tragedy as a storm and shipwreck, their worst nightmare which they could not have imagined in their wildest dreams.



Joe and Anne O'Connell: The couple leave three children aged 15, 13, and 10 behind.

In a homily, he said two beautiful lives had been cut short and people might ask why one of them was not spared, but the Lord's ways were not our ways.

Turning to the couple's children, Fr O'Connell said

the tragedy was much deeper and greater for them and "all of us must find a way forward for you".

"Let mammy and daddy sleep on till the stormy night is gone and the eternal morrow is born," he said.

Scores of mourners sat in chairs that had been laid out in the church grounds, while many others stood on the street outside.

The couple were laid to rest side by side in Killury cemetery in Causeway.

Barrs will be out to avenge final defeat

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie

TONIGHT

Evening Echo Cork senior camogie championship 1st round, Douglas v St Finbarr's, Ballinlough, 6.45pm.

THERE will hardly be 10 points in it when the final whistle blows this evening in Ballinlough, at the end of the Barrs v Douglas first round championship tie.

That was the difference between the sides after last year's county final where Douglas took their first ever Cork championship title.

In truth St Finbarr's didn't deserve to lose by such a margin and no doubt their temperature will be up in a bid to avenge that heartbreaking defeat.

St Finbarr's are without the services of long serving goal-keeping Ellen Clifford this season who has retired from the game.

Douglas too have their share of unavailable personnel, namely Sarah O'Regan, who lined out last season at right corner-back, Ellen Morgan at full-forward and Hilary O'Connor who came into the game during the second-half.

Surely they will be a loss, but such is the strength in depth of Douglas they should have no serious difficulty filling the positions.

This is an important year for St Finbarr's.

They have great talent throughout the pitch with no fewer than four lining out with the Cork seniors and Vivienne Harris as good as any inter-county player. She retired from inter-county camogie.

However, their other club players have to step up to the mark and carry some of the responsibility.

If they do then the Barrs have every chance of taking a county title again.

How the respective selectors position their team will have a big bearing on the outcome. Midfield will have a big bearing and Katrina Mackey will have to be closely monitored. The Barrs choose last year to play two forwards inside. Douglas stood firm and controlled what came in for much of the opening half. Leaving Orla O'Sullivan inside one-on-one is a good idea, but only if Douglas are pulled out of position.

Douglas played out of their skins last October. Many of St Finbarr's didn't perform. A hat-trick of goals by Orla O'Sullivan kept the Barrs in the game. If the Barrs do up the ante Douglas could find their first season as champions a different ball game altogether.



Sports star Angela lauded

A LOCAL second-level teacher and sporting star will receive an ASTI Achievement Award at a reception in the Garryvoe Hotel tomorrow night.

Angela Walsh, above, has been teaching PE and maths at St Augustine's Dungarvan for the past two years. Originally from Waterford, Angela is an accomplished athlete, and has won many titles including four GAA All Stars and well as Irish Times Sportswoman of the Month in 2008. Last year she led the Cork Ladies Gaelic Football team to victory.

JUNE 2009

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie	
Douglas	3-15
St Finbarr's	3-6

FOR the second year in-a-row the last quarter saw Douglas speed away from St Finbarr's and the gap between the sides at the final whistle of this senior championship first round tie in Ballinlough unfairly reflected the competitiveness of the game.

This was an excellent encounter between last year's finalists as once again the game lived up to its billing.

In glorious conditions Douglas took the game to St Finbarr's from the throw in.

They had the Barrs defence at sixes and sevens as the blues tried to stem the running invasion.

With Helen O'Mahony and Pamela Mackey completely dominating midfield the supply was endless and but for the heroics of Claire Spellman, Jenny Duffy, Lynda O'Connell and Trish Doyle the Barrs would have found themselves in a far worse position than five points down after 13 minutes, having yet to score.

Amanda O'Regan was playing extremely well on Viv Harris as the Douglas defence dealt comfortably with any threat.

Orla O'Sullivan crossed in a high ball from the right. As the crowd waited for the umpires signal as to whether it had gone over the ball struck off the upright into the path of Rachel Myers who finished to the net.

The Barrs found themselves only two points behind mid-way through the half having played second fiddle for much of it and the game was still there for them.

The speed of Julia White and Katrina Mackey was causing problems yet despite this it was the Barrs who, in the last 10 minutes of the half had two golden goal-scoring opportunities which should have been taken.

The Barrs must have been happy with their three-point deficit at the break, 0-9 to 1-3, yet Douglas always looked as if they could step up a gear.

Nobody predicted the hectic opening four minutes of the second half.

After a quiet first 30 minutes Gemma O'Connor, who had moved into centre-forward goal within two minutes.

A cross ball from Harris over the full-back line found Gemma alone on the edge of the square and she battled to the net from close range.

The sides were level.

Jessica Kavanagh made a magnificent save from the same player only seconds later before Orla O'Sullivan made it goal number two with barely four minutes played.

A rocket of a shot from almost 30 metres went all the way to the top right hand corner giving Kavanagh no chance.

It was all St Finbarr's as they led by three.

Two frees in the sixth and seventh minutes composed Douglas and when Amanda O'Regan's long clearance was superbly gathered, controlled and scored by the speedy White Douglas were level again.

With both sides battling to get a grip on the game, it was Douglas



St Finbarr's Gemma O'Connor gets past her Douglas' Fiona McSweeney during the Evening Echo sponsored Cork County Senior Camogie Championship game at Ballinlough last night.

Picture: Larry Cummins

Douglas have the speed and guile to see off St Finbarr's

who created the open spaces and their speed wore the Barrs down.

Three goals and three points in the last 20 minutes in contrast to three points for the Barrs was the difference.

The Barrs had chances but found no way through a solid defence where Louise O'Regan was commanding at full-back.

The speed of the Mackeys, O'Donovan and White was a deciding factor as was the fitness of Douglas.

Unfortunately for St Finbarr's Douglas once again had too much in the tank at that most crucial of stages in a game.

Scorers for Douglas: K Mackey 2-7 (0-6 f), A O'Donovan 1-3, J White 0-3, P Mackey 0-2.

St Finbarr's: G O'Connor 1-1, R Myers, O O'Sullivan 1-0 each, V Harris 0-2 (0-1 45), N Goulding, N Varian, V Maher 0-1 each.

DOUGLAS: J Kavanagh; M O'Donovan, L O'Regan, F McSweeney; E Jordan, A O'Regan, L O'Shea; H O'Mahony, P Mackey; J White, M Harkin, K Mackey; C Clarke, A O'Donovan, A O'Donovan.

Subs: C Lynch for C Clarke (14), A Barrett for L O'Shea (51), R O'Sullivan for A O'Donovan (23).

ST FINBARR'S: B A Corcoran; C Myers, T Doyle, M McCarthy; L O'Connell, J Duffy, C Spellman; G O'Connor, B Maher; R Myers, V Harris, N Varian, V Maher, O O'Sullivan, N Goulding.

Subs: C Harrington for C Myers (35).

Referee: John O'Leary (Mallow).



Douglas' Louise O'Regan makes a clearance from the half-back line against St Finbarr's in their Evening Echo sponsored Cork County Senior Camogie Championship game at Ballinlough last night.

Picture: Larry Cummins

Muskerry come out on top in a dour clash

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie	
Muskerry	1-7
Carrigdhoun	1-4

THE second championship game in Ballinlough last evening was a more subdued affair than the first.

The closeness of the tie kept the interest alive but it was of a poor standard.

Carrig played with the aid of a slight breeze in the opening period.

No team dominated or hit a purple patch as the game moved end to end. Carrig did have the slightly better of exchanges.

Their attacking was better while much of Muskerry's attempts fell short.

Marian Jagoe goalied after six minutes after Emer O'Sullivan supplied. Two further points followed from Clodagh Fitzgerald and Sinead O'Callaghan by the fourteen minute. A Muskerry free converted by Linda Dorgan was Muskerry's first half contribution as the scoreboard at the end of the half read 1-2 to 0-1.

The second half livened somewhat. Muskerry sprang to life with Margaret O'Herlihy, Aoife McCarthy, Sarah Buckley and Denise Cronin stepping up to the mark.

Good work by McCarthy in the corner led to the Muskerry goal after four minutes when Leah Weste gathered the cross ball to hand pass home. Points in the eighth and ninth minutes saw Muskerry now take the lead 1-4 to 1-2.

Gillian Harrington made a great save on 11 minutes to keep Carrig in the hunt. However, her side were to score only two points in the second half. Muskerry continued to tap them over as they finished the stronger.

Carrigdhoun exit this year's championship while Muskerry advance to round two where they meet the losers of the club's first round.

Scorers for Muskerry: L Weste 1-0, M O'Herlihy 0-2 (f), P Buttmer, D Cronin 0-2 each, L Dorgan 0-1 (f).

Carrigdhoun: M Jagoe 1-0, C Fitzgerald, S O'Callaghan, O Deasy, G O'Keefe 0-1 each.

MUSKERRY: M Gleeson (Eire Ogi), A Sheehan (Glenagh), S Gleeson (Eire Ogi), K McCarthy (dol), T Roche (Aghabullogun), S Buckley (dol), K O'Donoghue (Ballincollig), C Murphy (Aghabullogue), S Buckley (Ballincollig), L Weste (dol), D Cronin (dol), P Buttmer (dol), L Dorgan (Glenagh), A McCarthy (Eire Ogi), M O'Herlihy (dol).

Subs: C McKenna (Eire Ogi) for C Murphy (14), C McCarthy (Eire Ogi) for L Dorgan (59).

CARRIGDHOUN: G Harrington (V Rovers), AM Murphy (dol), M Hawkes (dol), E Coughlan (dol), S Cotter (Carrigaline), L Hawkes (V Rovers), C Deasy (dol), J Lynch (Tracton), G O'Keefe (Carrigaline), M Moran (dol), E O'Sullivan (Ballinacorney), S O'Callaghan (dol), C Fitzgerald (Tracton), O Deasy (Valley Rovers), M Jagoe (Tracton).

Subs: P O'Keefe (Carrigaline) for C Deasy (45), A Kiely (Tracton) for O Deasy (54).

Referee: Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers).

Seeking better deal for country's camogie players

NEWLY elected Camogie President Joan O'Flynn recently announced the establishment of the Association's first Player Welfare Committee, set up to promote health, safety and welfare issues, along with investigating matters in relation to player injuries, injury prevention, player insurance and nutrition.

The Committee, headed up by 2007 All-Ireland winning Wexford manager Stella Sinnot, consists of eight players, including Cork's Rena Buckley, Antrim's Jane Adams, Laois' Aine O'Mahony, Kildare's Susie O'Carroll and Ballinderreen stalwart Aoife Lane, who is a lecturer on Exercise and Health Studies at Waterford IT.

A daughter of Galway hurling legend Noel Lane, Aoife is an ideal candidate to help front up the Player Welfare Committee, given her background in health promotion and recreation and leisure. Over the years, she has also completed studies on 'Alcohol and Sport among College Students' and 'Increasing Physical Activity Levels of Women in Ireland'.

Lane – who graduated with a BSc in Sport and Exercise Science from University of Limerick in 2002 and subsequently completed a MA in Health Promotion at NUI Galway the following year – has also attended the European College of Sports Science and the International Society for Behavioural Nutrition and Physical Activity conferences in Lausanne and Oslo respectively.

It is this experience she will bring to a Committee that will look to cater for inter-county and club players alike. In many respects, the Committee will not

TALKING SPORT



STEPHEN GLENNON

Ballinderreen native Lane is member of sport's first Player Welfare Committee

be dissimilar to the GPA, the underlining exception being that this group will work within the perimeters of camogie's national governing body.

Interestingly, her father Noel had sat on a comparable committee within the GAA before the GPA was founded but the emergence of the latter subsequently resulted in this Committee faltering somewhat. The Ballinderreen native, though, does not believe camogie's cast will experience the same difficulties.

"I think there are just so many more external influences in the GAA – hurling and football – with issues surrounding sponsorship, money and the attention of the media. I suppose, there was a huge gap there for a group like the GPA to jump into and say, 'Listen, we are not getting enough out of this'. However, camogie players don't have the same environment as the GAA at all. It might be changing a little bit, but I think we should be able to manage it."

In any event, the Camogie Association are determined to meet issues surrounding player welfare head on, employing Lane – a noted club player and former Galway All-Ireland double minor medal winner – to collate the necessary information, draft policy, and then make every effort to ensure this information is distributed to every playing member of the organisation.

"We will do some information gathering first," continues the 28-year-old. "That is where I probably come in. Anybody can go out and write something willy-nilly but I think you have to react to what is out there rather than making it up as you go along."

'We need to target that by looking at camogie as a social sport as well'

Already, the Camogie Association has made significant inroads in terms of its Code of Ethics for Children and the tutoring of its coaching staff to provide for good practices. "This, though, is a very big gesture and a very formal effort to protect camogie players and look after them," states Lane. "The final goal is to have a policy, but between now and then there is a lot of work that has to be done. There are a lot of things that have to be looked at."

These not only include reviewing the demands placed on inter-county and club players, awareness and education on injury prevention and recovery, the adequacy of player insurance, and the compliance with anti-doping requirements, but also increasing

awareness and knowledge of the relationship between good nutrition and sporting performance.

Of course, this raises the thorny subject of alcohol abuse among Ireland's sporting fraternity. Lane agrees that binge drinking, no more than in the GAA, is a problem for the ladies game, with the WIT lecturer – who has carried out insightful research into this and published her findings – highlighting that, simply, players have "really crazy drinking patterns".

"You are trying to change a culture, though, and I just don't know. The thing is, we are part of the reason why it has happened. And we still are. We (Ballinderreen) won the Junior 'B' League about a month ago and we had a great night out. Yet, we probably did drink too much."

"Fair enough, I mightn't do that again for another month or two – you do mature a little bit – but that is still what people see. That is what kids see, players celebrating with alcohol, going to the pub after matches. So while we like doing it from our own perspective, we are kind of the reason it has happened. I think it is one of the biggest problems in Ireland and it bothers me how much young people drink."

In many respects, Lane says drinking and the social scene is one of the main reasons behind player drop-out in the mid to late teens. This is another area Lane has researched quite thoroughly. "There is a publication called Sporting Lives and it says, yes, there is a drop off from team sports, but, on the other hand, individual sports have taken over a bit."

"Girls are still conscious and concerned about their body image



Ballinderreen's Aoife Lane who is part of the new Player Welfare Committee set up the Camogie Association.

or what have you. They want to look well. So they might leave sports like camogie, but they will still walk or run or go the gym. While that is great from a physical perspective overall, from a camogie perspective we want to keep them where they are."

For Lane, this raises another player welfare issue, and that is

what happens when their members feel they can no longer play at a competitive level? "I think it would be a brilliant lead for camogie to take a stab at producing a health policy and not let it be all about winning or performances, but let it be about participation."

"Yes, there is a way there for promoting the health of girls, be it

dealing with issues such as drinking or smoking, looking at better health practices, and better hygiene. When you think about it, you could have 30 children on the field three times a week and that is, in many ways, a better environment for learning than school. So there is huge scope there to promote health."

"However, we also have to look to help out our members when they finish playing. Firstly, we need to take a step back and look after the injuries they may have incurred and make sure they get better and are properly looked after. This will mean ensuring the insurance schemes are better than they are now. They are probably a bit cumbersome at the minute."

"Secondly, it is also about reviewing a camogie player's whole life cycle. We need to target that by looking at camogie as a social sport as well. We need to take a lead from tag rugby or five-a-side soccer. If you could come up with something that our players could enjoy, be active two or three times a week, then the benefits would come back to everybody involved."

"I know, it is hard with contact sports. Helmets are a big thing. The question is, though, can we generate some social game – relatively non contact – that will keep our people involved in the sport for a lot longer. I know a lot of camogie players and hurlers turn to golf when they finish playing, but there has to be something we can do."

• Aoife Lane is a daughter of former Galway All-Ireland winning sharpshooter and hurling manager Noel Lane and his wife Carmel. She has two brothers, Mark and Patrick.

Wexford waltz to easy win

WEXFORD 5-20
LIMERICK 0-06
DEAN GOODISON

ROSE-MARIE Breen, relishing the new role of full-forward, netted three times as she and her team-mates cantered to victory in their opening clash in the Gala All-Ireland Senior camogie championship against a committed yet overpowered Limerick in Hospital on Saturday last.

The visitors came into the tie without the services of influential full-back Deirdre Codd, a late injury victim, who was ably replaced by Catherine O'Loughlin. Otherwise Wexford were at full strength as manager Stellah Sinnott tried out several different forward arrangements.

With the front eight, substitute Lenny Holohan and an advanced Aine Codd all on the scoresheet, several of the permutations proved a clear success. At the other end of the field, Mags D'Arcy could easily have employed the services of a deck chair and took in some of the sun's fleeting rays, with her only action of the afternoon revolving around several puck-outs.

Enabling the easy afternoon were the six backs. In particular, the trio comprising the half-back line were in majestic form, but they will be only too aware that they will face a sterner test against Galway in three weeks' time.

The exceptional Kate Kelly pointed to open the scoring in the first minute and Wexford did not having long to wait for their opening goal. At first when Michelle O'Leary's searching ball found its way to Breen she struggled to control it, but when it looked as if the chance had gone, a stretch and flick of the hurl was enough to roll the ball past Limerick's goalkeeper.

Niamh Mulcahy, comfortably the home side's stand-out performer, grabbed their only first-half point as Wexford made use of the breeze by racking up an array of scores. Josie Dwyer, Caroline Murphy, Ursula Jacob and Una Leacy, who didn't seem overly enamoured about playing at right half-forward, all added overs, leaving the score at 1-9 to 0-1 at the interval.

Wexford may have expected to have a harder time in the second period, but it wasn't to be as Limerick began to tire and

WEXFORD

Mags D'Arcy; Bernice Holohan; Catherine O'Loughlin; Claire O'Connor; Aine Codd (1-5); Mary Leacy; Aoife O'Connor (capt.); Caroline Murphy (0-1); Michelle O'Leary (0-1); Una Leacy (0-2); Josie Dwyer (0-3); Kate Kelly (0-6, 3 frees, 2 '45s); Michelle Hearne (1-1); Rose-Marie Breen (0-2); Ursula Jacob (0-2). **SCORER:** Lenny Holohan (0-2) for Jacob. Inj., Noelleen Lambert for O'Leary. Inj.

LIMERICK

Mary Lonergan; Sarah Carey; Sarah Collins; Janet Garvey; Judith Mulcahy; Aoife Sheehan; Joanne Clifford (0-1); Deirdre Fitzpatrick; Niamh Mulcahy (0-4); Eileen O'Brien (0-1); Fiona Morrissey; Catriona Davis; Kerrie Brosnan; Michelle Casey; Catrín De Bhal; **SCORER:** Fiona Hickey for Brosnan; Aileen McNamara for Casey; Claire Casey for De Bhal; Tara Power for Davis; Niamh Power for Sheehan.

REFEREE: John Morrissey (Tipperary). **VENUE:** Hospital.

space became plentiful.

A purposeful Michelle Hearne run down the right wing produced Breen's second goal, an effort the Limerick 'keeper, Mary Lonergan, who had a tough game, may have expected to save. The hat-trick clincher was the visitors' best goal, as Dwyer and Leacy combined inside the '45 before sending Breen away at goal, leaving the easiest of her finishes.

Holohan, who had come on in the first period for ankle injury victim Ursula Jacob, completed

an impressive half, slotting a couple of points and using her pace to create space. She helped to ease Wexford into a 22-point lead before the Shannonsiders notched their second point, their first score for over half an hour, midway through the period.

Aine Codd raced all the way from half-way into the host's goalmouth before tapping in her side's fourth goal with 14 minutes remaining but, to their credit, Limerick never let their heads drop. Mulcahy in particular fired over a couple of points to finally start movement on their side of the scoreboard.

After, by her standards, a reasonably-quiet 58 minutes, Hearne grabbed her first point, and it was just seconds before she fired in the fifth and final Wexford goal. Again Leacy played the role of provider as her second-half proved to be a marked improvement on her first.

Kelly aptly bookended the score-fest in injury time from her second '45, leaving Wexford with almost the perfect start; a start that will be perfect if Deirdre Codd and Ursula Jacob are fit to face Galway in Wexford Park on July 11.



Kiltormer Captain Sinead Cormican receives the U14 C Cup from Geraldine McGrath.



Mary Leacy was sound at centre-back.



Michelle O'Leary was one of ten players on the scoresheet.

Manager Sinnott sets sights on tougher Galway game

DESPITE HER side starting off the championship with the easiest of victories against Limerick, a delighted Wexford supremo, Stellah Sinnott, was quick to direct her sights ahead to the crunch clash against Galway next month.

'It was a comprehensive win but it's only one small step in this championship campaign. The minute the final whistle went we moved our focus straight onto Galway. We

know we have a very tough job against them and we now have three weeks to prepare for that.'

Sinnott was also thrilled with the scoring totals put up by her side.

'The girls picked off some lovely points today, from midfield and the half-forward line. Our goal tally was high as well so it was very positive, I'm happy with that.'

She was also quick to indicate the impor-

ance of space to play in.

'We have very potent forwards but at the same time we need to concentrate on creating space.'

It is clear Sinnott and the management team will not be letting anybody rest or their laurels.

'We will keep everyone on their toes and we are under no illusions, we know there is still a lot of work to do.'

Camogie Board tribute to late Ann Coleman

IT was with great sadness that Galway Camogie Board and camogie people everywhere learned of the tragic and untimely death of Anne Coleman (Abbeyknockmoy) and her husband Joe O'Connell.

Ann played camogie with both the Castlegar and Athenry clubs, winning several county and Connacht club titles in her time. Ann

subsequently moved to the Glen Rovers club in Cork, where she won two All-Ireland club titles in 1992 and 1993.

The Abbeyknockmoy native also wore the Galway jersey with great pride, winning an All-Ireland junior medal in 1988.

Hailing from a very sporting family, Ann's brother Michael had a dis-

tinguished hurling career with Galway, while her brother Mattie played football for the Tribesmen.

Meanwhile, her nephew Niall is a current member of the Galway football panel while her niece Carmel represented and captained Galway at intermediate camogie level last year.

Ann was a very talented

camogie player and had a great personality.

Speaking on behalf of Galway Camogie Board, Chairperson Geraldine McGrath said: 'On behalf of camogie people everywhere, I wish to express sincere sympathies to the Coleman and O'Connell families. The loss is huge to many, but especially to their families.'



Douglas captured the Division One C

JUNE 2009



The Tipperary Primary Game Camogie Team who played Clare on Sun June 24th were: Margaret Grace, Drom N.S, Rachel O' Dwyer, Sisters of Charity Clonmel, Julie Murphy, Clonoulty N.S, Amy Ryan, Dromakeenan N.S, Leanne Hayes, Annacarty N.S, Gillian McKenna, Scoil Mhuire Borrisokane, Aideen Hogan, Kyle Park N.S, Alanna Moore, New Inn N.S, Shauna Curtin, Ballinahinch N.S, Holly O' Brien, Kiltruane N.S, Coleen O' Brien, Gaelscoil Aonach. They were mentored by: Dónal McCarthy Ballylooby N.S and Mary Kelly Corcoran Upperchurch N.S.

Galway hit by injury crisis ahead of camogie battle against promoted Clare

STEPHEN GLENNON

2008 All-Ireland senior camogie finalists, Galway may have to line out in their All-Ireland series opener against novices Clare without ace sharpshooter Jessica Gill, along with a number of their other star players, at Kenny Park, Athenry on Saturday (3:50pm).

Galway's quest for the O'Duffy Cup begins against their near neighbours Clare, a side promoted to the senior ranks despite agonisingly losing to Offaly in a ding-dong All-Ireland junior decider at Croke Park last year. Of course, that was the same day the Tribeswomen had their dreams of glory quashed by a clinical Cork side, who claimed their 25rd All-Ireland title on a scoreline of 2-10 to 1-8.

Having come so close, the team management - led by former Galway hurling captain Liam Donoghue - kept faith, by and large, with that All-Ireland final outfit for the Nation-

al League, defeating their nemesis Cork (1-10 to 0-7) and Limerick (3-10 to 0-1) in their opening two games, before narrowly missing out on a place in the knockout stages when losing to Wexford by 1-12 to 1-11 in their final group game.

Still, Galway have shown that they can stand toe to toe with the best of them in recent years and, come Saturday, they will look to collect their first brace of championship points in a group that also contains National League champions Wexford and minnows Limerick.

That said, manager Donoghue does have major injury concerns, none more so than Athenry dead ball specialist Gill. According to the Galway boss, Gill is definitely out of this clash with a groin strain and she is now then be in a race to be fit for the Tribeswomen's crunch group clash with Wexford on July 11.

Also out of contention for the Clare game is Pearses midfielder Aine Hillary, who is

nursing a hip injury, while Davitts duo Ailbhe Kelly and Lourda Kavanagh (both ankle ligament injuries) have just returned to training in the past week or so and it remains to be seen if they will be deemed fit to play.

Given the casualty list, Galway will look to some of their other key players, such as the likes of Ann Marie Hayes, Sinead Cahalan, Niamh Kilkenny, Therese Maher and Veronica Curtin. The squad have also been boosted this year by the return of Athenry defender Regina Glynn, the versatile Aislinn Connolly and forwards Brenda Hanney and Emma Kilkelly.

"Definitely the panel has got stronger, definitely," said Donoghue. "Brenda, Regina, Aislinn and Emma are all back, while the likes of Sinead Keane and Paula Kenny have also been going well and have stepped up to the mark."

"We have played a lot of games recently, against Kilkenny and Tipperary. We have won those games, but it is not

something we would be shouting about. Still, it is positive and we are happy enough with the way things are going."

While Clare - led by the likes of Chloe Morey, former Davitts midfielder Deirdre Murphy and talented sharpshooter Carina Roseingrave - have just stepped up to the top tier, Donoghue insists his charges will take nothing for granted.

"We will treat Clare like we would Cork or Wexford. We are not that good that we can take any team for granted. Clare had six players on the Munster inter-provincial team recently, and I have to say I was very impressed with them."

Injuries aside, though, Galway should have enough to account for the Banner County.

The two sides will also meet in the curtain-raiser at Kenny Park at 1:45pm, with Basil Larkin's intermediates also favourites to make a winning start in their McGrath Cup campaign on Saturday.

GALA ALL IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP WRAP

Camogie teams around the country observed a minute silence at the weekend for O'Connell who died tragically in America a week ago. Anne, who played camogie in county of Galway also enjoyed a stint with Glen Rovers of Cork, and was remembered Rinn on Saturday before the start of the Cork versus Dublin Gala All Ireland senior camogie game.

Cork manager Denise Cronin who played alongside Anne in the victorious Glen Rovers Ireland winning club side of 1992 said it is a very emotional time for all who knew her. She ran out to the 45 metre line and stood together as a mark of respect. This is a terribly sad time for both families and our thoughts are with them.

Champions Cork went on to record a big win over the Blues 3-21 to 1-7.

Clonakilty entertain in league triumph

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie

Clonakilty 3-16
Tracton 3-11

DESPITE trailing at the break by five points Clonakilty recorded a victory in this entertaining intermediate league camogie clash played in Minane Bridge.

This win keeps them very much in the hunt for a place in the latter stages of the competition.

It was Tracton who set the pace of the contest with first-half goals from Ann Sinclair and Marion Jagoe.

Jennifer Griffin, Julie-Ann Kingston, Jennifer Lynch and Ciara Lynch added points to their tally.

Tracton enjoyed a comfortable interval lead of six points, 2-9 to 1-6.

Throughout the opening half Clonakilty kept in touch and never allowed Tracton get too far ahead.

They struck with points from Marie O'Donovan, Erica Jennings and Sharon Whelton before a Clara Nagle goal helped them keep Tracton in their sights.

From the restart Clonakilty set about cutting the deficit.

They proceeded to put their stamp on the game.

Sharon Whelton, Sinead O'Neill, Marie O'Donovan, Erica Jennings and Hannah Coughlan were on target with points as Tracton battled to stay the distance.

Marian Jagoe pointed a Tracton free but now they were finding the Clonakilty defence a lot harder to break down.

Aoife Kiely grabbed a Tracton goal, but two Sinead O'Neill goals for Clonakilty plus points from Juanita Brennan, Sharon Whelton, Marie O'Donovan, and Sinead O'Neill were enough to secure the points for a determined Clonakilty side after a good contest.

Scorers for Clonakilty: S O'Neill 2-3, S Whelton 0-6, M O'Donovan 0-4, C Nagle 0-1, E Jennings 0-2, H Coughlan, J Brennan 0-1 each.

Tracton: M Jagoe 1-3 (0-2), A Kiely, A Sinclair 1-0 each, J Lynch 0-3 (0-2), C Lynch 0-2, J A Kingston, J Griffin 0-1 each.

CLONAKILTY: L Daly, N O'Donovan, A Deasy, A M Moyle, A McCarthy, S O'Brien, L O'Flynn, S O'Neill, H O'Regan, J Brennan, E Jennings, C Nagle, S Whelton, M O'Donovan, S Forristal.

TRACTON: N Lynch, E Collins, G McCarty, N Mullane, K O'Sullivan, J Kingston, O Ambrose, T Harrington, J Lynch, A Sinclair, A Dempsey, C Lynch, M Jagoe, R Lyons, J Griffin. **Subs:** A Kiely for J Kingston (4th), S O'Loughlin for E Collins (36), G Ross for R Lyons (48), M Buckley for A Dempsey (50).

● Don't miss Linda Mellerick's thought-provoking camogie column tomorrow.

This game will go to the wire

THE meeting of Ballygarvan and Milford is a game that has been eagerly awaited since the draw were made for this year's championship.

Milford have enjoyed huge success at underage level taking every title from U12 to minor in their short history while they have also impressively captured adult titles from Junior B to senior B, but still a senior county championship title has eluded them and they would dearly love to add the coveted title to their impressive list of achievements.

Defeated in the county final of 2005 by Carrighoun, Milford have been working hard to reach the same level since but they have found it difficult to recover and reach another final.

Many feel their chance may have passed but they have superb performers in Anna Geary, Deirdre O'Reilly, Christine O'Gorman, Elaine O'Riordan, the Watson sisters Maire and Eimear while younger players Sarah Sexton and Rebecca Finn slotted in well to their senior set-up last season and now a year older and wiser they will be expected to play a big part in Milford's continued quest for the title.

Without doubt they have been one of the county's most successful underage clubs but still they strive to turn it into a senior crown.

Down through the years they have produced excellent underage players but they need to move it on and establish themselves as Douglas did last season.

Ballygarvan lost out at semi-final stages last season and they will be hoping to go one better in 2009. Over a number of years they too have enjoyed underage success and they will feature several younger players in their line-up.

Lorraine Browne, Christina Murphy and Aisling Byrne are among the younger brigade in the club while experienced players included Emer Dillon



Catriona Kelly will be a key player for Ballygarvan.

TOMORROW
Evening Echo Cork County
Senior Championship: Milford
v Ballygarvan, Coachford,
7.30pm

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie

who has made a welcome and successful return to the inter-county senior panel.

Sally Ann O'Halloran, Valerie Browne and Catriona Kelly are strong club players to whom Ballygarvan will look to spearhead their challenge.

Through last season's campaign Catriona Kelly was inspirational as she troubled defences, picking off some excellent scores and once again this season Ballygarvan will look to Kelly as they strive to reach their first senior county championship final.

Both clubs would dearly love to make the perfect start to their campaigns and avoid the back door. Ballygarvan are a spirited side that will not give up without a fight. Milford are a tough outfit but Ballygarvan will not shy away from a challenge. It's a tough one to call and could go either way, don't rule out a second meeting



Milford's Anna Geary has been an important player for the club.

Big day out awaits all at Rockbán

SUNDAY
Evening Echo Senior County
Championship: Rockban v
Barryroe, Castle Road, 2pm.

IT'S a big day on Sunday for the Rockbán club as they make their senior county championship debut against Barryroe in Castle Road, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Last season they blazed a trail of glory taking the Senior B championship and league titles in style and they have confidently joined the ranks of senior this year.

They recorded a senior league victory over St Finbarr's recently and while both sides would have been minus several of their key players, the victory will have been a boost to Rockbán.

Their side is spearheaded by the

Cork senior inter-county duo of Cathriona Foley and Sile Burn and both played key roles for Rockbán last season, however Cathriona was unable to line out with Cork in the opening round of the Gala All-Ireland senior championship on Saturday last and if the injury is not healed up and she were to be still unavailable and she will be a huge loss to Rockbán.

They are a well a balanced side

with plenty of experienced players Mairead and Deirdre Foley, Claire Conway, Elaine Casey and Sarah Coleman all showed tremendous ability and skill in last seasons successful campaign and if they can find the form that saw them reach such heights last season they could be in with a great chance this year of going one better.

Barryroe have been finding the going tough since the departure of Jennifer O'Leary who took a year off last season to travel and has not yet returned, they took the senior league title for 2007 early last season but they failed to build on it in their

championship campaign.

This year they have Rosalie Holland back in the fold, sidelined last season with a serious injury the return of a player of the calibre of Rosalie is a huge boost.

Goalkeeper Eimear White is a member of the Cork senior panel while Ger Collins, Louise Gannon, Eileen Carroll, Anne Marie Fleming, Linda McCarthy and Karen McCarthy are amongst the players Barryroe will look to for leadership.

It's a big ask of Barryroe but they have a great sense of determination and pride and they will make Rockbán fight all the way.

Inniscarra have that little extra



Rachel Moloney, right, brings a lot of experience to the Courcey Rovers team.

TONIGHT

Evening Echo Senior County Championship: Courcey Rovers v Inniscarra, Brinny, 8pm.

IT will be a tight contest between Inniscarra and Courcey Rovers in this *Evening Echo* Senior County Championship first-round tie in Brinny this evening.

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie

Both are young sides that have plenty of up and coming stars in their line-up and with several of the players in both camps having plenty of underage inter-county representation in recent times there is no lack of experience in either side.

Courceys have a trump card up front in Cork senior Rachel Moloney who is enjoying a fine season with the inter-county team and her ability to pick off scores will be vital to Courceys' cause.

Deadly accurate from frees, Moloney is Cork's top scorer and she will prove a huge challenge to Inniscarra.

Defender Sara Hayes is also enjoying a super inter-county season with the Cork team and her strength in the Courcey rearguard is a huge plus.

Christine O'Neill is another young player who has come up through the ranks with the club, also a member of the senior inter-county panel this season she played Ashbourne Cup with UCC this year and the experience gained has been of huge benefit to a player that will play a big role for Courceys.

The club has worked hard at underage level and contested last season's Cork Féile na nGael final and they have plenty of underage talent with players such as Caron O'Reilly, Julie Mulcahy and young Aisling Moloney a sister of Rachel, all making the step up to the

club's senior side this season and they will be hoping that the youngsters blend in.

Inniscarra are always strong championship campaigners and they will be determined to record a first-round victory and avoid re-entry to the championship via the losers' round.

Last season they reached the quarter-final stages and they will be anxious to improve on that showing this time out.

The clubs have worked hard to establish themselves at senior level in a bid to take their first senior county title and they have enjoyed huge underage success taking Cork Féile titles as well as underage championship crowns and they continue to build their senior team around these players.

Their younger brigade of Katie O'Mahony, Emma Kingston, Joanne Casey and Niamh Dilworth have all worn the Cork colours at underage level while inter-county senior Rena Buckley is a hugely influential player for Inniscarra.

Both clubs will be anxious to make a good start to their campaigns, Courceys are a strong side but Inniscarra look to possess just that little bit extra and get the very slight nod to maybe just shade it and book a place in the quarter-finals.

Old rivals should produce a cracker

THE hectic weekend schedule of championship matches should produce some great games, writes **LINDA MELLERICK**.

Sunday afternoon Cloughduv and St Catherine's take second to the field in a double header in Castle Road.

Cloughduv had a convincing victory over Catherine's in 2007, 3-14 to 0-10 and maybe took them a little for granted when the sides met again 12 months ago. Having said that, 2007 was Catherine's first season playing at senior level and they were possibly overawed in round one. They certainly made up for it as they glided into a county quarter-final after defeating Courcey Rovers. Their

SUNDAY

Evening Echo Cork Senior Championship 1st round: Cloughduv v St Catherine's, Castle Road, 4.30pm

season ended here with a three goals defeat to St Finbarr's.

Older and wiser in 2008 St Catherine's approached Cloughduv in a more determined manner. With the game moving into injury-time, Deirdre Twomey was on the end of an Orla Cotter delivery to finish to the net and they stunned Cloughduv with a 1-7 to 0-9 victory.

Certainly Cloughduv didn't do themselves justice in 2008. They have a fine

side yet it's not showing on the field as it should. Going through the back door they, as expected, accounted comfortably for Aghabullogue but they fell at the quarter-final stage by seven points to St Finbarr's.

Orla Cotter of course is the cog in the wheel for St Catherine's and the Twomeys, Noirin Mulcahy, Finola Neville, Faith Noonan and Helen Lane surround her. They need to produce big games on the day.

Their draw with eventual champions Douglas in last year's quarter-final was one of the games of the season. At that stage of the championship if you have an opportunity to take a big scalp you

have to take it. Catherine's lost the replay by 10 points.

Now in their third season St Catherine's will not want to become mere participants but lay down a marker that they are a serious championship side.

For Cloughduv to boast Breige Corkery, Joanne O'Callaghan, Aoife Murray and Una O'Donoghue, all first choice Cork senior players, the nucleus is there for a great side and they should be pushing for honours every other season. It's four years since Cloughduv won the title and need to seriously contest again.

Sunday is the start of their 2009 journey.

Second-half comeback gives Glen the points

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie

Glen Rovers 3-6
Ballinhassig 2-5

THIS was a game of two halves in Ballinhassig as the U16 A league resumed after the exam break.

Ballinhassig playing with the aid of the strong wind made excellent use of their possession and at the break they led 1-5 to 1-1.

Aisling O'Brien had an early point to settle Ballinhassig and with Grace O'Callaghan adding three they began to gain the upper hand.

The Glen girls found it hard to break down the solid Ballinhassig defence but a point from Maria Sheehan had them on the score board. Grace O'Callaghan added a point for Ballinhassig but a Maria Sheehan goal just before the break gave the visitors a boost.

On the change over aided by the wind the Glen began to come into the game and now putting the Ballinhassig defence under a lot of pressure they began to pick off the scores. Lauren Callan pointed from the throw in and three in a row from Sinéad O'Halloran had the Glen level.

Ballinhassig keeper denied Sarah Bridgeman with an excellent save but Maria Sheehan finished the rebound to the net to give the Glen the lead. A minute later they extended it when Edel O'Connell goal.

Aisling O'Keeffe had added a point before Emma Jordan grabbed a Ballinhassig goal.

Scorers for Glen Rovers: M Sheehan 2-1, E O'Connell 1-0, S O'Halloran 0-3, A O'Keeffe, L Callan 0-1 each.

Ballinhassig: G O'Callaghan 1-4, E Jordan 1-0, A O'Brien 0-1

GLEN ROVERS: C McCarthy, C O'Sullivan, S Busted, J Hosford, L O'Sullivan, N O'Brien, N O'Sullivan, A O'Keeffe, A Dowling, E O'Connell, L Callan, S Fahy, S O'Halloran, S Bridgeman, M Sheehan.

Subs: S Hourihane for N O'Sullivan, B O'Mahony for M Sheehan, S Cullinane for A O'Keeffe, C Noonan for S Bridgeman.



The Cork Coillte development squad which was announced recently.

Coillte's development squad

THE Cork Coillte development squad (pictured above) which was announced recently has been busy in the last two weeks under the guidance of coaches Miriam Deasy, Nora Ahern and Marion Jaego.

The squad will participate in the south regional blitz where they will meet teams from Tipperary and Kilkenny. Cork will field two teams in the

blitz and the Cork panel has been announced as follows: Niamh Connolly, Na Piarasigh, Ailse Sisk, Killeagh, Dyane Shannon, Ballinascorthy, Jessica Keating, St Finbarr's, Melissa Roddis, St Vincent's, Amy Maye, Carrigaline, Vicky Withers, Banteer, Shannen Joyce, Youghal, Jennifer Hosford, Glen Rovers, Megan O'Donovan, Kilbrittain, Joan M O'Leary, Valley Rovers, Kate McCarthy, Enniskeane, Mary McGuinness, Tracton, Laura McCarthy, Kilbree,

Aisling Fox, Douglas, Katie Walsh, Sansfields, Kate O'Sullivan, Aghabullogue, Rebecca McAree, Clonakilty, Aoife O'Sullivan, Courcy's, Grace Marum, Blackrock, Elise Dineen, Millstreet, Aoife Finn, Fr O'Neill's, Laura O'Carroll, Inniscarra, Meadhbh Murphy, Dungourney, Jennifer O'Mahony, Newcestown, Siobhan O'Kelly, Ballyhea, Clara Copps, Newtownshandrum, Rachel Murphy, Castletyons, Emma Deasy Barryroe, Claire Byrne, Cloughduv.

Subs: C O'Brien for S O'Brien, S Hurley for C Tyers.

Referee: John Desmond (Bandon)

Former star Deasy will run a camogie camp this summer

FORMER senior inter-county star Miriam Deasy who captained Cork to Intermediate All-Ireland glory is organising a summer camp in association with Kilbrittain-Timoleague Camogie Club. The camp will run from July 6-10 at Harbour View Pitch, Kilbrittain from 10am-1pm. Attendance is open to all girls aged from five to 14 years and newcomers are welcome to come along and join in the fun as the camp is not just confined to club members.

Registration will be accepted on the first day of camp or at the underage training sessions which the club hold. The aims of the camp are fun, participation and skills and Miriam will have plenty of coaches in attendance who are also current camogie players. For safety reasons all participants must wear a helmet, the entry fee is €20 per child and more information on the event can be got by contacting the following number, 087-9973307.

BRIAN DILLON'S

Junior A league Brian Dillon's vs. Watergrasshill: Huge congrats go to the Brian Dillon's girls who fought extremely hard to gain the upper hand. In the first half Brian Dillon's scored three points, Therese Drummond, Donna Carroll and Clair Dooley doing the honours. Watergrasshill clocked up two goals and six points in the first half that was dominated by the home team. Whatever coach Kieran O'Mahony said to the team at half-time is anybody's business but it had serious consequences. Dillon's came out and showed what they are truly capable of. After Dillon's got the first three points in the beginning of the second half scored by Clair Dooley, Therese Drummond and Jane Dooley, there was no stopping the girls. Soon after these, Therese Drummond scored another two points. Aoife Finnegan who was playing centre forward in the second half scored a well focused point and displayed great energy and motivation. Dillon's were dominant here, putting a lot of pressure on Watergrasshill defence. Therese Drummond scored a mighty goal.

Anthea O'Brien (full-back) scored a goal followed by another point by Donna Carroll. There was only a point between the teams when Jane Dooley took off up the pitch at great speed and got a much needed great goal which put Dillon's ahead by two points saving the day. Thankfully the whistle blew and Dillon's did very well to fight back and win in a tough fought match. The back line made up of Anthea O'Brien, Orla Lawrence, Emma Burns, Christine Kearney, Aisling Russell, were strong and Susan Kate Brosnan was dominant from beginning to end. Fair play to Anthea for scoring a goal in this very tense second half. Deirdre Ring and Clair Dooley played very well in midfield. The forwards, Therese Deane, Megan Kelly, Rebecca O'Mahony, Therese Drummond, Donna Carroll and Jane Dooley put a lot of pressure on Watergrasshill in the second half and took their opportunities to score and displayed great skill. Subs, Orla Ni Shuilleabhain, Saoirse Rodgers and Gillian O'Connell played very well and added greatly to the team. Thanks to your

coach Kieran O'Mahony and good luck in your next match.

Scorers: Therese Drummond 1-3, Jane Dooley 1-1, Anthea O'Brien 1-0, Donna Carroll 0-2, Claire Dooley 0-2, Aoife Finnegan 0-1.

Team: A Finnegan, A O'Brien, O Lawrence, A Russell, E Burns, C O'Mahony, S K Brosnan, D Ring, C Dooley, J Dooley, D Carroll, T Deane, M Kelly, T Drummond, R O'Mahony.

Subs: O Ni Shuilleabhain for R O'Mahony, S Rodgers for M Kelly, G O'Connell for D Ring, R Myers, K O'Brien, M Ring.

BISHOPSTOWN

U12s: Hard luck to our U12's on losing out to Ballyhea in the quarter-final, on a score line of 3-1 to 1-3. Best on the day were Eime Ni Dheasunaigh, Laura O'Neill and Laura O'Sullivan, but it was really a great all-round performance by the whole panel and the girls were just unlucky to be beaten on the day.

U14s: Well done again to the U14's, who maintained their great run with an exciting win over Killeagh, by 2-5 to 2-4. Amy

Murphy, Laura O'Neill as well as Eime and Siobhán Ni Dheasunaigh were superb on the night. They are now hoping to get to a play-off with Brian Dillon's.

U11 Seandún: Two great wins for our U11's this week, with a 5-2 to 0-2 win over Blackrock, followed by a win over the Barrs. We played the Barrs on Tuesday night and won 3-4 to 3-0 with Laura O'Neill starring in midfield, scoring all our scores.

The Barrs lead for most of the match but we caught up with 10 minutes to go and then pulled ahead with fine scores from Laura. The team is captained by Laura O'Sullivan at full-back and contains a lot of new players who have only started in the last few months, so well done to all.

Rachael Leisk played well at centre back and showed some good skills for the future. Ide Ni Dheasunaigh fought hard in midfield help-

ing Laura. Eimear Ni Murchu and Grainne Houlihan played well in the half forwards but didn't manage to get on the score sheet this time round.

Meabh Broderick and Aela O'Toole supported well as corner backs especially in the second half. Having beaten Blackrock by 5-2 to 0-2 the girls are now in the Seandún final in Sept, so well done and best of luck!

ST CATHERINE'S
Senior A Championship: On Sunday next June 28, our senior team will take on Cloughduv in the first round of this year's Championship.

This is the third year in a row that we have been drawn against Cloughduv and so with Cloughduv winning in 2007 and St Catherine's in 2008 we will be hoping for another win this year. This game is scheduled to take place in the Cork Camogie Pitch, Castle Road.

Camogie clubs news and



St. Finbarr's U11 squad who recently lost 1-0 to 3-0 to Douglas in the U11 B Seandún League at Douglas Community School. Included is referee Rachel Keohane (Ballygarvan) and mentors, Anne O'Donoghue, Chloe O'Sullivan, Bob McCarthy, Emma Kerins and Orla Hurley.

Championship's front runners have easy wins

WHILE it's hard to get overly excited about Cork's victory over the Dubs last Saturday it was still a championship game that the rebels had to overcome.

Having said that, what was in front of Cork was poor. Dublin, in my view, has taken a step back since last year. While Cork look to be fitter and hungrier than this time 12 months ago, the score of 3-21 and 1-7 takes two. Cork have moved up, Dublin down.

I was impressed with Cork's off the ball running and re-cycling of the ball at times. They are playing more as a team up front. There was a tendency to overdo it a bit but that happens when you play such weak opposition.

Equally, Cork's greatest rivals in this year's championship, Wexford had just as easy a passage against



LINDA MELLERICK

Limerick in their opening round in hospital last Saturday. Another crushing defeat of 5-20 to 0-6!

Imagine taking time out of your day to go and watch that. It doesn't do the game any favours and it must have been unbearable as a Limerick player to have to play through. A very long hour I would think. When one considers that Limerick haven't mustered a single point from ten competitive games between league and championship in two years you wonder how they keep going.

As with Cork that was still a good score for Wexford to clock up.

Stella Sinnott spoke last week about her team's preparations for

championship to date.

"I suppose when you look at it on paper our group would be the easier of the two groups, but we have Galway at home which will probably be our toughest match," Sinnott said.

"We have Limerick and Clare away, and by all accounts Clare are flying. They have nothing to lose, they came from Junior last year and had good league results; they may not have won but they only lost by two or three points in each game, so we expect a battle and will take nothing for granted." Stella envisaged a tougher game from Limerick that she got.

"Limerick are two or three months into their training so we expect them to improve from our league encounter. It's a match, on paper, where most people will say we should win, but we are under no illusions — we have to go down there and perform."

Perform they did! Like Cork Wexford had strength in depth and Stella, like Denise Cronin, has difficulty selecting her starting fifteen for this championship.

"There are five people in every line going for three places. The competition is strong this year which is great, a bit of a headache for us but brilliant for the team and it means no position is safe."

Since the Leinster semi-final win against Dublin, the week after the league decider, the girls had been training without games. However, Sinnott believes two recent challenge wins against Kilkenny have seen her side approaching championship pace.

"The second one went very well, we ended up winning by a big margin in the end. It just showed the importance of matches and gametime, as without it you're heading in rusty."

"The girls showed clear improvement from one game to the other."

Fiona Kavanagh and Jean Hayden have both been added to the Senior panel since the National League, although both are nursing injuries at present, along with Stacey Redmond who broke her ankle in a club game on the day after assisting the Intermediates to victory over Antrim in late April.

With the league title already safely deposited in the trophy cabinet and a Leinster final against Kilkenny on the horizon, Wexford's true focus is on the main prize in the offing, the O'Duffy Cup and the title of All-Ireland champions.

Games against Galway, in Wexford Park on July 11, and away to Clare three weeks later follow Limerick so while Stella Sinnott and her team know that it seems the easier of the two groups, they still have to perform to progress.

reports by Mary Newman

Mehon at 4.30pm and it is one not to be missed.

U14 League: We played Aghbullogue in a league game recently. We started well with Rachel O'Callaghan pointing twice in the first 10 minutes. Meabh Mulcahy pointed a 45 but Aghbullogue were to get an equalising goal just before half-time.

Despite coming close on numerous occasions, we failed to score in the second half with the home side adding 1-1 to run out winners. Full-time score: Aghbullogue 2-1 St. Catherine's 0-3.

Team: R. Spillane, K. England, E. Murphy, A. O'Brien, K. Mulcahy, M. Mulcahy, J. O'Keefe, R. O'Callaghan, A. Fitzgerald, G. Walsh, C. McAuliffe, M. Galvin, M. O'Connor, L. Ahern, E. Spillane.

Sub: C. McCarthy for A. Fitzgerald.

Junior B League: Our Junior B team is sched-

uled to play Castlemagner on Monday June 22. Full report on this game next week.

Inter-county activities: Well done to Cork Senior Camogie team who defeated Dublin on Saturday last in the first round of this year's Championship and especially our club representative Orla Cotter.

GLEN ROVERS

Playing activities resumed after the exams for our U16 squad who had a busy few days, on Saturday last, they travelled to Ballinhassig to take on the home sides in a league game. Ballinhassig started well and set the pace of the game with some excellent scores as they opened up a four point lead, they increased it with a goal before Maria Sheehan struck for our opening score with a point.

Before the break Ballinhassig added a point but we got a vital goal from Maria Sheehan to see us trailing 1-5 to 1-1 at the break.

From the start of the second half aided by the wind, we settled into the game. Lauren Callanan fired over a point and it was followed by three from Sinead O'Halloran before Sarah Bridgeman and Maria Sheehan combined well for a goal.

Edel O'Connell added our third goal before Aisling O'Keefe pointed to extend our lead. Ballinhassig grabbed a late goal but we hung on to take the points after a superb performance, well done girls on another great display.

Team: C. McCarthy, C. O'Sullivan, S. Busteed, J. Hosford, L. O'Sullivan, N. O'Brien, N. O'Sullivan, A. O'Keefe, A. Dowling, E. O'Connell, L. Callanan, S. Fahy, S. O'Halloran, S. Bridgeman, M. Sheehan.

Subs: C. Noonan

Referee: John Desmond (Bandon). Milford were visitors to the Glen field on Tuesday last and again it was an exciting contest played at championship pace. We took an early lead with points from Sinead Fahy but Milford gained the upper hand and led at the interval 3-4 to 0-2.

From the start of the second half we dug

deep and with our defence dealing with anything the Milford attack threw at them we gained in confidence, we came in search of scores and with Sinead O'Halloran striking six in a row and Aisling O'Keefe and Nicole O'Brien adding one each we began to eat into the Milford lead. It took strong defending from the Milford girls to deny us the equaliser, we came so close to snatching and certainly on the balance of play it would have been justice but however the girls can be very proud of their excellent display, giving that it was the first game that they have lost through their league campaign. Their chances of making it to the closing stages of the competition are still very much in tact, well done to everybody on another superb display.

Team: C. McCarthy, C. O'Sullivan, S. Busteed, J. Hosford, L. O'Sullivan, N. O'Brien, N. O'Sullivan, A. O'Keefe, A. Dowling, E. O'Connell, L. Callanan, S. Fahy, S. O'Halloran, S. Bridgeman, M. Sheehan.

Subs: C. Noonan for M. Sheehan.

Referee: Jack McGrath

At both of the above games, a minutes si-

lence was observed in memory of our former senior player the late Anne Coleman and her husband Joe O'Connell who lost their lives tragically in an accident. Glen Rovers would like to put on record our sincere thanks to the players and mentors to all involved with the Ballinhassig and Milford clubs and to referees John Desmond and Jack McGrath who joined with us in paying our respect to a couple who Glen Rovers will always remember with great fondness.

Well done: Well done to the Cork senior team and to our very own Denise Cronin and her fellow selector on their victory over Dublin in the Gala All-Ireland championship on Saturday last.

Minors: A reminder to our minor team that they resume training after the exams on Sunday morning at 11.30am, senior, minor and junior training Monday and Wednesday at 6.30pm, U14 and U16 Monday and Friday at 6pm.

Moloney is class above in a thriller

By MARY NEWMAN

Senior Camogie Championship

Courcey Rovers 3-11
Inniscarra 4-7

'THRILLER' was the word on everybody's lips leaving Brinny last night.

And it certainly was an appropriate choice of word on the day.

This Evening Echo senior camogie championship clash simply had everything. We had three penalties, seven goals and 18 points and a shot for goal striking the upright.

We had young up and coming stars on both sides. Courcey youngsters Aisling Moloney stood shoulder to shoulder in attack with her older sister Cork star Rachel, Caron O'Reilly worked herself to a standstill at midfield but without doubt the star of the show was 15-year-old Julie Mulcahy, whose lightning bursts of speed, skilful control of the sliothar and general awareness and reading of the game marked her out as a star of the future.

Inniscarra had plenty of gutsy displays from their younger players as well. Katie O'Mahony and Aoife Kavanagh did trojan work while the superb striking of Niamh Dilworth and Joanne Casey was a treat to watch, but in the finish it was Mulcahy who stole the show — her point two minutes into injury time sealed victory and a place in the quarter-finals for a Courcey side who served notice last night that they mean business this season.

The opening 30 minutes was a close affair. Julie Mulcahy and Joanne Casey swapped early points before Fiona O'Connell finished Niamh Dilworth's hand pass across the face of the goal to the net. From the puck-out Courcey attacked and won a penalty when Rachel Moloney was brought down in the square.

They opted to tap the ball over the bar and it proved a wise decision come the full-time whistle.

With both defences coming under pressure the sides swapped points.

Courceys hit the front at the end of the first quarter when Rachel Moloney reacted fast to grab a huge clearance from Ciara Hayes and blast to the net. Two minutes later 15-year-old Aisling Moloney finished to the net after Sinead Ni Riain had saved Rachel's attempt on goal.

Inniscarra battled back and the next quarter belonged to them.

Niamh Dilworth finished a penalty to the net after she was fouled on her way to goal, Fiona O'Connell and Joanne Casey edged them ahead with points but Rachel Moloney had it all square at the half-time whistle, 2-4 apiece.

Within a minute of the restart Inniscarra's Margaret Cosgrave's shot hit the butt of the upright on its way to the net, Rachel Moloney struck two magnificent points to put Courcey two ahead before Sinead Ni



Inniscarra's Aoife Kavanagh and Courcey Rovers Ashling Moloney tussle for the ball during the Evening Echo Cork senior camogie championship at Brinny last night.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

SEANDÚN FIXTURES

All games 7.30pm unless stated

SUNDAY JUNE 28

JHL (3). St.Vincents v Delany's, Pairc Uinsinn, 11.30am.

CITY/SOUTH-EAST MBHL Ballygarvan v Whitechurch, Ballygarvan, 11.30am.

MONDAY JUNE 28

JHL (1). St.Vincents v Glen Rovers, Pairc Uinsinn; Na Piarasigh v Ballymartle, Piarasigh Pitch.

JHL (2). Lough Rovers v Blackrock, Pairc an Locha.

JHL (3). Belgooly v Nemo Rangers, Belgooly.

TUESDAY JUNE 30

JBLHC Mayfield v Rathpeacon, Mayfield.

JHL (1). St.Finbarrs v Ballinhassig, Togher; Bishopstown v Donoughmore, Bishopstown.

JHL (2). Ballinora v Douglas, Ballinora.

WEDNESDAY JULY 1

JHL (2). Tracton v Whitechurch, Minane Bridge.

JHL (3). Ballinure v Brian Dillon's, Ballinure.

JFL (2). St.Finbarrs v Lough Rovers, Togher.

CITY/SOUTH-EAST MBFL St.Finbarrs v Shamrocks, Togher.

THURSDAY JULY 2

U/21 AFC FINAL St.Michaels v St.Finbarrs, Ballinlough.

JFL (2). Nemo Rangers v Na Piarasigh, Trabeg.

FRIDAY JULY 3

SILVERSPRINGS MORAN HOTEL JAHC Douglas v St.Vincents, Ballinlough, 7.00pm.

Extra Time, if necessary.

JHL (3). Belgooly v Ballinora, Belgooly.

a long-range effort straight between the posts to level in with a minute remaining.

Both sides battled for a winner and with a replay very much on the cards Julia Mulcahy had other ideas winning possession she once again took off at speed and this time she was taking no chances confidently striking the ball over the bar from 35 metres out to give her side a lead they held onto in the two further minutes of added time.

Courceys march on to the last eight but this Inniscarra side are not finished and they will certainly have a huge input come the losers round when they will get a chance to redeem themselves and come back into contention.

Scorers for Courcey Rovers: R Moloney 1-8 (0-4f, 0-1 pen, 0-1 45), A Moloney, C O'Driscoll 1-0 each, J Mulcahy 0-2, U Quinn 0-1.

Inniscarra: F O'Connell, N Dilworth (11-0pen) 1-1 each, J Casey 0-3(f), K O'Mahony 1-0 each, R Buckley 0-2(f).

COURCEY ROVERS: S O'Reilly; C Hayes, C O'Neill, N O'Reilly; P Collins, S Hayes (c), S O'Regan; C O'Driscoll, C O'Reilly; J Mulcahy, M O'Regan, E Ryan; U Quinn, R Moloney, A Moloney. Sub: N Mc Carthy for U Quinn (54).

INNISCARRA: S Ni Riain; T Murphy, L Hayes, M Buckley; R O'Mahony, M N O'Sullivan, A Kavanagh; R Buckley (c), K O'Mahony; J Casey, M O'Connell, T Mc Carthy; F O'Connell, N Dilworth, M Cosgrave. Sub L Burke for T Mc Carthy (29).

Ref: Colette O'Mahony (St Finbarr's).

Riain made a superb save from Julia Mulcahy. Rena Buckley and Joanne Casey had Inniscarra back on level by the three-quarter stage as neither sides could pull away.

We had penalty number three with 16 minutes on the watch, this time Niamh Dilworth's effort was stopped on the line but quick as a flash Katie O'Mahony was in to finish the rebound to the net. Advantage Inniscarra once again.

Courceys made a master move switching Rachel Moloney to boost a tiring midfield and she won the vital frees which she duly pointed, twice, levelling it up for the fifth time with five minutes remaining.

Despite players from both sides

showing signs of tiredness the intensity of the game never faltered.

Inniscarra regained the lead with a Laura Burke goal after Fiona O'Connell's effort from close range was saved by Sinead O'Reilly but Courcey swept upfield, Rachel Moloney duly pointing a free to keep them in the hunt.

Showing tremendous composure they held their nerve and continuing to win ball at midfield they attacked down the right wing where young Julia Mulcahy took off on a solo run before passing to Celia O'Driscoll, who finished to the net.

Now it was Inniscarra's turn to show character and they answered the call — Niamh Dilworth striking



Togher Girls had some good success and fun at the Hurling by the Lough.



Greenmount Girls enjoyed a great day at the Hurling by the Lough.



Maria Assumpta showed some great skills at the Lough.



Glasheen Girls displayed some great skills at the Hurling by the Lough.

TEAMS

Togher Camogie: Ailish Twohig, Michelle Crowley, Avril O'Callaghan, Tori O'Connor, Oriagh McCarthy, Niamh McGreevy, Chloe Cotter, Kendall O'Connor, Rebecca O'Sullivan, Ellis Murphy, Sophie McCarthy, Emma O'Donovan (capt), Aoife Hallahan.

Glasheen Camogie: Sarah McCarthy, Chloe McNamara, Jeanette Enowmah, Ailsa Coughlan, Cheyanne Breen, Marie O'Halloran, Nicole Breen, Sarah Robinson, Kiera Falvey, Capri McPherson, Angel McCarthy, Fiona Holland, Alex Mbowma.

Greenmount Camogie: Karen Santry, Jade O'Driscoll, Rachel Long, Michelle Falvey, Jade McSweeney, Shannon Murray, Natasha O'Leary, Sophie Condon, Thea Long, Orlaith Cotter, Natalie Kelleher (capt), Muireann Holland.

Maria Assumpta Camogie: Heather Walsh, Megan McMahon, Aisling Shannon, Chloe O'Sullivan, Chloe Coleman, Rachel O'Regan, Jade O'Halloran, Danielle Buckley, Eimear O'Mahony, Clodagh Molloy, Nycole Hayes, Clodagh Forde, Neidin Carroll.

Results:

Group 1: St Joseph's 2-1 v Morning Star 0-0 Morning Star 0-1 v Togher 4-0 St Joseph's 2-2 v Togher 0-0.

Night 2: Greenmount 2-1 v Teaghlaigh Neofa 1-1 Teaghlaigh 0-0 v Glasheen 2-1 Glasheen 5-4 v Greenmount 0-1.

Finals Night

Camogie 2 Greenmount Cup: Greenmount 3-0 Maria Assumpta 1-0.

Camogie 1 Corn Val Riordan: Togher 0-0 Glasheen 0-0 (Togher won 2-0 after a penalty strike-off).

JUNE 2009



The Seandún team which took part in the Munster primary school camogie blitz.

Rockbán
Barryroe2-3
0-6

BARRYROE will wonder how they lost this *Evening Echo* senior championship clash in Castle Road yesterday.

They played with an extra player for three quarters of the game after Rockbán lost the service of Catriona Foley, dismissed for two yellow cards 17 minutes in, but they failed to avail the opportunities they created.

Continuous rain and wind made conditions hard. Barryroe dominated the opening half, aided by the strong wind, yet they could only turn over level after they struck 10 wides and hit the crossbar twice.

Again, throughout the second half, they matched Rockbán step for step, but whereas Rockbán snatched two goals, one at either end of the game, Barryroe misfired.

The opening half was tough and intense. Barryroe dominated most of the possession despite Rockbán hitting the front inside a minute as, with the first attack of the game, Sile Burns rifled to the back of the net.

Rosarie Holland pointed a free seven minutes in, but despite sustained Barryroe pressure, they failed to add to it.

Ger Collins' shot for goal struck the bar and bounced back into play, as they continued to waste chance after chance.

Seventeen minutes in they found themselves in a favourable position after the dismissal of Foley and they chose to deploy the extra player defence.

Burns converted a Rockbán free 20 minutes in after a rare attack but again it was all Barryroe, Lisa Hennessy's shot for goal hitting the post.

Three points without reply, one from Sharon O'Donovan and two from Ger Collins, had the sides all square at the interval 0-4 to 1-1.

By the three quarter stage they remained deadlocked, 1-3 to 0-6, but Rockbán were beginning to show signs of gaining the upper hand as Barryroe tired.

Burns hit two points to give Rockbán the advantage with 10 minutes remaining before Barryroe struck the post for the third time in the game, the ball spinning of the butt of the upright and wide.

Battling to hold their advantage, Rockbán put the game beyond Barryroe with four minutes remaining when Elaine Casey beat the Barryroe defence and finished

Two goals capture win for Rockbán



Barryroe's Rosarie Holland racing past Rockbán's Maire Griffin during their *Evening Echo* Cork Senior Camogie Championship at Castle Road, Blackrock, yesterday.

Picture: Eddie O'Hara

By MARY NEWMAN

Evening Echo Senior Camogie

Scorers for Rockbán: S Burns 1-6 (0-4f), E Casey 1-0.

Barryroe: G Collins 0-3 (0-1f, 0-1 45), S O'Donovan, R McCarthy, R Holland (f) 0-1 each.

ROCKBÁN: E Harte, C Foley, S Keohane, M McSweeney, L Ryan, C Foley, M Burns, D Foley, L Crowley, V Mulcahy, S Burns, S Brickley, C Conway, T Howard, E Casey.

Sub: N Keohane for S Keohane (21).

BARRYROE: E White, O O'Donovan, A M Fleming, P Moloney, K McCarthy, C Dineen, A O'Donoghue, I Dineen, E O'Regan, E McCarthy, R Holland, L Hennessy, S O'Donovan, G Collins, R McCarthy.

Sub: J White for O O'Donoghue (h-t).

Referee: Oliver Webb (Tracton).

STATE OF THE CLUBS

WITH all the first round games completed and just two games to go in the division side of the championship, the state of the clubs is as follows.

Safely through to the quarter-finals are Douglas, Milford, St Catherine's, Rockbán and Courcy Rovers.

They will be joined by the winner of the three losers' round games.

The clubs who will contest that losers' round for a second chance are Ballygarvan, Barryroe, St Finbarr's, Inniscarra

and Cloughduv.

They will be joined by the divisional side who win the divisional section which has to be completed.

The draws for the quarter-finals and losers' rounds will be made at the Cork County Board meeting this evening.

With a date of the weekend of August 22 already pencilled in for the losers' round games, it gives plenty of time for the inter-county teams to continue their championship preparations.

Corkery's goal is all in vain as St Catherine's advance

St Catherine's
Cloughduv

0-9
1-5

By LINDA MELLERICK
Camogie

A LAST-minute goal by Katherine Corkery couldn't save Cloughduv from defeat as for the second year in a row a single point separated them and St Catherine's in the first round of the *Evening Echo* Cork Senior Championship.

Surrounded by four defenders, a well-taken goal by Corkery on the stroke of full-time failed to give Cloughduv another bite at the cherry as St Catherine's hung on for the four minutes of injury time at Castle Road yesterday.

Cloughduv will rue their first-half performance as they played second fiddle to Catherine's. From midfield up, Cloughduv were almost non-existent as Catherine's, with the wind at their backs, dominated and launched attack after attack.

Yet the Cloughduv defence were excellent, with Emma Dunne, Sinead Corkery, Orla McCarthy and Joanne O'Callaghan holding things together.

Still, with 13 minutes played, St Catherine's had registered five points, Orla Cotter, Fiona Cotter,

Carolyn Motherway and Maeve O'Keefe dictating the flow.

A point from Katherine Corkery in the opening 30 seconds was Cloughduv's only contribution for the half, the score at the break 0-6 to 0-1.

The second half promised excitement when Briege Corkery pointed after three minutes. However a plethora of needless frees, unfair to both sides, almost prevented a good game. It didn't though, as both teams battled passionately for every ball.

Joanne O'Callaghan covered acres of ground in a bid to drive her side on. Cloughduv became far more forceful and pushed forward but were shoved back by another tight-

marking defence in which Noirín Mulcahy was excellent.

A lovely piece of individual skill saw Denise Twomey point for Catherine's but three Cloughduv points left only three between the sides.

Orla Cotter fell back defending as Cloughduv sought their equalising goal. Deirdre Twomey was introduced for Catherine's, her impact tangible. Denise pointed again to give Catherine's that all-important four-point margin with two minutes remaining.

Corkery stood up and got that great goal and the tension was palpable.

St Catherine's now advance to the

quarter-final, while Cloughduv await the second round draw to see who their opponents will be via the back door.

Scorers for St. Catherine's: O Cotter 0-4 (0-3 f), D Twomey 0-2, F Neville, F Cotter, L Higgins 0-1 each.

Cloughduv: K Corkery 1-2, U O'Donoghue 0-2 (f), B Corkery 0-1.

ST CATHERINE'S: D Leahy, F Noonan ©, N Mulcahy, Y O'Neill, O Neville, L Power, C Motherway, O Cotter, M O'Keefe, AM Hayes, F Neville, F Cotter, L Higgins, D Mulcahy, Denise Twomey. **Subs:** Deirdre Twomey for AM Hayes (45).

CLOUGHDUV: A Murray, E Dunne, S Corkery, O McCarthy, G O'Sullivan, J O'Callaghan, A B Murphy, B Corkery, M Corkery, J Lucey, U O'Donoghue, C O'Donoghue, S Buckley, K Corkery, A Murray. **Subs:** J Ring for A Murray (h-t), M Lucey for J Lucey (48).

Referee: Walter Cole (Buttevant).

Camogie blitz is a massive success for all involved

Munster Primary Squad Camogie Blitz
MUNSTER Council Camogie held their second primary schools development squads blitz in Mal-
low GAA on Saturday.

Regional Development Officer Deirdre Murphy, in conjunction with Munster Colleges Camogie and Munster Cumann na mBunscol, were the driving force behind the initiative.

The Munster Camogie Council development plan prioritises coaching development in primary and secondary schools with PR work and the improvement of the game in the weaker counties amongst the core areas being addressed.

Munster GAA is supporting the development plan and has been proactive in the venture, ensuring both associations follow an integrated approach to improve the profile and development of camogie in the province.

The blitz involved each of the six counties participating with a round robin series of games.

Cork had two panels and Dublin, managed by Paul Beecher, brought two panels also to participate in a well organised series of games.

Over 30 games were played on the four pitches which were refereed by Coachford students Aine O'Connor, Laura Burke, Nicola Doherty, Marie Corkery, Joanne Casey, Edel Murphy and Colleen Foley (Carraig na bhFear) who recently completed the 'greencard' referee course.

Cork team manager, Terry O'Brien was delighted with the event which ran on schedule.

The medal presentation was historic in itself, with the 250 players gathered around the podium after the ninth set of games.

Limerick's enthusiastic manager Tim Larkin noted the performance of exceptional players including Niamh McCarthy, Emer Crowley, Jessica Dunne and Erin Desmond from Cork, Caroline Walsh, Niamh McInerney and Deirdre Cotter from the Banner whilst Alanna Kissane, Rachel O'Mahony and Sarah Fitzgerald from Kerry were prominent throughout the day.

Experienced Munster Tutor, Donal McCarthy, Principal of Ballylooby, praised the initiative and the impeccable organisation of the event. Players of note from Tipperary included Leanne Hayes, Margaret Grace and Caoimhe Condon with Donna Mulcahy, Kate Mulqueen and Aoife Brown performing admirably for Limerick.

The Waterford panel relied on Siobhan Shanahan, Kayleigh Veale and Dawn Power whilst all the players were keen to hold onto their colourful program as a memento, particularly the Dublin teams who proved to be the strongest side on view all day.

Manager Paul Beecher, originally from St Catherine's, but domiciled in Dublin after a short time in the middle east, appears to have made an impact coaching in the capital.

Watson sisters do all of the damage

By MARY NEWMAN

Senior camogie

Milford	4-9
Ballygarvan	0-10

A SUPER double act from the Watson sisters Emer and Marie which saw them bag four goals helped pave the way for Milford's victory in this Evening Echo Senior Camogie championship clash in Coachford on Saturday evening.

With Emer getting three goals and Marie chipping in with one for good measure, Milford were always in total control of this contest, in contrast the Ballygarvan attack was non-existent as they relied totally on Catriona Kelly for their tally of 10 points, all but four coming from placed balls.

With 11 minutes to the break the sides had been level on three occasions after an uneventful opening quarter as the sides shared six points.

The game was effectively sealed in Milford's favour by Emer Watson with two goals inside 30 seconds.

The first was finished to the net from close range after Watson latched onto to a long ball on the edge of the square while the second was certainly worth the entrance fee for the small band of spectators present as Watson in the blink of an eye somehow overstretching and flicked the dropping ball to the roof of the net in one swift movement.

Ballygarvan were reeling from the double blow which gave Milford a two goal cushion and with Anna Geary striking a superb point, the lead was extended.

Catriona Kelly pointed two frees in injury-time as Emer Watson pulled one back for Milford who led comfortably 2-6 to 0-6 at the break.

With the wind beginning to strengthen in Milford's favour for the second half Ballygarvan had it all to do and to their credit they worked hard. Emer Dillon and Ca-



Milford's Sinead O'Flynn (right) and Ballygarvan's Aileen O'Neill tussle for the ball during the Evening Echo Cork Senior Camogie Championship at Coachford on Saturday.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

triona Kelly doing everything in their power to get them back into contention, while Aine Moynihan, Aileen O'Neill and Jennifer Browne worked hard to stem the Milford tide.

Catriona Kelly pointed two frees in reply to Anna Geary's effort but any hope Ballygarvan had were quashed when Emer Watson won a penalty 18 minutes in, and with sister Marie duly dispatching the rebound to the net, there was only ever going to be one result.

Catriona Kelly struck for two points, but two Anna Geary efforts and an Emer Watson goal sealed a good evenings work for a focused Milford side who had excellent performances from 16 year old Niamh O'Brien, captain Elaine O'Riordan and Anna Geary, as they march on to the quarter-final stages, consigning Ballygarvan to the back door for a second chance at staying in this year's championship.

Scorers for Milford: E Watson 3-4 (0-2f), A

Geary 0-4, M Watson 1-1.

Ballygarvan: C Kelly 0-10 (0-5f, 0-1 45").

MILFORD: R Finn, K Galvin, N O'Brien, L Healy, A Watson, E O'Riordan (c), S Sexton, D O'Reilly, A Thompson, M Watson, A Geary, C Curtin, E Watson, M Geary, S O'Flynn.

Subs: N O'Riordan for C Curtin (37), L O'Flynn for M Geary (40).

BALLYGARVAN: M E O'Donovan, A O'Neill, A Moynihan, S A O'Halloran, A Murphy, J Browne, L Browne, E Dillon, C Murphy, R Keohane, D Daly, C Kelly, R Murphy, S O'Donovan, M Hallahan.

Sub: A Browne for R Keohane (ht).

Referee: Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers).

Courtesy Rovers advance in senior camogie championship



Inniscearra's Rena Buckley shoots from Courage Rovers' Mairé O'Regan during the Cork senior camogie championship at Brinny last night. See page 58.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Downey's girls Semple Shock

Kilkenny took a big scalp in Semple Stadium on Saturday, defeating Tipperary on home soil, in their opening round game in the Gala All Ireland senior championship, 1-14 to 1-11. A more consistent Black and Amber outfit turned 0-7 to 0-4, with a Michelle Quilty goal four minutes after the changeover reinforcing the visitors' position. Aoife Neary recorded nine points for the winners, while Claire Grogan top scored for Tipperary with 1-7 - the goal in the final minutes was scored from a penalty.



Kilkenny Manager Ann Downey (left) with sister Angela with the O'Duffy Cup in 1990

Galway crush Clare



Left: Galway Camogie manager Liam Donohue
Above: Galway forward Aislinn Connolly

Galway pulled away with a powerful second half performance to overcome Clare in Athenry, 3-17 to 1-4. The score was much tighter after the first 30 minutes with the Maroon and White holding a slender two point lead, 1-5 to 1-3.

However, with Veronica Curtin coming into

her own, bagging 2-4, it was difficult for the Banner girls to bounce back. Carina Roseingrave provided the Clare goal early in the first half, but with Aislinn Connolly scooping 1-8, Galway ran out convincing winners.

Kerry Camogie make history



Kerry Camogie Féile Champions Division 3 2009.

Back Row: Pete Young (Trainer), Niamh Leen, Julianne O'Keefe, Lorna Sheehan, Terese Moran, Anne Marie Leen, Megan Weir, Michelle Gilbert, Eamon Fitzgerald (Trainer).
Middle Row: Andrea Hanly, Sarah Tracey, Patrice Diggins, Aoife Fitzgerald (Capt), Lorraine Hobbart, Isobel O'Connor, Aisling O'Sullivan, Sarah Fitzgerald.
Front: Orla Young, Rachel McElligot, Aine O'Connor, Cora Carroll, Jessica Fitzell.

The Kerry Camogie U-14 panel travelled to Laois/Offaly to compete in the premier All Ireland Féile na nGael Finals recently in the hope of making it two in a row, having won the Division 4 Final last year. They played in Division 3 where the standard goes up a notch, playing teams from the three

provinces in a bid to win back to back titles, something that had never before been achieved.

The panel had been training since the end of January under coaches, Pete Young, Tommy O'Connor and Timmy Spillane. The clubs feeding the panel are Causeway, Cillard



(Kilmoyley & Ardfer) and Abbeylix (Abbeysdorney & Lixnaw) all great Hurling strongholds in North Kerry. Aoife Fitzgerald from the Cillard club had the honour of captaining the team. The Camogie County Board sponsored their gear which included hoodies, bags, and skirts.

They started their campaign by defeating their host club Rathdowney by 4-8 to 2-0. They beat the Harps on Saturday morning by 1-4 to 1-0 and then followed that with a win over Four Roads from Roscommon by 1-6 to 1-1.

In the semi-final they defeated Myshall by 3-

1 to 0-3 and then it was on to Crinkle near Birr to play Kiltale in the final on the Sunday morning. In a tight battle they came out on top by the narrowest of margins 0-4 to 0-3 to make history by putting 2 Féile Camogie Titles back to back.

Captain Aoife Fitzgerald, AnnMarie Leen, Orla Young, Michelle Gilbert and the Lowe sisters, were part of both teams. The Kerry Camogie County Board has sent its congratulations everyone involved with the 2009 Féile Panel.

Gala All Ireland senior championship update & all results

Kilkenny took a big scalp in Semple Stadium today, defeating Tipperary on home soil, in their opening round game in the Gala All Ireland senior championship, 1-14 to 1-11. A more consistent Black and Amber outfit turned 0-7 to 0-4, with a Michelle Quilty goal four minutes after the changeover reinforcing the visitors position. Aoife Neary recorded nine points for the winners, while Claire Grogan top scored for Tipperary with 1-7 – the goal which came in the final minutes was scored from a penalty.

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However, with Veronica Curtin coming into her own, bagging 2-4, it was difficult for the Banner girls to bounce back. Carina Roseingrave provided the Clare goal early in the first half, but with Aislinn Connolly scooping 1-8 there was no way back for the Munster side.

GALA ALL-IRL SEN. C'SHIP

Galway 3-17, A Connolly 1-8 (0-6f, 0-1'45) V Curtin 2-4, T Maher 0-3, B Hanney 0-2, Clare 1-4, C Roseingrave 1-0, S O'Loughlin 0-4 (0-2f).

Kilkenny 1-14, M Quilty 1-3, A Neary 0-9 (0-6f, 0-1'45), A Dalton 0- (0-1f, 0-1'45) Tipperary 1-11, C Grogan 1-7 (0-5f, 1-Open), J Ryan 0-2 (0-1f), G Kinnane, J Horan 0-1 each.

GALA ALL-IRL INT. C'SHIP

Galway 7-13 M Conroy 2-4 (0-2f), C Bowes 2-2, T Rutledge 2-1, N Mc Grath 1-2, C Conroy 0-2, C Kelly, L Pardy 0-1 each.

Clare 1-3, A O'Brien 1-2 (1-2f), A Griffey (Griffey) 0-1.

Tipperary 2-19, A Mc Loughney 1-7 (0-3f, 0-1'45), N Walsh 1-0, L Davis 0-4, C Johnston 0-3, N Flannagan 0-2, S Ryan 0-2 (0-1f), D Ryan 0-1.

Kilkenny 0-5, N Byrne 0-3 (0-1'45, 0-1f), A Curran, C Brennan 0-1 each.

Derry 3-11, K Mc Auley 2-2 (0-1f), K O'Kane 1-0, S Cassidy 0-4, G Mc Goldrick 0-2, K Keill, M O'Kane 0-1 each, Wexford 2-6, M Kelly 1-1, E Quigley 1-0, C O'Connor 0-2 (0-1f), S Nolan, L Codd, E O'Connor 0-1 each.

ALL-IRL JUN. C'SHIP, Nancy Murray Cup

Kildare 2-11, S O'Carroll 1-4 (0-3f), C Farrell 1-2, C Tallon 0-2, C Doran, C Sweeney, R Gorman 0-1 each Westmeath 0-5, P Greville 0-4f, F Leavy 0-1.

Roscommon, 4-12, A Mc Geaney 2-1, G Egan 1-1, K Kenny 1-0, K Hopkins 0-5, C Curley 0-2, E Daly, A Morris 0-1 each, Armagh 3-11, C Mc Sorley 2-7 (0-5f), C Donnelly 1-2, P Mallon, G Kelly 0-1 each.

GALA ALL-IRL MIN. B C'SHIP

Waterford 2-8, K Rockett, K Hannon 1-0 each, P Jackman 0-4 (0-2'45, 0-1f), D Fahy 0-2, C Mc Glone, M Russell 0-1 each.

Offaly 0-11, S Flynn 0-8 (0-3f, 0-3'45), K Mc Leish, D Flynn, A Hughes 0-1 each.

GALA ALL-IRL MIN. C C'SHIP

Cavan 7-3, J O'Rourke 3-1, B Kearney 2-1, C Mc Sweeney, A Smith 1-0 each, S Mc Kenna, J Maguire 0-1 each, Louth 0-5, D Moynagh 0-3, M Reid, J Mc Keown 0-1 each.

Roscommon 4-4, C Kelly 1-1, C Regan, R Fallon, N Crean 1-0 each, A Mc Cann, N Watson, D Regan 0-1 each Mayo 1-6, M Kane 1-1, N Nunnane 0-3, S Lenihan 0-2.

Ann Downey happy to get win under Kilkenny's belt

Ann Downey happy to get win under Kilkenny's belt

KILKENNY got the tonic start to the Gala All Ireland senior camogie championship that manager Ann Downey was looking for. Despite numerous recent underage successes for the Cats, the former All Ireland medal winner said when you win a few U16 and minor titles people expect you to be able to do the same at senior level, but it takes a while.

And now that they have kick-started their season with a merited 1-14 to 1-11 victory over Tipperary at Semple Stadium on Saturday, she says it will do their confidence the world of good.

