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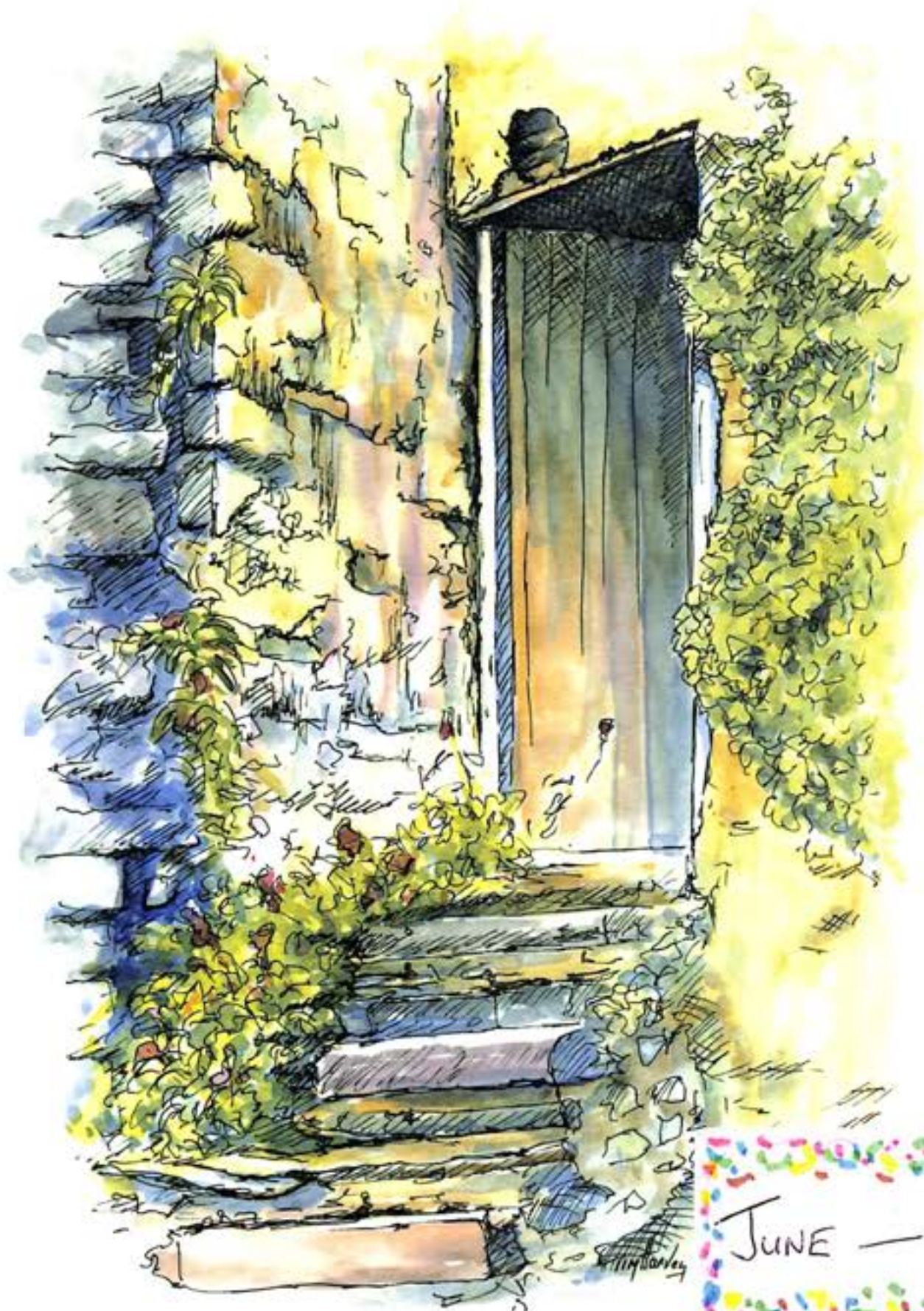
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Cork need to win if they hope to advance

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie

SUNDAY

Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Championship, Cork v Wexford, New Ross, 1pm

ROUND two of the Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Championship will see Cork's second squad first into the arena in Wexford Park on Sunday when they face the home side.

Having lost out to Derry in a close encounter in their first game, Cork will need to record a victory to keep their hopes of securing a place in the semi-finals alive.

Last year, the second string lost out in both the national league and All-Ireland finals and under the guidance of new coach Bobby Thornhill, the panel has been revitalised with plenty of new faces in the line-up.

Exams hampered their preparations thus far, but with these now drawing to a conclusion, it will be more organised with several players now available for selection.

A bad opening-half display in their clash with Derry saw Cork pay the price as they lost out by four points to a Derry side that were just about hanging in there at the full-time whistle.

Cork will be hoping to put that display behind them on Sunday as they are boosted by the return of Noreen Mulcahy and Ann Marie Fleming, both of whom are back to fit following injuries and their return to the defence will be a huge asset.

It's a first game for Wexford as they received a bye in round one. The intermediate and senior teams are under the same management, led by Stella Sinnott, and she is joined by Alan Aherne, Noel Ryan and trainer Eddie Flynn.

The Wexford side, like Cork, has many new faces this season, they are captained by the experienced Frances Doran from the Buffer's Alley and she is joined on the panel by Ciara Storey, who makes a return to the inter-county scene this season.

Ciara is daughter of former inter-county hurler Martin and she is a player who showed huge potential at underage level.

Twins Shelly and Stacy Keogh have also shown huge underage potential and they join older sister Sharon on the Wexford panel.

As it's a first day out in championship, it's hard to judge Wexford's strength, but given that the two squads in the county prepared together, they will be well up for the challenge that lies ahead.

Cork now know what's required of them and with a game already under their belts, they will be determined to reverse that result and it may be enough to see them over the finishing line this time out.

# Cork face first real challenge



LINDA MELLERICK

SUNDAY  
Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship second round, Cork v Wexford, New Ross, 2.30pm

SUNDAY afternoon will give us all a strong indication of Cork's chances of regaining the O'Duffy Cup.

This coming Sunday the Rebels travel to New Ross in Wexford to take on their tormentor in chief in the second round of this year's Gala All-Ireland Senior championship.

From 1999 to 2004, Tipperary were Cork's achilles heel. Cork gained the upper hand for a couple of years and just when we thought the Rebels would dominate for the foreseeable future, Wexford appear.

Once Tipperary claimed their first senior title in '99, their run of five All-Ireland titles out of six was phenomenal. That mental strength cannot be dismissed.

Have Wexford the same attribute? Early indications, based on their league performances, are that they don't. However, one can forgive Wexford if their celebrations on winning their first All-Ireland title in 32 years ran on a little longer than most. But they need to realise now that it's game on.

It's certainly going to be harder for Wexford this year. Twelve months ago, one could possibly name just seven of the team that took All-Ireland honours. All 15 can now be rattled off like the ABC.

Michelle Hearne seems to be the only absentee from last year's side but Wexford have strength in depth in their panel and should fill that gap admirably.

Wexford's defence are superb. Noeleen Lambert, Catherine O'Loughlin, Avis Nolan, Mary Leacy and Aine and Deirdre Codd cut off every Cork attack in last year's final, the Rebels finding it very difficult to put a move together.

