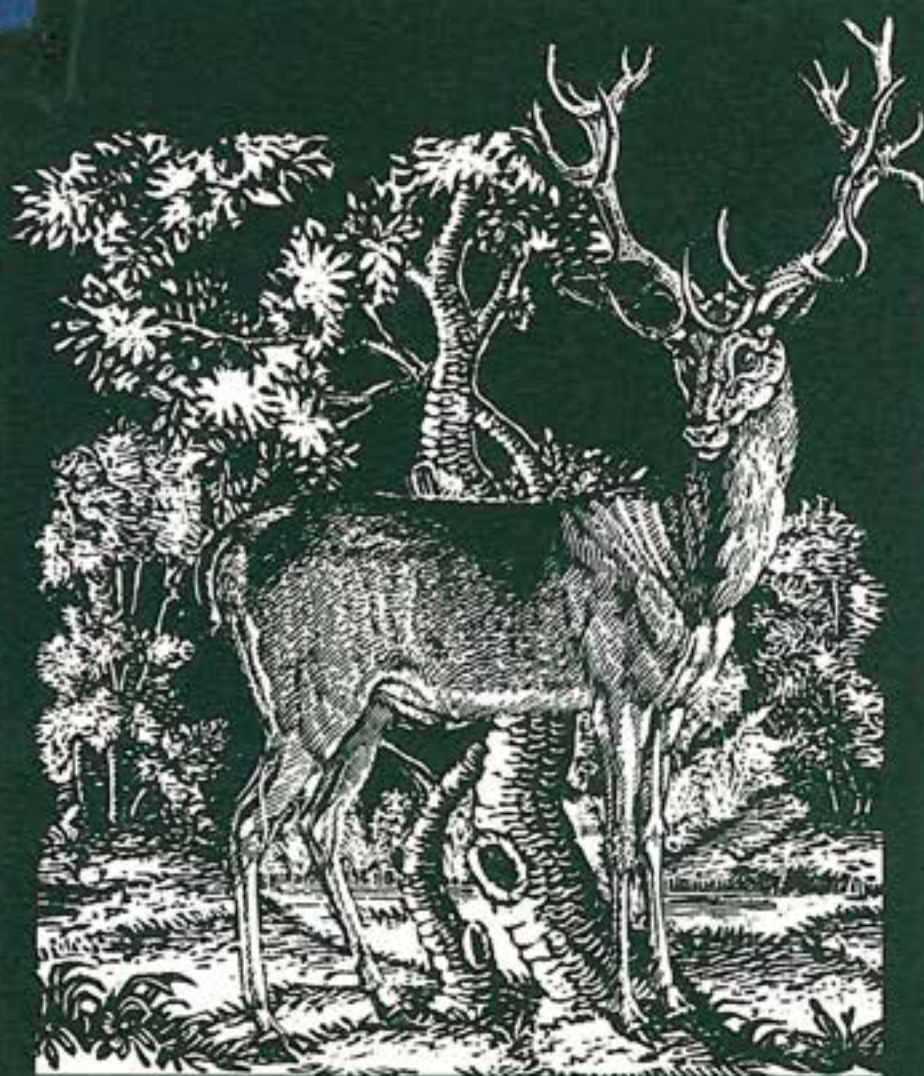


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Corcaigh
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Foras i Gaeilge

Tiobraid Árann
Gorm agus Órga



1 Córa Ni Cheocháin Cora Keohane Barryroe	2 Denise Ni Chroínín Denise Cronin Glen Rovers	3 Eithne Ni Dhuagáin Eithne Duggan Bishopstown	4 Mairéad Ni Fhinn Mags Finn Fr. O'Neill's	5 Siobhán Ni Cheallaigh Suzanne Kelly Toomevara	6 Sinéad Ni Nialláin Sinéad Nealon Burgess	7 Béibhíonn Ni Earchal Vivienne Harris, Bishopstown Captain	8 Eimile Ni Eideáin Emily Hayden Cashel	9 Aingéal Nic Diarmada Angela McDermott Knockavilla Kickhams	10 Sinéad Ni Cheallacháin Sinéad O'Callaghan Bishopstown	11 Fiona Ni Dhrisceoil Fiona O'Driscoll Fr. O'Neill's	12 Caoimhe Ni Arrachtáin Caoimhe Harrington Newtownshandrum	13 Elaine de Búrca Elaine Burke Valley Rovers	14 Ciara Ni Éalaithe Ciara Healy Bishopstown	15 Úna Ni Dhonnchú Úna O'Donoghue Cloghdun	16 Gráinne Ni Sheanacháin Gráinne Shanahan, Toomevara	17 Siobhán Ni Ráin Joanne Ryan, Drom and Inch	18 Niamh Ni Earcáin Niamh Harkin, Drom and Inch	19 Deirdre Ni Aodha Deirdre Hughes Toomevara	20 Clár Ni Ghruagáin Claire Grogan Templemore
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Ionadaithe	Bainisteoir
16. Gearóidín Ni Chathasaigh Geraldine Casey, Inniscarra	Tomás Nott
17. Paula Ni Chonchubhair Paula O'Connor, Newtownshandrum	(Tom Nott)

Ionadaithe	Bainisteoir
16. Laoighse Ni Ráin Louise Ryan, Holycross	Micheál Ó Cléirigh
17. Méadhbh de Stóc Méadhbh Stokes, Cashel	(Michael Cleary)

Double proves Tipperary are a force to be reckoned with

TIPPERARY'S star-studded camogie team have clearly outstripped the county's hurlers in winning big matches in Croke Park. They managed a double record in sparkling manner by retaining the All-Ireland senior title they won for the first time last year and by beating Cork for the first time in the history of the game.

Tipperary's joy was augmented by a match of superb quality that never flagged, consistently producing the code's great skills before a crowd of 12,880.

It was unquestionably a day on which the profile of the game soared and many players produced moments of individual brilliance.

The heroes were many and were largely assembled in a Tipperary side of outstanding quality and drive. Len Gaynor, the former Tipperary manager and All-Ireland winner, was first to congratulate his daughter Ciara on her stunning display at centre half back.

Linda Mellerick was one of the top Cork stars and was under no illusions as to where the game was won and lost. Her summing up was frank: "We were beaten in all sectors of the pitch. They were fitter, our League win over them didn't matter one bit, they were confident and strong."

Tipperary's win was built on a blistering start which yielded two goals by dynamic

Pat Roche reports

Tipperary 2-11
Cork 1-9

full forward Deirdre Hughes of Toomevara. "It was a dream start for them and one we could ill afford," said Mellerick.

Fiona O'Driscoll had opened Cork's account after just 35 seconds with a pointed free, but Hughes' double strike quickly undermined Cork's confidence.

Hughes was quickly on to a sideline cut by Emily Hayden before netting off a post for the opening goal after four minutes. Within two minutes she palmed the ball to the Cork net to finish off an astute Claire Grogan centre. Grogan, at 14, is believed to be the youngest player to figure in an All-Ireland senior final and her contribution was immense.

It got even worse for Cork who spent the remainder of the match trying to catch up but with little prospects of succeeding against a Tipperary back line powered by goalkeeper Jovita Delaney, Suzanne Kelly at right back, Úna O'Dwyer at full back and Sinéad Nealon and Gaynor.

Up front, Philly Fogarty and Catriona Hennessy were dynamic on the wings to

complement the work of Emily Hayden and Angela McDermott in the middle.

Tipperary manager Michael Cleary believes his side can improve: "They still have not hit top gear," he said.

Cleary, the former Tipperary attacker and now the most successful of camogie managers, said: "The good start gave us confidence and belief in what we can do but, as I have said, they are not at their best yet and I say this from judging what I see in the training sessions."

"Temperament and quality are their two main assets," said Cleary of his squad. "They are also not in the least bit cocky or arrogant."

Ciara Gaynor said: "We were nervous last year and felt we had to get back here and prove how good we are and we had to prove it to ourselves. This time we forgot about the nerves and let the hurling do the talking. Every one of us was brilliant and that's why we won."

Cork had talented performers in Denise Cronin at right corner back, Mary O'Connor at centre back, Vivienne Harris at left half back, Mellerick in midfield and attack leader Fiona O'Driscoll. But the trouble for them was the lack of space they were given by Tipperary.

Cork's goal was badly needed but it came too late. Úna O'Donoghue supplied it

'We were nervous last year and felt we had to get back here and prove how good we are. This time we forgot about the nerves and let the hurling do the talking. Every one of us was brilliant and that's why we won'

— Ciara Gaynor

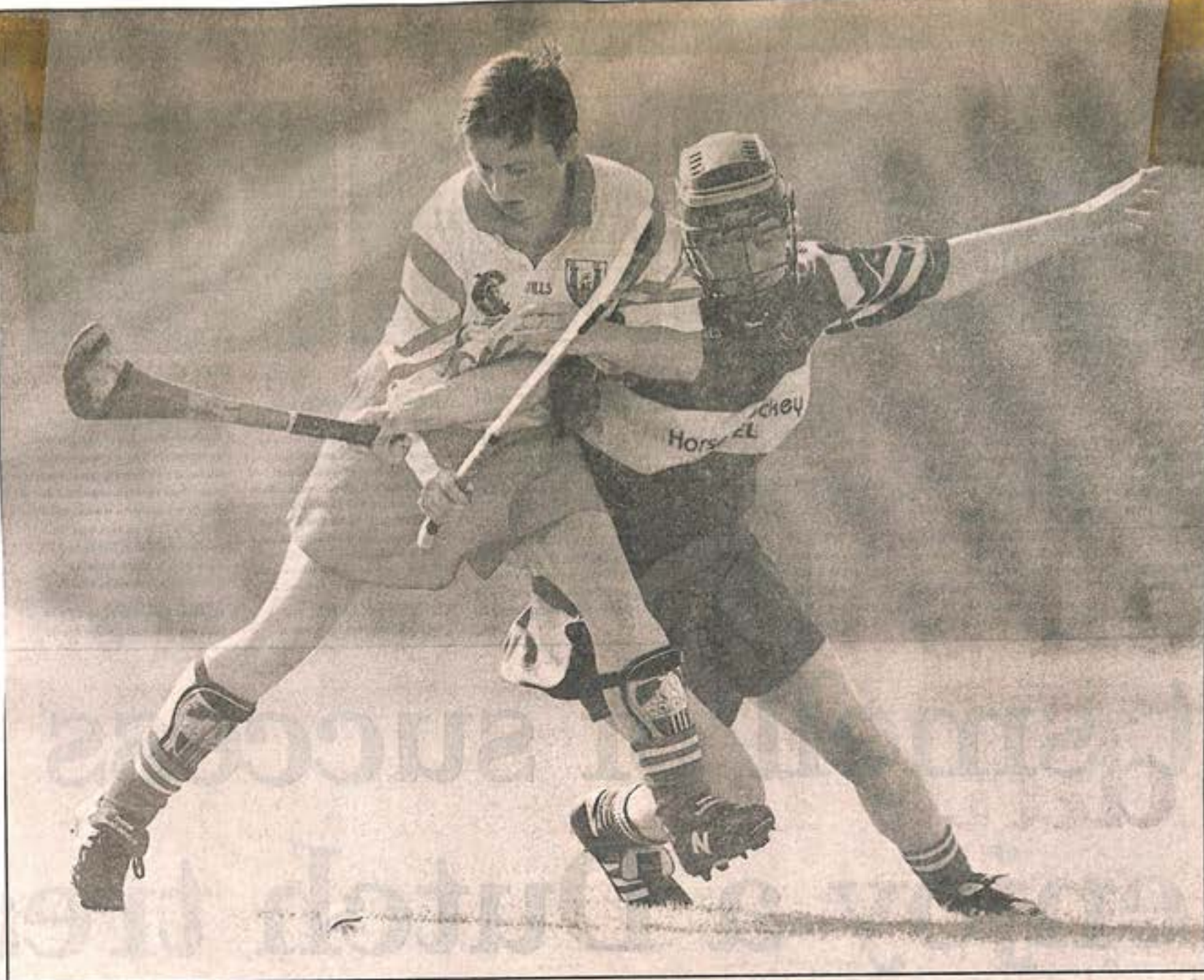
but it only nibbled at Tipperary's confidence. Moments earlier Denise Cronin darted up from left corner back to threaten the Tipperary defence and only got a point for her effort.

Following that early burst by the champions, Grogan hit the point of the match to stretch Tipperary's lead to 2-5 to 0-4 by half-time.

TIPPERARY: J. Delaney; S. Kelly, U. O'Dwyer, C. Madden; S. Nealon, C. Gaynor, T. Brophy, E. Hayden, A. McDermott; P. Fogarty (5-1), N. Kennedy, C. Hennessy (2-2), three frees; E. McDonnell (0-2), D. Hughes (2-2), C. Grogan (0-2).
CORK: C. Keoghane, D. Cronin (0-1), E. Duggan, M. Finn; S. Hayes, M. O'Connor, V. Harris, U. Troy, L. Mellerick; S. O'Callaghan (0-2), F. O'Driscoll (0-4, two frees), C. Harrington; E. Burke (0-1), C. Healy, U. O'Donoghue (1-1). Subs: P. O'Connor for Harrington, M. Burke for P. O'Connor.
Referee: A. Denham (Dublin).

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A RIGHT OLD TUSSLE... Cork's Mags Finn and Tipperary's Cairiona Hennessy battle for possession at Croke Park yesterday

Pic: Brendan Moran/Sportsfile

Tipp's early blast guns down Rebels

TIPPERARY.....2-11
CORK.....1-9

NOW the rabbit is definitely out of the hat. Camogie is cool, classy, cultured and even sophisticated. That was the undisputed evidence from yesterday's Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior final at Croke Park.

And it's as clear as spring water that Tipperary, who were winning their second title, are the new Queens of the sport. They just dazzled the sun-splashed crowd of 12,880 with majestic skills.

They were ultra sharp in all departments, and they could have easily have added to their handsome winning margin as they secured their first-ever Senior victory of any sort over Cork.

And nobody was more impressed with their manner of victory than Tipp manager Michael Cleary, who twice won the McCarthy Cup with Tipperary.

CHARACTER

"I have to take my hat off to them," said Cleary. "They have so much to admire in their character, and they are never cocky or arrogant. I'm just chuffed to be associated with them."

"The girls were so fresh and hungry, but I feel the best is yet to come. As a team we haven't hit top gear yet, but today they just oozed class."

After the final whistle, former Tipp manager Len Gaynor made his way onto the pitch to hug daughter Ciara, while up in the stand, Munster Council official Donie Nealon played every ball as he watched his daughter Sinead. Two very proud sons of Tipp.

And the future looks even brighter for Tipp, who only won their first

By NIAL SCULLY

All-Ireland last season. In attack they had 14-year-old Claire Grogan, who scored two lovely points.

In goal they had Captain Fantastic, Jovita Delaney, who made several splendid saves, and she was protected by a wonderful defence in which Una O'Dwyer and Therese Brophy were outstanding.

Midfielder, Angie McDermott delivered some telling possession into a talented attack which was led by full-forward, Deirdre Hughes.

It was Hughes who scored Tipp's two goals within the opening six minutes, and, according to boss, Cleary, the sound start was crucial.

"It gave the girls confidence, and

having never beaten Cork before, it injected the belief that we could do it. And the fact we beat Cork means as much as winning the All-Ireland itself," declared Cleary.

And with good reason. The Rebels were seeking their 20th crown, but they never recovered from the blistering opening.

Cork, who beat Tipp by three points in the League Final last May, were on the scoreboard within 35 seconds when Fiona O'Driscoll converted a free.

Yet, in the third minute, as Tipp attacked Hill 16, a soaring shot from Hughes on the right surprised even herself when it dipped just inside the far post.

And she found the target again within three minutes when Grogan's pass saw

the quick-thinking Hughes palm the sliotar to the net, giving Tipp a 2-0 to 0-1 lead. Tipperary were excelling at this stage, and their forwards, who showed pace and craft aplenty, gave Cork a torrid time. When Cork did create some promise, they were quickly snuffed out.

Philly Fogarty, Emer McDonnell and Hughes finished off some sparkling approach work from the champions, who were ahead by 2-4 to 0-2 on 17 minutes.

Cork, stirred by efforts of captain Vivienne Harris, did make more of an impact in the latter stages of the first-half, which saw them behind by 2-5 to 0-4 at the recess.

BRIGHTLY

Cork needed to begin brightly on the restart to test their opponents morale, but, within its first three minutes, a free from Cairiona Hennessy and another point from McDonnell further deflated the Leesiders.

And when Cork did manage to carve openings, Delaney was inspired between the sticks as she made four top-class saves as Cork's hopes began to fade quickly.

On the hour, when all hope had gone, O'Donoghue's firm strike at last saw Delaney beaten, but at that stage, the Tipp folk were already thinking of the homecoming.

SCORERS - Tipperary: D Hughes 2-2, C Hennessy 0-4 (45), E McDonnell and C Grogan 0-2 each, P Fogarty 0-1. Cork: U O'Donoghue 1-1, F O'Driscoll 0-4 (3), S O'Callaghan 0-2, E Burke, D Cronin 0-1 each.

TIPPERARY - J Delaney, S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, C Madden, S Nealon, C Gaynor, T Brophy, E Hayden, A McDermott, P Fogarty, N Kennedy, C Hennessy, E McDonnell, D Hughes, C Grogan.

CORK - C Keane, D Grogan, E Duggan, M Finn, S Hayes, M O'Connor, V Harris, U Troy, L Moller, J Kelly, S O'Callaghan, F O'Driscoll, C Harrington, E Burke, C Healy, U O'Donoghue. Subs: P O'Connor for Harrington, M Burke for P O'Connor.

REF - A Derrim (Dublin)

Derry gain sweet revenge

DERRY.....3-15 **CORK.....1-13**

DETERMINED Derry, coached by former Antrim hurler Dominic McKinley, produced a brilliant display to win the All-Ireland junior camogie title for the third time at Croke Park yesterday and in the process avenged last year's final defeat by the Leesiders.

Captained by Aileen Tohill, a sister of Anthony, Derry were in stunning form from the off and they compiled a half-time lead of 2-12 to 1-3.

Totally dominating possession, Derry had a razor sharp forward unit, which contained Paula McAtamney, who finished with eight points, six of them coming from the placed ball.

Derry's first goal arrived on 13 minutes with a super angled effort from Karen Rafferty, and a minute later, Mary O'Kane prodded in the second.

By NIAL SCULLY

Cork's improvement was notable on the resumption, but they depended too much on Jennifer O'Leary, who scored a remarkable 11 points, eight from frees.

Yet Derry, while not as commanding as in the opening period, remained firmly in control and Aileen O'Kane's late goal enhanced a very comfortable and rewarding success for the Oak Leaf.

SCORERS - Derry: P McAtamney 0-6 (15), K Rafferty 1-2, M O'Kane 1-1, A O'Kane 1-0, A Tohill 0-2, S McCaul, A O'Loughlin 0-1 each, Cork: J O'Leary 0-11 (25), E O'Neil 1-0, E Dillon, A O'Regan 0-1 each.

DERRY - A O'Leary, S McEneaney, G Maguire, B McIner, C McDonald, C Doherty, S Convery, S McCaul, A O'Loughlin, A Tohill, P McAtamney, A Kealey, C McNicholl, M O'Kane, K Rafferty. Subs: C Scully for McDonald, M Mulholland for McIner, A O'Kane for Kealey.

CORK - O O'Callaghan, S Buckley, J O'Callaghan, A Keleher, S Convery, E Dillon, C O'Donnell, V O'Keefe, M O'Connell, K Corkery, Aine O'Regan, J O'Leary, E O'Neil, Amanda O'Regan, L Murphy. Subs: M Ennis for O'Keefe (19), I Dineen for O'Neil, J O'Sullivan for Murphy.

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★ RUNNING BATTLE: Deirdre Hughes with Eithne Duggan of Cork while (below) Jovita Delaney lifts the All-Ireland prize

TIPP HIP HOORAY



TIPPERARY goalkeeper Jovita Delaney revelled in her captain's role at Croke Park yesterday in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final as she helped her side retain the O'Duffy Cup.

Delaney performed heroics throughout the second-half to keep Cork at bay and her team ahead.

She was untroubled for most of the first-half as the Premier County girls dominated proceedings to open up a seven-point interval lead, helped mainly by two Deirdre Hughes goals.

But the Rebels rallied after the break and, at times, laid siege to Delaney's goal.

Nerve

But captain Delaney, from Holycross, kept her nerve and continued to deny the ever-more frustrated Cork forwards.

Her finest stop came after 35 minutes when Ciara Healy fed Sinead O'Callaghan whose clever flick-on played in Una O'Donoghue in front of goal.

Delaney inspires champs

TIPPERARY	2-11
CORK	1-9
PETER SWEENEY	

The attacker unleashed a mighty shot, but once again Delaney was up to the task.

Her line was finally breached in the 60th and final minute, when O'Donoghue finished off a fine solo effort, but by then it was academic.

"Things just happened to go my way," Delaney said modestly after the game, the coveted trophy still in her hands after claiming only Tipp's second Senior Camogie All-Ireland.

Forwards

"But the bottom line is you won't win matches without scoring and we had forwards who took some great scores today.

"This feels slightly better than last year. It takes a good team to win one, but a great team to come back and do it a second time.

"There were a lot of critics saying this Tipperary team wasn't a great team, but we proved we are by winning two in a row," she said.

PLAYER OF THE MATCH: Jovita Delaney (Tipperary)

TIPPERARY: J Delaney, S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, C Madden, S Nealon, C Gaynor, T Brophy, E Hayden, A McDermott, P Fogarty (0-1), N Kennedy, C Hennessy (0-4), E McDonnell (0-2), D Hughes (2-2), C Grogan (0-2). **WIDES:** 11 (6). **BOOKED:** None. **SENT OFF:** None.

CORK: C Keohane, D Cronin (0-1), E Duggan, M Finn, S Hayes, M O'Connor, V Harris, U Troy, L Mollerick, S O'Callaghan (0-2), F O'Driscoll (0-4), C Harrington, E Burke (0-1), C Healy, U O'Donoghue (1-1). **SUBS:** P O'Connor for C Harrington 41 mins, M Burke for P O'Connor 54 mins. **WIDES:** 4 (4). **BOOKED:** None. **SENT OFF:** None.

PITCH CONDITIONS: Perfect

ATTENDANCE: 12,808

REFEREE: A Derham (Dublin)

JUNIOR/All-Ireland final

Derry's start paves the way

DERRY again proved Cork's bogey team in the All-Ireland junior camogie final when adding to their two previous wins over the Munster champions of 1969 and 1978 at Croke Park yesterday.

Cork, the reigning champions, did not get into the game until the second half. Their first-half performance suggested that having to find a new team at this level after being champions was weighing too heavily on their shoulders.

The first half was dominated by Derry, a more sprightly and aware side in that first 10 minutes. Their second-half display paled

Pat Roche reports

Derry	3-15
Cork	1-13

by comparison and Cork, inspired by Jenny O'Leary in attack, made notable inroads on their heavy deficit.

Cork trailed by 2-12 to 1-3 at half-time but Amanda O'Regan was denied by Aileen Crilly in the Derry goal. Crilly came under most pressure in the second half and had to make a timely advance to hold the Cork

attackers at bay.

Derry had only added two points to their half-time lead and Cork got within five points with over 10 minutes remaining.

Derry substitute Aileen O'Kane relieved the growing anxiety when storming through the Cork cover for a great goal and Paula McAtamney fittingly tacked on a point to complete her 0-11 personal tally.

McAtamney's play in the first half along with that of Shauna McCaul, Anna O'Loughlin, Aileen Tohill, a sister of Derry footballer Anthony, Karen Rafferty and Mary O'Kane did most to set the Ulster

standard-bearers up for victory.

Cork's lack of penetration was reflected in the fact that they could manage only four of their points from play. They depended largely on Jenny O'Leary to keep them in touch with placed balls.

DERRY: A Crilly, S McErlain, G Maguire, B McIvor, C McDonald, C Doherty, S Convery, S McCaul (0-1), A O'Loughlin (0-1), A Tohill (0-2), P McAtamney (0-8 four free, end 45), A Kealy, C Molicholl, M O'Kane (1-1), K Rafferty (1-2). **SUBS:** A O'Kane (1-0) for A Kealy, M Mulholland for Molicholl.

CORK: O O'Callaghan, S Buckley, J O'Callaghan, A Kelleher, S Corkery, E Dillon (0-1), C O'Gorman, V O'Keefe, M O'Connell, K Corkery, A O'Regan, J O'Leary (0-1, nine free), E O'Friel (1-2), A O'Regan (0-1 free), L Murphy, Subst M Ennequess for O'Keefe, J O'Sullivan for F Murphy, I Dineen for O'Friel.

Referee: S O Flindair (Kildare)

Reds get the blues

By JOHN McHALE

john.mchale@eecho.ie

IT was Cork's poor start that cost them victory in the All-Ireland senior camogie final but Tipperary's Jovita Delaney can feel proud of her performance.

Especially in the second half when the captain and goalkeeper denied Cork on at least five occasions.

The Cork team had five girls making their senior debut.

They were slow to settle and Tipperary, well coached by Michael Cleary, were quick to spot weaknesses in the Cork defence.

Their tactic at running at the Cork backs at every opportunity paid off with Tipp's younger legs proving too much for a Cork defence.

Tipperary led 2-2 to 0-1 after 10 minutes with full forward Deirdre Hughes using her size and strength to great effect, scoring the two goals and making life easier for the defending champions.

She struck for the first goal in the third minute and again in the sixth.

However Cork with captain Vivienne Harris and Mary O'Connor finally settled and slowly fought their way back into the game.

They trailed by seven points at the break (0-4 to 2-5).

Tipperary struck over the first two points of the second half, increasing their lead to nine points before Cork had their best spell in the game.

The Leesiders dominated the third quarter of the game but in that time they came up against a goalkeeper on the top of her game.

Tipp captain Jovita Delaney denied Cork on five occasions and her saves from Una O'Donoghue and Paula O'Connor were sensational and played a big part in the outcome of this game.

"In the second half had Cork got a goal or two, which they should have only for our goalkeeper, it would have been a different game and gone right down to the wire," Tipperary coach Michael Cleary said.

Try as hard as Cork did in the second half with Tom Knott making several positional switches, they could not reduce the deficit enough to put Tipperary under pressure.

Tipperary responded with vital points from Claire Grogan and Deirdre Hughes to end this game as a contest before Cork finally got the goal they needed much earlier in the second half.

Una O'Donoghue eventually found a way past Jovita Deleaney but if her goal had come 10 minutes earlier it rather than in the 60th minute it might have been a different story altogether.

"We dominated for a long spell in the second half but just could not score and if we had got a goal early in the second half when we were on top, we would have gone on and won but we didn't and they held on and deserved to win, but it would have been so so different if we could have just got that goal a little earlier," Cork coach Tom Knott said.



FUTILE: Elaine Burke of Cork in action during the final.

How the Cork players rated in the final

CORA KEOHANE: Cora did not have the best possible starts being beaten twice in the opening 10 minutes. Very reliable for the remainder. 7

DENISE CRONIN: Was one of Cork's best defenders over the hour and used her vast experience to great effect. 7

EITHNE DUGGAN: Not Eithne's best ever game in a Cork jersey. She found Deirdre Hughes a real hand full all afternoon but never left her head drop. 6

MAGS FINN: Mags was another Cork defender to suffer early on. Tip's tactics at running at the Fr O'Neills players worked wonders. 6

SARA HAYES: Making her senior debut in an All Ireland final. She settled well and was one of Cork's best players in the second half. 8

MARY O'CONNOR: Mary was her usual dominant self. She made clearance after clearance to set up Cork attacks. 7

VIVIENNE HARRIS: Vivienne suffered heartbreak for the second successive year as Cork captain but she led by example. 7

URSULA TROY: Usually a very dominant force in centre field for Cork with Linda Mellerick but yesterday she was out-played by her opponent. 6

LINDA MELLERICK: Linda has been a star and a saviour for Cork over the years but yesterday she was a pale shadow of her former self. 7

SINEAD O'CALLAGHAN: One of Cork's best attackers on the day. Her runs had the Tipp defence in real trouble all afternoon. 7

FIONA O'DRISCOLL: As always, very effective from frees registering three points from dead ball situations. 7

CAOIMHE HARRINGTON: Not one of her best displays for Cork. She never stopped trying all afternoon to her credit. 6

ELAINE BURKE: Another one of the girls playing in her first final to shine for Cork. She looked lively and dangerous. 7

CIARA HEALY: Found Una O'Dwyer in superb form and struggled to gain a stranglehold in the game. Again she could not be faulted for effort. 6

UNA O'DONOGHUE: Again playing in her first senior final and showed glimpses of brilliance yesterday. 7

PAULA O'CONNOR: Was introduced in the 42nd minute. Found it hard to get into the game and was replaced in the 56th minute without having done anything wrong. 6

MARY BURKE: Not on long enough for rating.

Man of the match

JOVITA DELANEY: The Tipperary goalkeeper and captain led by example and single-handedly broke Cork's hearts in the second half. Four or five super saves to keep her side ahead and in control when Cork were coming strong and forcing their way back into the game.

Turning point

TIPPERARY'S quick start, which saw them score two early goals from full forward Deirdre Hughes in the opening 10 minutes, gave the All Ireland champions the breathing space they needed. Cork could never reduce the deficit of those two goals.

Entertainment value

THIS was a superb game of camogie. It was played at a breath taking pace and the level of skill on display was a joy to witness. Tipperary's excellent start made it very difficult for Cork and as a result we never really got the excitement and drama that the neutrals would have wished for. 7

Referee watch

AINE DERHAM from Dublin had a very poor game. She looked as if she was under instruction to let the game flow at all times. This she did but in the process, she ignored blatant and sometimes dangerous fouls. She was regularly behind the play and generally had a bad day.

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Curtains for Cork as they succumb to Derry

Cork 1-12
Derry 3-15

DERRY gained revenge over Cork in this year's All-Ireland Junior camogie courtesy of a superb first half performance but Cork who fought like champions must surely be looking at where they went wrong.

Quite simply they froze in the first half and Derry took advantage with centre forward Paula McAtamney causing problems for the Cork defence to lead by 12 points at the break (2-12 to 1-3).

In the second half further disaster struck for Cork.

An Aine O'Regan shot for goal rebounded off the cross-

bar and secondly a Marie O'Connell goal was disallowed. If it had stood it would have reduced Derry's lead to just six points with 17 minutes to play.

O'Connell was fouled as she bore down on the Derry goal but referee Sean O'Plondair from Kildare blew for a free as the Cork girl struck home a superb goal which would have brought Cork back into contention.

Derry recovered and a late goal by substitute Aileen O'Kane gave Derry the breathing space they needed and their third junior title and their first since 1978.

Cork deserve credit for reaching the All-Ireland final. Having won this competition

By JOHN McHALE

At Croke Park

last year by beating Derry in a memorable final, Cork were forced to start the defence of their title with a new team based around the successful minor team of 1998.

Over the hour, it is safe to say Derry were the better team. They started in whirlwind fashion and looked as if they were going to wipe the floor with Cork who were in trouble all over the field. They led 2-7 to 0-1 half way through the first half with Cork's best player and the best forward on the pitch Jennifer O'Leary opening Corks account in the 12th minute.

Derry's goals coming from

Karen Rafferty and Mary O'Kane but it was centre forward and ace free taker Paula McAtamney who looked like beating Cork on her own at this stage of the contest.

Quite simply as bad were in the first half, Cork managed to gather their composure at half time and had a different attitude in the second half with Jennifer O'Leary enhancing her reputation with a sensational performance.

She hit 11 points but it was her ability to create points from very little that made her stand out as a star.

She was assisted by Aine Kelleher in full back and by Katherine Corkery and Amanda O'Regan who were the best players on the day.



Derry forward Karen Rafferty scored goals for her team.

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Deirdre Hughes, Tipperary and Eithne Duggan, Cork clash during the All-Ireland senior hurling final.

Picture: INPHO.

We'll be back to win title in 2001

By JOHN McHALE

john.mchale@eecho.ie

WE'RE down but not out. That's the message from the Cork management after Sunday's five point loss to reigning All-Ireland winners Tipperary.

"The better team won on the day. Tipperary got a great start and took their chances when they came their way. When we got our chances in the second half we failed to score," trainer Tom Knott said.

"We had four or five chances to

goal in the second half but their goalkeeper was the man of the match. She was unbeatable and when we did manage to beat her, it was too little too late."

"They were stronger than us and were able to knock our younger players off the ball with ease. They played a smart game. We gave it our best shot on the day. It was not good enough but this team will be back."

"Five of them were playing in their first senior final and the experience will stand to them next year. Last year when we lost to Kilkenny, people said we would not be back but we reached an All-Ireland final and won the league.

Okay we lost and we may lose one or two of the more senior players but there is plenty of talent in Cork and I have no doubt that we will bounce back again next year," Knott added.

Team captain, 21-year-old Vivienne Harris from Bishopstown was shattered by the defeat but also believes the future is bright for Cork camogie.

"This is my second year as captain and I'm disappointed. We put in a lot of hard work during the year and we wanted to be the champions but we lost and all our hard work now counts for nothing," Vivienne Harris said.

"We took about 15 to 20 minutes

to settle down and by that time Tipperary had scored two goals and we were in trouble. I don't seem to be having much luck as captain, do I?" Harris added.

"The future for Cork camogie is very bright. The junior team also reached the final and we had five girls making their senior debut today and that experience will make them better players next year."

"The junior team deserve great credit for reaching the final as they had to start this year with a whole new team and there are some excellent players on that team but right now it hurts and it hurts a lot but we will be back."



Pain of being on losing side

CORK corner back Denise Cronin may have won five All-Ireland camogie medals with Cork but that didn't ease the pain of Sunday's All-Ireland final defeat to Tipperary.

The disappointment she felt at losing to Tipperary was etched on her face after the match.

However, the Glen Rovers' lady gave credit to Tipperary for their win.

"The best team won. We needed to get a quick start against them and we did getting the first point but they responded with two goals. We tried to catch up but were unable to do it," Cronin added.

"Somehow it did not seem right. It felt very strange out there. We just seemed to be struggling and Tipperary were employing the correct tactics by running at us.

"We were not able to cope in the first

half and they took advantage of that."

Cork rallied in the second half and for a 10 minute spell were in control and only five points down but the Tipperary goalkeeper Jovita Delaney was in inspirational form and she denied Cork on five occasions at least.

"Jovita was superb. She stopped everything we threw at her and some of the saves she made were quite spectacular.

"Maybe we went for goals too early but Tipperary were the better side and you have to give them credit for that," Cronin said.

"It takes a huge effort to reach this level year in and year out and its getting harder and harder.

"The injuries and knocks I have taken over the years are starting to catch up with me. Maybe it is time to call it a day," Denise said frankly.

DENISE CRONIN:
The talented Cork player is devastated at losing to Tipperary in the All-Ireland camogie final last Sunday.



Community Games

Under 14 Girls Camogie: 1st. Bellaghy (Derry); 2nd. Mullagh (Galway); 3rd. Millford / Tullyhase (Cork)

Delaney keeps Cork at bay

Tipperary: 2-11

TEAMS: J. Delaney (capt.); S. Kelly, U. O'Dwyer, C. Madden, S. Nealon, C. Gaynor, T. Brophy, L. Hayden, A. McDermott, P. Fogarty, N. Kennedy, C. Hennessy, E. McDonnell, D. Hughes, C. Grogan.
Scorers for Tipperary: D. Hughes 2-2; C. Hennessy 0-4 (0-3 free); C. Grogan and E. McDonnell 0-2 each; P. Fogarty 0-1 each.

Cork: 1-9

TEAMS: C. Keohane, D. Cronin, E. Duggan, M. Finn, S. Hayes, M. O'Connor, V. Harris (capt.); U. Troy, L. Mellerick, S. O'Callaghan, C. Harrington, F. O'Driscoll, E. Burke, C. Healy, U. O'Donoghue.
Subs: P. O'Connor for C. Harrington (41st minute); M. Burke for C. Harrington (56th).
Scorers: U. O'Donoghue 1-1; F. O'Driscoll 0-4 (0-3 free); S. O'Callaghan 0-2; E. Burke and D. Cronin (45) 0-1 each.
Referee: Aine Delham (Dublin).

Jim O'Sullivan

Croke Park

IT was the perfect ending for Tipperary! Winners of the Foras na Gaeilge-sponsored All-Ireland senior camogie title for the first time last year, they celebrated its retention in the sunshine in Croke Park with an historic victory over Cork.

Ultimately, it owed much to the splendour of team captain Jovita Delaney's goalkeeping in the second half, but, the foundations were laid in the first half with two early goals from full-forward Deirdre Hughes.

In between, their more effective teamwork consolidated their advantage as Cork made a brave effort to save the game.

Afterwards, coach Michael Cleary was slow to pick out individuals, but accepted that the goals from his full-forward had an important bearing on the outcome.

"In the second half, had Cork got a goal or two, which they should, it would have gone down to the wire," he commented. "Jovita was outstanding. I would agree."

The game was less than three minutes in motion when Deirdre Hughes had the ball in the net, when an angled free from the right deceived Cork's 'keeper Cora Keohane (who was also to play excellently in the second half).

Three minutes later she got the second, this time from a hand-pass after



Deirdre Hughes of Tipperary holds off Eithne Duggan of Cork in yesterday's All-Ireland camogie final in Croke Park, Dublin.

Picture: Morgan Tracey

14 year-old Claire Grogan (daughter of former Tipperary hurler John Grogan), had crossed after running past two Cork defenders. In that opening phase, the speed of a more youthful Tipperary side was obvious and it was to sustain their

challenge all the way to the finish.

What allowed them to maintain control up to about ten minutes before the break was the strength of their defending, with Len Gaynor's daughter Ciara absolutely superb at centre-back.

Out around centre-field Angela McDermott's pace and strength saw her frequently better the experienced Linda Mellerick and Noelle Kennedy gave good leadership at centre-forward.

Cork were two goals in arrears before

they began a comeback, initiated by team captain's Vivienne Harris' spirited play at left half-back.

In time, Mary O'Connor began to dominate at centre-back while Fiona O'Driscoll, who started on the left wing,

Historic victory as Tipperary double up

began to make progress down the centre. Vivienne Harris might have had a goal in the 23rd minute after a powerful run down the centre, except that her shot lacked power, and afterwards the promising Elaine Burke made an opening but was unable to finish. At the interval, it was 2-5 to 0-4 for the holders.

The second half was more evenly balanced. Tipperary opened with two quick points but Cork, with a re-arranged attack (featuring Sinned O'Callaghan at full-forward) was threatening more. However, progress was limited because of the consistency of the Tipperary backs, with Ciara Gaynor again predominant. Burgess team-mates Sinead Nealon and Therese Brophy supportive on the wings and Una O'Dwyer very strong at full-back.

It meant it was still a struggle for Cork to get scores - with seven points separating the sides in the last 10 minutes.

Jovita Delaney, having saved earlier from Una O'Donoghue, stopped a certain goal from substitute Paula O'Connor, around the same time that Cora Keohane saved from Claire Grogan at the other end.