"Kilkenny haven't competed at senior for a long time. They'll believe they can compete now. Beating Tipperary will bring us on a lot. The fear is gone. We just needed to make the breakthrough. And to keep our heads above water would be brilliant. This is a monkey off our backs. The girls will be able to believe in their own ability. Today they stepped up to the plate.

"They battled so hard especially after the hammering Tipperary gave us in the league. They deserve their hour. You have Aisling Dunphy in the half forward line – she is just out of under 16. They do everything I ask of them, even trained right through the June bank holiday weekend."

Michelle Quilty powered Kilkenny ahead with a 34th minute goal after leading at the interval 0-7 to 0-4. Jacqui Frisby was outstanding in defence, as was captain Anne Dalton and Colette Dormer in the middle of the field. Aoife Neary returned nine points while Tipperary struggled to stay in touch. Claire Grogan notched 1-7 for the Premier Girls – the goal from a penalty a few minutes from the end.

Elsewhere, last season's finalists Galway served notice they will be stiff opposition for any team, with their emphatic 3-17 to 1-4 triumph over neighbours Clare at Kenny Park, Athenry. The Banner girls – promoted to senior this year – stayed with the Maroon and White in the opening half trailing at the break 1-5 to 1-3, but when Veronica Curtin turned on the style with 2-4 along with Aislinn Connolly's 1-8, there was no stopping the westerners. Carina Roseingrave recorded the Clare goal.

JUNE 2009



LINDA MELLERICK

THE 2009 Gala All-Ireland camogie championship was launched last week.

The launch was presided over by president Joan O'Flynn, Denise Lord, customer service manager of Gala and the captains of the 27 counties competing in this year's All-Ireland series at senior, intermediate and junior level.

Now in their fourth year as sponsors of the camogie championships, Gala has introduced an award for the most outstanding senior player of the season as voted for by the public – the 'Gala Performance Award'.

The recipient will receive a trophy and a five-star luxury weekend break.

Gala have pledged their support until 2010.

The All-Ireland championship action begins today.

Cork play host to Dublin while Wexford travel to play Limerick.

Twelve teams will compete in the junior championship.

Newly-appointed president of the association, Joan O'Flynn, had this to say.

"This year's championships have been 10 years in the making, as 2009 marks the transition from a 12-a-side to a 15-a-side game.

"In the last decade there is no doubt the inter-county game has been transformed and the standard has increased to new levels.

"I welcome too the Gala award which is an excellent addition to our senior championships as it recognises the individual and is not based on an entire team's performance.

"It enhances Gala's outstanding support for camogie," said the president.

"Attending matches is one of the most important ways of giving recognition to our players and increasing attendances is something we can improve on.

"In this context the support of national and local media is much appreciated.

"Web broadcasting by RTE of some of our senior championship games is an innovative aspect of this year's All-Ireland series, while the Sunday game will show highlights of our weekly senior matches.

"Our relationship with the GAA is also crucial.

The hype fails to cover over camogie's problems



The Douglas team that will represent Cork at Féile na nGael this weekend.

"This year we look forward to staging a number of our championship games in county grounds around the country and of course to the All-Ireland finals here on September 13th in Croke Park."

I've a few issues with the above. Firstly, the standard of camogie has not reached new levels despite all the talk to try and make it so.

There is certainly more awareness of the game through the media and

the amount of awards on offer almost override the number of games played during championship season.

I have attended numerous games over the past six years as a spectator

and yes I have witnessed some great ones.

But equally, I have witnessed some appalling games (as one gets in any sport).

I'm still finding it hard to find a significant number of players nationwide equal to some of the greats gone by.

When Joan O'Flynn states that they intend to stage a number of championship games in county grounds around the country in a bid to promote our game to a wider audience I'm wondering what happened last March when the Limerick hurlers travelled to play Cork in Páirc Uí Chaoimh, while the Cork camogie players travelled to play Limerick in Mallow at the same time.

We most certainly do not take advantage of acting as curtain raisers before big games.

Regarding the 'Gala Performance Award' I have to admit I'm a bit sceptical about this award falling into the right hands.

The fact that the public are voting concerns me also as the public doesn't go to matches.

They watch an All-Ireland final once a year and everything hinges on that.

I have seen many players win 'Player of the Year' awards for an All-Ireland final performance when the actual Player of the Year was possibly defeated in the semi-final.

So in effect these awards are based on an entire team's performance.

The games aren't televised and I cringe when I hear that the Sunday Game are now going to show highlights of our weekly matches because to be honest I'd prefer that they showed none of it than the obligatory five minutes.

That never does the game or the sport justice.

So how is anyone going to vote consistently and honestly for any individual player?

Details on how to vote will be posted on www.gala.ie and www.camogie.ie

This could well come down to counties voting for their own players.

We'll see how it goes.

Kilbrittain claim the title with top-class display

Kilbrittain 6-4
Ballyhea 0-0

A GREAT team display ensured Kilbrittain took the U12 C league title when they proved too strong for a sporting Ballyhea side Amy O'Sullivan gave Kilbrittain the perfect start striking two early goals.

Ballyhea worked hard but failed to breach the Kilbrittain

defence while Alva Dowling added two points to the Kilbrittain tally before the break to leave her side ahead by eight points at the half-time whistle.

Through the second half Alva Dowling continued to impress and cause the Ballyhea defence problems. She added to her tally with a goal while Aine Crowley added two goals as Kilbrittain began to pull away.

To their credit, the Ballyhea girls worked hard and never allowed the scoreline get to them and they threw everything they had into trying to pin back the Kilbrittain lead. However, with Alva Dowling adding a goal and two points for Kilbrittain they ran out deserving winners after a contest where the scoreline doesn't do justice to the efforts of two committed and dedicated young sides.

Scorers for Kilbrittain: A Dowling 2-4, A O'Sullivan, A Crowley 2-0 each.

KILBRITTAI: R Harrington; E Collins, E O'Neill, S O'Donovan; L O'Leary, L O'Sullivan, S Burke (c); A Considine, O Sheehan; N Butler, C Walsh, A Crowley; E Harte, A Dowling, A O'Sullivan.

Subs: S O'Donovan for N. Butler, A Butler for A.O. Sullivan, G Hunt for E. Harte, S Byrne for A. Considine, A Crowley for C. Walsh.

BALLYHEA: C Keogh; C Dundon, A Buckley, K Browne; R Killeen, M Fitzgibbon; S Hudner; N Killeen, L Dundon; A O'Shea, M C Carroll, R Harty; K Reidy, C Morrissey, H Carroll.

Goals key as Killeagh's brace seals final victory

Killeagh 2-1
Sarsfields 0-2

GOALS proved vital in this entertaining and exciting U12 B league final in Caherlag as Killeagh took the title with five points to spare, writes MARY NEWMAN.

A goal in each half helped them overcome a Sarsfields side who had lost out at this level on two previous occasions.

The opening quarter was closely contested with neither defences being breached and it was deep into the first half before we before we had the games opening score. Hollie Herlihy pointing to edge Sarsfields into the lead. Killeagh continued to work hard and just before the break they took the lead. Good play saw Hannah Looney linking up with Leah McEvoy who made no mistake finishing to the net to give her side a valuable boost just before the half-time whistle.

From the start of the second half Killeagh again applied pressure and when Leah McEvoy pointed, it stretched their advantage to three points but keeping in touch — Sarsfields replied with a point from a Lauren Casserly free five minutes into the second half.

Sars kept the pressure on the Killeagh defence and it took some superb saves from goalkeeper Ciara Moherway to stop Sars from grabbing a goal.

With their defence holding out, Killeagh applied pressure on the Sars defence and when Hannah Looney grabbed their winner.

Scorers for Killeagh: L. McEvoy 1-1 H. Looney 1-0.

Sarsfields: H. Herlihy, L. Casserly (ft) 0-1 each.

KILLEAGH: Ciara Moherway; D. Hennessey, N. O'Farrell, E. McSweeney; K. Mulcahy, C. Tyrrell, L. McEvoy; H. Looney, L. O'Mahony; E. Treacy, C. Moherway, S. Landers; A. Benaim, K. O'Mahony, R. Geary.

Subs: G. Hickey for K. O'Mahony, C. O'Brien for A. Benaim, L. Cosgrave for R. Geary.

SARSFIELDS: C. Casey; A. Turpin, L. Casserly, C. Ryan; C. Crowley, K. Barry (ft), C. Mullane; H. Herlihy, M. McCarthy; M. Barry, C. McCarthy, J. Quirke; C. Tobin, E. Casey, C. Tobin.

Coaching initiative will be big success

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie

CORK got preparations with their Coillte U14 development squad underway this week when 30 young camogie players gathered at CIT grounds for what is the first of five coaching sessions under the scheme.

This year the Coillte sponsored squads come from Armagh, Cork, Donegal, Kilkenny, Kildare, Limerick, Mayo and Wicklow.

The initiative is part of the strategic plan for camogie and its aim is to improve the skill level and enjoyment of the game at U14 level in the selected counties.

Joan O'Flynn, president of the Camogie Association, has huge praise for the venture.

"The partnership between the Camogie Association and Coillte is a significant contribution to growing our sport, encouraging young players to continuously improve their camogie skills."

"The partnership also supports the development of camogie coaches in eight counties in 2009 and it is really important that young players are encouraged to develop and improve their skills rather than win at all costs."

In getting the venture underway, Cork have implemented a procedure where only one player from each club participate in the squad thus giving 30 clubs representation on the panel, thereby spreading the representation.

Cork are fortunate to have three very experienced current and former inter-county players heading up their coaching team.

Miriam Deasy, who captained the Cork intermediate side to All-Ireland glory is joined by Nora Ahern, who captained Cork to junior national league honours and is the holder of All-Ireland senior and junior medals while Marion Jagoe is a current mem-



Douglas U11 squad that defeated St Finbarr's in the U11 B Seandún League at Douglas Community School recently. Included is referee Rachel Keohane (Ballygarvan) mentors, Derek Costello, Kieran Cummins, Mary Harrington and Marie Sheehan.

ber of the county intermediate side and is also the holder of All-Ireland honours.

Miriam Deasy, who last week guided the fortunes of her club Kilbrittians U12 team to league honours, is no stranger to coaching and is sports officer at CIT and has helped coach teams in camogie and hurling at CIT and Kilbrittians and she is looking forward to the task that lies ahead.

"It's a huge honour for Nora, Marion and myself that the county board have the confidence in us to guide the fortunes of the Coillte development squad."

"It's a great initiative and one which I am sure will be of huge benefit to the young camogie players from not alone Cork but the other counties which were chosen to be part of the scheme this season."

"At the very outset it's all about teaching the girls the skills of the game and giving them a sense of en-

joyment and we have made it very clear that we want them to enjoy every minute of this."

"The whole emphasis is totally on enjoyment and hopefully helping to put them on the right road where they will continue to improve and expand their skill level."

"If we can help lay the foundations for this we will have achieved something very important."

County chairperson Marion McCarthy was on hand at CIT on Thursday evening as the first session got underway and she has huge praise for the initiative.

"We are delighted that Cork were chosen as one of the counties to participate in this year's programme, I have no doubt that the coaches we have on board are among the best in the country and that they will impart some of their vast experience and knowledge to our young camogie players."

Coillte Development squads up and running in Cork

Cork got preparations with their Coillte Under14 Development Squad under way this week when thirty young camogie players gathered at CIT grounds for what is the first of five coaching sessions under the scheme. This year the Coillte sponsored squads come from Armagh, Cork, Donegal, Kilkenny, Kildare, Limerick, Mayo and Wicklow and the initiative is part of the strategic plan for Camogie and its aim is to improve the skill level and enjoyment of the game at Under14 level in the selected counties.

The programme is supported by the Irish Sports Council and the counties will participate in coaching sessions and blitz competitions between now and October focusing on the skills of Camogie. Coillte the forestry and forest products company began their involvement with the initiative in 2004 and since then it has grown in stature and has gone from strength to strength.

Joan O'Flynn President of the Camogie Association has huge praise for the venture.

"The partnership between the Camogie Association and Coillte is a significant contribution to growing our sport, encouraging young players to continuously improve their Camogie skills will ensure that they enjoy our national game and continue playing it into adulthood."

The partnership also supports the development of Camogie coaches in eight counties in 2009 and it is really important that young players are encouraged to develop and improve their skills rather than win at all costs. The ethos of the Coillte Development Squads initiative is one of fun and skills learning. The support of Coillte is highly valued and appreciated by all in Camogie and we are delighted with their ongoing association for our sport."

In getting the venture under way Cork have implemented a procedure where only one player from each club participate in the squad thus giving thirty clubs representation on the panel this way spreading the representation. Cork are fortunate to have three very experienced current and former inter county players heading up their coaching team. Miriam Deasy who captained the Cork intermediate side to All Ireland glory and is the holder of All Ireland medals at under age and adult level to senior.

She is joined by Nora Ahern who captained Cork to Junior National league honours and is the holder of All Ireland senior and Junior medals while Marion Jagoe is a current member of the county Intermediate side and is also the holder of All Ireland honours. Miriam Deasy who last week guided the fortunes of her club Kilbrittians under 12 team to league honours is no stranger to coaching, hugely experienced in all aspects of sport Miriam is sports officer at CIT and has helped coach teams both in camogie and hurling at CIT and Kilbrittians and she is looking forward to the task which lies ahead.

"It is a huge honour for Nora, Marion and myself that the county board have the confidence in us to guide the fortunes of the Coillte Development squad, it's a great initiative and one which I am sure will be of huge benefit to the young camogie players from not alone Cork but the other counties which were chosen to be part of the scheme this season. At the very outset it's all about teaching the girls the skills of the game and giving them a sense of enjoyment we have made it very clear that we want them to enjoy every minute of this and while we will be hoping that the girls do well our task is to ensure they come away having learned something. "The whole emphasis is totally on enjoyment and hopefully helping to put them on the right road where they will continue to improve and expand their skill level if we can help lay the foundations for this we will have achieved something very important."

County chairperson Marion McCarthy was on hand at CIT on Thursday evening as the first session got underway and she has huge praise for the initiative.

"We are delighted that Cork were chosen as one of the counties to participate in this year's programme, I have no doubt that the coaches we have on board are amongst the best in the country and that they will impart some of their vast experience and knowledge to our young camogie players here in Cork during the coaching sessions and blitz competitions which will take place between now and October. The focusing of the programme is on the skills of Camogie and will be of huge benefit to the thirty players who are taking part. Coillte are to be congratulated on their continued sponsorship of our games future and I congratulate the thirty young participants and their coaches and wish them well in the months ahead."

Getting the first session under way on Thursday last the squad will be put through their paces on Tuesday and Thursday for the next two weeks, on July 4th CIT will be the venue as the youngsters participate in a blitz day and here they will have a chance to showcase the skills they have learned. October will be a red letter month for the squads from the eight counties when they travel to Croke Park for a games day which will be held during the mid term break.



The 2009 Dubai Duty Free camogie champions Eoghan Rua



Two teams drawn from the Cork Coillte development squad (above) will meet teams from Tipperary and Kilkenny in the south regional blitz.

Miriam Deasy summer camp

FORMER senior inter-county star Miriam Deasy, who captained Cork to Intermediate All Ireland glory, is organising a summer camp in association with Kilbrittain-Timo-league Camogie Club. The camp will run from July 6 to 10 at Harbour View Pitch, Kilbrittain from 10am to 1pm and it's open to girls aged from 5 to 14 years and newcomers are welcome.

The aims of the camp are fun, participation and skills, and Miriam will have coaches in attendance who are current camogie players. All participants must wear a helmet. The entry fee is €20 per child. Contact 087 9973307.

Cork to field two teams in Camogie blitz

THE Cork Coillte development squad which was announced recently has been busy in the last two weeks under the guidance of coaches Miriam Deasy Nora Ahern and Marion Jaego.

The squad will participate in the south regional blitz where they will meet teams from Tipperary and Kilkenny. Cork will field two teams in the blitz and the Cork panel has been announced as follows.

Niamh Connolly Na Piarasigh:
Aisling Sisk Killegagh;
Dyane Shannon
Ballinascorney:
Jessica Keating St Finbarrs;
Melissa Rodda St Vincent's;
Amy May Carrigaline;
Vicky Withers Banteer;
Shannon Joyce Youghal;
Jennifer Hozford Glen Rovers;
Megan O'Donovan

Kilbrittain:
Joan M O'Leary Valley Rovers;
Kate McCarthy Enniskeane;
Mary McGuinness Tracton;
Laura McCarthy Kilbree;
Aisling Fox Douglas;
Katie Walsh Sarsfields;
Kate O'Sullivan
Aghabullogue:
Rebecca McAree
Clonakilty:
Aoife O'Sullivan Courcy's;
Grace Marum Blackrock;

Elle Dineen Millstreet:
Aoife Finn Fr O'Neill's;
Leora O'Carroll Inniscarra;
Meadhbh Murphy
Dungourney:
Jennifer O'Mahony
Newcestown:
Siobhan O'Kelly Ballyhea;
Clara Copps
Newtownshandrum:
Rachel Murphy
Castlelyons:
Emma Deasy Barryroe;
Claire Byrne Cloughduv.

CAMOGIE ROUND-UP

Winners Cork pay their respects

CAMOGIE TEAMS around the country observed a minute's silence at the weekend for Joe and Anne O'Connell who died tragically in America a week ago. Anne, who played camogie in her home county of Galway, also enjoyed a stint with Glen Rovers of Cork, and was remembered in Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday before the Cork-Dublin Gala All-Ireland senior championship game.

Cork manager Denise Cronin, who played alongside O'Connell in the victorious Glen Rovers All-Ireland winning club side of 1992, said it is a very emotional time for all who knew her.

Champions Cork went on to record a big win over the Blues, 3-21 to 1-7, and Cronin noted how important it was to get this win under their belt.

"The Cork club championship starts on Wednesday so we will only have four training sessions before our next match away to Kilkenny on July 11th. That is a big game for us because if we can beat Kilkenny, to a degree, we are through to the semi-finals, but if we lose we will be under pressure in our final group game at home to Tipperary at the beginning of August."

The Cork manager also said it gave them an opportunity to use their substitutes.

Cork led 1-15 to 1-1 at the break, with the goal coming from skipper Amanda O'Regan, and in the second half goals arrived from Eimear O'Sullivan and substitute Emer O'Farrell.

Rachel Moloney was also in fine form, hitting 0-10, with five from play. Ciara Lucey was Dublin's best player, firing their goal midway through the opening half.

Elsewhere, National League champions Wexford easily accounted for a youthful Limerick, 5-20 to 0-6, thanks in no small part to Rose Marie Breen's hat-trick of goals.

Evening Echo Senior County Championship

A HECTIC seven days as the Evening Echo senior county champions got under way in the week gone by and certainly it was very contrasting weather condition as the games progressed.

Brilliant sunshine greeted the opening games at Ballinlough as last season's finalists county champions Douglas and St Finbarrs got the 2009 championship up and running. It was a close affair through the hour with the lead changing hands, but eventually it was the champions Douglas who came through on a 3-15 to 3-6 score line. Amanda O'Regan impressed while she had good support from the Mackey twins Pamela and Katrina and Louise O'Regan, while Jenny Duffy, Lynda O'Connell and Vivienne Harris were to the fore for the Barrs.

It was an all divisional meeting in the second game at Ballinlough where Muskerry and Carrigdhoun were neck-and-neck all through before Muskerry won 1-7 to 1-4 score line with good performances from Linda Dorgan, Patricia Buttimer and Margaret O'Herlihy, while Luck

RESULTS

Milford 4-9 Ballygarvan 0-10
Courcy Rovers 3-11 Inniscarra 4-7
Douglas 3-15 St Finbarrs 3-6
Muskerry 1-7 Carrigdhoun 1-4
Rockban 2-6 Barryroe 0-6
St Catherines 0-9 Cloughduv 1-5

Hawkes and Eimear O'Sullivan tried to the finish for Carrigdhoun.

Courcy Rovers and Inniscarra served up a cracker of a game in Brinney on Friday evening where the lead changed hands on numerous occasions. A late point deep into injury time from 15-year-old Julia Mulcahy gave Courcy a victory in a high scoring 3-11 to 4-7 encounter where Rachel Moloney Sara Hayes Julia Mulcahy and Aisling Moloney excelled for Courcy's. Inniscarra had excellent players in Rena Buckley, Joanne Casey, Niamh Dilworth and Katie O'Mahony and they will look forward to the losers round as a chance to get their quest for the title back on track.

Milford, spearheaded by the Wat-

son sisters Emer and Marie who notched up four goals between them, held all the aces as they recorded a 4-9 to 0-10 victory over a Ballygarvan side who relied totally on Catriona Kelly to shoot their ten points in a contest where Anna Geary, Niamh O'Brien and Elaine O'Riordan were dominant for Milford.

Rockban, despite losing the services of Cathriona Foley for two yellow cards after just 17 minutes, edged past a Barryroe side who shot 14 wides over the hour in a low scoring 2-6 to 0-6 game at wind and rain swept Castle Road. Level at the break Rockban with a goal in either half from Sile Burns and Elaine Casey managed to regain their composure to book a quarter-final spot, while Barryroe, who struck the goal post three times, were left to wonder just how they managed to lose this one.

In the final game of the week St Catherines just about hung on to record a one point victory over Cloughduv in a close game where Cloughduv's late rally with a goal from Catherine Corkery just fell

short. St Catherines had a great hour from Orla Cotter, Finola Neville and Noreen Mulcahy, while Joanne O'Callaghan, Briege Corkery and Emma Dunne did well for Cloughduv.

With all the first round games completed and just two games to go in the division side of the championship the clubs through to the quarter-finals are Douglas, Milford, St Catherines, Rockban and Courcy Rovers, and they will be joined by the winner of the three losers round games. The clubs who will contest that losers round for a second chance are Ballygarvan, Barryroe St Finbarrs, Inniscarra and Cloughduv, and they will be joined by the division side who win the divisional section which has to be completed.

The draws for the quarter-finals and losers rounds will be made at the county board meeting this evening with a date of the weekend of August 22 already pencilled in for the losers round games it gives plenty of time for the inter-county teams to continue their championship preparations.

Ulster championship finals on Saturday July 4 in Páirc Esler, Newry

IT IS the biggest day in Ulster camogie next Saturday in Páirc Esler, Newry. For the first time, Ulster Camogie Council have teamed up with Ulster GAA to stage the Ulster senior and junior camogie finals in one of their top stadiums.

Neighbours Derry and Antrim will battle for the senior title, while Tyrone face Monaghan in the junior decider. At the launch of the finals, Mayor of Newry and Mourne District Colman Burns said, "Ulster Council should be commended for their dedication to making the Ulster final a festival of camogie which can be enjoyed by all the family."

Chairperson of Ulster Camogie council, Catherine O'Hara said, "The GAA has to be congratulated for giving us the opportunity to create what we hope will be the finest Ulster Final. They have worked tirelessly to ensure that we have a pitch and date which we can build around. Danny Murphy and Tom Daly have to be thanked for giving us this unique opportunity, we hope with their continued support and help to make the Ulster Final an annual event which will be placed in every GAA calendar."

She added, "It's up to us, as an Association, in a Province with a unique history to get behind our own sport and be visibly seen supporting the game we are so proud to be part of. It's about respecting ourselves first. On behalf of the Council I would like to wish all the finalists and officials the best of luck. Páirc Esler on 4th July is where we should be. Two fabulous finals and the buzz is not to be missed."

Also present at the launch was Ulster Secretary Danny Murphy who said, "For sometime now the Camogie Association has been saying that it should get more respect. I'm a big believer that respect is not given but earned and you only have to look at what Ulster camogie is trying to achieve with this final to know that they are worthy of our respect."

There will also be an O-40 exhibition game between Ulster and Dublin while children will be entertained with face painting, balloons, variety shows, mini game and much more.

All Ireland Minor A Championship Results & Scorers

Gala All-Ireland Minor A Camogie Championship - 1st July, 2009

Kilkenny 5-24 (S. Farrelly 2-4, D. Gaule 1-6 (0-3F), K. Duggan 1-4, A. Dunphy 0-5, M. Fennelly 1-0, A. Farrell, E. Comerford 0-2 each, A. Curran 0-1);
Dublin 0-5 (R. Costello 0-2 (F, 4S), L. West (F), M. Moynihan (F), D. Durkin 0-1 each).

Galway 5-11 (N. McGrath 2-8, D. Ward, T. Rutledge, R. Hennessy 1-1 each, C. Staunton 1-0); Antrim 3-11 (R. McCarty 3-6 (1-3F), A. McFadden 0-2 (1F), E. McMullan, M. McGourty, L. McKeown 0-1 each).

Cork 3-13 (K. Mackey 1-4 (0-3F), A. Sheehan, D. Luby (F) 1-0 each, M. Reidy 0-3, J. White, P. Buttimer 0-2 each, J. Casey, J. Lynch (F) 0-1 each);
Clare 1-6 (S. Enright 1-3 (0-2F), K. Cahill, R. McMahon, R. O'Brien 0-1 each).

July 2009



LINDA MELLERICK

Cats bare claws in Tipperary mauling

TIPP are already on the back foot after a surprise defeat to Kilkenny in the first round of the All-Ireland series.

Well I suppose it is not a total surprise really, but Tipp, while expecting a battle, would have expected to win that one, particularly after their league play-off victory over the Cats.

But once again it's proven that league form doesn't necessarily guarantee you championship success. Their 1-14 to 1-11 victory over Tipperary will do Kilkenny's confidence the world of good.

Manager, Ann Downey, was thrilled with the win.

"Kilkenny haven't competed at senior for a long time. They'll believe they can compete now. Beating Tipperary will bring us on a lot. The fear is gone.

"We just needed the breakthrough and to keep our heads above water would be brilliant. This is a monkey off our backs.

"The girls will be able to believe in their own ability. Today they stepped up to the plate. They battled so hard, especially after the hammering Tipperary gave us in the league. They deserve their hour.

"You have Aishling Dunphy in the half-forward line — she is just out of U16. They do everything I ask of them, even trained right through the June bank holiday weekend."

Ann was certainly in exuberant form after the game and deservedly so, but Kilkenny shouldn't get too carried away.

It was a first round victory after all with nothing won yet. Much is expected from Kilkenny after their underage success, but as Ann pointed out: "When you win a few U16 and minor titles people expect you to be able to do the same at senior level, but it takes a while."

She is right. Kilkenny's problem lies in the fact that the whole team is of a similar age. They don't really have the blend of experience and youth. You need experience when things are going against you, someone who can keep the team settled, drive them forward and push them through the difficult period.



The Cork Primary Schools A team.



Sr Patricia O'Shea, Superior, with Kay Dunne, president Cork County Camogie Board, left, and Marion McCarthy, Cathaoirleach, at the launch of the Nano Nagle Intermediate cup at the South Pres Convent.

Michelle Quilty powered Kilkenny ahead with a 34th minute goal after leading at the interval, 0-7 to 0-4. Jacqui Frisby was outstanding in defence as was captain Anne Dalton and Colette Dormer in the middle.

Aoife Neary returned nine points while Tipperary struggled to stay in touch. Claire Grogan notched 1-7 for the Premier County, the goal from a

penalty a few minutes from the end.

That return from one player shows how lacking Tipperary are up front for scoring forwards.

Despite Clare's very commendable league performance where they pushed most teams to the limit once again when it came to championship the gap widened. Galway served notice that they will be stiff opposition

for any team with their emphatic 3-17 to 1-4 triumph over their neighbours at Athenry.

Clare managed to stay with Galway in the opening half, trailing 1-5 to 1-3 at the break, but when Veronica Curtin turned it on with 2-4 along with Aislinn Connolly's 1-8 there was no way back for the Banner.

There have been comprehensive victories for three of the big guns in the opening round and the results stand as follows:

Cork 3-21 Dublin 1-07; Limerick 0-6 Wexford 5-20; Tipperary 1-11 Kilkenny 1-14; Galway 3-17 Clare 1-04.

Round two partly takes place next weekend with the following fixtures: Kilkenny v Cork; Wexford v Galway.

These two pairings are two of the highlights of the championship. The following week, July 18th sees Dublin v Tipperary and Clare v Limerick.

I attended the All-Ireland minor

championship game against Clare in Ballincollig during the week and I must say that I was very impressed with the standard on display.

Clare are doing all the right things it seems at underage and with their seniors also stepping up to the mark, there is great credit due to the county.

The pace of the game was extremely fast. There was some great hooking, some crafty little flicks denying a strike and some great scores taken. In my opinion, Katrina Mackey is the most exciting and promising player I have seen in a long time at such a young age. Her sister Pamela is equally as good, but it's always the midfielder/forward who gets most of the plaudits, isn't it.

The London conference last weekend went extremely well. The attendance was good with encouraging feedback and ideas for the future.

There is great credit due to the handful of individuals endeavouring to promote the game.

We wish them luck.

up by Mary Newman

with the team. Players who stood out in matches were Sinead Hendrick, Melissa Roddis, Leona Mac Sweeney, Kayleigh Crinnon, Leah Anderson and Shauna Homan.

U12A: The U12As had a great year playing in the top grade and competed with every team despite being depleted for most games due to conformation and holidays. The highlight of the season was a game against Eire Og which we lost by two points after conceding a goal in the first minute. This game was a great advertisement for camogie and both teams gave it there all. Eire Og went on to win the county so the result shows how much potential the girls have. Players who performed well throughout the year were Niamh Couch, Lauren Kieley, Nicole Field, Dyon Manning, Aoife Lynch and Olivia Dwyer.

U12C: This team consisted of our U11 players. Best performances for this team were Shannon O'Leary, Sophie O'Sullivan, Amy O'Regan, Shauna Leigh O'Riordan, Shelly O'Hanlon and Lauren Homan. Well done to their coaches Deirdre O'Regan and Jim O'Callaghan.

Sponsor cards will be available at training next week. All players and supporters who would like to order the new club hoodies have to get their order in ASAP.

Best of luck to Nicole Crean who is part of the cork panel preparing for the Munster championship.

Well done to Melissa Roddis who are training with the Cork Collite panel at the moment, well done to the cork primary schools panel who took part in the Munster council blitz Chloe O'Shea, Teigan Russell, Dyon Manning, Lauren Kieley, and Olivia Dwyer, all names that we will be hearing plenty of in the future.

DOUGLAS

Our second U11 B game of the season was against a very strong St Finbar's team.

After a very fast start to the game the Barrs took the lead with a very good goal.

Our midfield pair of Megan Walsh and Eadoine Downey got us back into the game with a brilliant display of hurling, which resulted in Denise Harrington scoring a great goal to bring us back on level terms.

Just before half time Katie Brennan and Jill Donegan played really well to create a chance for Ruth Hickey to score a goal at a vital time for us to lead on the stroke of half time.

The Barrs came out flying at the start of the second half and our back line of Niamh Daly, Aine Buckley and Ellie Devine had to be at their best to keep them out. Sarah Bryant in goal was again in great form with some great

saves. Megan Daly then sent in a great ball for corner forward Tara Costello to score our third goal to wrap up the game. St Finbar's never gave up and pushed us the whole way. Score Douglas 3 - 0 St Finbar's 1 - 0

Our U11 premier team had a great win over St Vincent's last Monday night winning by 5-1 to 3-0. Both sides gave impressive displays from full back Eimear Cummins and mid-fielders Jade Fox and Clara Hartnett and our goals were scored by Eimear Kelly, Clara Hartnett, Seosai Mulrooney, Niamh Harrington and Jade Fox.

BRIAN DILLONS

Junior A league: Two very equally matched teams contested this Junior A League match up the Tank Field. Ballincollig were first off the mark with a goal within 10 minutes.

Dillon's were quick to respond with a point from Therese Drummond. Ballincollig then took the lead when they scored three points within minutes of each other. Dillon's were not able to equal their lead. Therese Drummond scored a goal before half-time to leave the score 2-3 to 1-2 at the break. The much-needed goal by Therese most certainly motivated the team for the second half. Dillon's were fast off the mark in the second half with scores from Claire Dooley, Jane Dooley, Therese Deane, Donna Carroll, Emma Lane and Therese Drummond. Dillon's were unlucky to concede two goals throughout this half as the defence stood solid with

Anthea O'Brien in centre back and Emma Burns and Orla Ni Shuilleabhain on the wings, the Ballincollig forwards found it very hard to get through.

Dillon's emerged deserving winners after a fantastic second half performance and the final score was 3-9 to 4-3.

Subs: Kate O'Brien, Saoirse Rodgers and Gillian O'Connell played very well. Clair Dooley & Therese Deane were outstanding in midfield.

SCORERS:

Claire Dooley 1-3 Therese Drummond 1-2, Donna Carroll 0-1 Jane Dooley 0-2 Therese Deane 1-0 Emma Lane 0-1

Team: A Finnegan, A O'Brien, O Lawrence, Aisling Russell, Emma Burns, Orla Ni Shuilleabhain, E Kelly, E Lane, C Dooley, T Deane, J Dooley, D Carroll, M Kelly, T Drummond, R O'Mahony.

Subs: Kate O'Brien for Eadaoin Kelly, Gillian O'Connell for Rebecca O'Mahony, Saoirse Rodgers for Aoife Finnegan.

Good Luck to all the Brian Dillon's players Susan-Kate Brogan, Jane Dooley, Clair Dooley, Aoife Finnegan, Christine O'Mahony, Therese Drummond, Amanda Dorgan, Emma Lane, Emer Keane, Anthea O'Brien who will represent Seandún at senior level and who will be playing against Avondhu on July 14. Congrats to Liz O'Mahony who is a selector.

GLEN ROVERS

The heat at the Tank Field on Friday failed to quell the enthusiasm of two dedicated sides as the Seandún U11

premier competition continued.

In a close opening half there was little between the sides a goal from Lorna Hickey giving us an interval lead of one goal to nil.

On the turn over our defence had to stand firm against strong Brian Dillon's pressure but with Mikaela Hyde superb at centre back ably assisted by Chantelle Hurley and Eimear Foley, we held our lines and up front Lorna Hickey struck for goal number two to stretch our lead.

Again our opponents applied huge pressure and a goal from free saw them out our led however we responded well with Shauna O'Riordan striking for our third goal to extend the lead which we held to full time.

Team: Toni Maher; Chantelle Hurley, Eimear Foley, Shauna O'Riordan; Nicole Cummins, Mikaela Hyde, Katie Buckley; Mairead Mc Carthy Megan Hartnett; Lorna Hickey, Emma O'Donovan, Niamh O'Connor; Megan O'Donovan, Orla Geary, Kayleigh Bridgeman.

Subs: Olivia O'Callaghan for N O'Connor, Ruth O'Neill for Mairead McCarthy.

Our youngest girls on our second U11 side were in action against St Finbar's and in a close contest they lost out 1-0 to 0-0.

Team: Toni Maher; Niamh Coughlan, Megan O'Mahony, Kate Dooling; Saoirse O'Driscoll, Amy Mills, Olivia O'Callaghan; Karin Sheehan, Mairead Mc Carthy, Katie Buckley, Ruth O'Neill, Megan O'Donovan, Megan Hartnett, Niamh O'Connor, Katie

Walsh. Subs all used: Lauren Mills, Emma Murphy, Maire Murphy, Brianna Healy, Cioe Crowley.

U16 TEAM 2: Our second U16 team have acquitted themselves well in recent games and despite losing out narrowly to the first team from Grenagh and Newcestown, we have contested the games well and have continued to use the competition as a valuable means of getting extra games for many of our younger players form whom their own competitions at U12 and U14 have concluded.

We have has some fine performances over the last two game and we look forward to more of the same as the games continue in the coming weeks when despite players away on holidays we hope to continue the games.

All roads led to Carrigaline tomorrow when we meet Ballinshagg in the first game of the round robin series of the senior championship, throw-in is at 7.30pm and we hope to see plenty of support on the night, best of luck to everyone.

Well done to Mikaela Hyde and Niamh Gowen who were part of the Cork primary development squad last weekend and to Jennifer Hosford who lines out this weekend with the Cork Collite squad. Well done to Denise Luby who starred in Cork's victory over Clare in the minor All-Ireland championship. Good luck to Sinead Fahy, Sinead O'Halloran and Nicole O'Brien who are in action this weekend with the Cork U16 sides.

Championship action ensures exciting games

By MARY NEWMAN

Weekend previews

TONIGHT
Evening Echo Senior B
Championship: Ballincollig
v Newcestown,
Ovens, 7.30pm
PROMOTED Ballincollig and Newcestown get the senior B championship for 2009 underway when they meet in Ovens this evening and it's sure to be a lively contest.

Ballincollig are a young club who will field minus long-serving goalkeeper Tina O'Donnell, Emer Nolan and Margaret O'Sullivan since last season's victory, but they have excellent performers in Leah Weste, Patricia Buttner and Aisleen Sheehan.

Newcestown are without the services of Hilda O'Mahony who is unavailable this season and they will certainly miss her drive and enthusiasm. Colleen Long, Frances Deasy and Rose Desmond are amongst the players that they will look to lead the way.

Eire Óg v Valley Rovers
 Last seasons defeated county finalists Eire Óg will be hoping to go one better this year and they get their campaign off to a good start against the defeated finalists of 2007 and 2008, Valley Rovers.

Eire Óg have annexed a few underage titles and they have built their team by blending in the young players such as Claire Meaney, Katie McCarthy and Roisin Murray with the more experienced players such as Siobhán Gleeson, Margaret O'Herlihy and Alanna McKenna who captains the side.

Valley Rovers lost out in their three league outings, but they will read little into these results as they were minus players due to exams.



The Cork Primary schools B team.

They have several of last season's U16 squad on their panel this season including Eimear O'Regan, Katie Richardson, Julie O'Mahony and Orla Lehane, while Laura Davis is not available this year and there is an injury doubt to Liz Bugler.

Glen v Ballinhassig
 Losing out at semi-final stages last season, Ballinhassig will go into this season championship hoping take it a step further.

Catriona Collins is a slight injury worry, but featured in a recent league game where they it all square with Eire Óg.

They will look to Cork senior Eimear O'Sullivan, Marie Cullinane and Deirdre Coomey to lead the way.

Glen Rovers have been building their team around the younger players for the last few seasons. This year Sandie Fitzgibbon has joined their coaching team and the players have responded well, winning their

four league games to date. They will include several of last season's victorious U16 B league winning side the three Sineads — Fahy, Gallen and O'Halloran — played big parts in that campaign and they will be joined by the experienced Lydia Cunningham, captain Eileen Riordan and Aileen Gilton.

Evening Echo Intermediate
Championship
Sarsfields v Mallow

Sars have not enjoyed the best of luck in their preparations.

They report five injuries at present, the Murphy sisters Jane and Dorris have gone to Kenya to volunteer in orphanage work and they are also fielding this season minus the services of Orla Barry, Sandra Dooley, Yvonne O'Callaghan Val O'Leary who are abroad while Breda Kenny has retired. They will look to players such as Cork senior Emer O'Farrell, Edel Meaney, Ashling Whooley, and Gemma O'Donoghue

as well as younger players Orla O'Sullivan, and Laura Barry.

Mallow have had a lot of players tied up with exams so their league form is little indication.

Kathleen O'Brien and Michelle Browne have plenty of experience while Katie Healy, Brid O'Sullivan and Katherine Coakley are strong performers.

Fr O'Neill's v Mallow
 The meeting of Fr O'Neill's and Tracton should be close.

Just four points divided them in the opening game of the league with O'Neill's coming out on top and they have been the most consistent teams to date.

They are a strong outfit and are one of the sides pencilled in to be there come final day.

Nora Ahern, Katie Ahern, Linda Hayes, Marie O'Brien and Catriona Day have all been impressive as the clubs strives to rebuild, the club report they will be without their cap-

tain the influential Gearoidin Kearney.

Tracton have inter-county senior B duo Marion Jagoe and Jennifer Lynch in their line out and Clodagh Fitzgerald, Roisin Lyons and Julie-Ann Kingston will battle all the way.

Evening Echo Junior A championship:

Enniskeane and Ballyhea meet this afternoon in the Junior A championship while the second teams from Douglas and Ballincollig clash on Tuesday.

FIXTURES

Evening Echo Junior B Championship: Ballyhea v Enniskeane, Inniscarra, 4pm.
Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Ballincollig v Newcestown, Ovens, 7.30pm.
SUNDAY
U16 B Munster Championship: Cork v Tipperary, Castle Rd, noon.
Evening Echo Intermediate Championship: Fr O'Neill's v Tracton, Mayfield, 11.30am; Sarsfields v Mallow, Glen, 11.30am.
Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Eire Óg v Valley Rovers, Cloughduv, 7pm; Glen Rovers v Ballinhassig, Carrigaline, 7.30pm.

SARSFIELDS

IT'S been a busy two months with over thirty games played in our U12 & U14 campaigns to date.

U12D (1) & U12D (2): Both panels performed superbly with our U12 D (1) narrowly being deprived of qualification to semi-final stage.

U12D(1) Panel: Rebecca Hyde, Michelle Barry, Katie Stacey, Jessica Long, Claire Gillen, Aisling Looney, Roisin O'Donovan, Clara Crowley, Shona McCarthy, Aoife O'Brien, Amy O'Leahane, Aine Hennessy, Katie O'Driscoll, Maeabh Mullins, Alanna Good, Jennifer Murphy, Clara O'Sullivan.

U12D(2) Panel: Orla Skillington, Bronagh Power, Tara Cosgrove, Sarah Costello, Aisling O'Brien, Sinead O'Brien, Kelly Lyons, Jessie Lyons, Erica Maloney, Sheehan, Hollie Ferguson, Megan O'Sullivan, Ally Barry, Aisling Murray, Rachel McElligott, Jane McAllen, Kelsey Mullane, Niamh O'Connell, Katrina Walsh & Edel Loneragan.

U12Bs - The county final was our 10th game in this campaign (two extra games as a result of a three-way section play-off with Killeagh and Fr O'Neill's).

U12 (B) COUNTY FINAL

Killeagh 2-1 Sarsfields 0-2.
 To the neutral in the crowd Sars would have appeared to be the more balanced team in Caherlag, with Killeagh's goalkeeper Clara Motherway, being the difference between the two teams. Her superb endeavours justly earned her the 'Player of

the Match' award. Sars played superb camogie and even though they didn't come out on top, gave an exhibition of skilful camogie throughout.

Little between the sides in the first half with Sars half back line of Cliona Crowley, Katie Barry and Clara Mullane plus the hardworking midfielders Hollie Herlihy and Maeve McCarthy well on top.

Sars appeared to have more than their share of the play but failed to convert it to scores. In the 26th minute Hollie Herlihy scored a great point from play after an impressive solo run up the field.

However, on the stroke of half time Killeagh replied with an opportunistic goal from outfield. Half time score: Killeagh 1-0 Sars 0-1.

Lauren Casserly pointed a free five minutes into the second half leaving just the minimum between the teams.

Sars surged goal wards, but only to be denied by Killeagh's superb goalie that brought off a string of numerous saves. Courtney McCarthy, Jessica Quirke and Clara Tobin all had certain goals denied them.

Just before the final whistle Killeagh scored again to deprive Sars of the title. Final score Killeagh 2-1 Sars 0-2.

Practically all of this U12 team were members of our beaten U12(D) county finalists last year and have progressed dramatically within 12 months.

Scorers: Hollie Herlihy 0.1; Lauren Casserly 0.1 (free)

Team: Chloe Casey, Amy Turpin, Lauren Casserly, Clara Ryan, Clara Mullane, Katie Barry (capt), Maeve McCarthy, Hollie Herlihy, Michelle Barry, Courtney McCarthy, Clara Tobin, Lucy Kelly, Jessica Quirke & Emma Casey.

Remaining Panel: Katie Stacey, Gillian Looney, Roisin O'Donovan, Shona McCarthy, Clara Crowley, Claire Gillen, Jessica Long, Maeabh Mullins & Aoife O'Brien.

U14s: This young team has had a super campaign, culminating in Feile Div 2 victory over Ballinora on May 26th in Castle Road.

FEILE DIV 2 FINAL

Sarsfields 3-2 Ballinora 2-2

A close fought game in Castle Road saw Sarsfields cling on to win by a goal as Ballinora piled on the pressure right up to the final whistle.

Sarsfields started the stronger with a pointed free after five minutes from Sarah Fahy.

Neither team scored for the next 15 minutes until Chloe Ahern caught a high ball on the edge of the square and finished it to the net.

Two minutes later Katie Walsh grabbed our second goal putting Sars 1-2 ahead. Ballinora piled on the pressure but Sars' tenacious backs, lead by Lauren Casserly came to the rescue time after time - goalkeeper, Chloe Casey denying a certain goal in the 26th minute. Sarah Fahy pointed a free just before half time making the score Sars 2-2 Ballinora 0-0.

In the second half it was all Ballinora as Sars tired somewhat.

Ballinora came back into the game scoring 2-1 to leave just a point between the teams with five minutes to go. Hard working Lucy Allen broke Ballinora's hearts when her dropping shot from the wing ended up in the back of the net. Ballinora pointed from a free with a minute to go but Sars clung on for a joyous victory.

Scorers: C Ahern 1-0, K Walsh 1-0, L Allen 1-0 & S Fahy 0-2 (free).

Team: Chloe Casey, Rebekah Hickey, Louise Burke, Mary Fleming, Saoirse O'Connell, Lauren Casserly, Kasey Marnell, Sarah Fahy, Maeve McCarthy, Lucy Allen, Katie Walsh, Alannah O'Kelly Lynch (Capt), Julie Allen, Chloe Ahern & Clara Cashman.

Subs: Amy Cooney for Saoirse O'Connell; Emma Casey for Julie Allen; Elaine Connolly, Shannon Croker, Niamh Sherman, Isabelle Twomey, Anna Cashman, Kate Hedderman, Emma Gillivan, Kate Hedderman, Chloe Casey, Emma Casey, Lauren Casserly, Maeve McCarthy, Clara Mullane, Amy Turpin, Hollie Herlihy, Jessica Quirke, Clara Tobin, Courtney McCarthy, Lucy Kelly, Michelle Barry.

Sciath Na Scol

Fielding a practically full Sarsfields contingent, St. Joseph's Riverstown won a back to back camogie title - completing an historic double in both

hurling/camogie/football this year for the school.

Development Squads: Congrats to Chloe Ahern, Lucy Allen, Laoise Burke and Lauren Casserly for their involvement in the Primary Schools Development Squad and performances in numerous blitzes over the past three months. Sarah Fahy represented her school in the Primary Games trials.

Katie Walsh is flying the club flag in the U14 Collite Development Squad as is Rita Crowley in the U16.

Well done to you all.

Imokilly Leagues

Just when we thought things might be getting a bit quieter, the U11, U13 and U15 Imokilly Summer Leagues have just commenced.

First up were our U11As on Thursday who beat Dungourney 2-4 to 1-0; our U13Bs lost to St Catherine's 5-2 to 0-1 on Sunday morning. We were back in Dungourney again on Wednesday night and were lucky to come away with a two-point victory after a cracker of a game! Final score: Sars 6-1 Dungourney 5-2.

U11A Scorers: Michelle Barry 1-3, Edel Loneragan 1-0 & Lucy Kelly 0-1.

Team: Alanna Good, Shona McCarthy, Roisin O'Donovan, Aoife O'Brien, Maeabh Mullins, Clara Crowley, Lucy Kelly, Jessica Long,

Camogie clubs round-

Michelle Barry, Claire Gillen, Gillian Looney & Edel Loneragan.

Subs: Jessie Lyons, Kelly Lyons, Sinead O'Brien, Aisling O'Brien.

U13B: Scorers: Hollie Herlihy 0.1

Team: Courtney McCarthy, Niamh Sherman (Capt), Cliona Crowley, Clara Ryan, Clara Mullane, Hollie Herlihy, Lucy Kelly, Shannon Croker, Clara Tobin, Emma Gillivan, Jessica Quirke, Claire Gillen.

U13A: Scorers: Shannon Croker 3.0; Lucy Allen 1-1, Julie Allen 1-0, Courtney McCarthy 1-0.

Team: Courtney McCarthy, Lauren Casserly, Elaine Connolly, Laoise Burke, Kasey Marnell, Mary Fleming, Sarah Fahy, Maeve McCarthy, Lucy Allen, Chloe Ahern, Julie Allen & Shannon Croker.

Subs: Katie Barry, Hollie Herlihy, Courtney Casey.

INTERMEDIATES: All the best to our intermediates who play Mallow in the first round of the championship on Sunday morning at Glen Rovers 11.30am.

ST VINCENT'S

U14: Well done to the U14s who, after losing their first two games bounced back and went on to win the remaining games and did well in the Feile.

Well done to all who gave a hand with the team especially with Helen O'Keefe who put in a huge effort

Cork girls will be out to atone for Clare loss

July 2009

TONIGHT
Munster U16 A Championship, Cork v Clare, Castle Road, 8pm.

WITH the All-Ireland championship completed it's the provincial competitions which is now the focus of attention at U16 inter-county level, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

Having lost out to Clare in a game that effectively decided their participation in the closing stages of the All-Ireland competition, Cork will be out to make amends this time out when the sides meet in the Munster championship.

The Cork backroom team will be the first to admit they did not have a good All-Ireland campaign.

They lost out to Galway by a

narrow margin in their opening game before they somehow lost their way against Clare and never really recovered in a game they should have won.

Cork will be minus the services of forwards Katie Buckley and Jane Fitzpatrick who are on holiday, while midfielder Aisling O'Brien is out through injury, but they will look to players such as Niamh O'Brien, captain Aine O'Donovan Grace O'Callaghan, Finola Neville and Sinead O'Halloran to overcome Clare.

Clare reached the All-Ireland semi-final where they were disappointed to lose out to Tipperary and they will be determined to end the season with silverware.

They showed in their last trip to Cork that they are a tough

outfit, and having stood up to strong Cork pressure in the closing minutes of that encounter, they will be confident of a repeat performance.

CORK U16 A PANEL: Grace O'Callaghan (Ballinhassig), Katie Healy (Mallow), Niamh O'Brien (Millford), Jessie O'Shea (Killeagh), Lorraine Browne (Ballygarvan), Muireann Riordan (Ballinhassig), Aoife Barry Murphy (Cloughduv), Brid O'Sullivan (Mallow), Aoife Kieley (Tracton), Fiona Cotter (St Catherine's), Louise O'Flynn (Millford), Sinead Fahy (Glen Rovers), Finola Neville (St Catherine's), Aine O'Donovan (Douglas) (c), Sinead O'Halloran (Glen Rovers), Chloe O'Callaghan (Slieve Rual), Caron O'Reilly (Courcey Rovers), Shauna Keniry (Killeagh), Sarah Quilligan (Ballygarvan).

SUNDAY
Munster U16 B Championship, Cork v Tipperary.
Cork and Tipperary field

teams in the B competition this season and as it is a first outing for both, the formation of the teams is somewhat unknown.

However, the Cork side has plenty of familiar names several having been part of Cork colleges U14 squads, Féile na nGael sides and in club competitions at underage level.

Cork have players such as Julia Mulcahy, who played a starring role for Courcey Rovers in their senior county championship victory over Inniscarra.

Mulcahy is without doubt one of the rising young stars on the horizon, her burst of speed and control of the sliotar a treat to watch, and given her displays recently it's a surprise not to see her names on the A panel.

Given that she is only 15, the

selectors may be giving her a chance to gain experience at this level.

Aisling Moloney is another who has impressed while last year's Cork Féile skills winner Nicole O'Brien, Sinead Duggan and Susan Brosnan should play prominent roles for Cork.

CORK U16 B PANEL

Saoirse Rogers (Brian Dillon's), Jessica Hawkes (Valley Rovers), Susan Buckley (Inniscarra), Sinead Duggan (Douglas), Rachel O'Callaghan (St Catherine's), Nicole O'Brien (Glen Rovers), Aoife Hennessy (Eire Ogi), Rebecca Murphy (Ballygarvan), Jacinta Crowley (Courcey Rovers), Heather Morgan (St Finbar's), Susan Brosnan (Brian Dillon's), Julie Mulcahy (Courcey Rovers), Aisling Moloney (Courcey Rovers), Katie Murphy (Killeagh), Laura Burke (Inniscarra), Laura Barry (Ballincollig), Orla O'Sullivan (Brian Dillon's), Muireann Murphy (Millstreet), Aisling Whitnell (Slieve Rual), Edel O'Sullivan (Cloughduv).

Luby's goal from a free seals it for the minors

By **LINDA MELLERICK**

Cork minor camogie

Cork 3-13
Clare 1-6

CLASSY Cork looked comfortable winners on the scoreboard last evening in an enthralling All-Ireland minor championship first round tie in Ballincollig.

Scoring 2-3 in the last eight minutes propelled Cork into the next round as they finally shook off a tenacious Clare challenge.

Clare's Shonagh Enright hit the upright after four minutes and she was the danger woman up front.

Mariah Reidy, who had a fine game throughout, opened Cork's scoring and when Katrina Mackey's strike hit the net four minutes later Cork were looking settled.

A further point from Patricia Buttiner saw Cork 1-2 to 0-1 ahead with 12 minutes played.

Suddenly Clare hit a purple patch and 1-2 inside three minutes had them a point ahead, Enright once again the tormentor in chief with a well-taken goal.

But Cork never panicked. Their defence tightened. Pamela Mackey moved over to curb Enright and five points without reply saw Cork lead by 1-7 to 1-3 at the break.

By the seventh minute of the second half Cork had stretched their lead to 1-10 to 1-4.

The play swung Clare's way for 10 minutes as they attacked incessantly but Jessica Kavanagh was extremely composed in goal.

It was obvious Cork were the more dangerous up front, particularly when they spread the play yet that second goal just wouldn't come, and it was Clare who pegged Cork back, holding the Rebels scoreless for 19 minutes with Aisling Hannon and Eimear Considine particularly good for the visitors.

The 56th to the 64th minutes belonged to Cork. Jennifer Lynch pointed. Denise Luby was called in as a tactical sub to take the frees which were beginning to drop short for Cork and with her first touch, a free from 60 metres, she struck the back of the net and it was game over.

An Aileen O'Donovan goal and two further points from Julia White and Katrina Mackey sealed Cork's win in what was an entertaining minor championship game.

Scorers for Cork: K Mackey 1-4 (0-3 f), M Reidy 0-3, D Luby 1-0 (f), A Sheehan 1-0, J White, P Buttiner 0-2 each, J Lynch 0-1 (f), J Casey 0-1.

Clare: S Enright 1-3 (0-2 f), R O'Brien, K Cahill, R McMahon 0-1 each.

CORK: J Kavanagh; K O'Donoghue, M A Hawkes, C Hayes, A Sheehan, P Mackey, E Kingston; J Lynch, S Buckley, J White, K Mackey, M Reidy; P Buttiner, J Casey, K Harrington. Subs: A O'Donovan for K Harrington (49), D Luby for J Casey (56), C O'Callaghan for P Buttiner (63), O O'Mahony for S Buckley (64).

CLARE: A Considine; N Martin, C Morey, A M McMahon; L Woods, E Considine, A O'Shea, S Reidy, R McMahon; A Hannon, C Kaiser, O Duggan; S Enright, R O'Brien, K Cahill. Subs: C Glynn for S Reidy (17), S Fahy for A O'Shea.

Referee: Eamonn Brown (Tipperary).

Courcey's have hard draw for quarters

THE DRAWS for the losers rounds, quarter-finals and semi-finals of the Evening Echo senior camogie championship were made at last night's county board meeting in Páirc Uí Chaoimh, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

Already there is much interest and anticipation as some of the clashes are sure to be exciting contests.

The losers from last weekend's opening round games were in the hat and they were drawn to meet, along with the winning divisional side that are as yet unknown.

The winners from these games go forward to the quarter-finals where they were drawn to meet the winning teams from last weekend.

Among the games that catch the eye is the meeting of St Finbar's and Ballygarvan, while the quarter-final clash of Courcey Rovers and St Catherine's will be one not to be missed.

With intercounty fixtures dominating the fixture calendar, the next round will not be played until August to enable the intercounty teams have a clear run to their games in the round-robin series of championship from minor to senior.

● The draw is as follows:

Losers Round

(To be played weekend of August 22)

St Finbar's v Ballygarvan
Cloughduv v divisional winners
Inniscarra v Barryroe

Quarter-finals

(To be played weekend of September 26)

Douglas v Cloughduv or divisional winners
Courcey Rovers v St Catherine's
Rockbawn v St Finbar's or Ballygarvan
Millford v Inniscarra or Barryroe

Semi-finals

(To be played October 4)

1. Millford, Inniscarra or Barryroe v Rockbawn, St Finbar's or Ballygarvan
2. Courcey Rovers or St Catherine's v Douglas, Cloughduv or divisional winners

Mahony leveller rescues Laois

Therese O'Callaghan

LEINSTER rivals Meath and Laois shared the spoils in an entertaining Gala All-Ireland junior camogie championship tie in the New Ireland Cup at O'Moore Park on Saturday.

Played as a curtain-raiser to the All-Ireland SHC qualifier between Laois and Antrim, this result puts the Royals on top of the group with three points from two games and much will hinge on Laois's final match, a trip to Antrim at the end of the month.

With the home support behind them in Portlaoise, Laois were forced to rely on a late point from Louise Mahony in the dying minutes to rescue the draw by a score of 1-7 apiece.

The Royals were ahead by a point at the break — 0-7 to 1-3 — with the Laois major coming from the stick of Trish Cuddy midway through the half.

The O'Moore girls pushed ahead entering the home straight but following good work from Elizabeth Oakes, Derbhla O'Carroll goal deep in regulation time. However, Mahony was on hand to level matters in injury time.

Elsewhere in the Nancy Murray Cup, Kildare kept their unbeaten record intact with a comfortable win over Carlow, 1-13 to 1-4 at the Eire Og GAA grounds. Susie O'Carroll hit 1-6 while Valerie Crean had 1-1 for the Barrowsiders.

Roscommon collected their second set of points with their emphatic 5-10 to 0-6 victory over Westmeath at Athleague. Sinead O'Brien netted a hat-trick.

Derry's Katie McAuley was voted Player of the Match in their 2-17 to 2-8 Ulster senior final win over Antrim at Park Esler on Saturday. McAuley finished with 1-8 while Emma McMullen bagged 2-5 for the Saffrons.

In the junior final Tyrone proved far too strong for Monaghan.

Gala All Ireland championship wrap

Gala All Ireland championship wrap

LEINSTER rivals Meath and Laois enjoyed their trip to O'Moore Park on Saturday evening where they shared the spoils in a tightly fought Gala All Ireland junior camogie championship tie in the New Ireland Cup. Played as a curtain-raiser to the All Ireland SHC qualifier between Laois and Antrim, this result puts Meath on top of the group with three points from two games, while much will hinge on Laois' final match, a trip to Antrim in three weeks.

With the home support growing in Portlaoise, Laois were forced to pull on all their reserves with a late point from Louise Mahony in the dying minutes to rescue the draw, 1-7 apiece. Prior to that, it was the Meath girls who rallied. Approaching the final minute of play and two points down, Derbhla O'Carroll rattled the net to move one point clear but the home side spurred on by the local following had the final say.

The Royals held a narrow lead at the break, 0-7 to 1-3 with the Laois major coming from the stick of Trish Cuddy mid way through the half. The O'Moore girls pushed ahead entering the home straight but following good work from Elizabeth Oakes, O'Carroll secured the vital goal. However, Mahony was on hand to level matters deep in injury time.

Elsewhere in the Nancy Murray Cup, Kildare kept their unbeaten record intact with a comfortable triumph over Carlow, 1-13 to 1-4, in the Eire Og GAA grounds in Caragh. A personal tally of 1-6 from their ace attacker Susie O'Carroll was the main difference in this tie. Valerie Crean was on target for the Barrowsiders with 1-1.

Roscommon collected their second set of points with their emphatic victory over Westmeath at Athleague. Sinead O'Brien netted a hat-trick in their 5-10 to 0-6 score line.

Meanwhile, Katie McAuley was voted Player of the Match in the Ulster senior final at Park Esler on Saturday. Her tally of 1-8 proved significant for Derry in their 2-17 to 2-8 victory over Antrim. This was despite the best efforts of Emma McMullen who bagged 2-5 for the Saffrons. In the junior final Tyrone proved far too strong for Monaghan.

CAMOGIE

Ulster SCC final
Derry 2-17 (K McAuley 1-8, B Convery 1-0, S Cassidy 0-3, K O'Kane, M McGoldrick, G Mc Goldrick, A Mc Peake, M O'Kane, M Boyle 0-1 each) Antrim 2-8 (E Mc Mullin 2-5, M Convery 0-2, S Graham 0-1)
Ulster JCC final: Tyrone 6-13 Monaghan 0-3
Gala All-Ireland JCC New Ireland Cup: Roscommon 5-10 Westmeath 0-6
Gala All-Ireland JCC Nancy Murray Cup: Kildare 1-13 Carlow 1-4, Laois 1-7 Meath 1-7
Gala All-Ireland MACC: Kildare 5-04 Dublin 0-5, Galway 6-11 Antrim 3-11, Cork 3-13 Clare 1-4, Tipperary 3-10 Dublin 2-5

President's July Blog

President's July Blog

Ulster Camogie Finals

Last weekend's Ulster Camogie Finals were a wonderful watershed in the game's development. In the company of John Feehan, Mayor of Newry and District Council, I attended the Ulster Camogie Council's first Festival of Camogie.

Hosted in partnership with Ulster GAA, in Páirc Esler in Newry on 4th July, Derry and Tyrone did fantastically well to collect the senior and junior provincial silverware but Camogie was the real winner. We enjoyed great facilities, great pitch, excellent demonstration of Camogie skills, excellent refereeing, great sportsmanship, well attended games and fantastic participation by all. Overall 230 players were part of the event — including young children, over 40s and Ulster's best in 2009. Hearty congratulations to all concerned.

Camogie in Britain

The previous weekend, the future development of Camogie was under discussion at a Conference in London. It was organised by the London Camogie Board's Development Committee, with the support of the GAA Provincial Council of Britain. The day was an exciting initiative that brought together Camogie members from London, Birmingham and Scotland. It was inspiring to be part of discussions that focussed on introducing Camogie to local communities and schools in Britain as well as continuing to promote Camogie to the Irish community. Watch this space as Camogie looks to forge a stronger presence as a sporting option for women and girls across the Irish Sea!

Fantastic Féile na nGael

Níle, sponsored by Coca-Cola, continues to grow and get better and better each year. This year's Parade in Binn and Finals in Tullamore were once again spectacular. Wonderful hospitality from clubs throughout Offaly and Laois, great organisation and presentation of the games, lots of fun and friendship with Camogie, hurling and handball connecting communities all over the country. It was a privilege to be a part of it. This event, along with Féile Peil in Kilsire last weekend, demonstrated the Gaelic Games family at its best — working locally and working together. Douglas (Cork), Ballymacnab (Armagh), Kerry and Na Bóidoga (Mayo) went home with the titles and everybody went home with great memories.

Recognising player excellence

A recent Ardchomhairle (Central Council) agreed to introduce a new recognition scheme to recognise player excellence in the Gala All Ireland Junior Championships. The main reason for the introduction of an additional recognition scheme is that junior players will be selected for an award based on their performances against players of a similar standard. Players competing in the New Ireland Cup, the Nancy Murray Cup and the Máire Ní Chinnéide Cup will be eligible for this scheme. The current All Stars will continue to be awarded to players competing in the Gala All Ireland Senior and Intermediate championships (the O'Duffy and McGrath Cups).

Selectors

Selectors for the All Stars and the new recognition scheme for the Gala All Ireland Junior Championships have been ratified by Ardchomhairle. Chair of Munster Council, Waterford man Morgan Conroy chairs the selection panel. He will be joined by Maureen McCloy (Derry), Máire Ní Scolláin (Dublin), Eamonn Browne (Tipperary), Bronagh Gaughan (Meath) and Sheila O'Donoghue (CCAO — Third Level Colleges' Camogie Council). With the Gala championships well under way, the selectors will continue to be casting their eye over performances until the end of the season.

That's it until next month. Slán go fóill.

Joan O'Flynn

7th July 2009

McAuley's Class sinks Antrim



Derry Star Katie McAuley (here playing Shinty for Ireland against Scotland) scored 1-8 in the county's win over Antrim on Saturday. Photo: Sportfile

Ulster Senior Camogie Final

Derry 2-17
Antrim 2-8

The Ulster Senior camogie final was played in Páirc Esler Newry on Saturday between defending champions Antrim and 2007 winners Derry. Derry went into the game as favourites after Antrim lost their opening New Ireland Cup qualifier against

Meath. Antrim were also without the services of Rossa's All Ireland Winning Club Captain Jane Adams after her surgery. The saffrons played with strong wind advantage in the first half and took control of the early exchanges. Emma Mc Mullan was in fine form and the oak leaf county found it difficult to get any meaningful ball into their full forward line.

The Antrim keeper Chrissie Doherty from Portlennone time and again aimed her puckouts at the busy Shannon Graham from Creggan, and although Derry's Edelle Henry stopped the Antrim playmaker winning vital possession the Antrim midfielder Clare Laverty won a lot of breaking ball to supply Mc Mullan with the scoring chances. This pattern continued until Derry boss Danny McGrellis moved the excellent Katie McAuley outfield, she moved onto a breaking ball and at the end of a solo-run through the Antrim defence she unleashed a thunder bolt to the net to keep the contest tight heading into the second period.

After the break, with the strong breeze behind them Derry found it hard to get the ball behind the Antrim half back line. Derry boss McGrellis, in a bold move replaced his entire half forward line on 40 minutes and it had an immediate effect, with space inside and quality ball now going in there was only going to be one winner. Ballerins Sinead Cassidy who arrived at the game straight from her Aunt's wedding must have been in a hurry to get back to the reception as she helped herself to three fine points. Katie McAuley finished the day top scorer with a tally of 1-08 and picked up the player of the match

award too. Derry had good performances from Edelle Henry, Shauna Murphy, and the excellent Mc Auley from Casledawson. After the game Derry manager Danny McGrellis said "I am delighted to win this, the girls have worked hard. Up next is Clare in two weeks and this should set us up nicely for that game."

Antrim now must face Laois in an All Ireland qualifier knowing that a win is a must after the O'Moore county drew with Meath in that section on Saturday evening. Emma Mc Mullan had a good match collecting 2-05 with half forwards Shannon Graham, and Michaela Convery playing there part with 0-02 each.

This was an excellent Days Camogie in Ulster and great credit goes to Ulster President Catherine O'Hara and her team for organising a wonderful day. It was great to see current President Joan O'Flynn present and former President Liz Howard also.

Tyrone won the curtain raiser 2-16 to 0-03 against Monaghan and before that the over 40's match between a Dublin Select and an Ulster select ended in a honest draw. It was good to see so many people present proving that the game is alive and well in Ulster. Derry scores: K McAuley 1-8, B Convery 1-0, S Cassidy 0-3, K O'Kane, M Mc Goldrick, G Mc Goldrick, A Mc Peake, M O'Kane, M Boyle 0-1 each. Antrim scores: E Mc Mullan 2-5, M Convery 0-2, S Graham 0-1.

Ulster Junior Camogie Final

Tyrone 6-13
Monaghan 0-3

GALA All Ireland Junior Camogie Championship New Ireland Cup

Roscommon 5-10

Westmeath 0-6

Roscommon: S O'Brien 3-0, C Kenny 1-3 (0-2f), A Mc Geaney 1-2, C Curley 0-3, C Kenny 0-1, K Hopkins 0-1f.

Westmeath: P Greville 0-5 (0-4f), J Walsh 0-1.

GALA All Ireland Junior Camogie Championship Nancy Murray Cup

Leinster rivals Meath and Laois enjoyed their trip to O'Moore Park on Saturday evening where they shared the spoils in a tightly fought Gala All Ireland Junior camogie Championship tie in the New Ireland Cup. Played as a curtain-raiser to the All Ireland SHC qualifier between Laois and Antrim, this result puts Meath on top of the group with three points from two games, while much will hinge on Laois' final match, a trip to Antrim in three weeks.

With the home support behind them in Portlaoise, Laois were forced to pull on all their reserves with a late point from Louise Mahony in the dying minutes to rescue the draw, 1-7 apiece. Prior to that, it was the Meath girls who rallied. Approaching the final minute of play and two points down, Derbhla O'Carroll rattled the net to move one point clear but the home side spurred on by the local following had the final say.

The Royals held a narrow lead at the break, 0-7 to 1-3 with the Laois major coming from the stick of Trish Cuddy mid way through the half. The O'Moore girls pushed ahead entering the home straight but following good work from Elizabeth Oakes, O'Carroll secured the vital goal. However, Mahony was on hand to level matters deep in injury time. Laois 1-7, T Cuddy 1-0, L Mahony 0-4 (0-1'45, 0-1f), A Mahony 0-3 (0-2f). Meath 1-7, D O'Carroll 1-0, E Oakes 0-3 (0-2f), S Hackett, C Troy, E Donnelly 0-1 each, E Guy 0-1f.

Elsewhere in the Nancy Murray Cup, Kildare kept their unbeaten record intact with a comfortable triumph over Carlow, 1-13 to 1-4, in the Eire Og GAA grounds in Caragh. A personal tally of 1-6 from their ace attacker Susie O'Carroll was the main difference in this tie. Valerie Crean was on target for the Barrowsiders with 1-1.

Kildare 1-13, S O'Carroll 1-6 (1-3f), C Mc Sweeney 0-5, C Tallon, E Fallon 0-1 each. Carlow 1-4, V Crean 1-1 (0-1f), F Byrne 0-2 (0-1'45), O Mc Donald.

Roscommon collected their second set of points with their emphatic victory over Westmeath at Athleague. Sinead O'Brien netted a hat-trick in their 5-10 to 0-6 score line.

All Ireland Junior championship, Nancy Murray Cup

Tyrone 3-10
Armagh 2-10

GALA All Ireland Minor A Championship

Kilkenny 5-24 (S Farrelly 2-4, D Gaule 1-6 (0-3f), K Duggan 1-4, A Dunphy 0-5, M Fennelly 1-0, A Farrell, E Comerford 0-2 each, A Curran 0-1).

Dublin 0-5 (R Costello 0-2 (f, 45), L West (f), M Moynihan (f), O Durkan 0-1 each).

Galway 6-11 (N McGrath 2-8, D Ward, T Rutledge, R Hennelly 1-1 each, C Staunton 1-0). Antrim 3-11 (R McCarry 3-6 (1-3f), A McFadden 0-2 (1f), E McMullan, M McGourty, L McKee own 0-1 each).

Cork 3-13 (K Mackey 1-4 (0-3f), A Sheehan, D Luby (f) 1-0 each, M Reidy 0-3, J White, P Buttimer 0-2 each, J Casey, J Lynch (f) 0-1 each). Clare 1-6 (S Enright 1-3 (0-2f), K Cahill, R McMahon, R O'Brien 0-1 each).

Tipperary 3-18, C Devane 1-12 (0-6f), A Kennedy 1-1, L Power 1-0, A Brislane, C Shortt 0-2 each, A Fogarty 0-1. Dublin 2-5, L West 2-0 (1-0 pen), R Costelloe 0-2 (0-1'45), M Moynihan 0-2, S Sweeney 0-1.

Right: Antrim's Emma Connolly and Emma McMullan (Despite her 2-5) were on the losing side against Derry in the Ulster Senior Camogie Final.



O'Farrell points the way for Sars

By MARY NEWMAN
Club round-up

THERE were victories for Sars, Ballincollig, Glen Rovers, Eire Óg, Tracton and Ballyhea as games in the Evening Echo Senior B, intermediate and Junior A championships got under way at the weekend.

Sarsfields 3-8 Mallow 3-6

Sars and Mallow turned over level at the Glen Field in this Evening Echo Intermediate championship clash, 2-2 to 1-5.

Cork senior Emer O'Farrell was dominant for Sars, notching up a first half goal, while Aisling Whooley grabbed the second.

In the opening half, Katie Buckley hit a goal for Mallow in a close opening 30 minute when driving rain made conditions hard for both teams. With Emer O'Farrell adding five points, Sars began to pull away but Mallow hit back, Michelle Browne striking 1-1 before the clock ran out.

Ballincollig 0-14 Newcestown 1-6

In the Senior B round-robin series of games, Ballincollig had five points to spare over Newcestown. Colleen Long pointed an early free for Newcestown and two minutes later Grainne Cronin found the net to stretch their lead.

Ballincollig replied through Holly Coomey, Sarah Buckley and Denise Cronin but Newcestown held their lead, Colleen Long pointing a free.

Again the sides swapped points but it was Ballincollig who finished the half stronger with two points in a row from Patricia Buttner to tie it up at 1-3 to 0-6.

The sides were deadlocked five minutes in but points from Ashley Lovett and Patricia Buttner saw Ballincollig take the lead.

Ballincollig finished well with three points to seal victory.

Glen Rovers 1-13 Ballinhassig 2-4

Glen Rovers and Ballinhassig served up a cracker in Tracton where the Glen carved out a six points victory. Karen O'Connell and Deirdre Coomey swapped points but 20 minutes in the Glen had edged two clear.

Ballinhassig were boosted by Lisa Jordan's goal a minute from the



Sarsfield's Edel Meaney and Mallow's Katie Healy challenge for the ball during the Evening Echo Cork Intermediate camogie championship at the Glen Field.



Sarsfield's Aisling Whooley gathers the ball from Mallow's Emma Forde during the Evening Echo Cork Intermediate camogie championship at the Glen Field.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

interval but the Glen managed to get back on level terms before the break with a Luby 45 levelling the game at 1-2 to 0-5.

Ballinhassig edged ahead for the second time with a Sinead O'Callaghan point but with their defence superbly marshalled by Lydia Cunningham and Michelle Hegarty, the Glen girls settled and by the three

quarter led by 0-8 to 1-3, with points from Sinead Fahy and Luby (2).

Continuing to put the Ballinhassig defence under pressure, Aoife Walsh goal. The Glen defence was under a lot of pressure but goalkeeper Kelly Newman denied Ballinhassig with an excellent penalty save.

Catriona Collins grabbed a Ballinhassig goal but again the Glen

upped the ante — Sinead Gallen, Luby and O'Halloran pointing.

Eire Óg 2-6

Valley rovers 0-2

The Muskerry side controlled matters from the early stages.

Leading 1-4 to 0-2 at half-time, Eire Óg built on their advantage in the second half to run out comfortable winners, with goals from Erin Corkery and Alanna McKenna and four Margaret O'Herlihy points.

Tracton 4-5

Fr O'Neill's 1-8

With Jennifer Lynch, Marian Jagoe, Aoife Kiely, Ashling Dempsey, and Clodagh Fitzgerald all on the score sheet Tracton recorded a 4-5 to 1-8 victory over Fr O'Neill's in the Evening Echo intermediate championship in Mayfield.

Tracton led 4-4 to 1-3 at the break and, despite only tacking on one point in the second half, they held on to land the spoils.

Ballyhea 3-5

Enniskeane 2-4

Ballyhea got the better of Enniskeane in a tight junior A championship clash at Ballyanley.

Drama galore as Cork toppled

By MARY NEWMAN
Inter-county camogie

Clare 1-17
Cork 3-7

DISAPPOINTMENT for the Cork U16 side as they lost out a dramatic encounter at Castle Road.

Twice Cork were on the wrong end of crucial umpiring decisions and they certainly could have plenty of complaints at the free tally of 12 against to five for.

In the finish the accuracy both from play and placed balls of Clare captain Cioe Morey swung the game in the visitors' favour and ensured them a place in the provincial final.

Cork trailed at the interval after Clare had dominated for much of the opening quarter, a goal from Orlaith Duggan inside seven minutes giving Clare a 1-3 to no score lead.

Cork were soon back on level terms when Sinead O'Halloran's long rang effort went all the way to the net.

Clare led 1-9 to 1-6 at the break.

Cork got the perfect start to the second half when Aine O'Donovan finished Finola Neville's effort to the net and inside a minute Fiona Cotter had Cork ahead for the first time in the game with a superb point.

Chloe Morey pointed twice to restore the Clare advantage but a battling Cork were back in front when Finola Neville read and met Sinead Fahy's pass with deadly accuracy.

Now back in control, Cork should have been pushing for home but failure to hold possession allowed Clare back into the game and three unanswered points had Clare one ahead.

One of the game's major talking points happened soon after.

Sinead O'Halloran won possession and fired the ball straight for goal. The ball hit the crossbar and bounced straight over the keeper's head. The umpire reached for the white flag but was seemingly overruled by his colleague and the referee, much to everybody's amazement, waved wide.

Cork should have been level and they never recovered. Let off the hook, Clare grabbed their chance and three late points ensured there was no way back for a stunned Cork.

Scorers for Clare: C Morey 0-9 (0-4f, 0-1 45), D Duggan 1-2, K Cahill 0-4, A D'Arcy, N Kaiser 0-1 each.

Cork: F Neville 1-3 (0-1f, 0-1 45), A O'Donovan 1-1, S O'Halloran 1-0, F Cotter 0-2, B O'Sullivan 0-1.

CORK: G O'Callaghan; K Healy, N O'Brien, J O'Shea; L Browne, M Riordan, A Barry Murphy; B O'Sullivan, A Kiely; F Cotter, L O'Flynn, S Fahy, F Neville; A O'Donovan (cl), S O'Halloran.

CLARE: S O'Shea; C Feehily, M McGrath, N Cahill; H Hehir, C Glynn, L McMahon; E Horgan, N O'Dea; O Duggan, C Morey (cl), V Loughmane; M Hyland, K Cahill, N Kaiser. Sub: A Darcy for M Hyland (45).

Referee: Eamonn Browne (Tipperary).

Cork's U16 B team sweep aside Tipperary

Cork 3-15
Tipperary 1-2

A comprehensive victory for the U16 B team as they swept aside Tipperary in difficult weather conditions at Castle Road. Playing with the aid of a

gale-force wind in the opening half, Cork soon pressed home their advantage and led 2-12 to no score.

Goals from Susan Brosnan and Katie Murphy helped settle Cork while Laura Burke, Heather Morgan, Julia

By MARY NEWMAN
Inter-county camogie

Mulcahy and Rebecca Murphy all added points.

On the change over, Cork had to be strong in defence and with Nicole O'Brien, Sinead Duggan and Laura Barry in

control, Tipp found the going hard, despite playing with the elements in their favour.

Scorers for Cork: K Murphy 2-4, S Brosnan 1-3, L Burke 0-3, H Morgan, J Mulcahy 0-2 each, R Murphy 0-1. Tipperary: G O'Dowd 1-0, A Loughnane, K Kenny 0-3 each. CORK: S Rogers; L Barry, J Hawkes (cl), S Duggan; R O'Callaghan, N O'Brien, A Hennessy, Murphy; J

Crowley, H Morgan; S Brosnan, J Mulcahy, A Moloney, K Murphy, L Burke. Subs: O O'Sullivan for J Mulcahy, M Murphy for J Crowley, E O'Sullivan for L Barry, N Crean for A Moloney.

TIPPERARY: T McGrath; A Cramlin, J Toohery, M Kennedy; K Gleeson, S Gleeson, C Clarry; A Moloney, C Hoolahan; M O'Meara, A Loughnane, A McGrath; G O'Dowd, M Walsh, K Kenny.

Clare outclassed by Rebels in Ballincollig

Cork 3-13 Clare 1-06
@ Ballincollig

JUST as they did in this year's Munster final, Cork held the upper hand over the Banner to eventually run out comfortable winners on Wednesday evening. Not as easy as it looked, 2-3 in the last eight minutes propelled Cork into the next round as they finally shook off a tenacious Clare challenge.

The game held all the right ingredients; speed, flair, commitment and it was a joy to watch.

Starting lively, Clare's Shonagh Enright hit the upright after four

minutes and it became obvious from the outset that she was the danger woman up front.

With both sides vying to dictate play it was Cork who seemed to have more up front than their opponents.

Mariah Reidy, who had a fine game throughout, opened Cork's scoring and when Katrina Mackey's power strike hit the net four minutes later Cork appeared to have settled.

A further point from Patricia Buttimer saw Cork 1-2 to 0-1 ahead with twelve minutes played.

Suddenly Clare hit a purple patch and 1-2 inside three minutes had them a point ahead, Enright once

again the tormentor in chief with a well taken goal.

But Cork never panicked. Their defence tightened considerably. Pamela Mackey moved over to curb Enright and five points without reply saw Cork lead by 1-7 to 1-3 at the break.

By the 37th minute, Cork had stretched their lead to 1-10 to 1-4. The play swung Clare's way for ten minutes as they attacked incessantly but Jessica Kavanagh was extremely composed in goal and supported by her defence, they weathered the storm.

It was obvious that Cork were the more dangerous up front particularly

when they spread the play yet that second goal just wouldn't come and it was Clare who pegged Cork back holding the rebels scoreless for 19 minutes with Aishling Hannon and Eimear Considine particularly impressive for the visitors.

However, as Clare tired late on, inevitably Cork ruthlessly closed out the game with Denise Luby and Aileen O'Donovan goals and leave Clare with a must-win encounter with Galway this Wednesday in Ardahan at 7.30pm.

Cork: J. Kavanagh, K. O'Donoghue, M.A. Hawkes, C. Hayes, A. Sheehan, P. Mackey, E. Kingston, J. Lynch (0-1 10), S. Buckley, J. White (0-2), K. Mackey

(1-4 30), M. Reidy (0-3), P. Buttimer (0-2), J. Casey (0-1), K. Harrington. **Subs:** A. O'Donovan (1-0) for Harrington (49), D. Luby (1-0 10) for Casey (56), C. O'Callaghan for P. Buttimer (63), O. O'Mahony for S. Buckley (64).

Clare: Ailish Considine (Kilmaley); Niamh Martin (St Joseph's), Chloe Morey (Sixmilebridge), Ann Marie McMahon (Kilmaley); Louise Woods (St Joseph's), Eimear Considine (Kilmaley), Aileen O'Shea (Sixmilebridge); Sarah Reidy (Kilmaley), Rosin McMahon (Newmarket-on-Fergus) (0-1); Aishling Hannon (Clonony), Carol Kaiser (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Orlaith Duggan (Clonony); Shonagh Enright (Kilmaley) (1-3 20), Rosin O'Brien (Ogonnellloe) (0-1), Katie Cahill (Kilmaley) (0-1) **Subs:** Christina Glynn (Kilmaley) for Reidy (17m), Susan Fahy (Whitegate) for O'Shea.

Match Official
 Eamonn Browne (Tipperary).