A strong focus from Cork's point of view will be curtailing scoring ace Kate Kelly. All of Wexford's forwards are scorers. They get goals. Kelly gets points and lots of them, from great distance and acute angles.

When the sides met in the opening round of this year's national league, Kelly scored 0-9 (0-6 from play) as Wexford ran out 1-14 to 2-8 winners.

Kelly will possibly line out at midfield but switch almost immediately to right half forward, as is customary.

Cork have placed Gemma O'Connor at left half-back this year and she is the ideal candidate to mark



Wexford's Kate Kelly gets away from Cork's Rachel Moloney. Kelly will need a lot of looking after when the sides meet on Sunday.

Picture: Neil Danton / News Digital

Kelly.

Kelly is nervous of O'Connor. The Wexford star ran the show when the sides met earlier this year. Effortless points in the second, third and fourth minutes of the opening half rushed Wexford into a three-point lead.

Kelly was majestic; four shots in four minutes resulted in three points (the other slightly to the right). It was only when Kelly hit her fourth and Wexford's fifth point a minute later that Gemma O'Connor was switched to left half-back to take her up. The effect was immediate.

O'Connor won the next three balls and launched Cork on the attack. She threw Kelly off her stride and intimidated the player enough for her to hit the next couple of placed balls wide.

For the remainder of the game, the only time Kelly shook off her marker was when O'Connor slipped and to give credit, Kelly duly con-

verted.

Cork have named the same side which saw off Dublin on June 1. It is a strong Cork side. The panel lacks strength in depth though and this is an area of concern.

Mary O'Connor will possibly move into centre-back before throw-in and Rena Buckley into her more familiar role of right-half.

Emer O'Sullivan rightly retains her place at left half-forward after her impressive debut against the Dubs. She won't have it as easy against Wexford and either of the Codd sisters.

Cork lost the All-Ireland by two points, a mere puck of a ball. Cork have lost a couple of key players this season but still I believe that very little separates the sides.

It's sure to be a humdinger of a game.

**CORK TEAM:** A. Murray; L. O'Connell; C. Foley (capt); J. O'Callaghan; M. O'Connor; R. Buckley; G. O'Connor; B. Corkery; L. Doran; E. Farrell; U. O'Donoghue; E. O'Sullivan; S. Burns; R. Moloney; O. Cotter.



Cork's Gemma O'Connor will be given the job of marking Wexford's Kate Kelly.





Cork's Leah Weste shoots past Derry's Aileen Lavery during the Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Championship at Ballinlough.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

# Derry withstand Cork comeback

Derry  
Cork

1-16  
3-6

By MARY NEWMAN  
At Ballinlough

**CORK** will look back and regret a bad opening half which saw them pay the ultimate price to a strong Derry side in the first game of the Gala All-Ireland Intermediate round-robin series of championship games at Ballinlough.

Last season's junior All-Ireland champions Derry came to Cork with big reputations having turned in an excellent senior Division Two national league campaign, where they reached the final but lost out narrowly to Clare.

They were full value for this tag as in the opening half they dictated terms and ran Cork ragged, as the Leesiders failed to cope with their strong aggressive type of play.

Through the half the physically lighter Cork side allowed the northerners time to close them down. They slowed up the play by constantly attempting to pick the ball instead of using the simpler option of ground hurling on an immaculate surface.

One Cork player who did impress through the half was Julia White, who caused Derry plenty of problems down the right flank. She showed plenty of pace, something which Cork lacked further out field where Derry dominated.

Cork changed their tactics for the second half and with some positional switches managed to claw their way back into the game, so much so that with three minutes remaining just three points separated the sides.

However, Cork missed two clear chances to draw level and this allowed Derry rally with Aine McGoldrick grabbing the insurance point as they stretched their advantage to four giving Cork no way back.

The visitors put their stamp on the game, striking three points without reply inside the opening seven minutes, Michele Browne had Cork on the score board pointing a 12th-minute free, but a mix-up in the Cork defence allowed Oonagh McMullen the simplest job of tapping the ball to the net. A Charlotte Kearney goal gave Cork a lifeline with nine minutes

to the break, but with the Derry mid-field pairing of Grainne McGoldrick and Briege Convery dominant they scored four points on the trot to lead by eight points.

With the half-time whistle looming, Charlotte Kearney grabbed Cork's second goal and it gave her side a timely boost as they turned trailing 1-10 to 2-1.

Despite Grainne McGoldrick striking a Derry point on the resumption, it was a much-improved Cork who took the field for the second half, with the hard-working Julia White now operating at midfield. Cork had a spring in their steps and with Marie Watson moving from corner-forward to half-forward and Michelle Browne to the inside line, they slowly clawed their way back into the game.

Michelle Browne pointed a free before rocking the net for a superb goal, Marion Jagoe added a point and suddenly it was Derry who were on the backfoot as Cork cut the lead to just two.

Derry responded with Grainne McGoldrick pointing a free and Briege Convery stretching the lead to four points, but again Marion Jagoe replied as Cork dug deep in search of

more.

Twice they came close to grabbing a goal but Aine Lavery eased the pressure with a Derry point. Cork continued to press but the strong Derry defence held firm as twice the sides exchanged points.

With the time ticking away Derry held their composure, Grainne McGoldrick striking a vital point which gave Derry a four-point lead that finally quenched the brave Cork comeback.

**Scorers for Derry:** G Mc Goldrick 0-6 (0-3f, 0-1 45, 0-2 pen), A Lavery 0-4 (0-1f, 0-3 pen), O McMullen 1-0, C O'Kane, M McGoldrick 0-2, C O Kane, J Carey K Lavery, B Convery 0-1 each.

**Cork:** C Kearney 2-0, M Browne 1-3 (0-1f, 0-1 45, 1-1 pen), M Jagoe 0-2, M Watson 0-1.

**CORK:** D Leahy, T Murphy, S Gleeson, O Neville, L Weste, L Hawkes, M Walsh, L Bugler, J Lynch, J White, M Browne, M Jagoe, C Kearney (capt), D Luby, M Watson.

**Subs:** C Keohane for L Bugler (42), E Roynane for D Luby (54), U Day for T Murphy (58).

**DERRY:** C O'Kane, D Mc Guigan, S Mc Keever, C Cusinshean, K Lavery, E Henry J Carey, G McGoldrick, B Convery, A Diamond, K McAuley, S Lavery, K O'Kane, O Mullen, M McGoldrick.

**Subs:** K Bradley for O Mullen (40), A McPeake for C O'Kane (53).

**Ref:** Paul Beecher (Dublin).



Cork's Marie Watson had a fine game against Derry.

## Bobby: We will become better

CORK manager Bobby Thornhill, in his first competitive outing with a camogie side, was disappointed at the final result but pleased with his charges' second-half display.

"Very disappointed to lose, this was our first game and to be honest the team hasn't really been together. It's been very tough with exams, the colleges are just finished and with the Leaving starting on Wednesday we haven't been able to get together properly.

"We did train but the exams were a major problem but I suppose every county is the same and it's not an excuse but we were without a number of players today.