Tipperary, under a lot of pressure, had lifted the siege to get points from Grogan and Deirdre Hughes (being well marked by Eithne Duggan now).

And, by the time Cork eventually got the ball in the net, with a powerful strike from Una O'Donoghue, the game was as good as over.

In the context of Cork's 20 points victory in the League final two years ago, it represented an achievement for the Tipperary Camogie Board and everybody associated with the team.

Tipp coach marvels at the skills of captain Jovita

by Diarmuid O'Flynn

"IT takes a good team to win the All-Ireland, it takes a great team to win two. There are a lot of critics who doubt this Tipperary team - I think we've proved ourselves today."

Tipperary captain Jovita Delaney wasn't being boastful, simply stating facts, after yesterday's win over Cork in a thrilling All-Ireland camogie final.

A magical display of all the very best skills of camogie/hurling from two excellently-prepared teams, but no better display than from the Tipperary captain herself.

"Five outstanding saves in the last quarter of an hour", marvelled Michael Cleary, the Tipperary coach, "yet Jovita is not even a natural goalie. She's won All-Ireland medals out the field, but was converted last year. Anyone watching today can only marvel at that".

Marvel indeed; marvel also at another virtuoso display, by Jovita's full-back, young Una O'Dwyer.

"The first half wasn't too bad, but in the second half, the ball was coming the whole time. I still felt we had control, but Jovita was absolutely superb in goal".

Back to Jovita again, but this was no one-girl show. One end to the other, this was an outstanding Tipperary team performance.

"I'm chuffed for them", said Cleary. "Cork was a huge psychological barrier for us, and to get over that is fantastic. We played them in the league final, and we outthrew them, same as today, but it was almost like we were afraid to beat them. But as it turns out now, that league final effectively won the All-Ireland final for us. People might be giving me some credit for this, but it's easy to train a bunch with this talent. If I trained a mediocre team to win an All-Ireland, I'd take the plaudits, but this team - they haven't hit top gear yet. When I see what they can do in training, they're still only on the way up".

Two goals within the first five minutes settled this match, more or less. Yes, there was still a lot of hurling to be played, and how it was played, but Cork never recovered from those two Deirdre Hughes body blows.

"We just got a great start, caught them early, and thankfully the two goals went in", said the flame-haired Toomevara native. "But Cork battled back -

whether you're up two points or ten, you know Cork are going to come back at you. So we needed that bit of a lead, and thankfully, we held it to the end. By god we're going to celebrate now - we're going to have a good few months of it again, I can tell ye!".

Once again, centre-back Ciara Gaynor was an outstanding pivot for Tipperary, and for the Dublin-based Garda, this was vindication.

"We needed this for ourselves", she said. "Nobody seemed to give us much credit for last year, but we knew we were worthy champions. Coming up in the bus today, and having the puck around, we were so cool. Last year, we were very nervous. We just came in, did the hurling - let the hurling do the talking. Cork came back at us, but there's no way you're going to dominate a team like Cork for the whole game. We went at them hammer and tongs at the start, but then we probably got a bit tired, and they came back. But we had the scores on the board, and we held those scores. And that was the difference in the end. Last year was brilliant, this year is brilliant - I don't know which is better. It hasn't sunk in yet."

Mellerick shattered but pays tribute to the champions

by Brendan Larkin

IT was a bad day all round for Cork camogie with both their junior and senior teams falling at the final hurdles in their respective All-Ireland Finals at Croke Park yesterday.

Now in the twilight of a great career Linda Mellerick was devastated at Cork's failure to make it a double over Tipp, having beaten them in the league earlier in the year.

"We can have no complaints except perhaps that we didn't play to our potential," said Linda, who will now ponder her future in the game in the coming weeks after 17 years at the top flight.

"It is as one of those days where we were beaten in most sectors of the field and to crown it all we ran up against a Tipperary goalkeeper, Jovita Delaney, who was unbeatable on the day."

"You couldn't fault Tipp, they ran and harassed us all over the pitch and played magnificent camogie. They seemed to have extra players everywhere such was their appetite for the game."

"They got the dream start and we were chasing the game after the two goals went in. It was the one thing we

spoke about in the lead up to the match, not to give them a head start. Unfortunately we did and paid the price."

"We needed a goal early in the second half to have any chance of catching them, but it came too late for us."

"It's bitterly disappointing to lose at any time in an All-Ireland final but not to play well only adds to that disappointment."

Cork coach, Tom Nott, echoed Linda's sentiments by saying they were beaten by a far better team on the day, a team that was hungry for success and that took its chances.

"When we did get to grips with them after conceding the two early goals we missed a couple of chances to get back into the game."

"They got the dream start, but I would like to see the first goal again on TV. I'm not so sure it was a goal, but when you're luck is in teams get those breaks and fair play to Tipp we can have no qualms about the final result. Good luck to them."

Another of Cork's established player, Fiona O'Driscoll, felt the big difference between the teams was Tipperary's goalkeeper.



Tipp's Emer McDonnell bursts past Cork's defence. Picture: Des Barry

Derry get their revenge

Derry 3-15
Cork 1-12

by Brendan Larkin

DERRY atoned in the best possible way for last year's defeat at the hands of Cork by stripping the reigning champions of the All-Ireland junior camogie title in a marvellous final at Croke Park yesterday.

While not wishing to detract one iota from Derry's splendid victory, it has to be put in context. As defending champions Cork were forced to field a complete new team while Derry had all of their 1999 side on duty.

There can't be any complaints about the outcome as Derry has that extra bit of craft and experience, but great credit to the Cork girls who gave the Ulster side a great battle after it looked as if they were going to be annihilated.

The signs looked ominous for Cork from early on. Derry's skill factor was excellent. Strong in key areas of centre-back, midfield, centre and full forward, they streaked into a four point lead inside the opening eight minutes and but for some excellent goalkeeping by goal-

keeper Orla O'Callaghan, Cork might have found themselves further behind.

Eimer Dillon was the only Cork defender offering any worthwhile resistance to the rampant Derry forwards superbly led Paula McAtamney, and it came as no surprise when the Ulster goalied in the 13th minute.

It came after Shauna McCaul's long delivery was caught inside by Karen Rafferty and she shot low to the net. Cork were struggling in most sectors of the field and in the incessant pressure told again two minutes later when Mary O'Kane was on hand to slip home a goal after the Cork 'keeper failed to hold Shauna McCaul's initial effort.

In an effort to shore up the deficiencies in defence, Cork brought Amanda O'Regan from full forward to left corner back but all to no avail as Derry continued to lord it most areas and the 2-12 to 1-3 half-time lead was a true reflection of their superiority.

Credit to Cork for refusing to give up their title without a fight and for 20 minutes of the second half they pinned Derry in their own half. The superb free taking of Jennifer O'Leary - she hit over

six points without reply - cut the deficit in half and Derry were grateful for the defending of full back Grainne Maguire and centre-back Claire Doherty.

Only a premature blow if the whistle denied Cork a goal when the referee called back the play after Marie O'Connell blasted home and awarded them a free instead which Jennifer O'Leary pointed. Cork were on a roll and had the goal stood, there was a chance they'd retain their title.

Derry finally weathered the Cork second half recovery, with a splendid third goal, scored by substitute Aileen O'Kane to cap a marvellous game for both counties.

Scorers - Derry: P. McAtamney 0-08 (0-5 frees, 0-1 45); K. Rafferty 1-2; M. O'Kane 1-1; A. O'Kane 1-0; A. Tohill 0-2; S. McCaul, A. McLoughlin 0-1 each. Cork: J. O'Leary 0-11 (0-7 frees, 0-1 45); K. Corkery 1-0; E. Dillon 0-1.

DERRY: A. Crilly; S. McEneaney, G. Maguire, B. McIvor; C. McDonald, C. Doherty, S. Convery; S. McCaul, A. O'Loughlin; A. Tohill, P. McAtamney, A. Kealey; C. McNicholl, M. O'Kane, K. Rafferty. Subs used, Claire Scullion and Aileen O'Kane. CORK: O'Callaghan; S. Buckley, J. O'Callaghan, A. Kelleher; S. Corkery, E. Dillon, C. O'Gorman; V. O'Keefe, M. O'Connell; K. Corkery, A. O'Regan, J. O'Leary; E. O'Friel, A. O'Regan, L. Murphy. Subs used: M. B. Ennequess, Zelia MacDonnell and Lisa Dineen. Referee: S. Pender (Kildare).



Delighted Derry players celebrate after their superb victory against Cork in the All-Ireland junior camogie final, held at Croke Park yesterday. Picture: Des Barry



Emer McDonnell and Una O'Dwyer enjoy the thrill of victory. In centre is Emer's mother Mary, a native of Cork and sister of former Cork footballer and manager Billy Morgan.

Jovita led by example

By Gerry Slevin

Walking around afterwards, the O'Duffy Cup so much a part of her apparel, JOVITA DELANEY wore the gown of captaincy with credit and distinction. Everyone wanted to talk to her. Not alone was she captain of a great Tipp team, her own performance had earned for her RTE's "Player of the Final" award.

The delight she felt, the emotion of it all almost spilled over as she accepted the trophy from Camogie's President Patricia Rafferty. Then it was on to meet the cheering Tipp fans, family and friends, media personnel intruding, but as always, Jovita was only too willing to oblige.

"It takes a good team to win

What of those pre-interval minutes when the team seemed to lose its shape with Cork coming more into it?

Clara, with a slight smile dawning, said it was more a question of slackening off than allowing Cork to take control.

"We gave it so much in the opening twenty minutes, we put

scarcely talk, shaking her head and merely saying "it's unbelievable".

The contributor of two fine points to Tipp's total, Emer WANTED this victory so that Tipp could get the respect they deserved.

"This team has the ability to do anything and yet though we

Not arrogant, indeed not, no, a confidence based on the workrate of his players and how he saw them prepare, their keenness, their absolute dedication to a cause.

"I told you so" he grinned as I walked across Croke Park to meet him and congratulate him. Yes he told me, as far back as a few days before the Down game. Then, a slight fear of the unknown especially with a long journey north. Clare? Mmm. should take care of them, especially in Semple Stadium. After that Galway.

It was here that the hesitancy set in. Galway, Michael admitted, was the team that worried him most of all. He needn't have worried as things turned out and with Tipp setting about preparing for their second successive All Ireland final appearance, it gave Michael Cleary his best to keep from the panel, his own views on how final day would go.

CATALYST

Looking back to National League final day in Tullamore when Cork won by three points, Michael saw that occasion as the one which was indeed the catalyst for Sunday's victory.

With it, the Tipp mood became more fierce than ever it was, the determination was there to get over the Cork hurdle once and for all and it was so obvious in the way in which the players got down to it that nothing would be left undone to bring that about.

"You know what I think of these girls, if they struck no ball today and were hammered it wouldn't have diminished the

respect I have for them. They have it ability-wise, temperament-wise and above all they have it character-wise. People don't realise what a huge psychological boost it was for them to beat Cork. They never did it before today, and achieving that it just as important as actually winning the All Ireland. A very big bogey was laid here today" said Michael.

Looking back at the game, Michael said the team put in a huge effort for the opening quarter and having dominated so much they got tired.

LOST SHAPE

"It was a matter of re-grouping at half time. But we did lose our shape somewhat. We had Noelle (Kennedy) coming back out for puck outs and it was killing her. Croke Park is big

again now and she was flat out on her feet. We just reverted to the normal game and it paid off. We let everyone stand or fall on their own merits and each of them stood up to it", said a Tipp hurling legend, who in the past fifteen months or so has received a new lease of hurling life through his fruitful association with Ireland's top camogie team.

Without a shadow of a doubt, Tipp's proud position owes so much to the genial "Skipper". The regard in which all players and all behind-the-scenes personnel hold him is so high and speaking to any of the team, his influence on them quickly reveals itself through the way in which they talk about him.

How fortunate indeed is Tipperary camogie.



Angie McDermott prepares to launch a Tipp attack.

I told you so!, says Michael Cleary

by Gerry Slevin: Now it can be revealed! The REAL story, the TRUE story. Tipperary manager/coach MICHAEL CLEARY was as sure as he was ever sure of anything, going to Dublin last Sunday that his camogie charges would retain their title!



Claire Madden (right) flicks the ball away with Therese Brophy (centre) coming in to help.

What a difference a year makes!

By Gerry Slevin

By any standards, by any stretch of the imagination, it is an achievement worthy of inclusion in any book of records.

On September 5th 1999 when Tipperary were winning their first All Ireland senior camogie title, 13 year old Claire Grogan was in Mosney playing in the National Community Games camogie final.

On September 3rd 2000, she was in Croke Park, a vital part of the Tipp team that was retaining its All Ireland title.

What a difference a year makes, indeed!

Claire won't be fifteen until next March and already she has a senior All Ireland medal, something so many players of the past would give anything to have collected.

"A fantastic feeling", the

brisk comment from a girl who seemed to take it all in her stride. Not something of course, she imagined would come her way. A dream, yes, something for the distant future.

As we walked along under the stand, Claire was unaware of the reception awaiting her from the Tipp fans outside. Coolness personified, the Templemore lass was reasonably happy with her own game - she scored two good points and set up Deirdre Hughes' second goal - though she was inclined to chasten herself in that all the chances that might have been availed of, were not.

Still, winning an All Ireland

senior medal at fourteen and contributing to that success in a very meaningful way, made Sunday September 3rd 2000 a day in the life of Claire Grogan she will never forget.

While, a year ago, Claire's mind was very much on her Mosney performance, she did manage to see the All Ireland on television and was well satisfied with what she saw.

But to be there when Tipp were successfully defending their title? The stuff indeed of which dreams are made.

And for good measure Templemore won the Community games title!



Claire Madden effects a clearance.



Tipperary captain, Jovita Delaney raises the O'Duffy Cup surrounded by jubilant fans after Sunday's All-Ireland senior camogie win.

A proud moment for Tipperary captain Jovita Delaney as she lifts the O'Duffy Cup after champions Tipp beat Cork in the All-Ireland senior camogie final in Croke Park last Sunday.

Singing in the rain as city welcomes camogie heroines

By Eamonn Wynne

They were singing in the rain in Cashel last Monday night, when the ancient City of the Kings laid out a royal welcome for Tipperary's victorious camogie team, as they brought the O'Duffy Cup home for the second successive year following their victory over Cork in the All-Ireland Senior Final at Croke Park on Sunday.

It was remarkable that for the second year-in-a-row, heavy rain greeted the arrival home of the camogie heroines.

But nobody seemed unduly bothered by the weather. As County Council Chairman, local Cllr. Tom Wood put it, rain seemed to be a good omen for the Senior Camogie team.

Dr. Dermot Clifford, Archbishop of Cashel and Emly and Patron of the GAA, hoped it would rain on the same night next year and that the team would bring the cup home again.

The damp evening didn't deter the crowds turning out in their droves from all corners of the county, as Cashel was brought to a standstill by a team that has extended its dominance of the country's Senior Camogie Championship for one decade into another.

The attendance included Government Minister Michael Smith, representatives of the clergy and business, and politicians of all shades, including Senator Tom Hayes and Deputy Michael Lowry.

To the tune of

"Champions", young and old alike burst into a spontaneous chant of "Tipperary, Tipperary", when the Diarmuid Hurley Pipe Band led the team through the town on an open-top bus shortly before 10 o'clock. There was a deafening roar when captain, Jovita Delaney, led the players from the bus onto a specially-erected platform in Main Street.

The team had made an earlier pit-stop at Horse and Jockey, en route from Dublin.

The cheering reached a crescendo when Jovita Delaney said that Tipp had gone out with determination and confidence in their ability, and they had shown Cork what Tipperary hurling was all about.

Continued on page 4



Captain of the Tipperary senior camogie panel, Jovita Delaney, holds the O'Duffy Cup aloft following Tipperary's retention of the All-Ireland title by beating Cork at Croke Park on Sunday last. On right is Mairead Martin, chairperson, Foras na Gaeilge, sponsor of the competition.

Hughes Goals Set Up Thrilling Win

By Noel Dundon

Tipperary.....2-11
Cork.....1-9

"It takes a good team to win an All-Ireland - it takes a great team to retain one". The words of Tipperary captain Jovita Delaney aptly describe the feelings after Tipperary's fantastic All-Ireland senior camogie final victory over Cork in Croke Park on Sunday afternoon when a display of sheer power and skill upstaged the Rebels on a truly historic day for the Premier County.

The fact that Tipperary finally beat Cork - the only team they had not managed to overcome since their re-emergence as a camogie force, added significantly to the enormity of their achievement, and what an achievement it was. Winning back-to-back All-Irelands represents achievement beyond the wildest dreams of the camogie players and their mentors and Sunday's display showed exactly why

they are double champions - the last in the second millennium and the first in the third millennium.

Granted Tipperary got a fabulous start to the game with the superb Deirdre Hughes banging in two goals in the first six minutes. Hughes lobbed the ball over the Cork keeper Cora Keohane in the third minute to give Tipperary a great start and when she grabbed a Claire Grogan centre from the sky and sidestepped the tackle and handpassed to the net three minutes later, Tipperary were in the driving seat.

It was an edge that was to remain with the Premier County right through the game and they seldom led by less than six points after the glorious start. That's not to say that they were comfortable right through the game as the chances of a Cork revival were always on the cards and had captain Jovita Delaney not been so magnificent between the posts, the matter could have been entirely different. Delaney made five fine



Tipperary forward Deirdre Hughes (centre) heads goalwards under the watchful eyes of two Cork defenders during the All-Ireland senior camogie final at Croke Park on Sunday last.

saves through the course of the game which certainly kept Cork at bay.

Superb Point

By the end of the first quarter Tipperary had opened up a 2-3 to 0-2 lead with Cathriona Hennessy, Philly Fogarty and Eimer McDonnell all getting on the scoresheet. Cork responded with scores from Fiona O'Driscoll and Elaine Burke. Deirdre Hughes was playing very deep but was still probing all the time in attack. She snatched a lovely score in the 17th minute and by the interval Tipperary were 2-5 to 0-4 in front. Claire Grogan showing maturity beyond her tender years in scoring a brilliant point in the 31st minute having blocked a

defender, regained possession, creating an angle and firing over a super point. The score epitomised the spirit of the Tipperary side.

Cork had come into the game in the second quarter but it did take them some time to settle, the two early goals proving to be unnerving for them. Fiona O'Driscoll and Sinead Callaghan got scores before the break but it was noticeable that Linda Mellerick and O'Driscoll were being kept under wraps by Angela McDermott and Sinead Nealon - these were big plusses for Tipperary. Add to this Ciara Gaynor's dominance at centreback and the superb play of Tipperary's full-back line of Suzanne Kelly, Una O'Dwyer and

Claire Madden - it all pointed to a fine first half from the Premier County.

Cork, being Cork, were never going to sit back and allow Tipperary to take the title the Rebels figured they should have won last year. However, before they realised it, Tipperary were nine in front with Cathriona Hennessy and Eimer McDonnell flashing over scores early in the second half. The Cork revival saw Fiona O'Driscoll, Sinead O'Callaghan and Una O'Donoghue grab scores and Jovita Delaney was forced to save as well from O'Donoghue.

Timely Interceptions

Tipperary though were not going to be caught.

Emily Hayden and Theresa Brophy made some timely interceptions while Una O'Dwyer was like a rock in defence. Further scores from Cathriona Hennessy, Claire Grogan (another brilliant score) and Deirdre Hughes gave Tipperary enough of a cushion to absorb a Cork goal from Una O'Donoghue in the 31st minute.

And so it was two in a row for Tipperary. Credit has to go to Tipperary's selection team of Michael Cleary, Biddy Phillips and Jim Madden who had the squad in top condition. First touches were excellent, players were razor sharp and the speed of play from the top drawer. All of these characters were familiar to Cleary when he was in heyday

with the Tipperary hurlers and he has carried them through to his coaching days as well. Cleary, Phillips and Madden have brought Tipperary light years ahead of where they had been in the past and the rewards have been great.

Tipperary's success is based on the soundness of their defence. Una O'Dwyer has had a fantastic year and flanked by Suzanne Kelly and Claire Madden they have been very dependable in front of the All-Ireland Final Player of the Match, Jovita Delaney. Ciara Gaynor's clearances and defending have been inspirational while Sinead Nealon and the rangy Theresa Brophy made up a very strong halfback line in front of Angela McDermott and Emily Hayden. The midfield pairing provided much of the ammunition for the likes of Hennessy, Hughes, Fogarty and Eimer McDonnell while Noelle Kennedy's workrate was quite notable.

Grogan Wonder

Special mention though has to be made of Templemore's Claire Grogan. She played under-14 with the club and in a senior All-Ireland with Tipperary in the same season. Trying to digest the fact proves extremely difficult but Claire Grogan, the baby of the team, has proved to be a player of tender years with huge maturity. Her remarkable feat will be remembered for some time in camogie circles and many will be hoping that she will be a Tipperary player for many years to come.

Cork were stunned after Tipperary's great start and they never recovered in the game. When Linda Mellerick and Fiona

O'Driscoll were contained Tipperary has scuppered much of the Cork game plan and the Leesiders were struggling. Nevertheless, Sinead O'Callaghan, Mary O'Connor, Vivienne Harris, Mags Finn and Ursula Troy were prominent while Fiona O'Driscoll chipped in with points from frees. Una O'Donoghue too was dangerous in attack but found Jovita Delaney in goals for Tipperary in great form.

Many of the Tipperary and Cork players will do battle again in the Munster club championship as Cashel and Bishopstown are due to clash. Cork's Eithne Duggan, Vivienne Harris, Sinead O'Callaghan and Ciara Healy will meet with Jovita Delaney, Una O'Dwyer, Emily Hayden, Philly Fogarty and Maedbh Stokes in another clash of the titans.

For now though, it's celebration time for the camogie girls. They certainly deserve it.

Scorers

Tipperary - D. Hughes 2-2; C. Hennessy 0-4; C. Grogan, E. McDonnell 0-

2 each; P. Fogarty 0-1.

Cork - U. O'Donoghue 1-1; F. O'Driscoll 0-4; S. O'Callaghan 0-2; E. Burke, M. Finn 0-1 each.

TEAMS

Tipperary - J. Delaney (Cashel); S. Kelly (Toomevara); U. O'Dwyer (Cashel); C. Madden (Portroe); S. Nealon (Burgess); C. Gaynor (Kilruane McDonagh); T. Brophy (Burgess); E. Hayden (Cashel); A. McDermott (Knockavilla Kickhams); P. Fogarty (Cashel); N. Kennedy (Toomevara); C. Hennessy (Drom-Inch); E. McDonnell (Burgess); D. Hughes (Toomevara); C. Grogan (Templemore).

Cork - C. Keohane; D. Cronin; E. Duggan; M. Finn; S. Hayes; M. O'Connor; V. Harris; U. Troy; L. Mellerick; S. O'Callaghan; F. O'Driscoll; C. Harrington; E. Burke; C. Healy; U. O'Donoghue.

Subs - P. O'Connor for Harrington; M. Burke for P. O'Connor.

Referee - A. Derham (Dublin).



Selector Biddy Phillips (left) congratulates Deirdre Hughes following Sunday's victory over Cork in the All-Ireland senior hurling final at Croke Park.



Sean Berkery from Ballinahinch celebrates Tipperary's victory over Cork in Croke Park on Sunday.

CLEARY "SMITTEN" BY CAMOGIE GIRLS

By Noel Dundon

Tipperary coach Michael Cleary admitted that he is smitten with the senior camogie girls of Tipperary.

Speaking in the immediate aftermath of Tipperary's second All-Ireland senior title in two years, the Nenagh man was witnessing euphoria as strains of Slievenamon were being lashed out in the drenching sunshine of Croke Park. Understandably, the hugs and kisses were aimed at the players, the mentors and their families, but Cleary was quick to point out.

"People might be giving me some credit for this, but it's very easy to train a bunch with this amount of talent. If I had trained a mediocre team to win an All-Ireland, I'd take the

plaudits, but this team - they haven't hit top gear yet. When I see what they can do in training - they're still on the way up", said an awestruck and extremely modest Cleary.

All around him, people danced and cheered as the "real" All-Ireland was delivered. Tipperary had beaten Cork, the only side they had not managed to defeat since turning senior a few years ago. "Cork was a huge psychological barrier for us, and to get over that is fantastic. We played them in the League Final and we outthrewed them, same as today, but it was almost like we were afraid to beat them. But, as it turns out now, that League Final effectively won the All-Ireland for us", said "Skipper" as he is affectionately known.

Smitten with the Character

The coach had particular praise for Tipperary's captain Jovita Delaney saying that she made five great saves in the game. "She is a very determined and very focused person and she has also won All-Ireland's outfield. She's not even a natural goalie and anyone watching today can only marvel at that. I am thrilled for all the girls. I have been saying it all along that it is their character, apart from their obvious talent, that I am smitten with. Their total desire to succeed is remarkable and I am chuffed for them", he said amid the back-slapping and hugging.

Cleary was not surprised by the maturity displayed by Claire Grogan. "She was the coolest play-

er in the dressingroom before the game and anybody who knows her and has seen her play would not be surprised by her display", he said.

Tipperary captain Jovita Delaney wore the smile of satisfaction. Satisfied with her own display (she won the Player of the Match Award); satisfied with the performance of her players; and satisfied that the critics had been silenced once and for all.

"I think we've proved ourselves here today", she proclaimed. "It takes a good team to win an All-Ireland, it takes a great team to win two back-to-back and retain the title. There were a lot of critics who doubted this Tipperary team but we've proved them wrong today", she said.

Jovita claimed that the

two early goals gave the side more confidence but added that it was not until the final whistle that Cork were beaten. "You never know with them", she said. "It's a great feeling to hold up the cup and be bringing it back to Tipperary once again. I am so delighted for all the players because they worked really hard for this", she said.

Stokes Thrilled

Last year's captain Meadh Stokes packed her gearbag in the cool of the dressingroom. Clamness had fallen on the squad as the enormity of their achievement was beginning to sink in. Stokes watched from the sideline as Tipperary defeated Cork but the satisfaction of winning was clearly seen in her eyes. "I am so thrilled with this

win", she said. "Nobody can say now that we didn't deserve this All-Ireland. I always felt that Cork were over-rated as a team and that we were up there with them in terms of skill. We played really well today and we deserve to be All-Ireland champions now. The whole squad have trained very hard for this and it is very satisfying to be rewarded with an All-Ireland medal", she said.

Centreback Ciara Gaynor was checking in on her mobile phone for messages of congratulations. As a defender of the peace - she is a Dublin-based member of An Garda Síochána, she has faced tricky situations; as a defender with Tipperary she has encountered likewise. "We needed this for ourselves. Nobody

seemed to give us much credit for last year but we knew we were worthy champions. Today we let the hurling do the talking. Cork did come back at us but we knew that we could not dominate a team like Cork for the whole 60 minutes and it was all about trying to get the momentum going when they were coming into the game. I asked the referee how much was left at one stage and she said one minute. It was not until then that I knew we had it won. You can never say against Cork", she said smiling.

Ciara was coolness personified on the pitch while her famous dad Len and mother Eileen were beaming in the Cusack Stand. "Wasn't that great", enthused a proud father, "they played brilliantly",

he added.

Biddy on Cloud Nine

The final word went to selector Biddy Phillips, a woman whose life has been dedicated to camogie. Her smile said all that had to be said - Biddy was on cloud nine. "To beat Cork in an All-Ireland is a dream come through. We played out of our skins out there today and we got a great start with the two goals. The baby of the team (Claire Grogan) made a great debut and what can be said about Angela McDermott - she was superb and she ran all day and worked really hard", said Biddy.

"We had great support from all the people of Tipperary and they gave us a great boost when we heard the cheers. I sup-

pose we would have to say that our backs were brilliant today and they never gave Cork forward a smell of the goals. This is a great day for Tipperary camogie and I will remember it for a long time to come. We'll do some celebrating now", she said.

As the players and backroom team emerged from the plush dressingroom and warm-up area under the Cusack Stand they were greeted with a sea of blue and gold as supporters screamed, clapped and cheered for their heroes and heroines. On such occasions emotions spill over - such occasions are rare enough in sport.

Tipperary camogie is on an unprecedented high. The challenge now is to stay sitting on top of the world.



Tipperary forward Claire Grogan grabs the ball as her marker Denise Cronin appears to be going the wrong way during Sunday's All-Ireland final victory.



The Tipperary team that retained the senior camogie All-Ireland title by defeating Cork in this year's final at Croke Park on Sunday last. Back row (l. to r.) - Therese Brophy, Philly Fogarty, Claire Madden, Noelle Kennedy, Suzanne Kelly, Claire Grogan, Angela McDermott. Front row - Deirdre Hughes, Sinead Nealon, Cathriona Hennessy, Jovita Delaney (captain), Emily Hayden, Eimear McDonnell, Una O'Dwyer, Ciara Gaynor. Mascots: Michaela Graham (left) and Maeve Delaney.



Noelle Kennedy (11) celebrates with team-mate Suzanne Kelly following the final whistle at Sunday's All-Ireland senior camogie final at Croke Park.

All Ireland glory endorsed with style

TIPP WEAVE THROUGH CORK BARRIER TO ENHANCE STATUS

TIPPERARY 2-11 CORK 1-9

FORAS NA GAEILGE CAMOGIE

By Gerry Slevin
Pics: Bridget Delaney

Probably the perfect recipe, whether intentional or not!

Put the opposition under pressure from an early stage, a couple of goals to follow, thus forcing them to indulge in a catch-up situation thereafter.

Make sure those same opponents don't start to call the tune when the second half begins. No, consolidate one's position with some early scores so that if and when push comes to shove, the resistance is there, the confidence is there to confine it and thus when the final whistle sounds, the desired result is achieved.

Somewhat over simplistic? Perhaps, but it was a recipe that worked for Tipp on Sunday when that double dream of retaining camogie's most coveted prize, the O'Duffy Cup, and via Cork, the one team Tipp has failed to defeat in recent years, became a reality and at around 4.40pm saw Croke Park become immersed in blue and gold colours of celebration.

A tremendous achievement by Michael Cleary's charges, a thoroughly deserved victory against a team that had thrashed them so convincingly in Semple Stadium in the '99 league final and which continued to hold the whip hand when the teams met in the 2000 league final in Tullamore.

Those early goals, both scored within a three minute period by Deirdre Hughes were so important to Tipp's wellbeing. Coming so early -- in the 3rd and 6th minutes -- they immediately provided the champions with the confidence they needed, to impose their will on the game and they forced Cork to re-assess their own situation and to go for Plan B in order to come to grips with a situation they hardly anticipated.

LEVEL THEREAFTER

How vital they were can be gauged from the fact that once Deirdre hand passed the ball to the Cork net for the second goal, scoring was level there-

each and every player knitting into a solid and resourceful side that really and truly carved its name with pride on camogie's history pages.

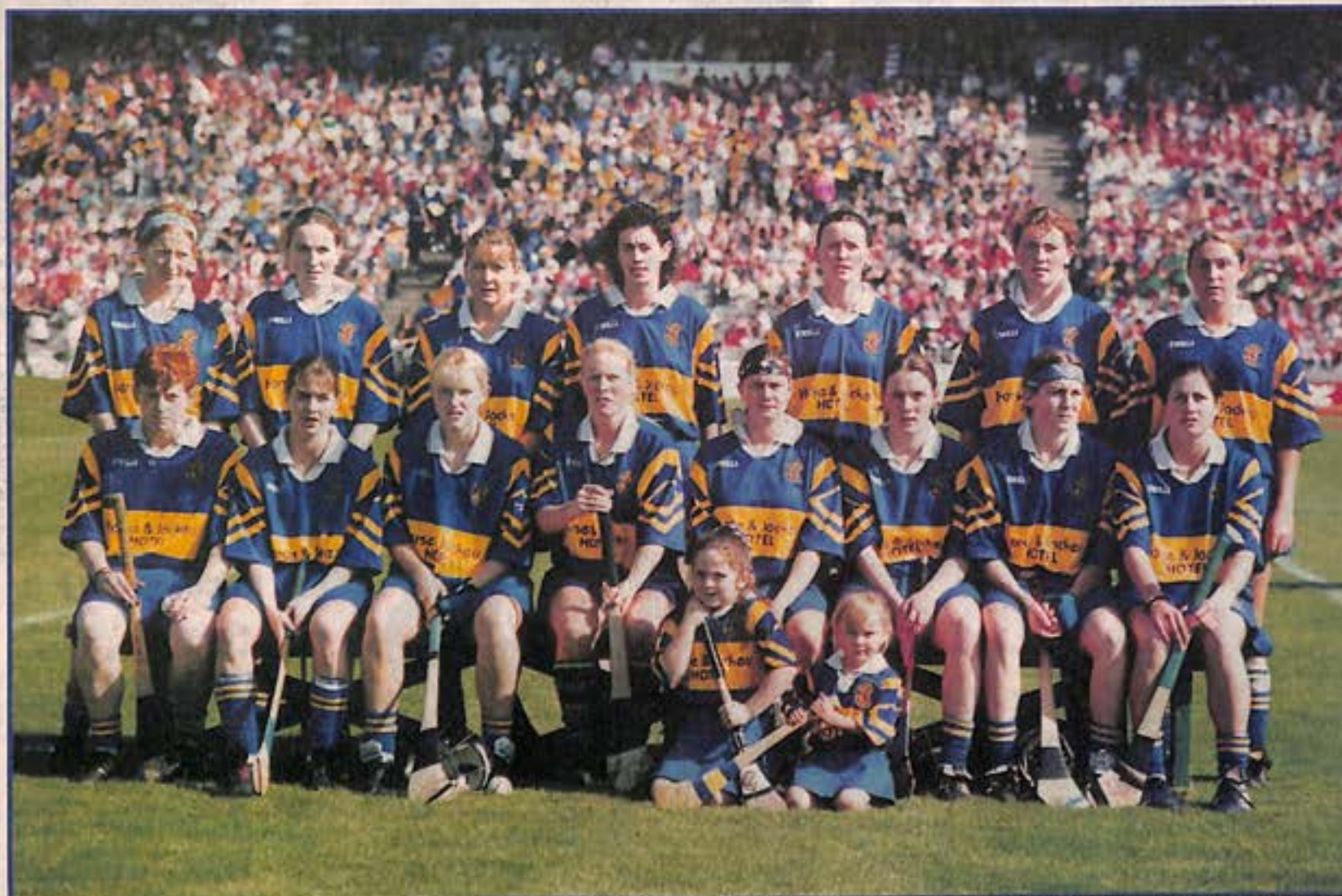
A year ago, it was Kilkenny who fell, but on Sunday any doubts as to Tipp's entitlement to be hailed as a great team were quashed. Their bogey team had been beaten at last. Tipp, last All Ireland winners of the 20th century had begun the 21st holding on to their title and doing it with such splendour, poise and precision, a great team indeed, one worthy to be named among the very best the game has produced.

IN THOUSANDS

Thankfully, Tipp supporters travelled in their thousands to cheer on this team, with so many more having the opportunity to see it all transpire on television. Being there for the second successive year stood to Tipp immensely. They ran on to the field to be greeted by a huge cheer, the occasion didn't faze them and while it was Cork that attacked first and won a free after twenty five seconds which led to the game's opening point, the goals soon came and settled them down so well.

Emily Hayden lofted a line ball goal wards, Deirdre Hughes won possession, cut through and goal. Three minutes later, the 'babe' of the team, 14 year old Claire Grogan broke past two Cork defenders and provided Deirdre with the ball which she hand passed to the net.

All Ireland winners a years ago without scoring a goal (0-12), Tipp had now scored two in the game's opening minutes. Points from Caitriona Hennessy (free) and Philly Fogarty, giving Tipp a seven point lead and after Elaine Burke and Emer



Tipperary - All-Ireland Senior Camogie Champions once more. Front from left: Deirdre Hughes, Sinead Nealon, Caitriona Hennessy, Jovita Delaney (capt.), Emily Hayden, Emer McDonnell, Una O'Dwyer, Clara Gaynor. Back: Therese Brophy, Philly Fogarty, Claire Madden, Noelle Kennedy, Suzanne Kelly, Claire Grogan, Angie McDermott.

were met with stern resistance by an admirable back line in which Una O'Dwyer in the inner central role was magnificent.

Two Cork points brought an element of hope to the Cork girls, they were trying extremely hard to turn the tide but they hadn't the cohesion of the Tipp side, the all-round skill and balance that was rearing itself in abundance. It was a fine Claire Grogan point just on half time that lifted Tipp from the unsettled period they had just gone through.

2-5 to 0-4 might have seemed

gap was now nine points.

CORK SWITCHES

Cork made several positional switches, concentrating their attentions on trying to break down Tipp's mighty rearguard. Fiona O'Driscoll pointed. Caitriona Hennessy punished a foul on Deirdre Hughes at the other end with a further point but two Cork points, from Sinead O'Callaghan and Una

hamper them, in fact the opposite was the case. The ball was moved around with precision. Confidence abounded in this team and throughout this performance, from goal keeper and

their scoring chances so well. The same was true of Emer McDonnell and Claire Grogan in the corners, ever efficient in everything they did, splendid performers in a team that did

SCORERS AND TEAMS

Scorers for Tipp were, D. Hughes 2-2, C. Hennessy 0-4 frees, E. McDonnell and C. Grogan 0-2 each, P. Fogarty 0-1.



Tipp captain Jovita Delaney introduces Taoiseach Bertie Ahern to corner-back Suzanne Kelly. On right is National Camogie President Patricia Rafferty.

O'Connor, Vivienne Harris Subs -- Paula O'Connor for (capt), Ursula Troy, Linda Harrington, Mary Burke for Mellerick, Sinead O'Callaghan, O'Connor.

Referee --- Aine Derham, Dublin, Ciara Healy, Una O'Donoghue.



GOAL! The green flag is raised, Deirdre Hughes trots away and Tipp's second goal safely executed.

SEPT. 2000



In typical pose – Deirdre Hughes leaves Cork defenders in her wake.

after, Tipp notching eleven points to Cork's 1-8.

But that statistic hardly softens the blow from a Cork perspective, because in truth, the five point margin in the end, was not a true reflection of the dominance which Tipp exerted throughout. Some poor shooting helped to swell the wide tally to eleven. Cork's goal didn't come until the last minute and while Jovita Delaney was called upon to execute a number of outstanding saves, which earned her RTE's 'Player of the Final' award, Tipp played such controlled hurling, and showed such a passion for the game,

McDonnell, the two Number 13s had swapped points, a shot from Deirdre Hughes received the point signal from the umpire but referee Aine Derham disallowed it following consultation with the umpires.

Not to be denied though, Deirdre pointed two minutes later and Tipp, with a 2-4 to 0-2 lead were definitely in the driving seat.