Camogie > MUNSTER UNDER-16 SEMI-FINAL

Clare girls advance to the provincial final

Clare 1-17
Cork 3-07
@ Castle Road, Mahon, Cork

CLARE had a well deserved win over hosts Cork on Friday evening last to claim their spot in the Munster U16 Final. This was the sides second trip to Cork this year and after recording a narrow two point victory in the All-Ireland Championship, Cork were out to avenge that result.

Clare opened brightly and had 1-3 on the board inside the opening eight minutes. Orlaith Duggan opened the account with a point in the 3rd minute and it was the Clonony girl that also goaled only four minutes later. Chloe Morey and Niki Kaiser had pointed in the meantime as Clare had come out of the traps running. Cork did

pull back a point before scrambling over a goal in the 10th minute, this was disputed by Clare who were adamant that the player was in the square before the high dropping ball, but the score stood.

Clare didn't let this get the better of them though and Morey with a free, and Vera Loughnane from play, continued to add points for the Banner side.

The rest of the half was well shared out between the two sides as Cork added a brace while Morey again converted a free. A Cork free kept them within distance of the Clare challenge, but Morey coolly added a brace of frees herself. Cork had two from play before Morey had her own from play just before the break. This left the half time score Clare 1-9

Cork 1-06.

Clare continued to dominate the outfield challenge but were finding it difficult to put more than the three points between the sides, a free off the post and a wide from play were adding to that difficulty. Against the run of play, Cork got a rare break and an opportunist goal brought the sides back on level terms in the 39th minute and then the home side went ahead a minute later with a point from play.

Clare were back level a minute later when Morey under pressure stood up to convert a free. A similar score had Clare back in front in the 49th minute as scores were harder to come by in the second half. Cork again had a lucky break in the 53rd minute and scored their third goal to

go two points clear and Clare could have well been in danger from here.

The young girls though held their nerve and showed great maturity by finishing the game strongly when things looked to be going against them. Katie Cahill and Vera Loughnane from play with a converted '45 from Chloe Morey put them back in front by the slimmest of margins and Clare continued to drive forward with Morey again from play and Orlaith Duggan and Katie Cahill to finish the scoring.

Clare will be pleased with the scoring average from the game and with the pressure on the Cork outfield play. The win now gives them a chance to avenge the loss to Tipperary at All-Ireland semi-final stage. They will have to ensure that they don't leak

the goals behind again though.

But the performance will be well pleasing as Niamh O'Dea, Orlaith Duggan, Chloe Morey, Helen Hehir, Niki Kaiser, Maire McGrath all did very well, while all the rest more than held their own to turn in a solid team performance.

Clare: Suzie O'Shea (Ballyea), Niamh Cahill (Kilmaley), Maire McGrath (Na Piarasigh), Caroline Feehily (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Helen Hehir (Inagh), Christina Glynn (Kilmaley), Laura McMahon (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Niamh O'Dea (Corofin), Ellen Horgan (Truagh), Orlaith Duggan (Clonony), Chloe Morey (Sixmilebridge), Vera Loughnane (Sixmile), Katie Cahill (Kilmaley), Mairead Hyland (Sixmilebridge), Niki Kaiser (Newmarket-on-Fergus) **Sub:** Aisling Darcy (Kilmaley) for Hyland

Player of the Game Niamh O'Dea (Clare)
Match Official Eamonn Browne (Tipperary)

Ballincollig overcome Newcestown in hard-fought clash

Ballincollig 0-14
Newcestown 1-6

BALLINCOLLIG recorded a five-point victory over Newcestown in a hard-fought contest in Ovens. Colleen Long pointed to put Newcestown ahead and two minutes later Grainne Cronin struck a goal to stretch their lead.

Ballincollig got into the game with three points without reply from Holly Coomey, Sarah Buckley and Denise Cronin but Newcestown held their lead as Colleen Long pointed a free.

Swapped points the sides were evenly matched but Ballincollig finished the half stronger with two points in a row from Patricia Buttimer as the sides went in level 1-3 to 0-6 at the break.

Five minutes into the second half the sides were still on level but two points from Ashley Lovett and Patricia Buttimer saw Ballincollig take the lead Colette Desmond pegged it back with one but again Ballincollig kept their lead and finishing strong with three points they took the points on offer but not before a strong test from a determined Newcestown side.

There was plenty of action in the Evening Echo senior B Intermediate and Junior A camogie championships over the weekend

Glen Rovers 1-13
Ballinhassig 2-4

GLEN ROVERS and Ballinhassig played out an exciting contest in Tracton where the Glen girls had six points to spare at the full-time whistle. Karen O'Connell gave the Glen an early lead to which Deirdre Coomey replied. Twenty minutes in the Glen had edged two points clear after Denise Luby had three which Deirdre Coomey had one in reply. Ballinhassig were boosted with Lisa Jordan goal a minute from the interval but Glen managed to get on level before the break with a Luby pointed 45 to tie it up 1-2 to 0-5 at

the break. Ballinhassig edged ahead for the second time in the game with a Sinead O'Callaghan point two minutes into the second half but the Glen girls settled and by the three quarter sage they led with 0-8 to 1-3 with points from Sinead Fahy and Luby (2). Continuing to put the Ballinhassig defence under pressure the Glen grabbed a goal Aoife Walsh on target to stretch their lead. The Glen defence held firm with goal-keeper Kelly Newman denying Ballinhassig with an excellent penalty save. Deirdre Coomey and Denise Luby traded points before substitute Catriona Collins struck for a Ballinhassig goal but the Glen pushed on and finished strong points from Sinead Gallen two from Denise Luby and one from Sinead O'Halloran to take the points.

Eire Og 2-6
Valley Rovers 0-2

EIRE OG recorded a 10-point victory over Valley Rovers in Cloughduv to get their games in section two up and running. Controlling matters from the early stages they laid the foundations for victory in the first half as they went on to recorded a good victory. Leading

1-4 to 0-2 at the half time break Eire Og never took their foot of the pedal as they worked hard to build on their advantage in the second half to ensure they ran out winners. A goal from Erin Corkery and four Margaret O'Herlihy points in the opening half for Eire Og were replied to for Valley Rovers by Orla Deasy and Eibhlish Butler with points as Valley Rovers battle to get into contention.

With their defence continuing to hold a tight grip on the Valley Rovers attack Eire Og held their lead; up front Alanna Mc Kenna added a goal while Margaret O'Herlihy was on target with two points as Eire Og got their campaign off to a winning start.

Sarsfields 3-8
Mallow 3-6

WEATHER conditions were tough at the Glen Field on Sunday morning as Sarsfields and Mallow battled it out for the points on offer in this round robin series of game sin the Evening Echo Intermediate championship clash. The sides were deadlocked 2-2 to 1-5 at the half time whistle with Cork senior Emer O'Farrell dominant for Sars hitting a

first half goal while Aisling Whooley added the second.

With Emer O'Farrell striking 1-1 Sars took the lead on the turn over but a Kathleen O'Brien goal kept Mallow in touch. With Emer O'Farrell adding five points Sars began to pull away but digging deep Mallow hit back Michelle Browne striking 1-1 as Mallow continued to put the Sarsfields defense under pressure at the finish they hung on with two points to spare to record a good victory

Tracton 4-5
Fr O'Neills 1-8

WITH Jennifer Lynch, Marian Jagoe, Aoife Kiely, Ashling Dempsey, and Clodagh Fitzgerald all on the score sheet Tracton recorded a Tracton 4-5 to 1-8 victory over Fr O'Neills in the Evening Echo Intermediate championship in Mayfield.

Ballyhea 3-5
Enniskeane 2-4

BALLYHEA got the better of Enniskeane on a 3-5 to 2-4 scoreline in a tight junior A championship clash at Ballyanley on Saturday.

Galway's current form to be tested in Wexford Park

Kelly returns to Tribeswomen's defence for daunting championship challenge against Wexford opponents

STEPHEN GLENNON

FIT-again Davitts' defender Ailbhe Kelly returns to Galway's starting line-up for their All-Ireland senior camogie championship round robin clash against Wexford at Wexford Park on Saturday (7pm).

Kelly had missed the Tribeswomen's 3-17 to 1-4 victory over Clare in the opening round due to an ankle injury, but has since battled her way back to reclaim the number three jersey for the mouth-watering joust against an in-form Wexford this weekend.

Indeed, Galway boss Liam Donoghue - who is very unhappy at the late timing of the fixture in the south-east - has made a number of changes to the side that defeated the Banner last day out, with Athenry midfielder Sarah Donoghue to make her championship debut when lining out at full-forward for the Wexford tie.

At club level, Donoghue has been one of the stand-out midfielders in the Galway camogie championship in recent years and, her manager agreed, she should provide an imposing physical presence in the full-forward line.

"Sarah would be a surprise inclusion - she makes her championship debut - but she has been playing very well and was unlucky not to feature against Clare. I suppose, she would be more a recognised midfielder, but she is a player who is very strong and is probably what we need in that line," continued Donoghue.

While, encouragingly, goalkeeper Susan Earner has recovered from an ankle injury sustained in a club game recently, unfortunately, midfielder Aine Hillary (hip) and sharpshooters Jessica Gill (groin) and Lourda Kavanagh (ankle) have all failed to recover



Galway goalkeeper Susan Earner of Meelick/Eyrecourt, who finished third in the Poc Fada recently, is presented with her trophy by Sean Geraghty.

er sufficiently from their injuries to start against the Model County.

Along with the two changes in personnel - the players to lose out in the shake-up are the versatile Sinead Keane and forward Brenda Kerins - the management team of Donoghue, Anne Broderick, Declan Walsh and trainer Seanie Crowe has also made a number of positional switches.

With the return of Kelly, Therese Manton reverts to left corner-back, with Regina Glynn retained in the right corner. Killimor's Anne Marie Hayes moves from midfield to

wing-back, where she will line out alongside centre-half back Sinead Cahalan and Kiltulla/Killmordaly's Lorraine Ryan.

To facilitate Hayes' switch, Niamh Kilkenny moves from defence to midfield where she will partner St. Thomas' Sandra Tannian. The half-forward line sees Brenda Hanney and Orla Kilkenny switch flanks, but the inspirational Therese Maher will continue to lead the attack from her centre-half forward berth.

The two corner forward positions remain unchanged, with Veronica Curtin, who tallied 2-4 from play against

Clare, and Aislinn Connolly, who registered 1-8, seven points from placed balls, flanking debutante Donoghue.

No doubt, this will be a massive test for Galway, who will look to improve on their showing against Clare first day out. "Clare had a great work ethic in the first half, although, that said, we could have had another 3-5 or 3-6 on the board at half-time," admitted Donoghue.

"It was a funny game. When I watched it for the second time on the DVD, you could see the girls were trying to do the right things. It was just not coming off for them. They did improve though in the second half."

The Galway boss knows the Tribeswomen cannot leave it as long to get out of the blocks against a Wexford side which will be buoyed by their National League success earlier in the year. "It is a big test; it is a big game for all of us," said the Clarinbridge clubman.

"We need it, though. We need to know the level we are at. The fact that it is not knock-out means we can go down there and play with no fear. We can have a good cut at it. We have a lot of work put in so I would be hoping for a big performance."

While some teams confident of reaching the knockout stages might use this as an opportunity to 'shadow box', Donoghue said Galway would be doing no such thing. "No, not at all. I would see it that winning is a habit, so you should go out and look to win every game. We will be going for it on Saturday."

Meanwhile, earlier in the day, Galway intermediates will also face their Wexford counterparts at St. Martin's, Piercestown (4pm).

Galway (seniors): S. Earner, R. Glynn, A. Kelly, T. Manton, A.M. Hayes, S. Cahalan, L. Ryan, N. Kilkenny, S. Tannian, B. Hanney, T. Maher, O. Kilkenny, V. Curtin, S. Donoghue, A. Connolly.

McGrath leads way as Galway minors prove too strong for Antrim

Galway 6-11
Antrim 3-11

EOGHAN CORMICAN
IN ASHBOURNE

THE Galway minor camogie team started their championship for 2009 in fine style with a thoroughly deserved nine point success against Antrim in an entertaining first round clash played in Ashbourne, Co. Meath, last Wednesday evening.

The final scoreline was somewhat unflattering to the Glenswomen, who battled vigorously throughout and were only undone in the closing stages of the tie when Galway struck for two fortuitous goals.

Galway started in whirlwind fashion and, although quickly behind to a Louise McKeown point, were seven points to the good by the 16th minute. Deirdre Ward was first to raise a green flag in a contest littered with nine goals as she got the slightest of touches to an Aoife Donoghue through ball to send it past 'keeper Lauren Elliot.

Niamh McGrath opened her account with pointed a free before the prolific Sarsfields forward gathered possession in the corner, showed a blistering turn of pace and beat Elliot from close range. McGrath was central to the early dominance, roving across the half forward line and vying for every dropping ball.

Antrim gained relief from the early onslaught with two points from full forward Rachel McCarty. Subsequently, Tara Rutledge continued the Galway goal rush on the quarter hour. Amanda Lynch's precise pass from midfield was fielded excellently by the Portumna girl, who hand passed the skitter beyond the onrushing Elliot.

Points from Mariosa McCourt, Louise McKeown and McCarty (free) narrowed the gap to four. But as one suspected Galway were more than a match for their Ulster rivals and gained further impetus in the tie with a point from McGrath and a superb goal from Fionnola Kealy.

Full forward McCarty continued to torment the Galway defence, hitting her fourth point of the day. Emma

McMullan (free) added further to her side's tally to leave Antrim six in arrears at the interval.

Rebecca Hennelly and Emma McMullan traded points on the resumption. However it was the ensuing nine minute spell that effectively ended the game as a contest. Niamh McGrath slowly turned the screw on the Antrim defence with four points (1 free, 1 45'), with the Saffrons' only response a pointed free from McCarty.

McGrath, who ended up with a personal tally of 2-8, 1-4 from play was Galway's outstanding player, although she was closely pressed for that accolade by wing back Noreen Murphy who hurled with fervour throughout and always had a desire to win the hard ball.

Leading by nine, it was only then that Galway eased up on the accelerator as Antrim hit the Tribes girls' for 3-1 in the final third. McCarty pulled a goal back with a hand passed effort to the net and there was a slight glimmer of hope rekindled when McCarty scored a second goal from the '21, but it was a case of too little, too late for Antrim.

Tara Rutledge clipped over a point from an acute angle before McGrath rubbed salt into the Antrim wounds when she sent a 45' all the way to the net. The speedy Aisling McFadden, who gave the Galway defence a torrid time in the second period, registered the point of the day following a mazy solo run down the right channel.

However it was quickly cancelled out by the stick of McGrath. McCarty rounded off a fine individual performance with a third goal, but it was Gerry Hough's charges who had the final say with scores from McGrath (free), Ward (0-1) and a goal from substitute Caoimhe Staunton.

Galway: H. Campbell, R. Kilkenny, K. O'Dwyer, K. McDonagh (C Ryan 57 mins), N. Murphy, C. Killeen, L. Shiel (C Kavanagh 57 mins), S. Smyth (L. Mitchell 21 mins), A. Lynch, N. McGrath (2-8, 0-3 free's, 1-1 45's) F. Kealy (1-0), A. Donoghue, T. Rutledge (1-1), D. Ward (1-0), R. Hennelly (0-1, C Staunton 1-0).

Antrim: L. Elliot, A. Laverty, U. McNaughton, A. Connolly, N. Graham, L. Connolly, B. McAlonan, L. McKeown (0-2, 1 free), A. McLoughlin, A. McFadden (0-1) S. McKillen, E. McMullan (0-2, 1 free), M. McGourty (0-1), R. McGrath (3-5, 1-3 free's) M. Connolly.

Wexford Park triple header on Saturday

The big questions will be asked on Saturday in the Gala All Ireland senior camogie championship with some of the top guns in action - Galway travel to take on Wexford, while titleholders Cork journey to Nowlan Park. All four teams are unbeaten, and while the Purple and Gold and the Westerners are confident of semi-final spots, the incentive is maximum points. This would mean a penultimate meeting with the second place team in the other group.

Wexford are already the National League champions and now they want to regain the O'Duffy Cup, which they won in 2007 after 32 years. Mary Leacy skippered that team, and she reports all is well ahead of the Galway visit.

"We are training very hard. When we won the league we were concentrating more on stamina and fitness but since then we have concentrated on stick work and first touch with (trainer) Eddie Flynn. We had the first round of the club championship last weekend and everyone came through, so it is all systems go.

"There is a lot of competition for places. Noreen Lambert and Catherine O'Loughlin are back from their travels - Catherine is an All Star - and both are being made to fight for their positions. Katrina Parrock is another; she did her Leaving Cert and is pushing hard for a place."

Galway chalked up a big score against Clare two weeks ago. Although without top-scorer from 2008 Jessica Gill, Veronica Curtin and Aisling Connolly amassed 3-12 between them. That says much about their forward talent, something that Liam Donoghue's charges might not have had last season.

Elsewhere, the entertainment in Nowlan Park will be provided by champions Cork who take on Ann Downey's Kilkenny. The Cats are on a roll following victory over Tipperary and all eyes will be on them to see if they can secure one more win, which would position them nicely ahead of their final game against Dublin.

However, Cork are as strong as ever. Denise Cronin has an extensive panel to choose from, which should include Sile Burns, Brigue Corkery, captain Amanda O'Regan and Gemma O'Connor.



Pictured clockwise from top left: Brendan McNamara from Scariff, Fiona Lafferty being presented with her Clare Camogie Long Puck trophy from Orla Considine and Keith Hogan. They will represent Clare in the Munster Long Puck final at Thurles Racecourse this Saturday.

Galway present tougher test

DEAN GOODISON

WEXFORD HEAD to Wexford Park on Saturday next to play their second game, against Galway, in the Gala All-Ireland Senior camogie championship at 7 p.m. after finally getting confirmation of venue and time late on Tuesday afternoon.

Having already put Limerick to the sword three weeks ago with a comfortable 5-20 to 0-6 victory, manager Stellah Sinnott is confident that the uncertainty over the venue will not have a negative effect on her players.

'We have trained in the Park, and have had a couple of training matches there, so I don't think the venue will make any difference to us.'

With Galway the visitors, Sinnott knows only too well what to expect, having been shattered by a late goal in last year's semi-final. The sides also met earlier this year in the league when Wexford travelled to Galway and came away with their

own late victory.

'Galway are a very strong, physical team with plenty of very talented camogie players, like Jessica Gill and Veronica Curtin in the forwards.'

'They have a very solid backbone. We will be up against it, as we were lucky to come away from Galway in the league with a victory. We kind of feel we owe them one (for last year's semi defeat) but we have the utmost respect for them.'

The Wexford supremo does have a couple of injury doubts heading into Saturday's game. The good news is that corner-forward Ursula Jacob is fit after the ankle injury she picked up against Limerick, but there are still some worries over Deirdre Codd and inspirational midfielder Kate Kelly.

'Kate has been carrying a bit of a leg injury and Deirdre was in a road traffic accident and is sore and bruised. There are a few more niggling injuries in the squad, but they are the main two we have to worry

about.'

In defence, it's likely that Sinnott will not make any unnecessary changes, and she was quick to laud what may be the country's most miserly septet.

'We are very happy with our defence, and even in the subs we have very strong defenders. Nobody's place is safe and it's great for the team because it keeps the pressure on everybody to perform. All through the league and at the start of the championship we have no fault with them, they are absolutely tremendous.'

At the other end of the field things are much more flexible. That flexibility has seen Una Leacy often play in the half-forward line, and Sinnott explained the reasoning behind that positional decision. 'Una likes a bit of space, she is great running on to the ball. She can split a defence open with her pace and has one of the hardest strikes in camogie.'

Meanwhile, with her Leaving Cert. finished, Katrina Parrock

returns to consideration, and despite the lack of competitive action Sinnott has no fears about using her right away. 'Katrina is back, training well and we would have no problem introducing her at any stage. We would have no qualms about putting out any of the subs.'

■ The Wexford Intermediates will also be in action against Galway in Piercestown at 3 p.m., and there need is even greater than the Seniors after losing to Derry in the first round.

With two teams to qualify, and lowly Clare set to be easy pickings for everyone, this in effect is a straight knockout from Wexford's point of view as another loss would put them out of the running.

They will be hoping that some of the injuries which dogged them for the clash with the northerners will have cleared up.

No surprises as championship action begins

THE FIRST round of the WFC Senior club championship was played over the weekend, with no great surprises emerging.

Rathnure, the current holders, came away easy winners in their encounter with Monageer-Boilavogue on a scoreline of 4-24 to 0-1.

Oulart-The Ballagh had no problem either in their encounter with Duffry Rovers, coming out on top by a massive 10-19 to 2-2.

St. Martin's won against Glynn-Barntown by 3-17 to 0-6 and St. Ibar's-Shelmally had victory over Ferns St. Aidan's by 4-9 to 1-3.

The first round of the Enniscorthy Motor Company Intermediate championship was also played over the weekend, and the results were: Bunclody 4-

9, St. Martin's 1-4; Oylegate-Glenbrien 3-10, Raparees 2-3; Blackwater 3-7, Naomh Éanna 3-0; Buffers Alley 2-9, Marshallstown 2-2.

There are three county teams in action this coming weekend. The Senior and Intermediate teams meet Galway in the Gala All-Ireland championship second round on Saturday next.

The Intermediate will go ahead in Piercestown at 3 p.m., and the Senior will be played in Wexford Park at 7 p.m. after the football and hurling games.

The county Minor team is also out this weekend on Sunday when they meet Kildare in their second round match, having beaten Down on June 28. Once again, the venue for this game is not known, but it will be at home.

By MARY NEWMAN

Nano Nagle Trophy

THE sisters at the South Pres formally presented the Cork County Camogie Board with a trophy to honour the order's founder, Nano Nagle.

The function took place at the South Presentation Convent, Douglas Street.

The county board re-introduced the intermediate grade this season after a number of years absence and with six clubs upgraded from junior A to intermediate the title will be hotly contested.

The Presentation sisters have kindly donated the Nano Nagle Cup to the board with the help of the county board's president, Kay Dunne, and her husband Terry.

A past pupil and former player from the South Presentation Convent, Kay played a huge role in the South Presentation past pupils teams over the years.

Also present at the function was past pupil and former player with South Pres, county secretary, Sheila Golden, and GPC member and past pupil, Mary Weste, and member of the county board executive.

In handing over the trophy to county board chairwoman Marion McCarthy, Sister Patricia explained the reason behind the move.

'This year is the 225th anniversary of Nano Nagle's death and we were anxious to mark it in a special way.'

'We are very aware of the huge tradition and links which South Presentation has with Cork camogie and to this end we were delighted when the suggestion was made to honour the late Nano Nagle by donating a trophy to the camogie board.'

'In doing so we hope the memory of Nano Nagle will live on as the teams contest the intermediate championship. We are delighted to welcome here tonight past pupils from the school who have done such huge work for camogie and we welcome also the county committee.'

'We look forward to the games for which the trophy will be contested and wish all the competing teams well.'

In accepting the trophy Marion McCarthy thanked the sisters for the wonderful gesture.

'We in Cork camogie are honoured that the sisters have donated this magnificent trophy to us and we ac-



Sr Patricia O'Shea, superior, with Kay Dunne, president Cork County Camogie Board, left, and Marion McCarthy, cathaoirleach, at the launch of the Nano Nagle Intermediate Cup at the South Presentation Convent recently.

Picture: Richard Mills.

Competition will be fierce for Nagle Cup

cept it on behalf of all the clubs, who I know will be determined to engrave their name first on a trophy that honours such a wonderful Cork woman, Nano Nagle.

'The wonderful tradition of camogie that was here in South Pres will be remembered and the great players that the school produced, such as Anne Comerford, Betty Sugrue and Hannah Dineen, all who went on to

captain Cork to senior All-Ireland titles.'

Marion made special mention of Kay and Sheila who have worked very hard in the continued promotion of Cork camogie and said: 'South Pres can be very proud of them.'

There will be plenty of determination to become the first holders of the magnificent trophy and certainly

the six clubs are looking forward to doing battle to become the first name to be etched on the trophy.

Those doing battle for the honour will be Newtownshandrum, Fr O'Neill's, Clonakilty, Tracton, Mal-low and Sarsfields.

With first round in the round robin series of games played last weekend, the clubs are now up and running.

JULY 2009

Rebels to skin Cats with cream of talent

Cork have plenty of experience to draw on

By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie preview



LINDA MELLERICK

TOMORROW
Gala All-Ireland Senior
Championship round two,
Cork v Kilkenny, Nowlan
Park, 3.30pm.
CORK HAD such a comfortable win over Dublin in round one of the All-Ireland series that they must surely be relishing the challenge ahead when they take on Kilkenny in Nowlan Park tomorrow.

The Cats are cock-a-hoop at the moment after their victory over Tipperary two weeks ago, yet all eyes will be on them and how they perform against Cork. A victory would position them nicely ahead of their final group game against Dublin.

They'll find it a lot tougher against a Cork side that is in good form at present. There is a spring in the Cork girls' step and with competition for places high each player is giving it their all if given the chance.



Cathriona Foley is back for Cork after injury.

Cork show two changes from the side which faced Dublin.

Last year's captain, Cathriona Foley, regains a place at left corner-back having been sidelined with injury.

Her typical full-back role has been left to Rena Buckley who has handled herself well inside the square since slotting in a number of weeks back.

Joanne O'Callaghan switches from left to right corner-back for the first time in two years, a position she held in her initial years and one which she possibly enjoys more.

Unfortunately Lynda O'Connell loses out. Lynda has done nothing wrong. She has held the right corner-back position since the beginning of 2008 and acquitted herself well, but it is a sign of the stiff competition which exists in defence that she failed to gain selection. Anna Geary is another in the wings only



Dublin's Rachel Ruddy tries to stop an attack by Cork's Sile Burns during Cork's last outing in the Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship game at Páirc Uí Rinn.

Picture: Larry Cummins

waiting for her chance.

Breige Corkery and Orla Cotter maintain their midfield partnership. Up front, the lively Emer Dillon lines out at right half-forward with Una O'Donoghue getting the nod at centre having been on the subs bench for the Dublin game.

Emer O'Sullivan is the player out through injury. Inside Sile Burns fills her customary right corner-forward position, captain Amanda O'Regan is at full-forward and Rachel Moloney completes the starting 15 at left corner-forward.

Kilkenny's defeat to Tipperary in the league play-off was a blow to them. They conceded 2-19, which is heavy scoring, but they more than made up for it with their championship revenge two weeks ago on a score of 1-14 to 1-11. The Cats confidence is up.

Jacqui Frisby, Anne Dalton, Colette Dormer were the driving

forces against Tipp and Kilkenny will need leaders against the biggest test they have had all season. Nowlan Park might give them a point or two, but Cork love wide open pitches and the Park will suit them.

Ann Downey is steadily progressing with this young side. Physical strength is needed at this level and Kilkenny, after a year or two, seem to be coming to terms with that physicality. They are a side on the up.

Losing to Cork won't be the end of the world for them with their final game against Dublin and with Cork and Tipp still to meet, but a victory would guarantee them a place in the semi-finals.

CORK: A Murray; J O'Callaghan, R Buckley, C Foley; J Duffy, M O'Connor, S Hayes; B Corkery, O Cotter; E Dillon, U O'Donoghue, G O'Connor; S Burns, A O'Regan, R Moloney.

Verdict: Cork.

Live on C103

C103 will be at the heart of this weekend's action in the *Evening Echo* Cork County Championships, with extensive coverage of what will be a very busy few days on the domestic front.

There will live updates on all the county championship games across the weekend, along with live commentary on no less than four fixtures.

SATURDAY

Evening Sports Special: 6.30pm IHC - Kilkenny v Bandon; 8pm PIRC - Ballymartle v Inniscarra.

Cork's Sports Sunday

2pm PIRC - Newcestown v Valley Rovers; 3.30pm SFC Replay - Duhallow v Neeroh Aban.

● Tune to C103 on 103.3FM, 103.7FM or 102.6FM for all your live sports coverage.

TOMORROW

Gala All-Ireland Intermediate
Camogie, Cork v Kilkenny,
Nowlan Park 1.45pm.

CORK GET their quest for a place in the Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Championship off to a start this weekend when they travel to Nowlan Park for a meeting with Kilkenny.

The competition is played on a round-robin basis of two groups and with just three teams in the group, Cork are joined by Kilkenny and Tipperary, with two teams qualifying for the semi-final stages.

Kilkenny are battling to stay in contention on Saturday as already they have lost out to Tipperary in the opening game of the series, therefore a defeat at the hands of Cork would almost certainly put them out.

The make up of the Cork intermediate panel depends on what players are released by the senior team.

Several players are eligible for both grades and with the seniors playing on the same day it makes the job the little bit more difficult.

Cork started their league campaign well with a victory over Galway but lost out to a Wexford side that went on to take the title.

Definite non-starters are Mariah Reidy and Marion Jagoe, who are both unavailable and selector Sheila Golden says both are huge losses.

"Marion is a very experienced campaigner and has always been a big player for us, while Mariah was excellent all through the league campaign.

"They will be a huge loss to our team but we will be travelling in determined mood and hopefully we will get our campaign off to a winning start."

Cork will have plenty of experience in their line-up. Michelle Browne is a member of the side for a number of seasons and is also the senior panel, while players of the calibre of Ann Marie Fleming, Leah Weste, Liz Power, Mary Coleman and Marie Watson should all feature.

They will also be hoping to have players such as Jennifer Lynch and Pamela Mackey, who are on the senior panel, available for selection.

Kilkenny were comprehensively defeated by Tipp 2-19 to 0-5 and they will need to atone for this defeat if they have any hope of making it to the closing stages of the competitions.

They are a young side but with the county having annexed four U16 All-Ireland titles and two minor titles, they have a lot of experience.

Present county minors Aine Curran and Niamh Kelly are joined by last year's minor full-back Ann Marie Walsh, while Catherine Walsh from the Thomastown club is also the holder of underage intercounty honours. The side is managed by Paddy Hughes and he is joined in the back-room team by Pierce Dargan and Tara Warren.

County secretary Pearl McDonnell says they side are young but determined: "We are very young but the players and mentors were disappointed to lose to Tipp and they are hoping to be on the right side of the result on Saturday."

Verdict: Cork.

All-Ireland U 18 Championship Strong Finish Sees Tipp Through Tipperary 3-18; Dublin 2-5



Tipperary's Cait Devane who contributed 1.12 of Tipperary's score in their win over Dublin in the U18 Championship last weekend

In a well prepared camogie grounds in the Ragg, these two teams battled it out for the right to play Kilkenny in the All Ireland semi final later in the month.

Dublin had already lost heavily to Kilkenny earlier in the week, so they needed to over come the Tipperary challenge to survive. Tipperary were out in their first game since their Munster semi final loss to Cork, so it took the home side a bit of time to get into the rhythm of the game. Dublin, with the aid of a

strong wind, scored first with a 45 before Tipperary's Cait Devane scored 2 points. Dublin's Rachel Costello, who tried hard throughout the game, hit another point before Tipperary took control with a well taken goal from Amy Kennedy & Cait Devane making a great run from mid field to hit Tipp's second goal.

However, credit to the visitors, they continued to add pressure, & were rewarded when they scored 2.01, some of the goals coming from a penalty. The hard working Laura Power hit a cracking goal for Tipp before the break to leave score 3.06 to Dublin's 2.03.

On the resumption Amy Kennedy scored for the home side & point almost immediately for Dublin gave the visitors a glimmer of hope. This glimmer was quickly extinguished as Tipperary ran riot with 9 unanswered points, most which came from play. A free in the 23rd minute for Dublin was to be their last score of the game & a point each from Catriona Shortt & Devane wrapped up this game. Tipperary had some good displays around the field. Kate Ahearn in goal was very alert, while Sheila Ryan & Emma Spillane were solid in the defence. Alice Fogarty & Chrissie Kenny at mid field linked well with Cait Devane at centre forward who destroyed the opposition.

Laura Power & Amy Kennedy also contributed well. A good display from Tipperary will do the team spirit good, but the real challenge will be against Kilkenny in the semi final, fixed for July 26th.

Tipperary: Kate Ahearn, Edwina King, Lisa Cahill, Niamh Kelly, Catherine O Meara, Emma Spillane, Sheila Ryan, Alice Fogarty(0.01), Chrissie Kenny, Gemma Grace, Cait Devane(1.12), Laura Power(1.00), Amy Kennedy(1.01), Aine Brislane(0.02), Catriona Shortt(0.02).

Under 16s

Tipperary was represented in the A & B U16 Munster semi finals over the weekend. The A panel were first up when they had a good win over Limerick in the Ragg. They now face Clare in the Munster final. This game promises to be a cracker as they both served up an enthralling match earlier in the year in the All Ireland semi final when Tipp won by the narrowest margin. The B panel travelled to Cork on Sunday, but were beaten by a stronger rebel outfit. This panel has been a development squad for future Tipperary teams, so the work & training which this panel went through will pay dividends in the next few years, so well done to all involved.

The club scene is also moving along. The Senior League final between Cashel & Toomevara will take place this Saturday July 11th in the Ragg at 6pm. The Intermediate league final will be played between Moycarkey & the winners of Toomevara & Templemore. This final may be fixed as a double header with the Senior match, so keep a check on the web site.

The U14A County Final replay between Burgess & Toomevara was played last Tuesday, July 7th. Check the website for results.

The U14 Summer league is nearing completion, with Brian Borus & Boherlahan reaching the League final, while both Knockavilla or Moycarkey will battle it out in the shield final against Moyle Rovers or Clonoulty.

The North Munster club league has also reached the final stages & in division 3, Clonoulty will play Feenagh Kilmeedy of Clare this Friday July 10th in the Gaelic grounds Limerick at 6.30pm. Holy-cross have also reached the final in division 2. Their final will be played at 8pm on Friday July 10th in the Gaelic Grounds at 8pm. Congrats to the both teams on their achievements & the best of luck to both clubs.

The division 1 final will be contested between Cashel & Toomevara at a date to be finalised.



Paul Brophy (Iverk Produce) presents Catherine Heary (Chairperson, Kilkenny Camogie) with new jerseys and gear. The Piltown-based company, who employ 150 people directly, will be the main inter-county team sponsor. Also pictured are Ann Downey (Manager, Kilkenny senior camogie team) and Ann Dalton (senior captain). (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie)

Cork expecting tough test from Cats

by Therese O'Callaghan

ALL-IRELAND Camogie champions Cork can expect a tough game from Kilkenny following the Cats' three-point win over Tipperary. The Group One clash takes place in Nowlan Park today at 3.30pm.

Still, the Leesiders are firing on all cylinders again this year and will be hard opposition for any team. Rachel Moloney, for example, bagged 10 points in their win over Dublin.

For Kilkenny this is a big test. Home advantage should work in their favour and with Jacque Frisby and Colette Dormer in

good form they will give it their all. However, they will have to be at their very best to topple the titleholders.

Meanwhile, in Group Two, Wexford will be hoping home support will push them through their All-Ireland SHC qualifier against Galway (Wexford Park, 7pm).

Both Galway and Wexford are strong contenders for the O'Duffy Cup this year and while the two teams should qualify for the semi-finals, the battle here is to see who will finish first and second in the group.

Veronica Curtin is back to her best for the westerners, while the Purple and Gold will be

looking to star forward Una Leacy.

CORK: A Murray; J O'Callaghan, R Buckley, C Foley; J Duffy, M O'Connor, S Hayes; O Cotter, B Corkery; E Dillon, G O'Connor, U O'Donoghue; S Burns, A O'Regan (capt), R Moloney.

KILKENNY: C Ryan; L Fennelly, C Doherty, J Frisby; L Lyng, A Butler, E Aylward; C Dormer, A Dalton (capt); T Muldowney, K Power, A Dunphy; M Quilty, E Keane, A Neary.

GALWAY: S Earner; R Glynn, A Kelly, T Manton; A M Hayes, S Cahalan (capt), L Ryan; N Kilkenny, S Tannion; B Hanney, T Maher, O Kilkenny; V Curtin, S Donoghue, A Connolly.

WEXFORD: M D'Arcy; B Holohan, D Codd, C O'Connor; A Codd, M Leacy, A O'Connor (capt); C Murphy, M O'Leary; U Leacy, J Dwyer, K Kelly; U Jacob, R M Breen, M Heame.



Rachel Moloney: hit 10 points in Cork's win over Dublin and will be a vital player in the Rebelettes' Group One clash with Kilkenny.

Late spree gives the scoreline some gloss

Bishopstown 2-13
Aghabullogue 2-7

THIS Evening Echo Senior B championship clash was a lot closer than the scoreline indicates — with four minutes remaining just three points separated the sides.

Aghabullogue came close to grabbing an equaliser, but Bishopstown hit for a vital goal with seconds remaining to seal victory.

Bishopstown went into an early lead thanks to the accuracy of Clara Healy, who was the main difference over the hour with a tally of 1-9.

Fiona Buckley had an Aghabullogue goal inside 11 minutes, but despite winning plenty of possession they failed to turn it into scores and the Town had points from Aileen Twomey, Emma Healy and Tina Roche to put them six points ahead at the break.

From the start of the second half Aghabullogue played with a lot more confidence, and the sides had exchanged points before Emma Healy had a goal for Aghabullogue.

Two points without reply settled Bishopstown, but Aghabullogue had the margin down to three points with an Aileen Twomey point.

They battled to get level and were unlucky not to do so. Bishopstown won a free to relieve the pressure and when Clara Healy's long-range effort dropped in the square Maureen Egan smartly whipped it to the net to give Bishopstown the points in this first round game in the round robin series.

Scorers for Bishopstown: C Healy 1-9 (1-7f), M Scannell 0-3, M Egan 1-0, M Crowley 0-1.

Aghabullogue: E Healy 1-3 (0-2f, 0-1 45), F Buckley 1-0, A Twomey 0-2, T Roche, M Healy 0-1 each.

BISHOPSTOWN: J O'Sullivan, O Crowley, P Finn, J Browne, S Kelly, E Foyle, A Corcoran, M Crowley, J Crowley (c); M Egan, C Healy, M Scannell; R Numan, C Fahey, N Butler.

Aghabullogue: E O'Connell; L Ronan, M Twomey, C Dennehy; C Kelly, S Buckley, D Twomey; C Murphy, A Twomey; E O'Mahony, T Roche, E Healy, F Buckley, M Healy, S Dineen.

Subs: N Doherty for E O'Mahony (33), E McSweeney for D Twomey (45), M O'Leary for C Dennehy (46).

Referee: Mike O'Kelly (Ballyhea).

Celebration was



Milford's Mairead Geary is tackled by Ballygarvan's Aine Moynihan during the Evening Echo Cork Senior Camogie Championship at Coachford.



Nicky is the right choice for top player

THE MUNSTER Hurling 125th Anniversary Sunday Game special last weekend was a great event.

To be in the company of so many great former hurlers was, despite the cliché, an honour. I thoroughly enjoyed the trip down memory lane, but outside of that I enjoyed the conversation and craic afterwards even more.

Kevin Hennessy would brighten up anyone's day. His good humour, wit, and refusal to accept that you won't sing a song kept the evening going long into the night.

Nicky English's award as the 'Best Munster Hurler in 25 Years' was well deserved.

The decision opened up the typical debate that the All-Stars or Team of the Century raise. Yes there were more contenders, of course there were, for example, Brian Corcoran and Brian Lohan. But Nicky was certainly in the top five and any one of the top five would have been a good choice. It is an accolade well deserved.

Cork are away to Kilkenny today in round two of the All-Ireland Camogie series while Wexford play host to Galway in Group Two.

This promises to be one of the games of the championship with Wexford slight favourites.

Their 1-12 to 1-11 victory over the westerners in the league shows nothing between the sides, but in general play Galway were well beaten.

Much is expected of Galway this year.

Liam O'Donoghue took charge at the beginning of the year after pitting himself against Damien Coleman for the position of outright manager and winning the vote.

Donoghue has lined up John McGuire as his squad's psycholo-

Clonakilty have comfortable win

Clonakilty 5-11
Newtownshandrum 1-5

By MARY NEWMAN

Evening Echo Intermediate camogie

CLONAKILTY got their Evening Echo Intermediate championship campaign off to a good start in Coachford.

Clon laid the foundations for victory in the opening half with Marie O'Donovan, Aoife Deasy and Sharon Whelton hitting goals.

Maria Reidy and Paula O'Connor had points for Newtown, but with Clonakilty hitting six it was 3-6 to

0-2 in favour of Clonakilty at the half-time whistle.

On the turnover, Newtown got more into the game with Maria Reidy and Paula O'Connor striking points while an Erin Reidy goal helped cut the deficit.

However, Clonakilty built on her first-half advantage and further goals from Aoife Deasy and Sinead O'Neill were enough to give Clonakilty the perfect start to the

round-robin series.

Scorers for Clonakilty: S Whelton 1-9, A Deasy 2-1, M O'Donovan, S O'Neill 1-0 each, H O'Regan 0-1.

Newtownshandrum: M Reidy 0-3 (0-1f), E Reidy 1-0, P O'Connor 0-2.

CLONAKILTY: L Daly, N O'Donovan, A Deasy, A Moyle, A McCarthy, S O'Brien, L O'Flynn, S O'Neill, H O'Regan, J Brennan, E Jennings, C Nagle, S Whelton, M O'Donovan, S Forristal. **Subs:** L Guest for L O'Flynn, H Coughlan for S Forristal, C Nagle for A Moyle, R Howe for S O'Neill.

NEWTOWNSHANDRUM: Marie O'Connor, J Herlihy, E O'Mahony, S Curtin, Y Morrissey, V O'Keefe, Michelle O'Connor, E Reidy, N Bowles, S Curtin, P O'Connor, R Ryan, S Reidy, M Reidy, A Doyle. **Subs:** S Maloney for A Doyle (11), A Morrissey for R Ryan (40).

ST FINBARR'S

Our Street League Camogie section, catering from U6 to U10, had their annual blitz last weekend. Once again, it was a tremendous success. After a hectic day's camogie, the pairings for the finals on Sunday were Colette O'Mahony's team v Jenny Duffy's team and Gemma O'Connor's team v Lynda O'Connell's team.

Colette O'Mahony's team got off to a great start, but Jenny Duffy's side made a great comeback to clinch victory by 5-0 to 4-0. Lynda O'Connell's team pulled away in the second final to win by 5-0 to 1-0.

Club president, Catherine O'Brien presented the cups to the captains, Aoife Gibbons and Aoife O'Mahony. Medals were presented to all the girls by our famed camogie players, Gemma O'Connor and Jenny Duffy. While great enjoyment was had by all, the real winner on the day was camogie.

Our U10 team have completed a

very successful month in the U11 Seandún league. We kicked off our campaign with an excellent 5-1 to 3-0 win over St Vincent's.

Saoirse Noonan, Grainne Cahalane and Sally Naughton were outstanding. Goals from Jenny Fitzgerald, Lauren McCarthy and Aoife Gibbons secured the points against Na Piaraisigh.

On the following night, we played away to Douglas but, despite great performances from Saoirse Noonan, Aoife O'Regan, Nycole O'Sullivan and Rachel O'Sullivan we lost by three goals to one.

We came away with the narrowest of victories from our match against Glen Rovers thanks to a goal by Eimear Hurley. Megan McMahon, Chanel Varian, Aoife O'Mahony and Aisling O'Donoghue played great camogie in this tie.

Training will continue throughout the Summer and we hope that we have done enough to reach the final

in September. Well done to all the girls who showed such great heart, spirit and commitment throughout the campaign.

We will continue our Street League Camogie through the Summer with new times. The U6 to U10 year olds will train on Tuesdays from 7-8pm and the U11s will train on Wednesdays from 6-7pm. New members are always welcome.

ST CATHERINE'S

U13 Imokilly League

St Catherine's 3-5 Sarsfields 0-1
We played host to Sarsfields to fulfil this fixture and ran out winners. We dominated the first-half with points coming from Aine Mulcahy and Joanne O'Keefe and Meabh Mulcahy adding on a further point and a goal leaving the half-time score at 1-3 to no score.

We continued to dominate the second-half with Meabh adding on a further 2-1 to run out comfortable winners. This is the first of our games

in this competition well done to all involved.

Team: E Spillane, L Hartnett, M Galvin, K England, J O'Keefe, A Mulcahy, M Mulcahy, A Fitzgerald, A O'Keefe, E O'Keefe.

INTER-COUNTY PLAYERS

Well done to Finola Neville and Fiona Cotter who lined out with Cork's U16 A team on Friday last that lost out to Clare in this year's Munster semi-final. On a brighter note, congratulations to Rachel O'Callaghan who played with Cork's U16 B team who had a comprehensive victory over Tipperary on Sunday last.

Well done also to Billy Neville who is a selector on both these teams.

BRIAN DILLON'S

Junior A Championship
Brian Dillon's 2-10 Blackrock 3-4
Congrats go to the Brian Dillon's girls who gave a magnificent performance.

What a talented team. A first-half goal and points helped Brian Dillon's

Camogie clubs round-

set the foundation for this victory and there was no stopping the girls.

They set out to win, were first to the ball and took full control in the first-half.

Throughout the second-half the Rockies worked to cut the deficit and Dillon's were under pressure.

Therese Drummond scored a point from a free and Jane Dooley scored a vital goal in the final minutes which the Rockies couldn't match. Therese Drummond gave an extremely impressive display.

Amanda Dorgan was outstanding in midfield aided by Therese Deane, Aisling Russell, Anthea O'Brien, Emma Burns, Christine Kearney, Susan-Kate Brosnan and Sinead Kelly stood strong in defence.

Forwards: Jane Dooley, Clair

Dooley, Emma Lane, Donna Carroll, Therese Drummond and Rebecca O'Mahony exerted a lot of pressure on the Rockies defence, particularly in the first-half and got their vital scores in the second-half.

Subs: Orla Ni Shuilleabhain, Megan Kelly and Lucy Bradfield added renewed energy to the team. The goalkeeper, Aoife Finnegan, was great; every player deserves full praise for a magnificent team display and good luck in the next Championship match against Watergrasshill. Well done girls. Thank you to coaches Kieran O'Mahony and John Kearney, thanks to all the supporters looking forward to seeing you all at the next match.

Scorers: Therese Drummond 1-3; Jane Dooley 1-1; Claire Dooley 0-3

a superb event

Dooley is the hero with last gasp goal

Brian Dillon's Blackrock 2-10 3-4

A LATE rally with three minutes on the stopwatch gave Brian Dillon's the points in this round robin series game in the Evening Echo Junior A championship at Castle Road, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Dillon's led at the interval by six points, but a strong second-half rally from Blackrock saw them hold their opponents scoreless and take the lead themselves for 27 minutes of the second half, only to be denied a share of the spoils at the death.

Aided by the strong wind Brian Dillon's made the greater impact through the opening half and points from Amanda Dorgan, Claire Dooley and Therese Drummond gave them the lead before Donna O'Leary grabbed a Blackrock goal to level matters.

Brian Dillon's replied with three points on-the-trot to restore their advantage, but again Blackrock pegged them back. Evelyn Dunphy first-timing to the net with a superb ground stroke to tie it up once again.

Dillon's were back in front through Donna Carroll and Emma Lane before Drummond struck for a goal.

From the start of the second-half Blackrock were a changed side. Points from Doireann Ni Mhuiri, Cait Kelleher Aoife Brohan and Roisin De Faoite had the deficit down to two points and they hit the front when Evelyn Dunphy licked Katelynn Hickey's cross to the corner of the net.

Brian Dillon's continued to work to get something from the second-half and their pressure paid off with Therese Drummond pointing a free to tie the game up.

With the sides level and with time almost up Jane Dooley was the heroine finishing the ball to the Blackrock net.

Scorers for Brian Dillon's: T Drummond 1-3 (0-2), J Dooley 1-1, C Dooley 0-3, A Dorgan, D Carroll, E Lane 0-1 each.

Blackrock: E Dunphy 2-0, D O'Leary 1-0, D Ni Mhuiri, C Kelleher, A Brohan, R De Faoite 0-1 each.

BRIAN DILLON'S: A Finnegan, A Russell, A O'Brien, E Burns, C Kearney, S Brosnan, S Kelly, A Dorgan, T Deane, J Dooley, C Dooley, E Lane, D Carroll, T Drummond, R O'Mahony. **Subs:** O Ni Shuilleabhain for C Kearney, M Kelly for R O'Mahony, L Bradfield for E Lane.

BLACKROCK: K Gaffney, T Cummins, C Meaney, V Norberg, M Hurley, J Irwin, K Fleming, K O'Brien, C Kelleher (c), S Naughton, R De Faoite, A Brohan, D Ni Mhuiri, E Dunphy, D O'Leary.

Subs: T Dunne for T Cummins (21), K Hickey for S Naughton (43). **Referee:** Barry Day (Aghada).



Rockbán's Louise Crowley shoots from Barryroe's Isla Dineen and Niamh Madden during their recent Evening Echo Cork Senior Camogie Championship at Castle Road, Blackrock. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Blitz at CIT is a resounding success

'BRILLIANT', 'fantastic', 'superb', were some of the descriptions of their day by the Cork Coillte development squad as they left CIT grounds on American Independence day, writes MARY NEWMAN.

This blitz was all about participation and

there were no winners or losers, it was all about game time, participation, development and enjoyment.

Despite not having a Coillte development squad, Tipperary were invited to attend the blitz and they brought a very strong squad.

Cork senior player

Jenny Duffy was in attendance, deputising for Munster development officer Deirdre Murphy.

There were many players who caught the eye on the day, but Jenny had special mention for Cork players Mary McGuinness, Shannon Joyce, Jen-

nifer Hosford, Ciara Cox and Kate McCarthy.

The players from Cork, Limerick and Kilkenny will join a host of Coillte development squads from around the country on October 26 in Croke Park for a National Blitz Day.

gist, Noel Burke as physio and Dermot Flaherty as video analyst, so he certainly will be doing the work off the field. Will his players do it on it?

Galway undertook training methods which Wexford actually stepped

away from this year, namely all inter-county teams training together. That might be fine for the league, but during championship the focus is lost on a particular campaign and I don't agree with it.

Wexford took the league title this

year and seem to be going from strength to strength. Nothing can be read into their first round demolition of Limerick and today should be a sterner test. I still expect them to win though.

The conviction to win never

seems to be there with Galway. Even when they win, as they did against Cork this year in the opening round of the National League, they weren't convincing.

Despite their 1-10 to 0-7 victory last March they weren't impressive and this was with a lot more training under their belt than Cork.

Coming away from the game I felt that if I was the Galway manager I would be worried.

Yet you could see that there was a lot more in Cork.

As in the All-Ireland final last September Galway failed to capitalise on their possession and up front is a problem area for them.

Defensively they are strong. Jessica Gill was always the danger woman, but has been playing too deep of late to be any serious threat in front of goal.

Wexford, with home advantage, to win this one.

up by Mary Newman

Amanda Dorgan, Donna Carroll, Emma Lane, 0-1 each.

Team: A Finnegan, A Russell, A O'Brien, E Burns, C Kearney, S Brosnan, S Kelly, A Dorgan, T Deane, J Dooley, C Dooley, E Lane, D Carroll, T Drummond, R O'Mahony.

Subs: Orla Ni Shuilleabhain for Christine Kearney, Megan Kelly for Rebecca O'Mahony, Lucy Bradfield for Emma Lane.

GLEN ROVERS
Well done to our senior team who got their championship campaign off to a great start with a superb six-point victory over Ballinhassig at Tracton on Sunday last.

All through the game our girls worked hard and never allowed themselves any lapse in concentration, from goalkeeper Kelly Newman

— who brought off some magnificent saves — right up to our goal poaching full-forward Aoife Walsh the team played as a unit.

Karen O'Connell had us on the scoreboard with an early point and through the opening half it was tight as we traded points with Ballinhassig. Denise Luby had three, but Ballinhassig hit us with a goal; we were on level before the break with a Denise Luby pointed 45 to tie it up 1-2 to 0-5.

Ballinhassig edged ahead with a point two minutes into the second-half, but we bounced back with points from Sinead Fahy and Denise Luby (2).

Continuing to put the Ballinhassig defence under pressure we grabbed a goal with Aoife Walsh on target and

with our defence holding firm to deny Ballinhassig with an excellent penalty save we remained in control.

Again we traded points before Ballinhassig hit a goal, but again finishing strong with points from Sinead Gallen two from Denise Luby and one from Sinead O'Halloran we held out lead to the finish.

Well done to every one of the players and mentors for a superb effort but this is only the first game we now look ahead to our next outing against Kilbrittain on August 12th and they will provide stiff opposition.

Team: K Newman, Z Buckley, A Gilton, B Walsh, M Hegarty, L Cunningham, N O'Brien, S Gallen, E O'Riordan (c), D Luby, K O'Connell, S Fahy, S O'Halloran, A Walsh, A Keating.

Scorers: D Luby 0-9, A Walsh 1-0, K O'Connell, S Gallen, S O'Halloran S Fahy 0-1 each.

Our U16 team travel to Courcy Rovers tomorrow for the next game

in their league campaign. Players to meet at club for bus at 5.15pm.

We play Ballygarvan in our last league game on Thursday night in the Glen Field, while we hope to have our U16 second team in action also this week against Carrigtwohill.

Our junior and minor teams are also preparing for championship training is on Monday and Wednesday at 6.30pm for everybody and we hope to see a few faces making a return on Monday next.

Best of luck to our girls who will lineout with the Seandún senior team on Tuesday next in the senior championship against Avondhu.

Well done to our girls on the Cork teams who played last weekend: Denise Luby, Sinead O'Halloran, Sinead Fahy and special mention to Nicole O'Brien who lined out with the Cork U16 B squad on Sunday morning and then played in the senior county championship against Ballinhassig later that evening, certainly not to

many inter count stars in any code would have done this Well done Nicole.

ST VINCENT'S
New members always welcome and if you want to join or even find out information just come up at the relevant time to the club complex on Kilmore Road.

New volunteers also welcome and if you want to pass away some free time then don't be afraid to come up and help out.

Training times: Mon: 6-7pm, U14; Tuesday 5-6pm, U8; Wed: 6-7pm U12; 8-9.30pm Juniors; Thurs: 5.30-6.30pm, U10; 7-8pm, U16.

BISHOPSTOWN
Underage training: Please note that training for U6s-U14s has been changed for the summer. Instead of the usual Saturday morning training, it will now be on Wednesday nights from 7-8.30pm.

Beginners always welcome bring hurley and helmet if possible.

U11: well done to the U11 team for reaching the final of the Seandún Division One League, with great wins over Blackrock and St Finbarr's. The girls gave two great displays and especially team captain Laura O'Sullivan, Laura O'Neill, Grainne Houlihan and Rachael Lisk.

U14: Well done also to the U14 team who have qualified for the semi-final in September. With everyone training hard, the girls hope to make it to the final. With great team performances to date, prominent have been captain Alison Foley, Amy Murphy, Caoimhe Broderick, Naomi Christie, Siomha Ni Dheasbhunsigh, Niamh Foley, Megan Delaney and Megan O'Riordan.

U16: To date the U16s have lost one game, won the rest and have two more to play. Keep up the good work.

CILL CHAINNIGH (Senior)

1. Catriona Ryan
Tullogher
2. Leanne Fennelly
Mullinavat
3. Catherine Doherty
St. Anne's
4. Jackie Frisby
Ballyhale Shamrocks
5. Lizzy Lyng
Rower Inistioge
6. Amy Butler
Mullinavat
7. Elaine Aylward
Mullinavat
8. Colette Dormer
Paulstown
9. Ann Dalton (Capt.)
St. Lachtain's
10. Therese Mulroney
St. Brigids
11. Katie Power
Piltown
12. Aisling Dunphy
St. Brigids
13. Michelle Quilty
Mullinavat
14. Edwina Keane
St. Martins
15. Aoife Neary
James Stephens

Management Team: Ann Downey, Paul Murphy, John Loneragan

Substitutes:

16. Marie O'Connor, St. Lachtain's
17. Ann Marie Phelan, Windgap
18. Deirdre Delaney, St. Lachtain's
19. Keeva Fennelly, Ballyhale Shamrocks
20. Denise Gaule, Windgap
21. Edel Maher, St. Anne's

Substitutes:

22. Aoife Fitzpatrick, St. Lachtain's
23. Kate McDonald, Thomastown
24. Claire Aylward, Mullinavat
25. Kelly Ann Cotterall, Tullogher
26. Laura Kavanagh, Emeralds
27. Aine Fahey, Emeralds

KILKENNY SENIOR CAMOGIE TEAM IS SPONSORED BY
IVERK PRODUCE LTD

CORCAIGH (Senior)

1. Aoife Murray
2. Joanne O'Callaghan
3. Rena Buckley
4. Cathriona Foley
5. Jenny Duffy
6. Mary O'Connor
7. Sara Hayes
8. Brige Corkery
9. Orla Cotter
10. Emer Dillon
11. Gemma O'Connor
12. Una O'Donoghue
13. Sile Burns
14. Amanda O'Regan
15. Rachel Moloney

Manager: Denise Cronin

Selectors: Mick O'Regan, Lily Zinkrant

Coach: Frank Flannery

Substitutes:

16. Emer White
17. Linda O'Connell
18. Anna Geary
19. Pamela Mackey
20. Lucy Hawkes
21. Elaine O'Riordan
22. Emer O'Farrell
23. Kathriona Mackey

Substitutes:

24. Denise Cronin
25. Julia Whyte
26. Marian Murphy
27. Orla O'Sullivan
28. Eimear O'Sullivan
29. Christine O'Neill
30. Michelle Brown
31. Jennifer Lynch

CAMOGIE WORLD

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Galway win away Cork win at home



Maga D'Arcy the Wexford
Goalkeeper photo: SPORTSFILE

Galway 3-7 Wexford 2-6

Galway and Wexford were all square at the break in Wexford Park on Saturday but the Maroon and White with Aisling Connolly shining managed to shake off a determined challenge from the hosts to come out on top, 3-7 to 2-6.

The teams, both looking good for the penultimate stages, were deadlocked on 30 minutes 2-4 apiece

with the hosts having the better of the starts. Goals from Rose Marie Breen and one from Kate Kelly on 20 minutes were negated by Connolly and Veronica Curtin within a two minute spell immediately before the break. The Wexford defence was staunch, however Brenda Hanney goaled eight minutes into the new half - this score ultimately proving the difference as Wexford only managed two more points.



Cork Star Gemma O'Connor photo: SPORTSFILE

Cork 2-5 Kilkenny 0-7

CHAMPIONS Cork were put to the pin of their collar by Kilkenny in the Gala All Ireland senior camogie championship (Group One) at Nowlan Park on Saturday. However, despite the relentless rain that made conditions extremely difficult, they regained the lead in the second half to emerge victorious on a score of 2-5 to 0-7.

Credit must go to Denise Cronin's charges who received a stiff examination. After a low-scoring first half played in torrential rain, the Red and White turned over leading by a single point, 0-3 to 0-2. Kilkenny were awarded a penalty soon after the

resumption but the alertness of Aoife Murray in the Cork goal diverted Michelle Quilty's effort over for a point.

It was a battle all the way until substitute Emer O'Farrell found the net at the end of the third quarter. Cork continued to drive forward with Gemma O'Connor and Emer Dillon in control and when Rachel Moloney bagged their second goal three minutes later, Kilkenny were up against an inspired Cork.

They never gave up through their captain Ann Dalton and Quilty but scores were hard come by as Cork held out. This group which also involves Tipperary and Dublin will go down to the wire to determine the semi-finals places.



Galway's Lorraine Ryan makes a splash during her team's match against Wexford on Saturday

Gala All Ireland senior championship wrap

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They never gave up through their captain Ann Dalton and Quilty but scores were hard come by as Cork held out. This group which also involves Tipperary and Dublin will go down to the wire to determine the semi-finals places.

Elsewhere at a rain-soaked Wexford Park extra time in the All Ireland SFC qualifier between Wexford and Roscommon threatened the Group Two camogie game between Wexford and Galway. Although put back a half hour to 7.30pm the girls remained focused. They were all square at the break, but the Maroon and White with Aisling Connolly shining managed to shake off a determined challenge from the hosts to come out on top, 3-7 to 2-6.

The teams, both looking good for the penultimate stages, were deadlocked on 30 minutes 2-4 apiece with the hosts having the better of the starts. Goals from Rose Marie Breen and one from Kate Kelly on 20 minutes were negated by Connolly and Veronica Curtin within a two minute spell immediately before the break.

The Wexford defence was staunch, however Brenda Hanney goalied eight minutes into the new half - this score ultimately proving the difference as Wexford only managed two more points.

CAMOGIE

ALL-IRELAND SENIOR C'SHIP

Cork 2-5 (E O'Farrell, R Moloney 1-2 each, D Cotter 0-2, D O'Connor, E Dillon, E Murray 0-1 each, Kilkenny 0-7 (A Neary 0-3 (0-1), M O'Connor 0-1), E Aylward 0-1), L Power, M Quilty 0-1 each.

Galway 3-7 (A Connolly 1-6 (0-3), V Curtin 1-1, B Hanney 1-0, Wexford 2-6 (K Kelly 1-3 (0-2), R Breen 1-0, U Jacobs, U Leacy, M Heame 0-1 each).

ALL-IRELAND INTER C'SHIP

Cork 5-12 (M Watson 2-3, M Browne 1-4, (0-3), D Loo-ly 1-3 (0-1), M Coleman 1-0, J Lynch, C Dineen 0-1 each) Kilkenny 1-2 (E Cantwell 1-0, S Quirke, C Walsh 0-1 each).

Galway 2-7 (T Rutledge, M Conroy 1-2 each, C Bowers 0-2, C Conroy 0-1) Wexford 0-10 (C O'Connor 0-6 (0-4), S Nolan 0-2, S Kehoe, L Codd 0-1 each).

ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR C'SHIP

Offaly 3-12 Dublin 1-8

ALL-IRELAND MINOR B C'SHIP

Waterford 11-17 Meath 0-0
Wexford 4-19 (E Kelly 2-6, Linda Bolger 1-8, C Doyle 1-0, M Hayes 0-3, Lisa Bolger 0-2, M Doyle 0-1) Kildare 0-6 (C McSweeney, L Sheehan 0-3 each).

ALL-IRELAND MINOR C C'SHIP

Laois 0-1 Westmeath 0-0

July 2009

Dooley delivers at the death for Dillons

Brian Dillons 2-10
Blackrock 3-4

TWO late scores with three minutes remaining gave Brian Dillons the points in this round robin series game in the Evening Echo Junior A championship at Castle Road. Dillons led at the interval by six points but it was all Blackrock in the second-half as they held their opponents scoreless and took the lead only to be denied at the finish.

Aide by the strong wind Dillons with points from Amanda Dorgan, Claire Dooley and Therese Drum-

mond took the lead before Donna O'Leary had a Blackrock goal to level the game. Dillons replied with three points but again Blackrock pegged them back, Evelyn Dunphy first timing to the net with a superb ground stroke.

Dillon's went back in front, Donna Carroll and Emma Lane pointing. Therese Drummond then struck for a Dillons goal and with Claire Dooley pointing they led by six points at the interval.

From the start of the second-half Blackrock were a changed side. Contesting and winning every ball they put the pressure on Dillons'

defence with points from Doireann Ni Mhuiri, Cait Kelleher and Aoife Brohan.

Roisin De Faoite had the deficit down to two points and continuing the pressure they hit the front, Evelyn Dunphy flicking Katelynn Hickey's cross to the corner of the net to give them the lead with 11 minutes remaining. Dillons continued to work to get something from the second half and their pressure paid off with Therese Drummond pointing a free to tie the game up.

With time almost up Jane Dooley finished the ball to the Black-

rock net to give Dillons the lead and the game.

Brian Dillons: A Finnegan, A Russell, A O'Brien, E Burns, C Kearney, S Brosnan, S Kelly, A Dorgan, T Deane, J Dooley, C Dooley, E Lane, D Carroll, T Drummond, R O'Mahony. Subs: O Ni Shuilleabhain for C Kearney, M Kelly for R O'Mahony, L Bradford for E Lane. Scorers: T Drummond 1-3 (0-2), J Dooley 1-1, C Dooley 0-3, A Dorgan, D Carroll, E Lane 0-1 each.

Blackrock: K Gaffney, T Cummins, C Meaney, V Norberg, M Hurley, J Irwin, K Fleming, K O'Brien, C Kelleher (c), S Naughton, R De Faoite, A Brohan, D Ni Mhuiri, E Dunphy, D O'Leary. Subs: T Dunne for T Cummins (21), K Hickey for S Naughton (43). Scorers: E Dunphy 2-0, D O'Leary 1-0, D Ni Mhuiri, C Kelleher, A Brohan, R De Faoite 0-1 each.

Referee: Barry Day (Aghada).

Healy to the fore for Bishopstown

Bishopstown 2-13
Aghabullogue 2-7

TWO goals separated the sides at the full time whistle but with four minutes remaining just three points separated the sides. Aghabullogue came close to grabbing an equaliser but Bishopstown hit the goal that sealed victory with seconds remaining in their Evening Echo Senior B Championship clash in Ballincollig.

Ciaira Healy hit four points in a row and with one from Maebh Scannell Bishopstown took an early lead. The accuracy of Healy over the hour was the difference between the sides and she clocked up a tally of 1-9, all but two coming from placed balls. Fiona Buckley had an Aghabullogue goal inside 11 minutes but despite plenty possession they failed to turn it into scores as Ciaira Healy slotted over two frees before sending a close in free to the net. Bishopstown led by six points at the break.

From the start of the second half Aghabullogue played with a lot more confidence and the sides had exchanged points before Emma Healy had a goal for Aghabullogue. Two points without reply settled Bishopstown before the sides swapped points again as the Bishopstown defence was now coming under a lot more pressure.

Aghabullogue had the margin down to three points with an Aileen Twomey point and they battled to get level. Bishopstown won a free to relieve the pressure and when Ciaira Healy's long range effort dropped in the square Maureen Egan smartly whipped it to the net.

Bishopstown: J O'Sullivan, O Crowley, P Finn, J Browne, S Kelly, E Foyly, A Corcoran, M Crowley, J Crowley (c), M Egan, C Healy, M Scannell, R Nunan, C Fahy, N Butler. Scorers: C Healy 1-9 (1-7), M Scannell 0-3, M Egan 1-0, M Crowley 0-1.

Aghabullogue: E O'Connell, L Ronan, M Twomey, C Dennehy, C Kiely, S Buckley, D Twomey, C Murphy, A Twomey, E O'Mahony, T Roche, E Healy, F Buckley, M Healy, S Dineen.

Subs: N Doherty for E O'Mahony (33), E Mc Sweeney for D Twomey (45) M O'Leary for C Dennehy (46). Scorers: E Healy 1-3 (0-2), 0-1 45", F Buckley 1-0, A Twomey 0-2, T Roche, M Healy 0-1 each.

Referee: Mike O' Kelly (Ballyheal).

O'Donovan in fine form as Douglas trounce Ballincollig

Douglas 2 6-16
Ballincollig 2 0-1

A STRONG showing from their second 15 saw Douglas take the point on offer in this Evening Echo Junior A championship round robin game in Castle Road.

Ballincollig's second team battled to stay in contention but they had no answers to a Douglas side that on this display will trouble many a side in this championship. Stronger in all sectors, Douglas had 3-7 on the score board at the interval after good performances from Sinead Duggan, Jenny O'Donovan and Marie Cullinane.

On the changeover the Ballincollig defence were gain under enormous pressure as Douglas continue to pick off their scores. Tracy McCarthy, Clara Kavanagh,

and Siobhan O'Brien all worked hard to keep Douglas in control.

Ballincollig to their credit never gave up with Brea O'Callaghan Edel Murphy and Claire Ryan battling to the finish they were rewarded with a pointed Aoife O'Neill free late in the half.

Douglas: S O Mahoney, N Leo, C Driscoll, S Long, C Murphy, S O Mahoney, M O Mahoney, T Mc Carthy, G Kelleher, C Murphy, S Duggan, S O'Brien (c), J O'Donovan, C Kavanagh, M Cullinane. Subs: L Nason for S Long, O Curtin for C Kavanagh, D Cotter for C Murphy, L Oiden for S O'Brien, L Mc Carthy for N Leo. Scorers: S Duggan 1-7, J O'Donovan 2-4, M Cullinane 2-2, S O'Brien 1-1, T Mc Carthy, C Kavanagh 0-1 each.

Ballincollig: A Duff, E Nolan, L O'Donoghue (c), N Young, B O'Callaghan, E Murphy, R O'Callaghan, C Ryan, A Walsh, A O'Neill, C Mc Swiney, C Delea, L O'Leary, L Barrett, J Walsh. Subs: F O'Donnell for C Delea (35), N Bradley for E Nolan (40), K Sheehan for A Walsh (40), F Ryan for L Barrett (50). Scorers: A O'Neill 0-1 (0-1).

Clonakilty five-goal blitz leave Newtown floundering

Clonakilty 5-11
Newtownshandrum 1-5

CLONAKILTY took the points in this Evening Echo Intermediate championship with a good victory over Newtownshandrum in Coachford. Clon had first-half goals from Marie O'Donovan, Aoife Deasy and Sharon Whelton as Newtownshandrum battled to stay in the game.

Maria Reidy and Paula O'Connor had points for Newtown but with Clonakilty hitting six it was 3-6 to 0-2 in their favour at the half-time whistle.

On the turn over Newtownshandrum got more into the game with Maria Reidy and Paula O'Connor striking points while an Erin Reidy goal helped cut the deficit, however Clon-

akilty built on her first half advantage and further goals from Aoife Deasy and Sinead O'Neill, plus points from Hazel O'Regan and Sharon Whelton were enough to give Clonakilty the perfect start to the round robin series of games.

Clonakilty: L Daly, N O'Donovan, A Deasy, A Moyle, A McCarthy, S O'Brien, L O'Flynn, S O'Neill, H O'Regan, J Brennan, E Jennings, C Nagle, S Whelton, M O'Donovan, S Forristal. Subs: L Guest for L O'Flynn, H Coughlan for S Forristal, C Nagle for A Moyle, R Huw for S O'Neill. Scorers: S Whelton 1-9, A Deasy 2-1, M O'Donovan, S O'Neill 1-0 each, H O'Regan 0-1.

Newtownshandrum: Marie O'Connor, J Herlihy, E O'Mahony, S Curtin, Y Morrissey, V O'Keefe, Michelle O'Connor, E Reidy, N Bowles, S Curtin, P O'Connor, R Ryan, S Reidy, M Reidy, A Doyle. Subs: S Maloney for A Doyle (41), A Morrissey for R Ryan (40). Scorers: M Reidy 0-3 (0-1), E Reidy 1-0, P O'Connor 0-2.

Experience key

Cork will not find it easy in Waterford

SUNDAY

Munster U16 B camogie final, Cork v Waterford, Fraher Field, Dungarvan, 4pm.

HOLDERS Cork travel to Dungarvan where they meet Waterford in the Munster U16 B final on Sunday *writes* MARY NEWMAN.

Having lost out to Clare in the U16 A provincial competition the Cork backroom team will be hoping the county's second string will annex the silverware.

They recorded a comprehensive victory over Tipperary in their semi-final outing while Waterford comfortably accounted for the challenge posed by Kerry.

There is plenty of experience in the Cork line-up with several of the side having lined out with the Cork colleges U14 squad.

Camogie in Waterford is fast developing and is going from strength to strength with huge work being done in schools at primary and secondary level. The result of this work is shown by the emergence of schools such as Blackwater Community School that won the All-Ireland Colleges Senior B title and Mercy Convent Waterford, who won the Munster C colleges title.

Players such as Ruth Geoghegan, Aoife Hannon, Niamh Prendergast, Clara Moore, Kate Ryan, Sarah McGloone and Amy Beecher.

Una Jackman and Clara Hogan will be to the fore for Waterford as will Irish U16 soccer international Jessica Gleeson.

Cork will be minus players from their semi outing due to holidays, but they have a lot of experience in their side.

Katie Murphy, Susan Brosnan and Laura Burke were very much to the fore against Tipperary, while in defence Nicole O'Brien, Sinead Duggan, Aoife Hennessy and Jessica Hawkes impressed.

Cork will go in as favourites to retain the title but given the strength of this Waterford side, they can't underestimate them.

Cork Panel: Saoirse Rogers (Brian Dillon's), Orla Jennings (Ballincollig), Jessica Hawkes (Valley Rovers), Sinead Duggan (Douglas), Aoife Hennessy (Eire Og), Nicole O'Brien (Glen), Rachel O'Callaghan (St Catherine's), Rebecca Murphy (Ballygarvan), Jacinta Crowley (Courcey Rovers), Heather Morgan (St Finbarr's), Susan Brosnan (Brian Dillon's), Aisling Whitnell (Sliabh Rua), Aisling Moloney (Courcey Rovers), Katie Murphy (Killeagh), Laura Burke (Inniscarra), Maeve Corkery (Eire Og), Laura Barry (Ballincollig), Edel O'Sullivan (Cloughduv), Nicole Crean (St Vincent's), Muireann Murphy (Millstreet), Orla O'Sullivan (Brian Dillon's).

Substitute O'Farrell is on top form

By MARY NEWMAN

Senior camogie

Cork	2-5
Kilkenny	0-7

IT MAY not have been pretty sunny summer camogie but it was good honest endeavour from Cork and Kilkenny in Nowlan Park on Saturday.

An emerging young Kilkenny side fresh from their first-round victory over Tipp put it up to champions Cork in this Gala All-Ireland senior championship second round clash.

At times it was tough and physical, but Cork stood up to the challenge and held their composure.

Twice the sides were level, Kilkenny stole into a brief lead but Cork's experience saw them through, helped in no small way by two second-half goals from sub Emer O'Farrell and some excellent individual performances and effective substitutions.

Conditions were dreadful as the players battled to contend with the continuous rain that fell, and the weather took its toll throughout the open half where we had just five scores with Cork turning over leading by one, 0-3 to 0-2.

With their defence well on top Cork won the majority of possession in the opening half but they failed to capitalise, with several shots falling short of the target as the Kilkenny defence tidied up to safety.

Kilkenny struggled around mid-field where Briege Corkery and Orla Cotter won the battle with Ann Dalton and Colette Dormer, while in defence Cork were solid, dealing efficiently with anything Kilkenny threw at them.

Joanne O'Callaghan in particular was magnificent closing down the threat posed by Aoife Neary, limiting the corner-forward to just one point from play.

Emer Dillon struck a superb point from way out the field to open the scoring, Aoife Neary replied pointing a 45 to get the



Cork's Emer O'Farrell scored two goals against Kilkenny in Nowlan Park on Saturday.

home side on the score board.

We had to wait 14 minutes for another score as Cork laid siege to the Kilkenny goal but failed to raise a flag. Gemma O'Connor broke the deadlock 21 minutes in with a long-range effort sailing between the posts.

Kilkenny were finding the going tough against the strong Cork de-

fence but Katie Power battled her way through to tie the sides up with four minutes to the break, as Cork's Emer Dillon, doing huge work at left half-forward, edged them ahead before the interval.

The second half was action packed.

Inside four minutes Michelle Quilty showed the Cork defence a

clean pair of heels and opted to tap the ball over the bar to tie the sides up.

Four minutes later Kilkenny won a penalty after it looked as if it was Cork keeper Aoife Murray had been fouled by the in-rushing Kilkenny forwards, but Murray deflected Maire O'Connor's shot for goal over the bar to edge

Kilkenny have no answer to the scoring

By MARY NEWMAN

Intermediate camogie

Cork	5-12
Kilkenny	1-2

THE intermediate teams got proceedings under away in Nowlan Park, where Cork totally outclassed the home side to get their Gala All-Ireland Intermediate championship campaign off to winning start.

Conditions were awful through the entire game, the continuous

downpour making it hard for both sides, the slippery and greasy conditions not a help as players struggled to come to terms with the weather.

Kilkenny came into this game on the back of a hammering at the hands of Tipperary and they needed to record a victory to keep their interests alive but they had to play second fiddle as Cork dominated the game from the throw-in.

All through the opening half they were sharper and more alert and by the half-time whistle they

were full value for their 11 points lead as all over the pitch they were that little bit stronger.

In defence they held a close eye on the Kilkenny attack, never allowing them much room to manoeuvre while at midfield Jennifer Lynch and Helen O'Mahony had the upper hand.

Up-front, Cork had players capable of grabbing scores with Marie Watson, Denise Luby, Michelle Brown and Mary Coleman putting the Kilkenny defence under enormous pressure.

Marie Watson gave Cork the

perfect start with a goal after just three minutes and despite Stacy Quirke striking a Kilkenny point in reply, Cork continued to enjoy the lion's share of possession.

Michelle Brown and Catherine Walsh traded points inside the opening quarter but two without reply from Marie Watson helped Cork gain the upper hand.

Siobhán Murphy denied Cork a second goal turning Denise Luby's shot over the crossbar and with the Kilkenny defence conceding frees Michelle Brown added two points to the Cork tally.

in Cork's victory

July 2009



Cork's Gemma O'Connor, seen here in action against Dublin recently, was instrumental in pushing the Rebels on for victory over Kilkenny.

Cork can cope with Antrim's challenge

TOMORROW
All-Ireland Minor A
Championship, Cork v
Antrim, Naomh Peregrine
Grounds, Blanchardstown,
Dublin, 1.30pm.

IT'S WINNERS versus losers, as Cork and Antrim meet in round two of the All-Ireland minor A championship in Blanchardstown tomorrow, writes **MARY NEWMAN**. Cork beat Clare in their first game, while Antrim lost to Galway so the losers play the winners in what is in effect a quarter-final clash.

Cork were under pressure for a long time against Clare but they eventually wore their opponents down to run out 3-13 to 1-6 winners with goals from Katriona Mackey, Denise Luby and Ailin O'Donovan effectively killing the Clare challenge. Antrim had Galway under severe pressure in their clash, leading for a long spell in a contest that produced nine goals and 22 points, they eventually lost 6-11 to 3-11, but they battled to the end before Galway were finally over the finishing line. Rachel McCarry has been their top scorer to date. In their clash with Galway the prolific sharp-shooter helped herself to 3-6 and the Cork defence will need to close her down and not allow her any room in front of goal.

Emma McMullen, Aoife Laverty, Aisling McFadden and Niamh O'Neill are key players that Antrim will look to. Last season Cork comfortably accounted for Antrim at the same stage of the competition, but this time out, Antrim are well organised and boosted by their good performance against Galway, they feel they are well capable of upsetting Cork and securing themselves a semi-final spot.

On form Cork should have enough experience to advance to a semi-final meeting with Clare.

Pamela and Katriona Mackey, Julia White and Jennifer Lynch are members of the county senior panel, while Denise Luby, Aileen Sheehan, Patricia Buttiner, Mariah Reidy, Jessica Kavanagh, Sarah Buckley and Kate O'Donoghue are members of the county intermediate panel and certainly the experience garnered at these levels is invaluable to minor players.

CORK MINOR PANEL: Jessica Kavanagh, Aileen Sheehan, Mary Ann Hawkey, Kate O'Donoghue, Pamela Mackey, Jennifer Lynch, Emma Kingston, Sara Buckley, Katriona Mackey, Joanne Casey, Julia White, Mariah Reidy, Aileen O'Donovan, Denise Luby, Sinead O'Neill, Tessa Hawkes, Clara Hayes, Orlaith O'Mahony, Patricia Buttiner, Kate Harrington, Ena Coughlan, Clare Meaney, Alison Coughlan, Caoimhe O'Callaghan, Rebecca Finn.

Thornhill: Tipp will be a lot tougher

By **MARY NEWMAN**

After-match reaction

Cork Intermediate coach Bobby Thornhill:

"We are delighted to get our campaign off to a winning start today. Conditions were hard and it was awful for the players from both sides to have to contend with the weather, but all credit to our girls they put in the effort and got the reward. We worked hard and from the throw-in were very focused, Kilkenny had already lost out to Tipperary by a big score so they needed to win

today, we know a much stiffer test lies ahead against Tipp."

Senior manager Denise Cronin and selector Lillian Zinkant:

Soaked to the skin but with a smile of satisfaction on both their faces Cork selectors Lillian Zinkant and Denise Cronin were happy with the performance of their charges.

"It was all about getting a result and we had to fight hard to get it.

"Today everything was vital and we proved it's not just about 15 players, it's a squad and we showed the strength of our bench today, the players we brought on were excel-

lent," said Lillian. Denise Cronin had huge praise for her charges and a word also for Kilkenny.

"They are a young side and they will be hard to beat come the concluding stages. Today we had to work hard to contain them and our experience was vital, everyone of the girls were excellent and we are delighted to make it back-to-back victories. The going was tough out there but we never gave up and we kept plugging away, with the conditions a goal was going to be vital and we got two and it was the winning of the game."

Kilkenny ahead. Sensing a let off Cork upped the pace with Gemma O'Connor and Brieghe Corkery driving their side forward.

Gemma O'Connor took on the defence before parting to substitute Emer O'Farrell who cleverly hand passed to the net over the heads of the Kilkenny defenders in a crowded goalmouth. Kilkenny

battled back with two Aoife Neary points to tie the game up with nine minutes of normal time remaining, but again Cork responded and with subs Katriona Mackey, Anna Geary, and Julia White adding a fresh impetus, Cork pushed for home.

In a superb movement which started in their own defence in-

volving Breighe Corkery, Orla Cotter, Anna Geary and Katriona Mackey, Gemma O'Connor sent a shot across the face of the goalmouth where Emer O'Farrell first timed the dropping ball to the roof of the net.

Aoife Neary pointed a free to put two between the sides, but with victory almost secure Cork

were not going to be denied.

Orla Cotter pointed a free before striking one from play to put four between the sides.

With two victories under their belts Cork meet Tipperary on August 1 in the last game in their section where a victory will guarantee them a semi-final spot.

Were Cork to lose out and Kilkenny defeat Dublin, it would force a three-way play-off.

Scorers for Cork: E O'Farrell 2-0, E Dillon, O Cotter (0-1) 0-2 each, G O'Connor 0-1.

Kilkenny: A Neary 0-4 (0-2) 0-1 45), K Power, M Quilty, M O'Connor (pen) 0-1 each.

CORK: A Murray, J O'Callaghan, R Buckley, C Foley, J Duffy, M O'Connor, S Hayes, B Corkery, O Cotter, E Dillon, G O'Connor, U O'Donoghue, S Burns, A O'Regan (c), R Maloney.

Subs: E O'Farrell for R Maloney (38), K Mackey for A O'Regan (38), A Geary for J Duffy (45), J White for S Burns (60).