"I have to be honest though and we have no complaints with the result. I am pleased with the performance overall, at one stage we were down nine points but knuckled down and brought it to two.

"Unfortunately a couple of basic mistakes cost us, possibly we deserved a draw, possibly we could even have snatched it.

"We had one or two chances towards the end to grab a goal but we didn't take them, at the end of the day I cannot fault the players they played their hearts out and the second-half display was pleasing.

"Hopefully we can move on and take it from here. We can go from strength to strength, the girls know what is required, as I just told them, All-Ireland medals don't come in the post they have to be won.

"The squad are willing to knuckle down, we have a long summer ahead we are determined to train hard and give it a go we have three weeks to our next game and we will be ready."



## ST VINCENT'S

**U11:** Our U11s got their Seandún campaign underway with a game against Glen Rovers and drew 2-0 to 2-0. Best on the day for the Saints were Olivia Depuy, Caitlyn Walsh, Chelsea Dalton and Niamh Couch.

We played our second game of the Premier League against Douglas. We started brightly and were on top for most of the first half but failed to take our chances and were punished for this failing when Douglas scored two goals. Best on the night were Lauren Kiely, Cheyenne Cullen, and Debbie MacCarthy.

Our third game was against Brian Dillon's and best on the night were Nicole Field, Olivia Depuy, Jade Kelly and Niamh Couch.

Our U11 B team got their Seandún campaign underway with a game against St Finbarr's, the Saints were on top from the start of the game and took the lead with two quick goals from centre-forward Chloe O'Shea. The Saints played well for the rest of the half and added two further goals. They started the second half in the same fashion as the first and a debut goal from Donna O'Sullivan topped off the performance. Best on the night were Tegan Russell, Chloe O'Shea, Amy O'Regan and Carrie Fitzgerald.

**Training times:** Monday 6pm U16, Wednesday 6pm U11, Wednesday 7.30pm junior, Thursday 5pm U10, Thursday 6pm U12, Sunday 11.30am junior.

## KILLEAGH

**U14 League:** On Monday our U14 team played Newtownshandrum in the league. It was a great game, but unfortunately we were defeated.

**Team:** Jesse Swayne, Nora Walsh, Sarah Tracey, Isobel O'Mahoney, Emily Desmond, Becky Fitzgerald, Laura Tracey, Niamh Daly, Jessica Barry, Shauna Keniry, Elaine Meade, Ali Rose Sisk, Claire O'Keefe, Aoife Walsh, Rianna Cooney, Maggie Drady, Emma Fitzgerald, Niamh Fitzgibbon, Jessica Daly, Ashling Landers, Elizabeth Mulcahy, Ann-Marie Geary, Louise O'Neill, Shauna Landers, Jessica Tracey.

**Congratulations:** Congratulations to Shauna Keniry and Shauna Landers who played for the Cork Camogie Colleges Team, which won the James Hurley Memorial Tournament last weekend. Congratulations also to the girls of the Cork Camogie U14 Primary School Team and also to the Killeagh girls picked to take part in the Cork Primary School Games.

Hard luck to the Inch school girl team who were defeated recently in the Sciath na Scol final.

## GLEN ROVERS

**U11:** Our U11 team continued their games in the Seandún competitions when we played host to Blackrock on Tuesday last. In the second half it was again close but good work finally paid off with Orla Geary on target finishing superbly to the net to give us the lead. Our defence then came under pressure but with Laura Dineen superb between the posts and the hardworking Michaela Hyde, Kelly Falvey and Michaela Meehan gaining the upper hand we held our lines. Up front we worked hard, Nora Murphy and Shauna Riordan doing great work, while the efforts of Sarah O'Connell and Orla Geary ensured we stretched our lead with a second. Next game is Thursday when we play Douglas in the Glen Field, players to meet at 6.45pm.

**Well done:** Well done to Lauren Callanan, who played with the Cork Primary Game team in Páirc Uí Chaoimh recently and to Sinead O'Halloran on Cork's victory over Tipperary in the All-Ireland U16 Championship on Thursday, we wish both continued success in the coming weeks with their respective teams.

**Good luck Nicole:** We extend best of luck to Nicole O'Brien who will represent Cork in the Féile na nGael national skills competition in Portlaoise today, we know she will do us and the county proud.

**Big night:** On Tuesday, June 24, we will hold a tournament for our girls from age 12 downwards. On the night we will have five pitches in operation with every girl taking part. We will have a parade for the girls and boys after the camogie and before the hurling, this will take place from Deckie's shop down to the club, therefore we will need to be organised early and we are asking that the girls be in attendance from 5pm.

## CARRIGDHOUN

Many parents travelled with their daughters to Ballinspittle on Monday night last and it was all because the first of the U9 Carrigdhoun camogie blitzes was taking place.

The Carrigdhoun club is making big strides this year with lots of younger girls taking up the sport. There was no shortage of mentors either. Included was Carrigdhoun's new trainer John Middleton, with a few more ladies and gentlemen all rigged out in the Carrigdhoun hoodies.

Ballymartle and Carrigdhoun hurler supreme Ger Cummins was coach with Slábh Rua — other hurlers or camogie players in Ballymartle, Bel-



Players and selectors of the Cork U16A team which Noel Deasy Cars, Blackpool sponsored with training gear, l-r Fionuala Cotter, Tina Sheehan, mentor; Fiona Neville; Katrina Mackey; Jessica Kavanagh; Tracy Sheehan, selector; Pamela Mackey, captain; Orla Burke; Ciara Lynch and Jackie of Noel Deasy Cars.

# Wexford are the team to beat

THIS is a big game for Cork tomorrow. Facing the Rebels in round 2 of this year's Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship are Wexford.

The Slaneiders can boast four wins out of five against the Rebels over the past 15 months and Cork have in all to do in the champions' back yard.

Up to 12 months ago Wexford weren't taken seriously. People commented on their underage success in Féile na nGael and the huge success of Coláiste Bhríde of Enniscorthy but did anyone really believe that Wexford would take the All-Ireland senior title in 2007, 32 years after their last?

The first 'eye-opener' came last May when Wexford gave Cork a real run for their money in a thrilling league final. Yes, they had defeated Cork earlier in the league by a point but Cork hadn't turned up that day and it was generally considered just a bad day at the office.

Trailing by five points at half-time in the final, Cork turned around a six-point deficit 10 minutes into the second half to clinch the winner in injury time, in a game that had the large crowd on the edge of their seats.

The first signs that Wexford were a composed team, not overawed by the aristocratic Cork came that day. Cork led by six points with five minutes to go.

Most teams would drop the head, having led by six at the break. But Wexford refused to wilt!

Michelle Hearne goaled with five minutes of normal time left. Anna Geary stretched Cork's lead to four



again. Kate Kelly pointed a free. Both sides fought desperately for every ball. It fell to Wexford's Michelle Hearne.

She burst past three defenders to practically push the ball into the Cork net. The game was level. Four minutes of injury time followed amid tension.

Two minutes into added time Jennifer O'Leary calmly converted a free to put Cork ahead for the first time in the game and they won, 3-8 to 2-10.