WORST PERIOD

Then followed, probably Tipp's worst period of the game. They lost their shape somewhat, fluffed scoring opportunities but were extremely fortunate that the Cork raids

a comfortable interval lead and so it was but that Cork dressing room surely saw plans being hatched to douse the Tipp momentum. Yes, they were up against it, but Cork's record has been such that it would be the height of folly to imagine anything other than an immediate and spirited input from them. The challengers were first to return for the second half but it was Tipp who were first to score. Noelle Kennedy was fouled and Caitriona Hennessy, again pointed. When Emer McDonnell weaved her way through and struck a grand point in the 33rd minute, the

O'Donoghue ensured that this Cork side was not going to go away. And yet, goals were what they wanted and they were not coming. Jovita Delaney was leading by example and all Cork threw at her was in vain. In front of her, Una O'Dwyer, a superb hurling full back was denying a now frustrated Cork their very best efforts. Add in the composure and tenacity of Suzanne Kelly and Claire Madden on the corners, a half back line of sterling qualities with Ciara Gaynor in the centre reaching up and sweeping the ball away from the danger zone. On each side of her, the Burgess duo of Sinead Nealon and Therese Brophy cleared confidently, a defence line that grew in confidence and in stature as the hour progressed.

Paula O'Connor, a Cork sub brought the very best out of Jovita, forcing her to make a top class save and the coolness of Claire Grogan as she lofted over a point at the other end belied her years. Earlier, she broke through and pointed only to be called back because of a foul committed on her -- no advantage rule in camogie. Fortunately Caitriona Hennessy had no trouble converting the free.

With Cork forced into a goal scoring mission now and time on Tipp's side, the inevitable loomed large and yet...

APPREHENSIONS EASED

Deirdre Hughes eased Tipp apprehensions with another point two minutes from time and Denise Cronin pointed a Cork 45, after an earlier one had been dropped into the Tipp square but to no avail.

Cork did have the last word, though, Una O'Donoghue goaling. However, it was too late to make any appreciable difference other than reduce Tipp's winning margin. The final whistle saw two opposing emotions clearly portrayed, Tipp ecstatic, Cork down hearted, unable to believe their ill fortune, a situation made all the more difficult to come to terms with, because of the shattering of their own self-belief.

They came into the game with a huge psychological edge. The left it, knowing the past had now been exorcised. Tipp were in no mood to continue being the bridesmaids to Cork's continued onward march. From game's the early minutes, the scene had been set, it was Tipp who called the shots and it was Tipp who went on to retain their All Ireland crown.

A victory for teamwork, for obvious attention to ball play and to fitness. The now wider expanse of Croke Park failed to



Marching on to glory – Sinead Nealon, Ciara Gaynor, Therese Brophy, Emily Hayden, Angie McDermott, Philly Fogarty.

captain Jovita Delaney to corner forward Claire Grogan. A team of super-heroines, so eager for the big day, but more than that, so accomplished in their approach and demeanour, so confident, so skilful. Camogie's dream team.

BACKED UP

The competence of the defence already referred to was backed up by an enthusiastic and extremely competent mid field pairing in Emily Hayden and Angie McDermott. Inside, Deirdre Hughes' leadership and her ability to collect and oil her way past opponents posed a constant threat to the Cork defence. Noelle Kennedy ran herself into the ground at centre forward. The only forward not to score. Has it ever happened before with Noelle? Beside her, young Philly Fogarty (17) and Caitriona Hennessy, first time starters in a senior final, had the look of veterans in their play, oozing confidence and taking

Tipperary so proud.

Michael Cleary with his back room team of Biddy Phillips and Jim Madden obviously have the Midas touch when it comes to preparing a winning team. Their role in this great victory cannot be too highly commended, nor that of the eight substitutes who prepared just as hard for this game as the first team members. Indeed in this context, it seems a pity that only five substitutes names are allowed to appear on the programme -- Louise Ryan, Maedhbh Stokes, Grainne Shanahan, Joanne Ryan, and Niamh Harkin. Omitted through some peculiar Croke Park ruling were Sheena Howard, Niamh Harkin and Paula Bulfin. One would imagine that with the increase in team numbers to fifteen from twelve, a similar increase would be made in the number of substitutes from which one is allowed to choose.

Cork's replies came from U. O'Donoghue 1-1, F. O'Driscoll 0-4 (3 frees), S. O'Callaghan 0-2, E. Burke 0-1.

Tipp had eleven wides in the hour, six of them in the second half. Cork's total came to four, all in the first half.

Tipp were awarded eleven frees also, seven of them in the second half, Cork's total coming to eight of which five were in the second half.

Cork forced two 45's in the second half to Tipp's one in the first half.

TIPPERARY -- Jovita Delaney (capt), Suzanne Kelly, Una O'Dwyer, Claire Madden, Sinead Nealon, Ciara Gaynor, Therese Brophy, Emily Hayden, Angie McDermott, Philly Fogarty, Noelle Kennedy, Caitriona Hennessy, Emer McDonnell, Deirdre Hughes, Claire Grogan.

CORK -- Cora Keohane, Denise Cronin, Eithne Duggan, Mags Finn, Sara Hayes, Mary



A word in your ear! – Team manager Michael Cleary and top scorer Deirdre Hughes, share a celebratory moment after Sunday's great win.

PLAYER OF THE FINAL



PLAYER OF THE FINAL – Tipp goalkeeper Jovita Delaney accepts her crystal award from RTE commentator Marty Morrissey.



Emer McDonnell heads for goal.



Tipp's outstanding full-back Una O'Dwyer comes away with the ball to break up a Cork attack.

After match
interviews & pictures

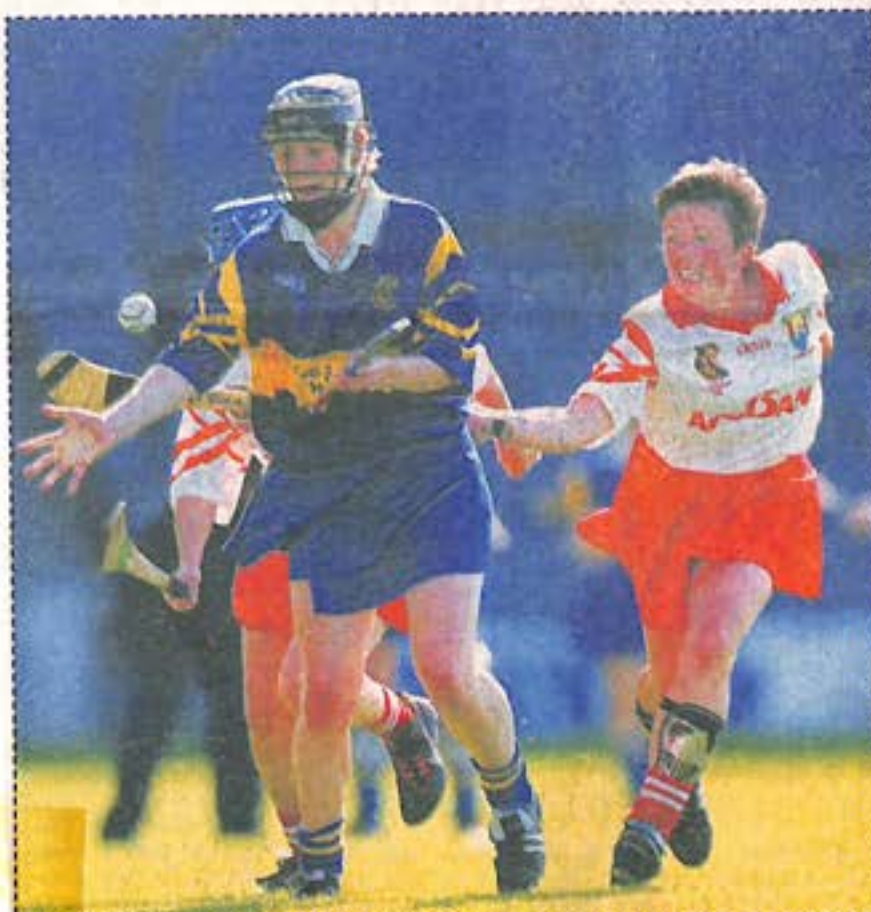
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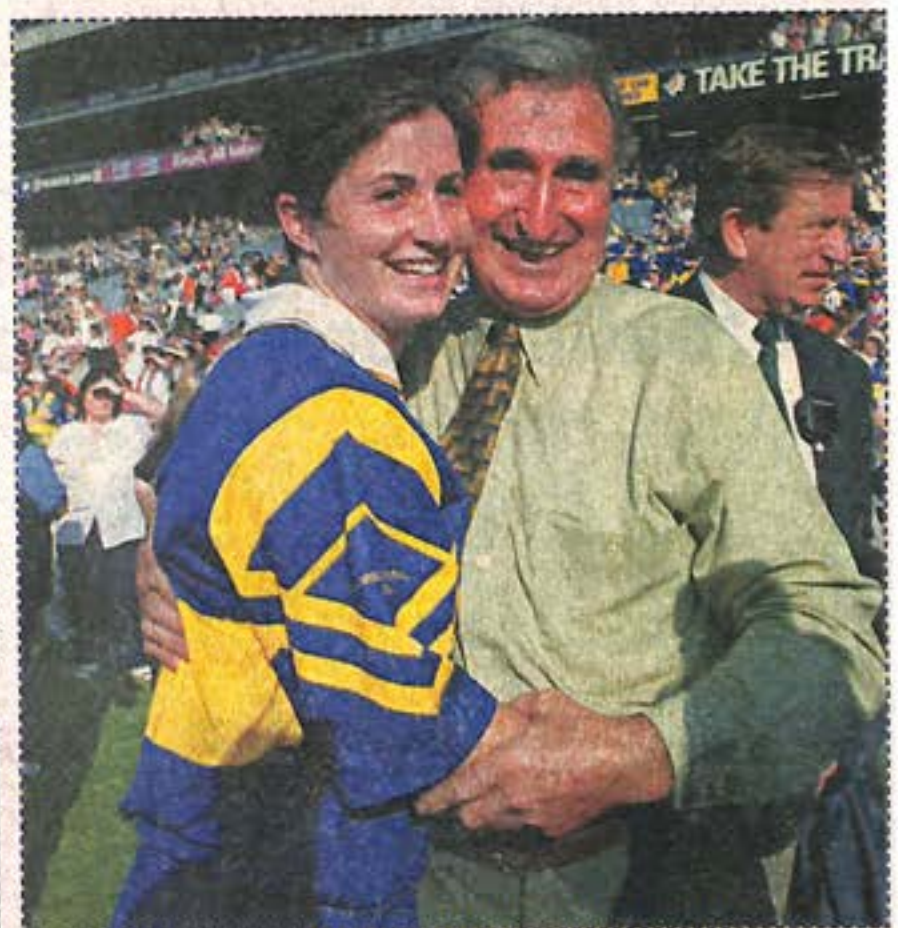
The Tipperary team that retained its All-Ireland senior camogie title by beating Cork at Croke Park on Sunday. Front: Deirdre Hughes, Sinead Nealon, Catriona Hennessy, Jovita Delaney (captain), Emily Hayden, Emer McDonnell, Una O'Dwyer and Ciara Gaynor. Back: Therese Brophy, Philly Fogarty, Claire Madden, Noelle Kennedy, Suzanne Kelly, Claire Grogan and Angie McDermott. Mascots in front are Michaela Graham and Maeve Delaney.



Knockavilla's Angie McDermott controlled midfield for Tipperary in Sunday's camogie final and is seen here getting in her shot despite the attentions of Cork's Ursula Troy.



Brilliant Tipp corner-forward Emer McDonnell gets away from the challenge of Cork's Mags Finn during Sunday's big game in Croke Park.



Another All-Ireland medal for the Gaynor household. Former Tipp player and manager Len Gaynor congratulates his daughter Ciara following her superb display at centre half-back in Tipp's All-Ireland senior camogie final win over Cork on Sunday.



Two-goal hero Deirdre Hughes celebrates Tipp's historic win over Cork in Sunday's All-Ireland final at Croke Park.

IT MAY have taken Tipperary nearly seventy years to reach to top of the camogie tree but now that they have done so, they are enjoying the experience and don't want to let go of their new-found status.

Many of the players themselves summed up Tipperary's achievement in putting All-Ireland senior camogie titles back-to-back at Croke Park on Sunday — it takes a good team to win an All-Ireland but a great one to retain the title.

And there is no doubting Tipp's greatness after a heart-warming victory over Cork that was more comprehensive than the five points winning margin would suggest.

A well-beaten Cork side scored 1-1 in the last three minutes after the Tipp girls had taken their foot off the pedal. The title was well and truly won at that stage as this great team provided Tipp camogie with another wonderful occasion at headquarters.

The celebrations that began after the final whistle equalled those for last year's historic breakthrough when Tipp won its first senior championship. Last year's achievement was remarkable enough with a superb win over Kilkenny in the decider; last Sunday's probably meant more to the players as it was against the much-vaunted Cork who had beaten Tipp in the previous two league finals.

But as in hurling, the league and championship bear no comparison in camogie either and Tipp hit the ground running in Croke Park to knock the heart out of the Cork challenge with two goals inside six minutes and their effort and concentration never flagged over the full 60 minutes.

If Cork thought their two league final wins might have given them the edge over Tipp then they were sorely mistaken. Tipp went into the decider as All-Ireland champions and it was going to take a huge effort from any team to dislodge them.

And Cork, seeking a 20th senior title and their third in four years, just didn't rise to the challenge. They were beaten in every sector of the field.

Their defence struggled from the first minutes and the brilliant Deirdre Hughes had denied their hopes severely with her goals in the third and sixth minutes. Three times All-Ireland medal winner Eithne Duggan can have had few more torrid afternoons at Croke Park as she struggled to contain Hughes' huge influence.

The Cork full-back line would have been one of the side's trump cards coming into the final with Denise Cronin (five All-Ireland medals) and Mags Finn (four medals) flanking Duggan but they were roasted by Hughes and the brilliant corner-forwards Emer McDonnell and Claire Grogan, with all three scoring two points from play to add to Hughes' brace of goals.

McDonnell showed flashes of hurling brilliance to set her apart as an exceptional talent — one flick-up late in the game was stunning — while 14-year-old Claire Grogan showed maturity beyond her years with a display that promises so much more for the future.

The inside line were involved in so much action thanks to the efforts of the hard-working half-forward line in which Cashel's Philly Fogarty was outstanding. She never stopped running and capped her day with a tremendous long-range point.

Remarkably Noelle Kennedy didn't score but her good positioning and intelligent play were crucial to Tipp's cause and she also won a number of crucial frees. She was unsuccessful herself with a number of long-range frees but Catriona Hennessy was on top of her game and she repeated her point scoring heroics of 12 months ago with four priceless points from placed balls.

Another area where this game was won was at midfield. If it was an intimidating prospect for the relatively inexperienced Angie McDermott and Emily Hayden to line up against Linda Mellerick, in her 19th season playing in the Cork jersey, and the talented Ursula Troy, then it certainly didn't show.

Cork hopes rested on Mellerick establishing superiority in midfield but it was Knockavilla's McDermott who won this duel in some style and in the process formed the platform for victory. Her partnership with the equally effective Hayden meant that Cork were always chasing the game.

Tipperary had as many heroines in defence. Una O'Dwyer was a colossus at full-back with tremendous fielding and relieving clearances and with Ciara Gaynor equally dominant at centre half-back, it ensured that Tipp had a rock solid spine to its defence.

Cork needed a goal to get back into the game but anytime they broke the cover, Delaney stood between them and the net.

She brought off a string of spectacular saves to deny Cork in a display that won her "Player of the Match" and when she was finally beaten it didn't matter as so too were Cork.

Who could have predicted in the first-ever Tipp/Cork final, a game expected to be close, that the champions would be 2-4 to 0-2 up after 17 minutes with a solitary point from play from Cork in that time.

Tipp played like true champions, intent on retaining their title. A Cork point from a Fiona O'Driscoll free in the first minute didn't unsettle them and within six minutes they were 2-0 to 0-1 ahead. The first goal in the third minute came when Hughes gathered from a Hayden sideline cut and sent in a dropping shot which Cork keeper Cora Keohane must have thought was going over the bar but dipped under into the net instead.

Three minutes later Hughes played havoc again when she fielded a high cross from Grogan and palmed to the net. And Tipperary continued to capitalise on Cork's uncertainty with Hennessy from a free and a superb score from Fogarty putting them 2-2 to 0-1 ahead after nine hectic minutes.

Elaine Burke had Cork's first point from play in the 10th minute but with Mellerick unable to achieve her expected dominance at midfield, Tipp continued to prosper with McDermott and Fogarty outstanding.

Wing-backs Therese Brophy was also in superb form and set up McDonnell for a point and Hughes made it an eight points gap, 2-4 to 0-2, with 17 minutes gone.

Two-in-a-row for Cork from O'Driscoll and Sinead O'Callaghan reduced the deficit to six points as the girls from the Rebel County enjoyed their best period but Claire Grogan made it 2-5 to 0-4 at the break with a fine point, seeing her first effort blocked down but recovering to regain possession and shoot a great score.

Tipp started the second half as they had the first and in the process sealed the win. It was Cork who needed the good start but Hughes was wide after just 15 seconds before Noelle Kennedy won a free which Hennessy pointed and then McDonnell dispossessed Mags Finn to extend the lead to nine points.

A goal was the only route back for the girls in red but Jovita Delaney was already establishing herself as the key player on the field with a great save from Una O'Donoghue and all Cork had to show for another period of pressure was a point from an O'Driscoll free.

Cork rallied after Hennessy pointed another free and scores from O'Callaghan and O'Donoghue brought it back to 2-8 to 0-7 nine minutes into the half. But Tipperary steadied the ship and effectively shut up shop.

Delaney continued to bring off the crucial saves but it was really seldom she was exposed such was the dominance of her Cashel team mate Una O'Dwyer in front of her with Suzanne Kelly and Claire Madden also defending heroically in the corners.

Noelle Kennedy also came more into the game at this stage and Cork frustration appeared to grow as they failed to make any dent in the Tipp lead. Hennessy and O'Driscoll from frees exchanged points but a superb fit Tipperary side upped a gear again entering the final 10 minutes.

Another superb point from Grogan (2-10 to 0-8) virtually put Tipp out of sight. Cork might have been better served to have taken points earlier rather than going for goals but they really needed to find the net now but Jovita Delaney wrote herself into the record books with saves from Paula O'Connor and defender-turned-attacker Denise Cronin.

But as the game entered its last few minutes, it was Tipp who came nearer to a goal when McDonnell hit the post and Hughes gathered the rebound to shoot a lovely point and put her side nine points clear, 2-11 to 0-8, with the time almost up.

By the time Cronin pointed a 45 and O'Donoghue finally found a way past Delaney, the O'Duffy Cup was already getting bedecked in blue and gold for its triumphant return to Cashel and Tipperary.

Tipperary: Jovita Delaney, Suzanne Kelly, Una O'Dwyer, Claire Madden, Sinead Nealon, Ciara Gaynor, Therese Brophy, Emily Hayden, Angie McDermott, Philly Fogarty 0-1, Noelle Kennedy, Catriona Hennessy 0-4, Emer McDonnell 0-2, Deirdre Hughes 2-2, Claire Grogan 0-2.

Cork: Cora Keohane, Denise Cronin 0-1, Eithne Duggan, Mags Finn, Sara Hayes, Mary O'Connor, Vivienne Harris, Ursula Troy, Linda Mellerick, Sinead O'Callaghan 0-2, Fiona O'Driscoll 0-1, Caoimhe Harrington, Elaine Burke 0-1, Ciara Healy, Una O'Donoghue 1-1. Subs: Paula O'Connor for Harrington; Mary Burke for Paula O'Connor.

Jovita "Speechless" at Cashel Welcome

By John Guiton

The first ladies of Tipperary, All-Ireland two in a row camogie champions, received a regal welcome from their many fans as they made a triumphant homecoming on Monday evening.

Hundreds of Blue and Gold bedecked fans oblivious to the persistent rain roared their approval as the victorious squad arrived in Cashel where they were accorded a civic welcome in the centre of the town by the Urban District Council.

On their way to Cashel from the official post match reception at the Burlington Hotel in Dublin the champions stopped off at Horse and Jockey where they were met, and feted by team sponsor, Tom Egan of the Horse and Jockey Inn. Hoards of faithful followers gathered in the village to greet the team and the Sean Treacy Pipe Band Moycarkey-Borris were on hand to accord a very fitting musical interlude.

Having enjoyed their time in the Horse and Jockey the team set out for Cashel and the cavalcade was led into the historic town by the local Diarmuid Hurley Pipe Band. Hundreds had gathered in the centre of the town to greet the victors, and to ringing cheers the team led by captain Jovita Delaney, holding the O'Duffy Cup mounted the platform. "This is a joyous evening", declared Chairperson of Cashel Urban Council Dr Sean McCarthy, to almost deafening roars of approval. In welcoming the victors to Cashel he said the team had achieved a piece of history by their "spirit, grit and great ability". In the course of an eloquent address, he spoke of the great pride in Tipperary people everywhere at the mammoth achievement of two All-Irelands in a row.

"I want to congratulate Jovita Delaney, the team manager, Michael Cleary,



Captain Jovita Delaney receives a presentation from Dr Sean McCarthy, Chairman Cashel UDC.

Biddy Phillips, Jim Madden and all associated with this wonderful victory. The team has nothing more to prove. They conquered all the top teams over the two years", he said.

Dr McCarthy, in proposing the vote of congratulations to the side, said Cashel UDC was very honoured to be the first authority to accord a civic welcome to the team. "We are particularly proud that six members of the team play with the Cashel club, and I want to pay tribute to the very many hard working people associated with the promotion of camogie in the town, particularly Ann Moloney".

Vice Chairman, of the UDC Councillor Joe Moloney seconded the vote of congratulations and made reference to the very special contribution to the victory over Cork by fourteen year old Claire Grogan from Templemore. Her

father former Tipp hurler John is a native of Cashel. Lavish tributes were also paid to the victors by Patron of the GAA, His Grace Most Rev Dr Dermot Clifford, Archbishop of Cashel and Emly; Minister for Defence Mr Michael Smith TD, Chairman of South



Waiting in the rain to greet the All-Ireland Champions.

scoring feats

Deirdre Hughes (Tipperary, right): Scored 2-2 — Like Staunton, she was fortunate with her first goal, a shot for a point that dropped to the Cork net. Her second, however, showed her prowess. Gathering a high ball (sent in by 14-year-old team-mate Claire Grogan) amidst a thicket of hurleys, Hughes turned and palmed to the net. Could have — possibly should have — scored more given her second-half wiles. Still, a 2-2 tally and a second All-Ireland medal should keep her more than happy.



Ancient city welcomes camogie heroines



The six Cachel players on the panel joined with manager Michael Cleary in celebrating Tipp's second all-Ireland senior camogie victory in-a-row, at last Monday night's civic reception in Cachel. Standing, from left: Paula Bulfin; Jovita Delaney, captain; Philly Fogarty and Michael Cleary. Front, from left: Una O'Dwyer, Maedbh Stokes and Emily Hayden.



Captain Jovita Delaney displays the O'Duffy Cup to the large crowds that turned up for Monday night's civic reception in Cachel for the Tipp team that beat Cork in the all-Ireland senior camogie final in Croke Park. On the left for the event, Mattie Finnerty congratulates 14-year-old Claire Grogan, who scored two points in Sunday's final.

Continued from page 1

It was an unbelievable feeling to arrive home from Cachel with the cup for the second successive year, she said.

The captain thanked all those people whom they wouldn't be celebrating, particularly manager Michael Cleary, and selectors Biddy Phillips and Jim Madden.

Jovita later accepted a presentation of the locally-produced Rossa Pottery from Cllr. Sean McCarthy, Chairman of Cachel Urban District Council, after she had introduced each of the team and selectors to the baying crowds.

Local secondary school teacher Mattie Finnerty, who acted as MC for the event, welcomed everyone to the civic reception, including the loyal supporters of Tipperary camogie.

It was wet but they were enjoying themselves on what was a joyous night. Council Chairman Sean McCarthy stat-

ed.

Over the years they had been proud of our men playing hurling, and now they were becoming more and more proud of Tipperary women playing hurling, he said.

The Chairman congratulated the team manager, former All-Star hurler Michael Cleary, and selectors Biddy Phillips and Jim Madden.

Tipp had put All-Ireland titles back-to-back against the odds, and showed that they had the grit and ability to produce a marvellous performance.

Cllr. McCarthy was pleased that Cachel had the privilege to be the first town to host a reception for this great team, and he also mentioned the great strides that Cachel camogie had made, thanks to the work of people such as Anne Moloney.

Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Joe Moloney, said they were proud of all the team,

including the six players from Cachel.

He made special mention of Claire Grogan, whom he said must have created a record by winning an All-Ireland GAA Senior title at the age of 14; and captain, Jovita Delaney, who also won the Player of the Match Award.

Everyone had been nearly washed out last year too, but what did it matter when Tipp brought the cup home, said Cllr. Tom Wood, Chairman of South Tipperary County Council.

He said that the efforts of all those responsible for producing this fine team had come to fruition. He paid tribute to the people who promoted camogie at all grades, through good times and bad times - "they are as solid as the Rock of Cachel", he added.

The previous week Cachel had honoured three hurling heroes of the past - John Doyle, Tony Reddan and Jimmy Doyle - and this week it was their turn

to welcome home the premier team of the Premier County.

"Ye brought the rain but ye brought the cup home too", Archbishop Clifford told the team. When Tipp were beaten by Cork by 32 points in Semple Stadium 18 months ago, he asked himself if they would ever make it. But last Sunday the team had played the best camogie ever witnessed in Croke Park.

Minister for Defence, Michael Smith, congratulated the team not only for winning the All-Ireland Championship, but the manner in which victory was achieved.

County GAA Chairman Con Hogan guaranteed his friends in the Tipp camogie Board that their work would continue to be supported by the County GAA Board, and this bond would be strengthened in future years.

Mr Hogan, who later led the gathering on a rendition of "Slievenamon",

also congratulated Cachel, which he said was a great stronghold of Tipperary. Now that Tipp had won All-Ireland back-to-back what about next year, he asked.

It took a good team to win one All-Ireland Championship, but it took a very good team to win two, said Martin Browne, Chairman of Cachel Camogie Club.

He also praised the work of Anne Moloney and Julie O'Dwyer had put into the team.

Noel Hennessey, Chairman of Tipp camogie Board, extended his sincere thanks to everyone who went out on winter and summer nights and gave up their time to promote camogie.

They had 23 heroines last Sunday, but there were many more behind the scenes, including club members and parents whose commitment kept the game alive in the county, he said.



Dr. Sean McCarthy, chairman of Cachel Urban District Council, congratulates Tipp captain Jovita Delaney, and team manager Michael Cleary, when the council hosted a civic reception last Monday night for the Tipp team that beat Cork, in the all-Ireland senior camogie final last Sunday.



Tipp camogie players Claire Madden, Ciara Gaynor and Philly Fogarty accept the cheers of the large crowds that turned out in the rain, in Cachel last Monday night to greet the team after their defeat of Cork in the all-Ireland senior camogie final last Sunday.

CAMOGIE DEFEAT

We watched the camogie final on Sunday and were disappointed for Cork. But they were well beaten and Tipp looked the stronger, hungrier team for a lot of the game. Cork never recovered from those two early goals and were fighting a losing battle right to the end. Again scoring forwards were in short supply and Lyn Dunlea was a huge loss. The tactic of running with the ball on the hurley certainly was not a good one against the tight Tipp backs. They have a young side and I have no doubt that Tom Nott will have them buzzing again next season.

SEPT. 2000

Manager Cleary praises team's character

(by Michael Heverin)

Michael Cleary has tasted All-Ireland glory as a player in Croke Park but he appeared to enjoy leading the Tipp camogie team to their championship victory on Sunday as much as he had his own wins with Tipp in 1989 and 1991.

The Nenagh man's impact on the team has been immense. Brought in after the humiliation of last year's league final defeat to Cork, his involvement paid immediate dividends.

Last year he was a member of Biddy Philip's backroom team as Tipp won their first title; this year he was at the helm himself as he first brought Tipp to within three points of Cork in the league final and then turned the tables on the Leesiders in Sunday's All-Ireland final.

That was Tipperary's first win over Cork at senior level and broke down a major psychological barrier. They were almost afraid to beat Cork in the league final when they had the chance to do so but made no mistake in the big one last weekend.

"I cannot say enough about the sheer character of the team on top of all the quality they have. Whenever questions were asked of them, they answered them," he said immediately after the game.

The former All-Star



Tipperary manager Michael Cleary shows his delight after leading the side to a second successive All-Ireland title at Croke Park on Sunday.

accepted that he would receive plaudits for his role in the team's victory but he deflected the atten-

tion from himself. "That would be okay if I had trained a mediocre team to an All-Ireland

title but not this team. They have so much ability, they did all the work and deserve the credit. It

is easy for me to train a team with this quality," he stated. And despite the won-

derful hurling they played in such an intense atmosphere, Cleary added that the team had not reached top gear yet and would improve further.

For the second successive game, Tipperary finished strongly but Cleary insists that the emphasis at training is not on physical work but on ball work.

But there's no doubt that he had the team fine tuned for Sunday's All-Ireland final and their whirlwind start confirmed their readiness for the encounter. "We had a tough semi-final against Galway and that helped us as did the county final between Cashel and Toomevara in which 10 of the panel were involved," he said.

Michael Cleary had warm praise for his captain and "Player of the Match" Jovita Delaney.

A naturally gifted out-field player, who was an exceptional full-back, she had reverted to goal when the need arose and a string of at least five spectacular saves in the final confirmed her amazing goalkeeping abilities as well, he remarked.

Of Claire Grogan, the youngest player on the field, Michael Cleary said she had great skill and made a major contribution.

And he revealed that for one so young she was the coolest player in the dressingroom before the game.

SEPT. 2000

We say

WE SAY well done to the junior and senior Cork camogie teams who made all Munster people very proud in Croke Park at the weekend.

They lost both the junior and senior games but in defeat showed us the true meaning and value of sport.

The Cork camogie teams have tasted success in Croke Park on numerous occasions over the past few years but their dignity in defeat is praiseworthy indeed.

True champions handle defeat as well as they acclaim victory and Cork are indeed true champions.

While the defeats hurt and hurt deeply, they never left their feelings get in the way and everyone of the players congratulated their opponent in a very generous manner.

The players are bound to feel down at the moment, but there is every reason to feel optimistic about the future.

The junior team reached the final for the second year running and five of the girls on duty with the senior team were making their senior debut in Croke Park. The future's bright for both teams.

Cork proved after last year's shock defeat by Kilkenny that they can bounce back by winning the league and reaching the All-Ireland final, where it was no disgrace to lose to a better side.

We'll all expect Cork to do the same again next year.

Bad day in Croker

THE defeat of both Cork teams in Sunday's camogie finals at Croke Park was a major disappointment, and while there has to be losers, the fact that the seniors failed to play to their potential frustrated players and officials alike.

Derry, as expected, were too strong for the juniors, but the manner in which they fought back from a seemingly hopeless position at half-time reflects greatly on what is essentially a very young team, whom a lot more will be heard of.

Tipperary's two early goals were crucial in the senior decider, and despite strong pressure Cork could never recover, and the fact that Tipp goalkeeper Jovita Delaney was in inspired form only added to their problems.

Cork, though, are better than they showed on Sunday, and while Tipp were

deserving winners, the players should be proud of their achievements down the years.

Six All-Ireland titles in nine years, six league titles in a row, and a host of memorable displays - an impressive record.

The was inevitable talk of retirement after the game, but any player contemplating such a course should not make any hasty decisions.

On the club scene, recently crowned county champions Bishopstown play host to Cashel in the Munster Championship at home on Saturday at 3pm.

Bishopstown have a poor record in this competition and they will be looking to improve on that, and with home advantage it may just tilt the balance in their favour.

All-Ireland Camogie Junior Championship Final

Derry 3-15

Cork 1-12

Derry - A Crilly, S McEneaney, G Maguire, B McIvor, C McDonald, C Doherty, S Convery, S McCaul 0-1, A O'Loughlin 0-1, A Tohill 0-2, P McAtamney 0-8, A Kealey, C McNicholl, M O'Kane 1-1, K Rafferty 1-2. Subs - C Scullion, A O'Kane 1-0.

Cork - O O'Callaghan, S Buckley, J O'Callaghan, A Kelleher, S Corkery, E Dillon 0-1, C O'Gorman, V O'Keefe, M O'Connell, K Corkery 1-0, A O'Regan, J O'Leary 0-11, E O'Friel, A O'Regan, L Murphy. Subs - MB Enneaguess, Z MacDonnell, I Dineen.

Sunday September 3rd

All-Ireland Camogie Senior Championship Final At Croke Park

Tipperary 2-11

Cork 1-9

Tipperary - J Delaney, S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, C Madden, S Nealon, C Gaynor, T Brophy, E Hayden, A McDermott, F Fogarty 0-1, N Kennedy, C Hennessy 0-4, E McDonnell 0-2, D Hughes 2-2, C Grogan 0-2.

Cork - C Keohane, D Cronin 0-1, E Duggan, M Finn, S Hayes, M O'Connor, V Harris, U Troy, E Mellerick, S O'Callaghan 0-2, C Harrington, F O'Driscoll 0-4, E Burke 0-1, C Healy, U O'Donoghue 1-1. Subs - P O'Connor for Harrington, M Burke for O'Connor.

Referee - A Derham (Dublin).

There is a first time for everything ...

Over the 2000 All-Ireland camogie weekend a number of firsts were created.

FORAS NA GAEILGE

The Cross border body responsible for promotion of the Irish language throughout the island of Ireland.

Tiobraid Arann, who won a second All-Ireland Foras na Gaeilge final created history by winning back to back titles. A determined Tipp side were quick off the mark with two Deirdre Hughes goals, and set up a lead that they never lost.

While Cork tried and tried, the superb display by goalkeeper Jovita Delaney denied the Cork forwards so many times, and the late consolation goal by Una O'Donoghue almost on the blow of time came too late for Cork.

Cork came to Páirc an Chrocaigh in the hope of collecting both a senior and a junior All-Ireland. However, with the junior final being a repeat of last year's, Derry were determined that they were not leaving Croke Park this year without the New Ireland Cup.

Derry under the former Antrim hurler Dominic McKinley and led by captain Aileen Tohill, sister to footballer Anthony, like Tipperary got off to a flying start with early first half goals from full forward Mary O'Kane and Karen Rafferty.

The weekend as usual got off to a great start with the 27th annual Killmacud Crokes Seven's taking place. With over 40 teams taking part, the usual chat was of 'who do you predict for tomorrow's game' and so many friends meeting up for the All-Ireland.

For the first time ever, a Poc Fada competition was held prior to the final, and it turned out to be a good event for Dublin clubs, with Sinead Caulfield of the Crumlin club taking first place. It was some consolation for the Crumlin girl who earlier had lost the County Final to the defending champions Ballyboden St. Enda's. Sinead is a former Dublin player.

Second place went to Gillian McClusker, of the Erin's Isle Club, who is also a member of the Dublin senior team.

Killmacud Crokes Seven's Tournament Division 1 Final:

Davitt's, Galway 6-07; Kileady, Limerick 3-01

The Division 1 Final was very interesting as it brought a new pairing into it. Davitts of Galway who earlier had beaten old county rivals Pearces, made their first appearance into a final. They met up with Limerick club Kileady who had earlier been beaten in the Limerick county final by Grannagh Ballingarry.

It was the first time Kileady entered the tournament and they were ecstatic when they made it to the final following a great semi-final tussle with Vincents of Dublin. A game that had to go to extra time, it was won in the dying seconds when a dropping ball went to the back of the Vincents net to put the Limerick side into their first ever final.

Division 2 Final

Oylgate, Wexford 4-04, Drumaness, Down 0-02

While Wexford may not have had a great championship season, Oylgate under Manager Ray Quigley they made up for it taking a first ever Division 2 title, beating Down side Drumaness who had senior county player Joan Henderson on their side.

There was further consolation for the Wexford side when county player Gretta Heffernan took the Player of the Tournament Award.

A well deserved award for a player who has given many years to the Wexford colours. It was also a proud day for County Chairman Ray Quigley, who is a member of the Oylgate club.

Next Sunday morning will see the Leinster club championship semi-final between St.

Lachtain's of Kilkenny and Ballyboden St. Endas. A match that will bring back memories of last year when the same two sides met at this stage. It will bring together some top class players like Jillian Dillion Maher, daughter of Kilkenny's Pa Dillon and Fiona Ni Chorcraoin of 'Boden.

'Boden who were beaten at this stage last season will be very anxious to make up for last year. With almost the same side as last year, they will certainly give the Kilkenny girls a run for their money.

Sunday September 10th

Leinster Club Championship semi-final

At Páirc Uí Mhurchu, Ballyboden 11am, Ballyboden St. Enda's v St. Lachtain's Freshford



Tipp's two goal hero - Deirdre Hughes

Losing is never an easy thing to take

THERE were times while watching last Sunday's All-Ireland senior camogie final I got this wild urge to rush onto the pitch, hijack a Cork jersey and hurley, and be part of the biggest day in the camogie calendar.

Not because they were losing, mind you. In this game, as all sports people know, you unfortunately have to take the good with the bad, and somehow when you look back on it, the bad doesn't seem so bad after all.

But, anyway, I am four years too late - besides, this present crop of players will have to be strong enough to come to terms with the outcome. Not easy, but in time they will accept that in a two-horse race there has to be a first and a second.

All-Ireland day is a long weekend - not long enough when you win, but can be too long when you lose. For Cork, it all begins on a Saturday. Tradition was not broken with the 2.45 train from Kent Station transporting the teams, their mentors and county board officials.

VIEW FROM THE GROUND with THERESE O'CALLAGHAN



On arrival in Dublin, separate coaches transported the junior and senior teams to their headquarters at the Regency Hotel.

After that it was a relaxing night with most players opting to watch Mick McCarthy's side draw with the Dutch. And, then to bed early. Tipperary's approach is somewhat different.

Just 90 minutes from the capital, they chose to travel up the morning of the match. To depart from the Horse and Jockey is somewhat an adrenalin injection to the Premier County. The famous watering hole halfway between Cork and Dublin acts as the main sponsor to the

Tipperary camogie team. And what a send off they got. Flags, banners and bunting decorated the roadside as they moved off even at the early hour of 9am.

Tipp, it would have to be said, on this occasion relished the afternoon more than this Cork team who have had many a great day on the Croke Park sod. Their youngsters seem to have this unbelievable confidence. I can recall previous years of pained anxiety in the cubicles of the dressing room that didn't leave your sick stomach until well after the first clash of the ash. The scream from the stand didn't help either to

dull the ache. But, the Tipp women appeared to be ice-cool, and by no means complacent. They were not there to play in an All-Ireland, they were there to win an All-Ireland. No team is just happy to be in the final - they never loose sight of winning.

The result we know. So, now to the postmortems. Quins in Drumcondra has always been the chosen spot. A safe haven in the corner somewhere for the loser, and then there is the winner's enclosure. It is the first opportunity to catch up with family and friends to discuss the fate of the afternoon.

Then, it was on to Monday and the post-match reception in the Burlington Hotel, where tears were shed for different reasons.