KILKENNY: C Ryan, L Fennelly, C Doherty, J Frisby, L Lyng, A Butler, E Aylward, C Doherty, A Dalton (c), T Muldowney, K Power, A Dunphy, M Quilty, E Keane, A Neary.

Subs: E Maher for A Dunphy, M O'Connor for T Muldowney (h-t), AM Phelan for M Quilty (62), A Fitzpatrick for L Lyng (63).

Referee: John Morrissey (Tipperary).



Marie Watson's scores gave Cork the upper hand over Kilkenny.

pro prowess of Rebel forward line

Denise Luby forced another save from Walsh before she finished the ball over the line and with Michelle Browne pointing two frees Cork were comfortable at 2-7 to 0-2 at the interval.

Any hopes of a Kilkenny revival were quashed inside three minutes of the restart Michelle Browne and Marie Watson stunning the home side with a double goal blast, and in truth it was simply a case of going through the motions for the second half as Cork never looked in danger.

All over the pitch they were in

control. Denise Luby hit two points before Eilish Cantwell got inside the Cork defence to fire the ball to the net but the response was immediate, Mary Coleman grabbing Cork's fifth goal before points from Maire Watson, Elaine Casey, and Jennifer Lynch effectively sealed the deal.

A solid display from a Cork side who know much stiffer tests lie ahead.

Scorers for Cork: M Watson 2-3, M Browne 1-4 (0-3), D Luby 1-3 (0-1), M Coleman 1-0, J Lynch, E Casey 0-1 each.

Kilkenny: E Cantwell 1-0, S Quirke, C Walsh

0-1 each.

KILKENNY: S Murphy, S Shore, Fennelly, L Comerford, D Tobin, N Butler, N Kelly, E Cantwell, L Byrne, A Curran, C Walsh, S Quirke, M Mansfield, R Jones, N O'Donoghue.

Subs: S Maher for L Byrne, A Maher for N O'Donoghue (47), F Morrissey for M Mansfield (47), J Kelly for C Walsh (53), N Farrell for S Shore (53).

CORK: J Kavanagh, AM Fleming (c), C O'Neill, A Sheehan, L Weste, L Power, C Matherway, H O'Mahony, J Lynch, P Buttiner, M Coleman, M Watson, E Watson, M Browne, D Luby.

Subs: E Casey for M Browne (54), K O'Donoghue for A Sheehan (54), S Buckley for P Buttiner (54), K O'Brien for E Watson (56), R Curtin for H O'Mahony (56).

Referee: Joe Kennedy (Louth).

Ragged Wexford fail to build on brilliant start

GALWAY
WEXFORD

3-07
2-06

DEAN GOODISON

THE WEXFORD camogie team slumped to a worrying loss to last year's All-Ireland finalists Galway at a rain-soaked, puddle-filled Wexford Park on Saturday evening last.

All seemed to be going, quite well early on. Wexford coasted into an eight-point lead after 20 minutes but the girls soon looked second best all over the field and succumbed to a powerful visiting team.

While conditions were horrendous, that excuse can only go so far. A previously impregnable back line had more holes in it than a pasta strainer, and the full-back line in particular had a horrid time, allowing Veronica Curtin, Aislinn Connolly and even rookie full-forward Sarah Donoghue yards of space in behind.

A previously potent forward line looked sluggish, lethargic and was subdued after the early promise. Kate Kelly, so often the talisman for her side, was uninvolved for large chunks of the game at left half-forward and looks primed and suited to a return to midfield, while on the

opposite flank Una Leacy put in another sloppy display for someone of her calibre.

As starts go, Wexford's was just about ideal. Three minutes in, Kate Kelly's mishit point attempt fell well short yet landed perfectly for Rose-Marie Breen.

Coming off her hat-trick show in Limerick three weeks ago, she bundled her way to goal while being hauled down but was determined enough to get the handpass past Susan Eamer.

Josie Dwyer, the pick of the Wexford forwards, played in Una Leacy down the right for her only score in the tenth minute before Galway opened their account. Star forward Veronica Curtin grabbed that point from play as her side finally registered the score that their play deserved.

Wexford had their best ten minutes after that first Galway score. Kelly grabbed her opening point, from a free, following a foul on Dwyer, and the Kildare-based centre-forward was on hand again to play in Ursula Jacob down the right for her side's third point.

A surging run by Kelly saw her hacked down by the endline and once she had recovered she stepped up to a free which looked no more than an easy point attempt. However, Kelly went

lower, and her fizzing strike flew past a well-stocked goal-line and removed the clinging water from the net ringlets.

That second goal gave the home side a 2-3 to 0-1 lead but two quick-fire Aislinn Connolly placed balls narrowed the deficit. Michelle Hearne pointed from a Kelly pass for the final Wexford score of the half before two goals in as many minutes rocked the still sizeable home support.

Sarah Donoghue flicked in from Connolly's long free for their first, with the second coming when Una Leacy was clearly fouled upfield, only to be ignored by referee Cathal Egan which allowed Therese Maher to find Curtin breaking through unmarked and beat O'Arcy.

Connolly levelled the scores, ignoring the unmarked Curtin and Orla Kilkenny, just before the break, leaving the scores level at 2-4 each. The second-half was to turn into a dour struggle.

Another Connolly free gave Galway their first lead after the interval, only for Kate Kelly to reply after Dwyer's intuitive kicked pass.

Brenda Hanney fired in the visitors' third goal after a scramble, and Connolly pushed her side further in front with her fifth point.

WEXFORD

Mags O'Arcy; Bernice Holohan, Deirdre Codd, Claire O'Connor; Aine Codd, Mary Leacy, Aoife O'Connor (capt.); Caroline Murphy, Michelle O'Leary; Una Leacy (0-1), Josie Dwyer, Kate Kelly (1-3, 1-2 free); Michelle Hearne (0-1), Rose-Marie Breen (1-0), Ursula Jacob (0-1). **SUBS:** Catherine O'Loughlin for B. Holohan, Katrina Parrock for Breen, Lenny Holohan for Hearne.

GALWAY

Susan Eamer; Regina Glynn, Ailbhe Kelly, Therese Manton; Anne-Marie Hayes, Sinéad Cahalan, Lorraine Ryan; Niamh Kilkenny, Sandra Tannion; Brenda Hanney (1-0), Therese Maher, Orla Kilkenny; Veronica Curtin (1-1), Sarah Donoghue (1-0), Aislinn Connolly (0-6, 4 free). **SUBS:** Clodagh Glynn for N. Kilkenny, Aine Hillary for Donoghue.

REFEREE: Cathal Egan (Cork).
VENUE: Wexford Park.

A Kelly free in the 43rd minute proved to be Wexford's final score as Galway got ultra-defensive. Connolly somehow fired wide from Curtin's superb spot before she somewhat atoned for the miss with her, and the game's, final point.

Lenny Holohan and Katrina Parrock added a bit of zip to the Wexford forward line late on but their introduction was too late to make a significant impact.

As times got desperate, Leacy and Jacob both had efforts at goal blocked but Galway held on to a deserved four-point victory.



Michelle O'Leary on the move for Wexford.

CAMOGIE INTERMEDIATE

Galway win means seconds are gone

THE WEXFORD Intermediate camogie team bowed out of the Gala All-Ireland championship when they went down to Galway in a wet and windy Piercestown on Saturday last.

Wexford had a very flat performance in the first-half and, despite winning several frees, they didn't manage to convert them into scores. Galway opened the scoring with a goal from Tara Rutledge two minutes from the off to show their intent.

Ciara O'Connor pointed from a free in the tenth minute before Galway punished Wexford again when full-forward Martina Conroy netted. Galway further increased their lead with a point apiece from Cathy Bowes and Tara Rutledge, with the quick thinking of 'keeper Helena Jacob pushing the ball over the bar to lessen the damage on the second occasion.

O'Connor put another free over for Wexford, but this was quickly cancelled out by Claire Conroy. Siona Nolan got onto the scoreboard with a point, but Martina Conroy replied from a free.

Ciara O'Connor pointed from a free in the 29th minute, but Galway had the last say in the half when Rutledge pointed to make it 2-6 to 0-4.

Wexford got into the game more in the second-half and slowly started to pick off their scores to close the gap. Ciara O'Connor pointed from a free just after play re-started, with Stacey Kehoe adding another in the ninth minute to put six between the sides.

Siona Nolan pointed in the 12th minute and, during the next eleven minutes, both sides fought hard for possession but were unable to add scores. Wexford kept working away and Ciara O'Connor put a pointed free over in the 23rd minute, closing the gap to four points.

Galway's Martina Conroy hit their only score in the second-half, and Wexford could sense that time was running out. Ciara O'Connor put another point over from a free and, as the clock ticked down, Louise Codd added another.

Wexford tried hard for a levelling goal, but unfortunately time ran out and they lost by three points to last year's beaten All-Ireland finalists.

They will be disappointed with this result and will surely count the missed chances from frees in the first-half. They now must make the journey to Clare on the August Bank Holiday weekend where they will be attempting to notch their first win in the championship.

WEXFORD

Helena Jacob; Siobhán Cullen, Karen Atkinson, Colleen Atkinson; Jean Hayden, Ciara Storey, Frances Doran; Louise Codd (0-1), Fiona Kavanagh; Ciara O'Connor (0-6), Siona Nolan (0-2), Mag Kelly; Eimear O'Connor, Evelyn Quigley, Shelly Kehoe. **SUBS:** Stacey Kehoe (0-1) for Doran, Niamh O'Connor for Quigley, Eileen Hanrick for Kavanagh.

GALWAY

Adelle Grealish; Aisling Hobbins, Nicola Lawless, Karen Brien; Collette Gill, Sarah Dervan, Heather Cooney; Caroline Kelly, Collette Glennon; Cathy Bowes (0-2), Lorraine Parry, Niamh McGrath; Tara Rutledge (1-2), Martina Conroy (1-2), Claire Conroy (0-1).

REFEREE: Walter Cole (Cork).
VENUE: Piercestown.



Aine Codd comes under heavy pressure in the second-half of Saturday's encounter.

'We didn't play very well as a unit' - Sinnott

WEXFORD CAMOGIE manager Stellah Sinnott was quick to praise her side's opponents at Wexford Park, but pointed the finger at her team as a whole when looking at reasons why they became unstuck.

'We had chances to win that match but as the second-half progressed we just got into a dog-fight, we didn't score enough from play in the second-half.'

'They are a big, strong, physical team, and maybe the conditions suited them better, I just think it was a bit of a lottery. We went up by

seven or eight points in the first-half and they came back at us but on the day Galway deserved the win.'

'I just think all over the field we struggled once they came back at us. We just need to sit down, look at the DVD, and see what happened.'

'We didn't play very well as a unit and it's something we need to look at. We need to look at finding each other a bit better. Our forwards went out of it in the second-half and just weren't able to pick off those scores.'

'We will head to Clare now and hopefully get a win. We're under no illusion that Clare are going to be tough, they have nothing to lose. This team is better than that and there is a good backbone and a good bit of spirit in it so I have no doubt they will rise from this.'

'Maybe it's an omen; the year we won the All-Ireland Tipperary gave us a bit of a beating as well in one of the championship league games and we bounced back from it, so we're hoping we will bounce back from this.'

Plucky Galway women secure place in semis

Donoghue's charges recover magnificently from poor start to inflict defeat on in-form Wexford

Galway 3-7
Wexford 2-6

DARREN KELLY
IN WEXFORD PARK

AFTER the controversy over the late timing (7.30pm) of the game and the torrential rain that fell all day, Galway defeated the country's form team in their own backyard to clinch top spot in Group 2 of the GALA senior camogie championship last Saturday.

However, before Galway settled into this contest, they had to deal with a flying start from the 2007 All-Ireland champions who dominated the opening 20 minutes and established a 2-3 to 0-1 lead.

The first goal arrived after just three minutes when Rose-Marie Breen swooped to dispossess Ailbhe Kelly and hand passed to the net. Wexford continued to apply the pressure. Una Leacy, Kate Kelly, from a free, and Ursula Jacob added scores for the Model County with Veronica Curtin's point being Galway's only response after Niamh Kilkeny's delivery.

When Kelly fired a 21 metre free to the roof of the net on 20 minutes for Wexford's second goal, the small Galway support must have feared the worst as the home side were flying. But refusing to panic, the players continued working on getting their game right.

Aisling Connolly sent over two frees to narrow the deficit before Michelle Hearne restored a seven point advantage for Wexford but the much needed break arrived on 27 minutes.

Connolly's free landed in the square and debutant Sarah Donoghue challenged Mary Leacy to direct the ball over the line for the first Galway goal. A much required lift, the second came 60 seconds later. After a Wexford attack broke down, Sinéad Cahalan sent a quick ball towards the left wing. renda Hanney got the touch ahead of Aine Codd



Galway defender Ann-Marie Hayes celebrates after their championship victory over Wexford.

towards Therese Maher. The Athenry star spotted Curtin inside the defence and the Kinvara forward struck past Mags Darcy.

Connolly sent over the equaliser before the break after

Hanney had threatened the Wexford rearguard and the teams went off to a round of applause at half-time at 2-4 apiece. It was a credit to both sides to produce a fine game of camogie under these condi-

tions as the rain continued to fall, but Galway were in no mood to leave empty handed.

A Connolly free four minutes after the restart put them ahead before Kelly responded for Wexford. Then on 38 minutes, the game's critical score arrived.

Curtin, Maher and Connolly were all involved as another delivery saw a scrap for possession on the edge of the six yard box. The breaking ball fell nicely to the in running Hanney who turned and shot past Darcy for the third goal and Galway had taken a stranglehold on this match.

Scores were getting harder to come by due to the elements but Curtin still set up Connolly for another point two minutes later to make it 3-6 to 2-5. The same pair were involved again nine minutes from time when Connolly should have finished the match off when she sliced her shot wide.

Wexford's only response was another Kelly free as Connolly had the last say with her sixth of the game to conclude the scoring. After a shaky start, Galway put in a strong effort over 40 minutes which was a rapid improvement on previous outings.

They can look forward to an All-Ireland semi-final as on August 16th but they will know this performance will have to be replicated on at least twice more if notions about the O'Duffy Cup coming west in September are to be realised.

On this day, Cahalan was the strongest performer in defence, Ann-Marie Hayes excelled when moved to the middle, Hanney and Maher looked threatening in attack while Wexford struggled all afternoon with the Curtin-Connolly combination.

Galway: S. Earner; R. Glynn, A. Kelly, T. Manton; A.M. Hayes, S. Cahalan, L. Ryan; N. Kilkeny, S. Tannion; B. Hanney (1-0), T. Maher, O. Kilkeny; V. Curtin (1-1), S. Donoghue (1-0), A. Connolly (0-6, four frees). Subs: C. Glynn for N. Kilkeny (29 mins), C. Cormican for O. Kilkeny (37 mins), A. Hillary for Donoghue (47 mins).

Galway girls crash out of minor championship after defeat by Clare

Clare 2-10
Galway 0-9

EOGHAN CORMICAN
IN ADRAHAN

2008 All-Ireland minor camogie finalists Clare recorded their first victory of the current championship campaign when they accounted for a lacklustre Galway side in this keenly contested clash at Adrahan last Wednesday evening.

A hungrier Banner outfit entered the tie following a ritual slaughter at the hands of Cork, while Gerry Hough's charges had come through a physically demanding fixture against the Saffrons. The match represented a make or break importance for all involved with the defeated outfit making their exit from this year's championship.

The simple tale of the tape is that Clare took two goal opportunities at crucial times in the second half, while Galway failed to find the net. Clare hooked, blocked and harassed from start to finish and their defence was well on top against a Galway side that looked out of form and out of touch.

The likes of Niamh McGrath, on fire against Antrim, and other key performers failed to sparkle. Apart from Tara Rutledge who battled persistently throughout, the Tribeswomen were devoid of cohesion and passion for large parts of this encounter.

In contrast, Clare were winning 90% of the individual battles. Inspired by Rosin McMahon and Chloe Morley, they attacked with ferocity and their full forward line excelled. Clare burst out of the traps with quick scores from Rosin O'Brien and Aisling Hannon as Galway were playing second fiddle in all aspects of the opening exchanges.

Clare had a glorious opportunity to extend their early advantage when O'Brien was hauled down en-route to goal. Chloe Morley came from full back to strike the penalty but, it proved to be a barren journey as Killimor 'keeper Helen Campbell produced a terrific save to deflect it out for a '45.

Rosin O'Brien eased Clare into a three point lead on the quarter hour with a converted '45. Galway had to wait all of

17 minutes for their opening score with Rutledge splitting the posts after a neat exchange of passes with Niamh McGrath, who was closely marked all through.

Clare hit back with an O'Brien free before Galway did put the foot on the throttle for the remaining eight minutes of the opening half and was rewarded with points from McGrath (0-2, 1 free) and Rebecca Hennelly. The Banner's only reply was a pointed free from O'Brien.

Galway re-emerged for the second period knowing their championship aspirations hung by a thread and took the game to Clare with two points in quick succession from McGrath (free) and Finola Keely to put them in the lead for the first time in the tie.

Clare's first goal, which arrived courtesy of Aisling Hannon was crucial as Galway were motoring well, leading by 0-6 to 0-5 and beginning to get the upper hand in the latter third. It helped the Banner side establish a two point lead, curtailing Galway's mini period of dominance.

The sides traded three points apiece thereafter with Rosin McMahon converting a '45 and two 'run of the mill' free's while Niamh McGrath (free), Hennelly and Amanda Lynch kept Galways fading hopes alive.

The death knell sounded on Galway's championship for 2009 when corner forward Shonagh Enright sprinted clear before placing the sliotar beyond the reach of Helen Campbell. Center back Eimear Considine rubbed salt in the Galway wounds with a terrific point from well out the field.

Louise Woods shipped three tackles before clipping it over as Galway folded like wet cardboard and their fate was sealed when custodian Ailish Considine saved an injury time penalty from McGrath. When you're down, you're down.

Galway: H Campbell, R Kilkeny, K O'Dwyer, K McDonagh, N Murphy, C Kileen, L Shiel, A Lynch (0-1), L Mitchell, A Donoghue, F Keely (0-1), M McGrath (0-5, 3 free's), R Hennelly (0-2), O Ward, T Rutledge. Subs: A Tully for Ward 40 mins, C Kavanagh for McDonagh 47 minutes, C Staunton for Mitchell.

Clare: A Considine, M Martin, C Morley, A M McMahon, C Glynn, E Considine (0-1), C Kaiser, R McMahon (0-3, 1 free, 2 '45's), L Woods (0-1), O Duggan, S Fahy, A Hannon (1-1), S Enright (1-0), R O'Brien (0-4, 2 free's, 1 '45) K Cahill. Sub: A O'Shea for S Fahy 30 mins.

Referee: E. Browne (Tipperary)

Earlier in the day, the Galway intermediates booked their place in the All-Ireland semi-final after a hard fought 2-7 to 0-10 over Division Two league champions Wexford in St. Martin's.

The strong wind and the heavy rain made life difficult for both teams but Noel Finn's visitors made use of the elements in the first half building up a 2-6 to 0-4 interval lead thanks to two early goals from Tara Rutledge and Claire Conroy.

Wexford applied the pressure after the break but the Galway defence held out before Martina Conroy sent over the insurance point four minutes from time. Galway face Derry in the last group game on August 8th but both teams will compete in the last four two weeks later.

July 2009

CAMOGIE MINOR 'B'

Semi spot secured

WEXFORD
KILDARE

4-19
0-06

THE WEXFORD Minor camogie team had their second victory of the All-Ireland 'B' championship when they easily overcame Kildare in Coolree on Thursday last.

They had already beaten Down in Newry and have now made it to the semi-final where they will play the winners of the Limerick v. Down game which is due to be played on Sunday next.

Despite the comprehensive win, the girls did not play as well as they had in Newry and must really work hard over the next couple of weeks in preparation for their semi-final.

WEXFORD

Katie Flynn, Amy Ryan, Emma Doyle, Shauna Redmond, Shauna Sinnott, Eimear O'Connor, Siobhán Cummins, Laura Redmond, Lisa Bolger (0-2), Linda Bolger (1-8), Ciara Doyle (1-0), Aoife Sheil, Orlaith Hall, Susie Griffiths, Ellen Kelly (2-5), Johanna Creane, Riona O'Sullivan, Louise Sinnott, Miriam Smyth, Ashling O'Connor, Susie McGovern, Mary Ellen Doyle (0-1), Siobhán O'Regan, Mary Hayes (0-3), Niamh Quirke, Rachel Murphy, Aoife Kehoe, Fiona Donnellan, Róisín Breen.

KILDARE

Tanya Johnston, Claire O'Sullivan, Amy O'Hara, Alison Hyland, Niamh Boland, Emma Farrell, Shauna Moran, Fiona Trant, Melissa Lyons, Samantha Ward, Clodhna MacSweeney (0-3), Noeleen Fleming, Orla Ryan, Laura Sheehan (0-3), Sara Cullen, Fiona O'Sullivan, Catherine Pearse, Sophie O'Donoghue, Dearbhla Kelly, Laura Tierney, Siobhán O'Shea, Gráinne Temple, Michelle Foley.

REFEREE: Donal Ryan (Dublin).
VENUE: Coolree.



Galway attacker Therese Maher is chased by Wexford's Josie Dwyer during the Gala senior camogie clash at Wexford Park on Saturday evening. Photos: Matt Browne/Sportsfile.



Pictured at the presentations of Polo Shirts from Dermot Kinane of the Kenyon Bar, Nenagh to the Tipperary Intermediate Camogie Team at the Ragg were (l to r): Liza Carroll, Secretary of Tipp Camogie Board; Gerry Kelly, Selector; Trish Ryan, Vice Capt of the team; Dermot Kinane, Kenyon Bar, Nenagh, Sponsor; Siobhán Ryan, Captain of the team; Carmel Harkin, Selector and Eoin Brislane, Manager of the team.
Photo: Brid Ryan

Camogie Cats go down at the double in 'Park

Camogie

Cork2-5

Kilkenny0-7

HOME advantage didn't make any difference for Kilkenny when they crashed against slick Cork in the All-Ireland senior camogie championship at Nowlan Park on Saturday.

There was little or nothing between the teams at half-time, when the visitors led by 0-3 to 0-2. The home scorers were Aoife Neary (free) and Katie Power.

The losers opened the second half with small scores from Michelle Quilty, with an assist from Edwina Keane, and Marie O'Connor (penalty) to get in front. However, Cork hit back for a goal from Emer O'Farrell in the 45th minute to retake the lead.

The Cats bounced back, and

scores from Aoife Neary (free and play) left it all square with 48 minutes played. Shortly afterwards Emer O'Farrell shot Cork's second goal, and they finished with late points from Orla Cotter and Julia Whyte to run out good winners.

Scorers: Cork - E. O'Farrell (2-0); E. Dillon, O. Cotter (0-2 each); H. O'Connor (0-1). Kilkenny - A. Neary (0-4, two frees); K. Power, M. Quilty, M. O'Connor (0-1 each).

Kilkenny - C. Ryan, L. Fennelly, C. Doherty, J. Frisby, L. Lyng, A. Butler, E. Aylward, C. Dormer, A. Dalton (capt), T. Muldowney, K. Power, A. Dunphy, M. Quilty, E. Keane, A. Neary. Subs - E. Maher for A. Dunphy; M. O'Connor for T. Muldowney. A.M. Phelan for M. Quilty; A. Fitzpatrick for L. Lyng.

Cork - A. Murray, J. O'Callaghan, R. Buckley, C. Foley, J. Duffy, M. O'Connor, S. Hayes, B. Corkery, O. Cotter, E. Dillon, G. O'Connor, U. O'Donoghue, S.

Burns, A. O'Regan, R. Maloney. Subs - E. O'Farrell for R. Maloney; K. Mackey for A. O'Regan; A. Geary for J. Duffy; J. White for S. Burns.

Referee - J. Morrissey (Tipperary).

Cork5-12

Kilkenny0-3

AFTER a reasonable enough start, Kilkenny lost their way completely in the intermediate camogie championship clash and they were well beaten in the end.

Cork opened with a goal from Marie Watson after three minutes. The Noreiders hit back for points from Stacey Quirke and Catherine Walsh had a second minutes later. But they failed to score during the closing 20 minutes of the half, which left them 2-7 to 0-2 down at the rest.

The winners had their third goal from Michelle Browne

within two minutes of the restart. Their next score was also a goal, this time from Marie Watson. That just knocked the heart out of the losers.

Scorers: Cork - M. Watson (2-3); M. Browne (1-4); D. Luby (1-3); J. Lynch (1-0); E. Casey, M. Coleman (0-1 each). Kilkenny - E. Cantwell, S. Quirke, C. Walsh (0-1 each).

Kilkenny - S. Murphy, S. Shore, A.M. Walsh, R. Fennelly, D. Tobin, N. Butler, N. Kelly, E. Cantwell, L. Byrne, A. Curran, C. Walsh, S. Quirke, M. Mansfield, R. Jones, N. O'Donoghue. Subs - C. Phelan, J. Kelly, E. Hughes, C. Lyng, N. Farreril, L. Comerford.

Cork - J. Kavanagh, A.M. Fleming, C. O'Neill, A. Sheehan, L. Weste, L. Power, C. Motherway, H. O'Mahony, J. Lynch, P. Buttimer, M. Watson, M. Coleman, M. Browne, E. Watson, D. Luby.



Aisling Dunphy, Kilkenny in possession as Jenny Duffy, Cork closes in in the Senior Camogie Championship at Nowlan Park. Picture: Michael Brophy.



Galway corner back Regina Glynn gets the better of Wexford's Rose-Marie Breen on Saturday evening.

Tipp Hold On Against Dublin in All-Ireland Championship

Tipperary ...2-12; Dublin ...1-10

Mid way through the second half Tipperary were leading their hosts by 10 points, so to emerge as winners with only 5 points to spare raised a few eyebrows in Parnell Park last Saturday.

However, Dublin were not there just to fulfil the fixture and they have plenty of skilful players in their ranks well capable of steering Dublin to greater victories in the future.

Tipp opened the account with a point from Cait Devane before Dublin were able to point 2 frees. Both sides exchanged points in the first 15 minutes with both holding the lead only to be pegged back by the opposition.

It was in the final 10 minutes of the half when Tipperary applied the pressure with points coming from Cait Devane, Jill Horan, Geraldine Ryan, and Joanne Ryan.

the Dublin defence before she laid off to Mairead Luttrell, (playing in a new position of centre forward), who calmly goaled her chance. Half time saw Tipp were leading 1.07 to 0.03.

Tipp started the second half with points from Emily Hayden, Joanne Ryan & Cait Devane. Dublin were trying to keep in touch managing 2 points before Emily Hayden found the back of the Dublin net in the 17th minute to leave the scoreline 2.11 to 0.05.

Dublin made some positional switches which strengthened their mid field and shored up their defence. Immediately, they got back into the game and with the Tipp forwards now well shackled it was the Dublin girls who were picking off their scores. It was this period of the game that Tipperary were held scoreless

Happy to come away with the result needed, the management team will be well aware of the need of their team to hold onto control of games, but the fact that they didn't panic when the pressure was applied will also stand to the team as they prepare for the challenge of Cork on August 1st away in Páirc Uí Rinn.

Tipperary: Paula Ryan, Mary Ryan, Suzanne Kelly, Therese Shortt, Paula Bulfin, Tishy O'Halloran, Una O'Dwyer, Lorraine Burke, Jill Horan (0.01), Geraldine Kinane (0.02), Mairead Luttrell (1.00), Cait Devane (0.04), Joanne Ryan (0.03), Emily Hayden (1.01), Michelle Shortt (0.01).

Munster Camogie Council Annual Golf Classic Friday July 31st Dundrum Golf and Country Club, Dundrum Co. Tipperary

Teams of four €250 Tee Boxes €50

This has been a very successful annual event for the last number of years it has greatly helped with the promotion of Camogie within the province and is a great day out for all golfing and sporting enthusiasts. Prizes include Green Fees for 4 at Dromoland, Mallow, Charleville and Woodstock.

Please support this event and circulate this notice to others whom may be interested.

Entries or Information from
Eamon Browne 087 1256025
Marion Graham 087 2764856



Clare's Deirdre Murphy (seen here with Joan O'Flynn President of the Camogie Association) scored the winning point in Clare's win over Limerick on Saturday.

Clonakilty and Sars get share of the spoils

Clonakilty 2-7
Sarsfields 2-7

SARSFIELDS and Clon went into this second round Evening Echo Intermediate championship clash in Brinny with a victory each under their belts **writes MARY NEWMAN.**

In a close opening 30 minutes Sars held a narrow point interval lead.

Through the second half it remained close. Claire Holland and Aoife Deasy exchanged goals while Sharon Whelton and Erica Jennings were on target with Clonakilty points.

It was left to Juanita Brennan to ensure a share of the spoils for Clonakilty with an equalising point in the second half.

Scorers for Sarsfields: E Murphy, C Holland 1-0 each, E O Farrell-Fennell 0-7 (0-3f).

Clonakilty: C Deasy, E Jennings 1-1 each, S Whelton 0-3, J Brennan, E O'Donoghue 0-1 each.

SARSFIELDS: O Butler, G O'Donoghue, S O'Leary, K Barry, J Murphy, A Griffin, I Kearney, M Kelleher, E Murphy, A Whoolley, E O Farrell-Fennell, C Holland, N Hickey, S Crowley, N Hickey. **Subs:** L Barry for M Kelleher, A Barry for S Crowley.

CLONAKILTY: L Daly, N O'Donovan, S O'Brien, AM Moyle, A McCarthy, C O'Mahony, L O'Flynn, H O'Regan, S Forristal, H Coughlan, E Jennings, J Brennan, E O'Donoghue, A Deasy, S Whelton. **Subs:** C Nagle for AM Moyle, A Kearns for E O'Donoghue.

Youghal rally to triumph

Youghal 3-14
Vincent's 2-5

YOUGHAL came from behind to record a victory in this Evening Echo Junior C championship clash at St Vincent's **writes MARY NEWMAN.**

Amy Wilson and Nicole Crean struck first-half goals for St Vincent's to which Youghal replied with goals from Siobhan Downing and Kelma Mc Carthy, and as the sides traded four points a piece it was 2-4 to 1-4 in favour of the home side at the break.

The second half belonged to Youghal as they pushed for a result. Kerrie Hancock, Kelma Mc Carthy and Sarah Flavin were all to the fore as Youghal limited St Vincent's to one second half point.

Scorers for Youghal: S Downing 2-6, K Mc Carthy 1-5 (1-3f), N Hancock 0-2, S Flavin 0-1 (f). **St Vincent's:** N Crean 1-3 (f), A Wilson 1-1, H O'Keefe 0-1.

YOUGHAL: D Kelly, R Healy, M Ahern, S Sweeney, C Daly, N Quill, S O'Shea, K Sloane, C O'Donoghue, K Hancock, Kelma Mc Carthy, S Downing, Kelly Mc Carthy, S Flavin, R O'Keefe. **Subs:** M Dalton for S Sweeney (20), S Joyce for R Healy (40).

ST VINCENT'S: L Lynch, C Moynihan, P Lynch, S Coutts, A O'Connell, L Carroll, S Carroll, H O'Keefe, J Dupuy, C Lynch, A Wilson, H Hegarty, N Crean, L Lynch, K Carroll. **Subs:** N Cahill for H Hegarty, A Dupuy for A Wilson.

ST VINCENT'S

New members are always welcome and if you want to join or even find out information just come up at the relevant time to the club complex on Kilmore road.

New volunteers also welcome.

Training times: Monday, 6-7pm, U14; Tue, 5-6pm, U8; Wed, 6-7pm, U12, 8-9.30pm, Juniors; Thurs, 5.30-6.30pm, U10, 7-8pm, U16.

BRIAN DILLON'S

Congrats to all the Brian Dillon's Camogie girls in the junior team who beat the Rockies in the Junior A Championship. Last time we met Watergrasshill victory went to Dillon's. This time out it was Watergrasshill's night and they came to Castle Road determined to win this championship game. Dillon's were missing some key players on the night and this, together with a superbly fit Watergrasshill team, brought honours on the night to The Hill.

Scorers for Dillon's were: Jane

Dooley, Clair Dooley, Susan-Kate Brosnan and Gillian O'Connell. Well done Dillon's and good luck in your next Championship match against Douglas.

Thanks to your coaches Kieran O'Mahony and John Kearney.

Good luck to the Brian Dillon's players: Susan-Kate Brosnan, Clair Dooley, Jane Dooley, Amanda Dorgan, Therese Drummond, Aoife Finnegan, Christine Kearney, Emma Lane, Anthea O'Brien, who are playing in the senior Seandún team.

Congrats to Liz O'Mahony (Brian Dillon's) selector for the senior Seandún team.

Congrats to the senior Seandún team on their win over Avondhu in Castle Road and good luck to the team next Monday night when they play against Muskerry.

Brian Dillon's girls played their part in helping the Cork U16 team trounce Tipperary at Castle Road in the Munster Championship semi-final.

Orla Ni Shuilleabhain, Seoirse Rodgers and Susan-Kate Brosnan did us proud.

BALLINHASSIG

U16 League: Ballinhassig 7-5 Valley Rovers 1-5. Well done to everybody on a great display.

Team: A Walsh, C O'Leary, M O'Regan, U O'Leary, C McCarthy, G O'Callaghan, J O'Leary, A O'Brien, E Jordan, N Sheehan, O Murray, A Cullinane, L O'Leary, E O'Donovan, M O'Leary.

ST FINBARRS

U11: Since the formation of the St Finbarr's Street Leagues camogie section over three years ago, most of the present group have been together. With the on-going increase of new members, all girls born in 1998 (U11) training began in January 2009 under new coach Malachy Kennedy from 1-2pm on Saturdays on the fantastic all-weather facility.

A strong steady attendance at training became fruitful. The girls recorded

draws with Carrigaline and Ballincollig and scored wins over Blackrock and Carrigrohilly.

In the U11 A Seandún League, the girls had another win over Blackrock and battled hard against Bishopstown who finished stronger on Bonfire Night. We may meet again in the final in September, but this is yet to be confirmed.

We finished our season with a fun match and skills competition amongst the girls where everyone was a winner. All received medals and refreshments and prizes for the skill winners.

Mentors Mary Cooke and Alice O'Donovan would like to thank Mal for his time, interest and professionalism. Thanks also to Colette Hurley, chairperson; Orla Hurley, treasurer; Catherine O'Brien, club president; Claire Harrington, club chairperson; and Marion McCarthy for all their help and advice without which we could not continue.

Tracy pulls strings



Marie O'Neill hit 3-3 from play for Watergrasshill.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Watergrasshill turn tables on Dillon's

Watergrasshill 5-10
Brian Dillon's 1-5
By MARY NEWMAN
Evening Echo Junior A Championship

THE last time these sides met, victory went to Brian Dillon's in their league outing. This time a more focused Watergrasshill team took the point in the Evening Echo JAC round-robin game.

First-half goals from Marie O'Neill in the fifth and 25th minute helped Watergrasshill lay the foundations for victory. Brian Dillon's battled hard and they were rewarded with points from Jane Dooley, Susan-Kate Brosnan, and Claire Dooley.

However, with Watergrasshill's Ca

O'Connell, Lydia Bracken Máire O'Neill, Michelle Buckley and Elaine O'Leary striking points, it was they who made the running as they built up a 2-8 top 0-3 interval advantage.

Gillian O'Connell struck a Brian Dillon's goal inside two minutes of the restart but Michelle Buckley got one back almost immediately for the Hill.

The sides exchanged points three times before Marie O'Neill struck for a Watergrasshill goal.

Dillon's battled on, but with Marie O'Neill and Lydia Bracken pointing,

Watergrasshill had the game won before a late Claire Cronin goal.

Scorers for Watergrasshill: M O'Neill 3-4 (0-1f), M Buckley 1-3, C Cronin 1-0 L Bracken 0-2 (0-1f), E O'Leary 0-1, Ca O'Connell 0-1.

Brian Dillon's: G O'Connell 1-0, C Dooley, J Dooley 0-2 each, S-K Brosnan 0-1.

WATERGRASSHILL: K O'Riordan, L Barry, M Dorgan, L O'Leary, E Bracken, E Murphy, A Murray, L O'Reilly, L Cronin, M Kennedy, E O'Leary, M O'Neill, C O'Connell, M Buckley, L Bracken. **Subs:** C Murphy for E Bracken, C Cronin for M Kennedy, G McCarthy for L Barry, M Donnelly for C O'Connell.

BRIAN DILLON'S: A Finnegan, O Lawrence, A Russell, L Bradfield, C O'Mahony, A Dorgan, E Burns, S Brosnan, D Ring, E Lane, T Deane, C Dooley, G O'Connell, J Dooley, D Carroll. **Subs:** Claire O'Mahony for Christine O'Mahony, R O'Mahony for G O'Connell, K O'Brien for D Carroll, M Ring for E Lane.



LINDA MELLERICK
FIVE years ago the Cork County Camogie board realised there was a need for a separate official committee to deal solely with Cork's underage structure and development.

With their workload immense they realised that to develop Cork camogie to its full potential, underage camogie had to receive due attention.

The Cork Juvenile Camogie Board was formed and under the current guidance of chairperson Tracy Sheehan has gone from strength to strength.

Boasting an incredible 687 underage games a year, it is little wonder that Cork are frequently to the forefront of national success and once again it is those like Tracy doing so much work behind the scenes that on big glory days like Croke Park in early September deserve so much thanks.

The first juvenile board disbanded and a new committee formed in 2004. Tracy became chairperson. She remains at the helm and the current committee around her consists of Tom O'Regan, Blarney - Vice-Chair, Tina Sheehan of Douglas - Secretary, Ger Sheehan - PRO, Siobhan O'Callaghan - Treasurer, John O'Leary - Registrar and Esther O'Leary - Child Welfare Officer.

The board's first course of action was to phase out the 12-a-side game in operation and replace it with 15-a-side.

A new D competition was introduced and is hugely successful as Tracy explains: "There was a big gap between C and D. We brought in the competition for struggling clubs, new clubs and those who wanted to enter a second team."

"This has led to a big increase in clubs entering two and three teams. For example, a club could enter the A, C and D competitions."

"If, however, a club is entering two teams in one grade then two separate panels would have to be submitted prior to the competition starting. Of course, the club could end up playing each other but they are aware of that."

Camogie clubs round-

A special thanks is due to the parents and girls.

Training for all new members in September on Saturday's from 1-2pm. Thank you, Camogie Abú.

GLEN ROVERS

Our U16 first team squad played out an exciting game when they travelled to Courcy rovers on Sunday last, several times the led changed hands but unfortunately at the full-time whistle we were at the wrong end of a 5-9 to 4-8 scoreline after an exciting and hard fought contest.

Well done to everybody on their efforts over what has been a good campaign where we won six games, drew one and lost just two. Hopefully we will have done enough to make it through to the concluding stages of the competition when the final tallies

are done on August 6.

Well done to our second U16 squad who defeated Carrigrohilly in their league game on Thursday.

We had some excellent displays from every one of the 17 players on the night, with Sarah Bridgeman, Niamh Gowen, Samantha Cullinane and Fiona Rea all grabbing goals as we recorded a 7-2 to 4-2 victory.

Well done girls, we have still three games to play and these will take place in the next two weeks.

Our junior team are looking ahead to their championship game against Castlemagner on Monday, July 27, and our meeting with Buttevant on July 30, while the next round for our senior team is against Kilmartin on August 12.

Well done to our girls on the Seandún

for board's success

Luby's got goal touch for classy Seandún



The Cork U16B Squad, who will contest the Munster final on Sunday in Waterford.

Seandún 6-20
Avondhu 4-2

SEANDÚN recorded a superb victory over fellow divisional side Avondhu in the Evening Echo round one game recently writes MARY NEWMAN.

From the throw-in Seandún looked sharp. Miriam Crowley and Ciara Healy had early points before Michelle Browne converted an Avondhu 45-metre free to cut the deficit.

Five minutes in Seandún full-forward Denise Luby had the ball in the net but from the puck-out Katie Buckley grabbed an Avondhu goal and they took the lead seconds later when the Seandún defence failed to hold a free from Michelle Browne, which was fired to the net.

Seandún, with their defence tightening up considerably, began to take control — four points on the trot from Ciara Healy, Susan Brosnan and Jane Dooley saw them regain the lead before Dooley finished the ball over the line for a goal.

Now in control, Seandún kept the pressure and two goals from Denise Luby inside a minute and one from Ciara Healy saw the gap widen despite Michelle Browne again firing a free to the net. Katie Buckley pointed on the stroke of half-time as Seandún led 5-6 to 3-2.

Through the second half Avondhu were force to play second fiddle as Seandún continued to pick off their scores — Miriam Crowley, Eileen Foyle, Luby, Ciara Healy, Karen O'Connell, Roisin De Faoite and Sinead O'Halloran were all on target before Luby grabbed her side's sixth goal with two minutes remaining.

Kathleen O'Brien sent a late Avondhu free to the net but there was no doubting the result as the city girls advanced to a meeting with Muskerry.

Scorers for Seandún: D Luby 4-2, C Healy 1-4 (0-2 ft), M Crowley 0-4, J Dooley 1-1, S O'Halloran 0-3, S Brosnan, R De Faoite 0-2 each, E Foyle, K O'Connell 0-1 each.

Avondhu: M Browne 2-1 (ft), K Buckley 1-1, K O'Brien 1-0.

SEANDÚN: A Finnegan (Brian Dillon's); S Kelly (Bishopstown), O Crowley (Bishopstown), A Corcoran (Bishopstown); J Crowley (Bishopstown), L Cunningham (Glen Rovers), M Hegarty (Glen Rovers); A Dorgan (Brian Dillon's), M Crowley (Bishopstown); M Scanlon (Bishopstown), C Healy (Bishopstown) (ft), S K Brosnan (Brian Dillon's), C Dooley (Brian Dillon's) D Luby (Glen Rovers), J Dooley (Brian Dillon's) Subs: K O'Connell (Glen Rovers) for C Dorgan (ft), E Foyle (Bishopstown) for C Dooley (ft), S O'Halloran (Glen Rovers) for A Dorgan (ft), R De Faoite (Blackrock) for J Dooley (ft), and S Gallen (Glen Rovers) for D Crowley (49).

Killeagh pull away in the second half

Killeagh 1-15
Carrigaline 1-2

KILLEAGH got their Evening Echo Senior B championship campaign off to a winning start when they accounted for Carrigaline in their meeting at Castle Road writes MARY NEWMAN.

Killeagh recorded victory by 13 points but it was not all one-way traffic as a close opening half saw just two points between the teams. It was Killeagh's second-half rally which saw them hold Carrigaline to just one score that helped them pull

away to take the points on offer. Stephanie Beausang opened the scoring with a Killeagh point inside two minutes.

Both sides battled to gain the upper hand and with Annie and Angela Walsh striking points, it was Killeagh who were ahead 0-4 to 0-2 at the interval.

Killeagh built on their lead from the start of the second half and five points from Ella Ryan, Angela Walsh, Clare Keohane and Jessica O'Shea, had them comfortably ahead.

With five minutes remaining Angela Walsh dealt Carrigaline a killer blow with a Killeagh goal and a point from

Ella Ryan ensured victory was Killeagh's after a hard fought contest.

Scorers for Killeagh: Angela Walsh 1-3, S Beausang, E Ryan, C Keohane 0-3 each, A M Walsh 0-1, J O'Shea 0-1, Annie Walsh 0-1 each.

Carrigaline: E Phelan 1-0 M Moran, O Cotter 0-1 each.

KILLEAGH: C Deane, S Smiddy, M Smiddy, L O'Connor, E O'Neill, M O'Connor, A M Walsh, S Beausang, K Rohan, E Ryan, Angela Walsh, G Cunningham; J O'Shea, Annie Walsh, E Kelly. Subs: C Keohane for E Kelly, S Nolan for Annie Walsh, K Walsh for K Rohan.

CARRIGALINE: A Kiely, L Kelleher, J O'Keefe, E Power, C O'Connell, S Cotter, D Smyth; G O'Keefe, M Moran; K O'Doherty, O Cotter, P O'Keefe, G Harrington, M Scully, D O'Leary. Subs: E Phelan for M Scully (ft), N Crowley for G O'Keefe (in, 60).

Referee: Colette O'Mahony (St Finbarr's).

play on Tuesday, which gives those playing both grades a bit of a break, and the U16s play on a Thursday. It is felt those playing at U12 and U14 would not yet be playing U16.

The annual preparation for a year ahead is a 'nightmare' as Tracy refers to it.

Receiving clubs grading requests, sorting through these, making their recommendations, reverting back to clubs, etc takes two consecutive

evenings well into the night to get through.

Then the fixtures are made with a seven-day ruling, i.e. clubs can change fixture dates by mutual consent provided the game is played within seven days. An end date is provided to ensure closure for each competition. This is crucial and it is just one aspect of their work the juvenile board can be proud of — that all competitions are completed with-



Tracy Sheehan, chairperson of the Juvenile Camogie County Board.

in their calendar year.

There are days when Tracy's phone doesn't stop ringing and she could have four or five issues to deal with at any one time. But she is quick to pass on much of the credit to Tina and her other board members and insists that as a group, while they might not always agree, they reach a resolution that typically works.

Whatever the recipe we can all be sure that the juvenile board is one of Cork camogie's success stories and we as followers of the game can be very thankful for their efforts.

up by Mary Newman

senior team who recorded a superb victory over Avondhu in the first round of the Evening Echo senior championship on Tuesday last.

In defence Michelle Hegarty and Lydia Cunningham were impassable. At centre field Sinead Gallen worked hard and did well on introduction during the second-half, while up front Denise Luby notched up 4-2. Sinead O'Halloran added 0-3 while Karen O'Connell added a point. All in all a great contribution from our representatives. Good luck on Monday next when Seandún met Muskerry in round two in Castle Road at 7.30pm. Best of luck to Nicole O'Brien who plays with the Cork U16 B team against Waterford in the Munster final on Sunday in Dungarvan, and to Denise Luby who lines out with the

Cork minor team that meet Antrim in round two of the All-Ireland minor championship also on Sunday.

We offer our condolences to the Jones family on the death of Annie last weekend. A great follower of camogie in our club, Annie made sure down through the years that all our visitors and our own players were well looked after at many a function. We also offer our sympathy to the Geaney family on the death of Eileen, may they rest in peace.

ST CATHERINES

U15 Imokilly league: St Catherine's 10-4 Carrigrohilly 8-5. On Friday, July 10 we travelled to Carrigrohilly to take on the home side in this Imokilly league fixture. After an extremely entertaining hours camogie we finished five points be-

hind the home side. All our girls played very well and gave a very good account of themselves.

Team: R Spillane, L Hartnett, J O'Keefe, M Galvin, R O'Callaghan, G Walsh, E Murphy, L Ahern, K England, E Spillane.

Scorers: R O'Callaghan 3-5 (1ft), E Spillane 2-0, L Ahern 2-0, K England 1-0.

U16 B Leagues: Catherine's 2-12 Cloughduv 4-0. On Monday, July 13, we played host to Cloughduv to fulfil this U16 fixture. We played against the wind in the first-half and had scored 2-7 before Cloughduv goalied just before half-time. Cloughduv came much more into the game in the second-half and narrowed the gap to three points at one stage, but we finished strongly to run out winners.

Team: E Murphy, M Galvin, C Keniry, C McAuliffe, A O'Brien, F Cotter, K Mellerick, S Barry, R O'Callaghan, J O'Keefe, F Neville, G Walsh, L Ahern,

A Doyle, E England. Subs: H Leahy for R O'Callaghan, M O'Connor for A Doyle, M Walsh for K England, L Hartnett for L Ahern.

Scorers: F Neville 2-7 (1ft), R O'Callaghan 0-2, F Cotter 0-2 (1ft), S Barry 0-1.

We are scheduled to play Millstreet in our next league game on Tues next, July 21 in Millstreet.

Our Junior B team had a good win recently over Buttevant in the league and are busy preparing for their upcoming championship game against Bride Rovers which is scheduled for this week in Ballymoor. Full report on this game next week.

Well done to Cork senior camogie team who defeated Kilkenny in their second group game on Saturday last. Orla Cotter played for Cork at mid-field in this hard fought victory.

The Cork intermediate team were also in action at the same venue and we were represented on this team by Liz Power, Carolyn Motherway and

Denise Leahy who had a comfortable win over Kilkenny.

Congratulations to Fiona Cotter who played with Cork U16 ladies football team who defeated Kerry in the Munster final which was played in Fitzgerald Stadium on Saturday last.

YOUGHAL

Youghal travelled to St Vincent's on July 15. Last year the teams met there and the rain was coming down so heavy that the game was nearly cancelled.

There were new positions for some players, Siobhan Downing started out the wing-forward and Sarah Flavin full-forward the girls were switched after 15 minutes and were a force to be reckoned with. Full-back Marie Ahern knew exactly what her job was.

Before half-time Vincent's were awarded a free that resulted in a goal, the heads were down for a split second, but a puck out from Dawn Kelly went straight up the field resulting in a

point from play by Kerri Hancock.

There was some great skill on the ball from Siobhan Downing which resulted in a score of 2-6 from her, but great ball from the new pairing in midfield of Catherine O'Donoghue and Katie Sloane helped out the forwards immensely.

The young and extremely talented Roisin O'Keefe was also the key player in the forwards laying off some excellent passes resulting in the scores. Captain Kalma McCarthy held her composure in the free taking scoring 1-5. Our wing forward Kerri Hancock was on flying form to score two points also from play. The over cool and collected Sarah Flavin was on hand to take a free from a long way out which also resulted in a point.

The pairing across the centre back line of Sarah O'Shea, Niamh Quill and Chloe McCarthy made the full backs and goalies job very easy on the day. St Vincent's only managed to score one point in the second-half.

July 2009

Waterford 2-10
Cork 2-7

WATERFORD turned in a superb second-half performance to be crowned Munster U16 B champions at the Fraher Field Dungarvan yesterday.

Overall it was a deserved triumph, as their determination and will to win carried them over the finishing line when the need was greatest.

Cork, aided by the strong wind blowing towards the town end goal, led by five points at the interval and 10 minutes into the second half they had stretched their lead to 10 points.

Digging deep Waterford produced a spellbinding closing quarter that saw them hit 1-7 to Cork's solitary point to be crowned worthy winners.

Cork can have little complaints as aided by the strong wind in the opening half they should have been out of sight.

Their tally of nine wides in the opening half, an indication of their wastefulness.

Aoife Hannon gave Waterford an early lead with a sixth-minute point and it was 12 minutes before Cork registered a score as Laura Burke levelled matters.

Katie Murphy and Michelle Tobin swapped points and despite the strong wind Cork made little headway, the Waterford defence closing down every attack.

At the other end of the field the Cork defence were dealing well with anything Waterford threw at them. Four minutes from the interval Cork got the break they needed when Aisling Moloney finished Nicole O'Brien's long range free from the Cork back line to the net and when Heather Morgan struck a point it left Cork ahead 1-4 to 0-2 at the break.

Cork got a superb start to the second half when Susan Brosnan struck for a goal inside a minute of the restart and with Katie Murphy striking over two points they led by 10.

Waterford, with the wind to their backs, drove every ball in around the square and crowding around the Cork goal mouth they poached a goal, sub Clara Aaron's first-timing to the net.

Aoife Hannon and Susan Brosnan swapped points but Cork looked to be under enormous pressure and it told as slopping defending allowed substitute Emer Fennell grab their second goal.

A minute later the same player struck a superb point as Cork battled to hold their lead but they failed to breach the strong Waterford defence.

Up front Michele Tobin held her nerve to get Waterford back on level pointing three placed balls.

Twice Cork came close to regaining the lead but the Waterford defence hunting in packs denied them a clear shot on goal, in a super movement up

Waterford storm back to edge out Cork



Dublin's Rachel Ruddy pursues Cork's Sile Burns during their recent GALA All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship clash at Páirc Uí Rinn. Picture: Larry Cummins

By MARY NEWMAN
Munster U16 B Camogie

field Una Jackman, standing in isolation, pointed to give her side the lead for only the second time in the contest.

With the clock ticking to full-time Michelle Tobin pointed a close free before Aoife Hannon had the final say

with a late point. Cork did have one attack on goal but the green flag they needed never came thanks to strong defending.

Scorers for Waterford: M Tobin 0-5 (0-3f, 0-1 45), E Farrell 1-1, A Hannon 0-3, C Aarons 1-0, E Fennell, U Jackman 0-1 each.

Cork: K Murphy 0-4 (0-2f), S K Brosnan 1-1, A Moloney 1-0, L Burke H Morgan 0-1 each.

WATERFORD: H O'Donnell; S Denton, C Hogan, S Prendergast; J Burke Gleeson, C

Whyte; C Moore, M Tobin; A Hannon, U Jackman, N Rockett; R Geoghegan, A McCarthy, C Farrelly.

Subs: E Fennell for A McCarthy (28), C Aarons for C Farrelly (h-t), S McGlone for S Prendergast (40).

CORK: A Rodgers; O Jennings, J Hawkes (c), S Duggan; A Hennessy, N O'Brien, R O'Callaghan; R Murphy, J Crowley; H Morgan, S K Brosnan, L Burke; A Moloney, K Murphy, N Crean.

Subs: R Crowley for A Hennessy (45), L Barry for N O'Brien (55).

Referee: Joe O'Donnell (Limerick).

Muskerry can be expected to prevail

TONIGHT
Evening Echo SHC,
Seandún v Muskerry,
Castle Road, 7.30

ONE GAME this week in the Evening Echo senior championship as Seandún and Muskerry are set to battle it out to meet Imokilly in the decider of the divisional section, for a place in the championship proper. **writes MARY NEWMAN.**

Last week Seandún had a comprehensive victory over Avondhu and they will go into this evening's clash determined to push on and go one better.

They are a well-balanced side with Bishopstown's Julie Crowley and Sinead Kelly, and Glen Rovers duo of Michelle Hegarty and Lydia Cunningham forming part of a strong defence.

Bishopstown's Miriam Crowley and Brian Dillon's Amanda Dorgan work hard at midfield while up front Clara Healy, Susan Brosnan, Denise Luby and Jane Dooley were impressive in the last round, as were Eileen Foyle, Sinead O'Halloran, Roisin De Faoite and Karen O'Connell.

County champions in 2007 Muskerry will go in a favourites to advance, despite losing the services of the Rockbawn players, who were promoted this season, but they have gained an Aghabullogue contingent.

They recorded a 1-7 to 1-4 victory over Carrigdhoun in their opening game and with experienced players such as Eire Og's Margaret O'Herlihy and Aoife McCarthy, Sarah Buckley and Denise Cronin from Ballincollig, Tina Roche and Clara Murphy, Aghabullogue, and Linda Dorgan, Grenagh, at their disposal they will be expected to make it to a meeting with Imokilly.

Verdict: Muskerry.

Resounding victory sees Cork amass a 50-point haul

Cork 10-20
Antrim 3-8

CORK BOOKED their place in the last four of the All-Ireland minor championship when they recorded a resounding victory over Antrim in Blanchardstown yesterday.

From the throw-in Corks superiority was evident and at the half-time whistle they led 5-9 to 0-5 as their forwards tore the Antrim defence apart with Katriona Mackey, Denise Luby, Julia White, Joanne Casey, Sinead

By MARY NEWMAN
Minor Camogie

O'Neill and Patricia Buttimer all on target.

Antrim did their best to stem the tide with Raquel McCorry and Susan McKillan firing over five points.

On the turn over Cork continued to dominate as the goal and point tally mounted, Antrim did grab three goals, Raquel McCorry hitting two while Emma McMullen struck for one but their was no denying

Cork their place in the semi-final much to the delight of selector Ann Marie Healy.

"We are delighted to make it to the last four, to be honest the score-line didn't do Antrim justice.

"They had some fine players and a lot of their forwards were very impressive, our defence played superbly today and they just closed down the Antrim attack from the throw-in.

"We knew it was important to get a good start and we had built up a good lead by the half-time whistle

and that settled us.

"In the second half Antrim threw everything at us and they grabbed three goals but we were able to the task and our forwards got the scores to keep us ahead."

Next week it's Clare and Ann Marie is wary of the challenge they pose "Clare will provide us with a huge challenge next weekend we have met them twice already this year and won but this is an All-Ireland semi-final with a huge prize at stake but we are ready and looking forward to it."

Scorers for Cork: K Mackey 3-8, D Luby 2-2 J Casey 2-5, J White 2-3, S O'Neill 1-3 P Buttimer 0-1.

Antrim: R McCorry 2-5, E Mc Mullen 1-0, S McKillen 0-2, I McKeown 0-1.

CORK: J Kavanagh; A Sheehan, M A Hawkes, K O'Donoghue; P Mackey, E Kingston, O O'Mahony; J Lynch, S Buckley; K Mackey, J White, P Buttimer; J Casey, S O'Neill, D Luby.

Subs: E Coughlan for A Sheehan, A Coughlan for K O'Donoghue, T Hawkes for J Kavanagh, A O'Donovan for D Luby, C Meaney for S Buckley.

ANTRIM: L Elliot; M Quinn, L Connolly, A Connolly; B Hegarty, N McGuinness, N Graham; I McKeown, A McLoughlin; A McFadden, S McQuillan, U McNaughton; S McKillan, R McCorry, E McMullen.

Tipperary get back on track

THREE weeks after being beaten by Kilkenny in their opening group game of the Gala All Ireland senior camogie championship, Tipperary showed there is plenty of fight left in the Premier County with their 2-12 to 1-10 victory over Dublin at Parnell Park on Saturday. The victory sets them up for their final group tie which will be an All-Munster affair against champions Cork at Páirc Uí Rinn on August 1.

With the Blues entertaining Kilkenny on the same day, there are many permutations as to who will qualify for the All Ireland semi-finals, especially if the Dubs can build on Saturday's display. At one stage the home side were behind by 12 points, but a determined fight back in the closing quarter saw them hit 1-5 to Tipperary's single point.

The sides were level on three occasions in a competitive opening half, but a cracking goal from Mairead Luttrell in injury time gave the visitors a distinct advantage going to the dressing room, 1-7 to 0-3. Upon the resumption, Dublin had to withstand a lot of pressure, however points from Rachel Costello and Emer Lucey kept them in touch.

Tipperary struck again when Emily Hayden's shot dipped under the crossbar to put them in a 2-11 to



Dublin's Eimear Brannigan in full flight was part of Dublin's fightback that fell 5 points short against Tipperary on Saturday.

Photo: SPORTSFILE

0-5 lead. But Dublin, putting in one of their best performances in a while, stepped up to the challenge magnificently. A goal from Jean Murphy ignited the comeback followed by a flurry of points to leave them just five adrift, and plenty to ponder on.

Elsewhere, Clare collected their first set of points (since being promoted to the senior ranks) this year when they saw off Limerick by the narrowest of margins in Cusack Park, 2-8 to 1-10. This was a closely fought match, with just a point the difference as well at half time, 2-4 to 1-6.

A brace of goals from Fiona Lafferty and Claire Commene contributed to a strong first half for the Banner ladies, but Joanne Clifford ensured the Limerick girls were not too far off the mark with her green flag. It was nip and tuck for the closing 30 minutes, with the home team managing to hold out.

Clare are at home to Wexford in two weeks time and while the Slaneysiders will be favourites to go through to the penultimate stages along with Galway (who host Limerick), it will make for an interesting climax.

Waterford win Munster U16B title MUNSTER TITLE FOR WATERFORD U16'S

Waterford 2-10 Cork 2-7

After a titanic battle in Fraher field Dungarvan on Sunday July 19th Waterford's u16 camogie team beat Cork's u16 team in the Munster U16B championship final. This game set out to be a thriller, with both teams all out to capture the Munster title.

It was Waterford's Aoife Hannon who registered the first score of the game from a well taken point in the first five minutes of the game followed by Cork's Laura Burke who scored the second point three minutes later. There was nothing between both teams at this stage as each team battled hard to win the ball. Several minutes later Waterford's Michelle Tobin slotted the ball over for another point which was to be Waterford's final score of the half. After this, Cork came into the game and dominated the remainder of the half scoring 1-3 in this time frame leaving the half time score of Waterford 0-2 Cork 1-4.

The second half began, with Cork coming out with great confidence, with Cork's Susan Brosnan scoring the first goal of the half three minutes into the half. At this stage Waterford seemed to find it hard to break through the Cork defence as they marked the Waterford forwards very tightly. Two more points were scored by Cork without reply from Waterford leaving a ten point deficit between both teams. It seemed at this stage that the game was slipping from Waterford.

On the twelfth minute of the half the introduction of substitute Clara Arrons proved to be a great move on Waterford's behalf when a ball that was dropped in to the forward line from out field was pulled into the back of the Cork net by Clara, which lifted the spirits of the Waterford girls. Cork's Susan Brosnan scored the next point of the game before Waterford's other substitute Emer Fennell scored Waterford's second goal.

The Waterford side were growing in confidence and Cork were unable to counteract it. Indeed for the final fifteen minutes of the game Waterford were winning the ball in all areas of the field with great determination and Cork were unable to stop them, scoring 1-7 without reply in the last fifteen minutes ending the score Waterford 2-10 Cork 2-7.

Great credit is due to the girls as they never gave up even though things did look bad going into the last quarter of the game. As the saying goes 'never give up until the final whistle blows'. Many thanks to the selectors Dan Geoghegan, Morgan Conroy, Eilish McGlone and Kieran Tobin who gave up all of their spare time over the last six months training and travelling with the girls to matches.

Panel: Helen O'Donnell, Clara Hogan, Sarah McGlone, Claire Whyte, Jemma Burke, Shauna Prendergast, Jessica Gleeson, Una Jackman (0-1), Michelle Tobin (Cpt) (0-5), Aoife Hannon (0-3), Shannon Denton, Niamh Rockett, Ciara Moore, Ruth Geoghegan, Amy Beecher, Aine McCarthy, Niamh Beehan, Kate Ryan, Clara Arrons (1-0), Lorna Cullen, Niamh Prendergast, Caroline Farrelly, Valerie O'Brien, Emer Fennell (1-1), Katie Brown, Aoife Landers.

Selectors: Dan Geoghegan, Eilish McGlone, Kieran Tobin and Morgan Conroy.

Waterford 2-10 Cork 2-7

Waterford: Aoife Hannon 0-3, Michelle Tobin 0-5 (0-3 F), Clara Arrons 1-0, Emer Fennell 1-1, Una Jackman 0-1

Cork: Laura Burke 0-1, Katie Murphy 0-4 (0-2 F), Aisling Moloney 1-0, Heather Morgan 0-1, Susan Brosnan 1-1

CAMOGIE

GALA SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Tipperary 2-12 (E. Hayden 1-1, M. Luttrell 1-0, C. Devane 0-4 (0-3 F), J. Ryan 0-3, G. Kinnane 0-2, J. Horan, M. Shortt 0-1 each) Dublin 1-10 (J. Murphy 1-0, L. O'Hara, R. Costello 0-2 each, N. Taylor 0-2, E. Brannigan, E. Lucey, A. Murphy 0-1 each)

Clare 2-8 (F. Lafferty 1-3, C. Commene 1-0, S. O'Loughlin 0-2 (0-1 F), C. Rosengrave 0-2, C. Morey 0-1) Limerick 1-10 (J. Clifford 1-0, N. Mulcahy 0-7 (0-3 F), D. Fitzpatrick, C. Mulcahy, E. O'Brien 0-1 each)

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Waterford 2-8 (K. Kelly 1-4 (0-2 F), N. Morrissey 1-0, A. Lyring 0-4 (0-1 F)) Down 0-11 (C. Mc Crickard 0-4, N. Branniff, P. Gribben, K. Mc Mullen 0-2 each, L. Mc Crickard 0-1)

Nancy Murray Cup

Armagh 2-8 (C. Mc Sorley 2-7, P. Mallon 0-1) Westmeath 2-7 (J. Walsh 1-1, A. Heffernan 0-6, D. Mc Grath 1-0) Tyrone 2-7 Kildare 1-3



The Cork team that beat Tipperary in the U16 Munster Championship recently, including Orla Ni Shuilleabháin, Saoirse Rodgers and Susan-Kate Brosnan from Brian Dillon's.

July 2009

Camogie

HALIFAX

Always giving you ext



Dubs buoyed by Tipp clash

By Niall Scully

IT was the best Dublin display since they returned to the senior grade. Defeat with dignity against Tipperary in Parnell Park on Saturday.

Dublin came with a surging finish. In the end the clock as much as Tipp beat them. It was more than a decent Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship tie. The Premier prevailed, 2-12 to 1-10.

Dublin improved vastly from their first outing in Cork, just as manager, Peter Lucey, said they would. And they will be even sharper for the visit of Kilkenny to Dublin on August 1. The Cats beat Tipp in their opening assignment.

The bright news going into that fixture is that Dublin will still be in the mix. A win over the Cats coupled with Cork beating Tipp and the Blues will be dancing.

It would mean a three-way play-off for the All-Ireland semi-final berth. Yet no matter what the golden sliotar holds in store, Dublin took pride from Saturday's showing.

"We were very disappointed with the result. We knew the result was going to be very important," mused Peter Lucey.

"Tipp had lost a game, we had lost a game. We needed to put points on the table. We slackened off before half-time as we conceded one goal and two points. And immediately after half-time, we conceded some points and that put us under fierce pressure.

"But, in saying that, there were some fantastic performances. The opening 20 minutes were nip and tuck, and the last 20 minutes of the second half belonged to us."

When it was all over, Peter and the Dublin team were busy signing autographs in the sunshine for the little ones. The crowd that came really got behind the girls in the last few chapters.

For the hour Louise O'Hara, the home skipper, led the charge. Louise brought the sewing needles and she was knitting pretty patterns all day. She'd pop up on every avenue. Winning possession and releasing a colleague with a simple hand pass into space. She made the craft look easy.

It was far from it, especially when Dublin were rowing upstream. Yet, even

against the tide, Louise was class itself. She's been residing on Quality Street for years. A real jewel of the sport.

Three times the sides were level in the first period. Tipp led by 1-7 to 0-3 at the break. They possessed the sharper attack.

In that opening half, Dublin attacked the church end. They might have had a heavier purse at the interval.

Tipp had an impressive full-forward line - Joanne Ryan, Emily Hayden and Michelle Shortt. No shortage of pace or guile there.

Tipp's goal came on the blow of the break, right after a pocket of Dublin pressure. Mairead Luttrell's close-in finish was slick and sure.

In trying to prevent the shot, Dublin goalie, Stephanie Carthy, sustained an injured hand and had to go off. Into goal went corner forward, Joellenne Hoary.

Hayden pointed for Tipp within 15 seconds of the restart. By its seventh minute, Joanne Ryan, (2) and Cait Devane had added to the tally.

The game was moving quickly away from the hosts. Rachel Costello and Emer Lucey hit two sweet points. But then Hayden's comet dipped from the clouds for Tipp's second goal - 2-11 to 0-5.

Cue the Dublin revolution. Five points on the spin from Sarah Ryan, Costello, Amy Murphy and two from O'Hara.

Then, in the 55th minute, Jean Murphy rattled a beauty to the net 2-11 to 1-10. Up went the volume. Dublin kept pressing.

Another Dublin goal would have been something. Tipp didn't flinch. Devane's free, deep in injury time, was the last note of the contest.

Tipp were glad to hear the last whistle. Dublin's offering was so full of spirit.

Leading into the Kilkenny tie, training will be humming. The morale is up.

DUBLIN: Stephanie Carthy (N. Mearnóg); Andrea Fitzpatrick (N. Mearnóg); Tara Corrigan (N. Jude); Cathiona Power (N. Mearnóg); Elaine O'Meara (Na Fianna); Louise O'Hara (D-2, Erin's Isle); Sarah Ryan (D-1, Good Counsel); Ciara Lucey (Ballyboden St Enda's); Laura Twomey (N. Mearnóg); Rachel Costello (D-2, N. Fionnbarra); Eimear Brannigan (D-1, St Vincent's); Niamh Taylor (D-2 (2)), N. Mearnóg; Emer Lucey (D-1, Ballyboden St Enda's); Amy Murphy (D-1, St Mark's); Joellenne Hoary (Good Counsel). **Subs used:** Arlene Cusheen (Na Fianna); Allison Maguire (St Vincent's); Jean Murphy (1-0, Skerries Harps); Ciara Durkin (Ballyboden St Enda's).



MY BALL: Dublin's Rachel Costello and Tipperary's Tishy O'Halloran battle for possession during Saturday's clash.



MEET THE DUBS

Name: Stephanie Carthy.
Club: N. Mearnóg. **Age:** 18.
Occupation: Childcare Assistant.
Club honours won: League and Championship Winners with junior team, Managers Player of the Year.
Intercounty honours: Senior 'B' player of the year, Youngest captain to captain Senior 'B', U18 captain.
Other sports played: Volleyball.
What's on iPod/MP3 at the moment: JT & Clara - Love, sex, magic.
Best advice received: From previous Dublin manager he used one word every time "Believe".
Superstitions: Bad luck when glass is broken.
Should camogie have exactly the same rules as hurling: Yes.
Person you admire most: My Dad!

Blues face Cats in 'Nell

HOME FROM HOME..... Dublin's final Group game in the Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship has been confirmed for Parnell Park.

It will be against Kilkenny on Saturday, August 1. A win for the Blues would be just the tonic.

The Dublin players and management are delighted that the game will be staged in the capital's HQ.

And already the call has gone out for the camogie clan to come out in big numbers to cheer on the team.

Fair play to those who travelled to Donnycarny last Saturday. Their encouragement really helped Lucey's Lions in their brave revival spurt.

INTEREST..... continues to grow in the Eileen Minihan Memorial Night.

It takes place this Saturday, July 25, at the St Mark's GAA club in Tallaght.

The occasion will honour the memory of a talented young sportswoman that served the club so well.

Eileen was a top-class goalkeeper for Mark's and also a highly respected juvenile mentor. Her sporting talents also extended to Ladies football and soccer.

She was an inspirational person, and her example will continue to dance up around McGee Park.

Tickets cost a tenner. They are available from the club or at the door on the night. Entertainment is guaranteed.

All proceeds will go to the Cormac McAnallen Trust for sudden cardiac death.

NOTES

- THE Dublin senior team gave an excellent performance against Tipperary in the Gala Championship. Well done to all concerned and speedy get well to Stephanie Carthy and Eimear Brannigan. Many thanks to John Costello, the Dublin GAA County Board and Parnell Park staff for their great support.
- ALL clubs are asked to make a special effort to support Dublin's next game in the series on the August Bank Holiday week end at home to Kilkenny.
- BEST of luck to the Dublin juniors who travel to Waterford for their final game in the round robin phase of the championship.
- BEST of luck to the Dublin hurlers on Sunday against Limerick in their All-Ireland SHC quarter-final.

Juniors looking to bounce back against Déise

By Niall Scully

THE Dublin juniors are off to Suirside on Saturday. It's their last game in the Gala All-Ireland Junior Championship.

Pride is the prize, and they are keen to leave the stage with the applause rising. Two games played and two defeats. A heavy loss away to Down and a worthy showing against Offaly in Portlarnock.

The graph is rising. "We showed good determination in the second half against Offaly," noted Irene Kirwan.

Pat Duncan, Paul Beecher and Irene are the management trio. And they have no shortage of leaders to help guide their young side.

The spine of the team is a big help. Captain and full-back, Eve Talbot, enjoyed some golden moments against Offaly.

Gillian McCluskey brings vast experience to the midfield sector, as does her Erin's Isle colleague, Valerie Reaney, at full-forward.

Brigid Sweetman from Naomh Fionnbarra is a tidy keeper, and there are plenty of skillful players in all departments.

And while the Junior Championship can be an unforgiving place for the new and the young, Dublin are happy to be there.

"It's pretty challenging because we are playing against the top team in the particular counties. We are Dublin's second team," said Irene.

"But it's very important to have a Junior team because the gap between Under-18 and Senior is too big. It's been very beneficial for us to be able to expose players to this level.

"We are very happy with the atmosphere in the camp. The girls are really enjoying it.

"We have had lots of requests from club players to come out training with us because they have heard it's going well.

"We'll go into the Waterford match with good hope and I think we'll take plenty of positives from our second-half efforts against Offaly."

For this Dublin team, the All-Ireland Junior Championship is proving a tough university, but it's value will be seen down the road.

Clare play-off hopes still alive with last-gasp victory

Clare 2-8

**Limerick 1-10 Sports Editor
Seamus Hayes reports**

MAGNIFICENT pressure point from a 70 metre free by Chloe Morey gave Clare a pulsating victory over Limerick in this Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship tie played at Cusack Park on Saturday.

The victory keeps Clare's hopes of a place in the play-offs alive and it's now all down to the outcome of their clash with Wexford on August 1, a game that will also be played at Cusack Park.

Limerick looked to be in control of this clash when they held a six-point lead at half time, the goal coming in the third minute of injury time. It was a sickening blow and it looked as if it would prove vital in helping Limerick to victory.

A storming start to the second half brought Clare right back into contention. Goals in the first and sixth minute of the half put the home side into the lead and from here on it was a very close contest.

Indeed, everything pointed to a draw, as the sides were level three times in the closing period.

Defences dominated in the opening 20 minutes, at the end of which the teams were level at 0-3 each. In the remaining time, Limerick held the upper hand and when the half-time whistle sounded they were 1-6 to 0-3 ahead.

The goal came when a long-range free by centre-back Aoife Sheehan was added to by full-forward Joanne Clifford.

It was clear that Clare needed something special when play resumed and within a minute of the restart they were back in contention. A huge delivery from team captain Deirdre Murphy caused problems in the Limerick defence and Claire Commene first-timed the ball to the net. Sharon O'Loughlin followed with a point and the margin was down to two with just two minutes of the half played.

A couple of minutes later Kilnamona's Carina Roseingrave and Fiona Lafferty combined for the latter to crash a powerful effort into the roof of the Limerick net. The score put Clare into a one-point lead.

After this early scoring burst, there was surprise when 13 scoreless minutes followed. During this time there was heavy rain, which made conditions difficult for the players. Eleven minutes from time Fiona Lafferty stretched the home side's lead to two points but Limerick came back strongly and three points in a row had them one in front with just a minute remaining.

In the final minute of normal time, Fiona Lafferty struck again to tie up the game.

Both sides missed great chances of going back in front, Limerick through their top scorer Niamh Mulcahy and Clare through free taker Sharon O'Loughlin.

Four minutes into injury time Carina Roseingrave handed the home side into the lead but straight from the puck-out Limerick had the equaliser from Niamh Mulcahy, who ended a great score from near the sideline.

The game was in the sixth minute of injury time when Clare were awarded a free on the 70 metre line and Chloe Morey hit the target to give victory to Clare.

Dee Corcoran, Kate Lynch and team captain Deirdre Murphy were always prominent in defence for Clare while Fiona Lafferty and Claire Commene got through a lot of work for the winners.

Limerick's best were Sarah Collins, Deirdre Fitzpatrick, Aideen McNamara and the game's top scorer, Niamh Mulcahy, who contributed 0-7.

Clare: Denise Lynch; Dee Corcoran, Kate Lynch, Carol Kaiser; Sarah Sherlock, Deirdre Murphy (capt), Chloe Morey; Aoife Ryan, Ruth Kaiser; Róisín McMahon, Fiona Lafferty, Sharon O'Loughlin; Carine Roseingrave, Claire Commene, Monagh Enright.

Scorers: Fiona Lafferty (1-3); Claire Commene (1-0); Sharon O'Loughlin (0-2); Carine Roseingrave (0-2); Chloe Morey (0-1).

Refs: Niamh Corry for McMahon; Siobhán Lafferty for Commene.

Limerick: Mary Lonergan; Sarah Carey, Sarah Collins, Janet Harvey; Judith Mulcahy, Aoife Sheehan, Aideen McNamara; Deirdre Fitzpatrick, Catriona Davis; Claire Mulcahy, Niamh Mulcahy, Fiona Hickey; Eileen O'Brien, Joanne Clifford, Katie Campbell.

Scorers: Niamh Mulcahy (0-7); Joanne Clifford (1-1); Deirdre Fitzpatrick, Eileen O'Brien (0-1) each.

Refs: Naoimi Carroll for Campbell; Sile Minihan for Lonergan; Kerrie Brosnan for S. Collins;

Referee: Eamonn Browne, Tipperary.



Clockwise from left:
■ Clare's Sarah Sherlock keeps possession despite the presence of Limerick's C Mulcahy.
■ Carina Roseingrave palms this over for an important point in the dying minutes of the game.
■ Aoife Ryan possession a Limerick's D Fitzpatrick chase.
Photographs Mike Mulcair



Bertie buoyant with Clare resolve

CLARE manager Bertie Sherlock didn't hide his delight at Saturday's result but he admitted that they had anxious moments.

"We were stuck to the ground in the first half but we came out with all guns blazing after half time," he commented just after seeing Clare get their first win in this season's senior championship campaign.

"Fair play to them. They dug out a result. We wanted to claim a scalp

and fair play to the girls," he said of his charges. "Limerick are an established senior team and we are the new guns on the block. That win will be a big lift to Clare camogie," he added.

Having lost to Galway in the opening round two weeks earlier, Clare needed to win this one to keep their hopes of progress alive.

"We are still in the hunt and Wexford will earn it to get out of here

with a win," the manager went on.

"I am over the moon for the girls. They have worked hard this year and they got the result. They came up from junior and there were doubts whether they were capable of playing at senior level or not. They are as good as any of them," he added.

Like all in attendance, he was impressed by the quality of the winning score. "There were some great scores and Chloe Morey's free was

excellent. It was a fantastic free such a young player but she was confident," the Toomevara manager but lamented that they conceded very easy goal before half time.

"We were down going in at 11 time and it was a fairly lively draw, I will admit.

"I am looking forward to having Wexford here and we will give Clare public value," he promised.

Minors chase final place

CLARE will be attempting to qualify for the All-Ireland U-19 camogie championship final for the second year in succession when they play Cork in the semi-final this Sunday at Kilmallock at 3.30pm.

Kilkenny, winners of the title when they accounted for Clare in the final last year, will play Tipperary in the other semi-final at 1.45.

Having lost to Cork in the first round, Clare will be keen

to avenge that result. Following that defeat, they bounced back into contention with a seven-point victory over Galway.

The Clare line-up will include a number of last year's team and they will be hoping that the experience gained in that campaign will stand to them.

These include Chloe Morey, scorer of the winning point for the senior side last Sat-

urday, Carol Kaiser, Róisín McMahon and Shonagh Enright, who also played against Limerick in the senior championship.

In addition, Clare will call on Ann Marie McMahon, Eimear Considine and Róisín O'Brien.

It's a big task for Clare but hopes are high that they can reverse the first-round result and qualify for the final for the second year in succession.

Assistance objection

THE executive of Clare Camogie is currently looking at an objection from Newmarket to the decision taken last week to allow a number of clubs to receive assistance from five named players for the upcoming senior championship.

At a recent county board meeting, sanction was given to Bodyke and Broadford for five named players each to assist them in the senior championship. The option is there for all senior clubs to apply for 'isolated' players, provided they are from junior and/or intermediate clubs.

Newmarket have now objected to that decision and this is what the county executive is considering at present. They are expected to issue their findings this week.

The players who have received permission to assist Broadford are Kate Lynch, (Kilkishen); Sarah Sherlock and Michelle Caulfield (Truagh); Aisling and Sinéad Treacy (Whitegate).

Bodyke have been given permission to have Aine O'Brien (Scariff); Ellen Solan and Aine Dinan, (Tulla); Róisín O'Brien and Susan Vaughan, (Ogonnelloe), in their panel.

Points are conceded

THE Clare intermediate team did not travel to Ashbourne to play Derry in round of the championship on Saturday.

Work commitments and injuries that Clare did not have enough players for the game and the decision was taken day evening and both Derry and the council were informed.

As a result, Clare are now out of the championship and a decision will be by the county board later this week whether the team will play their final game against Wexford on Saturday.

Brave performance paves way to All-Ireland semi final

ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP

WATERFORD.....2-8
DOWN.....0-11

Waterford and Down renewed camogie rivalries in a crucial Gala All Ireland group qualifying match last Saturday in Ashbourne. The last time the teams clashed was in the Division 2 League final in 2007 when a pulsating game ended in a two point victory for Waterford.

It was just as close on this occasion with the referee ruling out a Mourne goal four minutes into injury time due to an infringement of the square. The victory sends Waterford into the semi finals, while Down will face Offaly this weekend to decide who joins them. For their part Waterford can top the group if they overcome Dublin in Dunhill on Saturday.

GOALS WIN GAMES

The old axiom was certainly relevant in this game. Waterford's ability to raise green flags ultimately decided the encounter. They scored two classic goals of contrasting styles. The first was a superb individual effort by Lismore's Nicola Morrissey, in the tenth minute of the first half, the other the product of brilliant teamwork finished by Karen Kelly in clinical style.

Despite their best efforts, the vanquished could not find their way past a resilient Waterford defence. Extensive periods of Down supremacy in the second half was matched by brave defending and a series of last

second interventions that guaranteed success.

WHIRLWIND START

The game commenced in hectic fashion with Down's Nicola Branniff recording their first point within thirty seconds of the throw in. Waterford responded swiftly with two well taken points from Gaultier's Aine Lyng in the following two minutes. Down goalkeeper Theresa McGowan was utilising the short puck out to good effect during the early stages. But on the tenth minute Nicola Morrissey cleverly intercepted, beat her player and goaled with aplomb.

DOWN POINTS

Down responded well and rattled over three points to level the match on a score-line of 1-2 to 0-5 midway through. For the next five minutes Waterford moved into the ascendancy. Karen Kelly restored their three point advantage converting a succession of frees. The sides exchanged two further points before the break.

INCREASED INTENSITY

The second half was played out in a welter of excitement. Down dominating possession for the last twenty minutes, Waterford defending resolutely. Both sides had early points from placed ball before Waterford's second goal arrived. The outstanding Grainne Kenneally won



Charlotte Maher in action during the All-Ireland group qualifying match last Saturday.

possession in her own half. She found wing forward Aine Breathnach on the right wing with an accurate 50 meter pass. The Butlerstown speedster advanced before hand passing to Aine Lyng. The centre forward deftly moved the ball onto Karen Kelly. The St Anne's star turned quickly, the sliothar nestled in the net before the Down net minder had an opportunity to raise her hurley. The same player added a further point on the 14th minute.