It was a memorable final. What should have been a concern to Cork was that they played extremely well and just about scraped home. Did any of us really sit up and take notice?

Six days later the first round of the championship paired the same two teams in opposition in Ballincollig.

'We had no problem picking the girls up after last week's defeat. We felt we left the game behind us.

'The players couldn't get onto the pitch quick enough today,' were the words of Wexford manager Stella Sinnott after her side inflicted one of the heaviest defeats on the Cork senior camogie team in years, 4-12 to 0-14.

Four first-half goals saw the visitors take a commanding lead into the second half and unlike the league final, Wexford didn't yield.

Out in front, winning possession and

time and again hitting long diagonal balls across the pitch, Wexford split the Cork defence apart, the only team to really do so in three years.

Cork were tired that day in Ballincollig. Three very tough competitive games in the previous two weeks had taken their toll. But Wexford were excellent.

Possessing tall, strong and fast hurlers all over the pitch their support play was a joy to watch.

Cork were without Aoife Murray and Catriona Foley on the day, which didn't help. All Cork could do was brush themselves down and move on. This they did when they faced Tipperary a fortnight later and as they progressed through to the semi-finals, the defeat to Wexford was pushed to the back of their mind (for the time being at least).

When Wexford defeated Galway and Cork accounted for Tipperary in the semi-finals the sides were to meet again, on the biggest stage of them all.

In the build-up to the game the one concern supporters of Wexford had was that their young team would be overawed by the occasion of All-Ireland final day. In fact the opposite happened.

It was Wexford who took the game to Cork from the throw-in as they led by five points with 15 minutes played.

I'm not going to re-live the match here again as we all remember the outcome.

2007 was a dream year for Wexford. It'll be a lot harder for them in 2008. They are now the kingpins that everyone wants to take down.

Teams, and especially Cork, will treat them with caution and a far greater respect.

## SARSFIELD'S

**Junior A:** With so many of our players involved in Leaving and Junior Certificate Exams, only two league games have been played to date, we had a good win over Blackrock but went under to Fr O'Neill's. Round 1 of the championship is scheduled for Monday v Ballyhea and against Watergrasshill on July 2.

Congratulations to Emer O'Farrell, Edel Murphy, Gemma Donoghue, Sinead O'Leary, Jenny Murphy and Orla Barry, who are members of the Imokilly divisional panel.

## BUTTEVANT

**U9 blitz:** Our U9 camogie girls played in the Avondhu U9 blitz last weekend in Charleville. They played very well and a great day was had. Thanks to the Charleville club for a well-organised day. The next U9 blitz is on June 28 at 11am in Buttevant.

Coughlan, Lily Patton, Orla Nyhan, Jeanie Murphy, Lucy O'Sullivan.

**Slábh Rua:** Katie Daly, Kelly Marie, Michelle Fitzpatrick, Niall Daly, Leah Casey, Aine Cummins, Gabrielle O'Donovan, Una O'Donovan, Lesley Ann Pastorini.

**Carrigaline 1:** Leah Whelan, Katelyn Kearney, Claire Stack, Lauren Murphy, Una Hegarty, Molly Ryan, Ciara O'Neill, Kelly Williams, Rachel Williams, Caoimhe Kinwan, Lauren Middleton, Molly O'Mahoney, Ciara Harrington.

**Carrigaline 2:** Aileen Coughlan,

Ellen Griffin, Aishling Ryle, Doreen Horgan, Emer Murphy, Lisa Kiely, Robin O'Connell, Lauren O'Brien, Caoimhe O'Regan, Caoimhe Hogan, Kate O'Brien, Megan McCarthy, Caoimhe Reynolds.

**U16 C league:** Came through their section with wins over St Catherine's, Buttevant, and Youghal and Watergrasshill.

**U14 C league:** Competed in the U14 Féile but failed to qualify with Mallow and Castletynes going through. We won't qualify for the league play-offs but gained valuable experience along the way.

Most of this team will be playing in the Imokilly U13 Summer Leagues, which should at least ensure competitive games.

**U12 C:** Our first team has come through as section winners with wins over Charleville, Bride Rovers, St Catherine's, Dungourney, Bishopstown, Millstreet and Watergrasshill.

**U12 D:** Our second team have also qualified as section winners with wins over St Vincent's, Douglas 2, Carrigrohilly, Youghal and Fr O'Neill's. On Saturday last in Coachford, we played Ballyhea in the quarter-final of this competition.

Ballyhea had a goal and a point on the scoreboard fairly early on in the game but once Sars got into their stride, Courtney McCarthy found the net twice in the space of 10 minutes. Lauren Casserly scored a point from a free and it remained like that to the end, Sars 2-1 Ballyhea 1-1. This was a great game and credit to Ballyhea, who fought to the bitter end.

On Tuesday, June 17, we played our county semi-final v Douglas in Carrigaline, winning 5-1 to 0-0.

**Scorers:** Courtney McCarthy 3-1, Jessica Quirke 1-0, Lucy Kelly 1-0. Another spirited display from this young team who have given us hours of pleasure in recent weeks.

**Panel:** Katie Stacey, Amy Turpin, Lauren Casserly, Kate Hedderman, Ciara Mullane, Katie Barry, Rachel Kelleher, Hollie Harlihy, Maeve McCarthy, Lucy Kelly, Jessica Quirke, Aoife O'Sullivan, Courtney McCarthy, Hannah McCarthy, Michelle Barry, Ciara Tobin, Chloe Casey, Rebecca Hyde, Ciara Ryan, Shona McCarthy, Emma Casey, Claire Gillen, Roisin O'Donovan, Gillian Looney, Emma Gillivan.

## Deckie Guckian U10 Street

**Leagues:** While all above is going on plenty of excitement at our U10 Street Leagues. This year we are delighted to have Deckie Guckian on board as our sponsor. Now in its third year, we have four teams challenging for the Denis Barry Memorial Cup. (A) Corkelles, (B) Cul Cailins, (C) Glanna-Girls, (D) Rebelles, each team is managed by one or two baineisteoir and our cailiní dg (U7s) are marshalled by our junior baineisteoir (U12 players). At half time in each game our cailiní dg entertain the crowd with a mini exhibition game, which can often be the highlight of the day. Three rounds have been played to date and 'Corkelles' are clear leaders with three wins. But anything can happen in the final! Finals: Sunday next, June 22, 11am.

## Sciath na Scol

Congratulations to Sciath na Scol winners Riverstown NS, who featured practically a full Sarsfields contingent in their recent win over Ballinspittle in Páirc Uí Rinn. It has been 12 years since Riverstown last won this competition so it augurs well for both school and club.

## ST CATHERINE'S

**Senior league:** On Sunday last we played host to Milford in a senior league game. Played in glorious conditions this was a very competitive game with Milford holding out for a two point victory. At half-time we trailed by a goal and with a bit of luck we could have been in front as we hit the crossbar and also had a number of close misses. The second half again was very competitive with Milford just maintaining their advantage right to the end.

**Team:** D Leahy, S Noonan, N Mulcahy, O Neville, Y O'Neill, L Power, F Noonan, P Cotter, O Cotter, M Daly, A Hayes, D Twomey, F Neville, A Fitzgerald, J Hurley.