However, there was no doubting that this trip unleashed feelings of much different emotions. We have all cried, but this is only a game. It doesn't mean that a player is any lesser if he or she doesn't win. I must be getting old.

Focus on seniors this week

CHAMPIONSHIP action this week focuses on the seniors when the A and B games continue, while it's replay time in the Senior B Championship.

Eire Óg and Kilbrittan meet once again to find a winner in their opening Senior B Championship game. Last time out Eire Óg looked home and dry with six minutes remaining when they led by seven points.

Two goals inside three minutes were enough to cut the deficit to allow Miriam Deasy to fire over the equaliser with minutes remaining. With both sides having missed scorable chances in that encounter a winner is hard to predict.

In Junior A League Ballygarvan, who head the table with full points from all games played, meet Sarsfields at Riverstown and here the visitors with the strength of Emer Dillon and Catriona Kelly should have to much for a Sars 15 who will look to experienced players Ann Brady and Eithne Barry to guide their fortunes.

Glen Rovers and Douglas meet on Thursday night. Douglas with inter-county junior star Amanda O'Regan, Mary Maher and Emma Downey will be hoping to advance against a Glen Rovers side coached by former inter-county senior Sandie Fitzgibbon. They will include Susan Collins, Kelly Newman and Therese Kenny.

Tracton and Inniscarra meet in Ballyanley on Friday night and Tracton will be hoping to reverse the result of the sides recent meeting in the league.

FIXTURES

TUESDAY SEPT 5

Junior B Championship: Mayfield v Bishopstown at Bishopstown 7.15pm

WEDNESDAY SEPT 6

Junior A Championship: Sarsfields v Ballygarvan at Sarsfields 7pm.

THURSDAY SEPT 7

Glen Rovers v Douglas at Douglas 7.15pm.

FRIDAY SEPT 8

Inniscarra v Tracton at Inniscarra 7pm.

SATURDAY SEPT 9

Munster Club Championship: Bishopstown v Cashel, Bishopstown 3pm. Senior B championship replay Eire Óg v Kilbrittan at venue to be arranged at 5pm. Sunday Sept 10 Junior B championship St Fanahans v Ballinora at St Fanahans 2.30pm. Grenagh v Barryroe at Grenagh, noon.

Call
us



Keep up to date with all the camogie news with your Evening Echo. Ring Mary Newman-McCarthy on 021-397710 with all your camogie information.



Deirdre Hughes, Tipperary and Eithne Duggan, Cork battle for ball.

Picture: INPHO.

Town Tipp scales

CORK county champions Bishopstown take on Tipperary champions Cashel at the Munster Club championship at Bishopstown on Saturday at 3pm.

Taking the Cork title Bishopstown displayed tremendous skill and their experience stood to them against a young Barryroe side.

This time, they will look once more to the senior members of the side for guidance.

Inter-county player Eithne Duggan and Sinead O'Callaghan, Rose Desmond and Sheenagh Morley will be called upon once more to rally the troops and book a semi-final spot.

However, they know they are in for a tough hour against a strong and determined Cashel side who will be on the crest of the wave following Tipperary's victory.

Cashel defeated Toomevara in a very close encounter, managing to retain their championship title.

Their side can rely on the talented Jovita Delaney who led the county on Sunday, last year's leader Meabh Stokes, Una O'Dwyer and Emily Hayden. Bishopstown PRO Pat Murray expects a tough hour but is confident that his club has the talent at their disposal to advance.

Cork sides vow to make comeback

DOWN but not out was the clear message sent out from the Cork senior and junior teams after last Sunday's trip to Croke Park.

The opening game pitted a new junior team taking on an experienced Derry side who had tasted defeat in Croke Park last year.

Struggling throughout the opening half Cork trailed 2-13 to 1-3 at the interval and looked to be in for a severe defeat.

Grabbing the game by the neck, Cork - with Amanda O'Regan moving back into defence - began to settle.

Dominating the opening 20 minutes they cut the deficit thanks in the main to the efforts of Jennifer O'Leary who scored seven points to level just five between the teams. Crucially a Marie O'Connell goal

in the 20th minute was called back with Cork tapping over the resulting free but one felt that had it stood Cork would have benefited enormously.

Derry rallied and a goal from substitute Clare Scullion gave them the space they needed to secure victory, but full credit to this young Cork side whose oldest player at just 20 years of age was four years younger than Derry's youngest player.

Cork coach Tom Nott, while disappointed, congratulated Tipperary on a great display.

"They got a great start with two early goals and we were chasing it from there on in.

"We've lost before and came back. I believe we still have a team good enough to succeed," said Nott.

The senior team suffered defeat at the hands of Tipperary thanks mainly to a disastrous start as they

conceded two goals inside the opening five minutes. Struggling to get to grips Cork trailed 2-5 to 0-4 at the interval.

With Tipperary adding two further points at the start of the second half the signs were not good for Cork.

Gathering their composure somewhat Cork fought hard to get back into the game, but an inspired display from Tipperary goalkeeper and captain Jovita Delaney kept them at bay.

When a goal did come with one minute remaining it was too late to help the Cork revival.

A hushed and somewhat sombre senior Cork dressing room after the game listened in silence as county chairperson Sile Golden praised the team for their efforts.

"You gave it your all and we are proud of you," said Sile.

Tipperary selector Biddy Mc Phillips, who visited the Cork team dressing room after the game, spoke of the great tradition between the two counties.

"Down the years we in Tipperary have admired Cork and their great achievements. You have been senior champions on 19 occasions and that record speaks for itself.

"You made us fight hard for victory today and I have no doubt that you will be back strong as ever eager to dethrone us," said Mrs Mc Phillips.

Her sentiments were echoed by both teams as they attended the post match luncheon last Monday for the four teams in the Burlington Hotel.

To everybody who was in Croke Park - on behalf of the players and team management - a big thank you for your loyalty in continuing to support the teams.

Cashel's three in a row

Cashel 1-10, Toomevara 2-6

THE large crowd that attended the Senior camogie county final in Littleton on Saturday evening were treated to an epic encounter between Cashel and Toomevara.

Cashel settled first. In the second minute Norma Coffey pointed and then Jovita Delaney had a point. Toomevara opened with a seventh minute point from Noelle Kennedy. Jovita Delaney responded with a point. Toomevara had a 16th minute point from a Noelle Kennedy free. Cashel answered with a point from Philly Fogarty and a minute later after a great run and pass from Jovita Delaney Philly had the ball in the toomevara net.

Cashel were now rampant with great play coming from Una O'Dwyer, Emily Hayden, Paula Bulfin, Anne Barry, Philly Fogarty and Jovita Delaney. Toomevara were battling hard with Suzanne Kelly trying her heart out. Noelle Kennedy fought for every ball and

Deirdre Hughes used all her skill and determination to keep Toomevara in the game.

In the twenty first minute Norma Coffey added a further point from a free. Cashel had the last score of the first half with an Anne Barry point. This was great stuff but all knew that with strong half time talking, Toomevara would gather their forces and take the battle to Cashel.

We were not disappointed!

Cashel re-opened with a Norma Coffey point from a free. Toomevara answered with a great Deirdre Hughes goal. Cashel had a point from Philly Fogarty. Then Toomevara came with all their might. Noelle Kennedy scored with a 45 free followed by another score as a result of a free. Cashel had a score from Philly Fogarty in the 12th minute. A minute later a free from Noelle Kennedy the ball ended in the back of the Cashel net. Kennedy

added a further point. Cashel added a point from Jovita Delaney. Deirdre Hughes had a point for Toomevara.

Time was up and John Pender blew and Cashel had the three in a row. Two great teams and an excellent game.

TEAMS:

Cashel: Sandra Ricken; Michelle Kennedy, Jovita Delaney, Anne-Marie Fitzgerald; Meadhbh Stokes, Una O'Dwyer, Kaiffe Moloney; Emily Hayden, Paula Bulfin; Triona Bonnar, Anne Barry, Philly Fogarty; Norma Coffey, Mairead Morrissey, Libby Twoomey.

Toomevara: Nora Dwan; Trisha Ryan, Mary-Rose Ryan, Siobhan Cusack; Catherine Byrne, Suzanne Kelly, Kathleen Kennedy; Anna Woods, Noelle Kennedy; Louise Young, Lena Woods, Denise Ryan, Grainne Shanahan, Deirdre Hughes, Marie McCarthy.



Cashel captain, Meadhbh Stokes, lifts the county trophy after the county Tipperary camogie senior final. Picture: Bridget Delaney.



Milford Tullylease U-14 camogie team, bronze medal winners.

Camogie presentations



Helen Twomey of Crowley/Calnan, second from left, presents a set gear-bags to the Barryroe Camogie team prior to the recent County Final against Bishopstown. Also included are, from left: Tony McCarthy Selector, Elaine McCarthy Captain, Noreen Fleming Chairperson of Barryroe camogie Club, and Martin Moloney Selector. Photo: Martin Walsh.

Sinead off to Bali but dreaming of Croker

by Diarmuid O'Flynn

LIKE most camogie people, Kilkenny star Sinead Millea is also passionate about hurling.

But Sunday, she will be a very sorry girl. Not because she believes her favourite hurling team is about to lose another All-Ireland final, because she doesn't. But while Brian Cody's men are doing their utmost to right the wrongs of the past two years the camogie star will be a long way away.

"I haven't a clue about Bali," she explained over a cup of coffee in the marble city yesterday, "but that's where I'll be on Sunday. I'm taking a bit of a break for a year, see some of the world, so I fly out on Friday morning. Hang around Singapore for nearly a day then, before going to Bali, in Indonesia, where I'll be staying for a week. A lot of Australians go to Bali, I'm told, on holidays, but I doubt that I'll find an Irish pub there, showing the game. Unless I get to a net-cafe now, tune into the internet, that's it. But one way or the other, I'll be on tenterhooks 'til the game is over, and I know the result."

Kilkenny is such a hurling-mad county that, even if they weren't involved themselves this weekend, conversations in the various parishes, villages, towns and the city itself this week, would probably revolve around the game. But in the area around Killaloe/Kilmanagh/Ballycallan, Sinead's home parish, there is even more reason than usual, these days. Two years ago, the combination club won its first senior county title, in Kilkenny. Last year, and as a direct result of that, local hero Denis Byrne captained the county side, led them to Leinster honours, led them well also in the All-Ireland final, but not enough of his team-mates responded.

This year, the club has even more reason for satisfaction. In a surprise move, John Hoyne, was chosen to play in the half-forward line with Denis Byrne, on the opposite wing.

Sinead outlines the feeling in the parish. "Brilliant. I suppose there's a bit of surprise that John is starting, because of the way things have happened, but I would have said he was good enough to be playing anyway. He's well capable of playing there. He's been on the panel for a few years, a wiry bit of stuff."

"A lot of people say he could be the next John Power, he's that kind of build, that kind of player. Really strong, and he's not afraid of anything. When he goes out, he doesn't give a damn, the whole occasion doesn't faze him at all. He's the real joker of the Kilkenny team, loves the craic. I was talking to his mother Peggy, last night, and she just held her head and said, 'I'm not going to enjoy the match at all!' That, however, isn't the mood generally, in the parish."

As if that isn't enough parish involvement, for the Millea family themselves, there's another interest. "Tracey, my sister (also a camogie star), is going out with Brian McEvoy, so there's an added link there — we'd have a sort of a vested interest in him. Whether or not he'll be playing, I don't know yet — he's to have a fitness test before the final."



Sinead Millea: hoping for news on the internet.

SEPT

2000

Cork-Tipp battle for Munster crown

SEPT. 2000

IT'S Cork against Tipperary again this afternoon as the County champions from the respective counties meet in the Munster Club Camogie Championship at Bishopstown.

Cashel will go into this afternoon's clash full of confidence following last weekend's All-Ireland win by Tipperary. Four players from that winning side will line out this afternoon with Captain and player of the All-Ireland final Jovita Delaney leading the challenge.

Also included are Una O'Dwyer, Emily Hayden, and last year's Tipperary captain Meadhbh Stokes.

In their paths to this afternoon's encounter Cashel recorded a narrow victory over Toomevara in the Tipperary County final and this afternoon they face a Bishopstown side who showed tremendous class in defeating Barryroe in the Cork final.

The Cork side will look to the Inter County players Eithne Duggan, Vivi-

enne Harris, Sinead O'Callaghan, Ciara Healy, Ruth Cahalan, Jean O'Sullivan and Sheena Morley.

The Cork girls are hopeful as they set out on the road to what they hope will be their first Munster Club Championship title.

On paper, Bishopstown look set for victory but will have to be in top gear to defeat a Cashel side who are on a high following their County success last weekend.

Cork girls' new target

DESPITE their All-Ireland defeat, Bishopstown's Eithne Duggan, Ciara Healy, Vivienne Harris and Sinead O'Callaghan must put the past behind them in preparation for tomorrow's Munster Club championship quarter-final against Cashel, writes **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**

They will also be aware that they will be coming face-to-face with four players from last Sunday's winning Tipp team in captain, Jovita Delaney, Una O'Dwyer, Emily Hayden and Philly Fogarty.

"It will be hard to get going

again," admitted Eithne Duggan. "But with the club you have to consider the girls who weren't involved with Cork."

"It will be an opportunity to avenge the All-Ireland," she added.

Bishopstown, who have never advanced at provincial level since their three years at the top in Cork's championship make no secret of their desire to do well this season.

There will be one enforced change in their side due to the unavailability of Aine Buckley.

However, trainer Bernard Olden is pleased to have former county panellist Trish Doyle on his panel after a sojourn in America.

Cashel, backboned by their inter-county quartet are taking this game seriously. Celebrations in the Premier County are put on hold until after tomorrow's game. No Tipperary side have ever won the Holy Grail in club camogie, and with the county side raising the game to new heights last Sunday, Cashel will travel to Bishopstown hoping for another big win.



Charlie Fielding, President Monkstown Golf Club, presenting his ladies prize to the winner Bridie Dineen.

Picture: John Lottly

Bishopstown

(WHITE & MAROON)

Rose Desmond (16)

Dearbhla Quigney(2)

Ruth Cahalan(3)

Trish Doyle(4)

Ciara Enright(5)

Eithne Duggan(6)

Jean O'Sullivan(7)

Vivienne Harris(8)

Sheenagh Morley(9)

Aine White(10)

Sinead O'Callaghan(11) Brid Sheehan(12)

Caroline Kenny(13)

Ciara Healy(14)

Niamh Bonner(15)

SUBS:

Orla Kelly(1)
Denise O'Brien(17)
Sinead White(18)
Sinead Kelly(19)
Sinead O'Donoghue(20)
Maria Monahan(21)
Aine Buckley(22)
Maria Aylward(23)
Lynda O'Mahoney(24)

SELECTORS:

Pat Harris
Conor Kenny
Bernard Olden

Cashel

(BLUE & GOLD)

Sandra Ricken(16)

Michelle Kennedy(2)

Jovita Delaney(3)

Anne Marie Fitzgerald(4)

Meadhbh Stokes(5)

Una O'Dwyer(6)

Kaiffe Moloney(7)

Emily Hayden(8)

Paula Bulfin(9)

Triona Bonnar(10)

Anne Barry(11)

Philly Fogarty(12)

Norma Coffey(13)

Mairead Morrissey(14) Libby Twomey(15)

SUBS:

Danielle O'Connell(1)
Helen Breen(17)
Marie G. O'Dwyer(18)
Maura Tarrant(19)
Michelle Ryan(20)
Irene Dwan(21)
Helen Campion(22)
Denise Fitzgerald(23)
Sheila Nash(24)

SELECTORS:

Bishopstown's rock-solid display sends Cashel side home weeping

Bishopstown
Cashel

2-15
1-5

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

At Bishopstown

BISHOPSTOWN put paid to any hopes that Cashel had of adding an All-Ireland Club title to the county's All-Ireland senior title, when they won the Munster Club quarter-final championship game at Bishopstown on Saturday.

It was a power-packed performance by the Cork side particularly in the last 20 minutes as they staked a place in the semi-final.

Clara Healy, Vivienne Harris and Sinead O'Callaghan raised the attacking tempo with Healy in superb form bagging 2-9 of her side's tally.

It will take a very good side to knock Bishopstown off of their pedestal this season. Mike Chawke (manager of the reigning champions Granagh/Ballingarry), must surely have gone away wondering if his charges can hold on to their crown this year.

Bishopstown led 1-4 to 0-4 at the break, but it was their finishing flourish that was the most memorable aspect of the game. Eleven unanswered points in the opening 25 minutes of the second-half tell their own story. Despite the slippery conditions, the Cork

girls were unrelenting, and enjoyed dominance all over, but particularly eye-catching was the wonderful stick work of Vivienne Harris.

Cashel tried everything, switching Tipperary captain Jovita Delaney from full-forward to full-back, and moving Triona Bonner out to mark Harris, but it mattered little as Bishopstown marched on.

Their display was best summed up by Cork player Ciara Healy.

"It's absolutely brilliant to be in the Munster semi-final. Last week (against Tipperary) was so disappointing. There was no way we were going to lose twice in the one week."

Bishopstown prove far too good for Cashel

Bishopstown (Cork)
Cashel (Tipperary)

2-15
1-5

by Tom Higgins.

TIPPERARY champions Cashel were well beaten by Bishopstown in the Munster Club Senior camogie championship semi-final over the weekend.

Both sides took a while to settle with Norma Coffey opening the scoring for the visitors from a free after five minutes.

However once Bishopstown settled they began to play the better camogie with Ruth Cahalane having a tremendous game at full back, Eithne Duggan dominating at centre back and Vivienne Harris and Shiona Morley beginning to take control in midfield.

After nine minutes Bishopstown took the lead, which the never subsequently lost, with a fine goal. They were awarded a free about 40 metres out which was taken by Vivienne Harris and her delivery dropped into the square for Ciara Healy to put the ball in the net.

After that score Bishopstown took control and turned over leading 1-4 to 0-4 at the break, with Jovita Delaney, who had moved to half forward, getting the final two scores for the visitors in the last five minutes.

It was all one-way traffic in the second half with Bishopstown making excellent use of wind advantage to add another 11 points before Emily Hayden had Cashel's first score of the second period in the 57th minute. A goal from a free by substitute Helen Campion put a more respectful look on the scoreboard, 1-15 to 1-5 going into injury time. However with the last puck of the game scorer in chief Ciara Healy blasted home another goal.

Scorers: Bishopstown: C. Healy 2-9 (1-5 frees, 0-2 "45s), S. O'Callaghan 0-4, V. Harris 0-2 (0-1 free), Cashel: H. Campion 1-0 (free), J. Delaney 0-2, N. Coffey 0-2 (0-1 free, 0-1 "45).

BISHOPSTOWN: R. Desmond; D. Guigley, R. Cahalan, T. Doyle; C. Enright, E. Duggan, J. O'Sullivan, V. Harris, S. Morley; A. White, S. O'Callaghan, B. Sheehar; C. Kenny, C. Healy, N. Bonnar.

CASHEL: S. Ricken; M. Kennedy, J. Delaney, A. M. Fitzgerald; M. Stokes, U. O'Dwyer, K. Moloney; E. Hayden, P. Bullin; T. Bonnar, A. Barry, P. Fogarty; N. Coffey, H. Breen, L. Twomey, Subs: H. Campion for A. Barry (40th minute); M. Morrissey for L. Twomey (48th minute); M. G. Dwyer for H. Breen (54th minute). Referee: Ms. C. Doody (Limerick).

Vins fly Dublin flag

THE best of the Dubs in the 27th All-Ireland Kilmacud Crokes Sevens in Stillorgan last Saturday were St. Vincent's, who reached the Division 1 semi-final.

And it was only after extra time that the spirited Marino girls tumbled to Kileady of Limerick, who were in the competition for the first time, and who only were admitted as a late entry.

In the final, Kileady were defeated by Davitt's of Galway, who were winning their first Sevens title on the scoreline of 6-7 to 3-1.

The Division 2 event was won by Wexford's Oylgate, who beat Drumaness of Down comfortably in the final. Oylgate, managed by Camogie County Chairman, Ray Quigley, had the further distinction of having Gretta

CAMOGIE

By NIAL SCULLY

Heffernan named as Player of the Tournament.

In the new Poc Fada addition to the Glenalbyn festival, two Dublin players were especially prominent, filling the first two positions.

Sinead Caulfield, the excellent Crumlin goalkeeper from their Dublin county final reverse to Ballyboden St. Enda's last week, won first prize, with Gillian McCluskey of Erin's Isle finishing as runner-up.

Three venues were used for the all-day action, which attracted a good attendance, Glenalbyn, St. Benildus College and Silver Park.

And as ever, Crokes, the Sevens masters, organised the day with Crokie Park pre-

sion, and, at one stage, they even found themselves ahead of schedule.

Meanwhile, last Friday night, the Naomh Aolfe club, now defunct, held a special reunion in the Commercial Rowing club, Islandbridge.

At it, they made presentations to two of their most distinguished members, Camogie President, Pat Rafferty, and the wonderful Kathleen Timmins, still as bright and as cheerful as ever in her eight decade.

FIXTURES

TONIGHT (6.45): Sen A: St. Annes Park: Raheny v Ballyboden St. Enda's; Parttime: Naomh Meamog v St. Vincent's; Pearse Park: Crumlin v Na Flanna; Phoenix Park: Good Counsel v Erin's Isle.

SUNDAY (11.0): Inter A: Hartstown Road: St. Peregrine's v Clanna Gael; Fairview: Craobh Oidhreach v Naomh Padraig; Silver Park: Kilmacud Crokes v Cola.

Imreoirí den scoth i gCrnabhchomórtais Ghael Linn

Pádraicín Ní Ráifeartaigh, Uachtarán, presented the Schwarzkopf "Player of the Competition" awards to the winners of the Gael Linn Inter-Provincial Senior and Junior awards.

Ba iad na buaiteoirí ná Tracy Ní Laithín, Na Piarasigh, An Ghaillimh, foireann shunsearach Chonnacht, (ar chlé), agus Siobhán Ní Ainnhire, Lavey, Doire, foireann shóisearach Uladh. Tá Siobhán ag imirt inniu.



Special wishes were also made to students Sarah Hayes and Rachel Maloney who are part of the Cork Senior Camogie team competing in the All Ireland Final against Tipperary and to 5th year student Aine O'Regan who is part of the junior team playing against Derry in the Junior Final.



Sarah Hayes and Michael Walsh at Kinsale Community School debs' ball. Picture: Crowley

Senior double

Crumlin have no answer as Enda's take second title on trot



Niall SCULLY

**BALLYBODEN ST. ENDA'S..... 2-7
CRUMLIN..... 0-2**

"I SUPPOSE it's like having twins," quipped Ballyboden boss, Tomás Ó Reachtabhra, at the end of Sunday morning's Dublin Senior "A" Camogie Championship final in Parnell Park.

"It was our aim to win back-to-back titles, and this achievement was made possible by the fantastic commitment of the 23-player squad, and the wonderful backing we got from the Ballyboden club, who gave us anything we asked for," added Tomás.

Boden were the favourites to secure their second title on the trot, and their overall sharpness and their ability to convert their chances always had them ahead.

They had far more scoring avenues than Crumlin, who didn't spare the petrol, but who enjoyed little fortune around goal.

Crumlin had large slices of possession in the first half in particular, but they would have needed a string of points, or a goal, to lift their morale and worry Boden.

ENDEAVOUR

Their failure to do so resulted in a final that never buzzed. There was plenty of honest endeavour from both sides, but very little champagne.

Crumlin defended stoutly. They possessed a marvellous goalkeeper, Sinead Caulfield, and they had a brilliant midfielder in Ruth Lyons, but the scoreboard never reflected their toil throughout the field.

Boden had the thrust of Fiona Corcoran, while the likes of Sile Nic Coitir, Eimear Ring and Sinead McNeela took their chances in a match that was played in warm sunshine.

Boden led at the break, 0-2 to 0-1. Corcoran and Ring put them two up inside seven minutes at the church end, and Crumlin's



SPRINTING CLEAR: Crumlin's Sinead Elliot breaks away from Ballyboden's Sara Crosbie during the Senior A Camogie Final at Parnell Park. Pictures: Kyran O'Brien.

MATCHFILE

● **SCORERS:** Ballyboden St. Enda's: S McNeela 1-1, T Ni Reachtabhra 1-0, E Ring 0-3 (2F + 1 45), F Corcoran 0-2, S Nic Coitir 0-1. Crumlin: S Elliot, N Kearney 0-1 each.
● **Ballyboden St. Enda's:** Ciara Conway 7; Ciara Blair 7, Róisín Kearney 7, Mairead Cronin 7; Siobhán Dwyer 8, Orla Smith 7, Sarah Farrelly 7; Fiona Hughes 7, Sarah Crosbie 7; Darrelle Dolan 7, Fiona Corcoran 8, Sile Nic Coitir 8; Eimear Ring 8, Irene Kirwan 7, Sinead McNeela 8. Subs: Joanne O'Sullivan 7 for Dolan; Triona Ni Reachtabhra 7 for McNeela; Grainne Corcoran 7 for Cronin.
● **Crumlin:** Sinead Caulfield 8; Rowena Ni Neachtain 7, Veronica Walsh 7, Janice Kelly 7; Sylvia Hanks 7, Catherine Boyle 8, Gemma Flynn 7; Anne Walsh 7 Ruth Lyons 8;

Niamh Kearney 7, Fiona Kearney 7, Sinead Elliot 7; Marion Walsh 7, Cathy Walsh 7, Joanne Courtney 7. Subs: Ellis Walsh 7 for Courtney; Louise Cahill 7 for F Kearney.
● **Referee:** John Pender (Kildare).
● **Ratings:** Match: Well-contested, but didn't sparkle — 7. Ballyboden St. Enda's: Had more zest about them — 8. Crumlin: Struggled to make an impact in attack — 7.
● **Conditions:** Bright and dry.
● **Wides:** Ballyboden St. Enda's: 6 (2 in 1st half); Crumlin: 4 (4 in 1st half).
● **Mentors:** Tomás Ó Reachtabhra, Maureen Ó Reachtabhra, Ann McNamara. Crumlin: Mick Curran, Billy Maloney.
● **Player-of-the-Match:** Siobhán Dwyer (Ballyboden St. Enda's).

reply on 17 minutes was scored by Sinead Elliot following a precision pass from Lyons.

Boden were far superior on the resumption. Two minutes in, Nic Coitir struck the Crumlin post before Corcoran notched their third point.

Ten minutes into the half, Crumlin brought Cathy Walsh out from the full-forward position, and the response was immediate. Her delivery was sent over the bar by Niamh Kearney, 0-3 to 0-2.

But the Crumlin optimism was dented when Boden scored four points in succession from Nic Coitir, Ring (two) and McNeela.

That little bout of scoring firmly suggested that the Firhouse road was going to have to prepare the red carpet.

And they applied the wrapping to the Cup when Ring's stinging shot brought a fine stop from Caulfield, only for McNeela to steer in the rebound to the net on 48 minutes.

Boden were flying now, and Triona Ni Reachtabhra added a second goal in injury time following a delivery from the always elusive Nic Coitir.

"We trained harder for this than last year," summed up Ó Reachtabhra. "I felt it was anybody's match at half time, but we got the breaks around goal in the second half."

Table-toppers, Crumlin, will now focus on the League, where the coaching of Mick Curran, has been at the core of their deeds.

"It just didn't happen for us today," admitted Mick's co-mentor, Billy Maloney.



DUBLIN CHAMPIONS: Ballyboden St Enda's captain Irene Kirwan holds up the Dublin Senior A Camogie Trophy.

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□ **BALLYBODEN ST ENDA'S:** Back, from left: Niamh Regan, Fiona Hughes, Darrelle Dolan, Roisin Keaney, Grainne Corcoran, Adele Campbell, Siobhan Dwyer, Joanne O'Sullivan, Grainne McNeela, Fiona Corcoran, Irene Kirwan, Helen Hunt. Front: Mairead Cronin, Eimear Ring, Sile Ni Coitir, Sarah Crosbie, Orla Smith, Sorcha Farrelly, Ciara Conway, Clara Blair, Triona Ni Reachtabhra, Sinead McNeela, Gemma Browne.



□ **CRUMLIN:** Back, from left: Rowena Ni Neachtain, Veronica Walsh, Joanne Courtney, Ruth Lyons, Audrey Maguire, Sinead Cauldfield, Cathy Walsh, Sharon Fogarty, Sylvia Hanks, Sinead Elliot, Fiona Kearney. Front: Catherine Boyle, Marion Walsh, Jenny Claire, Anne Walsh, Eilis Walsh, Gemma Flynn, Louise Cahill, Janice Kelly, Niamh Kearney.

Crokes in 'Sevens' heaven!

THE 27th Kilmacud All-Ireland Sevens competition takes place next Saturday. Three venues will be used — Glenalbyn, Silver Park and St. Benildus College.

Crokes supremo, Sean Flynn, and his hard-working crew, have prepared well for the event, which has 24 teams in the Cup competition and 24 in the Shield.

Pearces of Galway will defend their title, but they will expect formidable opposition from the likes of Granagh-Ballingarry of Limerick, the All-Ireland champions for the last two seasons, St. Ibar's of Wexford and St. Brigid's, Ballycallen from Kilkenny.

Dublin's representatives include county finalists, Crumlin, Erin's Isle, the recent winners of the Clane Sevens, and St. Vincent's, who won the Crokes Sevens in 1991 and 1994.

CAMOGIE

By NIAL SCULLY

A new feature of the event will be the Poc Fada competition, which will be confined to clubs who don't progress from their group.

The hosts will be in good form for the Sevens as they have just clinched the Senior B League.

Meanwhile, Dubliner, Aine Derham, will referee Sunday's Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie final between Tipperary and Cork at Croke Park, (3.30).

It will be Derham's fifth time to take charge of the senior final, and she's looking forward to the task. Aine plays for Celtic, and she trains three times a week to keep fit.

And the advice of camogie legend, Phyllis Breslin, is never far from her mind. "Be fit, be fair and keep out of the play," is the Breslin motto.

And even in the heat of battle, Aine always tries to "enjoy the game and have a smile," a philosophy that has served her well.

And the man in the middle from Sunday's Dublin County final, John Pender of Kildare, will have the whistle from the All-Ireland Junior final between Cork and Derry in Croke, (1.30).

"I'm over the moon," states John, who did a fine job on the Ballyboden v Crumlin final.

FIXTURES

WEDNESDAY: (7.0): Jun B League: Russell Park: Naomh Bríd v Na Fianna. Balbriggan: O'Dwyer's v St. Vincent's.

FRIDAY (6.45): Jun A League: Navan Road: Oliver Plunkett's v Raheny.

I gCluichí Ceannais na Mionúir, 2000



Mionúr A

"Rogha Imreora"

An t-Uachtarán, Pádraicín Ní Raifeartaigh, agus Aislinn Ní Chonghaile, Renmore. An Ghailimh. Aislinn was the "Player of the Match" in the Minor A Final.



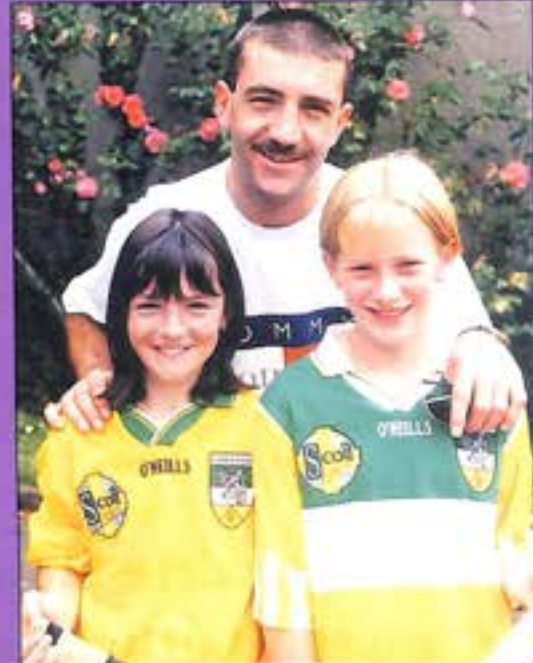
Mionúr B

"Rogha Imreora"

An t-Uachtarán, Pádraicín Ní Raifeartaigh, agus Laoighse Ní Mhathúna, Harps, Laois. Aislinn, the captain, was the "Player of the Match" in the Minor B Final.

Loch Garman abú

Martin Storey, imreoir cáiliúil de chuid Loch Garman, in éineacht lena iníon, Ciara, (ar chlé) agus Nicola Sinnott a d'imir 'sna "Mini Sevens" i mbliana.



Eire Og, Ballyhea on glory trail

EIRE ÓG and Ballyhea got head-to-head in the U-14 B league final in Blarney next Saturday.

Ballyhea have made giant strides since the introduction of camogie to the area and, having taken the U-12 title last year, will be confident of completing the double.

They face a determined Eire Óg side who are well coached and organised

and are certain to provide formidable opposition.

Both sides have put in tremendous efforts at under age level and Saturdays meeting should provide lively entertainment.

Eire ÓG will look to Ciara McKenna, who starred in their Senior B championship victory last weekend, Clare Carroll and Avril Desmond to

lead their challenge for honours against a Ballyhea side who can call on Rean Garvey, Siobhan O'Leary and Mary Coleman to lead their quest.

What could turn out to be the game of the junior A championship is pencilled in for Sunday when St Vincents and Ballinhassig clash in Mayfield.

Both sides are going well in the league and St Vincents will be hoping

to advance against a strong Ballinhassig side, that includes Linda O'Sullivan, Maggie Collins and Mairead Holland.

In the junior B championship, Mayfield will be hoping to continue their winning streak when they meet a St Fanahans side who recorded an impressive victory over Ballinora last weekend.



Eithne Duggan, Sinead O'Callaghan, Ciara Healy, Viv Harris and Ruth Callaghan who will line out with Bishopstown in Saturday's Munster semi-final.

Bishopstown make smooth progress

Bishopstown 2-15
Cashel 1-5

CORK county champions Bishopstown set up a Munster club championship semi-final meeting with Waterford representatives Dunhill-Fenore when they proved much too strong for Tipperary champions, Cashel, in Bishopstown last Saturday.

A goal nine minutes into the opening half from Ciara Healy separated the sides at half-time, Bishopstown leading 1-4 to 0-4.

Tipperary captain and player-of-the-match in the All-Ireland final, Jovita Delaney, was operating in the forward line and Norma Coffey scored for Cashel.

A determined home side totally dominated the second

half and 11 points on the trot from Viv Harris (2) Ciara Healy (6) and Sinead O'Callaghan (3) ensured their progress.

Emily Hayden and Helen Camplin hit a couple of consolation points for Cashel.

A Ciara Healy goal a minute into injury time capped a marvellous day for the Bishopstown full forward who finished the game with a personal tally of 2-9.

For the Cork champions the win helped erase the disappointment felt at losing to Tipperary in the All-Ireland final the previous week and, on the evidence of this display, they will go in as favourites to take their first Munster title.

Bishopstown meet Dunhill in the semi-final in Waterford next Saturday.

The winner's reward is a Munster final showdown with Grénagh, Ballingarry.

FIXTURES SATURDAY 16

Munster Club Championship semi-final: Bishopstown v Dunhill at Dunhill, Co Waterford, time to be arranged.

Under 14 B League Final: Eire Óg v Ballyhea, Blarney 4pm.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17
Junior A Championships: St Vincents v Ballinhassig, Mayfield, time to be confirmed.

PROVISIONAL FIXTURE
All-Ireland Intermediate Final: Cork v Limerick Bishopstown 3pm.

Junior B Championship: Mayfield v St Fanahans, Mayfield noon.

A superb performance from Ellen O'Herlihy helped book Eire Óg a semi-final spot when they defeated Kilbrittan 3-6 to 2-3 in the senior B championship replay at Newcestown last Saturday.

Two goals from the ace forward, plus points from Helen Walsh, helped the mid Cork girls to a comfortable half-time lead.

Kilbrittan came more into the game after the re-start and with Val O'Keeffe and Miriam Deasy working hard they cut the deficit.

Eire Óg, however, showed their determination and a goal from 14-year-old Ciara McKenna put the issue beyond doubt.

Eire Óg now meet Valley Rovers in the semi-final with St Finbarrs meeting Milford.

The past week was a busy one for clubs involved in junior A and B championships, with two draws being recorded inside 24 hours in the junior A competition.

Douglas and Glen Rovers finished level at 1-3 to 0-6. A goal two minutes from full-time earned Douglas a second bite of the cherry in an exciting tie at Douglas last Thursday.

The sides were level two points a piece at the interval. Douglas opened up an early

lead after points from Amanda O'Regan and Clare Jordan, but Susan Collins with two excellently struck long range frees levelled matters for the Glen.

From the throw-in Glen Rovers hit the front with points from Ailish Horgan(2) and Tina King, but back came Douglas to narrow the deficit.

The Glen replied with a Horgan point. With both sides squandering chances Glen Rovers held the advantage but conceded a goal when a well struck ball, initially saved by Sarah Mc Sweeney, was finished to the net by Louise O'Regan to level matters.

With chances coming their way both forward lines were guilty of bad misses before referee Jack Mc Grath brought proceedings to a finish.

Douglas can thank goalkeeper Emma Dowhey for a solid performance.

Sars into last four

Ballygarvan 2-6
Sars 0-0

A DETERMINED effort from Sars was not reflected in the scoreline at Riverstown as Ballygarvan booked a spot in the semi-final of the junior A championship.

Ballygarvan, going in as favourites for outright honours, had solid performances from Catriona Kelly and Emer Dillon but were made fight to the end by the Riverstown girls who had a solid display from goalkeeper Eithne Barry. In a tie that yielded seven goals, Inniscarra and Tracton finished all square at Ballyanley, 3-3 to 4-0.

Jackie Lyons for Tracton and Treasa Mc Carthy for Inniscarra turned in impressive displays and the replay promises another cracker. A lively Mayfield fifteen proved much too strong for Bishopstown at Bishopstown on Tuesday last, winning by 4-6 to 0-2.

Mayfield, thanks to goals from Kathleen Field and Aoife Walsh, led 2-4 to no score at the interval.

The winners continued to dominate in the second half with two further goals from the sharp-shooting Aoife Walsh and fully deserved their victory.

At the time of going to print confusion still reigns regarding the staging of the Intermediate All-Ireland final, between Cork and Limerick. Limerick initially sought and were granted a postponement of the game because of their involvement in the under-21 All-Ireland hurling final.

Subsequently the game was re-scheduled when Limerick changed their original request for the postponement, but this did not suit Cork, who are awaiting Central Council's decision. If the tie goes ahead this weekend, it will take place at Bishopstown on Sunday (3pm).

Call us



Contact Mary Newman-McCarthy with all your minor club news and match reports and photographs.

Limerick favourites for camogie final

LIMERICK travel, to Bishopstown in Cork on Sunday (3pm) for the All-Ireland intermediate final.

The clash with the All Ireland U-21 final in Thurles is most unfortunate and Limerick sought a change to Saturday. However, Cork for various reasons (holidays etc.) were unable to facilitate Limerick and so the game goes ahead in a direct clash with the hurling decider.