HONEST DEFENDING

A seven point lead might have disheartened many but this is a resilient Down outfit.

They patiently whittled away at the lead with points from captain Lisa McCrickard and Karen McMullen. It was now the turn of the Waterford defence to be tested. They passed with an honours degree. A series of attacks was repelled, their work rate phenomenal. Goalkeeper Aisling O'Brien made two crucial saves, a flying block by Grainne Kenneally averting a certain goal. Charlotte Maher and Mairead Murphy worked tirelessly in midfield to turn the relentless Mourne wave.

FOUR MINUTES OF INJURY TIME

Moving into injury time

Waterford lead by three points, the sliothar seemed to have established permanent residence in their half. With supporters whistling for time Down's Catherine McGourty, who had a tremendous joust with Pauline Cunningham all through, struck from the right wing. The ball finished in the Waterford net but an attacker had arrived in the square in advance of the ball. The score was ruled out.

Victory and qualification to Waterford, Down with the possibility still to qualify. Meath have also qualified, Antrim and Laois do battle this weekend for the fourth place.



Karen Kelly wins out the race to the ball

MATCH FACTS

WATERFORD: Aisling O'Brien, Kate Marie Herne, Sally O'Grady (Capt.), Vicky Gaffney, Jennie Simpson, Trish Jackman, Pauline Cunningham, Mairead Murphy, Charlotte Maher, Aine Lyng (0-3), Nicola Morrissey (1-0), Aine Breathnach, Shona Curran, Grainne Kenneally, Karen Kelly (1-5), Shauna Kiernan, Niamh Ryan, Deirdre Pahey, Marie Russell, Lisa Prendergast, Aileen Cummins, Aisling Kelly, Roisin Heylin, Rachel Whelan, Margo Heffernan, Lorraine Whelan.

DOWN: Theresa McGowan, Laura Brennan, Pauline Green, Grainne O'Higgins, Moya Maginn, Karen Tineally, Fionnuala Carr, Ciara McGovern, Lisa McCrickard, Karen McMullen, Catherine McGourty, Orla Maginn, Kelly O'Higgins, Nicola Branniff, Sara-Louise Carr, Paula Gribben, Peggy Matthews, Cathy Mulholland.

REFEREE: Donal Ryan, Dublin.

Munster title win for Waterford U16 camogie girls

WATERFORD.....2-10
CORK.....2-7

After a titanic battle in Frasher field Dungarvan on Sunday last, Waterford's u16 camogie team beat Cork in the Munster U16B championship final. This game set out to be a thriller, with both teams all out to capture the Munster title.

It was Waterford's Aoife Hannon who registered the first score of the game from a well taken point in the first five minutes of the game, followed by Cork's Laura Burke, who scored the second point three minutes later. There was nothing

between both teams at this stage as each battled hard to win the ball. Several minutes later Waterford's Michelle Tobin slotted the ball over for another point which was to be Waterford's final score of the half. After this, Cork came into the game and dominated the remainder of the half scoring 1-3 in this time frame leaving the half time score of Waterford 0-2, Cork 1-4.

The second half began, with Cork coming out with great confidence, with Cork's Susan Brosnan scoring the first goal of the half three minutes into the half. At this stage Waterford

seemed to find it hard to break through the Cork defence as they marked the Waterford forwards very tightly. Two more points were scored by Cork without reply from Waterford, leaving a ten point deficit between both teams.

It seemed at this stage that the game was slipping from Waterford. On the twelfth minute of the half the introduction of substitute Clara Arrows proved to be a great move on Waterford's behalf when a ball that was dropped in to the forward line from out field was pulled into the back of the Cork net

by Clara, which lifted the spirits of the Waterford girls. Cork's Susan Brosnan scored the next point of the game before Waterford's other substitute Emer Fennell scored Waterford's second goal.

The Waterford side were growing in confidence and Cork were unable to counteract it. Indeed for the final fifteen minutes of the game Waterford were winning the ball in all areas of the field with great determination and Cork were unable to stop them, scoring 1-7 without reply in the last fifteen minutes ending the score Waterford 2-10 Cork 2-7.

Great credit is due to the girls as they never gave up even tho' things did look bad going into the last quarter of the game. As the saying goes 'never give up until the final whistle blows'. Many thanks to the selectors Dan Geoghegan, Morgan Conroy, Eilish McGlone and Kieran Tobin who gave up all of their spare time over the last six months training and travelling with the girls to matches.

Panel: Helen O'Donnell, Clara Hogan, Sarah McGlone, Claire Whyte, Gemma Burke, Shauna Prendergast, Jessica Gleeson, Una Jackman (0-1),

Michelle Tobin (Cpt) (0-5), Aoife Hannon (0-3), Shannon Denton, Niamh Rockett, Clara Moore, Ruth Geoghegan, Amy Beecher, Aine McCarthy, Niamh Beehan, Kate Ryan, Clara Arrows (1-0), Lorna Cullen, Niamh Prendergast, Caroline Farrelly, Valerie O'Brien, Emer Fennell (1-1), Katie Brown, Aoife Landers.

Selectors: Dan Geoghegan, Eilish McGlone, Kieran Tobin and Morgan Conroy.

GALA JUNIOR ALL IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIP

After last weekend's win

over Down, Waterford's County team will play Dublin in the next round of the Gala All Ireland Championship in Dunhill on Saturday July 25th at 3 pm. The girls are already qualified for the All Ireland semi-final but this game determines who they play in the semi-final.

U18B ALL IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

Waterford's minor camogie team will play in the All Ireland Semi-final on Sunday next, July 26th, against Derry at a venue to be confirmed at the time of going to press.

Cork and Clare meet for the third time this season

SUNDAY All-Ireland Minor Camogie Championship semi-final Cork v Clare

Kilmallock, 3.30pm

IT'S THE third time this season that Cork and Clare meet at minor level when they come face to face on Sunday in Kilmallock.

This time out it's a place in the All-Ireland final that is at stake. Earlier in the season Cork gained the upper hand in the Munster final before going on to record a victory in the first round of the championship. Clare despite losing out on that

By MARY NEWMAN
Minor Camogie

occasion regrouped to record a victory over Galway in the losers round to get their quest for the title back on track, defeated All-Ireland finalists last season they are very determined to go all the way this year. On paper Cork looked comfortable winners when the sides met on July 1 but the score line of 3-13 to 1-6 didn't really do justice to the game and certainly it was not as easy as the score line suggests. Cork hit 2-3 in the last eight minutes to finally

shake off a tenacious Clare challenge in a game that was a thriller from start to finish.

With 10 of last seasons panel still eligible this season Cork are very focused on finally capture the counties first All-Ireland title at this level, the rivalry between these sides has grown since U16 days when Clare defeated Cork to take the provincial title however Cork then went on to reverse that result in the All-Ireland series the same year. Last season the rivalry continued with Clare taking the Munster title defeating Cork in the final but Cork reversed it this

year to take the provincial crown and then go on to record a victory in the first game of the championship.

Clare have retained several of last season's panel including Shona Enright who proved a hand full in their previous meeting while Carol Kaiser and Cloe Morey won All-Ireland junior medals last season.

Cork recorded a comprehensive victory over Antrim last weekend but they would have been happier with a closer more competitive game something which Clare got in their outing against Galway were seven points dividing the sides.

While the Cork starting 15 has not as yet been named we can expect to see little change to last weekends line out where Katrina Mackey, Joanne Casey, Denise Luby, Julia White, Sinead O'Neill played prominent roles.

● **Cork minor panel:** Jessica Kavanagh, Aileen Sheehan, Mary Ann Hawkes, Kate O'Donoghue, Pamela Mackey, Jennifer Lynch, Emma Kingston, Sara Buckley, Katrina Mackey, Joanne Casey, Julia White, Mariah Reidy, Aileen O'Donovan, Denise Luby, Sinead O'Neill, Tessa Hawkes, Clara Hayes, Orlaith O'Mahony, Patricia Buttner, Kate Harrington, Ena Coughlan, Clara Meaney, Alison Coughlan, Caoimhe O'Callaghan and Rebecca Finn.

All-Ireland tickets motion is passed

By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie

COUNTY BOARDS and clubs have been notified with details of the motions passed at National Camogie Congress in March that each affiliated club in the country must purchase two tickets for the All-Ireland camogie finals to be held in Croke Park on September 13.

County boards in every county have now been advised on the arrangement which has been put in place in order to implement the enforcement of the motion.

To facilitate the collection of the money for these tickets the process will be implemented as follows, each county board is responsible for collecting money from each club within its own county; the closing date for clubs to pay their respective county board is August 14.

The county board will shortly receive an invoice detailing the amount owed to Ardchomhairle and each county board must then send the outstanding money to camogie headquarters by close of business on August 21.

The tickets will be forwarded to county boards on receipt of money for distributions to the various clubs within each county as it is the county board in each county who is responsible to collect the money from each club. This is sure to provide a huge job for the county treasurers all over Ireland.

The Ardchomhairle is hoping that clubs will row in and play their part and for each club that has paid by the closing date, they will be entered into a draw for overnight stay the night of the All-Ireland for two people with two All-Ireland tickets.

Clubs who fail to comply with the motion and support the venture and have not paid for their two tickets on time the penalty is twice the value of the tickets to be paid by year end.

While the motion is a very good one and if fully supported will help generate much needed finance to help fund the staging of the All-Ireland finals in Croke Park maybe a levy to the value of the tickets could have been added to the at start of year affiliations fees thus cutting out the huge volume of work the implementation of this motion will now put on the county treasurers.

It is very hard to see the smaller clubs in counties who will never reach Croke Park on All-Ireland camogie day supporting the venture given the current economic times being experienced at present in the country, lets hope that every club in Cork will be needing their two tickets and that the red and white will be prominent on the day.



Carrigaline and Passage West U10 players tussle for possession during their challenge match at the Passage Family Sports Day. Picture: Damien Quirke



Action from the U10 friendly camogie match between Passage West and Carrigaline at the Passage Family Sports Day. Picture: Damien Quirke

Top U16 teams to be known shortly

WITH league competitions at U16 level entering their final rounds the top teams in the various sections will shortly be known.

With several clubs seeking re-grading, just seven teams remained to go into the hat for the A Championship with Brian Dillon's, Ballygarvan and Inniscarra dropping from A grade to B grade.

Already the seven teams that are in the A Championship have been battling it out for the four qualifying places in the league.

Milford, Douglas, Ballinhassig, Glen Rovers and Courcy Rovers are the frontrunners for the four semi-final spots with just under 10 days to go to the cut-off date and no doubt they will certainly be the ones to watch.

By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie latest

Glen Rovers and Milford played out a close league clash where a goal decided it in the Milford girls' favour and when the draws were made these were the first two names out of the hat and no doubt the Glen girls will relish another clash with their north Cork rivals in what should be one of the games of the championship.

In an all-Carrigdhoun clash, Ballinhassig will not have it easy against Valley Rovers. In their league clash Ballinhassig held the upper hand but Valley will be determined to reverse it this time out.

Courcy Rovers and Mallow will battle it out for a place in the semi-final against holders Douglas.

Mallow despite not making it to

the closing stages of the league battled hard in all their games and they will push Courcy to the limit.

In the U16 B Championship, 16 teams are in action and the ones to keep an eye on are Brian Dillon's Inniscarra and Ballygarvan. Despite not enjoying the best of runs in the A league all participated well and last year's defeated league finalists Ballincollig will be among the favourites to do well.

Ballygarvan and Brian Dillon's should be a very interesting first round tie. At C level 16 teams will battle it out for ultimate honours while at D level eight teams are drawn to battle it out for the title.

It is hoped that all first rounds will be played on or before September 6 with the A and D grades to be played at neutral venues.

CHAMPIONSHIP DRAWS

U16 A Championship (A): Glen Rovers v Milford (B): Courcy Rovers v Mallow (C): Ballinhassig v Valley Rovers.

Semi-finals: Douglas v 'B' 'C' v 'A'.

U16 B Championship Prelims: (A): St. Marys v Ballinhassig (B): Carrigaline v Cloughduv (C): Inniscarra v Kilbrittain / Timoleague (D): Ballincollig v Sliabh Rua (E): Millstreet v Newtownshandrum (F): Killeagh v St. Catherine's (G): Enniskeane v Tracton (H): Brian Dillon's v Ballygarvan.

Quarter-finals: (I): 'E' v 'G' (J): 'B' v 'F' (K): 'C' v 'D' (L): 'H' v 'A' **Semi-finals:** (M): 'I' v 'L' (N): 'J' v 'K'.

U16 'C' Championship Prelims: (A): Fr. O'Neill's v Blarney (B): Douglas 2 v Eire Og (C): Ballinora v Passage West (D): Barryroe v Banteer (E): Buttevant v Clonakilty (F): Bishopstown v Sarsfields (G): St. Vincent's v Rockham (H): Watergrasshill v St. Finbarrs.

Quarter-finals: (I): 'B' v 'D' (J): 'H' v 'C' (K): 'A' v 'G' (L): 'E' v 'F'.

Semi-finals: (M): 'I' v 'K' (N): 'J' v 'L'.

U16 'D' Championship First Rounds: (A): Glen Rovers 2 v Castletynes (B): Newtown v Carrigrohilly (C): Kildorrey v Grenagh (D): Aghabullogue v Blackrock.

Semi-finals: (E): 'C' v 'B' (F): 'D' v 'A'.

BALLINHASSIG

JUNIOR Championship Shield: Our junior team recently played their first game in the junior championship shield competition and recorded a victory over Barryroe. At half-time we led 3-2 to 1-0 and adding to our tally in the second half we ran out winners on a 5-5 to 1-0 score line. Players who scored were Sinead Crowley 2-4, Aine Burns 1-1, Louise Finn 1-0 and Brid Coleman 1-0.

BRIAN DILLON'S

Good Luck to all the girls in the junior team who will be playing against Douglas in the Junior A Championship next week.

Well done to the Brian Dillon's players-Susan-Kate Brosnan, Amanda Dorgan, Therese Drummond, Aoife Finnegan, Christine Kearney, Emma Lane, Anthea O'Brien, and Saoirse Rodgers who played in the senior Seandun team against Muskerri last Tuesday. Thanks to Liz O'Mahony selector for the senior Seandun team.

BISHOPSTOWN

Well done to our senior team who had a great first championship outing against Aghabullogue. A great first-half display saw the score at half-time 1-9 to 1-3, with Clara Healy scoring the goal from a free. Aghabullogue really upped their game in the second half, but some great defending especially by Eileen Foyle and Orla Crowley kept them at bay. A goal just before full-time gave Bishopstown the cushion they needed and well done to all on a great team display. It ended 2-13 to 2-7. Scorers were Clara Healy 1-9, Maeve Scannell 0-3, Mairin Egan 1-0 and Miriam Crowley 0-1.

YOUGHAL

Youghal Camogie Club is going from strength to strength, we did have a very late start to the season with training not starting until late February and we had a couple of hiccups with not having a trainer. Mark Burke came on board for us in March and training has been going very well for the girls with

three nights a week solidly since March. The league started very well with a great win against Blarney and we thought there were better things to come, unfortunately we were hampered with injuries with two of our pivotal players Edel O'Connell and Alice Barry being forced out of the season due to injury.

The league concluded with our final game against Ballinhassig with the score line 1-6 to 1-4 to Ballinhassig. Youghal were very unlucky to lose this one with a few decisions going against us. The very young Youghal team put up a great fight and showed that they are determined to make this year a good one for the club.

The game started with a great free from

Keima McCarthy, from the 45 to Sarah Flavin who knocked it in to score a wonderful goal from just outside the square. A couple of scores from Ballinhassig and a few frees were awarded to put the game level but Shannon Joyce was available for Youghal to get two very nice points from play. There were excellent performances from Sarah Coughlan in goal and Michaela Dalton wing back who prove that age is just a number as they are still playing U14. Roisin O'Keefe in the forwards must also get a mention for an excellent performance giving off some great passes to result in scores. Player of the match goes to Robyn Healy who kept great composure on the ball in the back line and her per-

CAMOGIE ROUND-UP

July 2009

Camogie project is set for Dublin City

Munster Camogie Council fundraiser

CORK woman Joan O'Flynn, president of Cumann Camógachta na nGael, and Councillor O'Reilly, Dublin City Council, were in the Phoenix Park to launch 'Puck Around Town,' a camogie project for Dublin City.

The project is aimed at girls aged 10-14 years and will be delivered in six city council areas in the city. Each area will link with its local camogie clubs including: St Kevin's, Good Counsel, Crumlin, Clanna Gael, Naomh Barróg and Craobh Chiaráin.

The programme will run for six weeks and will culminate in a trip to Croke Park for the participants to the Gala All-Ireland camogie finals on September 13.

The girls will learn the skills of camogie by way of an introductory programme that will be delivered by coaches and Games Promotion Officers from the local clubs.

Dublin City Council's Sport Development Officers have been busy recruiting girls for the project over the summer months and it is hoped that with good numbers participating, the clubs will reap the benefits in terms of player recruitment.

President of Cumann Camógachta na nGael Joan O'Flynn commented, "We are delighted to be part of this new exciting initiative. As an association we would like to present all girls with the opportunity to play the game of camogie and we hope those who partake in this programme will take up the game with their local clubs."

"It is fitting that the initiative is being launched here in the Phoenix Park where camogie was first played 105 years ago."

"We look forward to working with Dublin City Council in strengthening camogie in the heart of the capital city and I would like to thank the Sports Development Officers for their continued hard work in recruiting our camogie stars."

Camogie Development Officer for Dublin, Eve Talbot, explained the importance of the project, "Dublin City Council is the largest local authority in the country and as we are one of the biggest organisations for women's sport it is vital we work to-



Kate Barry, Senior Sports Person of the Year with senior camogie teacher Pauline Hayes at the Christ King Prizegiving.

gether in promoting and increasing girls participation in the game for recreational or competitive purposes.

"We hope it will achieve better networking between sporting bodies, local government and the clubs on the ground. We are all ultimately trying to accomplish the same goal."

Dublin City Council's Sport and Recreation Co-ordinator Colleen O'Reilly said, "Dublin City Council is very happy to be involved in a project of this kind."

"Young girls have been identified by the Irish Sports Council as a group that needs more opportunities to participate in physical activity and this project will offer young girls the opportunity to become more physically active while participating in one of our national games."

Davy will focus on Waterford

IT would be wrong to say that Davy Fitzgerald will be distracted in Semple Stadium on Sunday because there is no doubt his focus will be fully with the Waterford senior hurlers. However, his thoughts might stray now and again to Kilmallock where the Clare minor camogie team are pitted against Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final at 3.30pm. Davy is coach to this team. He attended their training session this week along with manager Fintan McNamara and the rest of the Clare backroom team to try and plot the downfall of their arch rivals Cork - who have already beaten them twice this year. Orla Considine is chair of the Clare camogie board and she says, "Davy would have seen the potential in this squad two years ago when he

came in to talk to them in the All-Ireland U16 semi-final. He was their coach last year when they got to the All-Ireland minor final against Kilkenny. Now, they are back looking to go one step further. Davy will give them plenty of advice ahead of the day," she says. "The rivalry between this Cork and Clare teams is massive. Cork defeated Clare in the Munster final and again in the round-robin series of the All-Ireland. Last year we beat Cork in the same matches, so the pendulum has swung to and fro. It is disappointing for Davy and the girls that he won't be with them on Sunday, but that is the luck of the draw." When Davy isn't available, the girls train under senior manager Bertie Sherlock who is among Davy's backroom team in Waterford.

GLEN ROVERS

The week gone by was a quiet one with no games as many players continue with holidays, however there was plenty of action for several of our players with both the Cork teams and Seandún senior team. Well done to Denise Luby and the Cork minors on their quarter-final victory over Antrim. We wish Denise and her team mates well as they take on Clare in the All-Ireland semi-final tomorrow in Kilmallock. There was no joy for the Cork U16 B side that lost out narrowly to Waterford in the Munster final but well done to Nicole O'Brien and her team mates on their efforts. Our representatives on the Seandún senior team did us proud as the city representatives battled against Muskerry in their championship outing, a serious leg injury to our own Sinead Gallen was a disappointing feature of the game and we wish Sinead a speedy recovery and hopefully she will be back in full action very soon. We would like to

thank everybody who helped out when Sinead received her injury to referee Oliver Webb, Dr Sinead Buckley who was playing with Muskerry, nurses Noreen Daly and Mrs Cronin for their assistance and to the county board and their officers as well as Seandún and Muskerry mentors for all their help, to everybody from our own club who were there and looked after Sinead especially to Tara and Cornelia. Thanks a millions everybody.

The focus of attention is on our junior team who play two rounds of the junior championship in the week ahead, on Monday we travel to play Castlemagner and on Thursday we host Buttevant in the Glen Field. We also hope that our U16 second team will play two games over the bank holiday weekend.

Junior players to meet Monday in Glen at 5.30pm for game v Castlemagner and to meet on Thursday meet at 6.30pm for game v Buttevant.

BY MARY NEWMAN

formance defiantly hindered any of the Ballinascary forwards from scoring.

Our minors played Castlelyons recently on a very bad night weather wise. They went to Castlelyons with no illusions that they were going to have an easy game, but the girls came out on top with a score of 3-1 to 1-4. Ciara O'Siochru was on form in full-forward when a great ball was lobbed in from Shannon Joyce where Ciara doubled on it to score a cracking goal she followed shortly with another great goal, scores also came from Roisin O'Keefe and a lovely point was scored by Shannon Joyce. The back line also played with great persistence and it was a great game for all.

This will give our young girls a great boost going into Championship in the weeks ahead.

ST VINCENT'S

New members are always very welcome at the club and if you want to join or even find out more information just come up at the relevant time to the club complex on Kilmoe Road.

New volunteers are also welcome and if you want to pass away some free time then don't be afraid to come up and help out.

TRAINING TIMES

Monday 6-7pm U14, Tue 5-6pm U8's, Wed 6-7pm U12's, 8-9.30pm Juniors, Thurs 5.30-6.30pm U10, 7-8pm U16.

THE Munster Camogie Council are organising a fundraising golf classic and are putting the call out to former and present players and friends in the Munster counties and beyond.

Over the last number of years they have held a very successful golf classic which continued to go from strength to strength and once again this year Dundrum Golf and Country Club Tipperary is the setting for this year's big day which takes place on Friday July 31.

Over the last number of years this event has been a very successful one for the Munster council as it has greatly helped with the promotion of camogie within the province.

The day is also a great day out for all golfing and sporting enthusiasts and indeed former and current camogie players form all over Munster get to meet up and enjoy a great day's golf and socialise in an atmosphere away from the playing fields.

It's teams of four at a cost of €250 while they are also looking for support to get tee boxes sponsored at a cost of €50. Once again they intend to have great prizes on offer which include green fees for four at Dromoland, Mallow, Charleville and Woodstock.

Munster PRO Orla Considine is one of those involved in promoting the event and she is calling for support.

"We are working hard with all the counties in Munster as we strive to continue the development of camogie in the schools clubs and counties in the province."

"We can guarantee a great day's golf and we are hoping for huge support for the venture, Dundrum is a top quality golf championship course and is very popular and hugely in demand with all golfers, we can guarantee a great day and this is definitely one not to be missed."

"We are hoping to get teams of four and we are also hoping to get sponsorship from clubs, county boards, groups businesses or individuals for the tee boxes."

Anybody interested in supporting the event can contact Munster council on munsterpro@camogie.gaa.ie or they entries and further information on the event can be got from the Munster chairman Eamonn Browne on 087 1256025 or from the Munster secretary Marion Graham at 087 2764856.

CUMANN CAMÓGAÍOCHTA NA NGAEIL

CLUICHÍ LEATH-CHEANNAIS MIONÚR A MINOR A CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS 2009

TIOBRAID ÁRANN V CILL CHAINNIGH
(1.45)

AN CLÁR V CORCAIGH
(3.30)



KILMALLOCK, CO. LIMERICK
DÉ DOMHNAIGH,
26Ú IÚIL, 2009
CLÁR OIFIGIÚIL • LUACH €2

Sinéad Ní Chonchúir
SINÉAD NÍ CHONCHÚIR
ARD STIÚRTHÓIR



Fáilte

TÁ ÁTHAS ORM fáilte a chur romhaibh uilig to dtí Cluichí Leath Cheannais na hÉirinn anseo i Luimneach. Is ocaíid speisialta é agus tá súil agam go mbainimid go léir taithneamh as.

Congratulations to Clare, Cork, Kilkenny and Tipperary in reaching the semi-finals stages of the premier national competition for under-18 players – the All-Ireland Minor title. Competing for a place in an All-Ireland final brings great excitement and great honour to all players and clubs represented on today's teams. It is a fantastic achievement to represent your counties and I know you will do them proud – whatever the result.

The Minor grade is really important to the well-being of Camogie. It is a vital grade as young players make the transition from underage Camogie to adult Camogie. The best way of supporting them to do this is to make sure that Camogie is about fun, participation and skill development and, of course, making sure that there are games for all abilities.

As well as our semi-final here in Kilmallock, four other teams, Derry, Waterford, Limerick and Wexford are also competing today for a place in the All-Ireland Minor 'B' competition. Meanwhile, in the All Ireland 'C' championship, Cavan, Carlow and Laois are through to the semi-finals with the winners of Roscommon v Westmeath providing the other semi-finalist. All in all, twelve county minor teams are currently vying for All-Ireland Finals places and playing at the peak of the inter-county season. This is really important, as we must continuously work to ensure that our teenage players continue as active camogie players for as long as possible.

I wish all teams, mentors, referees and match officials the best for today. Míle buíochas to Kilmallock GAA for their support in accommodating today's games. There are many examples of excellent co-operation between Cumann Camógaíochta na nGaeil and the GAA and today is one such example.

A special word of thanks to the supporters who attend today's games. Your attendance is an important public recognition of our players and is much appreciated.

Remember to keep 9th August free for the All-Ireland Minor finals when we hope to see you again supporting the outstanding skill, athleticism and sportsmanship of our young Camogie stars.

Joan O'Flynn

JOAN O'FLYNN

Uachtarán Chumann Camógaíochta na nGaeil



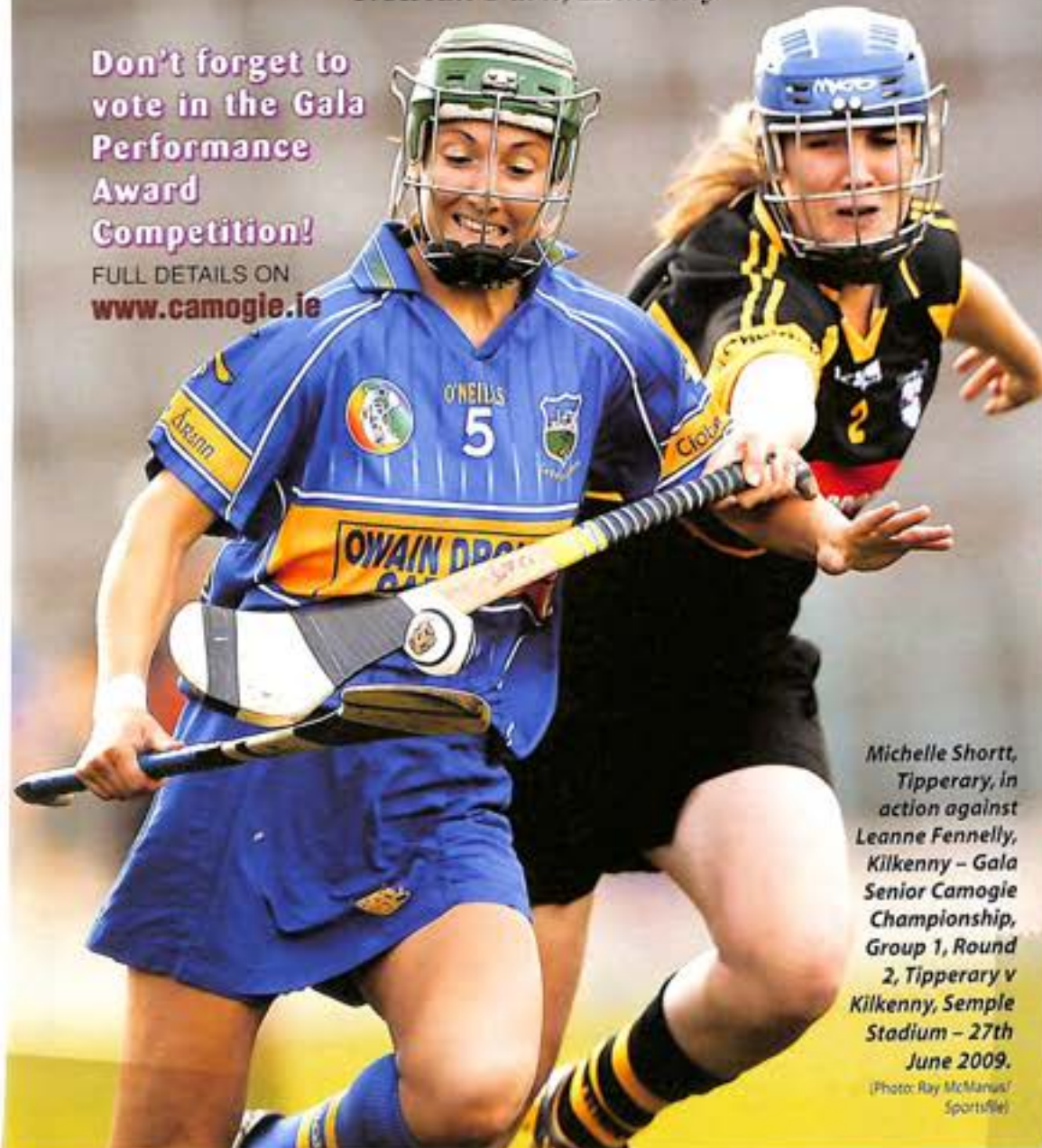
Saturday, 15th August

GALA SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS

Nowlan Park, Kilkenny

Don't forget to
vote in the Gala
Performance
Award
Competition!

FULL DETAILS ON
www.camogie.ie



Michelle Shortt,
Tipperary, in
action against
Leanne Fennelly,
Kilkenny – Gala
Senior Camogie
Championship,
Group 1, Round
2, Tipperary v
Kilkenny, Semple
Stadium – 27th
June 2009.

(Photo: Ray McManus/
Sportsfile)

camogie wrap and results

JOACHIM KELLY'S Offaly produced a sensational performance in Park Esler, Newry on Saturday blowing away the home side in a must-win Gala All Ireland junior championship tie – New Ireland Cup. Last year's beaten All Ireland finalists needed the victory to qualify for the All Ireland semi-finals on August 8 and their 5-20 to 0-6 score against Down blew away selector Catherine Byrne.

"We were shell shocked with the performance. We needed to win, yes, but for whatever reason, the girls turned in a display we are waiting to see all year. If we had lost we were gone. The Down captain came to our dressing room afterwards and admitted they weren't expecting this at all."

Down are Division Three league champions so this was a brilliant result for Offaly who are due to meet Leinster neighbours Meath in a mouth-watering penultimate round. Their trip up north was decided at half time when they led 2-12 to 0-3 following a brace of goals from Siobhán Flannery. In total control they added three more from Michelle Davis, Tina Hannon and sub Aoife Corrigan.

The other semi-final involves Waterford – table toppers in Group One – against Laois who finished second to the Royals in Group Two. The O'Hare side travelled to Loughglad needing a draw to qualify and they duly obliged, tying with Artrim 2-9 after a tremendously exciting contest. Trish Cuddy and Amy O'Callaghan netted the all-important green flags for the Laois girls.

Waterford strengthened their position for a first All Ireland junior title with an emphatic triumph over a visiting Dublin side to Dunhill (5-11 to 0-4). Of the four teams remaining in the competition the Dérse are the only county to have finished on full points. With the in-form Karen Kelly, Aine Lyng and Aine Breathnach doing the damage amassing 5-5 between them, they will be eyeing a first showdown in Croke Park on September 13.

Elsewhere, the All Ireland minor final on August 9 will be a repeat of last year after Clare turned the tables on Cork and holders Kilkenny, going for a massive four-in-a-row, overcame Tipperary, both games at Kilmallock.

Clare, who did the job minus their coach Davy Fitzgerald, pipped Cork by a single point in a thrilling contest (1-9 to 0-11). This was the third meeting of the teams this year with the plaudits going Leaside on the two previous occasions. The Cats had a more convincing victory over Tipperary, 5-15 to 3-4.

Meanwhile the All Ireland minor B final will be contested by Waterford and Limerick.

MINOR A ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS:

Clare 1-9, K Cahill 1-2, S Enright 0-3 (2F), N Curry 0-2, R O'Brien, A Hariton 0-1 each
Cork 0-11, K Mackey 0-5 (0-1F), J White 0-3, P Buttner, S O'Neill, M Reidy 0-1 each

Kilkenny 5-15, D Gaulie 3-7 (0-4F, 0-1'45), A Murphy 2-3, C Phelan, M Fennelly, S Farrell, A Farrell, K Guggan 0-1 each
Tipperary 3-4, C Devane 1-3 (0-3F), B Quinn, G Grace 1-0 each, A Kennedy 0-1

MINOR B ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINALS:

Limerick 3-16, R Carmody 2-0, C Casey 1-1, K Carroll 0-5F, N Carroll 0-4, J Mulcahy, K Campbell 0-2 each, C Scanlon 0-1, N Richardson 0-1F
Waterford 3-9, Linda Bolger 2-5 (0-1F), E Kelly 1-2, Lisa Bolger, A Shell 0-1 each

Waterford 1-9
Derry 0-9

GALA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP, NEW IRELAND CUP

Artrim 2-9, S Graham 1-2 (0-1'45), O Mc Caul 1-2, E Mc Mullan 0-3 (0-1F), A Jackman, G Mc Mullan 0-1 each
Laois 2-9, T Cuddy, A O'Callaghan 1-0 each, L Mahony 0-5 (0-2F, 0-1'45), A Mahony 0-3, S Fitzgerald 0-1

Waterford 5-11, K Kelly 2-3, (0-2F), A Lyng 1-5 (0-3F, 0-1'45), A Breathnach 2-1, N Morrissey, G Keneally 0-1 each
Dublin 0-4, V Reaney 0-2, G Mc Cluskey, M Moynihan 0-1 each

Offaly 5-20
Down 0-6



An Clár

Gorm agus Ór

Corcaigh

Dearg agus Bán



(1) AILISH CONSIDINE A. Nic Consaidín Kilmaley				(1) JESSICA KAVANAGH S. Nic Caomhánáigh Douglas			
(2) ANNE MARIE McMAHON A. M. Nic Mhathúna Kilmamona				(3) MARY ANN HAWKES M. A. Hawkes Valley Rovers			
(3) CHLOE MOREY C. Ni Mhára Sixmilebridge				(4) KATE O'DONOGHUE C. Ni Dhonechú Ballincollig			
(4) CAROL O'LEARY C. Ni Laoire Newmarket-on-Fergus				(5) PAMELA MACKEY P. Ni Mhaca Douglas			
(5) CAROL KAISER C. Kaiser Newmarket-on-Fergus				(6) JENNIFER LYNCH S. Ni Loingsigh Trillick			
(6) EIMEAR CONSIDINE E. Nic Consaidín Kilmaley				(7) EMMA KINGSTON E. Nic Clochaire Inniscarra			
(7) CHRISTINA GLYNN C. Nig Fhlóinn Kilmamona				(8) SARA BUCKLEY S. Ni Bhuachalla Ballincollig			
(8) ROISIN McMAHON R. Nic Mhathúna (Captain) Newmarket-on-Fergus				(9) KATRINA MACKEY C. Ni Mhaca Douglas			
(9) LOUISE WOODS L. Nic Conchoille St. Joseph's, Doora/Barefield				(10) JOANNE CASEY S. Ni Chasthasaigh Inniscarra			
(10) ORLA DUGGAN O. Ni Dhuagáin Clooney				(11) JULIA WHITE S. de Fooite (Captain) Douglas			
(11) NIAMH CORRY N. Ni Chorra Sixmilebridge				(12) MARIAH REIDY M. Ni Riada Newtownshandrum			
(12) AISHLING HANNON A. Ni hAnnáin Clooney				(13) AILEEN O'DONOVAN A. Ni Dhonnabháin Douglas			
(13) SHONAGH ENRIGHT S. Nic Ionnrachtaigh Kilmaley				(14) DENISE LUBY D. Ni Lúbaigh Glen Rovers			
(14) ROISIN O'BRIEN R. Ni Bhriain Ogonnelloe				(15) SINÉAD O'NEILL S. Ni Neill Clonsilla			
(15) KATIE CAHILL C. Nic Cathail Kilmaley				(16) Tessa Hawkes T. Hawkes Valley Rovers			
(16) Aine McNamara A. Nic Conmara Sixmilebridge				(17) Clara Hayes C. Ni hAodha Courcy Rovers			
(17) Sarah Reidy S. Ni Riada Kilmaley				(18) Orlaith O'Mahony O. Ni Mhathúna Milford			
(18) Aiveen O'Shea A. Ni Shé Sixmilebridge				(19) Patricia Buttler P. Buttler Ballincollig			
(19) Susan Fahy S. Ni Fhathaigh Whitegate				(20) Kate Harrington C. Ni hArdáin Fr. O'Neills			
(20) Evelyn Glynn E. Nig Fhlóinn Kilmamona				(21) Ena Coughlan E. Ni Chocháin Valley Rovers			
(21) Lisa Loughnane L. Ni Lacháin Kilkeash				(22) Clare Meaney C. Ni Mhaonaigh Eire Óg			
(22) Jennifer Kelly S. Ni Cheallaigh Newmarket-on-Fergus				(23) Alison Coughlan A. Ni Chocháin Ballincollig			
(23) Niamh Martin N. Ni Mhartin St. Joseph's, Doora/Barefield				(24) Caolmha O'Callaghan C. Ni Cheallaigh Erin's Own			
(24) Rachel Whelan R. Ni Fhólaín Sixmilebridge				(25) Rebecca Finn R. Ni Fhinn Milford			
(25) Triona Kelly T. Ni Cheallaigh Whitegate							

Manager: Fintan McNamara. Selectors: Eamonn O'Loughlin, Maura Sheedy, Carina Rosingrave, Kate Lynch. Physio: Marie-Louise Kaiser

Selectors: Ann Marie Healy, Paddy Corkery, Ger Sheehan.



Cill Chainnigh

Dubh agus Ómra

Tiobraid Árann

Gorm agus Ór



(1) EMMA STAUNTON E. Nic an Mhíle Paulstown				(1) KATE AHEARNE C. Ni hEathirín St. Cronan's			
(2) CAOIMHE SHIEL C. Ni Shíol Bennetsbridge				(3) SHEILA RYAN S. Ni Riain Toomevara			
(3) ALISON WALSH A. Ni Bhreathnach (Captain) Windgap				(4) LISA CAHILL L. Ni Chathail Kilruane			
(4) DAVINA TOBIN D. Tobin Emeralds				(5) CATHERINE O'MEARA C. Ni Mheara Lorrha			
(5) NIAMH KELLY N. Ni Cheallaigh Toomevara				(6) EMMA SPILLANE E. Ni Spealáin Holyross			
(6) KATE McDONALD C. Nic Dónaill Thomastown				(7) CAOIMHE KENNEDY C. Ni Chinnéide Lorrha			
(7) GRACE WALSH G. Ni Bhreathnach Tullaroan				(8) LAURA GREEN L. Ni hUaine Silvermines			
(8) AISLING DUNPHY A. Ni Dhonnchaidh Graigue-Ballycallan				(9) ALICE FOGARTY A. Ni Fhógartaigh Thurles			
(9) NIAMH BYRNE N. Ni Bhroin Clara				(10) GEMMA GRACE G. Grás			
(10) ÁINE CURRAN Á. Ni Chorráin Freshford				(11) CAIT DEVANE C. Ni Dhubbáin Clenoulty			
(11) KAREN DUGGAN C. Ni Dhuagáin Piltown				(12) CHRISSEY KENNY C. Ni Chionnóith (Captain) Toomevara			
(12) ANNA FARRELL A. Ni Fheorail Thomastown				(13) CATRIONA SHORTT C. Nic an Gheairr Drom & Inch			
(13) MICHELLE FARRELL M. Ni Fheorail Thomastown				(14) NICOLE WALSH N. Ni Bhreathnach Toomevara			
(14) DENISE GAULE D. Nic an Ghaill Windgap				(15) AIMEE KENNEDY A. Ni Chinnéide Burgess/Duhoora			
(15) MAGS FENNELLY M. Ni Fhionnolaigh Shamrocks				(16) Orla McInerney O. Nic an Airchinnigh New Inn			
(16) Claire Aylward C. Aighleart Glenmore				(17) Mairead Barry M. de Barra Drom & Inch			
(17) Caitríona Brennan C. Ni Bhreathnach St. Anne's				(18) Edwina King E. Ni Chionga Moneygall			
(18) Nicola Butler N. de Builteir Graigue-Ballycallan				(19) Brid Quinn B. Ni Cháin Silvermines			
(19) Emma Comerford E. Nic Cumascaigh Young Irelanders				(20) Laura Power L. de Paor Toomevara			
(20) Louise Dunne L. Ni Dhainn Danesfort				(21) Aine Brislane A. Ni Bhrioláin Toomevara			
(21) Sarah Dunne S. Ni Dhainn Graigue-Ballycallan				(22) Shona Butler S. de Builteir Cashel			
(22) Edel Frisby E. Nic Fírlisigh Shamrocks				(23) Emma Carey E. Ni Chára Thurles			
(23) Kate Holland C. Ni hAoláin Lisdowney				(24) Aoife Murphy A. Ni Mhurchú Moneygall			
(24) Ruth Jones R. Nic Seáin Glenmore				(25) Aoife Brady A. Ni Bhádaigh Toomevara			
(25) Sinead Maher S. Ni Mheachair Lisdowney				(26) Sinead Corcoran S. Nic Chorcáin Thurles			
(26) Maeve Mansfield M. Mánbhíol St. Martin's				(27) Laura Dwan L. Ni Dháin Thurles			
(27) Nicola Moore N. Ni Mhára Windgap				(28) Niamh Meagher N. Ni Mheachair Boherlahan			
(28) Eimear Mulhall E. Ni Mhuilchathail Lisdowney				(29) Aine Lucey A. Ni Luasáigh Toomevara			
(29) Aoife Murphy A. Ni Mhurchú Lisdowney				(30) Stephanie Steiger S. Steiger			
(30) Noreen Murphy N. Ni Mhurchú Lisdowney							

Managers: Ted Browne, Brendan Williams. Trainer: Paul Quigley. Selectors: Marie Dargan, Pearse Dargan, John Quilty, Vincent Shiel.

Offaly's changing fortunes



This heartbreaking goal by Shone Enright for Clare in the final minute of last year's junior camogie final sent Offaly into the losers dressing room. Offaly rocked Down with 29 point defeat in Newry on Saturday.

Joachim Kelly's Offaly produced a sensational performance in Park Esler, Newry on Saturday blowing away the home side in a must-win Gala All Ireland junior championship tie.

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Waterford strengthened their position for a first All Ireland junior title with an emphatic triumph over a visiting Dublin side to Dunhill (5-11 to 0-4). Of the four teams remaining in the competition the Déise are the only county to have finished on full points. With the in-form Karen Kelly, Áine Lyng and Áine Breathnach doing the damage



The Clare U-18 camogie panel 2008 who were beaten by Kilkenny are back in the final again in 2009

MINOR A ALL IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS:

Clare 1-9, K Cahill 1-2, S Enright 0-3(2f), N Curry 0-2, R O'Brien, A Hanlon 0-1 each
Cork 0-11, K Mackey 0-5 (0-1f), J White 0-3, P Buttimer, S O'Neill, M Reidy 0-1 each

Kilkenny 5-15, D Gaule 3-7 (0-4f, 0-1'45), A Murphy 2-3, C Phelan, M Fennelly, S Farrell, A Farrell, K Guggan 0-1 each
Tipperary 3-4, C Devane 1-3 (0-3f), B Quinn, G Grace 1-0 each, A Kennedy 0-1

MINOR B ALL IRELAND SEMI-FINALS:

Limerick 3-16, R Carmody 2-0, C Casey 1-1, K Carroll 0-5f, N Carroll 0-4, J Mulcahy, K Campbell 0-2 each, C Scanlon 0-1, N Richardson 0-1f
Wexford 3-9, Linda Bolger 2-5 (0-1f), E Kelly 1-2, Lisa Bolger, A Sheil 0-1 each

Waterford 1-9
Derry 0-9

GALA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP, NEW IRELAND CUP

Antrim 2-9, S Graham 1-2 (0-1'45), O Mc Caul 1-2, E Mc Mullan 0-3 (0-1f), A Jackman, G Mc Mullan 0-1 each

Laois 2-9, T Cuddy, A O'Callaghan 1-0 each, L Mahony 0-5 (0-2f, 0-1'45), A Mahony 0-3, S Fitzgerald 0-1

Waterford 5-11, K Kelly 2-3, (0-2f), A Lyng 1-5 (0-3f, 0-1'45), A Breathnach 2-1, N Morrissey, G Keneally 0-1 each

Dublin 0-4, V Reaney 0-2, G Mc Cluskey, M Moynihan 0-1 each.

July 2009

Faithful demolish Down

Camogie
Therese O'Callaghan

JOACHIM KELLY'S Offaly produced a sensational performance in Park Esler, Newry on Saturday blowing away the home side in a must-win Gala All-Ireland camogie JC tie — New Ireland Cup.

Last year's beaten All-Ireland finalists needed the victory to qualify for the All-Ireland semi-finals on August 8 and their 5-20 to 0-6 score against Down blew away selector Catherine Byrne.

"The girls turned in a display we are waiting to see all year. If we had lost we were gone. The Down captain came to our dressing room afterwards and admitted they weren't expecting this at all."

Down are Division Three league champions so this was a brilliant result for Offaly, who are due to meet Meath in a mouthwatering penultimate round. Their trip up north was decided at half-time when they led 2-12 to 0-3 following a brace of goals from Siobhán Flannery. In total control they added three more from Michelle Davis, Tina Hannon and sub Aoife Corrigan.

The other semi-final involves Waterford — table toppers in Group One — against Laois who finished second to the Royals in Group Two. The O'Moore side travelled to Loughgiel needing a draw and they duly obliged, tying with Antrim 2-9 after a tremendously exciting contest. Trish Cuddy and Amy O'Callaghan netted the all-important green flags for the Laois girls.

Waterford strengthened their position for a first All-Ireland junior title with an emphatic triumph over a visiting Dublin side to Dunhill (5-11 to 0-4). With the Karen Kelly, Aine Lyng and Aine Breathnach doing the damage amassing 5-5 between them.

Elsewhere, the All-Ireland minor final on August 9 will be a repeat of last year after Clare turned the tables on Cork and holders Kilkenny, going for a massive four-in-a-row, overcame Tipperary, both games at Kilmallock.

Clare, who did the job minus their coach Davy Fitzgerald, pipped Cork by a point in a thrilling contest (1-9 to 0-11). The Cats had a more convincing victory over Tipperary, 5-15 to 3-4.

The All-Ireland minor B final will be contested by Waterford and Limerick.



Cork's Katrina Mackey breaks from Clare's Roisin McMahon in their Munster minor camogie final at Ballincollig. The pair were once again prominent when they faced each other in the All-Ireland semi-final yesterday.

Picture: Kieran Boyde

Unlucky Cork left to rue poor wides

Clare
Cork

1-9
0-11
By MARY NEWMAN
All-Ireland minor camogie

IT WAS disappointment for Cork as they fell once again at the semi-final stage of the All-Ireland minor championship.

This time at the hands of Clare in Kilmallock yesterday.

At the full-time whistle just one point separated the sides and Cork could count themselves unlucky not to have got a draw out of it after they struck three wides in injury-time as Clare just about hung on to reach the decider.

On balance Clare were the better side, crucially they dominated at midfield where Roisin McMahon and Louise Woods did trojan work, while all over the pitch they hunted in packs and never allowed Cork any time to settle on the ball.

Cork can feel justifiably aggrieved at some of the refereeing decisions that went against them, two Cork players received yellow cards for minor misdemeanours in the opening half.

Yet twice in the course of the game Cork players were halted in full flight and while they were awarded frees the perpetrators went unchecked with no cards issued.

The cross-field wind was of little benefit to either team and in a close

opening 30 minutes the Cork inside line enjoyed plenty of possession but they failed to convert it to scores.

Throughout the opening half as they struggled to gain control Cork chopped and changed their inside line Julia White, Kate Harrington, Joanne Casey, and Patricia Buttimer were all tried at full-forward as Cork juggled their attack. Alas it never clicked as a unit.

Julia White and Maria Reidy had Cork two points ahead before Katie Cahill and Shonagh Enright had Clare level.

Fifteen minutes into the opening half Clare enjoyed a two-point lead after points from Roisin O'Brien and Shonagh Enright.

Cork battled to get something against a strong Clare defence where Chloe Morey was a commanding figure at full-back.

The move of Julia White to the half-forward line brought a bit of pace to the Cork attack and three points in-a-row one from White and two from Katrina Mackey had Cork back in the lead.

Four minutes from the break Shonagh Enright converted a free to level matters at 0-5 each.

Neither side could add to their tally and so it remained all square at the break.

Cork resumed with Maria Reidy

now operating at full-forward but it was Clare who made the better start to the half with points from Niamh Corry and Christina Glynn. Cork battled away with substitute Sinead O'Neill making an instant impact pointing with her first touch.

Joanne Casey then levelled the match on 42 minutes, it was now game on but a much more physical Clare were always that bit sharper as Cork continued their struggle to gain control.

Again Clare opened up a two-point lead thanks to Katie Cahill and Niamh Corry. With Julia White playing a captain's role driving her side forward, Cork regained the lead as Julia White (2), Katrina Mackey and Patricia Buttimer hit four points without reply. Cork were now two points ahead and battled to extend their lead but they were caught on the break and conceded a goal.

A long clearance from Clare full-back Chloe Morey turned the game on its head, corner forward Katie Cahill gathered possession at pace then left the Cork defence flat footed before calmly hand passing to the Cork net for the games opening goal with five minutes remaining.

Cork battled to get on level but the Clare defence held firm with goalkeeper Aisling Considine doing well to hold a difficult shot from substitute Denise Luby.

Cork attacked again but two wides in as many minutes saw Clare

breathe a sigh of relief as they held on, but only just.

Scorers for Clare: K Cahill 1-2, S Enright 0-3 (0-2f), N Corry 0-2, C Glynn, R O'Brien 0-1 each.

Cork: J White 0-4, K Mackey 0-3 (0-1f), M Reidy, J Casey, S O'Neill, P Buttimer 0-1 each.

CLARE: A Considine, A M Mc Mahon, C Morey, C O'Leary, C Kaiser, E Considine, C Glynn, R Mc Mahon, L Woods, O Duggan, N Corry, A Hannon, S Enright, R O'Brien, K Cahill.

Subs: A O'Shea for A Hannon (54).

CORK: J Kavanagh, C Hayes, M A Hawkes, K O'Donoghue, A Sheehan, P Mackey, E Kingston, S Buckley, J Lynch, P Buttimer, K Mackey, M Reidy, J Casey, J White, K Harrington. Subs S O'Neill for M Reidy (38), A O'Donovan for K Harrington (45) D Luby for J Casey (59).

Referee: John Morrissey (Tipperary).

Elsewhere champions Kilkenny kept their quest for four in-a-row on target when they recorded a comprehensive victory over Tipperary (5-15 to 3-4) in the opening game as Kilmallock to book their place in the final.

Leading 3-9 to 2-1 at the interval Kilkenny continued to pile on the pressure in the second half.

Prominent for Kilkenny were Denise Gaule who hit three goal and Aoife Murphy with two as they comfortably advanced to the final.

Scorers for Kilkenny: D Gaule 3-7 (0-4f, 0-1 45), A Murphy 2-3, C Phelan, M Fennelly, S Farrell, A Farrell, K Duggan 0-1 each.

Tipperary: C Devane 1-3 (0-3f), B Quinn, G Grace, 1-0 each, A Kennedy 0-1.

Death of Fr McNamara

GAELIC GAMES: Former Clare hurling manager Fr Michael McNamara passed away yesterday in the Galway clinic.

The Kilmaley native was educated at the famed school of hurling, St Flannan's College in Ennis.

He was ordained in the late 1960s and returned to St Flannan's to serve as a member of staff. He then transferred to Saint Patrick's Comprehensive in Shannon where he took up a teaching position. He was appointed Parish Priest of Doora, Barefield, where he remained until his death.

Fr MacNamara managed the Clare senior hurling team in 1983 and 1984 along with Eamon Cregan as coach. He was chairman of the Clare County Board for five years.

He also managed the successful Clare junior camogie team to two All-Ireland crowns.

All conquering camogie Cats book place in All-Ireland final

Camogie

Kilkenny 5-15

Tipperary 3-4

SLICK and skilful Kilkenny maintained their vice like grip on the All-Ireland minor camogie (Roinn A) championship when they stormed to a strong win over Tipperary in this keenly fought semi-final at Kilmallock on Sunday.

This was the Noreiders fourth semi success. They won the last three All-Irelands and they remain the only county to capture the Roinn A title since the competition was inaugurated.

Facing Kilkenny in the final will be Clare, who defeated Cork in a sizzling semi-final when they edged through by a mere point (1-9 to 0-11).

Determined

Tipperary were well balanced and determined, and during the opening quarter they kept pace with the opposition. However, once star attacker Denise

Gaule bagged a Kilkenny goal in the 18th minute to open out a difference of 2-4 to 2-1, the losers began to lose touch.

The winners stormed into action. Within three minutes Aoife Murphy kicked a ground ball into the net and Claire Phelan pointed from 20-metres on the left wing. Before the opposition knew what hit them, Denise Gaule (free) had added a point.

Tipperary, to their credit, caught hold of the game for a while after that. A fifth minute goal from Gemma Grace heped them find their feet and work their way back into the match. A second goal followed from Cait Devane, which levelled affairs (1-3 to 2-0).

Hit the front

There was an exchange of minor scores after that before Kilkenny hit the front again. It was the 18th minute. Aisling Dunphy and Mags Fennelly worked well to win possession, and a neat pass from the latter sent Denise Gaule through for a goal.

With quick points from Gaule and Mags Fennelly the Premier girls suddenly found

themselves 2-6 to 2-1 down. The strong Kilkenny scoring charge continued with Aoife Murphy and Gaule sharing in the scoring.

Tipp trailing

Just before the break Aoife Murphy slipped through for a goal, which left Tipp trailing by 2-1 to 3-9 at half-way.

The teams traded points after the turn, but in the 35th minute the match was put way beyond the reach of the challengers. Karen Duggan was the creator, and she put Denise Gaule through to score a hand-passed goal.

With the divide at 4-10 to 2-2 it was game, set and match to the champions. The fifth goal was scored by Gaule, who was set up by Shelly Farrell before drilling a bullet like shot to the net in the 46th minute.

The scorers

Kilkenny - Denise Gaule (3-7, six points frees); Aoife Murphy (2-3); Claire Phelan, Mags Fennelly, Karen Duggan, Anna Farrell, Shelly Farrell (0-1 each); Tipperary - Cait Devane (1-3, points frees); Gemma Grace, Brid

Quinn (1-0 each); Aimee Kennedy (0-1).

The teams

Kilkenny - Emma Staunton, Caoimhe Shiel, Alison Walsh, Grace Walsh, Niamh Kelly, Kate McDonald, Nicola Butler, Aisling Dunphy, Mairead Power, aine Curran, Karen Duggan, Claire Phelan, Aoife Murphy, Denise Gaule, Mags Fennelly. Subs - Claire Aylward, Caitriona Brennan, Davina Tobin, Anna Farrell, Shelly, Farrell, Emma Comerford, Louise Dunne, Sarah Dunne, Edle Frisby, Kate Holland, Ruth Jones, Sinead Maher, Maeve Mansfield, Nicola Moore, Eimear Mulhall, Noreen Murphy, Aisling O'Grady, Stracey Quirke.

Tipperary - Kate Ahearne, Niamh Kelly, Sheila Ryan, Lisa Cahill, Catherine O'Meara, Emma Spillane, Caoimhe Kennedy, Laura Greene, Alice Fogarty, Gemma Grace, Cait Devane, Chrissy Kenny, Catriona Shortt, Nicola Walsh, Aimee Kennedy. Subs - Orla McInerney, Mairead Barry, Edwina King, Brid Quinn, Laura Power, Aine Brisbane.



Kilkenny's Denise Gaule had an afternoon to remember as the county's minor camogie team booked their place in the All-Ireland final against Clare. Gaule, who plays with the Windgap club, scored 3-7 as the Cats beat Tipperary in the semi-final in Kilmallock on Sunday, keeping their hopes of winning a fourth successive minor Roinn 'A' national title alive.



■ The late Fr McNamara was a great servant to the local community.

U16 A Championship	U16 C Championship
Prelims: (A): Glen Rovers v Millford (B): Courcy Rovers v Mallow (C): Ballyhassig v Valley Rovers Semi-Finals: Douglas v 'B' 'C' v 'A'	Prelims: (A): Fr. O'Neill's v Blarney (B): Douglas 2 v Eire Og (C): Ballinora v Passage West (D): Barryroe v Banteer (E): Buttevant v Clonakilty (F): Bishopstown v Sandfields (G): St. Vincent's v Rockban (H): Watergrasshill v St. Finbarrs Quarter-Finals: (I): 'B' v 'D' (J): 'H' v 'C' (K): 'A' v 'G' (L): 'E' v 'F' Semi-Finals: (M): 'I' v 'K' (N): 'J' v 'L'
U16 B Championship	U16 D Championship
Prelims: (A): St. Marys v Ballinascorthy (B): Carrigaline v Cloughduv (C): Inniscarra v Kilbrittain / Timoleague (D): Ballincollig v Sliabh Rua (E): Millstreet v Newtownshandrum (F): Killeagh v St. Catherine's (G): Enniskane v Tracton (H): Brian Dillon's v Ballygarvan Quarter-Finals: (I): 'E' v 'G' (J): 'B' v 'F' (K): 'C' v 'D' (L): 'H' v 'A' Semi-Finals: (M): 'I' v 'L' (N): 'J' v 'K'	First Rounds: (A): Glen Rovers 2 v Castletynes (B): Newcestown v Carrigrohilly (C): Kildorrey v Grenagh (D): Aghabullogue v Blackrock Semi-Finals: (E): 'C' v 'B' (F): 'D' v 'A'

Community remembers a man of the people

A "REAL man of the people" is how the late Very Rev Michael McNamara, parish priest of Doora-Barefield has been described this week as his loss was mourned not only by his family and his parishioners but by all of those whose lives he touched throughout the county and beyond.

The death occurred of the popular priest, who was well-known in GAA circles, on Saturday morning at University College Hospital, Galway. A native of Kilmaley, he had served as a priest in the Killaloe diocese for 40 years.

Michael Clobessy of Barefield Parish Council said that the entire parish will miss Fr McNamara greatly. "He revitalised the parish. One of the major projects he was heavily involved in was the development of a new church and community hall in Roslevan that has just got planning permission. He was like a snow-

ball, he gathered people up along with him to get involved in the parish. He had a tremendous way with people, a real man of the people, and he had a tremendous way of integrating people into the parish. He had time for everybody. He was great at solving problems and when you met with him, you always felt better," he said.

He recalled many of the parish initiatives Fr McNamara was instrumental in, including a parish auction organised by him to help alleviate the parish debt. "The auction raised around €100,000, it was fantastic and it alleviated the debt completely. We will miss him immensely. He was also instrumental in upgrading the Templemaley graveyard and he introduced the dawn masses, which are very popular, he was unbelievable. He also had a tremendous regard for family and would always go back

to Kilmaley," he said.

Fr McNamara studied for the priesthood at St Patrick's College, Maynooth and was ordained in Kilmaley church in 1969. After ordination he was appointed to the staff of St Flannan's College, Ennis as dean of studies. In 1971 he was appointed temporary assistant to Shannon and in 1973 he undertook a course at Swansea University in Wales on youth and community services. In July 1974 he was appointed to the staff of St Patrick's Comprehensive School, Shannon.

Since July 2001 he served in the parish of Doora-Barefield, first as curate and since 2005 as parish priest.

As well as his work within the priesthood, Fr McNamara was well-known for his work within the GAA. While in St Patrick's in Shannon he became actively involved in the management of many school teams. He then became very

involved in Wolfe Tones GAA Club and served in a variety of officer positions on the committee.

During his time as chairman of Wolfe Tones they won every underage title in hurling and football in Clare in one year, a record has never been equalled by any dual clubs in the county.

He served as a selector in a variety of club teams and he became involved with Clare GAA, firstly with the county underage board.

He progressed up the ranks to hold the top position in the county, chairman of the County board, which he held for five years. Fr McNamara served as a selector with a variety of Clare hurling teams, minor, U-21s and senior level.

He was also actively involved with a number of Clare camogie teams and served as a selector on two junior All-Ireland-winning camogie teams.

It was his appointment to Doora-Barefield that led Fr McNamara to join St Joseph's club, where he served as a senior hurling selector over the past two years. He was also active in other areas within the club.

At the weekend, all activities of St Joseph's were suspended as a mark of respect and all games postponed. Before every game in the county there was a minute's silence, as there was before the Clare-Wexford relegation game at Portlaoise on Saturday. This week's Kilrush Electoral Area meeting was also adjourned as a mark of respect to Fr McNamara.

Bishop Willie Walsh was the chief celebrant at the concolated funeral mass, which took place on Tuesday at St Peter & Paul Cathedral, Ennis, followed by burial in the church grounds of Barefield Church.

Clare minor As back in the final

Clare 1-9
Cork 0-11

CLARE will contest the All-Ireland minor A camogie final for the second year in succession following a hard earned one point win over Cork at Kilmallock on Sunday.

It was a case of third time lucky for the Banner girls as Cork had won the two previous meetings of the counties at this level this year.

Clare created the early chances but failed to convert them and it was Cork who took the lead through Julia White and extended it with a Mariah Reidy score after Roisin McMahon had missed a couple of Clare frees.

Clare were unlucky when a Niamh Corry shot came of the upright. Their work rate was impressive, a fact reflected in the play of Orlaith Duggan who provided the pass which led to Katie Cahill scoring Clare's opening point. Shonagh Enright quickly followed with another point.

Clare took the lead when Roisin O'Brien ran onto a Carol Kaiser clearance and she was unlucky that her effort didn't end up in the net.

Shonagh Enright extended that lead when she converted a free for a foul on Niamh Corry, one that earned Emma Kingston a yellow card.

Cork though were not giving up and had three unanswered points in the next four minutes as they hit a purple patch.

Clare were awarded a free when Niamh Corry was again fouled. Corry, operating at centre-forward was causing a lot of problems for the Cork defence. Shonagh Enright stepped up and rewarded that pressure when converting the resultant free. This levelled the game yet again and this was the position at the interval when the score stood at 0-5 each.

In the early stages of the second half,

Clare were again guilty of some missed chances before Niamh Corry pointed to put them in front. Ailish Considine made a fine save at the other end and Clare went up field and pointed through Aisling Hannon.

Cork fought back with a brace of points to level matters again but by the three-quarter stage, Clare were two clear following scores from Katie Cahill and Niamh Corry.

This game continued to ebb and flow though as Katrina Mackey levelled matters again and a Julia White point put Cork one ahead before Mackey had the Cork side two clear for the first time with time moving on.

Clare heads never dropped though as Cork looked to put the game past them. Chloe Morey who was rock solid at full back delivered a long clearance which Katie Cahill got to first and she fired home the game's only goal to put the Banner girls back in front with six minutes remaining.

This proved to be the final score of the game and Clare had to survive six anxious minutes to the final whistle. Ailish Considine made two excellent saves in that time while Chloe Morey did well at full back.

Carol Kaiser had another fine game as did Chloe Morey, Eimear Considine, Louise Woods, Orlaith Duggan, Katie Cahill, Anne Marie McMahon and captain Roisin McMahon while the return of Niamh Corry certainly added to the Clare half-forward line. While delighted with the win, there will be concern in the Clare camp with the number of wides that were recorded on the day.

Clare: Ailish Considine (Kilmaley); Anne Marie McMahon (Kilnamona); Chloe Morey (Sixmilebridge); Carol O'Leary (Newmarket-on-Fergus); Christina Glynn (Kilnamona); Eimear Considine (Kilmaley); Carol Kaiser (Newmarket-on-Fergus); Louise

Woods (St Joseph's); Roisin McMahon (Newmarket-on-Fergus) captain; Orlaith Duggan (Cloonoy); Niamh Corry (Sixmilebridge) (0-2); Aisling Hannon (Cloonoy) (0-1); Katie Cahill (Kilmaley) (1-2); Roisin O'Brien (Ogonnelloe) (0-1); Shonagh Enright (Kilmaley) (0-3, 2frs).

Sub: Aiveen O'Shea (Sixmilebridge) for Hannon.

Cork: Jessica Kavanagh; Ciara Hayes; Mary Anne Hawkes; Kate O'Donoghue; Aileen Sheehan; Pamela Mackey; Emma Kingston; Sara Buckley; Jennifer Lynch; Patricia Buttner; Katrina Mackey; Mariah Reidy; Joanne Casey; Julia White; Kate Harrington.

Subs: Sinead O'Neill for Reidy; Aileen O'Donovan for Harrington; Denise Luby for Casey.

Referee: John Morrissey, Tipperary

CLARE will take on Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final. Kilkenny were easy victors, 5-15 to 3-4, over Tipperary in the first semi-final played in Kilmallock on Sunday. This will take place on Sunday week, August 9 and is a repeat of last year's final where Kilkenny were victors. The venue for the game has yet to be decided.

This is also the date for the All-Ireland hurling semi-final between Waterford and Kilkenny and Clare have asked for the camogie game to be on the Saturday to allow their coach Davy Fitzgerald who is also the Waterford senior hurling manager, to attend. He missed last week's semi-final as it clashed with Waterford's qualifier game with Galway.

Clare now have two weeks to plan for that day but sandwiched in between, for this talented group of players, will be a senior camogie game against Wexford where a surprise win for underdogs Clare would see them in the senior semi-final. Seven of these girls will play in the U-18 All-Ireland football final on Sunday against Donegal.



Clare camogie officials recently attended the launch of the Gala championships at Croke Park. Pictured with the O'Duffy cup are (l. to r.) Bertie Sherlock, Clare manager, Deirdre Murphy, Clare captain, Joan O'Flynn, president of the camogie association and baby Sean Considine whose mother Orla is the chairperson of Clare camogie.

Photograph by Pat Murphy/SPORTSFILE

Seniors face a huge task

BODYKE will be the venue on for Clare's All-Ireland senior camogie championship clash with Wexford.

It is a crucial tie for both counties as victory is essential to get through to the knock out stage of the championship. Wexford, one of the top contenders for All-Ireland honours, will go into this game as favourites and it will take something special from Clare if they are to cause an upset.

Both sides have lost to Galway meaning the match will be a straight knockout affair.

On their return to senior ranks, Clare was well beaten by Galway in the opening round at Athenry despite an excellent first half showing. Last time out they had to pull out all the stops to get

over Limerick, a last minute point, deep in injury time, from a 70m free by Chloe Morey, proving the decisive score.

Team manager Bertie Sherlock was clearly happy following that win and suggested that it would ease the pressure and allow his charges to play with more freedom next time.

It is expected that the Clare team selected for this week's game will be along the same lines as the side that played against Limerick.

Team captain Deirdre Murphy is expected to continue at centre-back and others expected to be in the defence include Dee Corcoran and Kate Lynch in front of the experienced goalkeeper, Kilmaley's Denise Lynch.

Siobhan Lafferty was unable to start in

the game against Limerick due to injury but she was introduced for the closing stages of the game. Clare fans will be keeping their fingers crossed that she will be fit for selection for this week's tie. Her sister, Fiona, Carina Rosein-grave, the Kaiser sisters, Chloe Morey and Sharon O'Loughlin are others who are expected to be in the starting line up for this one.

It's a huge task for Clare against one of the most experienced teams in the competition and anything other than victory for the Slaneysiders will be a surprise. However, Clare are sure to make the visitors fight all the way for victory in what promises to be an entertaining tie.

Throw-in on Saturday is at 3.30pm.

WEEKEND CAMOGIE PREVIEWS

TODAY

Cork v Tipperary

Páirc Uí Rinn, 3.30pm

TIPPERARY 'S championship season hinges on this away outing to the All-Ireland champions. The Premier County have yet to produce their best performance this year, and with Claire Grogan (back from holidays) and Eimear McDonnell (finger injury) listed among the subs, it will take a mighty effort if they are to upset the hosts. Cork have given two-goal heroine against Kilkenny, Emer O'Farrell, a start at full forward. A win for the Rebels would guarantee them a place in the All-Ireland semi-final.

Verdict: Cork

CORK: A Murray; J O'Callaghan; R Buckley; C Foley; J Duffy; M O'Connor; S Hayes; B Corkery; D Collier; E Dillon; G O'Connor; U O'Donoghue; S Burns; E O'Farrell; R Moloney.

TIPPERARY: P Ryan; M Ryan; S Kelly; T Shortt; P Biffin; T O'Malloran; U O'Dwyer; L Bourke; J Horan; G Kilmaree (Capt); M Luffrell; C Devane; J Ryan; E Hayden; M Shortt.

Dublin v Kilkenny

Ballyboden St Endas, 1.30pm

DUBLIN picked up a few injuries in their last outing so are short a few regulars for this crucial tie. The two teams need the win - but for different reasons. If the Cats triumph they will be in a strong position for a penultimate spot, however, should the Blues prevail and depending on the Cork/Tipperary outcome, the second placed spot in Group One could be decided by a play-off. Kilkenny are the more settled, and with the All-Ireland semi-finals in Nowlan Park in two weeks, they will go all out to qualify.

Verdict: Kilkenny

DUBLIN: J Hoary; A Fitzpatrick; T Corrigan; A Cusheer; E O'Meara; L O'Hara (Capt); C Power; C Lacey; A Maguire; R Costello; A Murphy; A Griffin; E Lacey; S Ryan; N Taylor.

KILKENNY: C Ryan; L Fennelly; C Doherty; J Frisby; E Aylward; A Butler; L Lyng; C Doherty; A Dalton (Capt); E Keane; A W Pheasant; K Power; M Quilty; T Muldowney; A Heary.

Clare v Wexford

Bodyke, 3.30pm

WEXFORD, who lost to Galway last time out, have named a full strength side for their final Group Two game against Clare. The best they can hope for is to finish in second position and barring an upset they should achieve that goal. Clare collected their first win in the senior championship over Limerick a couple of weeks ago, and have nothing to lose against the 2007 All-Ireland champions. Siobhan Lafferty is back in the number three jersey following injury.

Verdict: Wexford

CLARE: D Lynch; D Corcoran; S Lafferty; K Lynch; S Sherlock; B Murphy (Capt); C Morey; A Ryan; R Kaiser; S O'Loughlin; F Lafferty; N Corry; C Rosein-grave; C Connamane; S Enright.

WEXFORD: M O'Arcy; B Holohan; D Codd; C O'Connor; A Codd; M Leacy; A O'Connor (Capt); C Murphy; M O'Leary; U Leacy; J Dwyer; K Kelly; U Jacob; R M Breen; M Heane.

Galway v Limerick

Kenny Park, Athenry, 2.30pm

GALWAY will go top of Group Two if they defeat Limerick in this tie. Although Liam Donoghue has rested some of his players, this is still a very strong Maroon and White 15. Most noticeable is the inclusion of 2008 top scorer Jessica Gill for her first championship outing this summer. Limerick, on the other hand, while battling extremely hard, are finding the going tough. Yet, the experience is standing to the younger players like Sarah Carey, Judith Mulcahy, Sarah Collins and Kerrie Brosnan.

Verdict: Galway

GALWAY: S Eames; R Glynn; A Kelly; S Tannier; C Glynn; S Cahalan (Capt); N Kilkenny; A M Hayes; S Nooner; B Hanney; T Maher; J Gill; O Kilkenny; M Dunne; A Connolly.

LIMERICK: S Moynihan; S Carey; S Collins; J Garvey; A McNamara; A Sheehan; J Mulcahy; D Fitzpatrick (Capt); C Davis; E O'Brien; N Mulcahy; F Wickey; N Carroll; J Clifford; K Brosnan.

Compiled by Theresa O'Callaghan

Fallon seizes Poc Fada title

Gaelic Games: Gerry Fallon of Roscommon braved wind and rain yesterday at Annaverna Mountain to become 2009 M Donnelly All-Ireland Senior Poc Fada champion.

Fallon was in superb form, holding off Tipperary goalkeeper Brendan Cummins, who was seeking his fifth title.

In the Camogie Poc Fada, Waterford's Patricia Jackman finally tasted victory after coming second for the last two years.

Last year's winner Lyndsey Condell of Carlow finished third, just behind her sister Tracey.

Roscommon's Noel Fallon claimed the U-16 title, with Limerick's Liam O'Dea in second place.

AUG 2009



Cork's Emer O'Farrell, seen here in action against Galway, will be starting against Tipp at Páirc Uí Rinn tomorrow.

Cork victory would be a boost ahead of the semi-final

By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie

**SATURDAY,
Gala Intermediate All-Ireland
Championship,
Cork v Tipperary,
Páirc Uí Rinn, 1.45pm**

THE intermediate teams from Cork and Tipperary get proceedings underway in Páirc Uí Rinn tomorrow when they meet in the Gala Intermediate Championship.

In a second game for both counties and with both having recorded victories over Kilkenny, qualification for the semi-final spot is assured, however with the keen rivalry that exists between the counties, neither Cork or Tipp will want to lose out in this one.

Cork got the perfect start to their campaign as they totally overpowered Kilkenny while it was a similar story with Tipperary as they recorded a 2-19 to 1-7 victory over the Cats, Saturday will be a different story as two sides that should be evenly matched come face to face.

Cork dominated the game from the throw in against Kilkenny and all over the pitch they were sharper in defence they never allowed the Kilkenny attack any leeway, at midfield Jennifer Lynch and Helen O'Mahony held the upper hand, while up front Cork had players capable of grabbing scores with Marie Watson, Denise Luby, Michelle Brown and Mary Coleman all on the score sheet as they piled the pressure on the Kilkenny defence that were under enormous strain for the entire 60 minutes.

In defence Cork dealt comfortably with anything that was throwing at them but a much stronger test waits on Saturday and Cork are well aware that they will not enjoy the same freedom against Tipperary but with the pressure of qualification eased it now gives the selectors a chance to observe how their charges perform against stronger opposition.

It is somewhat a similar story with Tipperary last day out they had impressive displays from Aoife Mc Loughney who helped herself to 1-7 of their tally while Noreen Flanagan, Sabrina Larkin, Ciara Johnson and Deirdre Ryan were all to the fore.

The side is captained by the experienced Siobhan Ryan and included in the starting line up is current county U16 player Nicole Walsh who performed well against Kilkenny showing the confidence to get on the score sheet with a goal. Manager to the sides is former Tipperary senior hurler Eoin Brislane who players his club hurling with the famed Toomevara club and he has worked extremely hard with his side this season he is joined on the backroom team by former Tipperary senior football coach Jerry Cahill and Carmel Harkin.

The Cork back room team of Bobby Thornhill, Sile Golden and Esther O'Leary are hopeful that their side will top the group and a victory on Saturday would be a massive boost ahead of the semi-finals on August 16.

Cork Panel: Jessica Kavanagh (Douglas), Ann Marie Fleming (Barryroe), Aileen Sheehan (Grenagh), Helen O'Mahony (Douglas), Mary Coleman (Ballyheal), Christine O'Neill (Courcy Rovers), Marie Watson (Millford), Caroline Motherway (St Catherine's), Eimear Watson (Millford), Denise Luby (Glen Rovers), Liz Power (St Catherine's), Patricia Buttimer (Ballycollig), Leah Weste (Ballycollig), Maria Walsh (Ballyheal), Michelle Browne (Mallow), Denise Leahy (St Catherine's) Roisin De Faite (Blackrock), Carol Dineen (Barryroe), Regina Curtin (Millford), Mariah Reidy (Newtownshandrum), Mary Coleman (Ballyheal), Sinéad O'Neill (Clonakilty), Kathleen O'Brien (Mallow), Kate O'Donoghue (Ballycollig), Aine Moynihan (Ballygarvan), Gillian Harrington (Valley Rovers).

Cork Team: A. Murray, J. O'Callaghan, R. Buckley, C. Foley, J. Duffy, M. O'Connor, S. Hayes, B. Corkery, O. Cotter, E. Dillon, U. O'Donoghue, G. O'Connor, S. Burns, E. O'Farrell, R. Moloney.

O'Farrell gets to face Tipperary

**TOMORROW,
Gala All-Ireland Championship
Group series,
Cork v Tipperary,
Páirc Uí Rinn 3.30pm**

SUPERSUB Emer O'Farrell gets the starting nod for this weekend's All-Ireland group qualifying championship game against Tipperary at Páirc Uí Rinn.

The heroine of Cork's victory over Kilkenny when she was introduced in the second half and scored two goals to give Cork a 2-5 to 0-7 victory has got her just reward and lines out at full-forward.

It is no more than the Sarsfields player deserves. A regular on the team up to the time she damaged her ankle ligaments during the league campaign, Emer found it hard to regain a starting spot, such is the competition for places. But hard work on the training ground and seizing the opportunity presented to her a fortnight ago sees her take the number 14 jersey on Saturday.

Understandably she is thrilled. "I'm delighted to be picked. I always felt I was there or thereabouts but such is the competition in the panel I didn't make it until now. When I was given the nod last

Heroine of Cork's victory over the Cats gets her just rewards at full-forward



LINDA MELLERICK

weekend I had to make the most of the opportunity and I'll do the same on Saturday against Tipp. I'll go into the game with the same attitude and hopefully grab the chance with both hands."

Emer feels that Cork will be up against it. "There is such a rivalry between us that the bar is always raised. I think it'll be stepped up a gear again on Saturday."

Cork top their group with two wins out of two and a victory on Saturday would see them top group 1 where they would be paired against the runners-up in group 2 in the semi-final on August 16.

Tipperary on the other hand are tied in second place with Kilkenny and with Kilkenny expected to account for Dublin (also on Sat-

urday) Tipp will be out if they don't take the points against their Munster rivals.

The Premier County will rue their first round defeat to the Cats if things don't go their way Saturday afternoon and in truth it is hard to see them beating Cork.

They seem to have taken a step backwards since their league performances. Losing to Kilkenny and defeating Dublin by a mere five points doesn't argue well for their chances of qualifying. Granted Tipp were without top scorers Clare Grogan and Emer McDonnell on the day they faced Dublin but even so, O'Donnell is reported to be still sidelined for Saturday with a broken finger.

On paper Tipperary has a strong side. Una O'Dwyer, Suzanne Kelly and Trish O'Halloran are seasoned defenders. The tigerishly Joanna Ryan, Jill Horan, Ger Kinnane and Clare Grogan are also big names. But they don't have the scoring forwards they used to. Grogan is their top point scorer and gets the odd

goal from a free but after that Tipp lack goalscorers. Even if McDonnell is available she isn't the threat she once was due to the fact that she doesn't have the support around her and is left with too much to do. But you can never take your eye off her as Joanne O'Callaghan is well aware of and well capable of controlling.

Cork came out the right side of a hard battle with Kilkenny a fortnight ago and that will stand to their character.

Such is the history between the two counties there are no guarantees and Cork will treat Tipp with the utmost of respect.

The weather conditions are expected to be poor on Saturday which may even match the teams for much of the game but expect Cork to up the ante if needs be and pull away.

Aug. 2009

Camogie benefit on the eve of All-Ireland

A NEW venture for camogie followers is a benefit night which will be held on the eve of the All-Ireland hurling finals on September 5 in Shelbourne Park, writes MARY NEWMAN.

It's a novel idea and a first for the association and speaking at the launch camogie president Joan O'Flynn expressed her satisfaction that the event is to take place.

"I am delighted that Shelbourne Park which is an iconic venue will host the friends of camogie on the eve of this year's All-Ireland Hurling final.

"This is also a huge night in the greyhound diary with the Derby semi-finals taking place.

"Camogie as the fastest and most skilful female sport, will feel right at home here. Without doubt the hurling final weekend is a special weekend in Ireland's sporting calendar. On its eve this year in Shelbourne Park, the camogie, hurling and greyhound families will be united in what's sure to be a great night's fun, a great sporting occasion with lots of excitement and entertainment guaranteed."

Paddy Ryan, managing director of Shelbourne Park Greyhound Stadium added: "We are delighted to be hosting a national fundraiser for the camogie association.

"This is a first for us, hosting an all-female sporting organisation benefit night. We wish them every success and are looking forward to their event."

Ballinhassig tournament on the way

AS WE enter the month of August thoughts turn to Ballinhassig where each year the home club organise a very successful U10 invitation tournament. Invitations have already gone out to clubs who participate in the annual Declan Crowley Memorial tournament organised by the club.

Over the years the event has gone from strength to strength as the club honours the memory of one of their former mentors who passed away at a young age some years ago. It is the highlight of the season for U10 players and usually signals that the return to school is not far away.

The tournament will take place this year on the last Saturday on August 29 and clubs who have as yet not returned their entry forms are reminded to do so not later than August 7 as the organising committee are inundated with requests from clubs who wish to participate.

It shows that the excellent organisation and most importantly the hugely successful day the event has become, any club who have received their invitations are reminded to get the required entry information plus the entry fee back to Sinead Crowley who is organising the event.



Linda Mellerick



President of the Camogie Association Joan O'Flynn, Jonathan Dever, Leinster Sales Executive, Irish Greyhound Board, Eimear Brannigan, Dublin, left, and Mary Leacey, Wexford, right, with Mount Eagle and Stoney Black at the launch of the Camogie Association's benefit night which will be held in Shelbourne Park. SEE story on left of this page.

Tipp girls will find it hard to get the better of Cork

CORK enter today's final All-Ireland group qualifying game against Tipperary on the back of a stiff examination from Kilkenny a fortnight ago.

With relentless wind and rain Cork weathered both storms as Kilkenny tactically got it right and gave Cork a test they haven't received in a while.

Packing their defence, spreading Cork and hoping to catch them on the counter attack almost worked.

Had Michelle Quilty managed to convert her penalty against Aoife Murray just after half-time when the score stood at 0-3 to 0-2 in favour of Cork then the second half might have been a different story.