**Subs:** L Higgins for J Hurley, D Mulcahy, A O'Keefe.

Our first round championship game is scheduled to take place on Monday, June 30, with a venue yet to be fixed.

**U12 league:** We played host to Buttevant in an U12 league games in Ballynoe. We were well on top in all sectors throughout this game and ran out comfortable winners.

**Team:** E Spillane, L Ahern, M Galvin, L Hartnett, A Fitzgerald, J O'Keefe, C McCarthy, M Mulcahy, E O'Brien, A Mulcahy, K England, K Mulcahy, M Walsh, E Roche, N Coughlan. **Subs:** B O'Keefe, M Leahy, K Norman, A O'Keefe, N Philpott, F Leahy, N Clohessey.

**U14 league:** We recently played two U14 league games, coming out on the wrong side of the result against Bishopstown and Douglas. All our girls played very well in these games against very strong opposition.

**Panel:** R Spillane, E Murphy, C McAuliffe, A O'Brien, L Ahern, M Mulcahy, M Kirby, R O'Callaghan, K Mellerick, K England, L Burnister, K Mulcahy, L Hartnett, H Leahy, G Walsh, E Spillane, M Walsh, J O'Keefe, L Leahy, M Galvin.



# Cork pull away in the final quarter

By MARY NEWMAN

All-Ireland U16 championship

Cork 3-12  
Tipperary 2-5

A DETERMINED Tipperary side made Cork fight to the finish before victory was secured in this entertaining All-Ireland U16 championship meeting at Ballinlough last evening, in the final Cork finally wore them down but not before enduring some scary moments.

Level on three occasions over the hour, it took a strong closing 10 minute from Cork before victory was finally secured a result which in effect ensures them of an All-Ireland semi-final spot irrespective of the result of their last game against Limerick on Wednesday.

Cork started at a blistering pace and raced into a three-point lead inside seven minutes with points from Emma Kingston, Katrina Mackey and Finola Neville before Tipperary settled through Amy Kennedy and Cait Devane.

Gemma Grace reacted quickest to finish Catriona Shortt's long-range effort to the net inside the 12th minute to edge Tipp ahead but Katrina Mackey had Cork level, pointing twice from placed ball inside 15 minutes.

Again Tipp responded in the shape of Devane who, showing tremendous accuracy, pointed a superb long-range effort and it took a good save from Tessa Hawkes to deny Tipp before Finola Neville had Cork back in front, getting the final touch to the net from Katriona Mackey's long delivery.

Tipp, showing plenty of fighting spirit, were back on level before the break thanks to points from Alice Fogarty and Cait Devane and, with Mairead Barry dominant at centre-back and the hard working Catriona Shortt and Cait Devane causing Cork problems, they were well in contention.

Cork started the second half as they did the first half, with Finola Neville and Katie Buckley firing over points.

Tipperary were quick into their stride, Amy Fogarty leaving the Cork defence in her wake before firing to the roof of the net and it was game on.

Now putting Cork under pressure, Tipp battled to stretch their lead but they could find no way through and by the three-quarter stage Cork gained control.

Four points without reply saw them pull away before a goal from Finola Neville after good work from Katrina Mackey saw the Tipp challenge fade.

Cork finished strong with a late Joanne Casey goal and a Katrina Mackey point sealing victory.

**Scorers for Cork:** F Neville 2-2, K Mackey 0-4 (0-2F, 0-1 45), J Casey 1-1, K Buckley 0-3, A O'Donovan, E Kingston 0-1 each.

**Tipperary:** A Kennedy 1-1, C Devane 0-3 (0-2F, 0-1 45), G Grace 1-0, A Fogarty 0-1.

**CORK:** T. Hawkes; S Harrington, A Coughlan, K McCarthy; R O'Mahony, P Mackey (capt), C Lynch; K Mackey, E Kingston; J Casey, M Reidy, A O'Donovan; F Neville, K Buckley, S O'Halloran. **Subs:** F Cotter for C Lynch (25), S Coomey for S O'Halloran (51).

**TIPPERARY:** A Lucy; S O'Meara, S Ryan, N Stapleton; E Spillane, M Barry, D Fogarty; C Devane, C Shortt; A Kennedy (capt), L Power, A Fogarty; N O'Donoghue, G Grace, N Walsh. **Sub:** E Carey for N Walsh (half-time).

**Referee:** Dermot Connolly (Galway).

JUNE 2008

# Cork record first victory

Cork 2-10  
Wexford 1-5

THE INTERMEDIATE team set the trend for a good afternoon at Kennedy Park yesterday as they recorded their first victory in the Gala All-Ireland Championship with eight points to spare over Wexford.

Having lost their first game in the series to Derry, Cork needed a win to keep their championship aspirations alive and all over the pitch they worked themselves to a stand still to ensure victory was secured.

When the chips were down they stood up and were counted and turned in superb display in difficult weather conditions.

The gale-force swirling wind blowing across the pitch didn't seem to favour either side and it was Wexford who set the pace with a Ciara O'Connor goal after 13 minutes in reply to Claire Spellman opening point.

Enjoying plenty of possession, the Cork attack ensured the Wexford defence were kept busy and it was thanks to this pressure that Charlotte Kearney won a penalty 18 minutes into the half, which Michelle Browne duly dispatched to the roof of the net to restore parity.

Aoife O'Connor edged Wexford ahead with a pointed free on 20 minutes but from here to the half-time whistle, it was all Cork as their defence ably marshalled by the excellent Christine O'Neill, Lucy Hawkes and Leah Weste held their lines while at midfield Jennifer Lynch and Julia White combined well and worked hard to ensure a steady supply to their inside line.

Liz Bugler grabbed goal number two after good work from Marie Watson and with Michelle Browne and Julia White firing over points Cork led 2-5 to 1-2 at the half-time whistle.

On the resumption, Michelle Browne pointed a Cork free to which Aoife O'Connor replied and as the half progressed, Cork continued to controlled matters and always had that little bit extra in reserve.

Marion Jagoe and Marie Watson



Cork's Evelyn Ronayne tackles Wexford's Karen Atkinson during their Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship clash at O'Kennedy Park, New Ross, yesterday.

Picture: Patrick Browne Jnr

By MARY NEWMAN

At Kennedy Park

stretched the lead with points as Wexford sensing the game slipping away began to look for goals but again, as in the first half, the Cork defence was superb as a unit never putting a foot wrong.

Ciara O'Connor pointed twice from placed balls but try as they might there was no way through a

determined Cork defence.

The final say was left to Cork, Jennifer Lynch and Michelle Browne pointing to give their side a much needed boost in advance of their third-round meeting with Tipperary on July 6.

**Scorers for Cork:** M Browne 1-5 (1-0 pen 0-2F, L Bugler 1-0, J White, M Jagoe M Watson, J Lynch and C Spellman 0-1 each.

**Wexford:** C O'Connor 1-4 (0-2F, 0-1 45) A O'Connor 0-1F.

**CORK:** G Harrington; S Gleeson, N Mulcahy,

C O'Neill; L Hawkes, M Walsh, L Weste; J Lynch, J White; L Bugler, C Spellman, M Jagoe; C Kearney, M Browne, M Watson (capt).