Limerick will go into the game as favourites. They are fielding their first team (it's Cork's second). The players have trained hard, many of them have experienced top class action with county, club, college, and school, particularly the seven Granagh-Ballingarry players on the team and should be unfazed by the occasion or the opposition.

Their build up has included a tough game against Galway in the first round of the senior championship and equally tough and hard fought, win over Antrim in the inter semi-final.

Sandwiched between those games was a facile win over the Galway inters. A poor enough outfit.

In the game against Antrim in Casement Park on August 20, Limerick had to dig very deep for the win, and that huge effort will have focused the team more than anything else. On that occasion the backs played exceptionally well, in a backs to the wall second half, while the forwards relied a lot on the scoring skills of Eileen O'Brien and Vera Sheehan. A similar contribution from the backs and a better scoring contribution from the forwards will be needed at Bishopstown.

Despite losing senior and junior All Ireland's two weeks ago (it was Cork's third team v Derry's first in the Junior Championship) Cork are the acknowledged elite in

the game. That they have qualified for the three adult All Ireland finals speaks for itself. Their inters are well seasoned intercounty players, holders of All Ireland medals in junior (1999) and U16 (1999). They have skill, pace, determination to burn, traits obvious in their emphatic semi-final win over Down in a replay. They are to be respected and admired and prepared for assiduously.

Limerick's last All Ireland Championship win was in 1996 when, with Eamonn Cregan in charge, they defeated Down in the inter final at the Gaelic Grounds. The team was captained that day by Helen Clifford-McCarthy (Bruff), while Bernie, Breda and Eileen O'Brien (then a mere 14) Vera and Deirdre Sheehan, Pauline McCarthy, Liz Leonard, Kay Burke (and sister Mary, a Cork Senior this year) of the present team also lined out.

Our hope is that on Sunday next, Deirdre Sheehan (capt.) and her team will emulate the achievement of the team of '96 and kick-start a trio of weekend All Ireland championship victories for Limerick hurling and camogie. Limerick's team for Sunday's game is unlikely to differ very much from that which lined out against Antrim.

Breda O'Brien (goal) (Granagh-Ballingarry), Meadhbh Nash (Newcastle west), Bernie O'Brien (Granagh-Ballingarry), Rose Collins (Milford), Kay Burke (Granagh-Ballingarry), Pauline McCarthy (Bruff), Marion Neville (Croagh-Kilfinny), Deirdre Sheehan (Granagh-Ballingarry), Mary Lonergan (Bruff), Jean Cullinane (Granagh-Ballingarry), Eileen O'Brien (Granagh-Ballingarry), Michelle Casey (Killeedy), Paula Cronin (Bruff), Liz Leonard (Bruff), Vera Sheehan (Granagh-Ballingarry), Deirdre Fitzpatrick (Killeedy).

Subs: Avril Lane (Adare), Alison White

(Ballygran), Aoife Sheehan (Granagh-Ballingarry), Grace McNamara (Adare), Edel Reale (Bruff), Sharon O'Shaughnessy (Bruff), Maire Fleury (Ahane).

It is a big blow to the team that Brother Philip Ryan who managed them through the year has recently been transferred.

His commitment, enthusiasm and single-mindedness will be missed. However it is fortunate that Co. Hurling Coach Noel Hartigan and St. Mary's Charleville P.E. teacher and camogie-hurling trainer and fitness trainer Gerry O'Donoghue are available to oversee preparations. These are assisted by Joe Heagney (First Aid), and Phil Casey (liaison officer), while behind the scenes the support and input from Kathleen Coffey (Co. Board chairperson), Clare O'Herlihy (Co. Secretary), Vera Mackey, Madge Fleury, Bernie Fitzpatrick, Miriam Magner-Flynn (Career decisions, the team sponsor) is invaluable.

Despite the counter attractions in Thurles we hope that all camogie people will make it their business to make the trip to Cork and give their whole hearted support to the girls in Green.

While the spotlight with the last few weeks is on the All Ireland inter-

mediate final, the under 10 blitz held attention also. It was played on Saturday last in Croagh, where the local club had everything in order.

Fifteen clubs (there are 23 in the County) sent teams. They were grouped in five's, with each team playing four preliminary round games, and the top four teams qualifying for the semi-finals. The four who made it were Ahane, Ballygran, Na Piarasigh and Newcastle west, with Ahane (winners v Na Piarasigh) and Ballygran (winners v Newcastle west) qualifying for the final in which Ahane had a decisive 4-6 to 0-0 victory to take the Phil Bennis trophy for the first time!

The outstanding player of the blitz was undoubtedly Ahane's Clare Mulcahy, a nine year old who revealed levels of fitness, pace, determination, skill, scoring power seldom seen in a player of that age. She dominated the blitz, scoring goals and points with ease. She is the eldest daughter of Ger (Dromin Athlaca, Ahane, Limerick, Limerick over 40's in Thurles on Sunday next) and Vera (former intercounty player) so it came as no surprise to learn that Clare is a grand-daughter of the great John Mackey and a grandniece of the

equally great and famous Herbert's. If she remains in the game, and continues to improve and refine her skills etc., she will undoubtedly become one of Limerick's greatest ever camogie players.

The clubs who were represented were Ahane, Galbally, Croagh-Kilfinny, Feenagh-Killeedy, Bruff, Na Piarasigh, Crecora, Ballygran, Blackrock, Murroe-Boher, Adare, Killeedy, Newcastle west, Granagh-Ballingarry, Patrickswell.

The weekend also had it's programme of junior, U-18B and U-16 games. The junior league was made less exciting by the withdrawal of Bruff, Feenagh-Killeedy and Garyspillane (all experiencing difficulty fielding teams), while Feenagh-Killeedy also withdrew from the U-18 B League, as did Tournafulla. Unfortunately results from the above competitions arriving at the P.R.O.'s desk are few and getting fewer!

With the weekend focus on the All Ireland final there is a limited weekend domestic programme. However there is some onfield action as follows. Under 16A Co. League/championship Round Five, Saturday at 6.30 p.m., Newcastle west v Blackrock.

Bishopstown confident of semi-final win

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

Camogie Correspondent

A DEPLETED Bishopstown team will travel to Dunhill tomorrow for the Munster Club Camogie Championship semi-final against Dunhill/Fenor, safe in the knowledge that they will still have enough firing power to see them through to their first Provincial final.

Captain Ciara Enright, Sinead O'Callaghan, Caroline Kenny and Aine Buckley are on holidays at the moment. Aine Buckley also missed last weekend's win over Tipperary champions, Cashel.

However, with Sinead White and Denise O'Brien ready to step into the fray, manager Bernard Olden will not be too alarmed by their absence. Trish Doyle, who made a welcome return for the Cashel game last Saturday, after a sojourn in America, will also be a great addition to their campaign.

Vivienne Harris, Eithne Duggan, Ruth Cahalan, Jean O'Sullivan, Sheenagh Morley and Ciara Healy are all in tremendous form at present, and it is difficult to see the Cork girls being troubled by the Waterford champions.

Dunhill/Fenor took county honours this season after knocking on the door for the past few years. However, they will be without star player Niamh Barry as she is playing with the Waterford ladies football team in the All-Ireland Minor final on Saturday.

Her sister Karen will play in goals in the camogie decider, and with father Nicholas in charge of the team, they will make a bold bid to create an upset. But, given the big gulf in standards between Cork and Waterford camogie, the 'town should gain a place in the Munster final against All-Ireland champions Granagh/Ballingarry.



Hoping to win the All Ireland Intermediate Championship final on Sunday next, the Limerick team and mentors, pictured outside their hotel on the morning of their win over Antrim in the semi-final. Back row, L to R:- Mary Lonergan, Breda O'Brien, Marion Neville, Michelle Casey, Phil Casey (Liaison Officer). Middle Row: Miriam Magner Flynn (Career Decisions - Team sponsors); Noel Hartigan (coach), Sharon Shaughnessy; Joe Heagney (First Aid), Pauline McCarthy, Deirdre Fitzpatrick, Grace McNamara, Meadhbh Nash, Maire Fleury, Vera Sheehan, Kay Burke, Jean Cullinane, Bernie O'Brien, Avril Lane, Deirdre Sheehan (Capt), Brother Philip Ryan (Manager/Selector), Anne Marie O'Keeffe (coach/selector). Front row: Alison White, Eileen O'Brien, Paula Cronin, Liz Leonard, Edel Reale, Aoife Sheehan, Rose Collins, Clare O'Herlihy (Co. Secretary), Joseph Casey (Asst Liaison Officer).

Eileen bids to add to her medal haul

TEENAGE sensation Eileen O'Brien will be chasing her umpteenth All-Ireland medal when Limerick meet Cork in the Millennium All-Ireland camogie final on Sunday in Bishopstown at 3pm. Eileen, holder of numerous national and provincial titles with Limerick, Granagh/Ballingarry and St Mary's of Charleville, is one of three O'Brien sisters expected to feature on the starting selection. Breda O'Brien is the choice in goal with Bernie likely to be named in the number three jersey. All-Ireland club winners Granagh/Ballingarry also provide the Sheehan trio - Deirdre (captain), Vera and Aoife - are all noted forwards. It's a Limerick panel laced with experience - possible centreback Pauline

By MAL KEAVENEY
In Limerick

McCarthy has been a permanent fixture with the county side for the past 20 years and the same can be said of her Bruff clubmate Liz Leonard, Limerick Player of the Year in 1999, who has also represented the Shannonsiders in football. Sunday represents another All-Ireland final outing for the Fleury household - Pat was at the helm with his native Offaly at Croke Park at the weekend, but this time it's daughter Maire, 16, who is in search of a celtic cross medal. Maire is the sole Ahane representative in the 22 strong squad. And, she lists Offaly's Brian Whelehan as her favourite player.



Eileen O'Brien will be lining out for Limerick.

Limerick are under the stewardship of Noel Hartigan (South Liberties), with Career Decisions International (MD Miriam Mager-Flynn, former inter-county player) as main sponsor.

Limerick (from): Marie Fleury (Ahane), Grace McNamara (Adare), Avril Lane (do), Alison

White (Ballygran), Pauline McCarthy (Bruff), Mary Loneragan (do), Liz Leonard (do), Paula Cronin (do), Sharon O'Shaughnessy (do), Marion Neville (Cragh/Kilfinny), Kay Burke (Granagh/Ballingarry), Jean Cullinane (do), Eileen O'Brien (do), Breda O'Brien (do), Bernie O'Brien (do), Vera Sheehan (do), Deirdre Sheehan (do), captain, Aoife Sheehan (do), Michelle Casey (Kilcedy), Deirdre Fitzpatrick (do), Rose Collins (Millford), Meadhbh Nash (Newcastle West) and Edel Reale (Bruff).

Ace Aoife is all set to goal it alone

CORK will be without their choice goalkeeper, Ger Casey, for Sunday's All-Ireland Intermediate camogie showdown with Limerick at Bishopstown.

Casey, who is out of the country on holidays, will be replaced by Cloughduv's Aoife Murray, whose brother Kevin will be involved with the Muskerry senior hurling team in the Cork championship semi-final at the same time on Sunday.

In what should be an otherwise unchanged side from that which beat Down so impressively at the penultimate stage after a replay, the selectors will be hoping that senior panellist Rachel Moloney will make it back in time for the three o'clock start.

Rachel, is also on holidays, but is due back late on Saturday night. If unavailable, her absence would be a cruel blow to Cork's chances of taking their first All-Ireland Intermediate title.

She is a deadly predator around goal and her ability to rifle over points from any angle would be sorely missed by the Leesiders.

However, the Rebels rearguard will remain intact with Joanne O'Callaghan, Rosalie Holland and Caroline Giltinan providing cover for goalkeeper Murray. Linda O'Connell, Ruth Cahalan and Jill Hannon will form a very dependable half-back line.

Sheena Morley and Emer Dillon will continue at midfield, while sisters Marie and Catherine Corkery will head up the attack.

Orla O'Sullivan, scorer of Cork's crucial second goal in the semi-final, should play at wing-forward with Aine O'Regan on the 40 - there is, however, a slight doubt as to whether or not O'Regan will play. She is currently recovering from injury. Should she not make it, last year's Junior Captain, Helen Walsh could make the starting 15.



Aoife Murray (left) replaces Ger Casey.

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

echo.ed@eecho.ie

Jennifer O'Leary will complete the line-out from corner forward.

If Moloney doesn't play her place would most likely go to Mary Ennigues who was effectively introduced in the drawn game against Down.

For Cork supporters still coming to terms with the double defeat in Croke Park on September 3rd, Sunday will be a big day. But, instead of dwelling in the past, selector Sheila Golden is taking a far more positive view:

"This is a game that Cork need to win. Rachel Moloney will be vital to our chances. If she is available, and if we can hold Eileen O'Brien and Vera Sheehan, we would be very hopeful," she said.

SEPT. 2000

Cork and Limerick battle it out for All-Ireland

CORK and Limerick battle it out in the All Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship honours tomorrow at Bishopstown.

The Leesiders go in quest of the county's first title in a competition that since its inception in 1992, has been won on one occasion by Limerick in 1996.

Following on an impressive victory over Down in a game that went to a replay, Cork secured a comfortable semi-

final victory over Dublin to reach tomorrow's final. Holidays have robbed Cork of captain and goalkeeper Ger Casey and midfielder Marie O'Connell while ace forward and scorer in chief Rachel Moloney is only due back in the country late tonight.

The holder of two All Ireland minor medals Cloughduv's Aoife Murray takes over the goalkeeping duties and the remainder of the side should show little change to that which defeated Dublin in

the semi final. Joanne O'Callaghan, Rosalie Holland, and Caroline Giltinan are expected to form the full back line whilst the half back line of Linda O'Connell, Ruth Cahalan and Jill Hannon have remained solid and reliable throughout the campaign. Sheena Morley and Eimear Dillon should form the midfield pairing whilst up front Orla O'Sullivan, the Corkery Sisters Marie and Catherine, and Jenny O'Leary who had such a tremendous All Ireland Junior

final could be joined by last year's All Ireland Junior winning captain Helen Walsh or Mary Ennigues. Doubt remains as to the fitness of Aine O'Regan on whom a final decision will be made as late as possible before throw in.

Limerick fielding the county's first choice fifteen have had the experience of participating in the senior league and championship. Coach Noel Hartigan has a nice blend of youth and experience in his lineout. Pauline McCarthy who

intermediate crown

over a long period has given tremendous service to the county is one again to the forefront. Liz Leonard, Breda and Bernie O'Brien and Kay Burke are all experienced campaigners whilst 16 year old Maire Fleury will be hoping to emulate her father Pat who won All Ireland hurling honours with Offaly in 1985.

Up front the Eileen O'Brien-Vera Sheehan combination will pose the main threat to Cork's title hopes but the Cork backroom team are well aware of the

Limerick star's abilities and will take measures to counteract their abilities. A struggle is on the cards to bring the curtain down on what has been an exciting inter-county camogie Millennium.

Cork champions Bishopstown, fresh from their victory last week-end over Tipperary champions Cashel, should have too much strength for Waterford Champions Dunhill-Fenore when the sides clash in the Club championships semi finals in Waterford.



Angie McDermott
Cork are, anyway, after Deirdre grabbed two early goals to send Tipp on their way to victory

A Long Way For Tipperary

THE PREMIER COUNTY CREATE HISTORY ON THE DOUBLE: DEFEATING CORK IN THE FINAL AND RETAINING THEIR ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CROWN

A great camogie team was relaunched in Croke Park on the first Sunday of September 2000, as Tipperary proved (if need be) that last year's All Ireland victory was no flash in the pan. They swept aside a below par challenge from the Rebel County to claim their second title in history - 2-11 to 1-9. But it wasn't just the win at GAA Headquarters that was pleasing; it had to be the fact that they had taken the scalp of one of the proudest camogie counties in the country. The Premier County became the chief stronghold in every sense of the word, as they had never defeated Cork on All Ireland championship day.

Their victory was all the sweeter as it was won by the starting fifteen en bloc who paraded behind the Artane Boys Band. There was no room for tired legs or aching limbs - every player fought tooth and nail right up to the final whistle. And very much in evidence in Croke Park was the crisp economic attacking play that catapulted them to that title.

Remarkably cool and calm before the game, the opposite was reported of the Cork girls, who were said to be very nervous and anxious to get out and into the game. Tipperary, though, were a joy to behold in full flight. A point from a free by the Leesiders' Fiona O'Driscoll after 20 seconds was the only interruption to the free-flowing shooting of the Premier County that produced 2-2 in a five-minute spell. Deirdre Hughes, voted Eireann Player of the Year in 1999, had her best game in recent times in a Tipp jersey. Her first goal deceived Cora Keohane, dipping into the corner of the Cork net, but there was nothing fortuitous

about her second - a splendid pluck from amongst the hurleys of Eithne Duggan and Mags Finn to palm home from close range. Two goals in 60 seconds and Cork were rocked.

Hughes, 14-year-old Clare Grogan and Emer McDonnell continued to cause all sorts of problems for the Rebel rearguard, and outside the half-forward line of Philly Fogarty, Noelle Kennedy and Caitriona Hennessy gave little scope to the Cork defence. Their midfield partnership of Angie McDermott and Emily Hayden laid any doubts to rest with a magnificent performance. The Tipperary back six were absolutely superb in this All Ireland final. Suzanne Kelly, Una O'Dwyer and Clare Madden choked up any supply that came their way, while Sinead Nealon, Ciara Gaynor and Therese Brophy tackled hard without conceding any frees.

But what about the RTE Player of the Match, captain and goalkeeper, Jovita Delaney? When Tipperary needed a big performance she did not disappoint. The lion-hearted player from Holycross gave a memorable display, and boy, did she respond to the pressure. Save after save, she kept her goal intact right up to the final minute of normal time when Una O'Donoghue slipped her marker and struck a fine goal. But it mattered little, as Jovita had done more than enough to inspire Tipperary to their second All Ireland senior title.

Cork, on the other hand, looked completely disorientated, and appeared to lose confidence in their ability to compete after Hughes struck for those two early goals. On the day, it would have to be said, they got a

legitimate beating by a team who could not be matched. But even allowing for the magic of the Tipp display, no one could have anticipated the extent of the Cork demise.

All Irelands have to be won over the hour, and that is what this great Tipperary side did. After the game, manager Michael Cleary said he was delighted to be associated with such a characteristic display from a team who had only reached their peak in recent times.

Meanwhile, Derry bridged a 22-year gap when they took their third junior title on a 3-15 to 1-12 scoreline in the opening game in Croke Park. Manager, Dominic McKinley, brought his side back 12 months after having fallen to the Rebel County by a point, to fashion a deserved win over a young Cork team.

Two goals in the 13th minute from last season's captain Mary O'Kane and Karen Rafferty set up the northern side for a 2-12 to 1-3 interval lead. However, a spirited Cork comeback helped by the introduction of second-half substitute Mary Bridget Enniguese and positional switches, saw the Leesiders come within six points of their conquerors, only to see the eventual champions pull away with a splendid third goal.

Paula McAtamney was always a thorn in the Cork defence scoring eight points, while Jennifer O'Leary finished with 11 points for the losers. Aileen Tohill (sister of Anthony) playing at centre-forward was the proud recipient of the All Ireland Junior Cup.

Congratulations must be sent to all four teams for contributing to a splendid All Ireland camogie day the first Sunday in September 2000. ☺



An Craobhchomórtas Idirmheánach sa Chamógaíocht

Corcaigh
v
Luimneach
3.00 i.n.

**An Cluiche Ceannais
2000**

Baile an Easpaig -- Corcaigh -- An Domhnach, 17 Meán Fómhair, 2000

Clár Oifigiúil

Luach: £1.00

Síle de Bhailís
Andrúnaí



*Pádraichín
Ní Raifeartaigh*

Teachtaireacht ón Uachtarán

Tá áthas orm fíor-chaoin fáilte a fheiradh romhaibh uilig chuig an Cluiche Ceannais de Chraobhchomórtas Idirmheánach na hÉireann, 2000. Fáiltim ar leith roimh na foime ó Luimneach agus Corcaigh atá ag imirt inniu, agus tá súil agam go mbeidh cluiche spórtúil den scoth againn.

On behalf of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael, I wish to extend a special welcome to our sponsors, *Allied Irish Banks*.

Today's game provides us with an enthralling all-Munster Final, with Corcaigh appearing in their third successive All-Ireland Final this season, and, given the dedication and commitment of the players of both counties to the game, I am sure that this Final will be a treat to watch.

Táimid faoi chomaoín ag Cumann Bhaile an Easpaig. Our thanks to the Bishopstown Club for hosting the All-Ireland Intermediate Championship Final today. Gabhtar buíochas leis an Réiteoir, Seán Ó Muiríosa, agus lena mhaor uilig.

Tá súil agam go mbeidh tráthnóna taitneamhach againn uilig.

**Pádraichín Ní Raifeartaigh
Uachtarán**

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Seán Ó Muiríosa
TIOBRAID ÁRANN

Cuirtear fáilte is fiche roimh an Réiteoir, Seán Ó Muiríosa, atá i bhfeighil an Chluiche Ceannais inniu.

Seán is a member of the camógaíocht club in Durtas Éile and he played hurling for Naomh Mhuire, Cluain Meala. Réiteoir oile atá i Seán agus a chuid déanta ag gach leibhéal den Chumann aige.

Seán refereed the All-Ireland Junior Championship Finals in 1997 and 1999 and the All-Ireland Senior Championship Final in 1998. He was the stand-by Réiteoir for Cluiche Ceannais na Sóisear at the recent All-Ireland Finals.

He has refereed at all Inter-County and Inter-Provincial grades.

Go n-éirí thar barr leis arís inniu.

**Na Maoir
Chúil**

Cairméal Uí Bhriain (Carmel O'Brien)
Síle Uí Dhubhshláine (Sheila Delaney)
Síle Uí Dhuibhí (Julie O'Dwyer)
Siobhán Nic an Ghaill (Siobhán Stapleton)

Tiobraid Árann

An Craobhchomórtas Idirmheánach

An Craobhchomórtas Idirmheánach

Cuireadh tús leis an gCraobhchomórtas Idirmheánach i 1992. Anseo thíos tá na buaiteoirí agus na tanaistí ó shoin i leith:

	Buaiteoirí	Tanaistí
1992	Áth Cliath	An Dún
1993	An Clár	Áth Cliath
1994	Ardmhacha	Cill Dara
1995	An Clár	Tiobraid Árann
1996	Luimneach	An Dún
1997	Tiobraid Árann	An Clár
1998	An Dún	Corcaigh
1999	An Clár	Aontroim

An Craobhchomórtas Idirmheánach

Na Cluichí Leathcheannais, 2000

Corcaigh 2-09 An Dún 1-12

Athchlúiche

Corcaigh 2-13 An Dún 2-04

Luimneach 4-05 Aontroim 2-10

**NA
CAPTAEIN**



*Sheenagh Ní
Mhuiríosa,*
CORCAIGH



*Deirdre
Ní Shíobháin,*
LIMERICK



**Banc Aontas Éireann
Allied Irish Banks**

Sean-chara le Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael é AIB agus urraíocht déanta orainn acu leis na blianta beaga anuas. We thank AIB for its assistance and look forward to its continued support in the future. Mile buíochas leo.

Corn Puirseil

Bronnadh Corn Puirseil ag an Ardchomhairle don chéad Chluiche Ceannais i 1992. I ndíl-chuimhne ar Úna Bean Uí Phuirséil, Iar-Uachtarán, a bronnadh an corn. Úna, from Ballingarry in Limerick, represented both Luimneach and Áth Cliath. She won an All-Ireland Senior Championship medal with Áth Cliath in 1938. Bhuaigh sí Comórtas Mhic Giolla Bhríde le linn di bheith ina scoláire in U.C.D.



"Rogha Imreora" 2000

Craobhchomórtas na Mionúr
A: Aisling Ní Chonghaile
An Ghallimh

B: Labhaoise Nic Mhathúna
Laois

Craobhchomórtas na Sóisear
Póilin Nic an Tiompánaigh
Doire

Gabhtar buíochas le **Belleek Pottery** ag a bhfuil an duais á bronnadh orainn acu don "Rogha Imreora" ins an gCluiche Ceannais den Chraobhchomórtas Idirmheánach. It also sponsors the awards for the All-Ireland Minor, Junior and Club

Belleek
FINE PARIAN CHINA

**Focal
buíochais**

Gabhtar buíochas ó chroí leis an gCumann i mBaile an Easpaig, Corcaigh, idir mhuintir Chumann Lúthchleas Gael agus Chumann Camógaíochta na nGael, a chuir an pháirc ar fáil dúinn agus a chabhraigh go mór linn leis an réamhullmhúchán.

Gura fada buan iad uilig.

CORCAIGH

Pádraig Ó Muiríosa
(Pat Murray)
(Bainisteoir)

Cáit Uí Dhuinn
(Kay Dunne)
Síle Uí Ghóillidhe
(Sheila Golden)

LIMERICK

An Br. Pilib Ó Riain
(Br. Philip Ryan)
(Bainisteoir)

Nollaig Ó hArtagáin
(Noel Hartigan)
Gearóid Ó Donnchú
(Gerry O'Donoghue)
Aine Máire Ní Chaoimh
(Ann-Marie O'Keefe)

**Na
Foirne
Bainistíochta**



Corcaigh

Dearg agus Bán

1. Aolfe Ní Mhuiri
Aolfe Murray
Cloughduv
2. Siobhán Ní Cheallacháin
Joanne O'Callaghan
Cloughduv
3. Róis Ní Aoláin
Rosale Holland
Baryton
4. Cearúilín Nic Giolla tSeanáin
Caroline Giltenan
Newtownshandrum
5. Síle Ní Annáin
Jill Hannon
Glen Rovers
6. Rút Ní Chathaláin
Ruth Cahalan
Bishopstown
7. Linda Ní Chonaill
Linda O'Connell
St. Finbar's
8. Eimhear Dhiolún
Emer Dillon
Ballygarvan
9. Sheenagh Ní Mhuraile
Sheenagh Morley, Bishopstown
Captaen
10. Caltriona Ní Chorca
Catherine Corkery
Cloughduv
11. Léan Bhreatnach
Helen Walsh
Éire Óg
12. Sinéad Ní Laoire
Jennifer O'Leary
Baryroe
13. Orla Ní Shuilleabháin
Orla O'Sullivan
St. Finbar's
14. Máire Ní Chorca
Marie Corkery
Cloughduv
15. Rachel Ní Mhaolomhnaigh
Rachel Moloney
Courcy Rovers
16. Sinéad Ní Bhuachalla
Sinéad Buckley, Aghabullogue
17. Áine Ní Riagáin
Áine O'Regan, Courcy Rovers
18. Máire Brid Enneggess
Mary Bridget Enneggess,
Aghabullogue
19. Áine Ní Chéilleachair
Áine Kelleher,
Newtownshandrum
20. Eibhlín Ní Iarfhatha
Ellen O'Herlihy, Éire Óg

Ionadaithe

16. Sinéad Ní Bhuachalla
Sinéad Buckley, Aghabullogue

17. Áine Ní Riagáin
Áine O'Regan, Courcy Rovers
18. Máire Brid Enneggess
Mary Bridget Enneggess,
Aghabullogue

19. Áine Ní Chéilleachair
Áine Kelleher,
Newtownshandrum
20. Eibhlín Ní Iarfhatha
Ellen O'Herlihy, Éire Óg

Gabhtar buíochas le All

4

Corcaigh



ar chúil (ó chlé): S. Ní Bhuachalla, M. B. Enneggess, Á. Ní Chéilleachair, C. Nic Giolla tSeanáin, L. Ní Chonaill, R. Ní Aoláin, E. Dhiolún,
S. Ní Mhuraile, Captaen, R. Ní Mhaolomhnaigh, Á. Ní Riagáin, S. Ní Annáin, N. Ní Chonaill, Á. Ní Riagáin.
chun tosaigh (ó chlé): A. Ní Mhuiri, L. Ní Mhurchú, S. Ní Laoire, C. Ní Chorca, S. Ní Cheallacháin, R. Ní Chathaláin, Ó. Ní Shuilleabháin, C. Ní Ghomáin,
M. Ní Chorca, G. Ní Chathasaigh, N. Ní Bhaill.

Luimneach



ar chúl (ó chlé): P. Nic Cárthaigh, M. Ni Fhiobhra, A. de Faoite, S. Ni Sheachnasagh, G. Nic Connara, S. Ni Chuileannáin, R. Ni Choileáin, D. Ni Shiocháin, **Captaen**, B. Ni Bhriain, M. Ni Longargáin, E. Ni Bhriain, A. Ni Liatháin, B. Ni Bhriain, E. Ni Loinín.
chun tosaigh (ó chlé): A. Ni Shiocháin, M. de Náis, E. Roghaill, M. Ni Chathasaigh, M. Ni Niadh, V. Ni. Shiocháin, C. de Burca, P. Ni Chróinín, D. Nic Giolla Phádraig, M. Ni Laocha.



Luimneach

Glas agus Bán

2
Meadhbh de Náis
Meadhbh Nash
Newcastlewest

5
Cáit de Búrca
Kay Burke
Granagh/Ballingarry

8
Deirdre Ni Shiocháin
Deirdre Sheehan, Granagh/Ballingarry
Captaen

10
Eibhlín Ni Bhriain
Eileen O'Brien
Granagh/Ballingarry

13
Póilín Ni Chróinín
Paula Cronin
Bruff

1
Brid Ni Bhriain
Breda O'Brien
Granagh/Ballingarry

3
Briainín Ni Bhriain
Bernie O'Brien
Granagh/Ballingarry

6
Póilín Nic Cárthaigh
Pauline McCarthy
Bruff

11
Sinéad Ni Chuileannáin
Jean Cullinane
Granagh/Ballingarry

14
Vera Ni Shiocháin
Vera Sheehan
Granagh/Ballingarry

4
Róis Ni Choileáin
Rose Collins
Milford

7
Maireann Ni Niadh
Marian Neville
Croagh/Killinny

9
Maire Ni Longargáin
Mary Lonergan
Bruff

12
Michelle Ni Chathasaigh
Michelle Casey
Killeedy

15
Deirdre Nic Giolla Phádraig
Deirdre Fitzpatrick
Killeedy

Ionadaithe

16. Edel Roghaill
Edel Reale, Bruff

17. Alsún de Faoite
Alison White, Ballyagran
18. Gráinne Nic Connara
Gráinne McNamara, Adare

19. Máire Ni Fhiobhra
Máire Fleury, Athane
20. Éilís Ni Loinín
Liz Leonard, Bruff

as uacht na Hurraíochta



Host team takes honours in the first inaugural cup competition

TWELVE teams from right across the South East Division, Cork city and county took part in the inaugural Declan Crowley Perpetual Memorial Cup, catering for the only Under 10 camogie competition in the South East. Over a hundred girls, their parents and trainers ascended onto Ballinhassig GAA pitch recently and played out some excellent games of camogie. Already at this stage players of outstanding quality and potential county players were being recognised in what was initially, one of their very first competitions at this age level. The teams were divided up

into different groups, with the winners of each going into semi-final playoffs. The weaker teams then played off in the shield tournament. In the final match, Ballinhassig 2 team took the honours by defeating Sliabh Rua in the final, while Carrigaline won the Shield competition, proving too good for Glen Rovers.

The competition proved to be an outstanding success, and all credit must go to the organisers and to main sponsors BJ Automation and to Ballinhassig GAA club who hosted the event. Each team member was presented with medals for winning the shield, while trophies were presented to the Ball-

inhassig 2 team members. It is expected that following the success and support given by camogie clubs throughout the county, that even more clubs will take part in future years.

The competition honours the memory of Declan Crowley who lost his life in an accident last year. He was deeply associated with the Old Abbey Athletic Club, but also had a very strong interest in the Ballinhassig Camogie club where his three daughters played at Junior A, Under 16 and Under 14 age groups, and whose memory is now embedded in the Under 10 competition in Ballinhassig.

Howard Crowdy



Pictures clockwise: Natalie O'Sullivan, Ciera Hayes and Linda Wright, who took part in the inaugural Declan Crowley Perpetual Memorial Cup; the Ballygarvan team; with the trophy Brendan and Sheila Colman and Mary Crowley.

Cork capture the intermediate camogie crown

Cork 3-9
Limerick 0-11

CORK were crowned Intermediate All-Ireland camogie champions at Bishopstown on Sunday last when they recorded a superb victory over Limerick.

Aided by the strong wind, Limerick shot into an early lead with points from Jean Cullinane and Pauline McCarthy, but despite dominating the opening stages they found themselves in arrears when Cork hit the front with two goals inside a minute.

Rachel Moloney finished the first to the net after goalkeeper Breda O'Brien batted down an Orla O'Sullivan shot that looked to be going over the bar. From the puck out Cork came again and Catherine Corkery's long delivery ended up in the net. Rachel Moloney pointed a free to

stretch the lead, but Limerick rallied with three unanswered points from Cullinane and Eileen O'Brien to cut the deficit. Moloney pointed in the 23rd minute, but Limerick continuing to dominate with five unanswered points from Cullinane, O'Brien (2) and Vera Sheehan (2) to lead at the break 0-10 to 2-2.

But Cork were back on level terms inside ten minutes with points from Helen Walsh and Rachel Moloney and Ruth Cahalan, and suddenly it was all to play for.

With Emer Dillon, Caroline Giltinan and Jill Hannon in control, the Cork defence held firm.

Helen Walsh gave Cork the lead when she hit a marvellous long range point, and with the title now up for grabs, Cork answered the challenge. Rachel Moloney grabbed an opportunist goal after Cork

Limerick make great start but fade at the finish

had won a throw-in on the 20-metre line. From here on, it was all Cork. Points from Emer Dillon, Catherine Corkery and Helen Walsh secured a well deserved victory for a Cork side who recorded the county's first victory in the Intermediate grade since the competition's inception in 1992.

CORK: A Murray, J O'Callaghan, R Holland, C Giltinan, J Hannon, R Cahalan, I O'Connell, E Dillon, S Morley, C Corkery, H Walsh, J O'Leary, O O'Sullivan, M Corkery, R Moloney, E O'Halloran, F O'Sullivan.
LIMERICK: Breda O'Brien, M Nash, Bernice O'Brien, R Collins, K Burke, P McCarthy, M Neville, D Sheehan, M Loneragan, E O'Brien, J Cullinane, M Casey, P Cronin, V Sheehan, D Fitzpatrick. Subs: D Fitzpatrick for S O'Shaughnessy, A White for M Loneragan, A Lane for P Cronin.

Ballyhea 3-2
Eire Og 0-0

BALLYHEA took the under-14 B league title after first half goals from Mary Coleman and Norma Healy settled their side. Despite strong Eire Og pressure, Ballyhea held firm and further scores from Norma Healy and Mary Coleman gave them the title.

Ballinhassig 4-7
St Vincent's 1-0

BALLINHASSIG, thanks to a superb display from former inter-county senior Linda O'Sullivan, booked a quarter-final spot against Killeagh in

the Junior A Championship. O'Sullivan contributed 1-5 of her side's total in a game where Laura Finn and Trisha Holland also got on the scoresheet for the south-east girls.

Mayfield 3-9
St Fanahan's 5-1

TRAILING 5-1 to no score at the interval, Mayfield showed great grit and determination to advance to the quarter final of the Junior B championship at the expense of St Fanahan's.

The Mitchelstown side hit the front with four goals and a point from mother-and-daughters combination Kay Nolan with Ann Marie and Cathiona. Angela Fox added a fifth goal and St Fanahan's looked to be in the next round. Mayfield had other ideas and two goals inside three minutes of the restart from Catherine Barrett, plus a third

from Sinead Lucey, had them back in the game. Firing on all cylinders, Mayfield took over with points from Barrett, Aoife Walsh, Niamh Daly and Laura O'Brien to ensure a victory few would have anticipated at the interval.

Bandon 3-2
Clonakilty 1-2

Bandon advanced to a meeting with Courcy Rovers after they had a good victory over Clonakilty in the Junior B Championship on Sunday evening.

In the under-12 league semi-final Douglas made it to the decider with a 2-6 to 2-2 victory over Ballinhassig, while Glen Rovers - with excellent performances from Jemima O'Regan and Jennifer Basteed - had a quarter-final win over Ballinascarty by 5-0 to 0-1.

They now meet Ballygarvan in the semi-final.



REBEL ACE . . . Sheena Morley, with her parents Jackie, the legendary Cork soccer star and mother Joan at Bishopstown's GAA pitch

Ace Morley's Rebel cause

CORK midfielder Sheenagh Morley is hoping to maintain her record of never being on a losing All-Ireland side when she lines out for the Rebels in tomorrow's All-Ireland intermediate final against Limerick.

Sheenagh - a Cork senior panelist in '92 and '95 who also holds junior and minor All-Ireland medals - is a sister of Cork City striker Pat.

"It would be a great honour to be a part of Cork's first intermediate winning side, but we will not get it easy from Limerick, who are back-boned by All-Ireland club champions of the last two years Granagh Ballingarry," said Morley.

Cork - who had to go to a replay in

CAMOGIE

By MAIRE UÍ SCOLAI

the semi-final with Down - will be hoping for big games from senior panelists Rachel Moloney, Jill Hannon and Ruth Cahalane, who says: "Pride will be a big factor for us as we want to make up for our two All-Ireland defeats."

Limerick, who last won the title in '96, can call on the services of the O'Brien sisters, Breda in goal, Bernie in defence, and the talented Eileen up front.

The ever-youthful Pauline McCarthy in defence, and Vera Sheehan up front will be a real test for a Cork side who have never won an intermediate title.

Manager Noel Hartigan - nephew of

the great Hartigan brothers, Pat and Bernie, who were at the heart of Limerick's All-Ireland win of '73 - is expecting a close encounter.

"You never see a bad Cork side in an All-Ireland Final. We hope the experience of Eileen O'Brien in attack and Kay Burke at right half-back will bring a much needed win to Limerick," he said.

Offaly senior hurling manager Pat Fleury will be hoping for better fortune for his daughter Maura, who is a member of the Limerick panel while the Reale household is looking for a double Limerick celebration as daughter Edel is substitute goalkeeper and son Paudie will be in action for the county's U-21 hurlers.

SEPT.

2000

Cork win camogie decider

Cork
Limerick

3-9
0-11

CORK emerged the super heroes in Bishopstown as they plucked their first ever All-Ireland Intermediate camogie championship title yesterday.

Driven by an unstoppable determination, this led to two first-half goals from Rachel Moloney and Catherine Corkery.

Ironically, though, it was Limerick who led at the break (0-10 to 2-2).

But, the Green and Whites managed only one more point over the final 30 minutes of play, which must be credited to a superb performance from the Cork full-back line of Joanne O'Callaghan, Rosalie Holland and Caroline Giltinan.

Emer Dillon, who was awarded Player of the Match, controlled most of the action at midfield. Up front, it was the prowess of Rachel Moloney, who hit Cork's third goal in the closing period, ending Limerick's resistance.