However, two goals from substitute Emer O'Farrell in the third quarter gave Cork breathing space.

The game was a battle in Nowlan Park and was worth its weight in gold to Cork.

I can't see Tipperary beating Cork today in Páirc Uí Rinn which means that the Premier County will fail to make the semi-finals.

That is of course dependent on Kilkenny defeating Dublin and while they are expected to do so the Cats would want to be on their guard. The Dubs performance against Tipperary two weeks ago will have inspired them. At one stage they were behind by 12 points but a determined last 15 minutes saw them score 1-5 without reply. The sides were level on three occasions in the first half but a Mairead Luttrell goal before half-time gave Tipp a distinct advantage at the break, 1-7 to 0-3. Tipp piled on the pressure on the resumption and when Emily Hayden struck again they were in the driving seat, 2-11 to 0-5. Game over you would think. But Dublin transformed into a team inspired. A Jean Murphy goal and an over abundance of points left them just five points adrift with plenty to ponder when the final whistle blew.

They will need similar inspiration for the full 60 minutes if they hope to see off the Cats.

On the off chance that Tipp do beat Cork it will become a three way play-off in group one.

In group two I was somewhat sur-

prised to see that Galway defeated Wexford, 3-7 to 2-6 particularly with the game in Wexford Park.

Extra-time in the SFC qualifier between Wexford and Roscommon pushed the camogie game to 7.30pm. The game was deadlocked at 2-4 a piece at the end of the opening half with Wexford looking the better side in general play.

However, goals from Rose Marie Breen and Kate Kelly were negated by Aishling Connolly and Veronica Curtin within a two minute spell immediately before the break.

Brenda Hanney's goal eight minutes into the second half was the deciding factor in the outcome as a rain soaked Wexford Park led to a low scoring game where Wexford only managed to score two points in the second half.

Clare collected their first points since being promoted to senior ranks this year when they saw off Limerick in Cusack Park, 2-8 to 1-10.

A point separated the sides after 30 minutes and it remained that way at the final whistle.

Goals from Fiona Lafferty and Claire Commene contributed to a

strong first half performance for the Banner but Joanne Clifford's reply kept Limerick in step.

It was ball for ball in the second half with the home just about hanging on and while Clare won't qualify for the semi-finals 2009 has been a credit to them. They certainly didn't embarrass themselves in the top flight. Let's hope they can build on it.

Clare host Wexford today and Galway host Limerick. Wexford and Galway will advance and it's the end of the road for Clare and Limerick.

In truth the four semi-finalists are known at this stage.

Maybe I'm being presumptuous but pending a shock it will be Cork and Kilkenny from group 1 and Galway and Wexford in group 2, finishing first and second as listed.

With the winners of group 1 to play the runners up in group 2 in the semi-finals on August 16 the pairings will be: Cork v Wexford, Kilkenny v Galway.

An exciting line-up with two excellent games predicted. If the weather improves expect both games to be fast and open.

Cut-off date sees clubs in a rush to complete games

By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie news

IT'S BEEN a busy week on the camogie scene and with good reason.

As the cut-off date of Monday August 3 is the closing date for results in the senior league, intermediate and junior leagues, clubs have been busy getting the final games played while in between the championship has continued.

In the week gone by in the *Evening Echo* Junior B Championship round robin series of games Castlemagner had a goal to spare over Glen Rovers, in a tightly contested game, in Castlemagner where the home side just about held on to take the points.

Buttevant proved too strong for the Glen girls when they travelled to the Glen Field for the second game in the round robin series having already recorded a victory over Sliabh Rua in the opening round game. Castlemagner and Sliabh Rua finished all square when they met on Thursday night so it's still all to play for.

In the Junior C championship Passage and Sarsfields played out a draw to each take a share of the points on offer in round two.

In the *Evening Echo* Junior Shield competition Ballinhassig had a victory over Barryroe who bounced back in round two to defeat Kilbrittain/Timoleague. Ballinhassig continued their campaign with a second win this time over Douglas while Valley Rovers had a victory over Éire Óg.

Whilst the senior and intermediate championship was somewhat curtailed because of Cork's inter-county involvement this weekend there is plenty of championship games action to look ahead to in the coming fortnight.

On Wednesday August 5 in the *Evening Echo* Junior A Championship Brian Dillon's will entertain Ballyhea at the Tank Field and they will be hoping to get their campaign back on track.

In their opening game they defeated Blackrock but they lost out to Watergrasshill in round two.

Ballyhea with victories over Enniskeane and Ballincollig under their belts will be hoping to maintain their progress and pick up an-



Sarsfields Emer O'Farrell on the ball from Malloys Kathryn Coakley during the *Evening Echo* Cork Intermediate camogie championship at the Glen Rovers.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

other two points.

Enniskeane entertain Blackrock on the same evening, having lost out to Ballyhea in Enniskeane, but they had a good victory over Douglas in their second game but they lost out to Watergrasshill in round three.

Blackrock lost out narrowly to Dillons and had a bye in round two and then recorded a win over Ballincollig.

They won't want to lose any more ground and they will push Enniskeane all the way.

Blackrock are in action again on August 12 when they meet Watergrasshill, who are going well with two wins from two games played.

The *Evening Echo* Junior B Championship is into the last round and on August 14 Castlemagner play hosts to Buttevant, Na Piar-saigh meet St Catherine's while

Bride Rovers meet Erin's Own.

On Sunday, August 16 Glen Rovers host Sliabh Rua at the Glen Field.

In the *Evening Echo* Senior B Championship Newcestown and Valley Rovers are scheduled to meet on August 11.

Newcestown lost their opening game to Ballincollig but had a good victory over Aghabullogue they will face a stiff test from a Valley Rovers side who lost their first round clash with Éire Óg.

Wednesday August 12 will be an action packed night with followers spoiled for choice, in the *Evening Echo* Senior B Championship Bishopstown with a victory under their belts over Aghabullogue take on Éire Óg who had a good victory over Valley Rovers.

Glen Rovers had a first round win over Ballinhassig and they meet a

Kilbrittain side who are playing their first championship game having received a first round bye.

Aghabullogue and Ballincollig are scheduled to meet on the same evening but that game is subject to change.

Carrigaline meet Ballinhassig on August 17 as both battle it out for a victory. Carrigaline lost out to Killeagh while Ballinhassig were defeated by Glen Rovers.

The *Evening Echo* Intermediate Championship had Mallow who lost out to Sarsfields meeting a Tracton side that defeated Fr O'Neill's on the same evening. Fr O'Neill's will be hoping to get their quest for a place in the closing stages back on track when they meet Newtownshandrum who also lost out in round one to Clonakilty.

A busy few weeks ahead and plenty of camogie to enjoy.

Goals prove crucial as Newcestown advance

Newcestown 2-5
Aghabullogue 0-6

GOALS proved crucial as Newcestown recorded a victory over Aghabullogue in this *Evening Echo* Senior B Championship clash in Coachford recently.

One in either half was the cushion Newcestown needed as they held off the strong challenge of a determined Aghabullogue side.

For both sides it was their second game in the round robin series Aghabullogue having lost out to Bishopstown were determined to come out on top but they came up against a Newcestown side who having lost out in their opening game to Ballincollig were very focused on getting their campaign back on track.

Newcestown led 1-4 to 0-1 at the interval, Coleen Long dispatching a penalty to the Aghabullogue net as her side led 0-4 to 0-1 with the half-time whistle approaching after two points from Colleen Long and one apices from Grainne Cronin and Colette Desmond settled Newcestown.

Aghabullogue battled to get into the game but a strong Newcestown defence where Rose Desmond, Frances Deasy and Anita Coughlan were in control limited Aghabullogue to a point from Emma Healy.

Aghabullogue rallied in the second half and with Emma Healy striking over three points Fiona Buckley and Clara Murphy adding once each they were back in the game.

Newcestown with the cushion of their strong first half display as a foundation simply kept their noses ahead Grainne Cronin with a goal and a Colleen Long point ensured they had enough in reserve to get them to the finishing line and record their first victory in the round robin series of game.

Next up for Newcestown is Valley Rovers while Aghabullogue will face their divisional neighbours Ballincollig, it's still all very much to play for.

Scorers for Newcestown: C Long 1-3 (1-0 pen, 0-1), G Cronin 1-1, C Desmond 0-1.

Aghabullogue: E Healy 0-4, F Buckley C Murphy 0-1 each.

NEWCESTOWN: L O' Sullivan, M Crowley, R Desmond, F Deasy, A Coughlan, F Crowley, C O'Mahony, E Cooney, E Crowley, T McCarthy, C Long, A Crowley, G Cronin, C Desmond, K Murphy.

Subs: A Keane for K Murphy.

AGHABULLOGUE: E O'Connell, M Twomey, J Twomey, L Ronan, T Roche, S Buckley, C Kiely, A Twomey, C Murphy, E O'Mahony, B Twomey, E Healy, S Dineen, M Healy, F Buckley.

Subs: D Twomey for S Dineen O'Hearty for E O'Mahony.

Crowley in excellent form for Ballinhassig

Ballinhassig
Barryroe

5-5
1-0
By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie news

BALLINHASSIG and Barryroe met recently in round one of the *Evening Echo* Junior Shield competition which is a competition confined to clubs with second adult teams.

With several experienced performers in their line out, including former Cork senior star Marion McCarthy, who lined out in goal Ballinhassig were that bit stronger than their opponents, but never the less with former senior club players such as Geraldine Carroll

and Carol Fleming in their line out Barryroe battled hard.

By the half-time whistle Ballinhassig led 3-2 to a goal with Louise Finn, Brid Coleman, Aine Burns, and Sinead Crowley all getting on the score sheet, despite Ballinhassig enjoying the upper hand, Barryroe kept the pressure on the Ballinhassig defence through the opening half, and a goal from Mary Harrington helped keep them in touch.

Ballinhassig worked hard from the start of

the second half to maintain their lead despite strong resistance from Barryroe defence who through the second half tightened up considerably.

With their forwards that little bit stronger led by the excellent Sinead Crowley, who contributed 2-4 to the Ballinhassig total, it was Ballinhassig who extended their lead adding a further 2-3 to their tally.

Barryroe tried to breach the strong Ballinhassig rearguard but with Laura Jeffers, and Amy Riordan in top form guided by the experienced Marion McCarthy there was no way through, as Ballinhassig confidently picked

up their first set of points in this the first game in the round robin series of the competition.

Scorers for Ballinhassig: S Crowley 2-4, A Burns 1-1, L Finn 1-0, B Coleman 1-0 each.

Barryroe: M Harrington 1-0.

BALLINHASSIG: M McCarthy, L Jeffers, C Holland, M O'Mahony, A O'Riordan, E O'Regan, S Coffey, L Finn, O Murray, A Cullane, A Crowley, B Colman, S Scully, S Crowley, A Burns.

Subs: T Holland for S Scully, S Scully for Brid Coleman.

BARRYROE: J Madden, L Dullea, A M O'Regan, A M Rafferty, G Carroll, E Griffin, E Carroll, K O'Sullivan, C Fleming, E O'Donovan, M Sheehy, C Griffin, M Harrington, L Whelan, D O'Sullivan.

Subs: T McCarthy for E Griffin, C O'Dwyer for E O'Donovan, D Sexton for M Sheehy, A O'Donovan for C Griffin, A Weldon for M Harrington.

The Girls are going to the Dogs!

Camogie
Stars
Grab
Gold and
Silver

President of the Camogie Association Joan O'Flynn, Eimear Brannigan, Dublin, right, and Mary Leacey, Wexford, with Mount Eagle and Stoney Black at the launch of the Camogie Association's benefit night which will be held in Shelbourne Park on the eve of the All Ireland hurling final on September 5th. Photo: SPORTSFILE

Ash breaker
turned
Ash maker

CAMOGIE WORLD

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The Girls are going to the Dogs!



President of the Camogie Association Joan O'Flynn, Eimear Brannigan, Dublin, left, and Mary Leacey, Wexford, with Mount Eagle and Stoney Black at the launch of the Camogie Association's benefit night which will be held in Shelbourne Park Greyhound Stadium on the eve of the All Ireland hurling final on September 5th. Photo: Pat Murphy / SPORTSFILE

"Hurling Final weekend is a special weekend in Ireland's sporting calendar. On its eve, in Shelbourne Park, the Camogie, hurling and greyhound families will be united in what's sure to be a great night's fun, a great sporting occasion with lots of excitement and entertainment guaranteed".

Paddy Ryan, Managing Director of Shelbourne Park Greyhound Stadium added, "We at Shelbourne Park are delighted to be hosting a National Fundraiser for The Camogie Association. This is a first for us, hosting an all-lady sporting organisation benefit night. We wish them every success and are looking forward to their event."

For further information on the event and all camogie news

see www.camogie.ie

Read the camogie roundup every Monday at

www.hurlingworld.com

Joan O'Flynn, President of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael, players Eimear Brannigan and Mary Leacy joined Jonathan Dever, Leinster Sales Executive Irish Greyhound Board, Shelbourne Park Greyhound Stadium in Shelbourne Park to launch the Camogie Association's benefit night which will be held in Shelbourne Park on the eve of the All-Ireland hurling final on September 5.

Speaking at the launch Camogie President O'Flynn said, "I am delighted that Shelbourne Park, an iconic venue, will host the friends of Camogie on the eve of this year's All Ireland Hurling Final which is also a huge highlight in the greyhound diary with the Derby semi-finals. Camogie, as the fastest and most skilful female sport, will feel right at home here.

Camogie Star picks up Gold and Silver

Last weekend, Ciara Mageean a young camogie Star from Portaferry picked up the gold medal for Ireland in the 1500m European Youth Olympics in Finland.

Ciara with a power-packed running display that had spectator Sonia O'Sullivan on her feet shaved 15 seconds off Gabriela Szabo's record, who was a well-known rival of O'Sullivan's, and also set a new Irish record.

Ciara is the daughter of Chris 'The Hunter' Mageean, who played hurling for Ulster, Down and Portaferry, and featured on the Down team that captured three Ulster Senior titles in mid nineties under Sean McGuinness. Earlier in the month Middle distance star Ciara produced the race of her life in World Athletics Youth Championships in Suditrol Italy where she grabbed the silver medal in 800m in a new Northern Ireland native record time of 2.03.07 seconds.

Ciara's time not only sliced a massive 2.3 seconds off her PB but is also a new Irish junior record and a Commonwealth Games qualifying standard. This achievement by the massively talented 17 year old is probably the greatest performance by a Northern Ireland athlete since Philip Beattie's 400m hurdles win in the 1986 Commonwealth Games.

This phenomenal time smashes the Irish Junior 800m record of 2:05.38, she set at the Irish Schools Championships in May when breaking Sonia O'Sullivan's 1987 record of 2:05.72.

"I came all this way to Italy to win a medal. I am



more than happy! It is only the second medal for Ireland in the World Youth Championships' history." Said Ciara.

Ciara has also represented Down in camogie at under-age level and - when athletics allows it -

competes for Portaferry and her school Assumption Ballynahinch in Ulster Colleges' competitions.

Earlier this year she was the outstanding midfielder in the first Ulster Colleges' All-Star trial.



Portaferry Feile Champions 2004

Back Row - Fiona Magee, Claire Coulter, Maire Mageean, Eimear Ritchie, Paula White, Victoria Donnelly, Niamh Dumigan, Emma Murray, Cara McCarthy, Erin McMullan, Orla Ritchie
Front Row - Cooper, Mary Jo Coleman, Nicola Moreland, Louise Doherty, Ciara Mageean, Helen Convery

and was called back to the final trial. However an athletics meeting the same day meant that she could not attend. Had she, there is little doubt that she would have made the team. Still only 17, she has another year to emulate her older sister Maire who was an Ulster Colleges' All-Star in 2008.

As well as 'The Hunter's' hurling genes, Ciara can call upon camogie genes from her mother's side with her aunt Edel Mason holding an unique position in the game. Edel was voted Player of the Match for her native Down when they beat Cork to win the 1998 All-Ireland Intermediate title. Five years later, Edel had transferred to Antrim and was Player of the Match for the Saffrons when they beat Tipperary in the 2003 All-Ireland Intermediate final!

Ciara was greeted with rapturous applause from

the hundreds of people that turned up at the Portaferry ferryboat to catch a glimpse of her gold medal earlier this week. A tremendous achievement - but for now she is turning her attention to camogie championship action as Portaferry focus in on the Down minor title.

"As well as being one of our most talented athletes she is a really nice person and a great ambassador" said Clare McCoy from the Northern Ireland Athletics office in Belfast. "She even took time out to send us a postcard"

While she learnt her camogie in Portaferry she owes her athletic development to the City of Lisburn Athletic club and her coach Eamon Christie. While still very young the seventeen year old may be ready for the 1912 London Olympics. No doubt she will have 4 million cheering fans if

that happens!

Who knows, she may even join the legendary Ed Barrett who is the sole holder of an Olympic medal and a hurling medal. Big Ed from Ballyduff in Kerry added an Olympic medal to his 1901 All Ireland hurling medal in 1908 when his London Police team won the tug of war competition. The games were to be held in Italy but Mount Vesuvius erupted in 1906. The USA Tug of War team pulled out of the competition because they objected to the spikes on the boots that the London lads were wearing.

(Words: Séamas McAleenan. Photos: Portaferry GAA Club and The Northern Ireland Athletics Board. You can read more about Ciara's achievements and see more photos at www.niathletics.org)

Rebels rally to see off Tipperary

Camogie

Therese O'Callaghan

TIPPERARY'S championship came to an end with a two-point defeat to Cork in Páirc Uí Rinn (1-13 to 0-14).

What was most disappointing from a Premier perspective is that they battled impressively in the first half and led at the change of ends as they began to play with the wind at their backs. However, Cork found their feet in the second half with Catriona Foley, Mary O'Connor and Jenny Duffy strong in defence. Points from Gemma O'Connor, Rachel Moloney and Sile Burns had them back on track before a long-range free from Orla Cotter edged her side clear. Eimear McDonnell (0-3) and Cait Devane (0-6) impressed for the losers.

In the other group game, Division One league champions Wexford overcame Clare (2-15 to 0-3). Katrina Parrock hit 1-2 while Michelle Hearne registered their second goal with Una



PREMIER PUSH:

Tipperary's Geraldine Kinnane breaks away from Cork's Eimear O'Sullivan in the senior camogie championship clash in Páirc Uí Rinn. Picture: Sportsfile

Leacy and Kate Kelly raising white flags.

Meanwhile, Kilkenny are back in the senior camogie spotlight. Having enjoyed tremendous recent underage success, their adult side advanced to the Gala All-Ireland senior championship last four after defeating Dublin on Saturday (2-14 to 0-4).

They will meet last season's beaten finalists Galway on their home patch

in Nowlan Park on August 15 while champions Cork face Wexford in the other semi-final.

Ann Downey's Kilkenny reeled off five unanswered points in the first 10 minutes and led 1-11 to 0-1 at the break with the goal coming from Edwina Keane. After the restart, Elaine Aylward and Ann Dalton continued to inspire Kilkenny and the margin of victory would have been greater but

for the reflexes of Dublin's sub keeper Joeleen Hoary.

Eventually Colette Dormer found a way past Hoary for the winner's second goal. Galway, though minus some regulars, accounted for Limerick in Athenry (1-16 to 0-8) on Saturday. Brenda Hanney goalied, while Aislinn Connolly and Jessica Gill claimed 11 points. Niamh Mulcahy scored all of Limerick's tally.

Gala All Ireland senior championship wrap

KILKENNY are back. Having enjoyed great success at underage level in recent years, they have made the breakthrough at adult level again, to qualify for the Gala All Ireland senior camogie championship semi-final courtesy of their win away to Dublin on Saturday (2-14 to 0-4). Furthermore, they can look forward to meeting last season's beaten finalists Galway on their home patch in Nowlan Park on August 15. The other semi-final will see the titleholders Cork up against Wexford in what is a hugely attractive double header.

While there had been widespread optimism that the Black and Amber would step up to the plate, this means that Tipperary who dominated the limelight in the early 00's are gone. They travelled to Páirc Uí Rinn with realistic hopes of getting the win they needed, but Cork managed to edge them out with a battling two point victory, 1-13 to 0-14.

What will disappoint the Premier girls most is that they took the game to their hosts, actually led starting out the second half with the wind to their backs, but they were eventually worn down by Cork. The Cork goal came in the opening half from Emer O'Farrell following Gemma O'Connor's hard work.

However, in what turned out to be a real test for the home side, they got the response from Cathriona Foley, Mary O'Connor and Jenny Duffy in defence. And with points from Gemma O'Connor, Rachel Moloney and Sile Burns they were back on track. Finally a long range free from Orla Cotter put enough daylight between the sides.

Tipperary, although not named on the original team started Claire Grogan and Eimear McDonnell. McDonnell was in her usual good form scoring three points, but Cork switched Rena Buckley who marked her closely in the second half. Cait Devane left her mark with six points.

Meanwhile, Ann Downey's Kilkenny reeled off five unanswered points in the opening 10 minutes of their game with the Blues. By the half they were in front 1-11 to 0-1 with the goal coming from Edwina Keane. Elaine Aylward drove forward from half back while Ann Dalton impressed around the middle. Dublin would have been in a worse position only for replacement keeper Joeleen Hoary who brought off some top-class saves despite being beaten late on by Colette Dormer.

The Cats who finished second in their group face Galway, who minus some of their regular names, accounted for Limerick in Athenry, 1-16 to 0-8. Brenda Hanney netted their goal, while Aislinn Connolly and Jessica Gill claimed 11 of their points. Niamh Mulcahy scored all eight of Limerick's tally.

In the other group, Wexford the Division One league champions overcame Clare (2-15 to 0-3) to finish behind Galway. Katrina Parrock hit 1-2 while Michelle Hearne registered their second goal with Una Leacy and Kate Kelly raising white flags.

Biggest day in history of Meath camogie

Biggest day in history of Meath camogie

The Meath team will play in Nowlan Park on Saturday afternoon against Offaly in the Gala All Ireland junior championship semi-final and entering a new stage of Meath Camogie History. This will be the first time in the History of Meath Camogie that a Meath Camogie side has reached this level.

Manager John Davis who hails from Westmeath club, Brownstown, is a former Meath Hurling Manager. He achieved success with a Historic All Ireland SHC B Title in 1993 and guided his hurling side to a NHL Div 2 title in 2000 and a place in Division 1 hurling with his first outing against Clare in Ennis. A year in Div 1 hurling which Meath survived was followed by John's departure as Michael Duignan took over in 2002.

John came on board to manage the Meath Camogie team in 2007. The Team has gone from strength to strength since John took over bringing the team in 2007 to a National League, Leinster Final & All Ireland Final only to be defeated in all three. But he did not let this stop him in 2008 when he managed the Meath team to win the National League Div 4 Final & the All Ireland Nancy Murray Cup.

This year the team entered in a Higher National League Division - done well but failed to make the knockout stages. And following on from a great win over Antrim & a draw with Laois Meath they now face Offaly in the All Ireland Semi-Final.

The players are from a number of clubs within the County. Stephanie Horan, Sinead Hackett & Keogh sisters of Aine & Marie, families have tasted All Ireland success with brothers on the Meath Team that won the Nicky Rackard cup in Croke Park earlier in July.

Meath have some players unavailable to play due to dual commitments of Ladies football & also one player Jenny Rispin is also involved with the Management team of the Meath Under 16 Ladies football team who play in the All Ireland u16 Final on Saturday at 2.30pm in Longford against Donegal. Jenny has a tough choice to make on Saturday !!.

CAMOGIE

GALA SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Galway 1-16 (B Hanney 1-0, A Connolly 0-7 (0-4f, 0-14f), J Gill 0-4 f, M Dunne 0-2N Mc Grath, N Kilkenny, L Ryan 0-1 each) Limerick 0-8 (N Mulcahy 0-8, (0-7f))

Kilkenny 2-14 (E Keane 1-1, K Power 0-4, M Quilty 0-3, C Dormer 0-2, A Dalton, A Neary 0-1f each, A M Phelan, D Gaulie 0-1 each) Dublin 0-4 (L O'Hara 0-2, A Maguire, A Griffin 0-1 each)

Cork 1-13 (E O'Farrell 1-1, G O'Connor, S Burns 0-3 each, R Moloney 0-3 (0-2f, 0-14f), B Corkery 0-2, O Cotter 0-1)

Tipperary 0-14 (C Devane 0-6 (0-3f, 0-14f), E McDonnell 0-3, M Shortt 0-2, C Grogan 0-2 (0-1f), J Ryan 0-1)

Wexford 2-15 (K Parrock 1-2, M Hearne 1-0, U Jacob 0-6 (0-2f), U Leacy 0-3, K Kelly 0-2 (0-1f), R Breen, L Holohan 0-1 each) Clare 0-3 (S O'Loughlin 0-2 '45, F Lafferty 0-1)

INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Cork 2-9 (E Watson 1-3, D Luby 1-1, M Coleman, M Regan 0-2 each, M Browne 0-1) Tipperary 2-6 (N Flanagan 1-1, N Walsh 1-0, A Mc Loughrey 0-3 (0-2f), L Davis, C Johnston 0-1 each)

Ulster games previewed

It will be an all Ulster affair in the Gala Junior Nancy Murray Cup Championship semi-final as Tyrone and Armagh battle it out for a spot in the final.

Tyrone defeated Armagh when the two sides went head to head in the group stages and Armagh manager Pasty McGee admits that his side faces an immense challenge later today.

"Obviously Tyrone will be the favourite, they topped the table and are unbeaten in the competition so far but it's a one off game, whoever performs the best and to their potential will come away with the win," said Magee.

Over the past weeks Armagh have been preparing to meet their neighbours by inviting former Queen's University and Ulster coach Chris Clarke to take some training sessions.

"We've prepared well over the last couple of weeks we had Chris (Clarke) come in and take two training sessions and that has helped to keep the girls focused on where we want to go and what we want to achieve. It's good to get a different coach in because it's good to get different views and ideas about the team and also gives the girls a chance to have someone else assess their skills and give them some tips," McGee said.

Once again goalkeeper Bronagh Keenan is the only injury worry for McGee: "Bronagh is not a million miles away from playing, she's improving and getting stronger everyday. If we come through today she should be fit for the final. Other than that we have a full panel to choose from and everyone is ready to go."

Tyrone manager Brenainn Brunton has played down the notion that his side will be favourites saying: "It will be a tough test for us, Armagh are a good side with some excellent players. We know that they will make it difficult for us; it's just a matter of us staying focused on what we have to do. We beat them in the group stages but they are a different side from then and they will be boosted by their win over Westmeath to make the semi, we just have to go out and concentrate on our game and hope that's enough."

Meanwhile in the Gala Intermediate McGrath Cup Championship Derry will face Galway in their final group game. Derry have already booked a place in the semi-final stages with an impressive win over Wexford and picking up the points when Clare failed to field but manager Danny McGrellis is going out for the win.

"We want to finish the campaign the way we started it with a win. We know that Galway will be tough opposition and that's what we need at this stage of the competition. It will give us a chance to possibly rest some players and give an opportunity to other players on the panel. I've always stressed that it's the strength of the panel that will get us through and today will give a few others the chance to stake a claim for a starting position," McGrellis added.

Fixtures:

Gala Intermediate McGrath Cup Championship: Derry vs Galway, Ballinasloe 2pm
Gala Junior Nancy Murray Cup Championship: Tyrone vs Armagh, Casement Park 6:30pm

AUG 2009



LINDA MELLERICK

Cork
Tipperary

1-13
0-14

CORK are through to the Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie semi-final, yet a somewhat subdued side walked off the pitch after Tipperary gave the home side the fright of their lives in Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday afternoon.

In fact a couple of questionable fouls by Cork, poor refereeing decisions and poor tactical decisions by Tipperary in the last 10 minutes possibly denied the Premier County the chance to force a play-off.

But once again Cork held their composure to deservedly advance.

Cork started brightly with the strong wind at their backs. Emer Farrell justified her inclusion in the starting 15 with a cool and composed side step to advancing goalkeeper Paula Ryan's right before pulling to the net to give Cork a 1-2 to 0-0 lead after just five minutes.

Tipperary were finding it difficult to settle as Cork dictated proceedings. Jenny Duffy was clearing a lot of ball and Gemma O'Connor was actively involved around the middle of the park. Emer McDonnell was displaying flashes of dazzling skill and speed and it was obvious she was back to her brilliant best but as a unit, Cork were closing down any danger inside the square.

Michelle Shortt's point opened Tipp's scoring after 15 minutes. A long ball from Joanne Ryan five minutes later was superbly caught by McDonnell. Soloing through with the goal in her sights she was fouled by Rena Buckley.

The referee blew as her offload reached Cait Devane who rocked the net but the free was awarded and Cork escaped. Cork responded with a well taken Sile Burns point and the score stood at 1-4 to 0-2 with 20 minutes played.

The last 12 minutes of the half belonged to Tipp. Joanne Ryan began to control the middle of the park as Cork disappeared. The supply inside flourished and with Emer McDonnell, Michelle Shortt and Cait Devane causing consternation, Tipp struck five points on the trot between the 22nd and 27th minutes as a tired-looking Cork team struggled to match their speed and agility.

Despite playing with the wind, Cork brought Rachel Moloney out as a third midfielder in an attempt to stem the onslaught.

A well taken free on 28th minutes from Moloney gave Cork some re-



Cork's Sile Burns dives to win possession of the sliothar ahead of Tipperary's Mary Ryan during their Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship encounter at Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday. Picture: Damien Quirke

Subdued Cork hold their composure to see off Tipperary

prieve but McDonnell and Devane hit another two to leave Cork trailing at the break 0-9 to 1-5.

Tipp increased their lead to two upon the resumption. When things are going against a team, they need leaders and Cork once again had this in the inspirational Gemma O'Connor.

Three points, each more sublime than the previous, in the 5th, 9th and 11th minutes gave Cork the advantage again.

A couple of dubious frees against Tipp as they attacked incensed the visiting supporters.

Cork regained control of the middle with Breige Corkery becoming more involved and Ryan's contribution fading, her point on 19 minutes giving Cork a four-point

lead after Emer Farrell and Burns again struck points.

McDonald was again pulled down on 21 minutes as she burst through very close to the square.

Tipperary screamed for a penalty but a free was awarded. It was to be Tipp's last chance of a goal as Mary O'Connor, Catriona Foley, Jenny Duffy and Lynda O'Connell thwarted any Tipp attack.

Strangely with five minutes remaining and behind by two points Tipp opted to pack their defence and midfield. They needed a score yet every delivery was speedily returned as Cork held their positions and outnumbered Tipp by six to three.

A minute into injury-time Cork held a one-point lead as Tipp fever-

ishly pursued an equaliser. In the panic of necessity Ryan picked the ball off the ground and Orla Cotter converted in the 63rd minute to secure Cork a place in the All-Ireland semi-final against Wexford on August 15.

Scorers for Cork: E Farrell 1-1, S Burns 0-3, G O'Connor 0-3, R Moloney 0-3 (0-2 f, 0-1 45), B Corkery 0-2, O Cotter 0-1(f).

Tipperary: C Devane 0-6 (0-4 f), E McDonnell 0-3, C Grogan 0-2 (0-1 f), J Ryan, M Shortt, L Bourke (f) 0-1 each.

CORK: A Murray; J O'Callaghan, R Buckley, C Foley; J Duffy, M O'Connor, S Hayes; B Corkery, O Cotter; E Dillon, G O'Connor, U O'Donoghue; S Burns, E O'Farrell, R Moloney.

Subs: E O'Sullivan for E Dillon (41), L O'Connell for J O'Callaghan (38), K Mackey for U O'Donoghue (45).

TIPPERARY: P Ryan; M Ryan, M Luttrell, S Kelly; P Bultin, T O'Halloran, U O'Dwyer; J Horan, G Kinnane; C Devane, E Hayden, E McDonnell; J Ryan, C Grogan, M Shortt.

Subs: J McGrath for G Kinnane (48).

Referee: Ciarán Quigley — (Kildare).

Cronin: We still have a lot of work to do

THE relief was clearly visible on manager Denise Cronin's face yet it was a case of 'job done', writes LINDA MELLERICK.

She reflected on Cork's great start and the lull which followed, allowing Tipperary five points without reply in the opening half.

"I suppose we were up for the game but at the back of our minds we possibly felt we were going to win and when we got that great start the complacency possibly set in and

we didn't recover from that for the remainder of the half.

"We chased the game and it was three or four players who kept us in it."

How did she feel at half-time and what was said in the Cork dressing room?

"We felt we weren't winning a lot of ball in the half-forward line. We brought on Emer O'Sullivan who is a very good defending forward and the fact that we made a substitute

out of necessity and another two in the second half showed the rest of the team that they needed to up their game.

"We are making substitutions now out of necessity, not to give people a run, and they are all contributing which is very pleasing.

"We've had two hard games. We had the tough group in that Wexford and Galway were always going to be the two advancing from group two.

"We've been tested now by

Kilkenny and Tipp so the preparation looks right heading into the semi-final but we still have work to do.

"This was a big win for us. Tipp haven't been in the semi-final since '97/'98 so this is a big loss for them. I can't remember the time Cork weren't in a semi-final. We're there again now. If we looked tired today imagine having to go into a play-off situation next week. We're delighted that isn't the case."



Our Lady Of Lourdes, winners of the Sciath na Scol Camogie at Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Inset, Camogie captain Michelle Murphy and vice captain

Rebels top group despite a lacklustre performance

Cork 2-9
Tipperary 2-6

IT MAY have been a lacklustre display from both sides but never the less it was a victory for Cork as they overcame Tipperary in the last game in their section of the Gala All-Ireland championship in Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday.

With both sides already qualified for the semi-final stages, this was no more than a glorified challenge game but with an opportunity to take the bragging rights to top the group at stake for the winners, it was the home side who just about made it over the finishing line.

Both sides came into the game on the back of comprehensive victories over Kilkenny and despite the fact that they cannot meet at the semi-final stage the next likely meeting may be in the All-Ireland final.

One got the impression that both were playing it cautious and unwilling to give too much away, whatever the reason the game failed to ignite or excite as a contest.

Aided by the strong wind in the opening half, Cork should have been further ahead at the interval where they held just a two-point advantage and given that they had the lion's share of possession in the opening 30 minutes, this did not look as if it would suffice.

Tipperary battled hard over the hour to overtake a Cork side that had held the lead from the opening minute but they never looked to have the power to overtake their opponents who owe much to their defence that worked hard to ensure they held their advantage to the final whistle.

Goals at vital stages 15 minutes into each half were important to the Cork cause as they arrived at stages of the contest where Tipperary battled to get into the game.

Despite being wasteful with possession, the Cork inside lines did just enough without setting the place on fire to ensure victory.

Cork took an early lead with two Eimear Watson points, Noreen Flanagan replied for Tipperary inside five minutes but aided by the strong wind Cork extended their lead with a Mary Coleman point.



Cork's Mariah Reidy gets away from Tipperary's Fiona Judge in the GALA All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship game.

Picture: Larry Cummins

By MARY NEWMAN

Gala All-Ireland championship

The Cork defence held firm under a lot of pressure as Tipperary battled to add to their opening score but it was Cork that extended their advantage with the games opening goal as county minor player Denise Luby sidestepped her marker to fire the ball to the net from close range for the game's opening goal.

Aoife McLoughney pointed to keep Tipp in touch after 22 minutes but it took a superb save a minute later from Cork keeper Jessica Kavanagh to deny Jackie O'Connor a certain goal from the edge of the square.

Lorraine Davis and Maria Reidy swapped points as Cork held their advantage and with their defence holding firm, Cork enjoyed plenty of possession but they failed to turn it into scores striking six wides in the opening half, 10 in

total over the hour.

Tipperary took advantage of Cork's squander mania with Nicole Walsh grabbing a goal four minutes from the interval and as they battled to hold their lead Denise Luby struck a point to send Cork to the dressing rooms with a two-point advantage.

The second half was livelier as Tipperary strove to get their noses ahead with the wind to their backs, twice the sides exchanged points as Cork clung to their two point lead.

With the game approaching the final quarter it began to swing in Cork's favour, Emer Watson and Michelle Browne extended their lead to four points and when Emer Watson got the last touch over the line to Michelle Browne's long delivery to put Cork seven points in front.

The goal seemed to serve as a wake-up call for Tipperary and for the closing quarter they held Cork scoreless as they applied huge pres-

sure.

Aoife McLoughney cut the deficit with a pointed free and keeping their foot on the pedal they pushed for more, Noreen Flanagan grabbing a goal with a minute left, however it came too late to effect the final outcome as Cork held out to top the group.

Scorers for Cork: E Watson 1-3, D Luby 1-1, M Reidy, M Coleman 0-2 each, M Browne 0-1.

Tipperary: N Flanagan 1-1, A McLoughney 0-3 (0-1f), N Walsh 1-0, C Johnson, L Davis 0-1 each.

CORK: J Kavanagh; A M Fleming (c), C O'Neill, R De Facite, L Weste, L Power, C Motherway; J Lynch, H O'Mahony; M Reidy, M Coleman, M Watson; M Browne, D Luby, E Watson.

Subs: R Curtin for J Lynch (h/t), M Walsh for L Power (38), C Dineen for H O'Mahony (42).

TIPPERARY: C Kennelly; S O'Neill, J Delaney, G Stapleton; S McCarthy, S Larkin, F Judge; S Bourke, L Davis; J O'Connor, S Ryan (c), N Flanagan, N Walsh, C Johnston, A McLoughney.

Subs: C Kenny for S Larkin (42 inj).

Referee: Alan le Grue (Kildare)

Thornhill will be looking for an improvement in semi

CORK coach Bobby Thornhill was pleased enough with his side's victory but feels that a huge improvement is needed if they are to get over the next hurdle and make it to the final, writes MARY NEWMAN.

"We are pleased enough with the win but to be honest our display today was not good enough to

win an All-Ireland, it's as simple as that, there was nothing at stake today only the honour of topping the group and we played like a team that were going through the motions, our place was secured in the semi-final so we just did enough but the bottom line it's not good enough."

Looking ahead to the

semi-final Bobby knows how hard it will be.

"We have to drive on now from today, we have three tough weeks ahead, a lot of our panel were involved with the minor team but we will have our panel together from here on. I spoke to a lot of these girls after they lost the minor game against Clare last week and while

they were disappointed they were willing to drive on and put their heads down to try and win this All-Ireland and we will all work together to try and reach that goal."

Losing out in last year's final to Kilkenny still hurts and Bobby and his back room team have huge faith in their charges.

"The majority of this team lost out in last year's final and it was a game we really should have won. They deserve another shot at it but the medals will not be handed out in the semi-final and we must focus fully on that game now and we are determined to go all the way, we are glad to get a win today."

Camogie Gala All-Ireland Championship

Tipp Fail Narrowly

Cork 1-13; Tipperary 0-14

By Kieran Slattery,
County P.R.O.

Tipperary will have to wait another year to bring the O'Duffy Cup back to the Premier County as their championship campaign came to a halt last weekend in Pairc Uí Rinn.

The display given by the Tipp girls was superb, and probably the finest display of the year. If any silver lining could be taken from this game, was the fact that the management's task of building a team for the future took a giant step forward.

Cork settled into the game straight away, and with the aid of a strong breeze had

scored their first point from a 45 in the 2nd minute. Silé Burns found the target for the rebels within a minute and within the first 6 minutes Cork were 1-02 ahead thanks to a goal from Emer Shanahan. Tipperary were finding hard to grasp the game and struggled to find their form until the sharp Michelle Shortt struck for the visitors first point in the 15th minute. Bríge Corkery for Cork replied until Tipperary's Cait Devane was clear on goal but, despite being pulled down, managed to lay off to Eimear McDonnell who goaled, only to be blown back by the referee who didn't give the advantage to Tipperary, resulting in Tipp's

second point coming from the free.

With Joanne Ryan playing further out the field and causing damage to Cork, and Eimear McDonnell's blistering pace being too much for the Cork defence, Tipperary were taking control of the game and hit 5 unanswered points in this period of dominance. Cork pointed another free before Claire Grogan and Cait Devane pointed from play to give the visitors a 1 point lead at half time, 1-05, 0-09.

The large amount of Tipperary supporters were eagerly looking forward to the second half, and in the 2nd minute Devane pointed another 45, putting two

points between the sides.

Cork were now starting to take control of mid field, but Tipp's half back line of Bulfin, O'Halloran and O'Dwyer were defending as if their lives depended on it. A free from Cait put Tipp back in front in the 8th minute before Cork's Gemma O'Connor hit 2 brilliant points from play which settled a rattled Cork and they notched up a further 3 points from play to be 4 points up with 10 minutes to play.

Michelle Shortt, at corner forward for Tipp was very alert, and her first touch was superb. Tipperary never gave up and with some good passages of play 2 goal chances went inches wide. Two points from Devane, and Grogan hitting another in the 30th minute, left the minimum between the sides. Tipperary tried everything in the final 3 minutes of added time, but it was Cork's Orla Cotter who pointed the final placed ball to wrap it up for the home side.

For any neutral at the game it was a spectacle of pure brilliance from both teams with the skill and effort being top notch. Tipperary had many heroes on the day, Cait Devane, Emily Hayden, Suzanne Kelly as well as all mentioned already. A bitterly disappointed Coach, Fr. Peter Brennan, after the match felt that his charges did everything possible to win. Lady luck didn't shine on the day with goal chances inches wide. He was extremely proud of their preparation and hard work.

Tipperary: Paula Ryan, Mary Ryan, Mairead Luttrell, Suzanne Kelly, Paula Bulfin, Tishy O'Halloran, Una O'Dwyer, Jill Horan, Geraldine Kinnane (Capt), Cait Devane (0.06), Emily Hayden, Eimear McDonnell (0.03), Joanne Ryan (0.01), Claire Grogan (0.02), Michelle Shortt (0.02).



Suzanne Kelly, Tipperary, in action against Cork in the Gala Senior Camogie Championship, Group 1, Round 5, in Pairc Uí Rinn, Cork. Picture credit: Brendan Moran / SPORTSFILE

Gala All Ireland Intermediate Championship; Cork 2.09 Tipperary 2.06

With both sides already through to a semi final spot later in the month, this game was to decide who would top the group, and would act as a barometer to both management teams of their sides' progress.

Cork had the first two points registered before Tipperary got on the scoreboard with a point from Noreen Flanagan in the 5th minute. Cork were dominant with their half back line a launch pad which set up Cork with a goal & point by the 15th minute. Tipperary's Aoife Moloughney pointed from the puck out, and Jackie O'Connor had two goal chances saved in the 21st minute. Tipperary finally got the goal they needed when Nicole

Walsh was on hand to take a pass from the hard working Ciara Johnston to blast to the Cork net. Just before half time Cork pointed to leave the score 1-05 to Tipp's 1-03.

Cork resumed the half where they finished, when they registered their first point within 2 minutes. Ciara Johnston with a good run and Aoife Moloughney from a free, pointed for Tipp, leaving a point between the sides.

Shortly after Moloughney was unlucky to see her ground strike go narrowly wide for Tipperary. The visitors desperately needed a goal, but their attack was being broken down too far out, and the potentially lethal full forward line were starved of quality ball. Cork again took control and hit a tally of 1-03, and by the 20th minute had notched up their final score of 2-09.

With plenty of time left, Tipperary were by no means out of the game, and working hard the forwards tried to break the Cork defence, which now became crowded as they pulled players back to

hold their lead. The last 5 minutes were all Tipperary and a point from Moloughney and a well taken goal from Noreen Flanagan came too late, giving Cork the 3 point margin they finished up with.

Tipperary have come a long way in a year in this grade, and the fact they are into an All Ireland semi final is testament to the training and preparation the panel have put into reaching this stage. Tipperary had strong displays from Ciara Johnston, Nicole Walsh and Jackie O'Connor in the forwards, Geraldine Stapleton, Fiona Judge and Julie Delaney in the backs, while Christine Kennelly was very confident in goals.

This panel of players are still serious contenders for the Championship, and while disappointed with losing, perhaps more could be learnt from defeat than victory at this stage of the campaign.

Tipperary: Christine Kennelly, Siobhan O'Neill, Julie Delaney, Geraldine Stapleton, Siobhan McCarthy, Sabrina

Larkin, Fiona Judge, Siobhan Bourke, Lorraine Davis (0.01), Jackie O'Connor, Siobhan Ryan (Capt), Noreen Flanagan (1.02), Nicole Walsh (1.00), Ciara Johnston (0.01), Aoife Moloughney (0.02).

Camogie notes:

The August County Board meeting will take place next Tuesday Aug 11th commencing at 7.45pm in the Ragg. This meeting will be addressed by Uachtarán Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael, Joan O'Flynn. All clubs are asked to be represented at this meeting.

Entries for the annual Camogie blitz in Dundrum on August 22nd hosted by Knockavilla Camogie are still being accepted. Already, over 15 clubs in the County have filled up the entry form. Matches in U10s, U14s & Junior are being catered for, so if interested please log onto: www.kickhams.camogie.tipperary.gaa.ie for the forms, or ring club P.R.O. Leonie Loughman, (087) 7771832 for more details.

Aug 2009

Galway intermediates

Galway 2-11
Derry 0-9

EOGHAN CORMICAN
IN BALLINASLOE

THE Galway Intermediate camogie team advanced to the semi-final stage of the Gala All Ireland Intermediate championship thanks to a comprehensive eight point victory over a disappointing Derry outfit in Duggan Park on Saturday.

Noel Finn's charges now advance to a semi-final meeting with Tipperary on August 23rd with an unblemished record after group wins over Clare, Wexford and the aforementioned northerners.

Grainne McGoldrick sent the 2007 All Ireland junior champions into an early two point lead, but those scores arrived after Galway had failed to capitalise on two guilt edge

goal opportunities, Gemma Kelly and Tara Rutledge the guilty parties.

But the home side quickly hit the front as points from Rutledge, Caroline Murray and Kelly preceded a superb goal from St. Thomas' centre forward Murry. Derry, however, refused to wilt and they hit four unanswered points to tie the match by the 23rd minute.

McGoldrick continued to punish Galway discrepancies with three points (0-2 frees, 0-1 '45) and Attracta McPeak registered the Oak Leaf county's first score from play. Such was the nature of the first half that the pendulum swung back in the favour of Galway. Martina Conroy (0-1 free) restored their lead before the game's crucial score arrived.

A long range free from the excellent Cathy Bowes fell to Conroy, whose effort was blocked, substitute Rebecca

power past Derry

Hennelly was also denied by 'keeper O'Kane who batted the sliothar into the path of Gemma Kelly who made no mistake on the edge of the square.

Early in the second-half, Rutledge and Martina Conroy (free) extended the home side's advantage to six as Galway began to suck the life out of the Derry challenge. Gemma Kelly won possession despite the close attention of two Derry defenders, the result a point from Mullagh's Cathy Bowes. It was a score that encapsulated the ethos adopted by the side on Saturday. They worked their proverbial socks.

The visitors had to wait until the 46th minute for their first score of the second half - a converted free from McGoldrick whose first half dominance slowly began to fade. Gemma Kelly and Bowes continued to score at ease for

Galway and when McGoldrick missed her first free of the day with six minutes remaining the Derry challenge evaporated. Substitute Paula Kenny signalled her intent for a starting role with a fine individual point near the end.

Galway, for their part, looked particularly strong at the back where Sarah Dervan and Karen Brien excelled, smothering the threat of the Derry forward line. Midfield once again played second fiddle, but the loss of Niamh McGrath to the senior squad seems to have had little effect as all six forwards registered scores on Saturday.

Galway: D Ward, J Coone, N Lawless, K Brien, C Gill, S Dervan, M Connaughton, C Glennon, C Kelly, C Bowes (0-2), C Murray (1-1), M Conroy (0-2 free's), T Rutledge (0-2), G Kelly (1-2), L Pardy (0-1). Subs: R Hennelly for Glennon 24 mins, P Kenny (0-1) for Pardy 41 mins, S Coen for Rutledge 54 mins, A Hobbins for Coone 56 mins, N Murphy for Connaughton 58 mins.

The Bodyke eviction?

Clare
v
Wexford

@ Bodyke, Saturday 3.30pm

It's what is their first year back at senior level, Clare couldn't have hoped for a better situation heading into the final group game - a straight play-off with Wexford to determine which side joins group winners Galway in the All-Ireland semi-finals. Both sides have had a similar path, suffering defeat against last year's All-Ireland finalists Galway but claiming victory against Limerick. That is where the similarities end really as Wexford are the current National League champions after bridging a 32 year gap against Tipperary at the

end of April, only two years on from claiming All-Ireland honours while this is all new territory for last year's junior champions Clare who are only finding their way at this level. Therefore anything but a Wexford win would be the shock of the championship year.

Still, with nothing to lose, Clare should enter this game with renewed confidence. After a demoralising defeat against Galway first time out, their season threatened to unravel but a battling second half performance against neighbours Limerick has instilled a genuine belief that they can match Wexford, especially on home soil. The venue will not suit Wexford's flowing style, particularly if the current weather conditions prevail and it could open the door for

Clare to upset the odds if they play to their peak.

Clare cannot afford to be as inconsistent as they have been in both their championship games so far. Their second half display against Galway along with their first half performance against Limerick were uncharacteristic of this side but still unacceptable at this level and Wexford will certainly exploit Clare if that form reappears on Saturday.

In saying that, due to the fact that Wexford are hot favourites to overcome the Banner, Clare have everything to gain from this game but while they will put it up to the Leinster side for forty minutes, Wexford should eventually have too much.

Verdict: Wexford



Joan O'Flynn, President of the Camogie Association, and Denise Lord, Gala, Customer Services Manager, right, with Deirdre Murphy, Clare, and the O'Duffy cup at the launch of the Gala All-Ireland Championships in Croke Park, Dublin. Pat Murphy/SPORTSFILE

Camogie > JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP



Debutantes impress

Crusheen 1-8 Kilkishen 1-1

Sarah McGuane

CRUSHEEN had a successful outing in their first ever venture into adult championship. The newly formed club has entered a team in the Junior Championship and were rewarded for their work when they had their first win in the competition on Thursday evening last. The home side dominated the game where conditions underfoot were not very accommodating to the game. The club have used the North Munster League to help get match practice for this campaign and seem to have made full use of this.

Crusheen: Catherine Murphy, Michelle Walsh, Noelle McGuane, Amanda Peril, Marion Meany, Ann Fitzgibbon, Orla O'Donnell (0-2), Ann Griffin, Carol O'Donnell (0-1), Marie Curtin (1-0), Elaine

O'Mahony (0-3), Tina Meaney (0-1), Michelle Cotter (0-1)

Subs: Lisa Peril, Brid Quigley, Ruth Kearney, Sharon Fitzgibbon, Aisling Calhoun, Cathriona McGrath, Catherine Taffe, Janet O'Donnell, Joanne O'Donnell, Joanne Meaney, Caroline Brigdale. Meanwhile Kilanena were one point winners over Inagh by 1-2 to 1-1 where again conditions certainly didn't lend their way to a very open game. Newmarket and Eire Og will meet this Tuesday evening in the remaining game of the round while Feakle had a bye.

Round 4 of the Clare Camogie U11 Ground Camogie takes place this week where Kilanena host Tuila, Bodyke and Broadford, Ruan host Kilkishen, Wolfe Tones and Inagh, Scariff host Feakle, Eire Og and Whitegate. Corofin host Burren, Clarecastle, and Kilnamona. St. Joseph's host Ballyea and Crusheen while Clooney host Kilmaley and Sixmilebridge.

Camogie > KILLANENA CAMOGIE CLUB



Shane Murphy

KILLANENA Camogie Club will hold a fundraising fashion show spectacular as part of its continuing 50th Anniversary Celebrations. The show will take place in Canny's Marquee, Kilanena, on Monday night, August 3 at 7.30pm, and this will conclude the August weekend festival at Canny's and tickets are currently on sale for €10 from any club member.

Kilmanena Camogie Club has been celebrating its 50th Birthday in a number of ways. Fr. Liam Murray, club founder, recently unveiled a commemorative plaque at the GAA pitch during a fun camogie day

which drew a huge crowd of supporters. Broderick Furniture, which has a close association with the club since the beginning, presented sponsored gear to all members to mark the occasion. The Junior team visited Croydon in London a few weeks ago and enjoyed a marvellous weekend of camogie and socialising with the host club which included a visit to Thorpe Adventure Park. Meanwhile, the underage section of the club enjoyed an activity-filled day at UL Activity Centre, Killoe recently. They undertook a combination of water and land-based activities and all agreed that it was a wonderful day for the club's juvenile members.

Camogie > ALL-IRELAND MINOR SEMI-FINAL

Clare avenge Rebel defeats

Clare 1-09 Cork 0-11
@ Kilmallock

Sarah McGuane

CLARE put in a hard-working 65 minute shift in Kilmallock on Sunday to etch out a result that sees them qualify for their second successive All-Ireland final. Cork were strong favorites to win this game, having already beaten the Banner side in the previous two encounters earlier this year. Clare though, through sheer determination and graft, brushed off those previous defeats to produce a sterling team performance.

This was a real battle with neither side prepared to give way. Clare had the better of the exchanges in the opening stages but early missed opportunities halted their progress. It allowed Cork to take the initiative and points from Julia White and Mariah Reidy sandwiched another Clare wide as the Munster champions opened up a two point advantage.

Clare were relentless in their work-rate though with Orlaith Duggan a prime example of this hungry Clare display when she set up the side's first point for Katie Cahill to finish. It settled Clare who duly equalised in the tenth minute when Shónagh Enright squeezed the ball over the bar from a very tight angle on the right wing.

The struggle for dominance continued as both sides exchanged wides before Roisin O'Brien broke onto a long clearance from Carol Kaiser, neatly turned Mary Ann Hawkes at full-back and was unlucky to see her shot go just over the bar as Clare took the lead. Shónagh Enright doubled that advantage by the turn of the opening quarter when she converted a free after a foul on Niamh Corry.

Cork refused to lie down and had three unanswered points in the next four minutes through Julia White and Katrina Mackey (2) before Clare responded with another free from Enright after centre-forward Corry was again fouled, a score that would take Clare in level at the break.

Clare continued to pressurise on



the restart but with the wides adding up, they found it difficult to wrestle clear before Niamh Corry settled the side again with a point. In fact, both sides were guilty of misses before Ailish Considine was called on to make a good save. Clare punished that missed chance when the ball was cleared down the line and Aisling Hannon was on hand to convert in the 38th minute to pull clear.

A brace of Cork points were quickly cancelled out by Katie Cahill and Niamh Corry to restore Clare's two point advantage by the 45th minute.

The seesaw battle for supremacy took yet another dramatic turn when Cork hit four unanswered points, three from the stick of Mackey to put them two points clear with only eight minutes remaining. Clare's heads could have easily dropped but with their championship lives on the line, they dug deep and it paid off when Chloe Morey snapped up a Cork attack and delivered a long ball over the heads of the Clare forwards. Katie Cahill was quickest to react and bearing down on the Cork goal, the Kilmaley player made no mistake as she dispatched to the net.

Now back in front, Clare lived nervously for the remainder and even had to endure four minutes of injury time before claiming the memorable victory.

Cork certainly had their chances but Ailish Considine and Chloe Morey in particular held firm during this period.

Aside from the multitude of wides, Clare can take several positives from this game. Carol Kaiser is currently in outstanding form; Chloe Morey, Eimear Considine, Louise Woods, Orlaith Duggan, Katie Cahill, AnneMarie McMahon and captain Roisin McMahon all enhanced Clare's display while the return of Niamh Corry certainly added strength to the Clare half forward line. After suffering defeats to Cork in both the Munster final and again in the opening round of the All-Ireland championship, Clare finally avenged when it mattered most and will need to produce a similar battling display if they are to knock defending champions Kilkenny off their throne in two week's time.

Clare: Ailish Considine (Kilmaley), AnneMarie McMahon (Kilnamona), Chloe Morey (Sixmilebridge), Carol O'Leary (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Christina Glynn (Kilnamona), Eimear Considine (Kilmaley), Carol Kaiser (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Louise Woods (St. Joseph's), Roisin McMahon (C), (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Orlaith Duggan (Clooney), Niamh Corry (Sixmilebridge) (0-2), Aisling Hannon (Clooney) (0-1), Katie Cahill (Kilmaley) (1-2), Roisin O'Brien (Ogonnell) (0-01), Shónagh Enright (Kilmaley) (0-3, 2). **Sub:** Aileen O'Shea (Sixmilebridge) for Hannon.

Cork: Jessica Kavanagh, Cara Hayes, MaryAnne Hawkes, Kate O'Donoghue, Aileen Sheehan, Pamela Mackey, Emma Kingston, Sara Buckley, Jennifer Lynch, Patricia Bottimer, Katrina Mackey, Mariah Reidy, Joanne Casey, Julia White, Kate Harrington. **Subs:** Sinead O'Neill for Reidy, Aileen O'Donovan for Harrington, Denise Luby for Casey.

Player of the Game: Niamh Corry (Clare)

Match Official: John Morrissey (Tipperary)

Galway prove too strong in setting up tie with Cats

Connolly impresses as Tribeswomen get the job done against struggling Limerick outfit

Galway 1-16
Limerick 0-8

DARREN KELLY
IN KENNY PARK

A FORGETTABLE encounter this was last Saturday, but Galway completed the job to finish top of group two in the All-Ireland senior Camogie championship and set up a meeting with Kilkenny in the semi-final on Saturday week.

Despite never reaching the heights of their stunning comeback away to Wexford, the Tribesgirls kept ahead with scores in the first half before pulling away after the break.

The crucial score arrived on 27 minutes when Galway were leading by 0-7 to 0-5. Even though she missed a sitter herself earlier, Therese Maher got possession before finding Orla Kilkenny who picked out Brenda Hanney on the edge of the square and the Killimor forward didn't need a second invitation to strike past Sile Moynihan for the goal.

After Niamh Mulcahy had opened the scoring in the fourth minute for Limerick, Ashlinn Connolly and the returning Jessica Gill replied with a free each to make it 0-2 to 0-1. Maher had her goal chance in the eighth minute as she hand passed the ball wide after a move involving Kilkenny, Hanney and Connolly.

But Connolly, who is having a tremendous campaign for Galway, sent over two fine scores either side of a Mulcahy point to make it 0-4 to 0-2 on 15 minutes. The first came after a long pinpoint delivery from Gill was caught cleanly before turning to split the posts; the second from a tight right angle near the corner after Maher had picked out the space.

In a game riddled with lots of soft frees and few scoring chances, the next quarter of



Substitute Niamh McGrath who was on the mark for Galway.

the game was a placed ball shoot out between Connolly and Mulcahy that finished three each before Hanney struck for the goal.

Mulcahy sent over two more frees afterwards to leave it just 1-7 to 0-7 at half time and the Shannonsiders were still very much in this game. Galway were not playing well and it was clear that one eye seemed to be looking towards the semi-final a fortnight later.

Also with injuries to Brenda Kerins, Aoife Lynskey, Lourda Kavanagh and, most notably, Veronica Curtin and Therese Manton, Liam Donoghue and his management team were forced to experiment with new faces in a look ahead to the Kilkenny clash.

Even so, this was going to be a case of getting the job done and while Limerick trailed by only a puck of the ball, the

strong breeze favoured Galway afterwards and the expected stretching of the margin followed.

Connolly sent over a 45 within four minutes of the restart before Eyrecourt's Molly Dunne, playing her first championship match since last year's All-Ireland final, got two points to put six between the teams.

With Connolly going off, Gill took over the free taking duties with her second score on 45 minutes. Mulcahy replied for Limerick two minutes later with her eighth point to finish as the game's top scorer despite this defeat.

Gill sent over two more frees in the final quarter while Lorraine Ryan and Niamh Kilkenny also raised white flags. But the final say on the scoreboard would belong to under 16 star Niamh

McGrath who obliged on her championship debut with a super effort from 55 yards for the game's last point.

So now it's the All-Ireland semi-finals that await the Tribesgirls and a clash with Kilkenny. The Cats beat Galway in both the league and championship last season, have dominated underage camogie in recent years (Galway's under 16 win this year denied Kilkenny a five-in-a-row) and can be expected to challenge Galway in the physical stakes.

While it's pointless to overanalyse this Galway performance against Limerick when they had already qualified, the players will have to be fully focused on the task in hand if another day out in Croke Park awaits. The Wexford performance showed what they're capable of and if they couple that with a professional and disciplined approach, they will enter the game as favourites to reach another All-Ireland final.

In this encounter, Susan Earner did what was required in goal, the full back line of Regina Glynn, Ailbhe Kelly and Sandra Tannion easily dealt with any Limerick threat, while Maher, Gill and Connolly did the necessary in attack.

Galway: S. Earner; R. Glynn, A. Kelly, S. Tannion; C. Glynn, S. Cahalan, N. Kilkenny (0-1); A. M. Hayes, S. Noone; B. Hanney (1-0); T. Maher, J. Gill (0-4, all frees); O. Kilkenny, M. Dunne (0-2); A. Connolly (0-7, four frees, one 45). Subs: L. Ryan (0-1) for Noone (HT), D. Burke for Connolly (44 mins), S. Donoghue for C. Glynn (49 mins), N. McGrath (0-1) for Maher (49 mins), E. Kilkenny for Hayes (59 mins).

Limerick: S. Moynihan; S. Carey, S. Collins, J. Garvey; A. McNamara, A. Sheehan, J. Mulcahy; D. Fitzpatrick, C. Davis; E. O'Brien, N. Mulcahy (0-8, seven frees), F. Hickey; N. Carroll, J. Clifford, C. Mulcahy. Subs: T. Hurley for Collins (49 mins), R. Carmody for Carroll (60 mins).

Referee: E. MacSuihne (Dublin)

Tara are rewarded for hard work

IT HAS been a long hard struggle sometimes the road seemed endless but for the Tara Camogie club in London the hard work has finally paid off as they recaptured the London Senior Championship after a lapse of 14 years.

Successes for many years were few and far between as the club battled to keep the show on the road travelling to tournaments as far away as Dubai where they took part in the Dubai sevens.

As champions they will now go on to represent London in the All-Ireland Club and in preparations for this the club will be training hard for the next challenge which will come their way.

Always a club to be on the look out for new talent they are always looking to strengthen their squad and to this end club spokesperson Sheila Fernandes is putting out a call to any camogie players heading to London to work or study.

"If any camogie players are coming to London to work or study we would appreciate if the word was spread about Tara camogie club, as we have both senior and junior teams and all standards are most welcome to come along and join. It's a way of settling in and making new friends and contacts in a new environment."

anybody interested can contact the club on www.camogie.co.uk or at telephone numbers 0777 1957 341 or 020 8561 3544.

FIXTURES

MONDAY, AUGUST 10

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Valley Rovers v Newcestown, Bandon, 7.30pm

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

Evening Echo Junior A Championship: St Catherine's v Na Piarasigh, St Catherine's, 7.30pm

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Bishopstown v Eire OG Ballinacoly 7.15pm; Glen Rovers v Kilbrittan, Ballygooly 7.15pm; Aghbullogue v Ballinacoly, Ballyanley 7.15pm.

Evening Echo Intermediate Championship: Mallow v Tracton, Castle Road 7.15pm

Fr O Neills v Newtownshandrum, Mayfield 7.15pm

Evening Echo Junior "A" Championship: Blackrock v Watergrasshill, Blackrock 7.15pm

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

Evening Echo Junior C Championship: Castlemagner v Buttevant, Castlemagner 7.15pm; Bride Rovers v Erins Own, Bride Rovers 7.15pm.



Cork's Rachel Maloney scores from a free during their Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship game against Tipperary at Pairc Ui Rinn on Saturday.

Picture: Damien Quirke

Aug. 2009

Steely Newcestown hold off Aghabullogue

Newcestown
Aghabullogue

2-5
0-6

NEWCESTOWN held off the strong challenge of a determined Aghabullogue side in this Evening Echo senior B championship game.

For both sides it was their second game in the round robin series.

Aghabullogue, having lost out to Bishopstown, were determined to come out on top, but they came up against a Newcestown side that had lost out in their opening game to Ballincollig.

Colleen Long converted a penalty to the Aghabullogue net as Newcestown led 0-4 to 0-1 as the half time whistle approached. Two early points from Colleen Long and one a piece from Grainne Cronin and Colette Desmond had settled Newcestown. Aghabullogue battled to get into the game but a strong Newcestown defence contained Aghabullogue to a point from Emma Healy.

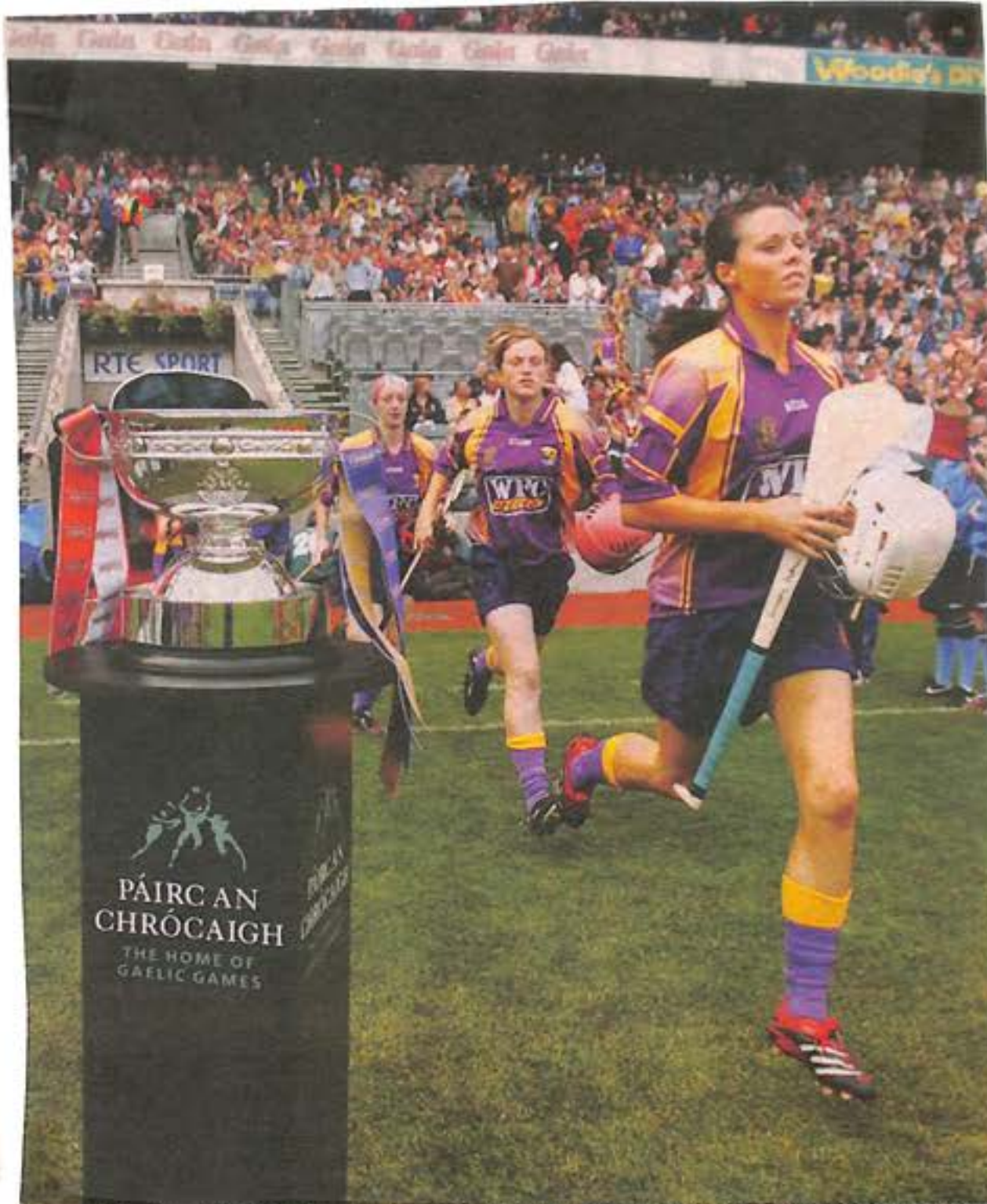
Aghabullogue rallied in the second half and with Emma Healy

striking over three points, and Fiona Buckley and Ciara Murphy adding once each, they were back in the game. Newcestown, with the cushion of their strong first half display as a foundation, simply kept their noses ahead.

Grainne Cronin with a goal and a Colleen Long point ensured they had enough in reserve to get them to the finishing line and record their first victory in the round robin series of game. Next up for Newcestown is Valley Rovers while Aghabullogue will face their divisional neighbours Ballincollig.

Newcestown: L. O'Sullivan; M. Crowley, R. Desmond, F. Deasy; A. Coughlin, F. Crowley, C. O'Mahony, E. Coomey, E. Crowley; T. McCarthy, C. Long, A. Crowley; G. Cronin, C. Desmond, K. Murphy. Sub: A. Keane for K. Murphy. Scorers: C. Long 1-3 (1-0 pen, 0-1f), G. Cronin 1-1, C. Desmond 0-1.

Aghabullogue: E. O'Connell; M. Twomey, J. Twomey, L. Ronan; T. Roche, S. Buckley, C. Kiely; A. Twomey, C. Murphy; E. O'Mahony, B. Twomey, E. Healy; S. Dineen, M. Healy, F. Buckley. Subs: D. Twomey for S. Dineen. Doherty for E. O'Mahony. Scorers: E. Healy 0-4, F. Buckley C. Murphy 0-1 each.



Sports scholarship recipient Mary Lacey leads out the Wexford team for the 2007 All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final.

Slow-starting Galway juniors come alive in second-half to fend off Roscommon rivals

Galway
Roscommon

4-12
0-13

EOGHAN CORMICAN
IN BALLINASLOE

REIGNING champions Galway retained the Connacht junior camogie title after hitting their brave Roscommon challengers for three goals in the second half of a disappointing contest at Duggan Park, Ballinasloe last Saturday evening.

Indeed, Tara Rutledge's 34th minute goal – her second of the contest – was the crucial score as it put Galway six points clear and left Roscommon with a puzzle they couldn't solve. To be fair, they never stopped trying to figure it out but the answers didn't come against a Galway defence where Karen Brien and Heather Cooney were particularly effective.

Signs of Roscommon's desire to claim a major scalp were evident in all early major plays, with their fourth point on 12 minutes evidence of their commitment. Sinead O'Brien, standing out near the sideline, switched play with a sublime pass to Grainne Egan and the former Galway ladies footballer moved the ball to

Kelly Hopkins, who flicked possession inside the cover to the waiting Curley who, in turn, blazed over. A statement of real intent from the visitors.

Without a doubt, Roscommon held the upper hand in the opening exchanges and by the 18th minute occupied a two-point advantage (0-6 to 0-4) thanks to pointed efforts from Claire Curley (2), Kelly Hopkins (free), Annette McGeeney, Patricia Lennon and Egan (0-1).

For Galway's part, Kiltormer's Lorraine Pardy opened the defending champions' account as an out of form home side relied heavily on the free-taking of Martina Conroy to keep tabs on a free scoring Roscommon outfit.

Galway's response to Roscommon's rebellion arrived via a fortuitous goal on the 20th minute mark. Caroline Murray sent in an innocent looking delivery which was dropped by 'keeper Sharon Finneran and Rutledge met the breaking ball with a thunderous ground strike to ignite the Tribeswomen. Galway subsequently closed out the half with a succession of frees yielded through persistent Roscommon fouling.

Goals by Tara Rutledge (34th minute), Gemma Kelly

(36th minute) and Lorraine Pardy (44th minute) decorated a golden spell for Galway in which they outclassed and out-fought Roscommon in so many areas. The goals were derived from a mixture of Galway excellence and Roscommon sloppiness. Points from Conroy (two frees) and an excellent score on the run from Rutledge gave Galway a 4-11 to 0-8 point lead by the end of the third quarter.

Galway scored just one point thereafter as the intensity in their game dropped dramatically. The Connacht champions were more than content to sit on their lead and allow Roscommon to attack.

Hard to believe, after such a positive first half, that Roscommon would have to wait until the 45th minute for their first score of the second half – a point from full-forward Cait Kenny. Hopkins and Rebecca Hennelly (free) subsequently traded scores, before Hopkins (free), Niamh Coyle and a terrific point from Patricia Lennon completed the scoring.

In truth, Roscommon will be heartened by their opening endeavours. They matched Galway point for point until just after the half hour mark when Galway really took con-

trol and dominated with considerable style from there to the finish.

Rutledge tormented the Roscommon defence while Conroy kept the scoreboard ticking along from frees as they pinned the 2007 champions into their own half to devastating effect.

Buoyed by their provincial win, Galway now face Derry in the final round robin fixture of the All-Ireland series at Duggan Park on Saturday (2pm.). When these two met in the McGrath Cup last year, the Ulster women emerged victorious on a scoreline of 4-7 to 2-6. However, with victories over Clare and Wexford under their belt already, Noel Finn's side can march into the semi-finals with an unblemished record.

Galway: D. Ward; J. Coone, N. Lawless, K. Brien; C. Gill, S. Dervan, H. Cooney; C. Glennon, C. Kelly; C. Bowes, G. Kelly (1-0), C. Murray; T. Rutledge (2-2), M. Conroy (0-8, 0-8 frees), L. Pardy (1-1). Subs: R. Hennelly (0-1) for Bowes (36 mins.), S. Coen for G. Kelly (48 mins.), M. Connaughton for Gill (43 mins.), A. Hobbs for Cooney (43 mins.), T. Byrne for Coone (60 mins.).

Roscommon: S. Finneran; C. Moran, M. Glennon, C. Morris; C. Rogerson, D. Kelly; G. Egan (0-1); P. Lennon (0-2), N. Coyle (0-1); K. Hopkins (0-5, 0-3 frees), A. McGeeney (0-1), C. Regan; C. Curley (0-2), C. Kenny (0-1), S. O'Brien. Subs: C. Killeen for Moran (55 mins.), F. Connell for Regan (60 mins.).

GLASGOW GAA FESTIVAL

The fourth annual feile na mban, Glasgow women's celtic sports festival organised by the Tir Conaill Harps GAC is now inviting clubs from throughout Ireland and Britain to register for this year's event. Once again the festival will return to Glenconner park in the city's Garngad area and will run over three days from 2nd to 4th October and will include ladies football, camogie and primary schools coaching and workshops. This year the club have enlisted the Euro Hostel, Glasgow as a partner and they are offering accommodation at special rates for visiting teams. The hostel is also the venue for the festival hooley and is located in the heart of Glasgow city centre, which is less than fifteen minutes drive away from the venue for the sporting activities. The aim of the festival is raise the profile of women's sport both within the club and also to the wider Glasgow community to increase participation in ladies football, women's shinty and camogie. The club also hope to encourage more women to become active in the club in coaching and administration. Further details on how to register are available on the club website www.tirconaill.org or by e-mailing club Development Officer, Tommy Main on harps@live.ie

Semi-finals will go down to the wire

AFTER last weekend's final round of qualifiers the semi-finalists, as predicted, are Cork v Wexford and Galway v Kilkenny.

These games on Saturday August 15 have the potential to be thrilling matches and could really go down to the wire, but you never know, the same was expected of the Kerry v Dublin All-Ireland quarter-final football clash last weekend and we all saw what happened in that one.

Just as it did with Tyrone on Sunday last, experience won the day for this Cork team last weekend. There can be no substitute for composure when the game is going against you.

I never felt that Cork were ever going to lose the game. You always expect Cork to 'up a gear' when needed but there comes the day when no matter how hard you try the gears won't shift for you. It can be hard to change the direction of momentum and afterwards you wish you could have stopped the game just for a minute to re-group.

Cork looked tired at times. I suspect the bulk of the heavy training was done with the semi-final in mind. If that is the case Cork should have done very little physical training these past seven days and do even less in the coming week to allow their legs to recover. Cork will need to be light of foot this day week against a Wexford team that will attempt to spread them out and run at them.

Tipperary are out of this year's championship. I can't remember the last time they failed to reach an All-Ireland semi-final. It's 10 years anyway. They came to Páirc Uí Rinn with hopes of getting the win they needed to force a play-off and almost did it. I said last week that Emer McDonald wasn't the player she once was, due mainly to the lack of support around her. Well she was excellent last Saturday and proved me wrong. I can't say it was down to an abundance of support either. She got a nice supply but everything she created after that was down to her alone and a credit to her.

Claire Grogan was a pale shadow of her usual self and actually should



Cork star John Gardiner pictured with one of the groups at the Carrigaline Camogie Camp. Picture: Howard Crowley



LINDA MELLERICK

have been substituted on the day. If Grogan had performed even 50% of what she is capable of then Tipperary possibly would have won the game. And the reason she didn't? Because she arrived back from holidays the day before the game, the PRO of Tipp informed me. I can't believe that. How a player can go away on holiday mid championship beggars belief. She shouldn't have even been selected but I can understand how leaving out your star player for such an important game possibly wasn't an option for Tipp. Well in

my view and taking into consideration how consistent Claire typically is her holiday cost them a chance to get back into this year's championship in a big way and I wouldn't be very happy if I was a teammate of hers.

Kilkenny are back in the All-Ireland semi-final after failing to advance from their group in 2008. I'm glad to see them back. Camogie needs a great traditional county like Kilkenny fighting for honours every year.

Five unanswered points in the opening 10 minutes signalled the way this game was expected to go. At half-time Kilkenny led Dublin 1-11 to 0-1 and only for the heroics of goalkeeper Joeleen Hoary the picture would have looked far worse. Once again Ann Dalton impressed around the middle of the park while

Elaine Alyward drove forward as an attacking half-back. Final score; 2-14 to 0-4.

Galway accounted for Limerick, who finished the championship with the wooden spoon, 1-16 to 0-8. Aisling Connolly and Jessica Gill accounting for 0-11 of Galway's total. Wexford overcame Clare 2-15 to 0-3. Again Kate Kelly, Una Leacy, Michelle Hearne and Katrina Parrock were to the forefront for the Slaneysiders.

We'll be looking at all four team's chances of advancing to the All-Ireland final next week.

I didn't see the Sunday Game last Sunday night but I heard that the coverage presented of the group games was less than five minutes. Personally, I'd prefer if they didn't show any of it at all than give camogie a half-hearted gesture like that.

Get your entries in for Ballinhassig tournament

THE Ballinhassig Under 10 invitation tournament will take place on August 29. Invitations have already gone out to clubs who participate in the annual Declan Crowley memorial tournament.

The event has gone from strength to strength as the club honours the memory of one of their former mentors who passed away at a young age. It is the highlight of the season for players aged under 10.

The tournament will take place this year on the last Saturday in August, and clubs who have as yet not returned their entry forms are reminded to do so not later than August 7 as the organising committee are inundated with requests from clubs who wish to participate such is the excellent organisation and the hugely successful day the event has become.

Any club that has received its invitation is reminded to get the required entry information plus entry fee back to organiser Sinead Crowley.

Ballinhassig prove too strong for Barryroe

Ballinhassig 5-5
Barryroe 1-0

BALLINHASSIG and Barryroe battled it out for the points in round one of the Evening Echo junior shield competition.

Both sides had experienced performers in their line out. Marion Mc McCarthy lined out in goal for Ballinhassig and they were that little

bit stronger than their opponents, but nevertheless, with former senior club players such as Geraldine Carroll and Carol Fleming in their line out Barryroe battled to the finish.

Ballinhassig led 3-2 to 1-0 at the half-time whistle, with Louise Finn, Brid Coleman, Aine Burns, and Sinead Crowley all to the fore. Ballinhassig enjoyed the upper hand but Barryroe kept the pressure on through the opening half and a goal from Mary Harrington helped keep them in touch.

Ballinhassig worked hard from the start of the second half to maintain their lead despite strong resistance from Barryroe's defence, who tightened up considerably. With their forwards that little bit stronger, led by the excellent Sinead Crowley who contributed 2-4 to the Ballinhassig total, it was Ballinhassig who extended their

lead, adding a further 2-3.

Barryroe tried to breach the strong Ballinhassig rearguard, but with Laura Jeffers and Amy Rioridan in top form, guided by the experienced Marion Mc McCarthy, there was no way through as Ballinhassig confidently picked up their first set of points in this the first game in the round robin series.

Ballinhassig: M Mc McCarthy; L Jeffers, C Holland, M O'Mahony, A O'Riordan, E O'Regan, S Coffey, L Finn, O Murray, A Cullane, A Crowley, B Colman, S Scully, S Crowley, A Burns. Subs: T Holland for S Scully, S Scully for Brid Coleman. Scorers: S Crowley 2-4, A Burns 1-1, L Finn 1-0, B Coleman 1-0 each.

Barryroe: J Madden; L Dullea, A M O'Regan, A M Raffis; G Carroll; E Griffin, E Carroll; K O'Sullivan, C Fleming; E O'Donovan, M Sheehy, C Griffin, M Harrington, L Whelton, D O'Sullivan. Subs: T McCarthy for E Griffin, C O'Dwyer for E O'Donovan, D Sexton for M Sheehy A O'Donovan for C Griffin, A Weldon for M Harrington. Scorers: M Harrington 1-0

Camogie Association is going to the dogs!

A BENEFIT night will be held on the eve of the All Ireland hurling finals on September 5 in Shelbourne Park.

For further information on the event contact pr@camogie.ie or 0879030755.

Aug 2009



Sarah Reidy
(Kilmaley)



Carol O'Leary
(Newmarket-on-Fergus)



Aileen O'Shea
(Sixmilebridge)



Chloe Morey
(Sixmilebridge)



Carol Kaiser
(Newmarket-on-Fergus)



Ailish Considine
(Kilmaley)



Niamh Corry
(Sixmilebridge)



Eimear Considine
(Kilmaley)



Shona Enright
(Kilmaley)



Roisin O'Brien
(Ogonnellloe)



Aine McNamara
(Sixmilebridge)



Louise Woods
(St. Josephs)



Rachel Whelan
(Sixmilebridge)



Aisling Hannon
(Cloonney)



Roisin McMahon
(Newmarket-on-Fergus)



Niamh Martin
(St. Josephs)



Clare aim to topple champs

Clare need to break Kilkenny's underage dominance to give Clare camogie a boost. writes Eoin Brennan



@ Semple Stadium, Thurles, Saturday 2.30pm

HOW to stop Kilkenny? A dilemma that is not exclusive to Clare at the moment but one that they will have to answer this weekend in the All-Ireland decider. Kilkenny are currently the kingpins of underage camogie winning the last three All-Ireland minor titles as well as four successive Under 16 titles from 2005-2008.