**Subs:** D Twomey for C Kearney (52), E Roynane for C Spellman (57).

**WEXFORD:** L Cloney; E Moran, K Atkinson, Stacy Kehoe; N O'Connor, C Storey, JG Hayden; S Redmond, E Doyle (capt); A Moran, F Kavanagh, M Kelly; A O'Connor, S Carr, C O'Connor.

**Subs:** Shelly Kehoe for M Kelly (half-time), Stacy Kehoe for A Moran (40) S Noan for S Carr (53).

**Referee:** Alan Lagrue.

# A classy Rebel display thrills coach Thornhill

CORK coach Bobby Thornhill was thrilled with his side's display, writes MARY NEWMAN.

"We came here today having lost our first game to Derry and we needed to record a win to get our title hopes back on track.

"To be honest we knew it would be tough but the girls were magnificent, everything we asked of them they did.

"Conditions unfortunately were not the best as the swirling wind made it difficult.

"But to be fair it was the same for both teams. We capitalised on it more and we should have been further ahead at the break.

"We missed a few goal opportunities just before the break but we were full value for our six point lead at half time."

Commenting on the unusually large amount of frees in the game Bobby admitted this is something that just needs to be addressed by his squad "The referee pulled us up for a lot of mistakes and this is something we will have to work on and address right through our game, but we will work on that in training and get it right."

Goals were crucial to his side's

victory as he explained "We got the goals at the right time and they were a super boost. Our defence was magnificent and our midfielders turned in star performances."

Looking ahead to the remaining game in the group Bobby said that his side are determined to build on this victory

"We have Tipperary, Galway and

Kilkenny to come and we will knuckle down now and prepare again for the challenges they will pose.

"The exams are over now so it heads down from here on.

"We have an enthusiastic panel all willing to work hard and we will leave no stone unturned in our quest for a semi final spot. It upwards and onwards from here."



## Gala Senior Championship - Cork turn the tables

BY JACKIE CAHILL

With two wins from two, Cork are now very much on course for the semi-finals of this year's competition but Wexford now face a battle to make the last four after losing their opening match. Cork led by just a single point at half time, 1-1 to 0-3, but they outscored Wexford 2-5 to 0-2 in the second half as goals proved crucial. Orla Cotter scored Cork's first half goal after 21 minutes but the decisive strike was supplied by top scorer Rachel Moloney just two minutes after half time to open up a 2-1 to 0-3 lead. Cork never looked back from there and when Sile Burns netted three minutes later, the game was effectively over as a contest as a surprisingly lacklustre Wexford capitulated. Moloney finished with 1-4 of Cork's total as Breige Corkery and Una O'Donoghue chipped in with the other points. Kate Kelly was Wexford's leading scorer with three points while Una Lacey and the impressive Aine Codd supplied a point each. Meanwhile, National League champions Kilkenny defeated Limerick in atrocious conditions in Kilmallock on Saturday to record their first victory in this year's All-Ireland senior camogie championship. The Cats bounced back from their opening round defeat against Tipperary by recording a handsome 3-10 to 0-5 victory against the outclassed hosts. The game was effectively over as a contest after just ten minutes as Marie Dorgan's goal opened up a 1-5 to 0-0 advantage for Kilkenny. The victors led by 2-7 to 0-3 at half-time as Marie O'Connor added a second goal after twenty minutes. Limerick battled hard to stay in contention as Joanne Clifford, Eileen O'Brien and Niamh Mulcahy were on target with points. The second half was academic as Kevea Fennelly, daughter of former Kilkenny hurling great Ger, registered a third goal for the victors with ten minutes of normal time remaining. Marie O'Connor (3-2), Sinéad Hiles (0-4), Aoife Neary (0-3) and Lizzie Lyng (0-1) were on target for Kilkenny while Limerick, finding life tough back in the senior ranks, will attempt to pick themselves up after suffering a second successive defeat in the competition.



LINDA MELLERICK

Cork 3-6  
Wexford 0-5

**PSYCHOLOGICALLY**, the impact of Cork's victory over All-Ireland champions Wexford in their own back yard yesterday is almost impossible to measure.

It was the manner of Cork's victory in New Ross, which most impressed, and, if truth be told, the game was over as a contest four minutes into the second half once Sile Burns slammed a textbook-style shot into the far corner of the net to land Cork their third goal and put the Rebels 3-2 to 0-3 in front.

It didn't look as if it was going to be Cork's day midway through the first half. Wexford ran the show for the opening 15 minutes. Mary Leacy totally dominated at centre back for the home side. Once again the Slaneysiders' defence were immense.

They hooked and blocked at every turn and with Catherine O'Loughlin also in dynamic form, the Cork forward division were finding it very difficult to make any headway.

Short puckouts from Mags D'Arcy found a team-mate every time and Wexford were opening Cork up.

While Breige Corkery was clocking up the miles, her opposite number was also having a positive effect.

Kate Kelly opened the scoring with a free two minutes in. The Wexford star and her opponent Gemma O'Connor saw little of the ball in the opening period but such was O'Connor's dominance in general play in the second, Kelly was almost marked absent.

A hurricane blew across field with it possibly favouring Wexford by the narrowest of margins. Cork were under pressure as Ursula Jacob and Aine Codd added two further points in the fifth and 20th minutes to lead by 0-3 to no score.

Suddenly the game turned. Linda Dorgan hit a high ball into the corner. Sile Burns won possession and handpassed over the heads of O'Loughlin and Claire O'Connor into the path of the on-running Orla Cotter. Cotter, showing great composure, flicked past Mags D'Arcy in the Wexford goal.

Immediately, like a prancing horse, you could see the spring in Cork's step. The wheel turned and what was instrumental in Cork's victory was the defensive work by their forward division.

From that moment on, Wexford failed to get in a long clearance. It was the Rebels who harried and assailed and frustrated the All-Ire-

# Cork signal intent with a massive win



Cork's Emer O'Sullivan and Wexford's Aoife O'Connor in a battle for possession during their All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship tie at O'Kennedy Park, New Ross, yesterday.

Picture: Patrick Browne Jnr

land champions whenever in possession. On the other side of the field, Mary O'Connor was excellent in a period when it really mattered.

A Rachel Moloney free put the Rebels a point ahead as the half-time whistle sounded and Cork's was most certainly the happier dressing room at the break.

While the ball looked to be in Cork's court, still no one could have predicted the first six minutes of the second half. Within a minute Corkery, who had a tremendous second half, delivered a high ball into the goalmouth.

In the melee that followed, Rachel Moloney hit home. Corkery pointed herself two minutes later and the icing on the cake or the nail in the

coffin, depending on which way you looked at it, arrived 60 seconds later. Burns, winning possession, turned her marker and from 25 yards out hit an unstoppable shot into the corner giving D'Arcy no chance.

The game was over. Wexford were stunned. Despite their efforts, they couldn't pull Cork back and failed to score from play for the remainder of the game. Kelly scoring just two further points from frees. Una O'Donoghue added a beauty from 60 metres and Moloney added another three, two from frees.