Cork captain Sheenagh Morley said: "I saw the girls after losing the two finals in Croke Park, and didn't want to feel the same way.

"I came into this game having never played on an All-Ireland losing team, and I kept that record intact," declared Sheenagh.

City side run riot

Bishopstown
Dunhill/Fenor

4-18
0-0

THE less said about this massacre the better. Suffice to mention that Cork county champions Bishopstown were never under any pressure in winning their way to their first Munster Club camogie final.

And, what a classic it will be when they face All-Ireland Club holders, Granagh/Ballingarry.

It is difficult to have reservations about a team that finishes like a train and wins by 30 points, but Bishopstown know they will have their work cut out to lift their first Provincial title.

Speaking after Saturday's mismatch in Dunhill, manager Bernard Olden was pleased that it afforded him the opportunity to try out new players and make position switches.

"We were missing four of our first choice team, so I was delighted to see how our subs coped.

"Denise O'Brien played in the forward line and scored a goal, Sinead White also started, and we placed Sinead Kelly in the backline."

As usual, Ciara Healy was involved in the scoring, grabbing a goal and a handful of points, with Aine White finishing their other two goals.

Looking ahead to the much-awaited Munster final, Bernard added: "This year we want to go on and win the club championship."



Cork girls come good to salvage season of near misses

Cork
Limerick

3-9
0-11

by Tom Higgins

BEATEN in both the All-Ireland senior and junior camogie finals this year Cork turned up at Bishopstown, Cork, yesterday determined to win some silverware. They took on a fancied Limerick side in the All-Ireland Intermediate final and came out on top to gain their first success in this grade.

Limerick had advantage of the strong crosswind in the opening period and got off to a good start with two points from frees by Jean Culhane and Pauline McCarthy in the opening five minutes.

However, they were rocked back on their heels in the ninth minute when goalkeeper Breda O'Brien batted down a lob from Orla O'Sullivan, only for Rachel Moloney to finish to the net.

However, worse was to follow for the visitors as a minute later, in only Cork's second attack, Catherine Corkery's effort from an acute angle hit the underside of the bar and dropped into the net.

After Rachel Moloney had converted a free in the 13th minute Limerick began to come back into the game and reduced arrears with two points from Cullinane and one from an Eileen O'Brien free to leave it 0-5 to 2-1 after 20 minutes.

Rachel Moloney then converted another free as Limerick hit a purple patch in the final four minutes scoring five points, two each from Vera Sheehan and Eileen O'Brien and one from Jean Cul-

inane, to give them an interval lead of 0-10 to 2-1.

Jill Hannoni was having an outstanding game in the Cork defence, ably supported by Ruth Cahalan and Rosalie Holland, and with Sheenagh Morley and Eimer Dillon getting on top at midfield the Cork forwards began to hum.

Cork regained the lead for the second time in the 40th minute with a Ruth Cahalan point and although Eileen O'Brien, one of the stars of the Limerick side, levelled matters with a pointed free in the 49th minute, Cork moved into overdrive and the game was killed off when Rachel Moloney had Cork's third goal in the 52nd minute to leave it 3-6 to 0-11. It was plain sailing after that, the Rebels tacking on a further three points.

In addition to Eileen O'Brien, Bernie O'Brien and Pauline McCarthy stood out in the Limerick defence while Deirdre Sheehan and Mary Loneragan had their moments in the centre and forwards Jean Cullinane and Vera Sheehan tried hard up front.

Scorers: Cork: R. Moloney 2-3 (0-2 frees), C. Corkery 1-1, H. Walsh 0-3, R. Cahalan 0-1, E. Dillon 0-1. Limerick: E. O'Brien 0-4 (0-2 frees), J. Cullinane 0-4 (0-1 free), V. Sheehan 0-2, P. McCarthy 0-1 (free).
CORK: A. Murray, J. O'Callaghan, R. Holland, C. Gilenan, J. Hannoni, R. Cahalan, L. O'Connell, E. Dillon, S. Morley (capt), C. Corkery, H. Walsh, J. O'Leary, D. O'Sullivan, M. Corkery, R. Moloney, Sub. E. O'Halloran for O'Sullivan (53rd minute).
LIMERICK: Breda O'Brien, M. Nash, Bernie O'Brien, R. Collins, K. Burke, P. McCarthy, M. Neville, D. Sheehan capt, M. Loneragan, E. O'Brien, J. Cullinane, M. Casey, P. Cronin, V. Sheehan, S. O'Shaughnessy, Subs. D. Fitzpatrick for O'Shaughnessy, (40th minute); M. Fleury and A. White for Sheehan and Cronin (57th minute).
Referee: J. Morrissey (Tipperary).



Cork's Rachel Moloney gets away from Limerick's Kay Burke in the All-Ireland Intermediate final.

Picture: Newspics

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Eimear McDonnell Tipperary, Sarah Hayes, Elaine Burke, Una O'Donoghue and Sinead O'Callaghan, all from Cork, who received sponsorship from UCC.

Picture: McCarthy/newspics

UCC honour sport heroes

A TOTAL of 36 university students have each been awarded a £1,500 scholarship to ensure their continued success in sports.

Young sportsmen and women from Cork, Kerry, Clare, Limerick, Tipperary, Waterford and Wexford are among the beneficiaries.

Students drawn from 10 different sports got cheques under the UCC Sports Bursary Scheme, which began in October 1992.

The sports represented varied from Gaelic football to table tennis, rowing and badminton.

"The awards scheme has played a significant part in ensuring that UCC retains its reputation for success at sport," a university spokes-

man said.

Since 1992, 200 students have benefited from the awards scheme.

Former UCC students to benefit from the awards include international hockey players Sarah Kelleher and Rachael Kohler, Kerry Gaelic footballer Seamus Moynihan, Cork and Clare hurling stars, Joe Deane and Frank Lohan, rugby players Dominic Crotty, Peter Stringer and Michael O'Driscoll.

British and Irish Lion Paul Wallace was one of the first recipients in 1992.

The scholarships were presented by Professor Geny Wrixon, President, at a function in UCC last night, in front of over 200 guests.



The Cork team that claimed the county's first All-Ireland intermediate title last weekend, beating Limerick in the decider.

Rebels up tempo to claim historic win

Cork
Limerick

3-9
0-11

CORK tore the form book to shreds to take the county's first All-Ireland intermediate championship when they proved too good for a Limerick outfit who earlier in the season participated in the senior league and championship.

Limerick, with wind advantage, were two points in front at the break, 0-10 to 2-2.

Having dominated the opening ten minutes, Limerick were dealt a severe blow when Cork bagged two goals inside a minute, via Rachel Moloney and Catherine Corkery.

Limerick rallied and five point without reply saw them regain the advantage.

From the resumption Cork's de-

termination was evident and they quickly levelled matters. Helen Walsh edged Cork ahead with a superb point and, with eight minutes remaining Moloney pounced for Cork's third goal.

With their defence totally in control and Emer Dillon superb at mid-field Cork pressed home their advantage, registering three points on the trot from Dillon, Catherine Corkery and Helen Walsh to secure an historic victory.

County chairperson and selector Sile Golden expressed delight at the victory. "Losing the senior and junior hurt badly and today we were determined not to lose the third.

"I thrilled for the team and the county as this is historic first Intermediate All-Ireland for us," said Golden.



Pat Rafferty President Camogie Board presents the All-Ireland Intermediate trophy to Cork captain Sheenagh Morley. Also included is Liam Lombard, AIB Bank.

Picture: Newpics

The Blues aim to halt Milford's gallop

ST FINBARR'S and Milford meet at Grenagh on Sunday in the senior B championship semi-final.

St Finbarr's will be aiming to make the breakthrough, having come so close on a number of occasions.

In direct contrast, Milford have taken the camogie scene by storm in recent years, taking numerous under-age titles.

The club entered adult competitions in 1998 and tasted success at the first attempt, taking the Junior B championship.

Promotion to junior A saw them annex that title, defeating Ballygarvan in last year's decider, and clinch a place in senior ranks.

They scored a comfortable victory over Watergrasshill in the opening round.

69 Milford have taken the camogie scene by storm in recent years, making smooth progress into senior ranks and taking numerous under-age titles.

The Barr's meanwhile worked hard to overcome Newcestown on a 0-9 to 1-3 scoreline.

Long serving Colette O'Mahony, who gave such wonderful service to club and county, has retired but the Blues are boosted by the return Rachel Myers who was unavailable last season.

added to this The Blues also include inter-county intermediate players Orla O'Sullivan and Linda O'Connell who look certain to make their mark.

Gemma O'Connor, Natasha Nash

and Ellen Clifford have all experienced senior championship action in the Seandun colours and should relish Sunday's challenge.

Milford are a relatively young outfit the majority of whom are pupils of the famed St Mary's, Charleville, college.

Cork junior captain Christine O'Gorman, Aine and Emer Watson, Deirdre O'Reilly and Emer O'Friel have enjoyed tremendous success both with club and colleges.

Lelia Long will once again be ex-

pected to line out at centre back where her experience and craft has been a great asset to Milford over the last two years.

It remains to be seen if the experience of the Barrs will stand to them in their quest for a final spot or will Milford continue the magical sequence that has yet to see them lose a championship game since 1998.

County champions Bishopstown remain on course for their first Munster club championship after they easily disposed of Dunhill-Fenor in Dunhill last Saturday.

Bishopstown goalkeeper Rose Desmond was loud in her praise of Dunhill-Fenor afterwards.

"The scoreline did little justice to Dunhill's efforts. To their credit they never gave up and treated the competitions with the respect it deserves," said Desmond.

Mayfield snatch win in thriller

Mayfield
St Fanahan's

3-9
5-1

A COMPLETE second-half turn around saw Mayfield coming from five goals down to snatch victory and make it to the quarter final of the Junior B championship at Mayfield on Sunday morning.

St Fanahan's totally dominated the opening half looked comfortable at the break leading 5-1 to no score. Mayfield's Catherine Barrett scored twice immediately after the break and with a goal from Sinead Lucey and points from Aoife Walsh (3), Niamh Daly Laura O'Brien and Catherine Barrett (4) gave them a glorious win that says everything about the heart of this Mayfield side.

Ballyhea prove to be too strong

Ballyhea
Úile Óg

3-2
0-0

BALLYHEA took the under-14 B League honours when they had too much strength for a spirited Eire Og side at Blarney on Saturday last.

A goal two minutes into the opening half from Mary Coleman settled Ballyhea and Norma Healy added a second to leave Ballyhea ahead at the interval. Despite a determined effort from Eire Og, who had good performances from Avril Desmond and Emer O'Driscoll, failed to breach a solid Ballyhea defence with Ballyhea's forward division in scoring form adding on 1-1 in the second period from Norma Healy and a Mary Coleman point.

Ballincollig book last eight spot

Ballinhassig
St Vincent's

4-7
1-0

BALLINHASSIG booked their place in the junior A championship quarter-final when they proved too strong for St Vincent's at Brian Dillons on Sunday last.

A strong opening-half performance saw the south east girls lead at the break thanks, in the main, to the efforts of former inter-county player Linda O'Sullivan who contributed 1-5. Also to the fore for their team were Trisha Holland and Sandra Sarl who scored a goal apiece. Continuing their dominance Ballinhassig kept up the pressure in the second half and further scores from Trisha Holland and Laura Finn gave them the win.

Cork's sweet revenge ...

FORAS NA GAELIGE

The Cross border body responsible for promotion of the Irish language throughout the island of Ireland.

Having lost two All-Ireland titles this year, the Leeside girls very much wanted the All-Ireland Intermediate Championship title, and they got it by beating Limerick 3-09 to 0-11.

Limerick who last won the title in '96 got off to a flying start with a Sean Cullinane point from play following a fine pass from Eileen O'Brien.

Pauline McCarthy struck a free over in the fifth minute, and then heaven for Cork with two quick goals from Rachel Moloney, followed by a Catherine Corkery goal, Rachel Moloney then struck over Cork's first free.

Limerick rallied with two Jean Cullinane points before Rachel struck over Cork's last score of the first half. Limerick's finest five minutes came just before half time as they struck over five points from play without reply to leave them 0-10 to 2-02 ahead at the break.

The second half saw Cork with the wind, and by the fourth minute Helen Walsh had the ball over the bar. This was the way Cork motored in the second half, and with Emer Dillon, the Belleek player of the match in flying form, along with centre back Ruth Cahalane, Limerick found the going tough and only managed a point in the 19th minute from Eileen O'Brien.

A goal in the 20th minute from Rachel Moloney sealed the issue for Cork.

For two players Ruth Cahalane and captain Sheenagh Morley it was a proud day as the match was played in their home club pitch, Bishopstown.

Captain Sheenagh Morley, who has a proud record of never losing an All-Ireland, has now decided to retire and thus keep in tact her record.

It was a busy weekend for Cork's Bishopstown as they played Dunhill Fenor of Waterford on the Saturday in the Munster club semi-final, winning on a 4-18 to 0-0. They now face the All-Ireland club champions Granagh Ballingarry in the Munster club final.

Up north, Derry champions Swatragh were pushed to the limit by Keady in Armagh when they won 0-13 to 2-6. Keady were attempting to become Ulster champions for the very first time.

All-Ireland club finalists Davitts must meet old rivals Pearces again in the county final following a 1-11 to 1-11 draw on Saturday. A last minute goal from Caitriona Finnegan saved the day for Davitts.

Across the water there was some consolation for Br. Pearces when they won the London county final beating Tara 2-13 to 1-1. Br. Pearces took part in the All-Ireland Killmacud Crokes but were beaten in the quarter final stage.

A last minute goal by Sarah Massey, daughter of county chairman Seamus saw St. Judes into the senior 'B' championship final against last year's finalists St. Vincents who beat Thomas Davis.



Jovita Delaney lifts the All-Ireland senior camogie trophy

www.hoganstand.com

'Town bid to topple rivals

BISHOPSTOWN will endeavour to upstage All-Ireland Club champions Granagh/Ballingarry and take their first ever Munster Club camogie title on home turf on Saturday afternoon, writes **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**.

The Limerick side goes into this decider with a 100 percent record over the past two years claiming back to back All-Ireland honours.

However, the Cork champions will go all out to spoil the three-in-a-row party for the Shannonsiders, as they seek to add a provincial title to their four county wins.

Uppermost in the their minds, though, will be the fact that they were defeated in the past two years by the kingpins of club camogie.

"We have the memories of last year to contend with," admitted manager Bernard Olden. "Seven points up with eight and a half minutes remaining, and then to let it behind us."

"We have something to prove this year. We are a far more balanced side, and are performing more as a unit. People might not agree with that when you look at some of our displays, but there is a tremendous spirit among the team," added Bernard.

Trish Doyle retains her position at corner-back for Saturday's outing, alongside Ruth Cahalane and Dearbhla Quigley.

Captain Clara Enright is at wing-back, with Eithne Duggan in the centre and Jean Cullinane on the other wing.

Vivienne Harris and Sheenagh Morley will marshal the midfield area, while Brid Sheehan, Sinead O'Callaghan and Niamh Bonar are the half-forwards. Clara Healy is at full-forward flanked by Caroline Kenny and Aine White. Rose Desmond will be between the posts.

Coachford take Bandon to task

Coachford College
Presentation Bandon

5-5
1-5

MUNSTER Senior Colleges camogie action has resumed and in an entertaining contest played in ideal conditions in Brinny on Wednesday last Coachford gained two valuable points at the expense of Presentation Bandon.

Clara Murphy and Kate Crowley had the Coachford girls ahead with two points which settled their side.

Dominating the opening exchanges, they quickly added a goal after a good clearance from Joan Twomey was finished superbly to the net by Mary Twomey.

Another Coachford point from Kate Crowley from a 45-metre free stretched their advantage before Suzanne Deasy opened the Bandon account pointing a 45.

Further goals from Margaret McCarthy and Clara Murphy put Coachford in a commanding half time position.

Coachford opened the second half with a point but Bandon were coming more into the game with points from Sarah O'Donovan, Maeve O'Sullivan and Suzanne

“It's an intriguing clash for Valley Rovers' Nancy O'Donovan who, having given sterling service to Eire Óg winning senior county medals now lines out for Inishannon.

Deasy made Coachford fight to the end for victory.

Fiona Buckley brought proceedings to a finish after an entertaining contest with a well struck Coachford point.

Meanwhile, on Saturday Eire Óg and Valley Rovers meet in the semi-final of the Senior B Championship. It's an intriguing clash for Valley Rovers Nancy O'Donovan who having given sterling service to Eire Óg winning senior county championship medals now lines out with the Innishannon outfit where she has played over the last number of years.

Eire Óg will look to Inter county players Helen Walsh and Ellen O'Herlihy to stop the Innishannon outfit that includes Cork Senior Elaine Burke, Liz Bugler and Marie Hurley.

Milford 0-8

ST Finbarr's 0-7

A tremendous second-half rally from Milford gave them one point to spare over St Finbarr's in the Senior B championship semi-final at Donoughmore on Sunday last. In a tight opening half, scores were hard to come by.

Gemma O'Connor opened with a pointed 45 for the Barr's, four points without reply from Orla O'Sullivan Valerie Maher and Rachel Myers had St Finbarr's in control.

With Linda O'Connell and Collette Kirby in defence and Val Maher and Orla O'Sullivan always dangerous in attack the Barrs held a comfortable 0-5 to 0-1 interval lead.

Milford's point coming three minutes from the break from Emer Watson. Within a minute of the restart St Finbarr's extended

their lead with a Jennie Duffy point but from here on in Milford proceeded to dominate.

Three points from Cork Junior Captain Christine O'Gorman plus one apiece from Emer and Marie Watson had Milford on level terms inside 18 minutes and with Anna Geary and Lelia Long doing trojan work they hit the front when Chairtine O'Gorman pointed a free Elizabeth Linehan and Bernadeen Maher exchanged points and pressing hard St Finbarr's just could not breach a solid Milford defence in which Noelle O'Riordan and Aoife Dillon were superb.

MILFORD B Geary, N Curtin, N O'Riordan, A Geary, C O'Gorman, I Long A Dillon, D O'Reilly, D Hayes, E O'Friel, M Watson, E O'Riordan, E Watson E Linehan I Sexton, sub S O'Reilly for N Curtin.

ST FINBARR'S: E Clifford, B. A. Corcoran, C Barry D Clarke, Collette Kirby, I O'Connell, K Buckley, G O'Connor, Claire Kirby(c), V Maher, O O'Sullivan, R Myers, J Duffy, N Nash B Maher, sub Colette O'Mahony for N Nash.

REF: Betty Joyce

Garvan upstage Rovers

BALLYGARVAN 2-2
GLEN ROVERS 1-3

An entertaining under-12 league semi-final at Douglas on Sunday evening saw Ballygarvan withstand a strong Glen Rovers fight back to earn their place in the final where they will meet Douglas.

Ballygarvan settled quickly after a Jessica Dunne goal nine minutes into the opening half, a point from Orla O'Riordan stretched the Ballygarvan lead mid-way through the half. Battling on, Glen won ample possession but solid Ballygarvan defending held them at bay. A second goal from Lee Ann Ryan had stretched the lead further before Jemma O'Regan opened Glen Rovers' account pointing a forty-five to leave Ballygarvan ahead at the interval 2-2 to 0-1.

A second half revival saw Glen come more into the game, in defence Kelly Laffin and Emer Mulcahy began to dominate and at centre field they began to get on top. Gerlyn Nolan had her sides second point two minutes into the second half and pressing hard Glen were rewarded with a well struck goal from Nolan, three minutes later the same player pointed to leave the excitement at fever pitch. Ballygarvan held on to book a final spot on a night when the real winner was the game of camogie. Credit to the host club Douglas for the superb condition of the pitch. In Under 16 B championship action Na Piarasigh, Blarney and Ballyhea recorded wins over Castlyons, Sarsfields and Ballinascarty to advance to the next rounds whilst in Junior B championship St Catherine's recorded a 6-5 to 1-2 victory over Barryroe to set up a meeting with Carrigaline.

FIXTURES

FIXTURES
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30
Munster Club Championship Final: Bishopstown v Grenagh-Ballingarry Bishopstown 3pm.
Cork Senior B Championship Semi-Final: Eire Óg V Valley Rovers Cloughduv 3pm.
Under 12 League Final: Douglas V Ballygarvan At Carrigaline 5pm.
Junior A championship replay: Tracton V Iniscarra At Tracton 3pm.
Under 16 B Championship: Rockbawn v Dungourney at carrignavar 3pm; Erins Own v Youghal at Erins Own 5pm.
SUNDAY OCT 1
Junior A Championship: Ballinhassig V Killeagh At Ballinhassig 12 Noon.
Junior A Championship replay: Douglas V Glen Rovers Glen Rovers 2.30pm
Under 16 A Championship: St Finbarr's v Ballygarvan At St Finbarrs 2pm.
Under 16 B Championship: Na Piarasigh V Brian Dillons At Na Piarasigh 12 Noon Bishopstown V Fr O Neills At Bishopstown 11.30am

Exciting contest awaiting

CORK county champions Bishopstown contest their first Munster Club championship final this Saturday evening when they face up to the challenge of Munster and All-Ireland champions Greengh due to kick off in Ballingarry at Bishopstown at 3pm.

It's a repeat of last years semi-final and a chance for Bishopstown to atone for a game that they looked to be well in control of yet somehow lost.

They know that the champions will be hard to defeat yet are confident as regards the challenge they pose. Bishopstown coach Bernard Olden is determined that last year's result is not going to happen this time out.

"Last year it was all new to us and we were a bit nervous as a selection committee, this year we will not make the same mistakes and are hopeful that we will take our first Munster title," he said.

The main threat will come up front where Vera Sheehan and Eileen O'Brien are Grenagh-Ballingarry's big players.

"If we succeed in holding them we will be in with a shout, we know what is required and we are going well, the win over Cashel was a great boost to the team and were

looking forward to Saturday," said Mr Olden.

The Bishopstown line-out should be along the lines of the one which recorded a marvellous victory over Tipperary champions Cashel. Long-serving Rose Desmond in goal will command a strong defence where Inter County players Elthne Dugan, Ruth Cahalan, Jean O'Sullivan should be joined by Trisha Doyle, Derbhilla Quigley and team captain Clara Enright. However Aine Buckley, who missed the Cashel game, may be included in the defence.

The centre field pairing of Viv Harris and Sheenagh Morley are experienced campaigners whilst up front Aine White, Clara Healy, Caroline Kenny, Sinead O'Callaghan, Brid Sheehan with possibly Niamh Bonner or Sinead White.

Grenagh-Ballingarry, in quest of three in a row, are a strong outfit Cork's Mary O'Connor, Bernie Chawke, Kay Burke, Bernie, Eileen and Maureen O'Brien, Vera Sheehan, and Jean Cullinane are the backbone of a Grenagh side that looked sharp in defeating Wolfe Tones-Shannon in their semi-final outing.

Mike Chawke is again at the helm and having himself been in the position that Bishopstown are in as challengers he will know the challenge facing his side.

An exciting contest awaits.



Ciara Enright, captain of the Bishopstown team this weekend.



Call
us

If you have any news, photographs or reports for this page, please contact Mary Newman-McCarthy.

Granagh have what it takes

ALL-IRELAND Club champions Granagh/Ballingarry will start the defence of their Munster crown when they travel to Bishopstown to take on the home side tomorrow afternoon, writes **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**.

Undoubtedly, the club of the year for the past two seasons, the general consensus, however, is that the Limerick girls will face a much stiffer challenge on this occasion.

These sides have met in the last two provincial series, with victory both times going Shannonside.

While coach, Mike Chawke fully accepts Bishopstown's desperation to erase those memories, he is confident that his charges have what it takes to remain on top.

"It is beyond our wildest dreams to have won two All-Ireland titles. But, we have, and as champions we will have no fear of Bishopstown. We will have respect for them - tremendous respect. They have some great players in their own right, but we have great players too," he said.

Mike was an interested spectator at Bishopstown's quarter-final win over Cashel and was duly impressed by the hard-working Cork side.

One of the main attractions in this eagerly awaited fixture is Cork player Mary O'Connor who will line out at centre-forward for the Limerick club side and will come face to face with inter-county mate Eithne Duggan.

Whoever wins this big name showdown could go a long way in deciding the destination of the cup tomorrow evening.

O'Connor leading the attack will be flanked by exciting young stars Jean Cullinane and Eileen O'Brien. Aoife Sheehan, Laura Leslie and Joanne Clifford will complete the forward sextet.

Sisters Vera and Deirdre Sheehan will form the midfield partnership, with other sister Maureen at wing-back.

Centre-back is stalwart Ber Chawke, with Kay Burke filling the other wing-back position.

Breda O'Brien will wear the number one shirt. Her full-back line will include Patsy McKenna, Bernie O'Brien and Marie O'Brien.

All-Ireland champions retain Munster title in style

Grenagh-Ballingarry 3-10
Bishopstown 1-5

ALL-Ireland club champions, Grenagh-Ballingarry, retained their Munster Club Championship title at Bishopstown on Saturday last.

Jean Cullinane had the game's opening score inside two minutes, when she pointed for Grenagh-Ballingarry, and from there on her team proceeded to stretch their lead, with points from Deirdre Sheehan and Eileen O'Brien.

Vivienne Harris opened the Bishopstown scoring with a tenth minute pointed free but, despite being aided by the strong wind, Bishopstown struggled to keep in touch. Jean Cullinane, Joanne Clifford and Eileen O'Brien scored further Grenagh points to keep the pressure on. Sinéad O'Callaghan scored a point for Bishopstown in the twenty second minute, but — emphasising their dominance — Grenagh-Ballingarry hit back with a goal, after Joanne Clifford set up Deirdre Clifford, who finished past Rose Desmond. Eileen O'Brien slotted over a point, and the champions led 1-8 to 0-2 at the break.

Six minutes into the second half, a goal from Eileen O'Brien — direct from a forty-five-metre free, following a good save from Rose Desmond — had Grenagh leading 2-9 to 0-3; the Bishopstown point having come from Aine White.

With their defence coming under pressure, Bishopstown struggled; Sheenagh Morley had a point in the tenth minute and, when Vivienne Harris goaled ten minutes later, it looked like Bishopstown were finally settling.

However, Grenagh rallied the troops, and a point from Aoife Sheehan was followed up by a Joanne Clifford goal, three minutes from full time, to seal a victory for their team and give them their fifth Munster Club Championship title in a row.

Cork Senior Intercounty player, Mary O'Connor — who plays her club camogie with the Limerick club — gave tribute to her team mates, after the game: "I'm delighted with today's result and to be part of such a

Grenagh-Ballingarry prove too strong for brave Bishopstown

spirited outfit. We knew we had a point to prove today, after nearly being caught by Bishopstown last year, and we went for it from the throw in. It's great to come out of today's game as a winner, and we look forward to going on and hopefully retaining our All-Ireland crown."

Bishopstown: Desmond, D. Guiney, R. Cahalan, T. Doyle, C. Enright, E. Duggan, J. O'Sullivan, V. Harris, S. Morley, B. Sheehan, S. O'Callaghan, N. Bonar, C. Kerney, C. Healy, A. White; sub: A. Buckley for N. Bonar.
Grenagh-Ballingarry: Breda O'Brien, P. McKenna, C. Bernie O'Brien, M. O'Brien, K. Burke, B. Chawke, M. Sheehan, V. Sheehan, D. Sheehan, E. O'Brien, M. O'Connor, J. Cullinane, A. Sheehan, L. Leslie, J. Clifford.

Eire-Ög Valley Rovers 0-8
1-5

These two sides will have to meet again, before finalists are found to face Milford in the Senior B camogie championship final, after it finished all square in Brinney on Saturday last.

A close opening half saw Valley Rovers hold the upper hand at the break. Ellen O'Herlihy and Elaine Burke exchanged points in the opening stages of the game but Valley Rovers, with a point from Margaret Murphy and a Liz Bugler goal, edged in front.

Eire-Ög kept in touch, with points from Deirdre Healy and Ellen O'Herlihy, but Valley Rovers rallied well — with further points from Elaine Burke and Marie Hurley. They led 1-4 to 0-3 at the interval.

Eire-Ög points, from Deirdre Healy and Helen Walsh, put two between the sides inside minutes of the restart and, with the sides exchanging points, Valley Rovers remained ahead.

Rovers fought hard to hold their lead, and a Marie Hurley point put three between the sides. Showing tremendous grit and determination however, Eire-Ög dug deep; Clodagh Crowley and Ellen O'Herlihy both pointed, to put one between the sides

and, with seconds remaining, O'Herlihy saved the day for Eire-Ög, when she pointed to give the Mid Cork girls a second bite of the cherry, after an exciting contest.

Douglas Ballygarvan 7-2
1-2

The large scoreline doesn't reflect the determination of two young and enthusiastic teams, at Carrigaline on Saturday last, as Douglas took the Under-12 league title.

Douglas set about their task quickly and led 2-2 to no score at the break, thanks to goals from Deirdre Murphy and Jenny O'Donovan.

Never panicking, Ballygarvan came out for the second half in determined mood and Valerie Browne scored a goal for them. But again, Rachel O'Sullivan and Jenny O'Donovan responded for Douglas.

Never throwing in the towel, Ballygarvan scored points through Amy Moynihan and Suzanne Lynch, but the strength of Douglas — with further goals from Lavinia O'Mahony and Katherine Hussey, plus two Jenny O'Donovan points — saw the city girls take the honours.

Inniscarra Tracton 4-7
2-0

MAKING no mistake second time around, Inniscarra advanced to a quarter-final meeting with Brian Dillons, when they recorded a good victory over Tracton, at Minane Bridge on Saturday last.

Inniscarra, strengthened by the inclusion of former Senior players Criona Harte and Catriona Hogan — who were unavailable for the drawn game — were in total command throughout the opening half.

With left corner forward, Treasa McCarthy contributing 2-5 of her

sides total, Inniscarra led 3-5 to no score at the half-time break — with full forward Breda O'Regan having also scored a goal in the opening.

A much more determined Tracton side materialised in the second half. Goals from Catherine Coughlan kept their challenge alive, but Inniscarra had further points from Criona Harte and Breda O'Regan, plus a well-taken goal from Margaret McCarthy.

Douglas Glen Rovers 1-6
0-6

THE replay of the Junior A championship, at Glen Rovers on Sunday last, was once again a tight affair — with just one score separating the sides at the final whistle.

Aided by the strong wind, Glen Rovers got off to a great start, with four unanswered points from Tina King, Donna Bracken, and Susan Collins. Amanda O'Regan opened the Douglas account with a pointed free fourteen minutes into the opening half, and her team then scored a goal through Claire Barry, to draw level.

A second point, from Amanda O'Regan, gave them a 1-2 to 0-4 half-time lead and, aided by the elements, they stretched that lead with points from O'Regan and Ann Marie Downey. Fighting hard, Glen Rovers replied with a point from Lisa Long and, with the sides exchanging points, Douglas maintained their lead and, despite strong Glen pressure, hung on to advance to the semi-final.

Ballinhassig Killeagh 8-13
0-0

BALLINHASSIG experienced little difficulty in advancing to a semi-final meeting with neighbours Ballygarvan, at the expense of a young Killeagh side, at Ballinhassig on Sunday.

In the Under-16 A championship, Ballygarvan had a 5-6 to 1-0 victory over St Finbarr's. In the Under-16 B championship, Fr O'Neill had a 6-10 to no score win over Bishopstown.

● The camogie board annual collection takes place on Sunday next, at the county hurling final. Collectors, from all clubs, at gate ten by 2.30pm.



Bishopstown forward Niamh Bonner racing past Barryroe's Ann Marie Fleming during the county final this summer. Niamh went on the play an integral part in Bishopstown's performance on Sunday. Picture: Denis Minihane.

Bernie wins a Munster medal at 41

BERNIE CHAWKE could not get the Kerry football team that were going for five-in-a-row out of her head last Saturday as she made her way to play in the Munster club camogie final against Bishopstown.

Her team Granagh/Ballingarry were going for the same record of provincial titles.

Kerry failed, but she need not have worried, as she went on to produce one of her finest displays and claim another Munster medal.

Nothing peculiar about that you might say, but at 41 years

of age the Granagh/Ballingarry centre-back is still in remarkable shape.

In a career that dates back to the late Sixties, Bernie's first memories of camogie are as an U-12 player with Ballyagran.

At senior level, she took Munster honours on three occasions and then an All-Ireland club medal.

She married Mike, who is the Granagh/Ballingarry coach.

"Mike is from Granagh, so I moved there. He wasn't involved in camogie then, but played hurling with the team."

View from the ground with Therese O'Callaghan



So, it was inevitable that Bernie would become involved in the parish team.

Many county championships followed but they struggled to find form at provincial level.

Eventually, the perseverance

paid off and in 1996 the Limerick champions beat their bogey team, Glen Rovers.

However, it would be another two years before their dream of an All-Ireland title would be realised. So, was this not a

good time to retire, I ask?

"No, I love going training. There is a great buzz attached to heading off to the field and meeting up with all the girls," she said.

"Admittedly, there are times when the body starts talking. I have been lucky with injuries and that does make a difference. I pulled my hamstring in July and noticed that it took a little bit longer to recover."

What makes winning extra special for Bernie is playing alongside her extended family. Her four nieces Jean Cull-

inane, Laura and Catherine Leslie and Marie O'Brien are all members of the team.

The Chawkes' two children Eoin and Fiona are also shaping up to be stars of the future. Eoin plays U-16 and U-18 with Granagh/Ballingarry, while Fiona can look forward to a great sporting career with St Mary's College in Charleville.

Meanwhile, on October 22, Granagh/Ballingarry will set out in defence of their All-Ireland title, when they travel to Swatragh in Derry for the semi-final.

Bishopstown and Granagh battle for Munster title

MUNSTER and All-Ireland club camogie champions, Granagh-Ballingarry, chasing three in-a-row, face a tough challenge when they meet Cork champions, Bishopstown to decide the destination of the Millennium Munster crown.

It's a repeat of last year's semi-final, when Granagh-Ballingarry came from behind to defeat the champions. Bishopstown looked strong in their opening game defeating Tipperary

champions Cashel 2-15 to 1-5.

In the semi-final against Waterford champions Dunhill-Fenor they experienced little difficulty despite being understrength.

Bishopstown coach Bernard Olden, whilst looking forward to this afternoon's encounter, is mindful of last year's encounter with Granagh-Ballingarry when his side were seven points up with nine minutes remaining. However, he feels that this year he has a more

balanced side and with the tremendous determination that's there he knows that his side is in with a chance of victory.

Granagh-Ballingarry defeated Wolfe Tone Shannon in their semi-final and will look to Vera Sheehan and Eileen O'Brien to again produce the goods up front. Both youngsters have proven in the past just how valuable they are to the champions, whilst the ever-improving Jean Cullinane and the experienced Bernie Chalk, Kay Burke and Bernie

O'Brien know they have a fight on their hands to retain their title.

In club action, Valley Rovers and Éire Óg clash in the Senior B Championship semi-final today in Brinney, Innishannon at 3pm to find a winner to meet Milford in the final. In Junior A championship two replays are down for decision with Tracton and Inniscarra meeting in Tracton whilst Glen Rovers and Douglas do battle again at Glen Field.

SEPT. 2000

Bishopstown

(WHITE & MAROON)

Rose Desmond (16)

Dearbhla Quigney(2)

Ruth Cahalan(3)

Trish Doyle(4)

Ciara Enright(5)

Eithne Duggan(6)

Jean O'Sullivan(7)

Vivienne Harris(8)

Sheenagh Morley(9)

Brid Sheehan(10)

Sinead O'Callaghan(11) Niamh Bonar(12)

Caroline Kenny(13)

Ciara Healy(14)

Aine White(15)

SUBS:

Orla Kelly(1)

Aine Buckley (17)

Denise O'Brien (18)

Sinead Kelly(19)

Sinead O'Donoghue(20)

Maria Monahan(21)

Maria Aylward (22)

Sinead White (23)

Lynda O'Mahoney(24)

SELECTORS:

Pat Harris

Conor Kenny

Bernard Olden

Granagh/Ballingarry

(BLACK & WHITE)

Breda O'Brien(1)

Patsy McKenna(2)

Bernie O'Brien(3)

Marie O'Brien(4)

Kay Burke(5)

Ber Chawke(6)

Maureen Sheehan(7)

Vera Sheehan(8)

Deirdre Sheehan(9)

Eileen O'Brien(10)

Mary O'Connor(11)

Jean Cullinane(12)

Aoifa Sheehan(13)

Laura Lesley(14)

Joanne Clifford(15)

SUBS:

Aishling O'Brien(16)

Kathryn Lesley(17)

Sheila Treacy(18)

Carol Hickey(19)

Amy McCarthy(20)

Edwina Boyce(21)

SELECTORS:

Mike Chawke

Granagh-Ballingarry outclass Bishopstown to take title

Bishopstown (Cork)
Granagh-Ballingarry

1-5
3-10

by Tom Higgins

ALL-IRELAND club champions Granagh-Ballingarry moved a step nearer retaining their title when they had a comprehensive win over Bishopstown in the Munster final at Bishopstown on Saturday.

Playing with much more grit, the Limerick side, who were winning the Munster title for the fifth year in a row, totally outclassed their rivals, particularly in the first half, and were

well worth their 1-8 to 0-2 advantage at the break.

Although Bishopstown tried hard they failed to reproduce the form that saw them win the county title and which they showed when beating Cashel in the first round of the club championship.

Some shrewd positional moves by the title-holders at the start worked perfectly for them, as they were in control in all departments having four points on the board in the opening five minutes. There was lull in the scoring for the next five minutes before Vivienne Harris had

the home sides first point after 10 minutes.

But Granagh-Ballingarry were unperturbed, and with Eileen O'Brien, Jean Cullinane and Deirdre Sheehan causing a lot of trouble for the Bishopstown defence they continued their scoring spree with another three points between the 12th and 15th minutes.

Although Sinead O'Callaghan had Bishopstown's second point in the 22nd minute the crucial score came four minutes later when Joanne Clifford set up Deirdre Sheehan for a Granagh-Ballingarry goal. Al-

though Bishopstown showed much better form in the second half and put the Granagh-Ballingarry defence under severe pressure on a number of occasions thanks to some excellent play from Eithne Duggan, Sheenagh Morley, and Vivienne Harris, they found the more experienced champion's defence, in which Bernie O'Brien, Ber Chawke and Maureen Sheehan in tremendous form, and although Vivienne Harris had cut the lead to eight points with a goal from a pass by Ciara Healy in the 49th minute, the game was well and truly over before Joanne Clif-

ford had her side's third goal two minutes for time to give her side a worthy success.