That dominance has since reflected on their senior side who captured a league title last year and are currently preparing for an All-Ireland semi-final and if Clare are to compete at that level, they will need to create a winning mentality, starting here.

Last year's final was a mismatch of sorts. Kilkenny's vast experience was in total contrast to Clare who were contesting their first ever minor final and it was a significant factor in the game after Kilkenny had opened up a 1-8 to 0-3 half-time advantage.

Clare had romped through the competition without receiving any signif-

icant test and therefore were unsure how to react when falling behind so early.

This year has been totally different though as Clare have struggled to hit top form despite having nine of last year's starting side still underage. In the Munster championship, they just did enough to scrape past Waterford and Limerick before shipping two successive defeats to Cork in the Munster final and the opening round of the All-Ireland championship. However, their character ensured that they turned things around, seeing off Galway before avenging Cork in a battling display at the penultimate stage. The question is which Clare side will emerge on Saturday?

Undoubtedly Clare will require a good start to boost their confidence as this side have never beaten Kilkenny at this level. The Cats still have seven of last year's side and are off the back of two comprehensive victories over Dublin (5-24 to 0-05) and Tipperary (5-15 to 3-04). That impressive scoring prowess, led by Denise Gaule who scored 3-7 in the semi-final, will concern Clare's management approaching this encounter and it will be interesting to see what

tactics they use on Saturday to curb Kilkenny.

In last year's decider, they used Aoife Griffin and then Roisin O'Brien in a sweeper role but on the flip side, Kilkenny were able to double up on Clare's biggest threat Carina Rosegrave. If Clare are to finally claim the title, they will need big performances from their senior contingent who have gained huge experience since last year's final. Chloe Morey, Carol Kaiser, Niamh Corry, Shonagh Enright and Roisin McMahon will be crucial to Clare's chances and supporters will hope that the experience of playing senior championship camogie will stand them in good stead this weekend.

Clare's senior hopes were dashed at the weekend but to win a minor A title would represent a huge shift in power and a massive lift to Clare camogie.

Breaking the Kilkenny hoodoo won't be easy though, simply because they are instilled with a winning mentality that Clare will need to match. Clare have already availed of the backdoor system to get to return to this stage. This time there will be no second chances.

Above: Carina Rosegrave, Kate Lynch, Davy Fitzgerald, Eamon O'Loughlin, Maura Sheedy and Fenton McNamara, Manager at Clare Minor Camogie Training. Eamon Ward

Clare Panel

1. Ailish Considine (Kilmaley), 2. Carol O'Leary (Newmarket on Fergus), 3. Chloe Morey (Sixmilebridge), 4. Ann Marie McMahon (Kilnamona), 5. Christina Glynn (Kilnamona), 6. Eimear Considine (Kilmaley), 7. Carol Kaiser (Newmarket on Fergus), 8. Roisin McMahon (Capt) (Newmarket on Fergus), 9. Louise Woods (St. Josephs), 10. Orlaith Duggan (Cloon-ey), 11. Niamh Corry (Sixmilebridge), 12. Aisling Hannon (Cloonney), 13. Shonagh Enright (Kilmaley), 14. Roisin O'Brien (Ogonnellloe), 15. Katie Cahill (Kilmaley), 16. Aine McNamara (Sixmilebridge), 17. Aileen O'Shea (Sixmilebridge), 18. Jennifer Kelly (Newmarket on Fergus), 19. Evelyn Glynn (Kilnamona), 20. Sarah Reidy (Kilmaley), 21. Cathriona Hennessey (St. Josephs), 22. Niamh Martin (St. Josephs), 23. Lisa Loughnane (Kil-lishen), 24. Rachel Whelan (Sixmile-bridge), 25. Triona Kelly (Whitegate), 26. Susan Fahy (Whitegate).



Anne Marie McMahon
(Kilnamona)

Eveleen Glynn
(Kilnamona)



Jennifer Kelly
(Newmarket-on-Fergus)



Christina Glynn
(Kilnamona)



Orlaith Duggan
(Clonony)



Katie Cahill
(Kilnaleary)



Lisa Loughnane
(Kilishen)



Triona Kelly
(Whitegate)



Cathriona Hennessey
(St. Joseph's)



Susan Fahy
(Whitegate)

McNamara confident of revenge

TJ Flynn

FOR sure, last year still lingers. When Clare minor camogie manager Fintan McNamara sat down at the beginning of the year and listed out what he hoped to achieve in 2009, on top of the page sat one wish. Get to an All Ireland final and show what this side can really do.

"This is an opportunity to make up for what happened last year," he says. "I know this group of girls can produce far more than they showed in the final of 2008."

McNamara should know exactly what his panel are capable of. He's been with them for the past five years and has brought them along since

they competed at Under 14 level. And as McNamara has been able to keep the group together, there now exists a tight bond between the players, something that the manager says is akin to a club atmosphere.

"We've got a few girls in from the Under 16 set-up as well so that's given us some freshness as well, so things are motoring well. I felt we left ourselves down a bit last year, but in some ways it was understandable. There were some serious nerves in the lead up to that game and I feel as though we've learned from that experience."

This year there were a couple of stumbling blocks on the road as well, but nothing to stop Clare making it

to the last game of the season.

"Cork went and beat us by 15 points in two games. The first was in Munster and to be fair, we didn't have the best preparation going into that game. The result didn't count for much, because we had our sights set on the All Ireland from the beginning of the year and that result didn't make too much of a difference."

"Then they came back out and beat us in the All Ireland, but since then, we've come a long way and our preparation has been superb."

And since then, the performances of his players have impressed him.

"The highlights so far have been the quarter and semi-finals. To come back and beat Cork by a point after

they won comfortably against us says a lot about the character of this team. They'll fight with everything they've got."

"In all, we have 20 players from last year's panel so that experience of '08 is bound to stand to us."

Kilkenny also have a nice sprinkle of players from last season, but that doesn't worry McNamara.

"We've improved bit by bit all year and I'm confident that we can come good when it matters. We've reached the target for the year and now it's a case of pushing on."

Above: Clare players Aine McNamara, Susan Fahy, Orlaith Duggan and Chloe Morey at Camogie Training. Eamon Ward

Camogie > THE LAST TIME THEY MET - 2008

Cats secure 3-in-a-row

Kilkenny 3-15 - Clare 1-07

Eoin Brennan

DEFENDING champions Kilkenny were vying for their third successive title. Clare were contesting their first ever final at this grade and that experience told as Kilkenny moved through the gears to see off the Banner's brave challenge.

Nerves were undoubtedly a major factor for Clare who never reached the heights of previous performances whereas Kilkenny looked at ease throughout and their superior movement allowed them to build up an early advantage.

Michelle Farrell's sixth minute goal that had been worked through all six forwards demonstrated Kilkenny's understanding and backed by the wind, they had increased that lead to eight points at 1-8 to 0-3 by half-time.

It could have been more only for the intervention of goalkeeper Susan Vaughan who was quick off her line

on two occasions during the first period to smother what appeared to be certain goals.

Clare emerged for the second period with renewed vigor and gave themselves a fighting chance when captain Carina Roseingrave soled through and handpassed to the Kilkenny net in the 36th minute to cut the deficit to five. The recovery was shortlived however as Kilkenny cancelled it out only four minutes later with a Claire Phelan kicked goal and although Clare fought on with points from Roseingrave, Stephanie Moloney and Shónagh Enright, Kilkenny were always able to match those scores.

With time running out, Clare heads inevitably dropped and it allowed Kilkenny to tack on 1-4 without reply to gloss up the final scoreline and flatter the champions considerably.

Although defeat was Clare's lot, it was an achievement in itself just to reach their first final but as Kilkenny

proved, there is no substitute for experience on the big day.

Right: Action from last year's All-Ireland final. Ray Keogh

Match Details

Kilkenny

Emma Staunton, Leanne Fennelly, Ann-Marie Walsh, Roisin Byrne, Marigx Nolan, Edwina Keane, Nicola Butler, Aisling Dunphy, Anna Farrell (0-1), Denise Gaule (0-1), Katie Power (0-3), Claire Phelan (1-1), Michelle Farrell (1-2), Marie Dargan (0-1), Michelle Quilty (1-6 4f) Subs: Sinead Long for Gaule, Ruth Bergin for Byrne, Clara Lyng for Butler, Georgina Culleton for Farrell

Clare

Susan Vaughan, Sarah Reidy, Kate Lynch, Carol O'Leary, Aileen O'Shea, Roisin McMahon, Carol Kaiser, Niamh Corry, Chloe Morey, Aine O'Brien, Shónagh Enright (0-4 4f), Stephanie Moloney (0-2), Aoife Griffin, Carina Roseingrave (1-1), Roisin O'Brien Subs: Niamh Martin for Reidy, Eimear Cosidine for R. O'Brien (In), Mary Clune for A. O'Brien, Louise Woods for Griffin

Referee Rosemary Hughes-Merry (Monaghan)



Cill Chainnigh

Dubh agus Ómra



- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| (1) EMMA STAUNTON
E. Nic an Mhile
Pauistown | (3) ALISON WALSH
A. Ni Bhreathnach (Captain)
Windgap | (4) NICOLA BUTLER
N. de Builleir
Graigue-Ballycallan |
| (2) CAOIMHE SHIEL
C. Ni Shiail
Bennettsbridge | (6) KATE McDONALD
C. Nic Dónaill
Thomastown | (7) MAIRÉAD POWER
M. de Paor
Carrickshock |
| (5) NIAMH KELLY
N. Ni Cheallaigh
Dicksboro | (8) AISLING DUNPHY
A. Ni Dhonnchaidh
Graigue-Ballycallan | (9) NIAMH BYRNE
N. Ni Bhroin
Clara |
| (10) ÁINE CURRAN
Á. Ni Chorráin
Freshford | (11) KAREN DUGGAN
C. Ni Dhuagáin
Piltown | (12) ANNA FARRELL
A. Ni Fheorail
Thomastown |
| (13) CLAIRE PHELAN
C. Ni Fhaoilín
Lisdowney | (14) DENISE GAULE
D. Nic an Ghaill
Windgap | (15) MICHELLE FARRELL
M. Ni Fheorail
Thomastown |
| (16) Caitriona Brennan
C. Ni Bhraonáin
St. Anne's | (17) Emma Comerford
E. Nic Cumascaigh
Young Irelands | (18) Louise Dunne
L. Ni Dháin
Danesfort |
| (19) Sarah Dunne
S. Ni Dháin
Graigue-Ballycallan | (20) Mags Fennelly
M. Ni Fhionnalaigh
Shamrocks | (21) Edel Frisby
E. Nic Fírbhisigh
Shamrocks |
| (22) Ruth Jones
R. Nic Seoin
Glenmore | (23) Sinead Maher
S. Ni Mheachair
Dicksboro | (24) Nicola Moore
N. Ni Mhóra
Windgap |
| (25) Aoife Murphy
A. Ni Mhurchú
Lisdowney | (26) Noreen Murphy
N. Ni Mhurchú
Lisdowney | (27) Aisling O'Grady
A. Ni Ghráda
Dicksboro |
| (28) Stacey Ouirke
S. Ni Choirc
St. Martin's | (29) Davina Tobin
D. Tobin
Emeralds | (30) Grace Walsh
G. Bhreathnach
Tollaraun |

Managers: Ted Browne, Brendan Williams. Trainer: Paul Quigley.
Selectors: Marie Dargan, Pearse Dargan, John Quilty, Vincent Shiel.

An Clár

Gorm agus Ór



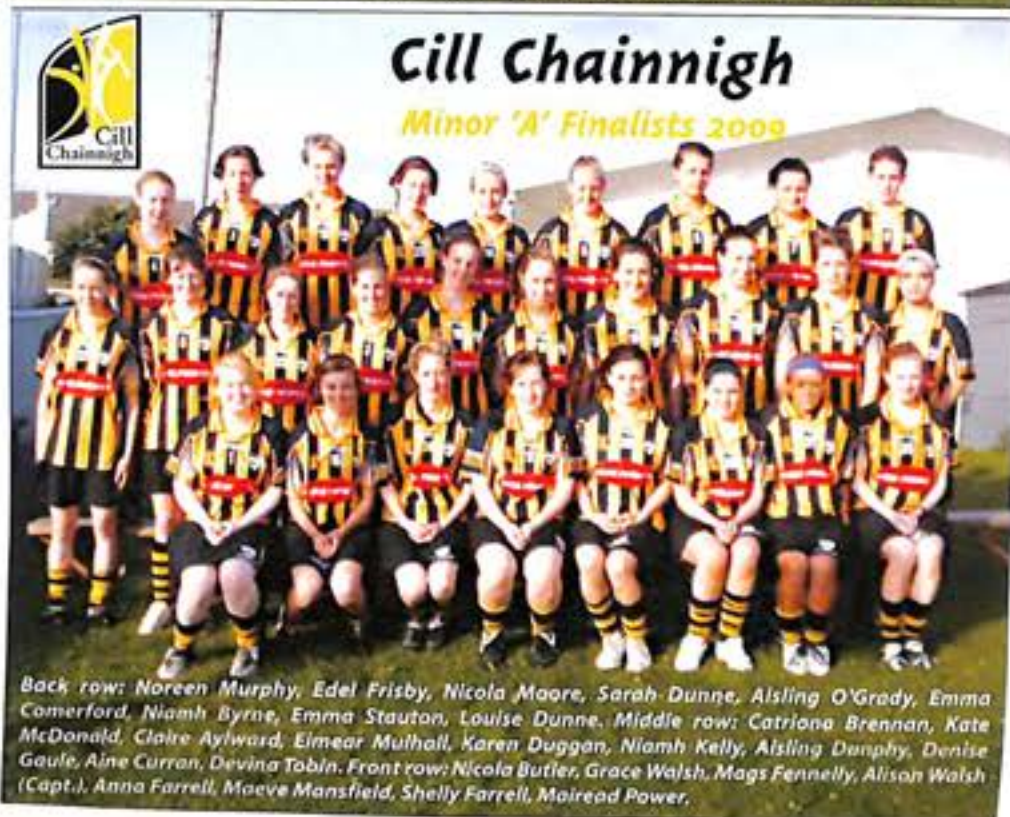
- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| (1) AILISH CONSIDINE
A. Nic Consaidin
Kilmaley | (3) CHLOE MOREY
C. Ni Mhóra
Sixmilebridge | (4) CAROL O'LEARY
C. Ni Laoire
Newmarket-on-Fergus |
| (2) ANNE MARIE McMAHON
A. M. Nic Mhathúna
Kilmonona | (6) EIMEAR CONSIDINE
E. Nic Consaidin
Kilmaley | (7) CHRISTINA GLYNN
C. Nig Fhlóinn
Kilmonona |
| (8) RÓISÍN McMAHON
R. Nic Mhathúna (Captain)
Newmarket-on-Fergus | (9) LOUISE WOODS
L. Nic Conchaille
St. Joseph's, Doora/Barefield | (12) ASLING HANNON
A. Ni hAnáin
Clooney |
| (10) ORLAITH DUGGAN
O. Ni Dhuagáin
Clooney | (11) NIAMH CORRY
N. Ni Chorra
Sixmilebridge | (13) SHÓNAGH ENRIGHT
S. Nic Ionnrachtaigh
Kilmaley |
| (14) RÓISÍN O'BRIEN
R. Ni Bhriain
Dgonneloe | (15) KATIE CAHILL
C. Nic Cathail
Kilmaley | (16) Áine McNamara
Á. Nic Conmara
Sixmilebridge |
| (17) Sarah Reidy
S. Ni Riada
Kilmaley | (18) Aiveen O'Shea
A. Ni Shi
Sixmilebridge | (19) Susan Fahy
S. Ni Fharthaigh
Whitegate |
| (20) Evelynn Glynn
E. Nig Fhlóinn
Kilmonona | (21) Lisa Loughnane
L. Ni Lochtaín
Kilkeish | (22) Jennifer Kelly
J. Ni Cheallaigh
Newmarket-on-Fergus |
| (23) Niamh Martin
N. Ni Mhóirtin
St. Joseph's,
Doora/Barefield | (24) Triona Kelly
T. Ni Cheallaigh
Whitegate | (25) Rachel Whelan
R. Ni Fhaoilín
Sixmilebridge |
| (26) Catrina Hennessey
C. Ni hAnasa
St. Joseph's,
Doora/Barefield | | |

Manager: Fintan McNamara. Selectors: Eamonn O'Loughlin, Maura Sheedy,
Kate Lynch, Carina Roseingrave. Coach: Davy Fitzgerald. Physio: Marie-Louise Kaiser



An Clár
Minor 'A' Finalists 2009

Back row (l-r): Eimear Considine, Chloe Morey, Róisín McMahon (Capt.), Niamh Corry, Katie Cahill, Christina Glynn, Carol Kaiser, Ailish Considine, Niamh Martin, Lisa Loughnane, Rachel Whelan, Catriona Hennessey, Sarah Reidy, Susan Fahy. Front row (l-r): Róisín O'Brien, Áine McNamara, Shónagh Enright, Orlaith Duggan, Louise Woods, Aisling Hannon, Carol O'Leary, Anne Marie McMahon, Aiveen O'Shea, Triona Kelly, Evelynn Glynn. Missing from photo: Jennifer Kelly.



Cill Chainnigh
Minor 'A' Finalists 2009

Back row: Noreen Murphy, Edel Frisby, Nicola Moore, Sarah Dunne, Aisling O'Grady, Emma Comerford, Niamh Byrne, Emma Staunton, Louise Dunne. Middle row: Caitriona Brennan, Kate McDonald, Claire Aylward, Eimear Muirhall, Karen Duggan, Niamh Kelly, Aisling Dunphy, Denise Gaule, Áine Curran, Davina Tobin. Front row: Nicola Butler, Grace Walsh, Mags Fennelly, Alison Walsh (Capt.), Anna Farrell, Maeve Mansfield, Shelly Farrell, Mairead Power.

Gala Intermediate and Junior Championship results & minor final

Gala Intermediate and Junior Championship results & minor final
ALL IRELAND MINOR FINAL
Kilkenny 5-10 Clare 3-8

GALA ALL IRELAND INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP
Galway 2-11 Derry 0-9

GALA ALL IRELAND JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS - NEW IRELAND CUP
Waterford 1-13 Laois 1-7
Offaly 0-16 Meath 1-8

GALA ALL IRELAND JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINAL - NANCY MURRAY CUP
Roscommon 2-13 Kildare 1-11 AET

MINOR MARVELS

CONGRATULATIONS to the Kilkenny Minor squad who will be introduced to the crowd in between today's games in recognition of their magnificent achievement in winning a fourth successive All-Ireland title on Saturday last.

Team captain Alison Walsh and her colleagues defeated Clare in the final in Semple Stadium, Thurles, on a 5-10 to 3-8 scoreline. With a four-in-a-row of Under-16 titles also completed from 2005 to 2008, the future looks very bright for the black and ambers!

Meanwhile, it was also a great week for the Minors of Limerick and Laois respectively. The Shannonsiders pipped Waterford by 3-10 to 1-15 in a thriller in Mallow on Tuesday evening to clinch the All-Ireland 'B' crown, while the O'Moore county saw off neighbours Carlow by 3-5 to 2-3 to win the 'C' title.



The Kilkenny panel celebrate after their Minor victory at Thurles. (Photo: Sportsfile)

Aug 2009

Impressive start catalyst for camogie success

Kilkenny minors made it four All-Ireland wins in-a-row



Kilkenny5-10



Clare3-8

The scorers:

Kilkenny - Denis Gaule (2-4, four frees); Claire Phelan (2-3, three frees); Michelle Farrell (1-1); Anna Farrell, Aisling Dunphy (0-1). **Clare** - Shonagh Enright (1-5, four frees); Roisin O'Brien (1-1); Roisin McMahon (1-0); Chloe Morey (0-2).



ALAN NEARY

A DEVASTATING six minute spell in the run up to the interval sealed Clare's fate at Semple Stadium as Kilkenny's minors made it four All Irelands in a row.

Since an All Ireland was established at camogie under-18 level in 2006 the Cats have been dominant, and Kilkenny's underage success is showing no sign of slowing down.

By half time on Saturday Denise Gaule had a hefty 2-3 to her name as she sought to match the 3-7 which she bagged against the Premier County.

It was Gaule's second strike of the afternoon on 24 minutes, and a brace from Claire Phelan in the run up to the break which sent the Cats out of sight, and into a 5-5 to 1-4 lead.

A quarter of an hour in and Kilkenny led by 2-1 to 1-0, and with Clare's best player, Sharon Enright starting to find her feet there was no indication of the avalanche of Kilkenny points which were about to arrive.

Kilkenny's start was an impressive one and straight from the throw in the Cats won a free which Gaule converted.

forward before Kilkenny's Caoimhe Shiel intervened.

The shuddering shoulder from Shiel was deemed to have been illegal by Armagh referee Julie O'Neill, but even so Clare captain Roisin McMahon couldn't convert her sides first real effort with almost five minutes gone.

Clare desperately needed a goal and they got it when Enright found Roisin O'Brien with a handpass which the full forward netted.

Dominance

For all of Kilkenny's dominance by the eighth minute mark their lead was down to a solitary point, 1-1 to 1-0.

However it wasn't long before the Cats found their mark with Michelle Farrell scoring a goal from what looked, at a glance, to have been an impossible angle.

The pace of the selfless Anna Farrell was a real

threat throughout and she played her sister Michelle in for a terrific point.

Enright and Gaule twice cancelled one another out as the Cats lead by a comfortable, 2-4 to 1-2.

If Kilkenny's lead wasn't already large enough they set about extending their tally. They had already doubled Clare's scoring tally with a little over 20 minutes gone.

After a brief lull in the attacking and scoring from Kilkenny, Aisling Dunphy picked out Gaule who forced her way goalward only for Clare's Anne Marie McMahon to intervene.

Enright (free) reduced Kilkenny's lead to four points but it wasn't long before the Cats grabbed what proved to be the goal of the contest.

This time it was Michelle Farrell who played in Gaule for a glorious goal, and a follow

up from Anna Farrell heaped even more misery on Clare as they chased a 3-5 to 1-4 game.

Soon after that Claire Phelan netted the first of her two goals, ambling in from the wing after a clever pass through from Michelle Farrell.

Sure, Enright got a score as Clare limped towards the break, but it wasn't long before Gaule played Phelan in for her second strike.

Phelan's brace meant the half time scoreboard read, Kilkenny 5-5, Clare 1-4.

After a blistering first half the second period of 30 minutes was always going to be that bit more challenging for the Cats, and so it proved as Kilkenny added five more points to their tally, in the process they endured a nervy finale.

The fightback from Clare was fierce, but goals from Enright and McMahon, and points

from O'Brien, Enright (free) and a brace from defender Chloe Morey couldn't deny the Cats as Phelan ensured an eight point margin of victory.

Kilkenny: Emma Staunton (Paulstown), Caoimhe Shiel (Bennettsbridge), Alison Walsh (Windgap), Nicola Butler (Graigie-Ballycallan), Niamh Kelly (Dicksboro), Kate McDonald (Thomastown), Mairead Power (Carrickshock), Aisling Dunphy (Graigie-Ballycallan), Niamh Byrne (Clara), Aine Curran (Freshford), Karen Duggan (Piltown), Anna Farrell (Thomastown), Claire Phelan (Lisdowney), Denise Gaule (Windgap), Michelle Farrell (Thomastown).

Substitutes: Davina Tobin (Emeralds) for Kelly, 58 minutes; Grace Walsh (Tullaroan) for Byrne, 58 minutes; Aoife Murphy (Lisdowney) for

A. Farrell, 60 minutes; Stacey Quirke (St Martins) for Butler, 60 minutes.

Unused: Mags Fennelly (Shamrocks), Catriona Brennan (St. Annes), Emma Comerford (Young Irelands), Louise Dunne (Danesfort), Sarah Dunne (Graigie-Ballycallan), Edel Frisby (Shamrocks), Ruth Jones (Glenmore), Sinead Maher (Dicksboro), Nicola Moore (Lisdowney), Aisling O'Grady (Dicksboro), Noreen Murphy (Lisdowney).

Clare: A. Considine, A. McMahon, C. Morey, C. O'Leary, A. O'Shea, E. Considine, C. Glynn, R. McMahon, L. Woods, O. Duggan, N. Corry, A. Hannon, S. Enright, R. O'Brien, K. Cahill.

Substitutes: C. Kaiser for Hannon, 35 minutes; S. Fahy for O'Shea, 27 minutes; N. Martin for A. McMahon, 40 minutes.

Referee: Julie O'Neill (Armagh)



Alison Walsh (Kilkenny) clears the sliotar despite the challenge from Susan Fahy (Clare) during the minor camogie All-Ireland final. Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie

Déise will Camogie in Croke Park in September

ALL IRELAND JUNIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP
SEMI-FINAL AUGUST 8, NOWLAN PARK

WATERFORD.....1-13
LAOIS.....1-17

"But it ain't how hard you hit; it's about how hard you can get hit, and keep moving forward. How much you can take, and keep moving forward. That's how winning is done. Now, if you know what you're worth, then go out and get what you're worth." So spoke Rocky Balboa to his son in the 2006 movie.

That year Derry defeated Waterford in their first All Ireland semi final appearance for many decades. In the intervening years disappointment at the same stage was endured at the hands of Clare and Offaly. Many of the players involved in these disappointments were to the forefront again on Saturday. They obviously went to the cinema frequently in 2006 and absorbed Rocky's words of wisdom.

REVAMPED HALF BACK LINE

Waterford lined out with a revamped half back line. Mary O'Donnell was restored to centre back after her two match absence, Jennie Simpson returned to her position on the wing where she has been in tremendous form. Shauna Kiernan replaced the unfortunate Pauline Cunningham who suffered an injury in the win over Dublin. Hopefully she will be fit to fight for a place for the final as she has

excelled at wing back all season.

This semi final played in Nowlan Park will not go down as a classic although some delightful camogie was played at times, particularly in the first half. But it will be remembered as the one where "losing semi finalist" tag was ultimately shed. We can now look forward to an historical first appearance by Waterford in Croke Park in September to contest an All Ireland final.

BRILLIANT GOAL

An excellent first ten minutes was the corner stone of victory. A goal and four points to a solitary white flag from Laois with ten minutes elapsed gave the Deise a lead they never relinquished. The goal was a classic, designed and finished in Lismore.

There was no apparent threat as Nicola Morrissey gathered possession on the wing under the shadow of the Old Stand sixty meters out. The alarm bells started ringing as she sprinted passed her marker towards the City end goal. She delivered a perfectly flighted ball to the edge of the small square. Club mate Grainne Kenneally with telepathic understanding, timed her run from the opposite wing to perfection. She connected with the sliothar as it plummeted earthwards in midair and the leather orb flew passed Laois goalkeeper Laura Dunne. A goal to rank along side the best of goals scored at the Nore side venue.

The four points all came from open play as the midlanders struggled to get into their stride.

PENALTY

A controversial refereeing decision was the catalyst for igniting their challenge. Referee Pat Walsh awarded a penalty on twelve minutes. Sharpshooter Louise Mahony struck well but Aisling O'Brien reacted brilliantly and saved. A melee ensued close to the goal line, the referee whistled, the sliothar ended up in the Waterford net. Full back Sally O'Grady & O'Brien argued vehemently with umpire and referee that the ball only crossed the line after the whistle. Lesson learned, continue playing until, well just keep playing and apologise after! As Rocky said in 1990 "Yo Tommy, I didn't hear no bell"

Waterford added a further five points before the break bringing their first half tally to 1-9. Four of the points coming from the trustworthy camán of Áine Lyng. The Deise's star scoring exploits in semi finals continuing, averaging five points in each of the four semi finals played. Their opponents finished the half on 1-4. A healthy lead, but a deceptively strong wind blowing towards the City end goal defended by Laois was a distinct help to the Deise.

GOOD START TO SECOND HALF

Waterford continued as they finished bringing their tally to 1-12 with points from Karen Kelly, Trish Jackman, Nicola Morrissey and Kelly again. But it was far from plain sailing. Laois were working hard without reward on the scoreboard, if they maintained the work



The Waterford team that defeated Laois in the All-Ireland semi-final in Nowlan Park. Photo: Caroline Quinn

rate the tide would turn. An eight point lead in many sports is unassailable but in camogie as in hurling it's just enough to enable you to suck in some extra oxygen. Laois had the next three points and started to ask questions of Waterford's mental fortitude. The ghosts of Páirc Tailteann, Templemore and Cashel, locations of the three previous semi final defeats, floated into view. Striking deteriorated, the sliothar now only travelling half the distance, weighted down by fear of failure. Scenting weakness the Midlanders battled frantically to bridge the gap.

COURAGE

There's a time to paint and decorate but there also comes a time to scrub the decks, this required all hands on deck, brushes at the ready. It seemed as if every player now resided in the Waterford half. A reflex save from Aisling O'Brien, a timely intervention by Shauna Kiernan, a boot from Vicki Gaffney, a Kate Marie Hearne interception. A season's work now depended on courage, and all were playing their part. Shona Curran fiddled and

ran, it was imperative not to concede a goal. Goalscoring hero Grainne Kenneally was now protecting the net she billowed in the first half.

Laois earned a series of twenty meter frees as they searched for the goal needed to bridge the gap. Louise Mahony whistled one towards the roof of the net, Mary O'Donnell defiantly deflected it over the bar and into the building site of the new stand in Nowlan Park. Incessant attacking was countered by ceaseless shielding of the Waterford goal. Mairead Murphy picked and soloed, Charlotte Raher blocked and harried, team captain Sally O'Grady was bravery personified.

Áine Breathnach pointed to restore Waterford's six point lead but it gave no respite. The anxiety was palpable even as injury time approached. Finally the whistle sounded and the initial feeling of relief was replaced by euphoria and the realisation that the summit is in site. A great day for the players and mentors. An historic day for Waterford Camogie and all who have dreamed of seeing the Daughters of The Deise play in The Theatre of Dreams on September days.

OFFALY QUALIFY

In the second semi final Offaly gave a comprehensive performance in their defeat of a resurgent Meath.

Following on their emphatic win over Down, and with the experience of playing in last years final at H.Q. Offaly will carry the mantle of favorites. The victory over The Faithful County in Kinnitty in the group section of the Championship in June will count for nothing when the teams line up on September 13th.

That said Waterford have nothing to fear, the next five weeks will be crucial as the preparations get underway to garner an All Ireland title. For now let's leave the last words to Rocky "Yo, Adrian, we did it!"

PS: The Waterford Camogie Supporters Club is up and running, membership is only €20.

Cards can be purchased from the players or contact John Flood at jeflood@nissan.ie

MATCH FACTS

WATERFORD: Aisling O'Brien, Kate Marie Herne, Sally O'Grady (Capt.), Vicki Gaffney, Jennie Simpson, Mary O'Donnell, Shauna Kiernan, Mairead Murphy (0-1), Charlotte Raher, Trish Jackman (0-2), Áine Lyng (0-5), Shona Curran, Nicola Morrissey (0-2), Grainne Kenneally (1-0), Karen Kelly (0-3), Niamh Ryan, Deirdre Fahey, Marie Russell, Lisa Prendergast, Aileen Cummins, Roisin Heylin, Rachel Whelan, Margo Heffernan, Lorraine Whelan, Áine Breathnach, Aisling Kelly, Pauline Cunningham.

LAOIS: Laura Dunne, Denise Quigly, Eimear Moylan, Brigie Cuddy, Maggie Hogan, Caitriona Phelan, Rosemarie Birmingham, Louise Mahony, Sharon Moylan, Sarah Anne Fitzgerald, Elaine Mahony, Eimear Delaney (0-3), Áine Mahony (0-4), Trish Cuddy (1-0), Amy O'Callaghan Sinead Lanham, Michelle Fitzpatrick, Claire Walsh, Elaine Downey.

Referee: Pat Walsh (Ard Mhaca).

Aug 2009

Limerick camogie newsletter

All-Ireland Minor B Camogie Championship 2009

Limerick V Waterford Tues Aug 11th @7pm in Mallow

After great wins over Kildare, Down and Wexford, the Limerick Minor team take to the field in an All-Ireland Final against Waterford this Tuesday evening @ 7pm in Mallow. Great credit is due to these girls for all the effort they have put in over the last eight months to get to this final. All but two of the panel are underage again in 2010. Manager Phelim Mackeably assisted by Chairman Jimmy Moynihan and Coaches Eileen Carmody and Mary Loneragan are to be commended for the time and effort they have given to these young girls. It will be no easy task against the Deise girls but after running Clare who contested last weekends Minor A Final, to just a point in the Munster Semi-Final our girls must have a very good chance of bringing some silverware back to Shannonside and give a timely boost to Limerick Senior Hurlers against Tipperary on Sunday.

Best of luck to all involved and lets all get out there and support our County.

Team
1. Patricia Kerins (Crough-Kilfinny) 2. Lisa Scanlon (Kileedy) 3. Niamh Power (Ahane) 4. Aisling Enright (Bruff) 5. Niamh Richardson (Murroe-Boher) 6. Sarah Carey (Patrickswell) 7. Judith Mulcahy (Ahane) 8. Tara Hurley (Feenagh-Kilmeedy) 9. Mary O'Callaghan (Bruff) 10. Claire Casey (Na Piarasigh) 11. Caroline Scanlon (Kileedy) 12. Kerrie Brosnan (Ballyagran) 13. Rachel Carmody (NCW) 14. Naomi Carroll (Na Piarasigh) 15. Annette McAuliffe (Ballyagran)

Subs
16. Mairead Ryan (Galbally) 17. Aisling Ryan (Kilmallock) 18. Kristy Carroll (Galbally) 19. Meave Kirby (Bruff) 20. Aisling Russell (Galbally) 21. Aisling Mc Cartan (NCW) 22. Alicia Wagner (NCW) 23. Sinead Greene (Bruff) 24. Emma Kelly (Galbally) 25. Katie Campbell (Na Piarasigh).



Waterford's Grainne Kilkeny, celebrates after scoring a goal during the All-Ireland Junior Camogie Championship Semi-final against Laois in Nowlan Park, Kilkenny.

Photo: Caroline Quinn.



CAMOGIE ROUND-UP

Monday, 10 Aug 2009

KILKENNY'S five goals at Semple Stadium on Saturday helped them to an incredible four-in-a-row All Ireland minor camogie titles when they prevailed over Clare, 5-10 to 3-8. This was a repeat of the 2008 final, and while the Banner were stunned by the strength of the champions in the opening half when they struck for the five majors, the Clare girls fought back gamely.

The Cats led 5-5 to 1-4 at the break with 'Player of the Match' Denise Gaule the driving force as they went on to produce arguably their best performance of the season. They led 1-1 before Gaule rifled home a goal from a free that almost dashed Clare's hopes there and then. However, Shónagh Enright cut the margin with a fine goal inside the first quarter. But, their joy was short lived as Kilkenny dominated once again.

Goals from Gaule (two), Claire Phelan (two) and Michelle Farrell put their side into an unassailable lead at the break, 5-5 to 1-4. The Black and Amber were storming along but Clare will take heart from their second 30 minutes when they held the Cats to just five points while adding 2-4 themselves - the brace of goals coming from the sticks of Róisín McMahon and Rosin O'Brien.

Elsewhere the pairings for the Gala All Ireland junior championship - New Ireland Cup - are Waterford and Offaly. The Faithful County are back again in Croke Park following last season's dramatic loss to Clare, whilst Waterford are breaking new ground and this will be a first final appearance in headquarters on September 13 for the Déise.

Waterford overcame Laois (1-13 to 1-7) in Nowlan Park. A goal from Grainne Kenneally early in the game provided the platform for this triumph. Mention too must go to minor Shauna Kiernan who contributed handsomely after being called in as a late replacement to the half back line. Shauna and Patricia Jackman will be hoping for further honours when they take on Limerick tomorrow evening in the All Ireland minor B final.

Also at Nowlan Park, Offaly trailed Meath 0-4 to 0-10 at the interval, but turned the game around to finish ahead 0-16 to 1-8 in a hard-fought semi-final. Michaela Morkan and Siobhán Flannery top-scored for the winners sharing 10 points between them.

Meanwhile, Roscommon and Armagh are through to the Nancy Murray Cup decider following their respective victories over Kildare (aet) and Tyrone. The Rossies came good after tying with Kildare 1-9 apiece at the end of normal time, to go on and emerge victorious 2-13 to 1-11 after extra time, while Armagh surprised Tyrone in an all-Ulster clash with their 3-8 to 1-10 victory.

ALL-IRELAND MINOR A CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL:
Kilkenny 5-10, D. Gaule, C. Phelan 2-4 each, M. Farrell 1-1, A. Farrell 0-1
Clare 3-8, S. Enright 1-6, R. McMahon 1-1, R. O'Brien 1-0, C. Morey 0-1

ALL-IRELAND MINOR C CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL:
Laois 3-5, S. Fitzgerald 2-2 (1-2F), E. Hogan 1-0, D. Mortimer, S. Burke, R. Birmingham 0-1 each
Carlow 2-3, C. Quirke 1-3 (0-1F), M. Murphy 1-0.

GALA ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP, New Ireland Cup, semi-finals:
Waterford 1-13, G. Kenneally 1-0, A. Lyng 0-5 (0-2F), P. Jackman 0-4 (0-2F), K. Kelly 0-2, N. Morrissey, M. Murphy 0-1 each
Laois 1-7, A. Mahony 1-2 (0-2F), L. Mahony 0-5 (0-4F)

Offaly 0-16, M. Morkan 0-6 (0-4F), S. Flannery 0-4, K. Nugent 0-2, T. Hannon, A. Kelly, E. Darmody, M. Davis 0-1 each
Meath 1-8, J. Rispin 1-0, J. Donnelly 0-3, L. Lynch 0-2, A. Donnelly, A. M. Fagan, F. Lynch 0-1 each

Nancy Murray Cup, semi-finals:
Roscommon 2-13, A. McGeeney 1-3, C. Curley 1-0, K. Hopkins 0-7F, C. Regan 0-2, N. Coyle 0-1
Kildare 1-11, E. Fallon 1-0, S. Carroll 0-11 (0-5F, 0-2'45) (aet).

Armagh 3-8, C. McSorley 3-3, C. Donnelly 0-2, G. Smith, G. Kelly, P. Mallon 0-1 each
Tyrone 1-10, E. McAlister 1-4, S. Jordan 0-3, M. Jordan, J. Lagan, M. McGurk 0-1 each

GALA INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP:
Galway 2-11, G. Kelly 1-2, C. Murray 1-1, C. Bowes, T. Rutledge 0-2 each, M. Conroy 0-2F, L. Pardy, P. Kenny 0-1 each
Derry 0-9, G. McGoldrick 0-6 (0-5F, 0-1'45), M. McGoldrick, K. McAuley, A. McPeake -1 each.

SHARE

Clare are Munster U16 champions

Clare are Munster U16 champions

U16A Munster Camogie Final
Clare 4-7 v 2-10 Tipperary

A thriller was expected and what these two young teams delivered on the night was nothing less. Tipperary led at the break 1-8 to 1-3. This may lead to think of a Tipperary dominated first half, but the Premier didn't have it all their own way. Clare were the first of the mark and with a free from captain Chloe Morey answered by her opposing captain Nichole Walsh the sides were level.

The game was fast and furious though and after great work from Niki Kaiser and Vera Loughnane the ball fell to Susan Fahy at full forward the Banner were a goal up. Morey added to this again with a fine point from play after Niamh O'Dea magnificently fielded a high ball and laid it into her centre forward and Clare look very well.

The Tipperary half back line stepped up though and Aisling Carroll and Mairead Barry with their strong physical presence and hurling ability and fielding to boot held the Clare onslaught. Indeed they set up many attacks from this launching pad and this led to points from Walsh again from a free and Brid Quinn, Aoife Ryan and Clare Kennedy. This had the sides level mid way through the half.

Tipperary were opening up the Clare defence with ease and made the most of this when Sarah Fryday goaled to give a three point cushion. Nichole Walsh, clinical from the spot all night, added a brace of frees and Tipperary were pulling away nicely. Walsh was giving the Clare forwards much trouble with her pace and the ability of the Tipperary forwards to pick each other out.

Morey had a free for Clare but this was cancelled out by a similar score from Walsh just before the break to leave a five point gap. Tipperary were in control in most sectors and Clare would be thankful of the presence of Máire McGrath at full back for not being further behind, she stood firm to the Tipperary challenge.

The second half was a bruising 30 minutes for both sides as they gave it their all. Clare had the gap reduced to a goal after Morey had converted a 45 and a free within the opening 2 minutes. Indeed the sides were level again within five after Niki Kaiser goaled for the Banner. Clare were now beginning to win the mid-field battle and getting the supply of ball through, it was this possession the inside forward line were starved of in the first half.

This became evident when substitute Sinead Tuohy goaled from a Kaiser line ball which was sent across the goal from Vera Loughnane. Walsh answered the call and converted a free for the premier and followed up with a goal by the tenth minute. This has Tipperary to the fore by the minimum again as scores were coming fast and furious.

Morey again levelled matters with a free before Susan Fahy got her second in the 16th minute and Clare were a goal to the good again. Morey then put over a magnificent score when she pointed from half way before Suzie O'Shea was called upon in the Clare goal to save from Walsh who converted the resulting 45.

Clare: Suzie O'Shea, Caroline Feehily, Máire McGrath, Niamh Cahill, Helen Hehir, Christina Glynn, Laura McMahon, Ellen Horgan, Niamh O'Dea, Orlaith Duggan, Chloe Morey (C) (0-07, 0-04F 1'45), Vera Loughnane, Niki Kaiser (1-00), Susan Fahy (2-00), Katie Cahill. Subs: Clara Whelan for Hehir, Sinead Tuohy (1-00) for Horgan, Aisling Darcy for Loughnane, Leanne Boyle for Feehily

Tipperary: Orla McEnrey, Moira Ryan, Sheila Ryan, Louise McLoughlin, Aisling Carroll, Caoimhe Maher, Mairead Barry, Theresa Ryan, Brid Quinn (0-01), Sarah Fryday (1-00), Alice Fogarty, Clare Kennedy (0-01), Nichole Walsh (C) (1-07, 0-05F, 1'45), Aoife Ryan, Sarah Cunneen. Subs: Edwina King for McLoughlin, Micheala Graham for Fogarty, Niamh O'Donoghue for Quinn
Match Official: Joe O'Donnell, Luimneach

Laois

Gorm agus Bán



(1)
YVONNE O'NEILL
A. Ni Néill
O'Moore's

(2)
MARIE BOURKE
M. de Búrca
St. Brigid's

(3)
MAIRÉAD BURKE
M. de Búrca
Camross

(4)
MICHELLE FITZPATRICK
M. Nic Giolla Phádraig
O'Moore's

(5)
CLAIRE WALSH
C. Bhreathnach
The Harps

(6)
ROSEMARIE BIRMINGHAM
R. M. Birmingham
O'Moore's

(7)
AISLING BURKE
A. de Búrca
Camross

(8)
ALISON McEVOY
A. Nic Fhiobhú
O'Moore's

(9)
SARAH ANNE FITZGERALD
S. A. Nic Gearailt (Capt.)
Camross

(10)
SÍLE BURKE
S. de Búrca
Camross

(11)
NIAMH DOLLARD
N. Dollard
Camross

(12)
CIARA CARROLL
C. Ni Chearúill
Camross

(13)
DAWN MORTIMER
D. Nic Muireartaigh
Camross

(14)
EMMA HOGAN
E. Ni hÓgáin
Camross

(15)
MARIA FITZPATRICK
M. Nic Giolla Phádraig
The Harps

(16) **Aisling Dunphy**
A. Nic Donnchaidh
O'Moore's

(19) **Rachel Boyhan**
R. Ni Bhúacháin
Camross

(22) **Emma Gorman**
E. Ni Ghormáin
St. Brigid's

(17) **Katie Sinnott**
C. Sionaid
O'Moore's

(20) **Noelle Boyhan**
N. Ni Bhúacháin
Camross

(23) **Lisa Hogan**
L. Ni hÓgáin
Camross

(18) **Aoife Quinlan**
A. Ni Chaoineáil
St. Brigid's

(21) **Siobhán Conroy**
S. Ni Chonraí
O'Moore's

(24) **Shannon Conroy**
S. Ni Chonraí
O'Moore's

Trainer: **Padraig Hogan.** Asst. Trainer: **Fergal Cuddy.**
Selectors: **Louise Mahony, Eimear Delaney, Andy Bergin.**



Ailbhe Kelly, in action against Cork's Sile Burns in last year's All-Ireland final,

Limerick camogie celebrate famous minor B victory

Limerick

All-Ireland Minor B Camogie Championship 2009

Limerick 3-10
Waterford 1-15

Limerick captured the 2009 minor B All-Ireland final with a pulsating injury time win over Waterford, five points down and time up, no one could believe the Limerick girls could pull this one out of the bag, but reminiscent of what Offaly hurlers did to us in '04, player of the game Naomi Carroll pulled two balls from the skies over Mallow and crashed both of them past a helpless Waterford keeper.

Limerick went into this game hot favourites after emphatic wins over Kildare, Down and Wexford.

When Ref Dermot Connolly (Galway) threw the ball in at 7pm all previous form went out the window with Waterford hitting the ground running 1-01 to no score before Naomi got Limerick going with a point after ten minutes. Another point from Port Lirge corner forward Cathriona McGlone was quickly answered by Limerick's number 13 Rachel Carmody, and from there until half time the sides traded points to leave the half time score Limerick 0-06 to Waterford 1-06.

Phelim and Jim introduced two subs at half time Caroline Scanlon and Tara Hurley making way for Emma Kelly and Maircad Ryan, again the Deise girls were quick out the blocks out scoring Limerick by three points to one in the first 15 minutes of the second half. Phelim tried the bench again to see could he spur his charges into life and this time young Kristy Carroll got the ball rolling when she came on for Claire Casey.

She popped over two brilliant frees, another brace of points from star centre forward for Waterford Patricia Jackman restored the lead to five with 10 minutes left on the clock. The momentum was now with Waterford but not for long, up again stepped Naomi to crash a great ball to the back of the net, game on again.

Two points in it and only eight minutes to go, the large Limerick crowd could taste victory, unfortunately the girls from Waterford had not read the script, again Waterford took their points with ease, with Annette McAuliffe raising only one white flag for Limerick in the next eight minutes, 1-10 to 1-15 with 60 minutes on the clock and no one would have begrudged Waterford the victory.

But no one told our International Hockey player from Na Piarasigh, two green flags from Naomi Carroll, who could believe it the Minor B All-Ireland title was going to Shannonside. Brilliant stuff and for those of ye that might be a bit superstitious the last time Limerick Camogie won an Ireland Final was in 2007, when the Senior's captured the Senior B Title, the same year we played Kilkenny in the Hurling Final, the omens are good for Sunday.

Other stars for Limerick on the night were the full back line of Lisa Scanlon, Niamh Power and Aisling Enright, well done to all the girls who have given their all for Limerick Camogie over the last number of months, and congrats to all the management team for what they have done for the girls.

Limerick county board in association with Carmel Burke of Allseasonssport have a souvenir polo shirt on sale to commemorate this great victory, check the website for further info or contact Carmel.

Team

1. Patricia Kerins (Croagh-Kilfinny) 2. Lisa Scanlon (Kileedy) 3. Niamh Power (Ahane)

4. Aisling Enright (Bruff) 5. Niamh Richardson (Murroe-Boher) 6. Sarah Carey (Patrickswell) 7. Judith Mulcahy (Ahane) 8. Tara Hurley (Feenagh-Kilmeedy) 9. Mary O'Callaghan (Bruff) 10. Claire Casey (Na Piarasigh) 11. Caroline Scanlon (Kileedy) (0-01) 12. Kerrie Brosnan (Ballyagran) 13. Rachel Carmody (NCW) 14. Naomi Carroll (Na Piarasigh) (3-05) 15. Annette McAuliffe (Ballyagran) (0-02)



SHANNONSIDE CHEER: Limerick players celebrate victory over Waterford in Mallow last night. Picture: Diane Cusack

Carroll blasts Limerick to glory

Limerick 3-10
Waterford 1-15

by Therese O'Callaghan

NAOMI CARROLL is the name to watch out for. With full time elapsed in Mallow last evening and her team trailing by five points, the Limerick full-forward stung Waterford with two blistering goals in the 62nd and 63rd minute to land the All-Ireland Minor B championship and leave the Deise shell-shocked.

In a hugely committed team performance, the Shannonsiders had to dig deep after playing second fiddle for most of the hour. Limerick trailed 1-6 to 0-6 at half-time, and again, were behind coming down the home straight, but they were driven on by Carroll, and Waterford who appeared to be home and dry,

couldn't survive the late onslaught.

Waterford were in full voice early on. Patricia Jackman fired home their goal in the opening minutes and soon afterwards she added a couple of points.

They maintained this dominance for the rest of the 30 minutes despite Limerick trying to get back into contention with points from Carroll (four), Caroline Scanlon and Annette McAuliffe. Yet, Limerick were not firing on all cylinders.

Waterford were still the team with the momentum. They moved 1-15 to 1-10 ahead as the game was petering out, with Jackman landing six of these (three from play).

Just when they thought they had done enough, the drama started to unfold. Limerick's full back line of Lisa Scanlon, Niamh Power and Aisling Enright stormed into the ac-

tion and with a more plentiful supply going down field, Carroll came into her own.

Not once, but twice, the senior county player beat a crowded goal-mouth to clinch an amazing victory that will stand Phelim Macken's side in good stead for the days ahead.

Scorers for Limerick: N Carroll 3-5, A McAuliffe and K Carroll (2f) 0-2 each, C Scanlon 0-1 (45m).

Scorers for Waterford: P Jackman 1-8 (0-4f, 0-1 45m), R Whelan and M Russell 0-2 each, C McGlone, N Rockett and R Quinn 0-1 each.

Subs: E Kelly for T Hurley, M Ryan for C Scanlon, K Carroll for C Casey, A Russell for R Carmody.

WATERFORD: T Kiely, S Smith, L Behan, MC Dunphy, J McCarthy, S Kiernan, S Fenton, M Russell, J Gleeson, K Hannon, P Jackman, R Whelan, K Rockett, D Fahy, C McGlone.

Subs: N Rockett for MC Dunphy (inj), M Tobin for D Fahy (inj), C Fitzgerald for K Rockett.

Referee: D Connolly (Galway).

CAMOGIE ALL-IRELAND MINOR B FINAL

Limerick claim title after dramatic finale

Limerick 3-10
Waterford 1-15

Tom Allen
at the Mallow GAA Complex, Mallow

LIMERICK captured the 2009 minor B All-Ireland final with a pulsating injury time win over Waterford.

Five points down and with time running out no one could believe the Limerick girls could pull this one out of the bag, but reminiscent of what the Offaly hurlers inflicted on Limerick in 1994 player of the game Naomi Carroll pulled two balls from the skies over Mallow and crashed both of them past a helpless Waterford keeper.

Limerick went into this game hot favourites after emphatic wins over Kildare, Down and Wexford while Waterford had a mixed build up having to use the back door to get to the final.

When Ref Dermot Connolly (Galway) threw the ball in at 7pm all previous form went out the window with Waterford hitting the ground hitting 1-1 to no score before Naomi got Limerick going with a point after ten minutes.

Another point from Port Lirge corner-forward Cathriona McGlone was quickly answered by Limerick's Rachel Carmody and from there until half time the sides traded points to leave the interval score Limerick 0-06, Waterford 1-06.

In the second half the Deise girls were quick out the blocks out-scoring Limerick by three points to one in the first 15 minutes of the second half.

Phelim Macken opted to spring Kristy Carroll from the bench and the youngster got the ball rolling when she popped over two brilliant frees while another brace of points from Waterford's Patricia Jackman restored their lead to five with 10 minutes left on the clock. The momentum was now with Waterford, but not for long. Up again stepped Naomi to crash a great ball to the back of the net.

With two points in it and only eight minutes to go the large Limerick crowd could taste victory, unfortunately the girls from Waterford had not read the script.

They again took their points with ease with Annette McAuliffe raising only one white flag for Limerick in the next eight minutes - 1-10 to 1-15.

With 60 minutes on the clock no one would have begrudged Waterford the victory, but no one told our international hockey player from Na Piarasigh.

Two green flags from Naomi Carroll and the Minor B All-Ireland title was going to Shannonside.

Brilliant stuff and for those of ye that might be a bit superstitious the last time Limerick Camogie won an Ireland Final was in 2007 when the senior's captured the All-Ireland B title, the same year we played Kilkenny in the hurling final.

MATCH DETAILS

Team: Patricia Kerins (Croagh-Kilfinny) Lisa Scanlon (Kileedy) Niamh Power (Ahane) Aisling Enright (Bruff) Niamh Richardson (Murroe-Boher) Sarah Carey (Patrickswell) Judith Mulcahy (Ahane) Tara Hurley (Feenagh-Kilmeedy) Mary O'Callaghan (Bruff) Claire Casey (Na Piarasigh) Caroline Scanlon (Kileedy, 0-1) Kerrie Brosnan (Ballyagran) Rachel Carmody (Newcastle West) Naomi Carroll (Na Piarasigh, 3-5) Annette McAuliffe (Ballyagran, 0-2).

Subs: Maircad Ryan (Galbally) on for Tara Hurley, Aisling Ryan (Kilmallock), Kristy Carroll on for Claire Casey (Galbally, 0-2f), Meave Kirby (Bruff), Aisling Russell (Galbally) on for Rachel Carmody, Aisling McCartan (Newcastle West), Alicia Magner (Newcastle West), Sinead Greene (Bruff), Emma Kelly (Galbally) on for Caroline Scanlon, Katie Campbell (Na Piarasigh).

Managers: Phelim Macken, Jimmy Moynihan, Eileen Carmody and Mary Lonergan.

Physio: Bridgit Downes.

Maor Uisce: Tara Power and Niamh Mulcahy.

Hurley Carriers: Sarah Collins and Claire Mulcahy.



Above: Match referee Denis Connolly (Ballinasloe) pictured with Judith Mulcahy (Limerick) and Marie Russell (Waterford) prior to the start of the All-Ireland Minor B Camogie Final played at the Mallow GAA Complex last week.

AUG 2009



Kilbrittain's Eilish O'Sullivan breaking away from Glen Rovers' Denise Luby and Leeann O'Sullivan during the Evening Echo Senior B Camogie Championship in Belgooly. Picture: Richard Mills

Young stars shine brightest for Glen

Glen Rovers
Kilbrittain/Timoleague

2-11
0-9
By MARY NEWMAN
Evening Echo Senior B camogie

TWO FIRST-HALF goals from their juvenile duo of Leeann O'Sullivan and Sinead O'Halloran were crucial as the Glen won this *Evening Echo* senior B Championship clash in Belgooly.

Fifteen-year-old Leeann O'Sullivan got the dream start to her senior debut when she confidently first-timed the ball to the net two minutes into the game.

Marion Murphy pointed a free to get Kilbrittain/Timoleague on the scoresheet but with the Glen enjoying the majority of possession, Denise Luby, O'Sullivan and Sinead O'Halloran pointed to extend their advantage.

The Glen defence came under a lot of first-half pressure but with Kelly Newman in excellent form between the posts Kilbrittain/Timoleague had to be content with two Marion Murphy pointed frees.

Entering the second quarter Karen O'Connell and Denise Luby had stretched the Glen's lead to five points, and when Sinead O'Halloran finished superbly to the net after good work from Aoife Walsh the gap widened to eight points. Marion Murphy pointed Kilbrittain/Timoleague first score from play before the break where it was the Glen who held the advantage 2-5 to 0-4.

Kilbrittain/Timoleague started the

second half in determined fashion. Alice Keating and Marion Murphy exchanged points and as Kilbrittain/Timoleague applied huge pressure the Glen defence as a unit had to be at its best.

Denise Luby had two Glen points, but Kilbrittain began to grow in stature and struck five points without reply.

They had the lead down to five points, but the Glen response was magnificent and when the need was greatest they upped their game.

Denise Luby pointed a 45 to keep the pressure on, while substitute Lorraine Kelly cleverly hand-passed a point over the bar and with Luby pointing in injury time, it sealed victory for the Glen.

Scorers for Glen Rovers: D Luby 0-6 (0-11, 0-1 45), L O'Sullivan, S O'Halloran 1-1 each, A Keating, L Kelly, K O'Connell 0-1 each.

Kilbrittain/Timoleague: M Murphy 0-7 (0-41, 0-1 45), Eilish O'Sullivan, Marie Moloney 0-1 each.

GLEN ROVERS: K Newman; Z Buckley, A Guiton, B Walsh; N O'Brien, L Cunningham, M Hegarty; E Riordan (c), S Fahy; D Luby, K O'Connell, A Keating; L O'Sullivan, A Walsh, S O'Halloran. Sub: L Kelly for A Walsh (h-t).

KILBRITTAN: Eilish O'Donovan; V Smith, Eimear O'Sullivan, Ellen O'Donovan; Deirdre O'Sullivan, Marion Murphy, A O'Sullivan; M O'Sullivan, Eilish O'Sullivan; S McCarthy, Danielle O'Sullivan, J O'Regan; M Maloney, M O'Sullivan, A Crowley. Subs: L O'Callaghan for S McCarthy (40), J Cashman for J O'Regan (50).

Referee: Anthony Cummins (Slabh Rua).



Kilbrittain's Mairead Dullea finds her way blocked by Glen Rovers' captain Eileen O'Riordan during the Evening Echo Senior B Camogie Championship in Belgooly. Picture: Richard Mills

McCarthy has eye for goal for Éire Óg

Éire Óg
Bishopstown

3-10
1-8

ÉIRE ÓG turned in a superb performance in this round robin series of the *Evening Echo* senior B championship at Ballincollig last night, writes MARY NEWMAN.

In a close opening half just three points separated the sides, but it was two second-half goals from Aoife McCarthy, plus some excellent point-taking, that ensured the Mid Cork girls' victory.

Bishopstown got a dream start with a goal inside five minutes, Ciara Healy sending a free to the net. Ciara O'Connor added two further points while Erin Corkery and Margaret O'Herlihy were also on target, as Ciara Healy converted three Bishopstown frees and Maebh Scannell hit one from play. It was a goal from Erin Corkery before the break that gave Éire Óg a 1-7 to 1-4 interval advantage.

On the resumption, six minutes in Aoife McCarthy had Éire Óg six points clear when she finished well to the net. Soon after Erin Corkery and Margaret O'Herlihy pointed as Ciara Healy converted three frees for the Town, as they found the going tough against a strong Éire Óg defence. Aoife McCarthy left Bishopstown with no way back with four minutes remaining, grabbing her second goal.

Scorers for Éire Óg: A McCarthy 2-1, E Corkery 1-2, M O'Herlihy 0-4 f, C O'Connor 0-3.

Bishopstown: C Healy 1-6 f, M Crowley, M Scannell 0-1 each.

ÉIRE ÓG: M Gleeson; C O'Keefe, S Gleeson, L Murphy; C McKenna, A McKenna, K McCarthy; C McCarthy, E Kelleher; C O'Leary, C O'Connor, E Corkery; M O'Herlihy, R Murray, A McCarthy. Sub: A McCarthy for C O'Connor (25 inj).

BISHOPSTOWN: J O'Sullivan; D Crowley, P Finn, B Sheehan; J Browne, E Foyle, A Corcoran; M Crowley, S Kelly, M Egan, J Crowley, M Scannell; R Nunan, C Healy, O Ni Dhonnail. Subs: L Flood for B Sheehan (46), A Noone for A Corcoran (48 inj), N Butler for M Egan (48).

Ref: Walter Cole (Buttevant).

Cronin on form as Ballincollig ease to victory

Ballincollig
Aghabullogue

2-14
0-5

BALLINCOLLIG proved too strong for fellow Mid Cork side Aghabullogue in this *Evening Echo* round robin Senior B Championship clash in Ballyanley last night, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Six Denise Cronin points and one from Marie O'Donoghue helped Ballincollig to control the opening half and when Patricia Buttimer struck for a goal, they were in a commanding position. Emma Healy converted two Aghabullogue frees as they battled to keep pace with a lively Ballincollig outfit that at the half-time whistle led 1-7 to 0-2.

It was Aghabullogue who had the better start to the second half as Emma Healy pointed twice. A goal from Claire Ryan 10 minutes into the second half helped quash the Aghabullogue revival. Ciara Murphy added a point to their tally but, finishing stronger, Ballincollig struck seven unanswered points to ensure victory.

Scorers for Ballincollig: D Cronin 0-9 (0-31, 0-3 45), C Ryan, P Buttimer 1-1 each, M O'Donoghue, S Buckley, J Ryall 0-1 each.

Aghabullogue: E Healy 0-4 (0-41) C Murphy 0-1.

BALLINCOLLIG: A Sheehan; B O'Callaghan, A Kiely, A Coughlan; C Irish, K O'Donoghue, A Cotter; S Buckley, S Cooney; A Lovett, L Weste, D Cronin; P Buttimer, M O'Donoghue, C Ryan. Sub: J Ryall for S Cooney (42).

AGHABULLOGUE: E O'Connell; L Ronan, J Twomey, M Twomey; C Dennehy, S Buckley, T Roche; A Twomey, C Murphy; E Healy, B Twomey, C Kiely, F Buckley, M Healy, D Twomey. Subs: N Doherty for C Kiely, S Dineen for D Twomey, E O'Mahony for C Dennehy, M O'Leary for L Ronan.

Referee: Frank Fitzpatrick (Mourneabbey).

WORKING HARD TO GET BEST DEAL FOR PLAYERS

BACKCHAT

Dave Devereux talks to Wexford camogie manager Stellah Sinnott, who is head of the first Player Welfare Committee

CAMOGIE PRESIDENT Joan O'Flynn recently announced the establishment of the association's first-ever Player Welfare Committee with Stellah Sinnott, who managed Wexford to the 2007 All-Ireland title, heading the group.

The initiative was taken to promote health, safety and welfare issues, as well as investigating matters in relation to players' injuries, injury prevention, player insurance and nutrition.

Stellah, who made her debut for Wexford at 15 and lined out on the Senior team for 18 years, is the ideal choice for the leading role, due to her vast experience and knowledge of the game, and says she was delighted to be asked to take on the job.

'When I was approached by Joan O'Flynn, at that stage she didn't know whether I was going forward this year for the Wexford manager's job or not. I said I would take it on condition I could still do the manager's job this year.'

'I'm looking forward to really getting my teeth into it from September onwards. It's a whole new area, we've never had anything like this before in camogie. It's basically just little small steps to make the big steps,' she said.

While comparisons will be drawn with the G.P.A., the one big difference with the Player Welfare Committee is that it the group will work within the perimeters of camogie's national governing body and Stellah says that is an important distinction.

'It's different to the G.P.A. in that it's not set up by players themselves, it's under the umbrella of the camogie association. We're trying to look after our players and ensure situations won't occur where you'd have break-away renegade groups being set up. We'll have everything looked after but under our own umbrella. It is a small association; even though it's technically tied to the G.A.A. ethos we're not under the governing body of the G.A.A., we're our own little organisation,' she said.

Paula Rankin, Stellah's former Wexford team-mate from Buncloody, will also be part of the committee along with eight current players: Sally O'Grady (Waterford); Jane Adams (Antrim); Aoife Lane (Galway); Rena Buckley (Cork); Susie O'Carroll (Kildare); Elaine Dermody (Offaly); Aileen Donnelly (Meath) and Aine Mahony (Laois), and they were also headhunted by Joan O'Flynn.

'They were all approached by the President. They all have either a medical or sports science background. Some of girls are physios, one is a nutritionist. The reason committees have been set up is to expand the profile of camogie and strengthen the recognition and status of the players.'

'We'll sit down as a committee and look at



■ Wexford camogie manager Stellah Sinnott, who is head of the recently-established Player Welfare Committee.

what are our responsibilities and work from there. It will be small steps, slowly but surely we'll get there. We've fallen behind our sisters in the ladies' football end of things regarding the promotion of our sport. But now it's all very positive. It started with Liz Howard and now Joan O'Flynn is following on as the next President. At this stage we're being proactive, instead of being reactive when the problems occur. If any situations arise we know where we go from there,' she said.

One area which the committee will examine is the physical demands placed on players and particularly the impact of injuries.

'One of the main areas is looking at injuries and setting up a database of injuries that camogie players are getting. We'll look at sending out questionnaires. I work in Whitfield private clinic and Tadhg O'Sullivan has a sports and orthopaedic centre down there so I'm looking at developing something with them, the players that would come through their clinic with a camogie background, and trying to identify what injuries they are getting,' she said.

Stellah says camogie players, as female athletes, have specific issues and experiences that would differ from their male counterparts, and also believes that it's important to

protect them from burn-out.

'We've more of an occurrence of dual players in recent years, players playing ladies' football and camogie, and maybe we have to sit down with the ladies' football association as well and see how we can best look after those players.'

'We're not going to get into the situation where you have player burn-out, so the players have to be looked after.'

Another issue on the committee's agenda is the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse, a problem in society as a whole which has to be tackled.

'I've met with the anti-doping council, we had two meetings about how to make the players aware of their responsibilities. We need to get the information out to them, let them know the websites that are available and they're all handed out information booklets from the anti-doping agency. All the Senior players have got that information, but at the end of the day it's up to themselves. Everybody is responsible for what they put into their own bodies,' she said.

Huge efforts are being made to promote the game of camogie and Stellah says that it's important to get their message across to young girls and try to keep them involved in the game.

'We've a big product to get out. There's a huge amount of young girls playing camogie. We have to get players to make that step from being a teenager playing camogie to being an adult and not lose as many players as we have, make it more attractive and cool to play camogie. I really feel that the G.A.A. is the cornerstone of our society and always has been,' she said.

'You have to encourage kids to play any sport. They'll sit there and watch television all day if you let them. You make it fun, it has to be fun. Let them out there and enjoy themselves and they'll make a lot of friends and learn a lot about life.'

The establishment of the Players Welfare Committee is another step towards making the game more attractive for the people that matter most, the players.

'Something structured has been put in place and that can only be good for the game. It's just about making sure we have the procedures in place to look after players, that's the most important thing.'



We're trying to look after our players and ensure situations won't occur where you'd have breakaway renegade groups being set up

Stellah Sinnott

Aug 2009



LINDA MELLERICK

This will be the acid test for Cork

TOMORROW
Gala All-Ireland Senior
Camogie semi-final,
Cork v Wexford,
Nowlan Park, 4pm
WITHOUT a doubt, Cork's
semi-final meeting with Wex-
ford is the biggest challenge
facing the champions in
almost two years.

Its 23 months since Wexford denied Cork their three-in-a-row in 2007 and while Cork redeemed themselves to re-capture the O'Duffy Cup in 2008, they did so while a Wexford panel went AWOL for 12 months.

Every camogie supporter is aware of how poor Wexford were throughout 2008, their celebrations in bridging that 32-year-gap of All-Ireland titles went outside the norm and the side learned the hard way.

Wexford argued they prepared as well as ever in 2008 but according to their manager Stella Sinnott, with expectations high, the burden was too great and their defeat to Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final was a hard lesson.

Wexford were hurt and the only way to avenge such pain is to pick yourself up, dust yourself down and go at it again, bigger and stronger.

Are Wexford stronger this year? They believe they are. A fresh enthusiasm is evident.

Stella Sinnott remains at the helm and there is a steely determination in her this year. While previously both the first and second teams trained together, this year the divide was made with separate management teams appointed.

The year couldn't have started better for Wexford as they captured both the Division 1 and Division 2 National League trophies in April, the Division 1 title also bridging a 32-year-gap in similar style to the All-Ireland win the year before.

One could sense the belief in Wexford that this was to be their year again, particularly after defeating Cork in the earlier stages of the league campaign.

Cork would be quite happy to let Wexford believe that and in fact there was a chance that Wexford might be getting a touch complacent after two facile victories over Limerick and Clare. That complacency was knocked out of them four weeks ago when Galway caught them in Wexford Park 3-7 to 2-6.

That was possibly the worst thing to happen from a Cork point of view ahead of their clash. That defeat will shake Wexford out of their cocoon. Expect them to be all fired up to rob Cork of their All-Ireland title.



Cork's Sile Burns breaks past Tipperary's Una O'Dwyer and Mary Ryan during their Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship match.

Picture: Damien Quirke

Two years ago Wexford had nothing to lose.

They feared no one and took each game as it came. This year its different. The pressure is on them as much as it is on Cork and it'll be interesting to see how they handle that.

Cork have named the same starting 15 which saw off Tipp a fortnight ago. Emer O'Farrell retains her place at full-forward after a well-taken opportunist goal that day, the only goal over the hour.

Where will the game be won and lost?

The Cork defence, for a long time, was widely regarded as the best in the Country. They lost that mantle in 07 when a formidable Wexford rearguard cast aside all that stood

before them. The core of that defence remains.

Catherine O'Loughlin and Noleen Lambert returned after the league campaign with O'Loughlin regaining a starting position for Wexford's game against Limerick.

As a unit they remain as tight as ever, particularly their half-back line of Aine Codd, Mary Leacy and Aoife O'Connor. The Cork half-forward line have to close them down and hook, block and snuff out any long clearances, which Leacy in particular likes to make.

Cork will require big games from Gemma O'Connor and Emer Dillon. Kate Kelly, has once again been hampered with a lower back and hamstring injury.

This may prevent her making a

big impact for the entire hour but if back to her best for whatever the duration she will be a massive thorn in Cork's side unless dealt with.

She has alternated between midfield and left half-forward this year. My guess is she will start in the half-forward line again and run at Cork.

Sarah Hayes may not have the speed to keep up with Kelly and Cork will have to have a plan B. Expect also Una Leacy to start at right half.

Wexford will feel they have the legs on Cork up front. They will spread it open, possibly play just Ursula Jacob and Michelle Hearne inside and hit long balls in, very often diagonally.

Cork will need their half-forward

line to drop back with the midfields doing likewise and close that gap. The spare player in the full-back line needs to stay put and act as a sweeper between the full-back and half-back lines.

Cork too have speed up front and can catch Wexford on the break.

Discipline will be crucial. On her day Kelly won't miss from placed balls.

This game is predicted to be the game of the season. It may not turn out that way but Cork won't care. Getting through tomorrow and advancing to their eighth All-Ireland final in a row is the only goal.

CORK (v Wexford): A Murray, J O'Callaghan, R Buckley, C Foley, J Duffy, M O'Connor, S Hayes, B Corkery, O Cotter, E Dillon, G O'Connor, U O'Donoghue, S Burns, E O'Farrell, R Moloney.

Battle for midfield will swing it says the Wexford boss

WEXFORD manager Stella Sinnott can quote off Cork's statistics in All-Ireland semi-finals as if she wore the jersey herself, writes LINDA MELLERICK.

"Cork have played in every semi-final since 1980," she informed me, "and have played in every All-Ireland final since 2002." No doubt Stella is living and breathing Cork for the past fortnight since both teams

were drawn to play each other in this weekend's All-Ireland semi-final. "This is going to be a fierce battle," says Sinnott, "and one which is going to be very hard to call. There has been very little between us over the past three years. A puck of a ball could decide it again on Saturday." Stella reflects on Wexford's run into the semis. "I suppose the one issue against us is

that our group wasn't competitive enough. We had comprehensive wins over Limerick and Clare and the only real test we had was against Galway a few weeks back." Was the defeat to Galway a shock? "No I wouldn't say it was a shock. Again we've had close games with Galway over the past couple of years and they knocked us out last year at

this stage. "The conditions were atrocious but fair play to Galway, they played the better camogie on the day. "The league was a great victory for us, having bridged another 32-year-gap and we went through that undefeated so Galway was our first real test." They face their biggest test in attempting to dethrone the holders. "Cork are such an

experienced outfit. They have leaders all over and in particular in Gemma O'Connor. I think both teams are strong down the middle. "Winning midfield is crucial. The girls know that they have to perform or their year is over." Cork selector Lillian Zinkant is of the same mindset. "The girls know what they have to do. They're very aware of what they are up

against. This game is going to be very physical but we've had three physical games already against Tipp (twice) and Kilkenny and they should stand to us. "We're prepared and ready. Frank (Flannery) has done great work with the panel. We're experienced, we've a strong bench and if we do what we know we have to do then we'll be back training next week."

Orla is mature beyond her years

CORK'S midfield partnership for this year's Gala All-Ireland senior championship has been impressive thus far, but will need to be more so to overcome 2009 league champions Wexford.

Dual star Brieghe Corkery and St Catherine's dynamo Orla Cotter will pull the strings on Saturday and Cotter is looking forward to the challenge.

"This is a big hurdle that we will have to jump on Saturday and there is huge pressure on us because Wexford have shown great form so far and they won the league as well which obviously shows they mean business," she says.

Cotter is just 21 but has started two All-Ireland finals to date and picked up an All-Star after her exploits on the field in 2008, which had helped in no small way to clinch the title from Galway.

"I came off the bench in 2006 when we beat Tipperary but 2007 was my first actual start and to lose the game was heartbreaking.

"The most disappointing aspect of it was that we could have won that game but we never matched Wexford's intensity that day.

"We are still hurting from that game and I think that hunger to beat them will be ferocious and certainly we have our homework done this time."

Cotter has come up through the ranks and has a considerable collection of medals at all levels despite her tender years.

"I've been very lucky to be part of some really talented teams and hopefully that will continue because every year you want to win and the hunger for success just seems to get stronger."

Cotter is a powerful ball-winner, especially in the air, and her capacity to notch points from distance has allowed her to navigate numerous teams out of difficult situations.

She admits though that there is always more to learn regardless of one's experience.

"We have looked at improving our strength and the management have looked at bringing a physicality to our game to match Wexford so we have been using tackle bags and concentrating on contesting strongly for every ball.

"We have done speed work as well with Keith Ricken and Con Burns which I found very beneficial and hopefully it all helps and adds a new dynamic to help us get that edge.

"I suppose winning in 2006 kind of passed me by because I was so young and so new to the whole experience but definitely as I get older I appreciate it much more and I think it hits home how special the achievement is."

Cotter feels the last championship game against Tipp was great



St Catherine's dynamo Orla Cotter is looking forward to the challenge from Wexford on Saturday.



SARAH O'DONOVAN

preparation because they really put it up to Cork.

"Jill Horan and Joanne Ryan were definitely up for the game and they really tested us at midfield but I don't think as a unit we necessarily played well or as well as we are capable of," she says.

"We knew going in to the game that it was safer to win it but Tipp had to win it so naturally they were going to be more up for the game than us.

"I felt we did very well to hold on and at the end of the day a win is a win so we must have been doing something right."

Bord Gáis are in the second year of a major sponsorship deal with the team and Cotter is delighted with the treatment the team has got thus far.

"We are very lucky in the current climate to have such a willing sponsor and Lacozade are also on board as our drinks sponsor which is another bonus," she says.

Cotter was instrumental in ensuring St Catherine's cleared their first hurdle in the senior A camogie championship by beating former champions Cloughduv.

"That game was played back in June and there has been a long lay off since which is very hard for the club player," she says.

"We went to the Dubai sevens this year for the first time to and it was a fantastic experience for the club and there has been a great



Cork's dual star Brieghe Corkery will join forces with Orla Cotter to control matters in midfield against Wexford.

buzz in the team since so hopefully we can do as well in the third round and keep the year going."

Looking once again to Saturday Cotter is aware that Wexford have strong runners at midfield who like to take on a defence but she feels such strengths can be dealt with.

"Wexford can only do damage if

they have the ball so it is up to us to work hard, win the breaks and take our chances so that we wear them down.

"Galway and Kilkenny are on the other side of the draw so it really is the most competitive it has been in a while and it will take an almighty effort to pull this one off."

Browne is in top form as Mallow see off threat of Tracton ladies

Evening Echo

CORK COUTY CHAMPIONSHIPS
CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie round-up

Mallow	3-12
Tracton	1-13

MALLOW fashioned out a victory over Tracton in a closely fought *Evening Echo* intermediate championship game in Castle Road.

Leading at half-time 2-6 to 1-5 thanks to first-half goals from Shona Fitzgerald and Michelle Browne and points from Browne and Kathleen O'Brien, they had to be at their best to deny Tracton a share of the spoils.

Tracton kept pace as Aoife Kiely struck 1-3 with Aisling Dempsey and Clodagh Fitzgerald pointing.

The sides exchanged early second-half points before three without reply from Tracton had them within distance but with Kathryn Coakley scoring two, Mallow held the slender advantage.

Mallow goalie Sinead O'Connor was forced to be at her best to deny Tracton but with Jane Fitzpatrick grabbing a goal, Mallow were safe.

Scores for Mallow: M Browne 1-7 (1-3f) K O'Brien 0-3, S Fitzgerald, J Fitzpatrick 1-0 each, K Coakley 0-2.

Tracton: A Kiely 1-5, M Jagoe 0-3 f, G Hurley 0-2, A Dempsey, C Fitzgerald, T Harrington 0-1 each.

MALLOW: S O'Connor, E Lenihan, S Ducey, K McAuliffe, A O'Rourke, S Coakley, K Coakley, M Byrne, E Forde, J Fitzpatrick, K O'Brien, S Fitzgerald, M Browne, F O'Donoghue, E Coakley.

Subs: M Curtin for M Byrne (10), L Tanner for S Coakley (45).

TRACTON: N. Lynch, N. Mullane, J. Kingston, E. Collins, K. O'Sullivan, J. Lynch, O. Ambrose, C. Lynch, T. Harrington, M. Jagoe, G. Hurley, J. Griffin, C. Fitzgerald, A. Kiely, A. Dempsey.

Subs: A. Sinclair for C. Fitzgerald (41), G. Ross for J. Griffin (50).

Referee: C Egan (Glen Rovers).

Fr O'Neill's 4-8 Newtownshandrum 2-7

FR O'NEILL'S got their *Evening Echo* intermediate championship campaign back on track when they recorded a victory over Newtown in this second game in the round robin series.

Two first-half goals from Nicole Nagle and Liz Sweetnam helped O'Neill's lead 2-5 to 0-6 at the interval, and through the second half they kept on the pressure despite Newtownshandrum best efforts.

FR O'NEILL'S: C McGrath, Y Murphy, U Day, C Day, S Harrington, V O'Sullivan, M O'Brien, K Harrington, F Wiggins, L Sweetnam, N Ahern, K Ahern, D O'Leary, N Nagle, G Kearney.

Subs: R Ahern for N Nagle, L Hayes for S Harrington, O Farmer for D O'Leary.

NEWTOWNSHANDRUM: Marie O'Connor, S Curtin, Y Morrissey, J Herlihy, F Twomey, E Reidy, Michelle O'Connor, A Kelleher, S Curtin, S Reidy, P O'Connor, M Reidy, V O'Keefe, E O'Mahony, S Moloney.

Subs: D O'Flynn for V O'Keefe, C Hurley for S Curtin, A Doyle for D Flynn, A Coughlan for S Moloney, A Morrissey for S Curtin.

Referee: Colette O'Mahony (St Finbarr's).

Galway's shot stopper is on red alert for the Cats

ONE of the most vivid images following the Tribeswomen's defeat to Cork in the All-Ireland senior camogie decider last September was that of dejected Galway goalkeeper Susan Earner with her head in her hands after the final whistle. Broken promises, broken dreams, the picture encapsulated it all.

Now, with Croke Park just 60 minutes away once again, Earner and her team-mates have shown tremendous character to bounce back from that 2-10 to 1-8 loss. A victory over reigning National League champions Wexford along with dominant wins over minnows Clare and Limerick in the round-robin stages of the championship has rekindled the passion and the desire ... and set up a mouth-watering tie against bogey team Kilkenny in this weekend's All-Ireland semi-finals at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny.

"Last year, we got a taste of All-Ireland day and we have that spirit going now again to return to Croke Park," begins Earner, as she sits outside the Lough Rea Hotel & Spa ahead of a Galway senior team meeting on this Friday evening. "We won't take the semi-final for granted; we have great respect for Kilkenny. We know we have a big battle ahead of us before we can even talk about September 13."

In many respects, this clash against an ever-improving Kilkenny side will strongly test Liam Donoghue's charges' credentials given that, to some degree, the Cats have been Galway's bogey team in recent years.

In 2006, Kilkenny recorded victories over the Tribeswomen in both the National League (2-7 to 1-5) and championship (3-5 to 0-10). They again defeated Galway by 5-5 to 2-9 in the 2007 National League, before Galway inflicted a

TALKING SPORT



STEPHEN GLENNON

Earner aiming to keep title charge on course after last year's loss in All-Ireland final

1-12 to 1-4 defeat on their rivals in the championship later that year.

The two sides met in the National League final early last year, with Kilkenny bagging goals to beat the band to win 3-11 to 0-17 in an entertaining contest. Their championship encounter later in the summer was just as unforgiving, with the Leinster women outmuscling the Westerners on a scoreline of 1-13 to 1-9 in a bruising contest. Indeed, Kilkenny were the only side to defeat Galway in the group stages of the '08 championship. It is the latter two defeats that set the scene.

"They have been our bogey team; loads of people have been saying that to us," admits Earner, who made her senior debut in camogie's centenary year, 2004. "They beat us twice last year, in the National League final and in the championship as well."

"That was last year I suppose. We have a new management team, a new batch of women, and there is a lot of positive thinking going on this year. If we play to our full potential and stay positive up until the final whistle, then I think we should be able to overcome them."

A lot will depend, though, on how Galway deal with the physical aspect of Kilkenny's game. "Since we started back in January, we have been putting an awful lot of work into our core," continues the Eyrecourt native. "We would have a small enough frame team, but against Wexford (in the championship), their manager commented on how physical we were. So I think it has been working and we should be well able to put it up to Kilkenny this year, physical wise."

For Earner, she has no fear when it comes to the physical aspect of the game, particularly as her upbringing in the sport was nothing less than lively. "Actually, it was funny," says Earner. "In

'They didn't show us respect and that is what urged us on'

national school, I was about 10 or 11, and our goalie never turned up with the (goalkeeper's) hurl. The principal got mad and he threw me into goals instead.

"Anyway, I was lucky enough to live beside Damien Howe, who used to play in goals for Galway (seniors). I told him I had a big match coming up and he was like 'come on out so'. He would be out with me, then, nearly every evening, pucking and blasting sliotars at me. I would come in with bruises - left, right and centre - but at the time I thought it was great," laughs the 23-year-old.