Cork introduced Sarah Hayes and Amanda O'Regan. Jenny Duffy replaced Emer Farrell at the outset, Farrell picking up an ankle injury in training during the week. It was

an all-round team effort and a huge win for a highly-motivated Cork outfit.

**Scorers for Cork:** R. Moloney 1-4 (0-3f), O. Cotter, S. Burns 1-0 each, B. Corkery and U. O'Donoghue 0-1 each.

**Wexford:** K. Kelly 0-3f, U. Jacob and A. Codd 0-1 each.

**CORK:** A. Murray; L. O'Connell, C. Foley (capt), J. O'Callaghan; R. Buckley, M. O'Connor, G. O'Connor; B. Corkery, L. Dorgan; J. Duffy, U. O'Donoghue, E. O'Sullivan; S. Burns, R. Moloney, O. Cotter.

**Subs:** S. Hayes for R. Buckley (52), A. O'Regan for O. Cotter (56).

**WEXFORD:** M. D'Arcy; N. Lambert, C. O'Loughlin, C. O'Connor; A. O'Connor, M. Leacy (capt), D. Codd; A. Codd, C. Murphy; K. Kelly, RM Breen, L. Holohan; U. Leacy, U. Jacob, K. Parrock.

**Subs:** M. O'Leary for L. Holohan (half-time), L. Codd for K. Parrock (49), B. Curran for RM Breen (56).

**Referee:** E. Browne (Tipperary).

## Feile

### CAMOGIE

#### Senior Championship:

Cork 3-6 Wexford 0-5

Kilkenny 3-10 Limerick 0-5

Tipperary 2-13 Dublin 2-9

#### Intermediate Championship:

Cork 2-10 Wexford 1-5

#### Junior Championship Grp 2:

Derry 4-7 Galway 2-6

**Feile na nGael Hurling SF:** Div 1: Na Piarasigh (Cork) 3-5 Emeralds (Kilkenny) 1-7, James Stephens (Kilkenny) 3-11 Patrickswell (Limerick) 2-1. **Final:** James Stephens 1-7 Na Piarasigh 1-6. **Div 2:** Portlaoise (Laois) 1-8 Slaughtneil (Derry) 0-3; St. John's (Antrim) 2-13 Celbridge (Kildare) 0-2. **Final:** St. John's 2-9 Portlaoise 1-1. **Div 3:** The Harps (Laois) 2-14 Ballinacorney St. John's (Dublin) 0-3; Kinross (Offaly) 2-9 Naomh Eamonn (Laois) 2-6. **Final:** Harps 5-6 Kinross 1-3. **Div 4:** Fenians (Kilkenny) 3-5 Ballyfin (Laois) 2-3; Keady (Armagh) 1-6 Ballinascreen (Derry) 0-0. **Final:** Fenians 4-1 Keady 2-3. **Div 5:** Setanta (Donegal) 4-8 Clontarf (Monaghan) 0-1; St. Oliver Plunkett's (Westmeath) 3-2 Mountbellew (Laois) 2-4. **Final:** Setanta 1-3 St. Oliver Plunkett's 0-4. **Div 6:** St. Paul's (Laois) 3-5 Ballinacorney (Derry) 2-3; Douglas (Cork) 2-5. **Final:** Lucan Sarsfields 2-3 Mullagh 1-2. **Div 7:** Michael Davitt's (Derry) 5-8 Loughisland Shamrocks (Antrim) 1-2; Lismore (Waterford) 5-0 Croagh Kilfinny (Limerick) 2-5. **Final:** Michael Davitt's 7-3 Lismore 0-1. **Div 8:** The Harps (Laois) 0-2 Lough Lene (Laois) 1-2; Ratoath (Meath) 2-4 Four Roads (Roscommon) 1-0 (AET). **Final:** Ratoath 3-1 The Harps 1-1 (AET). **Div 9:** Kerry 4-3 Na Breda (Mayo) 0-2; Clonad 0-4 Lismagh 0-0. **Final:** Kerry 3-1 Clonad 0-0.

## Lucan celebrate final triumph over Mullagh

### FEILE CAMOGIE

**LUCAN SANSFIELDS** were celebrating a great victory over Galway's Mullagh in the Feile 2008 Division 1 Camogie final yesterday, 2-3 to 1-2.

The previous day, the teams met in the group stages with Mullagh winning 2-1 to 0-2 in terrible conditions, making victory in yesterday's final even sweeter.

The Division 2 Camogie Final between Michael Davitt's Derry and Lismore of Waterford proved to be a very one-sided affair with the Derry girls dominating proceedings with a final score of 7-3 to 0-1.

Next door to the county pitch, at Portlaoise club grounds, a Kerry development squad captured the Division 4 crown as local side Clonad failed to score, while the Kingdom notched up 3-1.

It was another positive for the sport as it spreads further into non-traditional counties.

Straight after that The Harps of Laois lost out 3-1 to 1-1 to Ratoath in the Division 3 final after extra time. Harps were on course for a hurling/camogie double after the boys' team won, but it wasn't to be.

## Denise is delighted at brilliant victory

YOU could see the relief on Denise Cronin's face at the final whistle, writes LINDA MELLERICK.

With many new young players on board this year a victory over the All-Ireland champions was hugely important to build confidence.

Understandably, she was thrilled with the outcome

while at the same time acknowledging that there was still work to do.

"This was a good win for us, it's a confidence boost.

"After losing the All-Ireland, no matter how good you are, you doubt yourself.

"We didn't even have to motivate the girls today, they wanted to win.

"I think after our previous game against Wexford in the league, the players realised how close they were, even with a new team as such. Bringing in the new players has added freshness."

Denise acknowledged that Wexford was a step up for some players from the Dub-

lin game but that they will benefit from it.

"Emer O'Sullivan, it was a big test for her today, it was a step up again and she did very well, particularly in the second half."

Commenting on Cork's defensive work up front, Denise praised her co-selectors for this.

"This was spotted when we played in the Munster championship that it was something we had to work on and we did and it worked.

"No Wexford player was allowed to clear a ball."

Cork, with maximum points from two games, now face Tipperary on July 6.