Scorers: Bishopstown: V. Harris 1-1, S. O'Callaghan 0-2, A. White 0-1, R. Cahalan 0-1. Granagh-Ballingarry: E. O'Brien 1-5 (1-0 '45", 0-5 frees), D. Sheehan 1-1, J. Clifford 1-1, J. Cullinane 0-2, A. Sheehan 0-1. BISHOPSTOWN: R. Desmond; D. Quigney, R. Cahalan, T. Doyle; C. Enright, E. Duggan, J. O'Sullivan; V. Harris, S. Morley; B. Sheehan, S. O'Callaghan, N. Bonar; C. Kenny, C. Healy, A. White. Sub: A. Buckley for N. Bonar (35th minute). GRANAGH-BALLINGARRY: Breda O'Brien; P. McKenna, Bernie O'Brien, M. O'Brien; K. Burke, B. Chawke, M. Sheehan, V. Sheehan, D. Sheehan; E. O'Brien, M. O'Connor, J. Cullinane; A. Sheehan, L. Lesley, J. Clifford. Referee: J. Morrissey (Tipperary).

U-12 win for in-form Douglas

Douglas 7-2
Ballygarvan 1-2

DOUGLAS took the u-12 league title on Saturday when they had a good victory over a sporting Ballygarvan side at Carrigaline. Douglas led by 2-2 to 0-0 score at the break, thanks to goals from Deirdre Murphy and Jenny O'Donovan. Ballygarvan good a start to the second half with Valerie Browne scoring a fine goal, but Rachel O'Sullivan and Jenny O'Donovan responded for Douglas. Ballygarvan had points from Amy Moynihan and Suzanne Lynch but Douglas got further goals from Lavinia O'Mahony and Katherine Hussey plus two Jenny O'Donovan points.



Bishopstown's Sheenagh Morley blocks down Eileen O'Brien of Grenagh-Ballingarry during the Munster Club Championship Final which took place on Saturday in Bishopstown. Grenagh-Ballingarry took their fifth Munster Club Championship Final. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Tracton defeated

Inniscarra 4-7
Tracton 2-0

MAKING no mistake second time round, Inniscarra advanced to a quarter final meeting with Brian Dillons recording a victory over Tracton at Minane Bridge on Saturday last.

Inniscarra strengthened since the drawn game by the inclusion of former senior players Criona Harte and Catriona Hogan, who were in total command throughout the opening half.

With left corner forward Treasa McCarthy notching up 2-5, Inniscarra led 3-5 to no score at the half time break, with full forward Breda O'Regan also scoring.

Tracton rallied for the second half and coming more into the game put Inniscarra under pressure. Goals from Catherine Coughlan kept the Tracton challenge alive but Inniscarra's experience stood to them with points from Criona Harte and Breda O'Regan and a goal from Margaret McCarthy.

Killeagh crushed

Ballinhassig 8-13
Killeagh 0-0

BALLINHASSIG experienced little difficulty in beating a young Killeagh side at Ballinhassig on Sunday morning to set up a semi-final meeting with neighbours Ballygarvan.

In the under-16 A championship Ballygarvan had a 5-6 to 1-0 victory over St Finbarr's.

In the under-16 B championship Fr O'Neills had a 6-10 to no score win over Bishopstown.

Annual collection

CLUBS are reminded that the County Board annual collection takes place at Páirc Uí Chaoimh next Sunday, October 8.

Collectors are to be at Gate 10 at 2.15pm.

All clubs are to have as many collectors as possible present.

FIXTURES

SATURDAY OCT 7
Under-16 B Championship: Eire Og v Clonsilla at Ovens, 4.30pm; Carrigaline v Kilbrittain at Carrigaline at 5pm; Buttevant v Douglas at Buttevant, noon; Rockbawn v Dungourney at Carriganevar, 3pm.
SUNDAY OCT 8
Junior B Championship: Mayfield v Youghal at Youghal, 11.30am; Slisah Rua v Cloughduv at Slisah Rua, 3pm; Corcoran v Bandon at Courney's, 11.30am.
Junior A Championship: Brian Dillons v Inniscarra at Inniscarra, 11am; Eire Og v Tracton at Carriganevar, 11.30am.
Under-16 Championship: Ballygarvan v Newcestown at Ballygarvan, 11.30am; Ballytype v Tracton 12.30pm.

Champions retain camogie crown

Grenagh-Ballingarry 3-10
Bishopstown 1-5

ALL-IRELAND club champions Grenagh-Ballingarry retained their Munster Club Championship crown with a tremendous display at Bishopstown on Saturday.

The holders led from the throw in after Jean Cullinane had the games opening score inside two minutes striking a point. Proceeding to dominate Greangh-Ballingarry stretched their lead with points from Deridre Sheehan and two

points from Eileen O'Brien. Vivienne Harris opened the Bishopstown scoring with a tenth minute pointed free but despite being aided by the strong wind, Bishopstown struggled to keep in touch.

Jean Cullinane, Joanne Clifford and Eileen O'Brien had further Grenagh points to keep the pressure on. Sinead O'Callaghan had a point for Bishopstown in the twenty second minute, but the dominance of Grenagh-Ballingarry hit back with a goal, after Joanne Clifford set up Deridre Clifford who finished past Rose Desmond. Eileen O'Brien slotted over a point and the cham-

pions led 1-8 to 0-2 at the break.

Grenagh-Ballingarry coach Mike Chawke said: "At half-time we led by nine points after playing against the wind and having worked hard, we knew that we had to keep the pressure on in the second half and the girls never let up. m thrilled with our win."

Six minutes into the second half Eileen O'Brien sent a forty five metres free directly to the net and Greangh led 2-9 to 0-3. The Bishopstown point having come from Aine White.

With their defence coming under pressure, Bishopstown struggled. Sheenagh Morley had a point in the tenth minute

and when Vivienne Harris goalied ten minutes later it looked that Bishopstown were going to mount a challenge, but showing their class Greangh upped the pace, and an Aoife Sheehan point was followed by a Joanne Clifford goal, three minutes from full time, to seal a victory for Grenagh-Ballingarry. It gave them their fifth Munster Club Championship title in a row.

Cork Senior Intercounty player Mary O'Connor who plays her club camogie with the Limerick club paid tribute to her team mates after the game.

"I'm delighted with today's result and to be part of such a

spirited outfit the majority who have played together since underage, with the exception being me" said Mary O'Connor. "We knew we had a point to prove today after nearly being caught by Bishopstown last year and we went for it from the throw in. It's great to come out of today's game as a winner, after the disappointment I felt in Croke Park."

Bishopstown: R Desmond, D Quigley, R Cahalan, T Doyle, C Enright, E Duggan, J O'Sullivan, V Harris, S Morley, B Sheehan, S O'Callaghan, N Bonar, C Kenny, C Healy, A White, Sub A Buckley For N Bonar.

Grenagh-Ballingarry: Breda O'Brien, P Mc Kenna, C Bernie O'Brien, M O'Brien, K Burke, B Chawke, M Sheehan, V Sheehan, D Sheehan, E O'Brien, M O'Connor, J Cullinane, A Sheehan, L Lesley, J Clifford.

Second bite of cherry Narrow Douglas win

Eire Og 0-8
Valley Rovers 1-5

THE sides will have to meet again before finalists are found to face Milford in the Senior B camogie championship final after it finished all square in Brinney on Saturday last.

A close opening half saw Valley Rovers hold the upper hand at the break. Ellen O'Herlihy and Elaine Burke exchanged points in the opening stages of the game before Valley Rovers, with points from Margaret Murphy and a Liz Bugler goal edged in front.

Eire Og, with points from Deirdre Healy and Ellen O'Herlihy, kept in

touch but Valley Rovers again responded in the form of Elaine Burke and Marie Hurley to lead 1-4 to 0-3.

Eire Og cut the deficit thanks to the accuracy of Deirdre Healy and Helen Walsh within minutes in the second half and with the sides exchanging points Valley Rovers remained in front.

Valley Rovers fought hard to hold their lead and a Marie Hurley point put three between the sides. Showing tremendous grit and determination Eire Og dug deep, Clodagh Crowley and Ellen O'Herlihy pointed to put one between the sides, and with seconds remaining O'Herlihy saved the day to give the girls a second bite of the cherry.

Douglas 1-6
Glen Rovers 0-6

THE replay of the Junior A camogie championship at Glen Rovers on Sunday was once again a close fought battle with just one score separating the sides at the final whistle.

Aided by the strong wind the Glen got off to a great start with four unanswered points from Tina King, Donna Bracken and Ailish Horgan.

Amanda O'Regan opened the Douglas account with a pointed free four minutes into the opening half after the Glen's Tina King struck the crossbar twice inside minutes.

Twenty one minutes into the half a Clare Barry goal had the sides level. O'Regan with a second pointed free and one from Ann Marie Downey gave Douglas a half time lead 1-2 to 0-4.

With the elements in their favour in the second half Douglas stretched their advantage with a pointed free from O'Regan and one from Fiona Mc Sweeney but the Glen narrowed the gap with a Lisa Long point.

Despite strong Glen pressure they could not get through for the goal they so desperately needed and it was Douglas who advanced after a thrilling contest.

Inniscarra 3-5
Brian Dillons 1-3

INNISCARRA booked a semi-final slot with Douglas when they had too much strength for Brian Dillons at Ballyanley on Sunday last.

The home side had opened with two points from Criona Harte and one from Breda O'Regan before Brian Dillons' Valerie O'Mahony had the sides level.

Theresa Drummond and Treasa McCarthy exchanged points to leave it all square 0-4 to 1-1 at the break.

From the restart Inniscarra took the lead with a Breda O'Regan point. Treasa McCarthy extended the lead with a goal but Dillons kept in touch with a Theresa Drummond point. Ciara McCarthy, with a well struck goal stretched Inniscarra's advantage and with their defence on top Inniscarra held firm.

Louise Fleming pointed for the city side but Criona Harte with an Inniscarra goal from a twenty metres free consolidated their lead which they held to the finish.

Youghal 3-10
Mayfield 1-5

YOUGHAL, with goals from Janet Galvin and Emer Russell in the opening half were neck and neck with Mayfield 2-2 to 1-4 at the interval after Catherine Barrett had contributed all of Mayfield's tally during an exciting opening half in the Junior B championship at Youghal.

A second half revival from the Youghal girls saw them dominate proceedings.

Catriona O'Brien's goal gave her side the lead and it sounded the end for Mayfield as from here to the finish Youghal took over. Aoife Walsh did have a Mayfield point but the stronger Youghal side ran out winners.

Sliabh Rua 3-5
Cloughduv 3-2

THREE points was enough to see Sliabh Rua advance in the Junior B clash with Cloughduv. Leading from the beginning, thanks to two goals from Evelyn O'Regan and one from Ciara Crennan, the Riverstick girls booked their place in the quarter final where they will meet Castlemagner.

Bandon 4-4
Courcy Rovers 1-1

Ulster Senior Camogie final

Antrim 6-10 Down 2-3

Grace-ful Antrim win

WHEN a defence is as open against an Antrim side as Down's was in yesterday's Ulster Senior camogie final, then you can expect a player of Grace McMullan's skill and ability to prosper.

The Loughglie ace struck three goals of excellent quality. The first came after she cut inside and brought a brilliant save from Teresa McGowan. She picked up the rebound and handpassed to the net. The second was a deft overhead flick and she fired the third across the goalie and just inside the far post.

In truth, though, this was an easy 42nd title for Antrim. They dominated in practically every area of the field and opened Down at will.

Antrim: C McKinley, M Duffin, S McMullan, F Hession, C McGinley, H Healy, C Gault, R Duffin, C Higgins (0-1), J Adams (0-2), A McKee (0-4), K O'Neill (0-2), G McMullan (3-0), G Connolly (1-0), C Doherty (1-1) Subs: O Elliott for R Duffin (35); S Wilson for C McGinley (54); A Jackson for C Doherty (54).

Down: T McGowan, A Morgan, D Mulran, C McGovern, D Kellard, P Greene, B Gallagher, J Branniff (0-1), M Murray, C Hynds, C McGovern, C McGourty, M Maginn (2-0), C Mulholland (0-2), L Quinn. Subs: C McGreevey for D Kellard (22); B Kellard for A Morgan (42); K Fagan for L Quinn (47).

Referee: Margaret Brody (Derry)

Inniscarra had too much for Brian Dillons in Junior A quarter final



Action from the Inniscarra v Brian Dillons Junior camogie match played at Inniscarra last Sunday.

Douglas 3-5
Buttevant 1-2

JUST two points separated the sides at the interval 2-0 to 1-1 in favour of Douglas, thanks to goals from Caroline Buckley and Louise O'Regan before Dawn O'Farrell got one back for Buttevant, a point from O'Farrell had her side back in contention as they began the second half.

From the resumption Douglas extended their lead, a Michelle O'Donovan goal and a point from O'Regan gave them the a two goal cushion, but fighting back Dawn O'Farrell had a Buttevant point. Douglas finished stronger with four points from Fiona O'Donovan.

Clonakilty 3-1
Eire Og 2-1

TRAILING at half time Clonakilty, with a second half revival, ran out winners over Eire Og in the Under 16 B championship. Yvonne Malone's goal, plus a point from Clodagh Crowley gave Eire Og an early lead which they turned over with.

Clonakilty struck for a goal ten minutes into the second half from Josephine McCarthy and sticking to their task had a point from a Nicola O'Donovan free to level matters. Clon took the lead with a goal from the same player but fighting back Eire Og had a goal from Catriona O'Leary both sides now worked hard for a winner. Clon grabbing the lead courtesy of Josephine McCarthy who again found the net with five minutes remaining. Eire Og fought hard and could have levelled with a free but a good save by Ciara McCarthy gave her side victory.

Barryroe 7-8
Tracton 1-1

A well balanced Barryroe side that included Marie Moloney and Carol Dineen proved to strong for a young Tracton side in the Under 16 B championship on Sunday.

BANDON, with a victory over neighbours Courcys advanced to the semi-final of the Junior B championship.

Aoife O'Neill had a Bandon goal and from here on they held all the aces after Joanne Gaynor and O'Neill had added further goals.

Ann Marie Nyhan revived the Courcys challenge with a goal midway through the second half but by now Bandon's sharpshooter Aoife O'Neill had added 1-3 to her sides tally and a point from Helen Slyne ensured Bandon were well in command at the final whistle.

Newcestown 3-4
Ballygarvan 3-3

NEWCESTOWN recorded a fine victory over Ballygarvan in the Under 16 A Championship quarter final at

Ballygarvan on Sunday morning.

In a close opening half Cork minor Colette Desmond had noticed up 1-2 for Newcestown whilst her inter-county team mate Ballygarvan's Catriona Kelly had scored all of her sides 1-3 in that period to leave Ballygarvan ahead at the break.

Newcestown took the lead from the restart with a Lorraine Holland goal but back came Ballygarvan when Jackie O'Sullivan did likewise at the other end to restore Ballygarvan's lead.

The lead changed hands after Collette Desmond and Ashling O'Riordan exchanged goal. Desmond levelled matters with a pointed free and when the same player struck over a 45 Newcestown were on their way to a semi-final clash with Milford. Credit to both sides after an exciting hours camogie sportingly contested to the finish.

Carrigaline 2-8
Kilbrittan 1-2

CARRIGALINE advance in the Under 16 B championship with a victory over Kilbrittan.

The home side led 1-6 to 0-1 at half time after Laura Thompsons opening goal. Good defensive performances in the opening half from Carrigaline's goalie Ann Kiely, Elaine Egan and Trisha O'Sullivan kept Kilbrittan at bay.

Kilbrittan worked hard to hold the Carrigaline girls and were rewarded with a goal but by now Carrigaline who had a solid days work from centre field pairing Jackie O'Keefe and Laura Kelleher had secured their place in the next round after a Muir-cann Conlon goal brought proceedings to a finish.

Five star title fight

Granagh/Ballingarry (Limerick) 3-10
Bishopstown (Cork) 1-5

BISHOPSTOWN captain Clara Enright, amid huge personal desolation, captured the mood brilliantly after Granagh/Ballingarry captured their fifth Munster club title on the trot at the Cork sides venue on Saturday afternoon. They played like true All-Ireland champions. In fairness they have no passengers and are a great all round team. They crowded us out and closed us down all over the field, she said.

Bishopstowns misery was further compounded by the fact that it was their third successive defeat to the provincial champions. They could have no complaints, however, as Granagh/Ballingarry were the superior force playing superb camogie on a day that it was unlikely any team could match their talent. In doing so, the Limerick girls will have raised their confidence to such heights that this win will surely act as a catalyst towards three in a row All-Ireland titles. Apart from a few isolated brief spells, there was a driving momentum to the Shannonsiders game, which underlined their utter determination to show why they are champions.



St. Mary's Secondary School, Macroom, that won the Cork County Senior (under 18) Camogie Championship and the Sally Ann Memorial Trophy.

Oct. 2000

O'Leary points the way

St Mary's Clonakilty 2-6
Coachford College 1-7

Last year's Munster senior Colleges finalists Sacred Heart Clonakilty had two points to spare over Coachford College in an exciting Munster Colleges senior league clash at Coachford.

Cork intermediate player Jennie O'Leary opened the scoring with two points before Kate Crowley pointed a Coachford free.

Margaret McCarthy levelled matters soon after.

O'Leary finished to the net on the half time whistle to give her side the lead at the break.

Eileen O'Regan stretched the lead from the throw-in with a point but Kate Crowley responded immediately with a point. O'Leary who was in scintillating form scored a second goal to give her side an eight point lead.

Putting the Clonakilty defence under pressure Coachford were rewarded with a Kate Crowley goal but it was not enough as Sacred Heart held on to take the points.

It's level pegging

Scoil Gan Smal Blarney 3-1
Coachford College 3-1

A LATE point from Pamela O'Leary was enough to give Scoil Gan Smal Blarney a share of the spoils in the Munster Intermediate Colleges league at Coachford.

Coachford had a dream start with a Mary Healy goal and later Eleanor Healy goal to stretch her side's advantage.

A Linda Dorgan goal for Blarney put them back in contention and with their defence under pressure Coachford who had fine performances from defenders Gail O'Mahony, Trisha O'Callaghan and Ann Byrne looked to be on their way to victory but O'Leary with her last minute point drew level.

Brilliant opening half leaves Ballinhassig with too much to do as rivals race for place in final

Ballygarvan 3-12
Ballinhassig 2-2

BALLYGARVAN served notice of their intention in qualifying for the Junior A county final with a tremendous win over neighbours Ballinhassig at Riverstick.

Emer Dillon opened the scoring with a Ballygarvan point four minutes into the contest and from then on the winners dominated with Dillon adding two points before Amanda Murphy goal 13 minutes into the game.

With Emer Dillon adding three further points Ballygarvan were well in control when Trisha Holland pointed for Ballinhassig — a score that failed to settle her side who went in trailing 2-8 to 0-1 at the break.

Any hope of a Ballinhassig revival were squashed when Catriona Kelly goal 10 minutes from the throw in. Dillon and Kelly added points before Trisha Holland with a Ballinhassig goal gave her side the break they needed. A second goal from Linda O'Sullivan followed by a Holland point was not enough to halt the Ballygarvan girls who with points from Catriona Kelly (2) and Amanda Murphy booked their final spot.

Milford 6-3
Newcestown 0-3

COUNTY champions Milford made it through to the final of the under 16 A championship when they had too much strength for Newcestown at Glantane on Saturday last.

Milford, with first half goals from Marie and Emer Watson, led 2-3 to 0-1 at half time. Colette Desmond having scored the Newcestown point.

Milford continued to dominate in the second half but Newcestown to their credit never gave up the challenge. Milford had goals by Emer and Marie Watson and Elizabeth Linehan to run out convincing winners despite the Newcestown girls best efforts.

Inniscarra 3-5
Aghbullogue 2-3

THE all Mid Cork clash between Inniscarra and Aghbullogue at Ballyanley saw the Inniscarra girls advance to a semi-final meeting with Glen Rovers.

Aghbullogue opened the scoring with a point from Ciara Murphy, seven minutes into the half. Inniscarra's Margaret McCarthy gave her side the lead with a well struck goal. Treasa McCarthy and Elizabeth Hayes extended the lead with points before Louise Murphy-Lyons with had Aghbullogue right back in contention with a goal. Rallying her side Treasa McCarthy was again the tormentor when she found the net to give Inniscarra breathing space, and with the sides exchanging points Inniscarra held the lead at the break.

With Mc Carthy pointing in the



Ballygarvan's Norma Brady and Maura Lane battle with Ballinhassig's Sheila Holland.

Picture: news-pic's

Ballygarvan's opening blitz shuts out neighbours

opening minutes they increased their lead, but with determination Aghbullogue hit back in the form of Ciara Murphy with a goal. Once again Inniscarra upped the pace and a point by Treasa McCarthy was followed by a Michelle O'Regan goal to quench the Aghbullogue challenge after an exciting contest.

Glen Rovers 1-4
Cloughduv 0-1

A goal from Catriona Boyle after good work by Nicole Cummins 15 minutes into the opening half was the break Glen Rovers needed to settle in a half where both defences were on top.

Amy Cuthbert with a point had the Glen girls ahead 1-1 to no score at half time. Two further points inside three minutes from Cuthbert put her side in a comfortable position midway through the second half and with the Cloughduv girls putting on the pressure the Glen Rovers defence held solid.

A fourth point from Cuthbert eight minutes from full time gave the city girls a comfortable lead, but again Cloughduv pressed with determination and a Breege Corkery pointed free came too late to affect the outcome.

Youghal 1-5
Erins Own 1-0

YOUGHAL, with a good opening half performance which saw them lead 1-5 to no score at the interval, advanced at the expense of Erins Own in the under 16 B championship at Caherlag on Friday evening.

Shauna Cunningham, with a first half goal, settled Youghal and points from June Fitzgerald, Sarah Flavin with three and one from Cunningham

had them looking good at the break.

A more determined Erins Own came out in the second half and a goal from Niamh Dorgan had them briefly back in contention.

Courcey Rovers 1-4
Kildorrey 0-1

COURCEY Rovers booked their place in the Under 16 B championship quarter final with six points to spare over Kildorrey. Noelle Collin's goal in the first half plus a point from Marion O'Donovan had the Courcey girls ahead 1-1 to no score at half time.

With Marion O'Donovan popping over two further points and Noelle Collins with one Courceys booked their place in the next round.

Rockbawn 6-11
Ballinora 0-0

A stronger more settled Rockbawn side experienced little difficulty in progressing when they met a young Ballinora in the Under 16 B championship at Ballinora on Saturday.

Clonakilty 1-1
Killeagh 1-1

THE sides must meet again after finishing all square in the Under 16 B championship at Killeagh.

They turned over level at the break after Josephine McCarthy and Lisa Ronah had exchanged goals. It remained deadlocked throughout the second half with Nicola O'Donovan and Melissa Hegarty exchanging points.

St Catherine's 1-2
Carrigaline 1-1

A low scoring quarter final at Carrig-

aline saw St Catherine's advance at the expense of the home side.

A Denise O'Connell opening goal had Carrigaline in front but keeping in touch two points from the stick of Helen Lane had St Catherine's trailing by one at the short whistle.

Muireann Conlon had two between the sides mid way through the second half and with both sides working hard St Catherine's got the vital break when Denise Twomey goal. From her on it was nailbiting action as St Catherine's hung on for victory.

Castlemagner 1-3
Sliabh Rua 1-1

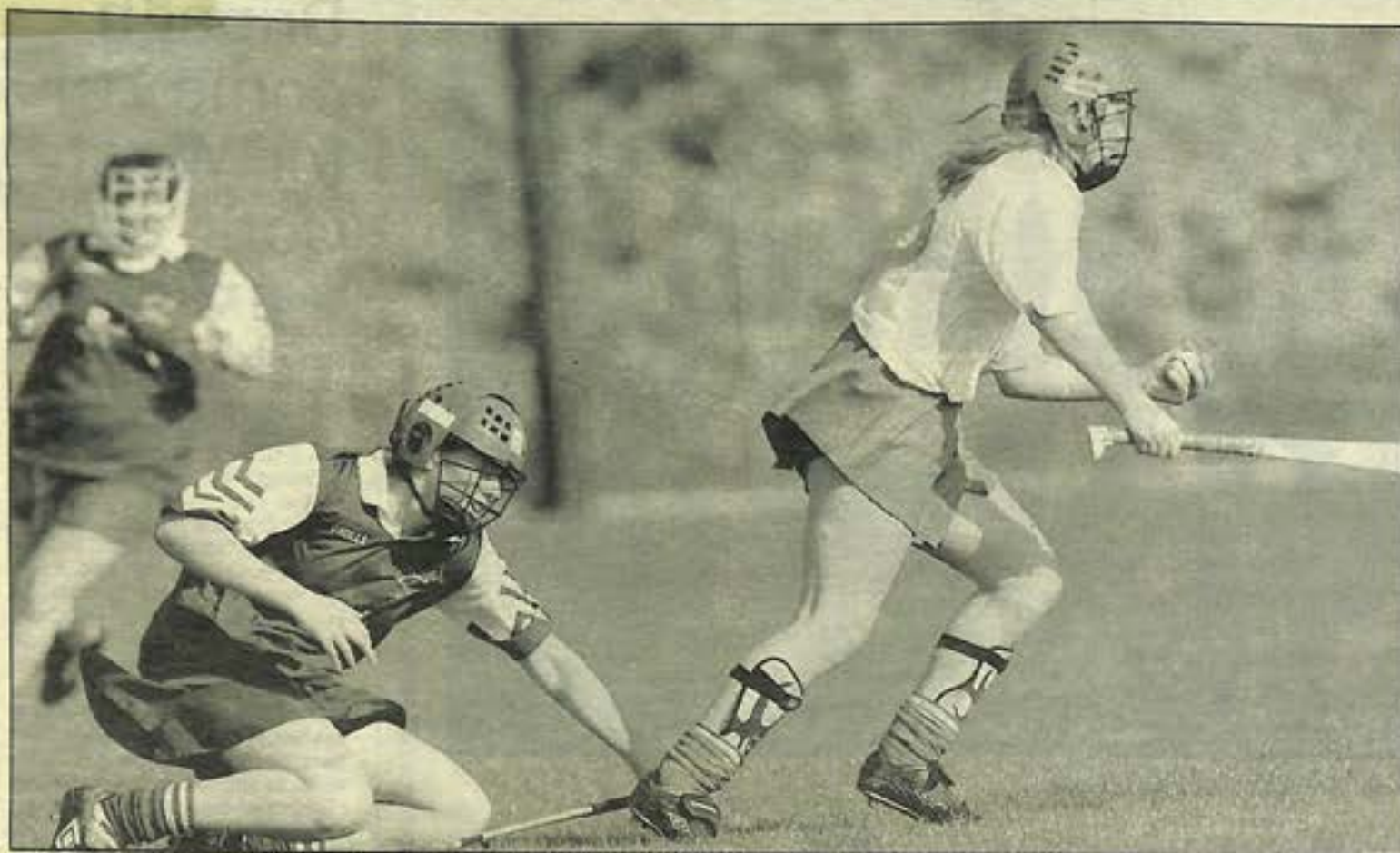
ANOTHER low scoring Junior B championship quarter final saw Castlemagner through to a semi-final meeting with Youghal.

Maura Sheehan opened with a Castlemagner point but in reply Sliabh Rua hit the front with an Evelyn O'Regan goal. Castlemagner dug deep and an Angela Lawlor goal gave them a narrow 1-1 to 1-0 interval advantage. Two Maura Sheehan points had stretched that advantage before Jackie O'Regan with a Sliabh Rua point brought proceedings to a finish.

Valley Rovers 3-3
Mayfield 0-1

CLODAGH Deasy was the hero for Valley Rovers when her hat trick of goals helped her side to victory in the under 16 B championship.

Margaret Murphy had the Inniscarra girls in front with three points before Deasy struck for her first goal when she kicked to the net, continuing to cause problems for the Mayfield defence she added a second before the break. Her third was to be the only score of the second half.



Ballygarvan's Catriona Kelly leaves Ballinhassig's Sheila Holland grounded in the county semi final.

Picture: Newspics

Ballygarvan girls advance to final

Ballygarvan 3-12
Ballinhassig 2-2

BALLYGARVAN qualified for the Junior A county final for the second year in a row with a win over Ballinhassig at Riverstick.

Emer Dillon opened the proceedings with a Ballygarvan point four minutes into the game.

Emer added two further points and Amanda Murphy goalied 13 minutes into the game.

Emer continued to be the danger adding three further points before Trisha Holland pointed for Ballinhassig's opening score.

Catriona Kelly extended the Ballygarvan lead when she goalied from the restart and with Emer and Catriona adding further points, it was all Ballygarvan.

Ballinhassig were boosted by a Trisha Holland score and a second from Linda O'Sullivan followed by a Holland point.

“IN THE second half, Ballinhassig began to play with more commitment but it was not going to upset a very determined Ballygarvan side

Ballinhassig began to play with more commitment but it was not going to upset a Ballygarvan side who had further points from Catriona Kelly (2) and Amanda Murphy.

● Courcey Rovers advanced to the U-16 B quarter-final with a 1-4 to 0-1 victory over Kildorrey.

Noelle Collin's goal in the first half plus a point from Marion O'Donovan had the Courcey girls ahead 1-1 to no score at half-time.

With Marion O'Donovan popping over two further points and Noelle Collins one, Courceys booked a place in the next round.

● Rockbawn's experience told as

they continued their progression in the U-16 B championship with a 6-11 to 0-0 tally over a young Ballinora side on Saturday.

● Clodagh Deasy's three goals for Valley Rovers helped her side to a 3-3 to 0-1 victory in the U-16 B championship over Mayfield.

Margaret Murphy with three points opened up the lead for the Innishannon girls before Deasy struck for her first goal.

Maintaining the upper hand, Valley Rovers added a second, again from Deasy, before the break.

Her third goal was to be the only score of the second half but it was

to see Valley Rovers through.

● Clonakilty and Killeagh finished on level pegging (1-1 to 1-1) in the U-16 B championship at Killeagh with Josephine McCarthy and Lisa Ronah exchanging goals.

The sides were neck and neck in the second half with Nicola O'Donovan and Melissa Hegarty exchanging points to leave it all square at the finish.

The Junior B championship quarter-final at Carrigaline saw St Catherine's go through to the last four with a victory over the hosts.

Denise O'Connell had Carrigaline in front with the game's opening score but two points from Helen Lane had St Catherine's within a point at the break.

Muireann Conlon extended the Carrigaline lead midway through the second half but St Catherine's got the vital break when Denise Twomey pounced for a St Catherine's goal that sealed victory on a scoreline of 1-2 to 1-1.

Rovers defence puts up shutters

Glen Rovers 1-4
Cloughduv 0-1

THE sides remained deadlocked 15 minutes into the opening half at The Glen field before Catriona Boyle's goal gave Glen Rovers the advantage in a half where both defences were on top.

Amy Cuthbert extended that lead with a point to leave the Glen Rovers girls ahead 1-1 to 0-0 at half time.

Two further points after the restart from Cuthbert put her side in the driving seat.

Cloughduv put the Glen defence under pressure but good play from Rachel Donovan and Alison Burke saw Glen hold out.

A fourth point from Cuthbert eight minutes from full time gave the city girls a comfortable lead but again Cloughduv pressed and were rewarded with a Breege Corkery pointed free on the full-time whistle.

Youghal advance

Youghal 1-5
Erin's Own 1-0

YOUGHAL leading 1-5 to no score at the interval advanced at the expense of Erin's Own in the Under 16 B championship at Caherlag on Friday evening.

Shauna Cunningham with a first-half goal for the east Cork side and points from team-mates June Fitzgerald, Sarah Flavin with three and one from Cunningham had them looking comfortably ahead of the Erin's Own girls at the interval.

A more determined effort from Erin's Own in the second half yielded a goal from Niamh Dorgan to bring them back into the game but unfortunately not enough to keep the Youghal girls advancing in the championship.

Queens of the Castle

Castlemagner 1-3
Sliabh Rua 1-1

CASTLEMAGNER edged out Sliabh Rua to set up a semi-final meeting with Youghal in the junior B championship.

There was little to choose between the sides in the opening half. Moira Sheehan gave Castlemagner an early lead but Sliabh Rua hit the front with an Evelyn O'Regan goal.

Castlemagner responded in style and an Angela Lawlor goal saw them lead 1-1 to 1-0 at the interval. Two Moira Sheehan points stretched their advantage before Jackie O'Regan replied.

Milford back in final Inisscarra through

Milford 6-3
Newcestown 0-3

HOLDERS Milford are firmly on course to retain the Under 16 A championship.

Milford swept aside Newcestown at Glentane last Saturday to take their place in the decider.

goals to push Milford into a commanding nine points lead before Collette Desmond had a Newcestown point.

Milford continued to take the game to their rivals after the restart and further goals from Emer and Marie Watson and Elizabeth Linehan firmly underlined their superiority.

Inniscarra 3-5
Aghbullogue 2-3

INNISCARRA and Aghbullogue served up an entertaining Under 16 A quarter final at Ballyanley where Inniscarra advanced to a semi-final meeting with Glen Rovers.

Margaret McCarthy gave Inniscarra the lead with a goal.

Treasa Mc Carthy and Elizabeth Hayes extended the lead with points before Louise Murphy -Lyons got a superb Aghbullogue goal.

Treasa McCarthy answered the call with an Inniscarra goal.

Inniscarra, sensing an Aghbullogue revival finished stronger with a Treasa McCarthy point followed by a Margaret McCarthy goal to win.

Sheer delight at city girls' victory



VICTORIOUS: The girls of Douglas Camogie Club have proudly claimed the Under-12 county title. Their triumph comes as an appropriate end to a long season of hard work and dedication shown by all players and coaches.

HISTORY was recorded recently when Douglas camogie club lifted the Under-12 county title for the first time.

It was a remarkable achievement for a club so tender in years but it was a handsome reward for all the great work that's being put in on the training ground.

By **JOHN HORGAN**

john.horgan@eecho.ie

A long and winding road has led to the promised land with 10 hurdles having to be surmounted along the way.

Brian Dillons were first to fall along the route, followed by Glen Rovers, Na Piar-salgh, Blackrock, Mayfield, Carrigaline, Tracton, Ballin-

collig. and Ballinhassig. Those triumphs left only Ballygarvan to be negotiated in the final. The young Douglas girls gave a thrilling performance in the season's ultimate test.

They scorched to an emphatic 7-2 to 1-2 victory, sparking wild celebrations on and off the Carrigaline pitch.

Endless hours of coaching,

cajoling and fine tuning had reaped a rich dividend. For coaches Eileen Murphy, Nuala Flanagan and Billy O'Sullivan, the win was a result of painstaking work.

Credit must go to club stalwart Mick O'Regan for the excellent work he puts in with all members of the thriving suburban club.

The Douglas panel bringing club honour and glory in-

cluded: Niamh O'Donovan, Shelley O'Donovan, SORCHA NI RIAIN, Audrey Flanagan, Kim O'Driscoll, Louise Sheehan, Sarah O'Regan, Deirdre Murphy, Rachel O'Sullivan, Jenny O'Donovan, Linda McCarthy, Kathryn Hussey, Olivia Tobin, Emma Hefernan, Lavinia O'Mahony, Nicola Blower, Hilary O'Connor, Jessica Jackson, Zoe Dunlea, Moira O'Dono-

van, Aileen O'Donovan, Julia White and Leanne O'Shea.

Their victory has further enhanced the popularity of camogie among club members, clear evidence of a healthy future.

The junior team have made a significant impact in the championship with Cork star Amanda O'Regan spearheading the challenge here.

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Desmond fires team to glory

A SUPERB display by Cork Minor Colette Desmond, ably assisted by Ashling Holland and Rachel Donovan, set up Newcestown for victory.

Newcestown defeated Ballygarvan 3-4 to 3-3 in the Under-16 A Championship quarter final.

In a close opening half Desmond's contribution of 1-2 saw her side turn over, trailing by one point after Ballygarvan's Cork Minor, Catriona Kelly, had scored all of her sides 1-3.

Newcestown hit the front from the resumption when Lorraine Holland goaled, but the celebrations were short lived as Jackie O'Sullivan had the ball in the net to restore Ballygarvan's lead. Colette Desmond and Ashling

"Dawn O'Farrell had a Buttrvant point, but four pointed frees from Fiona O'Donovan gave Douglas the upper hand after an entertaining contest

O'Riordan exchanged goals to once again see the lead change hands. Desmond levelled matters with a pointed free and when the same player struck over a 45". Newcestown were on their way.

A solid defensive performance helped Carrigaline advance in the Under-16 B championship semi-final when they had a comfortable victory over Kilbrittan at Carrigaline ending 2-8 to 1-2. The home side led 1-6 to 0-1 at half time, after Laura Thomp-

sons opening goal settled her side, who had good performances from goalie Ann Kiely.

Douglas overcame Buttrvant 3-5 to 1-2. Leading 2-0 to 1-1 at the interval, Douglas with a strong second half display advanced in the Under-16 B championship over Buttrvant. From the resumption Douglas set about increasing their lead. Dawn O'Farrell had a Buttrvant point, but four pointed frees from Fiona O'Donovan gave

Douglas the upper hand after an entertaining contest.

Clonakilty staged a second half rally to run out winners over Eire Og 3-1 to 2-1 in the Under-16 B championship at Ovens. An Yvonne Malone goals plus a point from Clodagh Crowley gave Eire Og the upper hand. Clonakilty with a tenth minute goal from Josephine McCarthy, rallied and stuck to their task with determination. Nicola O'Donovan pointed a free to level matters. Clon grabbed the lead courtesy of Josephine McCarthy.

Barryroe overthrew Tracton 7-8 to 1-1. With Marie Moloney, Louise Gannon and the Dineen sisters Rosemary and Carol in scoring form, Barryroe had too much power for a determined but young Tracton.



The Douglas camogie team who beat Inniscarra in the County Junior Camogie Championship semi-final in Ovens.

Brilliant Saints go on to the final

u210St Catherine's 3-3 Bandon 1-0
ST CATHERINE'S made no mistake in booking their place in the Junior B championship final when they advanced at the expense of Bandon in Brinny last Sunday. With weather conditions making it difficult for both sides, Denise Twomey opened the scoring with a St Catherine's goal. Working hard, Bandon kept the pressure on St Catherine's. An attempt on goal was well saved by the St Catherine's keeper Sandra O'Brien but was finished to the net by Eithne Leahy to tie up matters. Continuing to press, St Catherine's again took the lead with a Helen Lane point. However, Denise Twomey was the tormentor when her second goal minutes from half-time had St Catherine's in the driving seat. Helen Lane slotted over a point on the half time whistle to leave it 2-2 to 1-in favour of St Catherine's at the break. With conditions deteriorating rapidly, both sides found the going tough. St. Catherine's continued to hold the upper hand with a Helen Lane pointed free. Denise Twomey stretched the advantage with her side's third goal and now playing with tremendous commitment St Catherine's continued to cause problems for the Bandon attack and with their defence holding firm St Catherine's advanced to a final meeting with either Youghal or Castlemagner.

Changes to game are welcomed

THE All-Ireland club championship semi-finals threw up surprises at the weekend with holders Granagh-Ballinagarry from Limerick crashing out to Derry side Swatragh. Played in atrocious weather, two early goals gave Swatragh an advantage in an opening half where they led all through.

Playing with determination they held to the finish to record a memorable victory.

In the second semi-final Pearces from Galway were made fight all the way for victory by a determined St Ann's Wexford side before advancing on a 1-10 to 2-2 scoreline after a fine game.