Earner's bravery between the posts soon became apparent. At 11 years of age, she graduated onto the Galway U-14 panel and she later went on to represent Galway at all grades, winning All-Ireland medals at minor (then U-16) in 2000, junior in 2003 and intermediate in 2004, along with an All-

Ireland colleges medal with her former alma mater, St. Rynagh's secondary school in Banagher. She was also sub goalkeeper for Galway when they won the National League title in 2005. "So I have only one more medal to get; I could nearly hang up the boots then," chirps the talented custodian.

If Galway can claim their first All-Ireland senior title since 1996, though, remains to be seen. Certainly, under the new management team of Liam Donoghue - who was joint manager alongside Damien Coleman last season - selectors Anne Broderick and Declan Walsh and trainer Seamie Crowe, the squad has been reinvigorated once again.

Added to this, the return of former All-Star defender Regina Glynn, along with the free-scoring duo of Aislinn Connolly and Brenda Hanney, has strengthened the panel no end. While Earner is high in praise for Galway camogie's prodigal daughters, she is quick to stress that their challenge for honours is very much a squad effort. The competition for starting berths is fierce.

"It has put an awful lot of competition into the squad and there is no complacency within in the team. When a player gets a spot, they just don't want to lose it at this stage. It's amazing really. We have our panel matches every now and again. We could play the so-called top 15 against the next 15, and the 'B' team will always put it up to the 'A' team."

"In fact, if that 'B' team had gone out against Clare, Limerick or Wexford, they would definitely have the same determination and positive attitude to win the game. So it is not only about the starting 15 anymore - any player will tell you that - it is about everyone, and those on the line are as much part of the squad as the players on the



Galway goalkeeper Susan Earner hopes to put the disappointment of losing last year's All-Ireland final to Cork behind her when she lines out for the Tribeswomen in the All-Ireland semi-final against Kilkenny on Saturday.

field."

It's clear, despite the panel getting bigger and stronger this year, that this is a tightly knit group of players. Earner agrees, noting that the All-Ireland defeat to Cork last September in many ways helped to unite them even further in the pursuit of their ultimate goal. "As a group, we are all really good friends," adds the Galway goalkeeper.

As for Earner, she would dearly love another crack at Cork - who face Wexford in the other All-Ire-

land semi-final this Saturday - at Croke Park on September 13. Of course, the 2008 final defeat still rankles, but Earner has other factors to consider.

"I was teaching in Mallow for four months before the summer and I got awful abuse down there, from the students to the janitor," she laughs. "They kept telling me the whole time that the Rebelles were going to get me."

"The rumour had got around that I played camogie and the students started looking me up on the

internet. Then they found out that Cork beat Galway in last year's final and then it kicked off altogether. There was great craic ... with that little bit of tension in the classroom!"

Unfortunately, with a new school year just around the corner, the geography and French teacher - who spent eight months studying in Toulouse in the South of France - is still searching for a teaching post. "I am available if anybody is looking," says Earner. "As long as I don't have to emigrate."

Certainly, a comment like that puts camogie, sport and life into perspective, with the long hours and sacrifices camogie and ladies football players make, too often, shown little regard. This was no more evident when Galway were forced to travel to Wexford for an evening throw-in for their championship clash recently.

"A lot of us were annoyed that the match was on at such a late time, and at the same time as the Galway hurlers' game (against Clare)," says Earner. "Then the match was delayed an extra half hour (due to the Roscommon and Wexford football qualifier going to extra-time) and we just felt people were taking us for granted ... that we were only the Galway camogie team."

"They didn't show us respect and that is what really urged us on. I think when we came back from that eight-point deficit in the first half it showed the determination and fight we have as a team."

It will be this same determination and fight that Galway will hope to take into this weekend's All-Ireland semi-final clash (2pm). Those broken promises could yet be fulfilled; the broken dreams mended.

• A daughter of Jimmy and Mary Earner, Susan has one brother, James, who currently resides in Brisbane, Australia.

AUG 2009

Wexford seek final spot

Slaneysiders face Cork for place in All-Ireland decider

DEAN GOODISON

Sports Reporter



THE WEXFORD camogie team travel to Nowlan Park to face All-Ireland champions Cork in the Gala Senior championship semi-final on Saturday next (4 p.m.) and will be hoping to book a spot in the Croke Park showpiece on September 13.

Wexford are coming off the back of a routine win against Clare but will still need to improve substantially to see off Cork. The Munster side had a disappointing league campaign but have hit their stride in the championship, beating Dublin and Kilkenny before coming from behind against Tipperary to take top spot in their group.

The sides last met in the league earlier this year, with Wexford coming out on top by three points (0-10 to 1-4), but they know that that victory will count for nothing come Saturday.

The initial interest will focus on the team line-out.

With various permutations having already been aired this year, it's now time to pick one that will be able to perform to each player's strengths and not fit certain members into positions that they are not completely comfortable with.

There were encouraging signs in that regard against Clare, but manager Stellan Sinnott is keeping her cards close to her chest when it comes to changes.

'Since the Clare match something has just switched and they are flying at the minute. Everyone is going well and our injuries are coming right so we will just have to sit down and talk about it and see what's the best team to go forward on the day against Cork. I'm not committing to whether there will be changes or there won't be.'

One player, providing she is adjudged fit enough, that will certainly come into the side is Kate Kelly. The St. Ibar's-Shelmallee player was replaced by her club-mate, Katrina Parrock, in the last outing and it's clear the toughest decision will be who makes way for Kelly.

Parrock herself excelled against lowly Clare and will rightfully feel aggrieved if she is omitted but, with other potential candidates having completed sterling league campaigns, it would take a brave person to second guess the mentors' decision on the matter, with Sinnott herself even suggesting that Kelly could be used as a substitute.

'Kate has had maybe two full weeks of training but she is a naturally fit girl, she is not carrying any weight or anything like that so really at this stage she is as fit and strong as ever. She is not showing any signs of missing the weeks that she did.'

'If Kate starts she will be a huge influence on the game and if she comes on she will still be a huge influence, she is just a tremendous player and can drive other players on with her.'

Saturday's opponents have weapons all over the park. Their only telling loss in championship camogie over the last five years was in the 2007 final against Wexford, and Sinnott knows only too well what's waiting for her and her team.

'I expect at this stage that it will be a battle royal, it's probably the toughest of the semi-finals. People say at the semi-final stage there are no easy matches but we are playing the All-Ireland champions and they haven't missed a semi-final since 1979, while they have been in every final since 2002.'

Despite going in as underdogs, Sinnott knows that her side will give every ounce of energy to reach the All-Ireland final again. 'Our team has guts, determination and a huge backbone and I really feel that on the day they will put it up to them.'

'It's a team with huge energy and fight, this camogie team that I'm involved with for the last few years never gives up and never dies.'

Let's hope that on Sunday morning they will wake up with an All-Ireland final on the horizon.



■ Wexford's Ursula Jacob tries to shake off the attentions of Amanda O'Regan of Cork in the All-Ireland final of 2007.

Gala All Ireland senior semi-final teams & panels

GALA ALL IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS

**Live coverage of both matches from Nowlan Park on www.rte.ie/sport/gaa - available worldwide

Kilkenny v Galway, Nowlan Park, Saturday August 15, 2pm

It is youth versus experience in this All Ireland semi-final, exemplified by Ann Downey handing a starting slot to starlet Denise Gaule who impressed in their All Ireland minor win last weekend. The Cats are contesting the last four after a lapse of three years. Galway appear to be a stronger outfit this season. Their attack in particular is more potent. Aislinn Connolly's return to the team in '09 and Jessica Gill regaining her place after missing most of the summer action is a big boost.

Kilkenny: C Ryan, L Fennelly, C Doherty, J Frisby, E Aylward, A Butler, L Lyng, C Dormer, A Dalton (Capt); E Keane, D Gaule, K Power, M Quilty, T Muldowney, A Neary.

Galway: S Eamer, R Glynn, A Kelly, T Manton, A M Hayes, S Cahalan (Capt), N Kilkenny, S Tannion, L Ryan, B Hanney, T Maher, J Gill, V Curtin, O Kilkenny, A Connolly.

Cork v Wexford, Nowlan Park, Saturday August 15, 4pm

Apprehensive best describes the mood in these two camps. Cork are the reigning champions and are unbeaten in the championship thus far. There is massive competition for places down Leeside resulting in Emer O'Farrell retaining her place at full forward. Catherine O'Loughlin is lining out at full back for Wexford after missing most of the league because of travelling, while Katrina Parrock will be hoping to celebrate on the double this week after receiving her Leaving Cert results on Wednesday.

Cork: A Murray, J O'Callaghan, C Foley, R Buckley, J Duffy, M O'Connor, S Hayes, B Corkery, O Cotter, E Dillon, G O'Connor, U O'Donoghue, S Burns, E O'Farrell, R Moloney.

Wexford: M D'Arcy, D Codd, C O'Loughlin, C O'Connor, A Codd, M Leacy, A O'Connor (Capt), C Murphy, M O'Leary, U Leacy, R M Breen, K Parrock, U Jacob, K Kelly, J Dwyer.



Aug 2009

Tough Nowlan Park mission faces Galway

Fit again Curtin returns to the attack as Tribeswomen seek revenge over Kilkenny in All-Ireland semi-final

STEPHEN GLENNON

KINVARA'S Veronica Curtin has recovered from a serious shoulder injury to take her place at right corner forward for Galway's All-Ireland camogie semi-final clash against Kilkenny at Nowlan Park this Saturday (2pm).

Curtin missed the Tribeswomen's last round-robin championship game against Limerick, in which the maroon and white claimed a 1-16 to 0-8 victory, after sustaining the injury in a high intensity in-house challenge match.

However, the two-time All-Star winner, who has notched up 3-5 from play in the championship to date, has made every effort to return to fitness for the penultimate stages of the competition and she has been rewarded with a starting berth on Saturday.

She comes into the full-forward line alongside Orla Kilkenny and Aislinn Connolly in place of Eyrecourt's Molly Dunne, who is unfortunate to lose her starting place after scoring two points from play against the Shannonsiders.

In all, there are three changes in personnel from the side that defeated Limerick, as Therese Manton returns to her defensive duties, replacing Kiltormer's Clodagh Glynn, after recovering from a rib injury, while Kiltulla/Killmordaly's Lorraine Ryan gets the nod at midfield ahead of Galway dual player Sarah Noone.

As for the Galway team, itself, Eyrecourt's Susan Earnler lines out once again in goals, while Manton, Davitts' Ailbhe Kelly and 2006 All-Star Regina



Galway's consistent wing back Ann Marie Hayes.

Glynn make up the full-back line.

Anne Marie Hayes and Niamh Kilkenny reprise their

wing-back roles, with captain Sinead Cahalan anchoring the defence from her centre-half back berth. In midfield, Gal-

way boast of a new pairing, in the versatile Sandra Tannian - redeployed from corner back - and Ryan.

Up front, the attack looks very exciting. Half forwards Jessica Gill and Brenda Hanney - two powerful players - will look to engage the Kilkenny defence at every opportunity, while the inspirational Therese Maher is sure to poke holes in the Cats rearguard throughout the afternoon.

Inside, Orla Kilkenny has been handed the No. 14 shirt and she will be flanked by the prolific duo of Curtin and free-taker Aislinn Connolly, who has scored an impressive 2-21 in the championship to date.

For Kilkenny's part, they enjoyed victories over Tipperary (1-14 to 1-11) and Dublin (2-14 to 0-4) in the round robin stages to finish second behind Cork in their group. Indeed, the Cats were not all that far away from causing an upset when pushing the Leesiders all the way in their 2-5 to 0-7 defeat.

To the fore, on the scoreboard at least, have been Aoife Neary (0-13), Michelle Quilty (1-7) and Ann Dalton (0-4), while 2008 intermediate star Collette Dormer and Edwina Keane also tallied goals during the group phase.

Buoyed by a huge volume of underage success throughout this decade, with their latest coming last weekend when their minors defeated Clare 5-10 to 3-8 in the All-Ireland final, Kilkenny are, once again, an emerging force in camogie.

Indeed, last year, they recorded victories over Galway

in both the National League final (3-11 to 0-17) and in the championship (1-13 to 1-9) and, to some extent, have been the Tribeswomen's bogey team in recent times.

In saying that, it is an assertion rejected by Galway manager Liam Donoghue. "I don't think so. It is only my second year in charge and we have only played them twice, in the league and championship last year, and, yeah, we were beaten on both occasions. As I said, though, that was only my first year involved so you can't really call them a bogey team just yet."

"Maybe the girls are of a different opinion, because they would have come across them a lot more. That said, by that reasoning you could call any other county they have met a

bogey team because they would have also lost to those counties at one stage or another. So I wouldn't read too much into it. It is a different year, a different championship."

Certainly, with the return of the likes of Glynn, Hanney and Connolly from sabbaticals, Galway would appear to be a stronger squad, while the work done in reaching the All-Ireland decider in 2008 has also helped to lay the foundation for advancement during this current campaign.

"No doubt, the girls are confident and they have the belief. That did not happen today or yesterday, but it has been a process over the last 18 months, which included the work Damien (Coleman) did with the team last year," says

Cahalan ready and waiting for Cats test

CAMOGIE

THE top four senior camogie teams come face to face in the Gala All-Ireland semi-finals at Nowlan Park on Saturday, when spectators are sure to be provided with two games worthy of the entrance fee.

Cork, the champions, are back for their ticket to an eighth consecutive final appearance when they meet Wexford, while last year's beaten finalists, Galway, are keen for another attempt at lifting the O'Duffy Cup, but first they must overcome Kilkenny.

The Tribeswomen have won just the one title, in 1996. Sinead Cahalan captains the team once more, and despite playing Kilkenny on their home ground, she says they are delighted to be back again.

"We are used to Nowlan Park. We have played All-Ireland semi-finals there before and we played the league final there in 2008. We have had a few challenge matches with Kilkenny down there too, so we don't mind it at all."

PREPARATIONS

"We are only in the semi-finals, though. There will be very little between all four teams. Our preparations are coming together now. We feel we have a stronger team this year overall. We are probably more balanced."

Meanwhile, Wexford and Cork will have little difficulty getting fired up for the second semi-final. The Purple and Gold defeated the Rebels when they bridged a 32-year gap to claim the All-Ireland in 2007.

Since then there has been keen rivalry between the sides. Wexford captain Aoife O'Connor has already led the Leinster outfit to league honours, so it would be memorable if she could complete the set.

"We are apprehensive, we are always apprehensive of Cork," she says. "We are going into this game with our eyes wide open. The reality is we have one All-Ireland in the past four years, Cork have three."

"We had a fabulous day in 2007 and we are glad to have it, but nobody is getting beyond themselves. We are positive and we will stay that way. We learned a lesson last year."

Aug 2009

Danny Bowe - Bowe-ing out after 46 years

By Mary Ellen Breen

IT was more than four decades ago when teenager Danny Bowe began a job in St. Patrick's hospital before moving onto Waterford Regional Hospital. Now, 46 years later Danny, the Chairman of Ardkeen Camogie Club has officially retired.

"As a little boy I used to go up to the Mercy and clean out the chicken coops for the nuns. At 14 I was still in school, we got our summer holidays and a job came up for St. Patrick's so I put my name in. I went up and the late Fintan Corrigan gave me a medical and then gave me the job," he said, explaining the start of his working life.

A couple of years later a position came up in WRH where Danny, a porter, spent more than 30 years working in the central supplies.

He said as the years went on the hospital progressed.

"The whole pharmacy changed with computers coming in and technicians. I wasn't a technician I was a porter but I used to dispense medicine with the head chemist there, but it all changed."

Despite having made many good friends through his work in the hospital, Danny said the hospital changed.

"I loved working in Ardkeen but in the latter years I didn't. It changed so much and it didn't change for the better."

He said there is too much of a hierarchy in the hospital now compared to the olden days.

"I have a lot of friends in Ardkeen, there is a lot of lovely people out there and it breaks my heart to watch what's going on out there now. We were one big happy family, we black-guarded with one another, went out with one another, drank with one



Danny Bowe, who retired from WRH after 46 years. Photo: Joe Evans

another. We were friends as well as workmates."

He said health and safety regulations are costing the hospital money every year while cutbacks are being made across the health sector.

"There is thousands of euro spent on crutches every year. In the hospital I grew up in, in the hospital that I love, I can't for the love of me understand why we can't take back crutches, sterilise them and re-use them. They are dumped in a skip."

He told the Waterford News & Star that he felt the closure of St. Bridget's ward was a cutback.

"It's a scandal, they are doing it for cut backs. It's very easy attack elderly people. They are forgetting that

those people are paying for their beds through their pensions and a lot of people don't realise that. Why don't they cut back at the top of the ladder and leave the bottom half alone?"

"It hurts me when I see them attacking the elderly. I worked on night duty up there and I loved those old people. For them to attack St. Patrick's like they are now — they should be ashamed of themselves. I hope the day will come when they will try and close that ward because I will be there to meet them, I won't be afraid to stand up to them," he said.

A mixture of arthritis and high blood pressure meant Danny had to

step down from his job in WRH. He said the decision wasn't one he wanted but his doctor insisted it was for the best. He said the change in his finances has been a shock.

"It was a big knock to the system after so many years to go down from a weeks salary to €204. To all those people out there on social welfare I can say I know what it's like now, it's not easy."

But now Danny is looking forward to continuing his work with Ardkeen Camogie Club, which he started 40 years ago.

"I'll keep working with the girls, I love them. They are all good girls, there's no such thing as a bad child, it's how you treat them," he finished.

Car boot sale will be a big fundraiser

WITH ONGOING work progressing on the county board's superb camogie field at Castle Road Blackrock, a lot of effort has gone into getting the facility up and running. writes MARY NEWMAN.

To help with the expenses, the county board are holding a big fundraiser with a car boot sale on Sunday week at 9.30am at the new venue in Blackrock, 500 yards from Blackrock Castle.

They are calling on all supporters of camogie to come down and view their wonderful new facilities and at the same time support what they hope will be a successful event to help them keep the show on the road.

Last year the board were unlucky with the weather when they held their first sale and they are hoping the gods will be kind to them this time out.

There will also be a country vegetable stall and home baking stall so everybody will be catered for.

They are putting out the call to everybody to come along and set up a stall which costs only €10.

Further details can be got on 087-2662690.

● The Camogie Communications and Website Committee plan to publish a history of the association and are looking for written historical material.

Some counties have compiled very detailed histories of the game, while others may have contributed a section to the county GAA history.

There may be articles of interest that appeared in annuals, programmes or special publications in counties and the call is going out as the committee strive to collect relevant information.

Forward photocopies to: Mary Moran, Uisneach, 16 Firgrove Gardens, Bishopstown, Cork.

If you wish to contact Mary, email: marymoran@iol.ie

Ballincollig to host a new competition

By MARY NEWMAN

Juvenile U14 blitz

THE first weekend in September is usually kept free in the hope of a trip to Croke Park for the hurling All-Ireland but with no Cork involvement this year the county GAA followers find themselves with a free weekend.

The county Juvenile Board has availed of the free date in the calendar and they are in the process of organising a competition for U14 teams who did not progress from their league section.

The event is set to take place in Ballincollig. With league competitions finished since June, clubs who did not make it to the quarter or semi-final stages are finished for the season.

The big emphasis of the weekend is that it will be a fun day out for all teams who participate.

It's proposed to divide the competition into two grades, with teams who participated in the A and B league groups together in Division 1 and the teams that participated in the C and D league grouped in Division 2.

Each panel will consist of 20 players and each player that participates will receive a memento of the day.

The competition will get under way on Saturday, September 4 when games will take place in both divisions, the teams that progress to the semi-final and finals will return on the Sunday September 5 where they will have another day out.

The competition is being hosted by the Ballincollig club who will have two pitches in operation on both days, ensuring the games are run off quickly and within a balanced time-frame.

The whole idea is one which has been hugely welcomed by the mentors from all the U14 clubs.

Juvenile county board GPC member Mairead

O'Donovan is competition co-ordinator and she is looking forward to a successful event.

"It's a great opportunity to keep the young U14 girls playing. For many of the clubs the season ended with their final league game and if a club did not qualify then the year is effectively over; the thought behind this weekend is to give the girls something to look forward to and to keep them playing camogie."

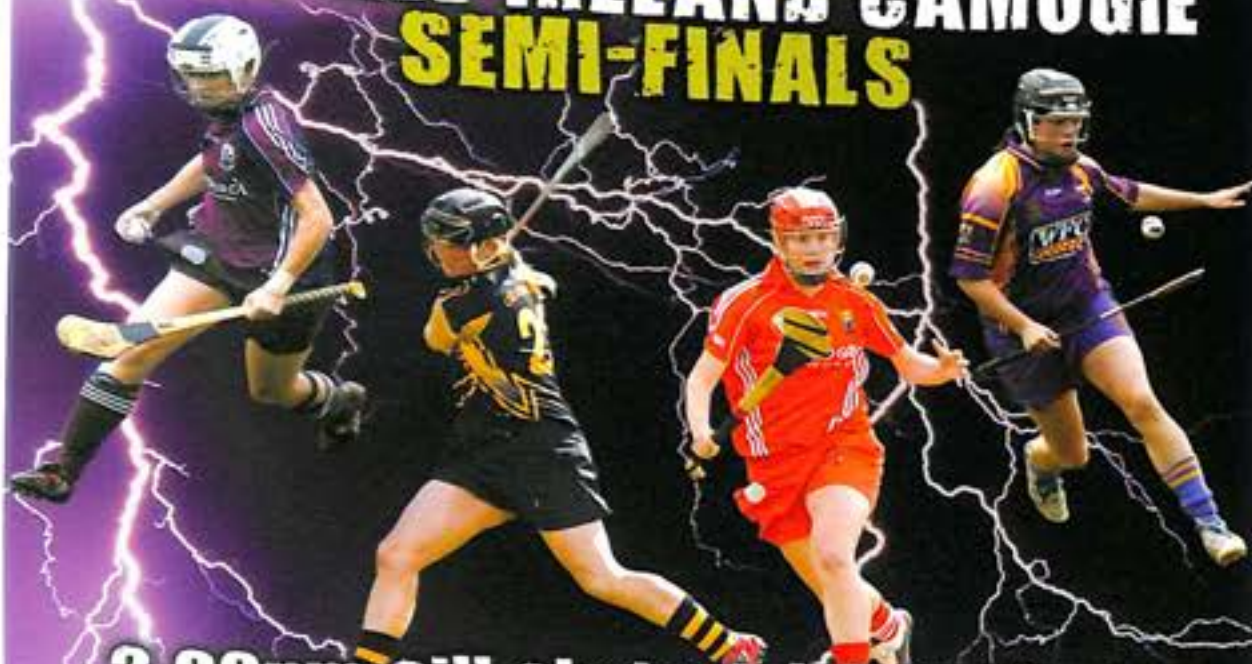
"A lot of girls tend to lose interest if they do not have competitive games and several players may be too young to play with their clubs' U16s."

"The clubs are very excited about it and we hope for a big entry. Hopefully, if all goes well this will become an annual event and maybe we could extend the idea to the U12 grade next season."

● Entry forms have already been circulated to clubs and they must be returned, together with the €50 entry fee to Mairead O'Donovan, 41 Beech Park, Ballincollig, Co Cork.

CUMANN CAMÓGAÍOCHTA NA NGAE

CLUICHÍ LEATH-CHEANNAIS NA HÉIREANN SA CHAMÓGAÍOCHT GALA ALL IRELAND CAMOGIE SEMI-FINALS



2.00pm Cill Chainnigh v Gaillimh
4.00pm Corcaigh v Loch Garman

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Táim cinnte go mbeidh sárchomórtas idir na foirne agus go dtabharfaidh sibhse, an lucht féachana, aitheantas cu don dá fhoireann agus iad ag léiriú scileanna ar gcluiche ar an bpalairc imeartha inniu. Fáilte go leith roimh na h-imreoirí, na roghnóirí, na réiteoirí agus na h-oifigí.

Today's programme renews the rivalry between the 2007 All-Ireland finalists, Cork and Wexford. Last year's finalists, Galway, seek to go one better in 2009. Kilkenny, on home turf, are back in the big time.

The consistency of Cork, Wexford and Galway in playing at the highest standards over a number of years is hugely impressive. It is matched by Kilkenny's progression this year, building on amazing under-age success. Last Sunday, Kilkenny Minors collected their fourth All-Ireland title in a row. This follows last year's success in securing four Under-16 All-Irelands in a row.

The prize for today's winners is the dream of every Camogie player – the opportunity to compete for an All-Ireland medal; the prospect of competing for the Gala Senior All-Ireland title and the wonderful opportunity to play in a world-class stadium – historic Croke Park on September 13th. This year's All-Ireland Camogie Finals mark the 75th anniversary of the first Camogie All-Ireland to be played there.

Competing for an All-Ireland final place creates a momentum for making Camogie stronger in each county and for expanding the opportunities for young girls to play the game within schools, existing clubs and new clubs. I would love to see females all over Ireland having the opportunity to enjoy Camogie – the fastest and most skillful female team sport. With your ongoing support and hard work we will achieve that.

Congratulations to all the players involved in today's semi-finals. You are excellent ambassadors for our sport. Congratulations and thanks to all those involved in developing and supporting today's teams.

A sincere thank you also to all the referees and match officials involved in the semi-finals – your role is vital and very important to the well-being of Camogie.

A big thank you to all in Kilkenny GAA and Nowlan Park for the outstanding facility you provide to our players and supporters and to Kilkenny Camogie Board for your support. This is the second consecutive week where national Camogie fixtures have been hosted in Nowlan Park. The effort involved in that is much appreciated so mile buíochas do chách.

A special word of thanks to two groups – our supporters and the media. Attending Camogie games is an important way of publicly recognising the artistry, skill and commitment of our players. Your support is vital. We all depend on the media for information and knowledge, so giving recognition and prominence to women's sporting achievements is really important. Your ongoing support is much appreciated.

Finally, during today's programme, Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael is delighted to acknowledge the 125th anniversary of the GAA. This is a momentous year for a momentous organisation. Young Camogie players from four Kilkenny clubs and members of the Kilkenny, Wicklow, Kildare and Armagh Under-14 Development Squads will release 125 balloons in celebration of the anniversary.

The affinity between Camogie and the GAA is strong and particularly so between Camogie and Hurling. 125 years on and I am delighted to say that there are excellent relationships between both our Associations and within the wider Gaelic Games family at all levels. Comhghairdeachas ó chroí do Chumann Lúthchleas Gael ar an bhliain speisialta seo.

Enjoy the games and good luck to all four teams today.

Sinead Ní Chonchúir

SIOBHÁN NÍ FHLOINN

Uachtarán Chumann Camógaíochta na nGael

GALA ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP GROUP 1 DETAILS

DATE	VENUE	RESULT	REFEREE	
June 20	Páirc Uí Rinn	Cork..... 3-21	Dublin 1-07	Ciarán Quigley
June 27	Thurles	Kilkenny..... 1-14	Tipperary.... 1-11	Eadhonn Mac Suibhne
July 11	Nowlan Park	Cork..... 2-05	Kilkenny..... 0-07	John Morrissey
July 18	Parnell Park	Tipperary.... 2-12	Dublin 1-10	Ciarán Quigley
Aug. 1	Páirc Uí Rinn	Cork..... 1-13	Tipperary.... 0-14	Ciarán Quigley
Aug. 1	Ballyboden	Kilkenny..... 2-14	Dublin 0-04	Cathal Egan

GALA ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP GROUP 2 DETAILS

DATE	VENUE	RESULT	REFEREE	
June 20	Hospital	Wexford 5-20	Limerick..... 0-06	John Morrissey
June 27	Athenry	Galway 3-17	Clare..... 1-04	Una Kearney
July 11	Wexford Park	Galway 3-07	Wexford..... 2-06	Cathal Egan
July 18	Ennis	Clare 2-08	Limerick..... 1-10	Eamonn Browne
Aug. 1	Bodyke	Wexford 2-15	Clare..... 0-03	John Morrissey
Aug. 1	Athenry	Galway 1-16	Limerick..... 0-08	Eadhonn Mac Suibhne

GROUP 1 TABLE

	P	W	D	L	Pts
CORK	3	3	0	0	6
KILKENNY	3	2	0	1	4
TIPPERARY	3	1	0	2	2
DUBLIN	3	0	0	3	0

GROUP 2 TABLE

	P	W	D	L	Pts
GALWAY	3	3	0	0	6
WEXFORD	3	2	0	1	4
CLARE	3	1	0	2	2
LIMERICK	3	0	0	3	0

LEADING CHAMPIONSHIP SCORERS 2009

NAME	COUNTY	GOALS	POINTS	OVERALL TOTAL	FROM PLAY
AISLINN CONNOLLY	GALWAY	1	21	24	1-5 (8)
NIAMH MULCAHY	LIMERICK	0	19	19	0-9 (9)
ROSE-MARIE BREEN	WEXFORD	4	3	15	4-3 (15)
VERONICA CURTIN	GALWAY	3	5	14	3-5 (14)
KATE KELLY	WEXFORD	1	11	14	0-3 (3)
AOIFE NEARY	KILKENNY	0	14	14	0-3 (3)
RACHEL MOLONEY	CORK	0	13	13	0-5 (5)
EMER O'FARRELL	CORK	4	1	13	4-1 (13)
CLAIRE GROGAN	TIPPERARY	1	9	12	0-3 (3)
CÁIT DEVANE	TIPPERARY	0	10	10	0-3 (3)
MICHELLE QUILTY	KILKENNY	1	7	10	1-6 (9)

SEMI-FINAL STATS

A look through the archives

These are the 37th All-Ireland semi-finals to be played since the introduction of the open draw in 1973. Ten counties have competed at this stage to date – the eight contestants in this year's championship, along with Antrim and Down (see table).

Cork have a staggering record, as they have reached the last four in 34 of those 36 campaigns. Indeed, they have contested the semi-finals every year since 1980. The only two championships when they were absent from this stage were 1977 (Wexford beat Clare and Kilkenny beat Dublin) and 1979 (Antrim beat Wexford and Tipperary beat Limerick).

Today's semi-final pairings have already cropped up three times in the same year under the open draw system. The first occasion was in 1988 when Kilkenny beat Galway by 3-19 to 1-4 and Cork beat Wexford on a 2-9 to 2-2 scoreline. The outcomes were the same in 1995, with Kilkenny defeating Galway by 1-14 to 1-9 and Cork overcoming Wexford by 5-13 to 1-6. The last year when the pairings corresponded was in 1997 when Galway turned the tables with a 4-14 to 2-11 victory over Kilkenny, while Cork maintained their dominance over Wexford (3-22 to 1-7).

1997 was significant for a good reason – it was the last occasion, prior to today, when Tipperary had no semi-final representation. The Premier county's golden era in camogie saw them play in eleven penultimate rounds on the trot from 1998 to 2008, winning eight in a row from 1999 to 2006.

Cork have a one hundred per cent record over Wexford in semi-finals played since the arrival of the open draw. Apart from

SEMI-FINALISTS SINCE 1973

COUNTY	P	W	L	%
CORK	34	26	8	76
WEXFORD	26	6	20	23
KILKENNY	24	15	9	62
GALWAY	20	5	15	25
TIPPERARY	14	10	4	71
DUBLIN	13	7	6	54
LIMERICK	5	1	4	20
ANTRIM	3	2	1	66
CLARE	3	0	3	0
DOWN	2	0	2	0

those games mentioned below left in 1988, 1995 and 1997, they won by 1-14 to 0-4 in 1983, by 2-10 to 1-6 in 1987, by 4-7 to 2-7 in 1989, and by 3-13 to 1-5 when the counties last met at this stage in 2000.

When Wexford beat Dublin by 4-9 to 3-7 in the 1990 semi-final, the wild celebrations were easy to understand – amazingly, the Slaneysiders had reached the last four in all of the previous seven campaigns, from 1983 to 1989, but had lost every time! Current mentors Stéallán Sinnott and Ann Reddy were among the players who were finally rewarded for their persistence.

The Camogie Communications and Website Committee plan to publish a history of the Camogie Association. The Committee is keen to ascertain what written historical material already exists. Some counties may have completed their history while others may have contributed a section to the county GAA history. There may be articles of interest that appeared in annuals, programmes or special publications in your county. A photocopy of these would be very welcome.

Please forward this information to Mary Moran, "Uisneach", 16 Firgrove Gardens, Bishopstown, Cork. If you wish to contact Mary directly you can call 021-4542891 (h), 086-0526710 (m) or e-mail marymoran@iol.ie.

Gaillimh



Back (from left): Veronica Curtin, Paula Kenny, Niamh McGrath, Sinéad Keane, Aoife Lynskey, Catriona Cormican, Sandra Tannion, Sarah Noone, Sinéad Cahalan (capt.), Anne-Marie Hayes, Therese Maher, Brenda Hanney, Jessica Gill, Ailbhe Kelly, Susan Earner, Therese Manton, Brenda Kerins. Front (from left): Róisín Callanan, Emma Kilkelly, Lorraine Ryan, Orla Kilkenny, Niamh Kilkenny, Regina Glynn, Molly Dunne, Clodagh Glynn, Sarah Donoghue, Deirdre Burke, Aislinn Connolly. Missing: Lourda Kavanagh, Aine Hillary.

Cill Chainnigh



Back (from left): Marie O'Connor, Claire Aylward, Kate McDonald, Edel Maher, Edwina Keane, Denise Gaule, Therese Muldowney, Ann Marie Phelan, Leann Fennelly, Elaine Aylward, Aoife Fitzpatrick, Eileen Fitzpatrick, Deirdre Delaney, Aine Fahy, Keeva Fennelly, Catherine Doherty, Collette Dormer, Laura Kavanagh. Front (from left): Lizzie Lyng, Emma Staunton, Eimear Lyng, Katie Power, Ann Dalton (capt.), Jacqui Frisby, Catriona Ryan, Michelle Quilty, Amy Butler, Aisling Dunphy, Aoife Neary.

Corcaigh



Back (from left): Gemma O'Connor, Emer Dillon, Eimear White, Anna Geary, Emer O'Farrell, Jenny Duffy, Sile Burns, Lucy Hawkes, Lynda O'Connell, Cathriona Foley, Rena Buckley, Denise Cronin, Amanda O'Regan (capt.), Orla Cotter, Katriona Mackey, Aoife Murray. Front (from left): Elaine O'Riordan, Mary O'Connor, Briege Corkery, Una O'Donoghue, Joanne O'Callaghan, Sara Hayes, Rachel Moloney, Eimear O'Sullivan, Orla O'Sullivan, Pamela Mackey, Julia White, Marion Murphy.

Loch Garman



Back (from left): Mary Leacy, Aine Codd, Caroline Murphy, Ursula Jacob, Rose-Marie Breen, Una Leacy, Deirdre Codd, Georgina Moore, Michelle Hearne, Kate Kelly, Ciara Storey, Siona Nolan, Fiona Kavanagh, Noeleen Lambert, Josie Dwyer. Front (from left): Mags D'Arcy, Helena Jacob, Claire O'Connor, Michelle O'Leary, Catherine O'Loughlin, Aoife O'Connor (capt.), Louise Codd, Bernice Holohan, Jean Hayden, Lenny Holohan, Katrina Parrock, Evelyn Quigley. Missing: Colleen Atkinson, Karen Atkinson, Mag Kelly.

A Little Bit of Fun!

Veronica CURTIN (Galway)

- Q Biggest influence on your career
A My mother, Kathleen. She always encouraged me.
- Q Best moments in camogie
A Winning the O'Duffy Cup in 1996 and my first All Star in '06.
- Q Skort or togs?
A Skort... the lady needs to be kept in camogie.
- Q Player who brings most fun to panel
A Aoife Lynskey
- Q Transfer market - what player would you bid for?
A Claire Grogan (rumour has it that she'll be moving to Portumna soon).
- Q Favourite holiday destination
A Sunny beach in Bulgaria...anywhere



- there is sun really!!
- Q Ideal fantasy date
A Gary Barlow...or maybe Paul Ince!
- Q Male or female guest of honour at camogie All-Stars?
A Male of course! Can't say who as Damien, my husband, is reading this!!!
- Q Team/panel song
A Every player has chosen a song and we have a CD which we play.
- Q Most used phrase
A Play to play great, don't play not to play poorly.
- Q Something you are good at but few know about
A Walking my little pug Sammy.

Leann FENNELLY (Kilkenny)

- Q Biggest influence on your career
A Family and Brendan Williams.
- Q Best moment in camogie
A Winning and captaining Senior 'A' Colleges All-Ireland with St. Brigid's.
- Q Skort or togs?
A Skort, more feminine.
- Q Player who brings most fun to panel
A Catherine Doherty or Claire Aylward, both bring a lot of entertainment.
- Q Transfer market - what player would you bid for?
A I would probably put a bid in for Kildare's Susie O'Carroll.
- Q Favourite holiday destination
A Anywhere with a bit of



- sun! Preferably Australia!
- Q Ideal fantasy date
A A date with the Dublin football team wouldn't be so bad!
- Q Male or female guest of honour at camogie All-Stars?
A Male, a rugby player or maybe Joe Canning, The Dream.
- Q Team/panel song
A Move Shake Drop - Pit Bull.
- Q Most used phrase
A Fo'sho!
- Q Something you are good at but few know about
A Gymnastics.

PLAYER Profiles

WEXFORD



COLLEEN ATKINSON (25): Branch Manager
KAREN ATKINSON (22): Student
ROSE-MARIE BREEN (29): Primary Teacher
ÁINE CODD (29): Engineer
DEIRDRE CODD (23): Quality Control Analyst
LOUISE CODD (23): Nurse
MAGS D'ARCY (21): Student
JOSIE DWYER (24): Garda
JEAN HAYDEN (26): Nurse
MICHELLE HEARNE (28): Primary Teacher
BERNICE HOLOHAN (29): Secondary Teacher
LENNY HOLOHAN (29): Primary Teacher
HELENA JACOB (27): Accountant
URSULA JACOB (23): Student
FIONA KAVANAGH (24): Fund Accountant
KATE KELLY (29): Business Dev Manager

MAG KELLY (27): Beauty Therapist
NOELEEN LAMBERT (26): Quality Assurance Supervisor
MARY LEACY (23): Student
UNA LEACY (21): Student
GEORGINA MOORE (21): Student
CAROLINE MURPHY (25): Factory worker
SÍONA NOLAN (21): Special Needs Assistant
AOIFE O'CONNOR (30): Medical rep
CLAIRE O'CONNOR (28): Primary Teacher
MICHELLE O'LEARY (29): Primary Teacher
CATHERINE O'LOUGHLIN (25): Engineer
KATRINA PARROCK (18): Student
EVELYN QUIGLEY (27): Primary Teacher
STACEY REDMOND (20): Student
CIARA STOREY (19): Student

CORK



MICHELLE BROWNE (21): Student
RENA BUCKLEY (22): Physiotherapist
SÍLE BURNS (23): Physiotherapist
BRIEGE CORKERY (22): Stone Mason
ORLA COTTER (21): Student
DENISE CRONIN (20): Student
EMER DILLON (25): Pharmacist
JENNY DUFFY (26): Camogie Dev Officer
CATRÍONA FOLEY (22): Student
ANNA GEARY (22): Student
LUCY HAWKES (21): Student
SARA HAYES (27): Laboratory Analyst
JENNIFER LYNCH (18): Student
KATRINA MACKAY (17): Student
PAMELA MACKAY (17): Student
RACHEL MOLONEY (27): Nutritionist

MARION MURPHY (22): Student
AOIFE MURRAY (25): Quantity Surveyor
JOANNE O'CALLAGHAN (26): Business Development Rep.
LYNDA O'CONNELL (28): Accountant
GEMMA O'CONNOR (24): Defence Forces
MARY O'CONNOR (32): Camogie Dev Officer
UNA O'DONOGHUE (27): Food Analyst
EMER O'FARRELL (27): Marketing
CHRISTINE O'NEILL (19): Student
ELAINE O'RIORDAN (26): Student
EIMEAR O'SULLIVAN (21): Student
ORLA O'SULLIVAN (29): Accountant
AMANDA O'REGAN (27): Teacher
EIMEAR WHITE (20): Student
JULIA WHITE (18): Student



Cill Chainnigh

Dubh agus Omra

(1) CATRIONA RYAN C. Ni Riain Tullagher			
(2) LEANN FENNELLY L. Ni Fhionnlaigh Mullinavat	(3) CATHERINE DOHERTY C. Ni Dhochartaigh St. Anne's	(4) JACQUI FRISBY S. Ni Fhriosaigh Ballyhale Shamrocks	
(5) ELAINE AYLWARD L. Ni Aighleart Mullinavat	(6) AMY BUTLER A. de Bhuitléir Mullinavat	(7) LIZZIE LYNG E. Ni Longáin The Rower-Institute	
(8) COLLETTE DORMER C. Ni Dhuidhíarma Paultown	(9) ANN DALTON A. Ni Dholtáin (Capt.) St. Lachlain's		
(10) EDWINA KEANE E. Ni Chatháin St. Martin's	(11) DENISE GAULE D. Nic an Gaill Windgap	(12) KATIE POWER C. de Paor Piltown	
(13) MICHELLE QUILTY M. Ni Chaoilte Mullinavat	(14) THERESE MULDOWNNEY T. Ni Mhaoldomhnaigh St. Brigid's	(15) AOIFE NEARY A. Ni Náraigh James Stephens	
(16) Emma Staunton E. Ni Staunton Paultown	(20) Aoife Fitzpatrick A. Nic Giolla Fhadaigh St. Lachlain's	(24) Kate McDonald C. Nic Dhomhnaill Thomastown	(28) Edel Maher E. Ni Mheachair St. Anne's
(17) Ann Marie Phelan A. M. Ni Fhaoilín Windgap	(21) Aisling Dunphy A. Ni Dhoonchaill St. Brigid's	(25) Kelly Ann Cotterell C. A. Nic Choitreal Tullagher	(29) Siobhán Murphy S. Ni Mhurchú Tullagher
(18) Marie O'Connor M. Ni Chonchúir St. Lachlain's	(22) Deirdre Delaney D. Ni Dhobhshláine St. Lachlain's	(26) Aine Fahy A. Ni Fhathaigh Emeralds	
(19) Claire Aylward C. Ni Aighleart Mullinavat	(23) Keava Fennelly C. Ni Fhionnlaigh Ballyhale Shamrocks	(27) Eimear Lyng E. Ni Longáin The Rower-Institute	

Roghndáir: Ann Downey, Paul Murphy, John Lonergan.

Gaillimh

Marúin agus Bán



(1) SUSAN EARNER S. Ni Shoolaiagh Eyrecoort			
(2) REGINA GLYNN R. Ni Ghloinn Athenry	(3) AIBHE KELLY A. Ni Cheallaigh Devits	(4) THERESE MANTON T. Ni Mhantáin Mullagh	
(5) ANN-MARIE HAYES A. M. Nic Aodha Kilmar	(6) SINÉAD CAHALAN S. Ni Chathaláin (Capt.) Mullagh	(7) NIAMH KILKENNY N. Nic Giolla Chainnigh Peases	
(8) SANDRA TANNION S. Ni Thanaidheáin St. Thomas'	(9) LORRAINE RYAN L. Ni Riain Kilimordaly		
(10) BRENDA HANNEY B. Ni hAnnaigh Kilmar	(11) THERESE MAHER T. Ni Mheachair Athenry	(12) JESSICA GILL J. Nic an Ghaill Athenry	
(13) VERONICA CURTIN V. Ni Chuirín Kivara	(14) ORLA KILKENNY O. Nic Giolla Chainnigh Peases	(15) AISSLIN CONNOLLY A. Ni Chongailte Castlegar	
(16) Róisín Callanan R. Ni Callanáin Kivara	(20) Emma Kilkelly E. Ni Giolla Cheallaigh Kivara	(24) Deirdre Burke D. de Búrca St. Thomas'	(28) Niamh McGrath N. Nic Craith Sarsfields
(17) Clodagh Glynn C. Ni Ghloinn Kilmar	(21) Catriona Cormican C. Ni Chormaicín Cappataggle	(25) Aoife Lynskey A. Ni Laingáigh Ardahan	(29) Paula Kenny P. Ni Chionnaith Eyrecoort
(18) Aine Hillery A. Ni hEighleart Peases	(22) Molly Dunne M. Ni Dhuinn Eyrecoort	(26) Sarah Donoghue S. Ni Dhoonchá Athenry	(30) Louise Kavanagh L. Nic Chaoimhnaigh Devits
(19) Brenda Kerins B. Ni Chéirín Athenry	(23) Sinéad Keane S. Ni Chatháin Kivara	(27) Sarah Noone S. Ni Nuáin Ahascragh	

Roghndáir: Liam Donoghue (Bainisteoir); Anne Broderick, Declan Walsh.
Traenálaí: Seán Crowe, John McGuire.



Loch Garman

Corcora agus Ór

(1) MAGS D'ARCY M. Ni Dhorchai St. Martin's			
(2) DEIRDRE CODD D. Nic Óda Duffry Rovers	(3) CATHERINE O'LOUGHLIN C. Ni Lochlainn Manager-Boalavogue	(4) CLAIRE O'CONNOR C. Ni Chonchubhair Rathmore	
(5) ÁINE CODD Á. Nic Óda St. Martin's	(6) MARY LEACY M. Ni Laitheasa Oulart-The Ballagh	(7) AOIFE O'CONNOR A. Ni Chonchubhair (Capt.) Rathmore	
(8) CAROLINE MURPHY C. Ni Mhurchú Ferns St. Aidan's	(9) MICHELLE O'LEARY M. Ni Laoire Rathmore		
(10) UNA LEACY U. Ni Laitheasa Oulart-The Ballagh	(11) ROSE-MARIE BREEN R. M. Ni Bhroáin Manager-Boalavogue	(12) KATRINA PARROCK C. Ni Pharóg St. Ibar's-Shelmalier	
(13) URSULA JACOB U. Iacob Oulart-The Ballagh	(14) KATE KELLY C. Ni Cheallaigh St. Ibar's-Shelmalier	(15) JOSIE DWYER S. Ni Duibhir Ferns St. Aidan's	
(16) Helena Jacob L. Iacob Oulart-The Ballagh	(20) Noeleen Lambert N. Laimbeart St. Martin's	(24) Siona Nolan S. Ni Nialláin Manager-Boalavogue	(28) Mag Kelly M. Ni Cheallaigh St. Ibar's-Shelmalier
(17) Michelle Hearne M. Ni hEatháin St. Ibar's-Shelmalier	(21) Karen Atkinson C. Ni Aidicín Oulart-The Ballagh	(25) Clara Storey C. Ni Stóirí Oulart-The Ballagh	(29) Colleen Atkinson C. Nic Aidicín Oulart-The Ballagh
(18) Bernie Holohan B. Ni hUallacháin Rathmore	(22) Evelyn Quigley E. Ni Choigligh Rathmore	(26) Jean Hayden S. Ni hEideáin Rathmore	(30) Fiona Kavanagh F. Coimhínach Buncloy
(19) Lenny Holohan L. Ni hUallacháin Rathmore	(23) Louise Codd L. Nic Óda Duffry Rovers	(27) Georgina Moore S. Ni Mhóira Ferns St. Aidan's	

Roghndáir: Stellah Sinnott (Bainisteoir); Alan Aherne (Leas-Bhainisteoir);
Noel Ryan, Ann Reddy. Traenálaí: Eddie Flynn.

Corcaigh

Dearg agus Bán



(1) AOIFE MURRAY A. Ni Mhuiri Cloughduv			
(2) JOANNE O'CALLAGHAN S. Ni Cheallaigháin Cloughduv	(3) CATHRIONA FOLEY C. Ni Fhoghlú Rockán	(4) RENA BUCKLEY R. Ni Bhualacháin Inniscarra	
(5) JENNY DUFFY S. Ni Dhufaigh St. Finbarr's	(6) MARY O'CONNOR M. Ni Chonchúir Killeagh	(7) SARA HAYES S. Ni Aodha Courcy Rovers	
(8) BRIEGE CORKERY B. Ni Chorra Cloughduv	(9) ORLA COTTER O. Nic Coitir St. Catherine's		
(10) EMER DILLON E. Ni Dhiolún Ballygarvan	(11) GEMMA O'CONNOR G. Ni Chonchúir St. Finbarr's	(12) UNA O'DONOGHUE U. Ni Dhoonchá Cloughduv	
(13) SÍLE BURNS S. Ni Bhroáin Rockán	(14) EMER O'FARRELL E. Ni Fhearáil Sarsfields	(15) RACHEL MOLONEY R. Ni Mhaoldomhnaigh Courcy Rovers	
(16) Emer White E. de Faoite Barryroe	(20) Lucy Hawkes L. Hawkes Valley Rovers	(24) Katrina Mackey C. Ni Mhaca Douglas	(28) Orla O'Sullivan O. Ni Shuilleabháin St. Finbarr's
(17) Lynda O'Connell L. Ni Chonáil St. Finbarr's	(21) Elaine O'Riordan E. Ni Riordáin Millard	(25) Denise Cronin D. Ni Chroinín Ballincollig	(29) Christine O'Neill C. Ni Néill Courcy Rovers
(18) Anna Geary A. Ni Ghadhra Millard	(22) Amanda O'Regan A. Ni Riagáin (Capt.) Douglas	(26) Julia White S. de Faoite Douglas	(30) Michelle Browne M. de Bhroáin Mallow
(19) Pamela Mackey P. Ni Mhaca Douglas	(23) Eimear O'Sullivan E. Ni Shuilleabháin Ballincollig	(27) Marion Murphy M. Ni Mhurchú Kilbrittain	

Roghndáir: Denise Cronin, Glen Rovers (Bainisteoir); Lillian Zinkant, Sarsfields;
Michael O'Regan, Douglas. Traenálaí: Frank Flannery, Carrigtwohill.

A Little Bit of Fun!

Jenny DUFFY (Cork)

Q Biggest influence on your career
A Mam and Dad, my brother Colm and my cousin Janice.

Q Best moment in camogie

A Winning first county final with my club, the Barrs, in 2006.

Q Skort or togs?

A Skorts show off my great legs better!

Q Player who brings most fun to panel

A Lynda O'Connell and her psychedelic hair bands.

Q Transfer market - what player would you bid for?

A Sinéad O'Connor - got to keep the boss sweet.

Q Favourite holiday destination

A New Zealand, hopefully some day.



Q Ideal fantasy date

A A late night puck around in Croke Park with Marty Morrissey.

Q Male or female guest of honour at camogie All-Stars?

A Katie Taylor, she never gets enough recognition.

Q Team/panel song

A Don't have one! Thank God with our crows.

Q Most used phrase

A 'Haven't a clue'.

Q Something you are good at but few know about

A Washing up, no-one ever sees me do it but it always gets done!

Ursula JACOB (Wexford)

Q Biggest influence on your career
A My family - especially my mother Breda and father Michael.

Q Best moments in camogie

A Winning the Senior All-Ireland in '07, winning the Ashbourne Cup '09, and winning my first Senior county title with my club, Oulart-The Ballagh.

Q Skort or togs?

A Definitely togs!

Q Player who brings most fun to panel

A Colleen Atkinson - because she smiles no matter what!

Q Transfer market - what player would you bid for?

A Ann Dalton and/or Gemma O'Connor.



Q Favourite holiday destination

A Dubai.

Q Ideal fantasy date

A Hugh Jackman

Q Male or female guest of honour at camogie All-Stars?

A Male of course - Rob Kearney/Kieran McGeeney.

Q Team/panel song

A We are the girls from Wexford

Q Most used phrase

A Can we go shopping?

Q Something you are good at but few know about

A I make a great chocolate cake!

PLAYER Profiles

KILKENNY



CLAIRE AYLWARD (22): Teacher
ELAINE AYLWARD (25): Bank Official
AMY BUTLER (22): Trainee Accountant
KELLY ANN COTTERELL (22): Student
ANN DALTON (21): Student
DEIRDRE DELANEY (24): Sales rep.
CATHERINE DOHERTY (28): Purchaser
COLLETTE DORMER (20): Student
AISLING DUNPHY (17): Student
ÁINE FAHY (21): Student
KEEVA FENNELLY (22): Student
LEANN FENNELLY (19): Student
AOIFE FITZPATRICK (24): Employment Support Specialist
JACQUI FRISBY (24): Accounts Assistant
DENISE GAULE (18): Student

EDWINA KEANE (18): Student
EIMEAR LYNG (27): Teacher
LIZZIE LYNG (26): Social Worker
EDEL MAHER (24): Student
KATE McDONALD (18): Student
THERESE MULDOWNNEY (22): Trainee Social Worker
SIOBHÁN MURPHY (24): PE Teacher
AOIFE NEARY (24): Cardiac Technician
MARIE O'CONNOR (25): Garda
ANN MARIE PHELAN (20): Student
KATIE POWER (19): Student
MICHELLE QUILTY (19): Student
CAITRÍONA RYAN (26): Accountant
EMMA STAUNTON (17): Student

GALWAY



DEIRDRE BURKE (23): Student
SINÉAD CAHALAN (22): Teacher
RÓISÍN CALLANAN (21): Student
Psychiatric Nurse
AISLINN CONNOLLY (23): Marketing specialist
CATRÍONA CORMICAN (20): Student
VERONICA CURTIN (28): Teacher
SARAH DONOGHUE (24): Trainee Solicitor
MOLLY DUNNE (21): Student
SUSAN EARNER (22): Teacher
JESSICA GILL (19): Receptionist
CLODAGH GLYNN (21): Student
REGINA GLYNN (26): Human Resources
BRENDA HANNEY (23): Chemical Engineer
ANNE-MARIE HAYES (24): Teacher

ÁINE HILLARY (30): General Manager
LOURDA KAVANAGH (27): Accountant
SINÉAD KEANE (23): Accountant
AILBHE KELLY (26): Physiotherapist
PAULA KENNY (20): Garda
BRENDA KERINS (25): Medtronic employee
EMMA KILKELLY (23): Insurance
NIAMH KILKENNY (19): Student
ORLA KILKENNY (25): Teacher
AOIFE LYNSEY (30): Teacher
THERESE MAHER (27): PA
THERESE MANTON (20): Student
NIAMH McGRATH (16): Student
SARAH NOONE (20): Student Nurse
LORRAINE RYAN (19): Student
SANDRA TANNION (28): Sports Physio

Cork and Kilkenny to contest Gala All Ireland senior final on September 13

Kilkenny 1-13

Galway 1-11

A GOAL in the fourth minute of injury time from substitute Marie O'Connor sensationally propelled Kilkenny into the Gala All Ireland senior camogie final following their pulsating two-point win over hot-favourites Galway at Nowlan Park today (Sat). Ann Downey's charges never gave up despite falling behind by five points early in the second half - now they are contesting the All Ireland final which will be their first appearance in Croke Park since 2001. Powerful play by Colette Dormer and Ann Dalton in the middle of the field, kept Kilkenny in the hunt, with Jacqui Frisby and Elaine Aylward superb in defence. Aylward's surging runs put tremendous pressure on the Galway rearguard. Eventually, it was Aylward who parted to O'Connor for the winning goal.

Incidentally when Kilkenny last won the All Ireland championship in 1994, current manager Ann Downey was captain.

Scorers for Kilkenny: A Neary 0-5 (0-3 frees, 0-2 45), M O'Connor 1-1, D Gaule 0-3, K Power 0-2, A Dalton, M Quilty 0-1 each.

Scorers for Galway: O Kilkenny 1-0, T Maher and A Connolly (0-2 frees) 0-3 each, V Curtin and B Hanney 0-2 each, J Gill 0-1.

Kilkenny: C Ryan; L Fennelly, C Doherty, J Frisby; E Aylward, A Butler, L Lyng; C Dormer, A Dalton (Capt); E Keane, D Gaule, K Power; M Quilty, T Muldowney, A Neary.

Subs: M O'Connor for M Quilty, A Dunphy for T Muldowney (both 43 mins).

Galway: S Earner; R Glynn, A Kelly, T Manton; A M Hayes, S Cahalan (Capt), N Kilkenny, S Tannion, L Ryan; B Hanney, T Maher, J Gill; V Curtin, O Kilkenny, A Connolly.

Subs: C Glynn for L Ryan (48), C Cormican for J Gill (49), S Donoghue for O Kilkenny (57), A Hillary for S Tannion (58).

Referee: C Egan (Cork).

Cork 2-13

Wexford 1-10

CHAMPIONS Cork are back in their eighth consecutive final following their six-point victory over National League champions Wexford in Nowlan Park. Although having played with the elements they trailed the Slaneysiders 1-5 to 0-6 at the break - the Wexford goal coming in the 19th minute from Ursula Jacob.

Cork were a different outfit in the second half with Brieghe Corkery and Orla Cotter storming into the action from midfield. When Corkery broke through for Cork's goal, they were on level terms, 1-8 apiece.

An Emer O'Farrell green flag at the three quarter stage was the impetus the Rebels needed, eventually helping them to run out deserving victors.

Scorers for Cork: R Moloney 0-7 (frees), B Corkery 1-1, E O'Farrell 1-0, O Cotter, G O'Connor, U O'Donoghue, S Burns and K Mackey 0-1 each.

Scorers for Wexford: U Jacob 1-2, K Kelly 0-4 (0-2 frees, 0-1 45m), K Parrock 0-2, C Murphy and R M Breen 0-1 each.

Cork: A Murray; J O'Callaghan, C Foley, R Buckley; J Duffy, M O'Connor, S Hayes; B Corkery, O Cotter; E Dillon, G O'Connor, U O'Donoghue; S Burns, E O'Farrell, R Moloney.

Subs: L O'Connell for J Duffy (22 mins), J White for E Dillon (28), K Mackey for E O'Farrell (54), E O'Sullivan for U O'Donoghue (62).

Wexford: M D'Arcy; D Codd, C O'Loughlin, C O'Connor; Á Codd, M Leacy, A O'Connor (Capt); C Murphy, M O'Leary; U Leacy, R M Breen, K Parrock; U Jacob, K Kelly, J Dwyer.

Subs: L Holohan for C Murphy (45).
Referee: U Kearney (Armagh).

YOUTHFUL KILKENNY TO MEET REBELS

Monday, 17 Aug 2009



With one third of their team still under the age of 20, Kilkenny threw the form book out of the window on home ground on Saturday when they ousted hot-favourites Galway in a fascinating Gala All Ireland senior camogie semi-final at Nowlan Park. They are back in Croke Park next month for the first time since 2001.

Entering the fourth minute of injury time and her side trailing by two points, outstanding wing back Elaine Aylward parted to substitute Marie O'Connor who blasted an unstoppable shot to the right corner of the net to give her team the lead for the first time. A minute later Katie Power sealed the deal with her point to give the Black and Amber a sensational victory, 1-13 to 1-11.

Key to this win was Kilkenny's unyielding spirit. Even though they never led last year's beaten All Ireland finalists until added time they were able to claw back a five-point difference. Galway were in front 0-9 to 0-7 at the interval. Therese Maher and Aislinn Connolly amassing six points between them.

However, after the changeover Galway's back line was under pressure as the Cats were making of the most of the wind. They looked to be weathering the storm though with captain Sinéad Cahalan and Regina Glynn turning over a lot of ball. And when full forward Orla Kilkenny opened up a five point lead following her goal on 38 minutes it appeared Galway was on its way.

Unbelievably, the Maroon and White only scored one more point as Kilkenny tightened up. Jacqui Frisby was powerful at corner back while Collette Dormer and skipper Ann Dalton worked tirelessly at midfield. Points from minor Denise Gaule and Aoife Neary cut the margin to two. And when Neary picked out O'Connor, her point reduced the deficit to one.

Brenda Hanney increased Galway's lead as the Tannoy announced four minutes of injury time. Then came the drama with O'Connor firing past Susan Earner, and then amidst tremendous excitement Power stretched the gap with her fine point. Incidentally the last time the Cats won the O'Duffy Cup in 1994 they were captained by current manager Ann Downey.

In the second semi-final, also at Nowlan Park, champions Cork overturned a half-time shortfall of 1-5 to 0-6 to go on and triumph over National League holders Wexford, 2-13 to 1-10. The Slaneysiders were full value for their interval advantage holding the upper hand in vital sectors. Leaving Cert student Katrina Parrock was impressive in the half forward line and it was her shot which was initially saved by Aoife Murray that was eventually finished to the net by Ursula Jacob on 19 minutes.

However, and probably after a stern telling off from manager Denise Cronin, Cork emerged a different team for the second 30 minutes. Playing into the wind, they had to survive a tough opening five minutes before finding top gear themselves.

The lion-hearted Brieghe Corkery roared into action. Her surge forward on 40 minutes which yielded Cork's first goal levelled matters, 1-8 apiece. Three minutes later following good work by Rachel Moloney and sub Julia White, Emer O'Farrell whipped home their second goal.

From there to the end the Rebels outscored Wexford four points to two to qualify for a remarkable eighth consecutive final appearance.

Aug 2009

O'Connor blasts Cats to final

ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE SEMI-FINAL

Jim O'Sullivan Nowlan Park	
Kilkenny.....	1-13
Galway.....	1-11

TWELVE times a winner herself over the course of a glittering career shared with her twin sister, Ann Downey's delight in taking Kilkenny back to the Gala All-Ireland senior camogie final after a lapse of seven years is tempered by the awareness of what her young team faces on September 13.

"It's absolutely great to get to play in Croke Park, to run out on to the pitch. That's the first thing and after that, it's winning!"

She was speaking after a dramatic semi-final victory in Nowlan Park on Saturday, achieved with a winning goal in the fourth of six minutes of added time, in circumstances Galway manager Liam Donoghue found difficult to come to terms with.

The irony is that the Westerners won in similar fashion at the same stage there against Wexford 12 months ago. It led the Kilkenny boss to remark: "Galway now know how Wexford felt," she commented.

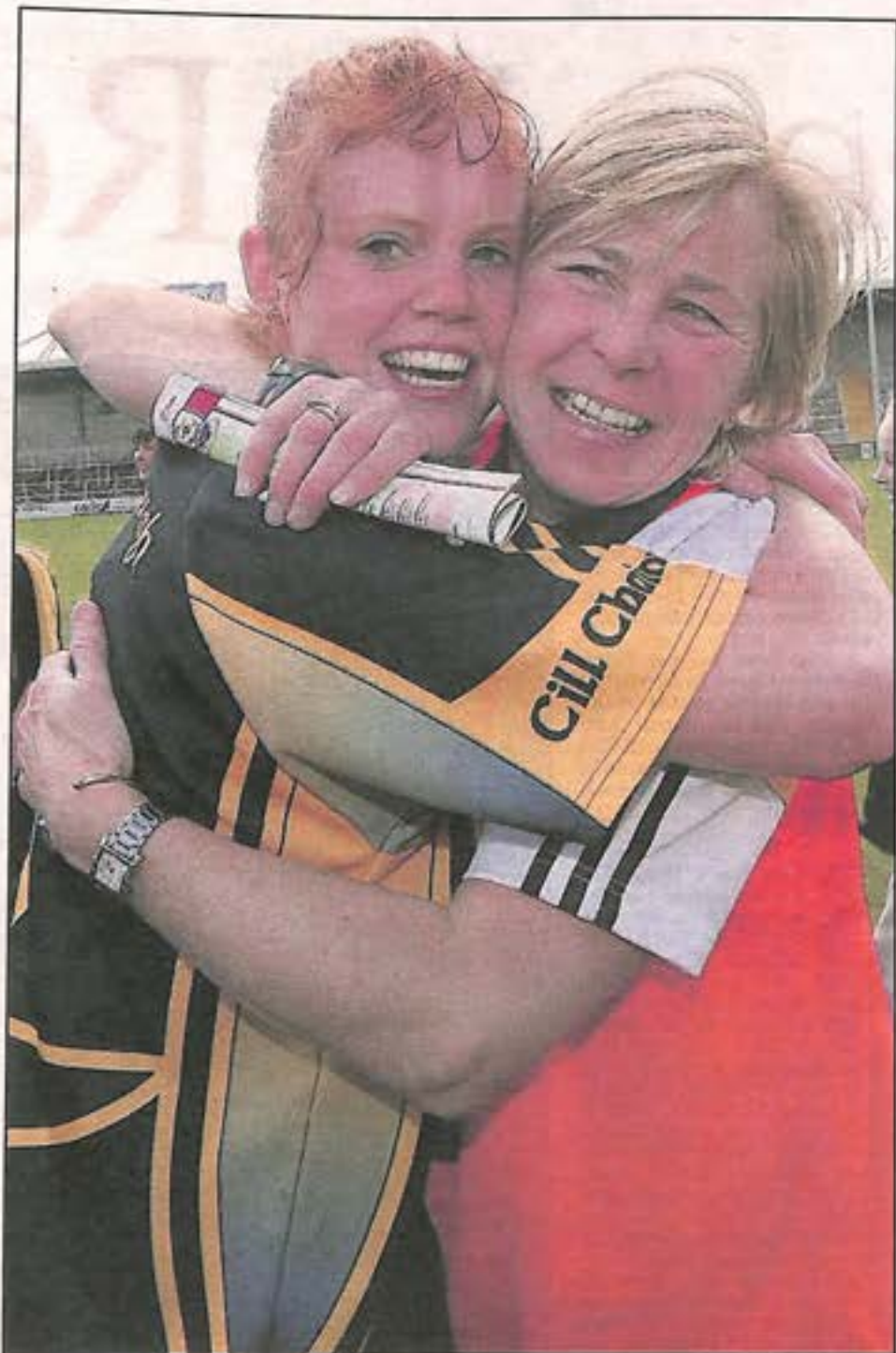
Said Donoghue: "I still can't believe it, to be honest. I really thought our preparation was spot on. But over the 60 minutes if you don't take your chances you are going to leave the opposition in it — and that's what we did today."

With Kilkenny hopes boosted by a fourth consecutive minor title success recently, the belief that they could win this game (articulated by Downey afterwards) seemed to be justified by their success in limiting Galway to a two-point lead at half time (0-9 to 0-7) after they had played against the wind. On the other hand, it might have been a different story if goalkeeper Catriona Ryan had not brought off a double save from Veronica Curtin and Orla Kilkenny, in turn, minutes before the interval.

Interestingly, while her team maintained a strong challenge, Downey felt they could be even more competitive, stating: "Galway had done a lot of the hurling. We had to step up to the mark. We didn't in the first half. In the second half we certainly did."

To Galway's credit, they also lifted their standard on the resumption and while lucky not to concede a goal (to Edwina Keane) in the 32nd minute, they were to be denied by another fine save by the 'keeper from Curtin shortly afterwards.

However, while they had the ball in the net in the 38th minute, they were to go without another score until



CELEBRATION TIME: Kilkenny's Collette Dorner and manager Ann Downey show their joy at the final whistle.
Pictures: Lorraine O'Sullivan

three minutes from the end of normal time. But, they still managed to remain in the lead through that period, largely as a result of some outstanding defensive play. Team captain Sinead Cahalan excelled at centre-back and — at a time when just two points separated the sides — she made a vital intercept when Kilkenny seemed certain to goal.

They again lived dangerously when substitute Marie O'Connor pointed for Kilkenny in the 57th minute when she should have put the

ball in the net and when Brenda Hanney produced an overdue Galway point after some bad misses, there was every chance that they would survive. And they would have, but O'Connor did not make the same mistake from a gilt-edged chance in the 64th minute.

Wing-back Elaine Aylward, who made the opening, explained: "The ball broke and there was only one option. Marie was free inside and no better woman to put it away."

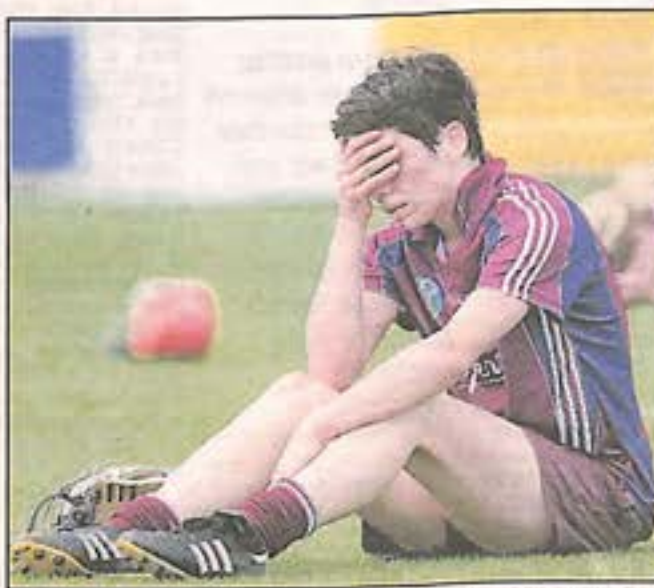
O'Connor, last year's captain, was

thrilled with the opportunity to compensate for her earlier error. And she was just as complimentary. "Elaine has been brilliant all year; she's a driving force there in the half-back line."

Scorers for Kilkenny: A. Neary 0-6 (0-5 frees, 0-1 '45); M. O'Connor 1-1; D. Gaule (0-2 frees) and K. Power 0-2 each; A. Dalton and M. Quilty 0-1 each.

Galway: O. Kilkenny 1-0; T. Maher and A. Connolly (0-1 free) 0-3 each; V. Curtin and B. Hanney 0-2 each; J. Gill 0-1.

KILKENNY: C. Ryan; L. Fennelly, C.



BROKEN DREAMS: Galway's Therese Manton and Aoife Neary battle for possession (top), while below Galway's Ann-Marie Hayes is crestfallen at the final whistle.

Doherty, J. Frisby; E. Aylward, A. Butler, L. Young, C. Dorner, A. Dalton (capt.); E. Keane, K. Power, T. Muldowney, M. Quilty, D. Gaule, A. Neary.

Subs: A. Dunphy for Quilty and M. O'Connor for Frisby (43); A. Fahy for Muldowney (59).

GALWAY: S. Eamer; R. Glynn, A. Kelly, T. Manton, A.M. Hayes, S. Cahalan (capt.), N. Kilkenny, S. Tannion, L. Ryan, B. Hanney, T. Maher, J. Gill; V. Curtin, O. Kilkenny, A. Connolly.

Subs: C. Glynn for Ryan (48); C. Cormican for Gill (54); A. Hilary for Tannion (58).

Referee: Cathal Egan (Cork).

Late O'Connor goal key as Kilkenny shock Rebels

CAMOGIE

KILKENNY threw the form book out the window on Saturday when they ousted favourites Galway in their Gala All Ireland senior camogie semi-final at Nowlan Park.

Substitute Marie O'Connor shocked the Tribeswomen in the fourth minute of injury-time when she combined with half-forward Elaine Aylward before firing an unstoppable shot past Galway keeper Susan Eamer to give Kilkenny a one-point lead.

A minute later, Katie Power

pointed as the Black and Amber signalled their intent. Galway were ahead 0-9 to 0-7 at the interval, however, with Therese Maher and corner-forward Aislinn Connolly racking up six points between them.

But Kilkenny came out refreshed after the break and Galway's back line came under pressure as the Cats made the most of the wind.

Galway looked to be weathering the storm with captain Sinead Cahalan and Regina Glynn on form and when full-forward Orla Kilkenny opened up a five-point lead following her goal on 38 minutes, it appeared they were on their way.

Points from minor Denise Gaule

and Aoife Neary cut the margin to two, however and when Neary picked out O'Connor, her point further reduced the deficit to one.

Brenda Hanney then increased Galway's lead at the end of normal time with a well-taken point.

Kilkenny saved the best for last though with O'Connor firing past Eamer before Power stretched the gap to clinch victory for the Cats.

Incidentally, the last time Kilkenny won the O'Duffy Cup in 1994 they were captained by current manager Ann Downey.

Meanwhile, in the second semi-final, also at Nowlan Park, champions Cork overturned a half-

time deficit of 1-5 to 0-6 to triumph over National League holders Wexford, 2-13 to 1-10.

Cork played into the wind in the second half and had to endure a tough opening five minutes before they finally hit top gear.

Briege Corkery's surge forward on 40 minutes yielded Cork's first goal and levelled matters at 1-8 apiece.

Three minutes later, following good work by Rachel Moloney and sub Julia White, Emer O'Farrell whipped home their second goal.

From there to the finish it was all Cork as they outscored Wexford four points to two to qualify for their eighth consecutive final appearance.



O'Connor: Late winning goal

Kilkenny and Cork roll back the years.....

Did you know.....

The last time Cork and Kilkenny met in an All Ireland final was in 1995. Denise Cronin captained the Rebels to a 4-8 to 2-10 victory. The Kilkenny side included Ann Downey – both players are now managers of their respective teams.

Kilkenny have not qualified for the All Ireland final since 2001 – that year they shipped a heavy defeat to Tipperary, 4-13 to 1-6. Emily Hayden was the Tipp skipper.

1994 was the year Kilkenny won their last All Ireland – none other than Ann Downey was their captain that year.

Five of the Kilkenny 15 that started against Galway on Saturday are under the age of 20.

Cork, remarkably, are appearing in their eight consecutive All Ireland final.

1985 -1991 Kilkenny dominated the All Ireland series claiming seven-in-a-row. Are we about to see a repeat?

Ann and Angela Downey have 12 senior All Ireland medals each.

Two of Cork's players – Mary O'Connor and Jenny Duffy are Camogie Development Officers.

Rachel Moloney is Cork's top scorer with 0-20. Emer O'Farrell is next with 5-1.

Aoife Neary is Kilkenny's main scorer with 0-19.

Cork remain unbeaten in this season's Gala All Ireland championship.

Marie O'Connor who came on as a sub and scored Kilkenny's crucial goal is a niece of Bridie McGarry who starred with the Cats during the 70s/80s.

Cork and Kilkenny have emerged from the same group to qualify for their date with destiny on September 13.

Offaly and Waterford (for the first time) will join Cork and Kilkenny in Croke Park next month. They contest the junior final. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the first All Ireland final played in Croke Park.

Let's have a more in-depth look at how Kilkenny threw the form book out of the window on home ground on Saturday to knock hot-favourites Galway out of the Gala All Ireland senior championship.

Entering the fourth minute of injury time and her side trailing by two points Kilkenny looked to be saying goodbye to their championship hopes. Most punters said it would take another year for this young side to leave their mark. The Cats had other ideas.

Outstanding wing back Elaine Aylward parted to substitute Marie O'Connor who blasted an unstoppable shot to the right corner of the net to give her team the lead for the first time. The big crowd were awe-struck when a minute later Katie Power sealed the deal with her point to give the Black and Amber a sensational victory, 1-13 to 1-11.

Key to this win was Kilkenny's unyielding spirit. Even though they never led last year's beaten All Ireland finalists until added time they were able to claw back a five-point difference. Galway were in front 0-9 to 0-7 at the interval. Therese Maher and Aislinn Connolly amassing six points between them. And the favourites were looking good.

However, after the changeover Galway's back line came under pressure as the Cats were making of the most of the wind. They looked to be weathering the storm though with captain Sinead Cahalan, Ailbhe Kelly and Regina Glynn turning over a lot of ball. And when full forward Orla Kilkenny opened up a five point lead following her goal on 38 minutes it appeared Galway was on its way.

Unbelievably, the Maroon and White only scored one more point as Kilkenny tightened up. Jacqui Frisby was powerful at corner back while Collette Dormer and skipper Ann Dalton worked tirelessly at midfield. Points from All Ireland minor medallist Denise Gaule, and Aoife Neary cut the margin to two. And when Neary picked out O'Connor with the clock ticking down, her point reduced the deficit to one.

Brenda Hanney increased Galway's lead and it seemed like normal business was resuming. But the Tannoy announced four minutes of injury time – the respite brought a welcome sigh from the home following. Then came the drama with O'Connor firing past Susan Earner who moments earlier had picked up an injury but bravely stayed on, and then amidst tremendous excitement Power stretched the gap with her fine point.

The second semi-final was always going to be a hard act to follow with what had preceded it. Yet, we started out with the National League champions taking the game to Cork. The All Ireland champions were forced to overturn a half-time shortfall of 1-5 to 0-6 to go on and triumph over Wexford, 2-13 to 1-10.

The Slaneysiders were full value for their interval advantage holding the upper hand in vital sectors. Leaving Cert student Kartrina Parrock was impressive in the half forward line and it was her shot which was initially saved by Aoife Murray that was eventually finished over the line by Ursula Jacob on 19 minutes.

However, and probably after a stern telling off from manager Denise Cronin, Cork emerged a different team for the second 30 minutes. Playing into the wind, they had to survive a tough opening five minutes before finding top gear themselves. Wexford moved 1-8 to 0-7 ahead, but Cork were able to up the gears.

The lion-hearted Brieg Corkery roared into action. Her surge forward on 40 minutes which yielded Cork's first goal levelled matters, 1-8 apiece. Three minutes later following good work by Rachel Moloney and sub Julia White, Emer O'Farrell whipped home their second goal.

From there to the end the Rebels outscored Wexford four points to two and in the final quarter there was really only the one team in contention. So, now it is Cork and Kilkenny – some clash to look forward to!



Well Connected Camogie and Hurling

Limerick, Tipperary, Galway and Waterford hurlers feature here today. All four counties have camogie teams in the news. There are also some interesting sporting connections. The Waterford junior team qualified for the Gala Junior All Ireland and play Offaly on September 14th in Croke Park. Last Tuesday evening Limerick defeated Waterford in the Minor B Final in Mallow. Two goals scored by Naomi Carroll in injury time gave the Shannonsiders a one point victory in a thrilling finish. Patricia Jackman put in a huge performance for Waterford, scoring 1.8. Limerick wing back Judith Mulcahy, who captained the side, is daughter of former Limerick camogie player Vera and hurler Ger. She is granddaughter of the late John Mackey, Limerick star full forward of the thirties. Her sister Niamh is one of the best young stars in the game, another sister Clare was a member of the last Limerick side to win an All Ireland. Sarah Carey wore the number six jersey emulating her famous hurling dad, Ciarán. She is granddaughter of Phil Bennis, another former hurler. Carrie Campbell's father, Christy and Katie Brosnan's uncle Davy Riordan also wore the Green and White.

The Gala Intermediate Championship is at semi-final stage; Cork play Derry while Tipperary play Galway. Tipperary Manager is Eoin Brislane, Toomevara and former Tipperary player Siobhán Ryan, who captains the side, is daughter of Munster Council delegate John. Geraldine Stapleton is sister to Tipperary senior panellist Thomas and minor Brian. Noreen Flanagan is daughter to the late John, a colourful and talented player who died long before his time. Denise Ryan's dad, Dinny, won an All Ireland with Tipp in 1971. Nichole Walsh is grand daughter of Sean Kenny, rated as one of the best forwards to wear the Blue and Gold. Aoife McLoughney is daughter of two-times All Star hurling goalkeeper Pat. Siobhán O'Neill is daughter of former Tipp County Chairman Paul.

Siobhán Burke is sister to former Tipperary minor and U21 player Derek. Remember Joe



Left: Sarah Carey pictured with her father Ciarán Carey. Sarah was a member of the winning Limerick team that captured the All Ireland Minor B Camogie title last Tuesday evening beating Waterford in a nail-biting final.



Above from (l-r): Clodagh, Niamh and Orla McGrath who were all members of the Galway All Ireland Winning U16 team earlier this summer.

Cooney? One of Galway's finest hurlers of the modern era; son Joseph plays on the Galway minor team today. His daughter Maria is a very promising camogie player, she played on the U 14 Galway team this year. Maria Breheny a member of the Galway All Ireland U16 winning team is sister to John who is also on the minor team. The talented McGrath sisters, Niamh, Clodagh and Orla who played on that U16 side, are daughters of another great hurler Michael "Hopper" McGrath. Their mother Geraldine was no slouch on the playing fields either. She played Camogie for Galway and was an international hockey player. Eldest daughter, Niamh made her senior debut for Galway recently in the Gala Championship against Clare.

By the time this programme is being read, the Gala senior All Ireland finalists will be known. Reigning champions Cork played 2007 champions Wexford, Galway and Kilkenny met in the other semi final yesterday. I urge all Gaelic supporters from the competing counties to travel to Croke Park and support camogie. We want to encourage supporters to come and see all three fixtures, the Gala junior and senior finals and the Bord Gáis U21 hurling final.

Joan O'Flynn, President of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael, went to San Francisco recently to attend the Continental Youth Games. While many participating in this festival of Gaelic Games have Irish heritage, a vast number have no Irish ancestry. As part of the GAA Coaching and Development Plan for North America, an introduction to Gaelic Games is now part of the primary schools programme in some states.

I look forward to two great games to day, naturally hoping for a Tipperary victory. If we win today we'll think about the Cats then! Not only did their senior and minor hurlers win last Sunday, the Kilkenny minor camogie team retained the All Ireland title in impressive style.

Aug 2009

CORK WEXFORD

2-13 1-10

All-Ireland Senior Camogie semi-finals

A BRACE of second-half goals saw Cork qualify for their eighth Gala All-Ireland senior final in succession at Nowlan Park yesterday. Breige Corkery and Eimear O'Farrell bagged decisive goals as Cork turned on the style in second half.

Wexford played against a stiff wind in the opening 30 minutes, but this failed to deter them as they led by 1-5 to 0-6 at the interval, with Ursula Jacob netting their goal.

However the Rebels bounced back on the restart, with Rachel Moloney accurate from frees, while Sile Burns, Una O'Donoghue and

Gemma O'Connor also added scores. Scorers — Cork: R Moloney (5), 1-45; 0-8; B Corkery 1-1; E O'Farrell 1-0; O Cotter, S Burns, U O'Donoghue, G O'Connor 0-1 each; Wexford: U Jacob 1-2; K Kelly (2-45, 1f) 0-4; K Parrock 0-2; C Murphy 0-1; RM Breen 0-1.

KILKENNY GALWAY

1-13 1-11

A GOAL from Kilkenny sub Marie O'Connor after 64 minutes sent last year's beaten finalists out of the championship at Nowlan Park yesterday. Galway drew first blood in this game and led by 0-6 to 0-2 after 14 minutes, with Therese Maher hitting three early points. The Westerners showed good form on the restart, with Orla Kilkenny netting. However Kilkenny overcame a five-point deficit with Aoife Neary and O'Connor instrumental.

Scorers — Kilkenny: A Neary (5f) 0-5; M O'Connor 1-1; D Gaule 0-3; K Power 0-2; A Dalton, M Quilty 0-1 each; Galway: A Connolly (3f), T Maher 0-3 each; O Kilkenny 1-0; B Hanney, V Curtin 0-2 each; J Giff 0-1.



Cork's Rachel Moloney is put to the test by Deirdre Codd and Aine Codd of Wexford during their Gala Senior Camogie Championship semi-final at Nowlan Park in Kilkenny on Saturday. Picture: Lorraine O'Sullivan

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