Cork delegates travelled to Dublin last weekend for the special Camogie Congress which dealt mainly to the playing rules, with many changes having been brought into operation.

Amongst the major changes for the season, beginning with competitions in January 2001, will be the in-

Coachford off to a flying start

Coachford College
Loretto Fermoy

6-7
3-4

Regaining their composure Coachford hit back with Emma Healy pointing a free.

IN the first year's A league Coachford got off to a winning start with victory over Loretto.

A closely contested opening half saw Coachford hit the front with a Mary O'Sullivan goal.

Loretto hit back and took the lead with scores from Breda O'Neill and Mary Murphy.

roduction of a red card to be shown to a player being dismissed from the field of play.

Another big change will see the introduction of five substitutes — something long called for.

Players will now be able to take four steps with the ball in the hand, another change to the rules and something which has been the cause of major debate in camogie circles is the penalty, a free inside the twenty-one metre line will now result in a penalty with just three players in

Settling down, the Mid Cork girls regained the lead after good work by Christine Buckley set up Louise Roche to goal.

Fermoy worked hard in the second half but it was the Coachford girls, with Jennifer Long grabbing two further goals, who clinched the points.

the goal. The time of play has also been extended, with the sixty minute game now the order of the day at all club games for players over the age of 14.

The fifteen-a-side continues for a further three years to again be reviewed at the end of that period, however the general feeling is that it is here to stay.

One provision is that for under age games up to under-14 level, county boards have the power to make provisions regarding the size

of the pitch, length of time played and if necessary the number of players that participate.

This is something which will be pleasing to clubs who may have had trouble fielding fifteen players.

New changes to the league structure will see the competition being known as The National Leagues with Senior and Intermediate teams playing in the first division and Junior teams playing in division 2.

Neutral venues will now be used where long travel would be required.

Changes are also in place to give teams more games, and a proposed back door for weaker counties.

In terms of development a National Forum will be held next year.

FIXTURES

Saturday October 28th
Under-16 B Championship Blarney v Barryroe At Blarney Time TBA.

Sunday October 29th Senior B Championship semi-final Replay Eire Og v Valley Rovers 12.30 venue TBA.

Fr O'Neills sweep aside Youghal rivals

Fr O'Neills
Youghal

4-2
0-0

KATE AHERN'S first minute goal for Fr O'Neills was the only score in the opening half of the U-16 B championship.

Aided by the elements in the second-half, Fr O'Neills continued to dominate.

Ann-Marie O'Keefe scored her side's second goal

before two Gearoidin Kearney stretched the lead with two further points.

Youghal's Sara O'Shea, Noelle White and Catriona Bullman never gave up trying by could not breach Fr O'Neills' defence and more goals from Jennifer Hayes and Gearoidin Kearney put the result beyond doubt.

Douglas set up a county final meeting with Bally-

garvan with a 4-4 to 1-2 victory over Inniscarra.

The two sides served up a lively game on the Eire Og's new pitch in Ovens.

Douglas led nine minutes into the opening half after Catherine Jordan and Amanda O'Regan opened up a two goal advantage.

Fiona O'Donovan had a third and with full-back, former inter county junior star

Mary Harington (nee Maher), and Jemma Carroll keeping the Inniscarra forwards on a close rein, Douglas were in command.

With Amanda O'Regan and Margaret McCarthy exchanging points it was 3-1 to 0-1 in Douglas's favour.

Inniscarra were determined to cut the deficit - a goal from Treasa McCarthy was followed by a point from

Criona Harte. Amanda O'Regan steadied Douglas with a point. They regained their composure and a goal from forward Carmel Downey put nine points between the sides and had a final place reserved long before Amanda O'Regan's two points brought proceedings to a conclusion.

Douglas meet Ballygarvan in the county final.

Healy takes full control

Coachford 6-1
Colaiste Choilm Ballincollig 1-0

COACHFORD Community College top group three of the Munster Intermediate Colleges league following this good victory. Margaret Cosgrave opened the scoring with a Coachford point and a goal from the alert Elenore Foley stretched the Coachford lead. With Emma Healy dominant in mid-field Coachford continued to win possession. But a solid Ballincollig defence - with Jessica Shine, Maria Lucey and Niamh Hegarty all working tirelessly - held them at bay and the Ballincollig girls were rewarded when Mairead O'Sullivan goal.

On the resumption Coachford upped the pace, Linda Daly had her side's second goal and Coachford settled. With Louise Roche, Elenore Foley, Harriet Browne and Sinead O'Sullivan all grabbing goals the points were secure. Ballincollig will rue the many wasted scoring chances in the opening half when playing with the aid of the strong wind but coach Fiona O'Driscoll will be sure to have that corrected for their next outing.

Oct. 2000

Twomey hat trick blasts Catherine's past Bandon and into next round

St Catherine's
Bandon

3-3
1-0

ST CATHERINE'S advanced to the Junior B championship final, when they recorded a victory over Bandon in Brinny, on Sunday last.

Weather conditions made it hard for both sides, but it was Denise Twomey who was the star of the show, managing to grab a hat trick of goals to help her side advance.

The first came in the opening stages of the game, and helped to settle St Catherine's, but a hard-working Bandon were level when St Catherine's keeper, Sandra O'Brien, saved well but was beaten when Eithne Leahy finished the rebound to the net.

Keeping the pressure on, St Catherine's again took the lead with a Helen Lane point.

Twomey grabbed her second goal minutes from half time, before Helen Lane was again on hand to point on the half time whistle to leave it 2-2 to 1-0 at half time.

Both sides found the going tough, given the conditions, but St Catherine's continued to hold the lead — with a Helen Lane pointed free stretching them further ahead.

Denise Twomey again finished well for her third goal and, now playing with confidence, St Catherine's continued to hold the aces against a gallant Bandon side. Catherine's now meet Castlemagner or Youghal in the final.

Fr O'Neill's
Youghal

4-2
0-0

A goal from Kate Aherns, in the opening minute, gave Fr O'Neill's the only score in the opening half of the Under-16 B championship, at Ballymacoda.

Aided by the strong wind in the second half, Fr O'Neill's took control in the opening stages of the second half. Gearoidin Kearney stretched the advantage with two points, but Youghal continued to work hard — Julie Treacy and Jillian White never gave up trying — but, on a day when the wind and rain spoiled proceedings, Fr O'Neill's were well in control. Further goals, from Jennifer Hayes

Amanda O'Reagan runs the show as Douglas brush past Iniscarra

Bishopstown's Sheenagh Morley feels the force of the hurley, after blocking down Granagh/Ballingarry's Eileen O'Brien clearance during the Munster Camogie Championship final, at Bishopstown.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare



and Gearoidin Kearney ended matters.

Douglas
Iniscarra

4-4
1-2

Douglas recorded a fine victory over Iniscarra on Sunday last, to set up a county final meeting with Ballygarvan.

The appalling weather conditions did not hamper two determined teams from providing an entertaining game on the superb new Eire-Og pitch, in Ovens. Douglas led from the start, after Catherine Jordan and Amanda O'Regan had given them a dream start, with two goals.

Fiona O'Donovan added a third, and the city girls were in control. With their defence holding, the lively Iniscarra forwards continued to press; Amanda O'Regan and Margaret Mc Carthy exchanged points to leave it 3-1 to 0-1 at the break.

Iniscarra came out determined in the second half. A goal from Treasa McCarthy was quickly followed by a point from Criona Harte, but again Amanda O'Regan replied with a point. With Ger Burke, Jemma Carroll and Louise O'Regan in form, Douglas held the upper hand.

Full forward, Cannel Downey, put nine points between the sides with a well-struck goal, before Amanda O'Regan brought the curtain down for Douglas with two more points. ● Cork delegates travelled to Dublin

last weekend for the Special Camogie Congress, which was held in Croke Park. Several decisions with regard to the playing rules were decided.

Amongst the major changes for the season — beginning with competitions in January 2001 — will be the introduction of five substitutes, something which will be welcomed by clubs throughout the county.

Also, a player dismissed from the field of play will now be shown a red card by the referee.

Something which has been the cause of major frustration to legions of camogie players and mentors is the advantage rule, which will finally come into operation; this should be a huge help in speeding up the game.

A penalty with just three players in the goal is a change in the rule which may not find favour with a lot of defenders — however, it will be interesting to see how it works out.

The time of play has also been extended, with the halves now extended to thirty minutes a side for all games involving players over the age of fourteen.

The fifteen-a-side continues for a further three years, to again be reviewed at the end of that period. The general feeling however, is that it is here to stay.

One provision is that for underage games up to under-14 level, county boards have the power to make provisions regarding the size of the pitch,

length of time played and, if necessary, the number of players that participate. This is something which will please clubs who may have had trouble fielding fifteen players.

The congress was addressed by Pat Daly, GAA Games Development Manager, who spoke to delegates on the subject of anti-doping. It is most likely that Camogie will follow the same lines as the GAA, and that it will pertain to Inter county players over the age of sixteen.

New changes to the league structure will see the present structure called The National Leagues — with senior and Intermediate teams playing in Division 1, and Junior teams playing in Division 2.

Neutral venues will now be used where long travel would be required, thus reducing the trouble and cost involved in long trips to venues nationwide.

Changes are also in place to give teams more games, with the weaker counties coming back into the championship in a back door format, similar to that in the current All-Ireland system — whereby counties were given a second chance of success despite being knocked out.

In terms of development, a National Forum will be held next year. All in all, it was a lively congress — with it remaining to be seen if the rule changes continue to be of advantage to the game.

Congress votes for camogie to remain 15-a-side

THE special Camogie Congress held in Croke Park, on Saturday, saw delegates decide to implement major changes which will come into force next year.

Congress voted overwhelmingly to retain the 15-a-side game for a further three years.

Such has been the success of the venture, it is generally accepted that it is most probably here to stay.

The big talking point was the introduction of the much needed advantage rule and a penalty also being introduced to be taken on the 21 metres line with three players on the goal line.

Something which will also be welcomed is the change that allows five substitutes.

All games will be 30 minutes each way from Under 14 upwards.

The red card will also come into operation for a player being sent to the sideline.

Pat Daly, GAA Games Development Manager, spoke on the subject of anti-doping.

It is likely that camogie will follow on the lines of the GAA and it will pertain to senior inter county players over the age of 16.

Changes have also been put in place which will see a new structure for Leagues.

The present format will change to the National leagues with the senior and intermediate teams playing in a 1st division and junior teams playing in a Division 2.

Changes are also in place in the championships which will give weaker counties more games.

A National Forum will be held next year.

Counties have also been given permission to run their domestic competition to suit the needs within their respective areas.

This means counties who may have clubs with smaller numbers may organise competitions to run on a 10 or 12 a side basis to cater for all needs.

The exception being the All-Ireland Club championship which must be run on a 15 a side basis.

All in all, it was a very fruitful congress, which looks ahead to continue changes in the game.

Camogie takes a giant leap forward

CREDIT must go to the delegates who at Camogie's Special Congress last Saturday voted overwhelmingly to move ahead.

Most interesting is the agreement to maintain the present format of 15-a-side, which was on trial for a two-year period.

It is generally accepted with the high level of fitness the bigger size pitch affords players the space to exhibit their skills.

In short, 15-a-side is a more attractive spectacle for fans and a more enjoyable game for the players.

With this move, changes to the rule system were necessitated, which now makes the female game more akin to that of Gaelic football and hurling.

There is an evolution process in all sports usually brought about by developing circumstances, and unquestionably camogie has altered in recent times.

That is why the introduction of the advantage rule will serve to speed up the flow, make the game more pleasing to the eye, and indeed more fulfilling to play.

View from the ground with Therese O'Callaghan



New ground has been broken too with the penalty coming into play. Up until now, a 20m free could be awarded with an unlimited number of players packing the goal, but under the new legislation the penalty will be hit

into a goal defended by three players — thus greater penalising the offending team.

Red carding is also about to be introduced. This system means that the player sent off will have to appear before the

committee responsible for that competition to determine the extent of their fate.

Senior club level will be 15-a-side too, as this is considered to be an All-Ireland competition.

Other club competitions will be in the same format, but where difficulty is experienced in fielding teams, it will be at the discretion of the county board to reduce numbers for the various competitions within its jurisdiction, but only in cases of extreme hardship.

The bottom line here is that

the needs of the club will be uppermost.

There will be uniformity between club and county matches with games of 60 minutes duration being played right across the board, except at juvenile level.

The Development Committee recommended that the association create an alliance with the GAA. A document has recently been submitted to GAA management, with much interest awaiting the outcome of such discussions between the two bodies.



WINNERS: Douglas, who defeated Bishopstown in the Séandun Under-11 camogie league final.

Coach' drive on after a strong victory

Coachford
Borrisoleigh

3-4
1-2

COACHFORD advanced at the expense of Tipperary team Borrisoleigh in the Munster Colleges Junior A Championship played at Kilbeheny on Friday last.

Emma Healy's goal settled the Mid-Cork College and with Maria Healy keeping a close eye on Tipperary minor Maria Tynan, Coachford kept the pressure on.

Margaret McCarthy had added a point to the scoreboard before a second Healy goal allowed Cork team Coachford to be firmly in command of the game.

Borrisoleigh defenders Nora Kinane and Catherine Shanahan made Coachford work hard for possession but points from Michelle O'Regan and Emma Healy helped to keep their side ahead.

Borrisoleigh did come more into the game in the second half and with Kathaleen Kennedy and Joanne Cowan working hard, they had their opening score when Marie Tynan finished a good move to the net.

Kennedy narrowed the gap with a point but upping the tempo, Coachford struck back when Michelle O'Regan scored a goal.

Ciara Murphy and Aileen Kennedy exchanged points in the closing stages, but the Cork side held on for a deserving victory to set up a semi-final tie against Nenagh or Scariff.

COACHFORD: C Hogan, J Daly, O McSweeney, J Murphy-Lyons, N O'Connell, M Ennaguess, A O'Mahony, C Murphy, M Healy, I Roche, Mo Ragan, M McCarthy, M Cosgrave, F Buckley, E Healy.
BORRISOLEIGH: R Kenneally, M Maher, N Kinane, C Shanahan, M Bradshaw, K Kennedy, M Hassett, M Tynan, C Awan, A Kennedy, T Dunne, M Coffey, M Stapleton, N Cuddy, M Hogan.

Ballygarvan seek their first title win

TWO games down for decision will see Killeagh travel to Clonakilty to meet the home side in the Under-16 B championship replay, whilst Valley Rovers travel to Ballyhea in the same competition.

The Junior A championship final on Sunday next has Douglas striving to bridge a nineteen-year gap since they last took the title, meeting a Ballygarvan side seeking their first.

Douglas, who went to a replay in their opening game with Glen Rovers, recorded a big victory over Inniscarra in the semi-final. They will look to stalwarts of the side Mary Maher and Carmel Downey.

Ballygarvan brushed aside the challenge of Ballinhassig in the semi-final with a determination which indicated just how focused they are on taking the title.



CAPTAIN'S DELIGHT: Marion McCarthy chairman of Seandun presenting Douglas captain Emma Heffernan with the Under-11 trophy.

Mercy bow out to an excellent Coachford

Coachford 5-4
Mount Mercy 2-1

COACHFORD College advanced at the expense of Mount Mercy to the Cork Colleges Senior A final.

Coachford took the lead early in the game with points from Michelle O'Regan and Kate Crowley. A Sheila McCarthy goal extended the lead.

With Ciara Healy switching to centre-field, Mount Mercy came more into the game but found the going tough against a solid Coachford defence where Joan Twomey, Brid O'Connell and Michelle Cooney excelled.

Coachford increased their lead when Mary Twomey and Margaret McCarthy combined with McCarthy finishing to the net. Ciara Healy kept Mount Mercy in touch with a pointed 45' but Kate Crowley replied with a Coachford goal to see the Mid-Cork girls ahead.

On the resumption, Mount Mercy did work hard but found the it hard to score. Ciara Murphy with a Coachford point followed quickly with a goal to increase their lead.

With Ciara Healy and Joanne O'Callaghan working hard, it was Coachford's Maeve O'Connell with a point who brought proceedings to a close.

Coachford now met either Clonakilty or Charleville in the final.

Barryroe in super form

Barryroe 11-4
Blarney 0-0

BARRYROE'S experience was the main factor in their victory over Blarney in the Under-16 B championship at Gleann na Laoi GAA Grounds on Saturday last.

With weather conditions not favourable to camogie, both teams are to be credited for the effort put into the game.

Barryroe were in control throughout the opening half after Marie Moloney's opening half goals were followed by scores from Lorna Whelton, Louise Gannon and Rosemary Dinnen to leave them ahead 5-3 to no score at the break.

Blarney, never giving up, faced the challenge of the stronger Barryroe outfit throughout the second-half. But goals from Moloney and Dineen were the scores that put the result beyond doubt.

Blarney had excellent displays from Clare O'Donovan, Jennifer O'Connell and Louise O'Callaghan on a day they met a Barryroe side whose experience was just too much to handle.

"The spirit of the girls is tremendous and I'm delighted that we have so many girls interested in the game. we are only going into our third year and with all but two are again available to play next year, I'm sure that we will advance even further next year," commented Blarney mentor Ann Coleman.

Coachford are merciless

Barryroe
hammer
Blarney

Coachford 5-4
Mount Mercy 2-1

COACHFORD COLLEGE recorded a victory over a Mount Mercy team that contained Cork senior player, Ciara Healy, and Cork Juniors, Zelia Mc Donnell, Jean O Sullivan and Joanne O Callaghan, in the Senior A Cork Colleges semi-final.

From the throw-in, Coachford hit the front, with points from Michelle

O'Regan and Kate Crowley. A Sheila McCarthy goal had Coachford in a comfortable position, before Mount Mercy moved Ciara Healy to centre field, in a bid to take control of the game. However, Mount Mercy found it hard to break down a solid Coachford defence.

The Coachford girls stretched their lead, when Mary Twomey set up Margaret McCarthy for a goal. Ciara Healy kept Mount Mercy in touch, with a pointed 45'. Kate Crowley scored a goal for Coachford, to leave her side well ahead at the break.

Upon the resumption, A Ciara Murphy point, followed by a goal, left Coachford in sight of the finishing line.

Ciara Healy and Joanne O'Callaghan did reduce the deficit, with a goal apiece, but it was Coachford's Maeve O'Connell who had the last say, with a fine point.

COACHFORD: E O'Keefe, M Cooney, R Crowley, M O'Connell, M Ennequess, J Twomey, M O'Leary, M Buckley, K Crowley, C Murphy, M O'Regan, N O'Connell, S McCarthy, M Twomey, M McCarthy, Subs S O'Leary for M Ennequess, C Hogan for C Murphy, B O'Connell for M



Douglas's Fiona O'Donovan is tackled by Inniscarra's Michelle O'Regan in Cork Junior "A" semi-final.

Mary Newman
reports on camogie action
from all over the county

McCarthy, F Buckley for N O'Connell
MOUNT MERCY: O Callaghan, S O'Donoghue, B O'Connell, Crowley, E Foley, J O'Callaghan, M McCarthy, Z McDonnell, Jo Sullivan, M Crowley, O Crowley, B Lynch, A McDonnell, C Healy, E O'Sullivan.

Coachford 3-4
Borrisoleigh 1-2

Coachford beat Borrisoleigh, in the Junior Championship played at Kibbenny, on Friday last.

An early Emma Healy goal Coachford. Coachford pressed forward and Margaret McCarthy had added a point, before a second Healy goal. Points from Michelle O'Regan and Emma Healy helped to keep the pressure on.

Borrisoleigh did come into the game more in the second half, with Marie Tynan scoring a goal for her side. Keeping the pressure on, Kathaleen Kennedy narrowed the gap with a point but, upping the tempo, Coachford struck back — courtesy of Michele O'Regan, who finished to the net.

With Ciara Murphy

and Aileen Kennedy exchanging points, the Cork side held on for a victory.

COACHFORD: C Hogan, L Daly, O McSeeneey, L Murphy, Lyons, N O'Connell, M Ennequess, A O'Mahony, C Murphy, M Healy, L Roche, M O'Regan, M McCarthy, M Cosgrave, F Buckley, E Healy.
BORRISOLEIGH: R Kenneally, M Maher, N Kinnane, C Shanahan, M Bradshaw, K Kennedy, M Hassett, M Tynan, J Cawen, A Kennedy, T Dunne, M Coffey, M Stapleton, N Cuddy, M Hogan.

Colleges results to date
Cork colleges senior a semi-final: Coachford 5-4 Mount Mercy 2-1
Cork colleges senior b quarter-final St Als 2-14 Pres Ballyphessane 0-2
Cork colleges junior a quarter-final Clonakilty 4-3 St Als 1-0
Munster colleges senior a quarter-final Colaiste Mhuire Ennis 2-7 Mount Mercy 3-2
Munster colleges junior b first round Presentation Bandon 3-12 Colaiste Choilm Ballincollig 0-2
Munster colleges senior b second round St Joseph's Tutla 2-2 St Als 1-2

BARRYROE 11-4
BLARNEY 0-0

A strong Barryroe side advanced over Blarney to a quarter-final meeting with Courcy Rovers, in the Under-16 B championship at Glan na Laoi GAA grounds, on Saturday last.

With weather condi-

tions not favourable to camogie both teams are to be credited for the determined effort put into the contest.

From the outset, Barryroe were in command, and led at the interval, 5-3 to no score, after Marie Moloney, Lorna Whelton, Louise Gannon and Rosemary Dinnen had all got on the scoresheet.

Goals from Moloney and Dinnen were the decisive factors.

Blarney could not find fault with the performances of Fiona O'Brien, Elenore Barry, Pamela O'Leary and young 11-year-old goalkeeper Tracy O'Brien, against a Barryroe side whose experience just proved too much for the young team. Blarney mentor, Ann Coleman — though disappointed with the result — expressed satisfaction at the performance.

All but two of this spirited Blarney side are again available to play in the under-16 grade, next year.

Two games this afternoon see Kileagh travel to Clonakilty in the Under-16 B championship replay, whilst Valley Rovers play hosts to Ballyhea, in Innishannon.

Swatragh strike

SWATRAGH (Derry).....2-8

GRANAGH BALLINGARRY (Limerick).....1-7

KEVIN McNAUGHTON, the Swatragh manager, was delighted with his side's 2-8 to 1-7 All-Ireland semi-final win over the club champions of the past two years.

A solid start by Swatragh yielded two goals in the opening six minutes — the first from Paula McAtamney followed by captain Aileen Tohill to help the Ulster champions lead 2-4 to 0-3 at the break.

On the restart, sound defending by Swatragh repelled the best effort of the Limerick team whose late goal from Joanne Clifford proved to be only a consolation.

SCORERS — Swatragh: P McAtamney 1-4, A Tohill 1-1, D O'Doherty, A O'Loughlin, C McNicholl 0-1 each. Granagh Ballingarry: J Clifford 1-0, E O'Brien 0-4, A Sheehan 0-2, J Cullinane 0-1.

PEARSE (Galway).....1-10

ST ANNES RATHNUR (Wicklow).....2-2

PEARSE of Galway are through to their first club championship final since 1997 following their All-Ireland semi-final win over St Annes.

A goal in the 25th minute of the first half from St Annes' Ger Codd left the sides level at the break, St Annes 1-2 to Pearse 0-5.

Pearse put in a strong second half performance and when Sharon Glynn got her side's only goal with time ticking away, Rathnure could not respond.

SCORERS — Pearse: S Glynn 1-3, M Glynn 0-2, O Kilganny, V Sweeney, A Ford, A Hilary, C Hannan 0-1 each. St Annes: G Codd 1-1, A Mahon 1-0, E Holohan 0-1.

Newcastle West celebrate a camogie double

CELEBRATIONS were in order on Saturday last as Newcastle West completed the Intermediate championship/League double with a 1-7 to 0-2 win over Ahane in the County League final at Killybegs.

The scoreline does not reflect the closeness of exchanges in a very well contested and exciting

game and it was only in the final 10 minutes that Newcastle West pulled away scoring 1-4 to Ahane's 0-1.

Conditions were excellent considering the time of year. Newcastle West had beaten Galbally in the championship final two weeks previously and so in 2001 will make their first appearance in

senior.

At Ballybrickens Ground, Ballyagran surprised Bruff with a 2-4 to 1-6 win in the replayed senior B championship semi-final.

Cecilia McNamara was Ballyagrans heroine with two surges from the back and two goals in the final exciting minutes. Ballyagran play Newcastle West

in the final.

Granagh-Ballingarry aspirations to do a three in a row of All Ireland club titles were torpedoed by Swatragh of Derry at Swatragh on Sunday last when the Derry and Ulster champion caused a major surprise with a decisive 2-8 to 1-7 win.

Swatragh led from the start. So the end of the

road for a great Granagh Ballingarry team who have achieved remarkable success in the last four years, with huge success at National, Provincial and County levels.

The County under 18's play Cork in round one of the Munster championship on Friday at M.I.C.E.

THE PARTNERS

WE CONSTANTLY READ ABOUT THE HUGE SACRIFICES MADE BY INTERCOUNTY PLAYERS, BUT WHAT ABOUT THOSE WHO PROVIDE INVALUABLE SUPPORT AND HELP AS THEIR PARTNERS STRIVE FOR GLORY? EAMONN JOYCE GOES IN SEARCH OF DOMESTIC BLISS WITH TWO SPOUSES OF PROMINENT INTER-COUNTY PLAYERS

The Husband: Micheal Freaney - married to All-Ireland winning Tipperary camogie captain Meadhbh Stokes

Over the last two years Tipperary have smashed the Kilkenny/Cork duopoly in camogie, which lasted longer than most care to remember. Captain on the fateful day last September was Kilsheelan stalwart Meadhbh Stokes, who is married to another south Tipp native, Micheal Freaney. But it wasn't all wine and roses on the path to glory, and both had to be patient as Meadhbh pursued a lifelong ambition. Good things never come easy and the success of 1999 came after a long wait.

The ball began to roll in '92 when Tipp captured the junior title followed by the intermediate version in '97, which won the Premier county the right to play in the senior ranks. For this patient spouse it's been an interesting journey. "Well we're both big GAA people. I play hurling and football with my club in south Tipp, Grangemockler, and as a result we're both out of the house most nights of the week. But while I'm back most evenings around half nine, Meadhbh is often much later.

"What a lot of people don't understand is that camogie players put in as much effort as the men. I suppose the fact that we're both on the same wavelength has meant that things have run smoothly, but if either of us were different the thought of being home alone four or five nights a week wouldn't be too appealing. Household chores, dishes, washing and all the other domestic jobs are split down the middle, whenever we get the chance to get them done."

Married for three years, the Freaneys abide in the medieval surroundings of Kilkenny city. The ultimate matrimonial team, both work as Agricultural consultants for the state body Teagasc. "At the moment Meadhbh is teaching and I advise. But we don't work together; one of us is in Kildalton and the other in Mullinavat. It's gas really, because we have such an understanding of each other's lives. I enjoy being a part of something special because what Meadhbh and the rest of the Tipp girls have achieved is

very rare in the GAA.

"We both come from hurling-mad south Tipp and we both love our games. I know that Meadhbh wouldn't change a thing and neither would I. She has achieved so much in her career and has worked very hard to get it. For me it's been a bit of an adventure too, going to the matches, savouring the great wins and watching the team develop into the winning unit they are today."

Now with all of her sporting dreams fulfilled, Micheal is looking forward to a more normal married life. "Things are going to change pretty soon, Meadhbh is nearing the end of her intercounty career and it'll be back to club hurling for both of us then. We will also look at the prospect of moving back closer to home in Tipperary, back to the farming backgrounds from which we came. We might even try our hand at a bit of part-time farming if the opportunity arises.

"More time at home together, more normal everyday events filling the hours once spent on the hurling field doing laps or practicing skills...it'll be almost like the start of a new life all over again."

The Wife: Mary Dolphin - married to star Galway football midfielder Kevin Walsh

Over the past number of years the west has truly awoken with the rebirth in fortunes of the Galway footballers. Many Tribesmen have tried in vain since the sixties to emulate the days of Colleran, McDonagh and Dunne, but not until the arrival at the helm of Mayoman John O'Mahony did the tide begin to turn.

This Galway team had finally got the mix just right, a blend of power and skill that included men of the stature of Killanin native Kevin Walsh. But unlike many of his younger, unattached teammates, Kevin is a member of the small, select group of modern day footballers who have taken the marital plunge, so to speak.

The life of the new age Gaelic player is a busy one. Add to this being married with three young kids, and you have a totally mind-boggling prospect. What must it be like for the woman with the

task of minding her young and not-so-young clan? Mary Dolphin, also a Galwegian, surely deserves a medal as much as any player lining out in Croke Park.

"It's been an interesting and eventful time. So much has happened in the last few years that there really hasn't been time to draw breath. Kevin's been involved in county football ever since his minor days and I've really just accepted the facts of life of being married to a county footballer. There is a lot of commitment involved but there is a lot to be gained from it too. I've seen the good and bad days, both for the club and Galway, but to be fair a footballer's life is short and should be enjoyed to the full. It's nice to look back to all the good times."

When Mary became a member of the Doon, Rosscabill-based Walsh clan a number of years back, she also gained membership of another select group. Both Mary and Kevin are Galway-based Gardaí and can be regularly spotted administering the law on the city's streets. Combine this with a young family of three and you have what appears to be the ultimate domestic nightmare. Nevertheless, the resourceful Mullagh woman refuses to wallow in self-pity and instead confronts the situation head-on.

"Well, at the moment I'm on maternity leave. We've just had our third child and things are a wee bit chaotic at the moment. Even when my leave is over I'll go back to work but only in a job-sharing capacity. Basically, it wouldn't be fair on the young ones if both of us were working day-in day-out. Because they are so young - two, one and ten weeks - they need all the attention they can get."

As a garda Mary understands the job

demands resting on the giant shoulders of husband Kevin, but also points out that shift work allows him to continue to pursue his intercounty career. "Time management is very important in our set-up and not a single minute is wasted. With the football I know a month in advance what time Kevin will have at home and this allows us to plan our weeks. Basically, I know that every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, Kevin will be in either Tuam at training or at a game somewhere for Galway or Killanin. But to be fair I am very lucky, because Kevin's niece and mother help out with the minding of the kids and that kind of support means a lot throughout the year."

As with all young families the biggest job for Mary is keeping the washing-line busy with babygrows, nappies and of course, a king-size gear bag. "It's like second nature at this stage. I grab the kit bag and sift through all the washing along with the baby's stuff."

Even when the county season comes to an end there is still the small matter of club football for the home parish, making it a near year-long pursuit. "What with Killanin here doing well at club level, there are even more demands on Kevin from week to week. The buzz around the club is great with three lads from the area involved in the county set-up and it's very exciting coming up to big games. The chat about the game dominates the community and if we do well it gives everybody a lift. It's worth being involved just to savour the good days."

A bit of a sportswoman herself, Mary tagged out for the Killanin ladies footballers in her day, showing husband Kevin that there was more than one foot-

game very quickly as well.

"People in Killanin are renowned for their fanatical support for football the length and breadth of the county and at times it's almost like being at home only the locals are talking about a different game. So when I made the move down I quickly got involved in playing a bit of ball. Of course those days are gone now, with the young family to rear, but I really enjoyed my time involved and I got great craic out of it all."

Nevertheless, life moves on and with Caoimhe, Orlaigh and Cathal spouting up it surely won't be too long before the next generation of Walsh's is kitted out in the Maroon and White. "Definitely, growing up in this part of Galway and the environment that exists, it's hard not to see the kids getting involved in the GAA at some level. It really is the lifeblood in this locality and brings so much to the community as a whole. Even with Kevin nearing the end of his days in the county jersey the club is still very much in focus. At the end of the day it is the club football that keeps the fanatics going the long months of the year."

Maybe it's time the "Real" O'Mahonys of this world got the credit they deserve. Tactics? We don't know the half!



CAMOGIE: State of the Game

The High Ball View - Therese O'Callaghan

Camogie has come a long way since the first All Ireland championship was played back in 1932. 28 years earlier was the formation of the Camogie Association and this was during an era when female participation in sport was not exactly the done thing. The game was so much different in those days - 40 minutes duration, first increased to 50 and then the present day duration of 60 which was reached in 1988.

The players wore black stockings, black boots, white blouses and belts. Helmets were a rare sighting. Gradually, the uniform became more modernized with Kilkenny the first county team to wear the present day attire in the All Ireland final against Cork in 1972. 1973 saw the introduction of the Open Draw system in the All Ireland senior championship. Meanwhile, cold showers were replaced with the warmth of dressing rooms.

Each generation since has been instrumental in bringing the game to greater heights, and today's level is arguably up there with the best. Camogie in the nineties has undoubtedly experienced many changes and is now starting to promote itself more assertively. Live television coverage of the All Ireland finals is a major step forward and a tremendous boost in helping to promote the game. Perhaps next year the Association should look for the same coverage for the All Ireland semi-finals, particularly now since both are played as an attractive double-header in Parnell Park.

The decision to make teams 15-a-side and have the game played on a full size pitch was, in my opinion, long overdue. It was an essential change, which needs to become a permanent measure. Players have adapted very well to the new format. It also provides a much-needed platform for the game to be promoted to a wider audience by coinciding its fixtures with high profile GAA matches. I always felt, as a player, that the skill level was too high to be confined to a short pitch. There was also the issue of the small goals - was it a point or not?

The knock-on effect from this is that a referee's job is now a much easier task in deciding a score from a wide. And purely from a media perspective, the previous use of the shortened pitch took away from any coverage the game received. At the end of the day, it is effective use of the media that will lead to the possibility of increased sponsorship deals, and in turn secure the popularity of camogie through this new

millennium.

Maybe, too, it is about time to bring the rules in line with those of hurling. Some that spring to mind are the number of times that a player is allowed catch the ball before delivering it. Another is the non-use of the advantage rule. How many times has play been called back to penalize the player who has been fouled? Surely it would make for a far more attractive and free-flowing game should this particular rule be regularly applied.

The proposal, backed by GAA President Sean McCague, to take camogie under the GAA umbrella and merge the two associations is an innovative concept, and one that I feel should be worked on immediately and which, in the long term, could only serve to strengthen support for our female game.

Camogie in the 21st century is rapidly moving forward. More and more clubs and county boards have set themselves up on the Internet. This means that any person, anywhere, can get information at first hand on any club news in the country. Even if the person is on holidays or has emigrated, they can still get up-to-the-minute news on their club or county's activities. It is also a means of spreading the word to make the public more aware of our sport.

At the end of the day, there is a responsibility on all of us to double our efforts in promoting the game and attracting younger players, and, as a result, gather more support nationwide. Camogie has expanded into schools at primary and secondary level, as well as third level colleges active involvement. The late nineties saw the emergence of Galway and Tipperary who broke the traditional stranglehold that Cork and Kilkenny had on the O'Duffy Cup.

However, for the game to really move forward, we need our own membership to put their shoulder to the wheel. With an affiliation of almost 80,000, shouldn't we see more than 10,000 or 15,000 bodies at our All-Ireland final in Croke Park? So the message is: get out there and support your club and county. Our own playing population must not show apathy to our biggest showdown of the year.

The times are changing fast, and camogie is too, by playing a lead role in the development of women's sport in Ireland as we head towards the centenary of the Association in 2004.

The President's View - Pat Rafferty

Former Dublin intercounty player, Pat Rafferty, is in the first of her three-year term as President of the Camogie

Association, a role which keeps her actively involved in the day-to-day running of one of the largest women's sporting organizations. Pat spoke about current innovations that will lead to the continued progression of one of Ireland's greatest female sport.

"The Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport in Ireland is aimed at promoting positive experiences for children in sport. The Code is designed to cover sporting activities involving children and younger people up to 18 years of age. The principle behind the Code is that children's sport should be conducted in a positive, encouraging and safe atmosphere.

"It is not primarily nor essentially about child sexual abuse, although this is the one aspect of it that everybody assumes it is about. It is about a child-centered ethos which will help to ensure that competition and specialisation are kept in their right place. It incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always playing within the right spirit. Fair play is defined as a way of thinking, not just a way of behaving. It involves the elimination of cheating, gamesmanship, doping, violence (both physical and verbal), exploitation, unequal opportunities, excessive commercialisation and corruption.

"Like all other amateur sporting organizations we depend solely on our voluntary workers. The principle of a code of ethics is to guide and protect adults interacting with children in sport. It is felt that all adult actions in sport should be guided by what is best for the child and in the context of quality, open working relationships. Verbal, physical, emotional or sexual abuse of any kind is unacceptable within sport.

"As part of the strategy devised by us following on from the Development Committee Report, we are working with the

Irish Sports Council (ISC) in developing an acceptable code of ethics for children in sport.

"So where does camogie stand now? Membership is almost at 80,000, 68% of whom are aged under 18 years of age.

26% of our members are between 19-35. This continues to be the trend into the new millennium. We are a growing organization among youth. New clubs setting up are primarily comprised of under-age teams.

"This year is the second of the 15-a-side



larger pitch test, and at the Special Congress on October 21st, the decision to change the Playing Rules officially to 15-a-side is voted on by the delegates.

"The substance abuse issues and code of ethics are both advancing. In partnership with the ISC we are developing an Anti-Doping Programme (ADP), which will be put to our members at the Special Congress. The ADP should not be viewed merely as a negative measure, involving as it does the testing of players for use of prohibited substances. In the interest of fair play, we would not like to think of players competing at an unfair advantage. The ADP is also about educating our players on having a healthy approach to training, about the dangers and health-damaging effects of using prohibited substances or methods.

"Year 2000 saw the introduction of a minor B All Ireland competition, and it was marvellous to see Laois and Tyrone contest their first ever All-Ireland final at this level, with Laois the first name to be etched on the new trophy. This can only be of benefit to the continued growth and development of the game within these so-called 'weaker counties'.

"The Post Primary Schools Council also introduced a 'B competition' this year at both senior and junior, which was very successful. On the general topic of schools, this is perhaps the most important area for us in developing our game. We are indebted to Cumann na mBunscol for their great effort. Ard Chomhairle are in the process of meeting with the Primary School administrators with a view to discussing some form of initiative to continue developing the game in Primary Schools. We also have a very active CCIA, and I am glad to report that more players than ever are playing camogie at third level.

"We have developed a close association over the past few years with the Ladies Shinty Association in Scotland. The first international club shinty/camogie competition takes place in October. We are anxious that this sporting association will grow, perhaps to a full-blown international representative level. Our boards in Britain and North America also work tirelessly to keep the game alive overseas.

"In conjunction with the Ladies Football Association we are involved in discussions with the GAA concerning a strategic alliance of all the Gaelic sports organizations under the one umbrella. Such an alliance will have a significant impact on the future development of our game. There is considerable cooperation between the GAA and ourselves at both local and national level, to the benefit of both bodies, and we look forward to deepening this relationship.

"With the rapidly changing society we live in today, there will always be a challenge for us to grow and prosper. Camogie is undoubtedly one of the most exciting ladies field sports in the world with boundless potential for the future."