## Feile na nGael 2008 Division 2, 3 and 4 Finals

**Division 2 Féile Camogie Final.**  
The division 2 Féile final title went to Derry side, Davitt's in O'Moore Park on Sunday. Davitt's got off to a great start. They got 5-2 on the board before half-time. Two of these goals came from Catherine McKee. The goal scorer also sent over 2 points in the first half. Shannon Kearney, Megan McCusker and Mairéad McElcholl all added a goal to the scoreboard.  
Davitt's showed great skill on the ball. Their first touch was excellent and their side were extremely skilful. Lismore were tireless in their efforts to get a score on the board. They had a lot of possession but the Davitt's defence were solid and there wasn't much getting by them. Lismore had some great players. Aoife Hannon did great work to get the ball up to the forwards and to regain possession. Clara Aarons was a great player, solving out of defence tackling players and winning the ball back when it was lost.  
Davitt's split the posts 2 minutes into the second half, this point coming from Dervla O'Kane. Catherine McKee rattled the net for Davitt's making it a hat-trick.  
Lismore's deserved and well earned point in the second half came from a free sent over by Karen McCarthy. Aoife Quinn was playing well in the Davitt's attack and her skills contributed to their dominance. Shannon Kearney sent in a low and hard ball from outside the 14 metre line to the left hand corner to secure the win for Davitt's. Noeleen McKenna lifted the shield for the Swatragh side, to shorten their long journey home.  
**Teams:**  
Michael Davitt's, Swatragh, Derry: Rebecca McKee, Róisín O'Kane, Maeve Quinn, Rachel Donnelly, Paula McIlwain, Noeleen McKenna, Niamh O'Kane, Cara Dillon, Shannon Kearney (2-0), Aoife Quinn, Catherine McKee (3-2), Mairéad McElcholl (1-0), Sarah Grant, Dervla O'Kane (0-1), Eimear O'Kane, Niamh McFerran, Niamh O'Kane, Claire McGulgan, Bronagh McKee, Megan McCusker (1-0), Niamh Quigg, Aoife Coyle, Bronagh McKee, Katie Bradley.  
Lismore: Sarah Russell, Lydia Mangin, Harriett Bennett Lenane, Joanna Houlihan, Kate Devine, Shauna Prendergast, Shannon O'Brien, Aoife Hannon, Karen McCarthy, Kate Ryan, Clara Aarons, Sinead Walsh, Meghan Kiernan, Ruth Geoghegan (0-1), Beth Heneghan, Emma O'Donnell, Maeve Rotte, Laura Houlihan, Emma Houlihan, Danielle Ahearne, April Harrison Barrett, Martina Cullinane, Leonie Boreas, Selly Anne O'Grady.  
Referee: Martin Moore.

**Division 3 Féile Camogie Final (AET).**  
Ratoath 3-1  
The Harps 1-1  
Ratoath and Laois side, The Harps fought it out for division 3 honours in the Camogie Féile on Sunday. The sides brought the game to extra-time when they finished all square after ordinary time. It was Ratoath who came out the winners. The Harps didn't go home empty handed though. They won best dressed at the Féile Parade on Friday evening and it was well deserved as they looked very colourful and smart in their new trackuits.

minutes into the game Ratoath got their scoring underway. Karen McCabe raised the green flag. The Harps, Maria Fitzpatrick sent over a point. This point was followed by a goal sent in by Shauna Monaghan.  
Ratoath got another score on the board before the break. This came from one of their star players of the day, Adrienne McCann. The score at half-time was Ratoath 1-1 The Harps 1-1. The second half went without a score and The Harps were unlucky not to get a score on the board, after some missed chances.

The teams finished level when the referees whistle sounded for ordinary time. The extra-time was a tight affair and the large crowd began to get tense under the pressure.  
Ratoath worked better in the extra-time and sent two goals to the net in a short space of time in the second half of extra-time. Clara O'Shane, with goal number 1 and Emma O'Meara were the players to get their name on the score sheet and to secure the victory for Ratoath.  
**Teams:**  
Ratoath: Emma O'Meara (1-0), Niamh O'Riordan, Emily Murphy, Shauna McDermott, Aoife McGoldrick, Adrienne McCann (0-1), Cara O'Hare, Lauren McCann, Cathy Collins, Aisling O'Brien, Emma McGill, Cara McCabe, Aoife Leonard, Karen McCabe (1-0), Nicole O'Carroll, Clara O'Shane (1-0), Anna Fagan, Clare Kavanagh, Elaine McBride, Katie Doyle, Sarah Morris, Tara Jackson, Lauren Daly, Eimear Griffiths.  
The Harps: Orla Curry, Hazel Costigan, Niamh Delaney, Shannon Saunders, Bronagh Dunne, Clara Delaney, Yvonne Mullins, Edel Costigan, Maria Fitzpatrick, Orla Brennan, Rosemary Phelan, Shauna Monaghan-Geoghegan, Brid Delahunty, Niamh Dunne, Leah Dunphy, Cait Murphy, Michelle Delaney, Cristiana Larkin, Niamh Loughman, Eimear Delaney, Rachel Delahunty, Lorna Campion, Fiona Walsh, Rachel Bergin.  
Referee: M. Fitzpatrick.

**Division 4 Féile Camogie Final.**  
Local side Clonad took on the Kerry camogie team in the division 4 final in Portlaoise GAA Grounds on Sunday. Kerry who first fielded a camogie team in the county in 2006 reached the final last year but were defeated so they were back to win the title. Clonad are also a young camogie side and very hopeful of doing well in the future.  
It was an extra special achievement for Clonad to make it to the final as a host team (to Castleblaney in county Monaghan). Kerry started off well getting two goals, the first from Mairéad Fitzgerald and another from Marie Quirke. Kerry added a point to their tally. The score at half-time was Kerry 2-1 Clonad 0-0.  
Kerry's Marie Quirke and Caroline McCarthy were a very solid part of their team in the middle of the field. They showed great skill, soloing up the field at pace through players. Sarah Murphy rattled the net for Kerry, hitting it in after a lot of pucking around in front of the goals by the Clonad.

Clonad worked hard. They kept Kerry to 3-1. Aoidhearn Delaney was very solid at centre-back. Róisín Dunne was tireless in her efforts at midfield and Orla Rigney made some great blocks in the defence.  
Kate McDonald captain of Clonad was very gracious in defeat and thanked Kerry for the game. Mairéad Quirke lifted the shield for Kerry.  
**Teams:**  
Kerry: Mairéad Fitzgerald (1-0), Michelle Gilbert, Aoife Fitzgerald, Kathy Casey, Rachel McElligott, Megan Weir, Lorna Sheehan, Marie Quirke (1-1), Caroline McCarthy, Orla Young, Harriett O'Dwyer, Linda Twomey, Ann-Maree Leen, Seán Horgan, Aisling Mangin, Niamh Duffy, Isabel O'Connor, Aine O'Connor, Niamh Whyte, Martin Leahy, Sarah Murphy (1-0), Maura Godley, Jessica Fitzell, Mairéad Leen.  
Clonad: Emma Donovan, Pauline Duane, Sophie Meredith, Sinead Dunne, Orla Rigney, Aoidhearn Delaney, Jane Kennedy, Lorna Deegan, Róisín Dunne, Kate McDonald, Aine Fitzpatrick, Aoife Boyle, Anita O'Dea, Sarah Fitzpatrick, Rachel Cross, Leanne Donovan, Veronica Donovan, Róisín McWeir, Tiffany Conroy, Laura McIlroy.  
Referee: John McElish.

## Lucan take Division 1 Féile title

By Siobhán Walsh  
Lucan Sanfields earned the coveted and famed Purcell Cup on Sunday in O'Moore Park, Portlaoise. The Dublin team overcame Mullagh of Galway in a hard fought battle that was highly competitive and skilful.  
Lucan Sanfields got off to a great start opening the scoring with a goal. Sarah Courtney rattled the net, when she hit the top left corner with a lobbing ball. Mullagh responded with a point from the captain, Rachel Monaghan, leading by example, with a great score. Alish O'Grady showed she had a very steady hand when she caught the sliotar, turned and pucked it over the bar from the 21 metre line. Rachel Monaghan sent the ball over the bar for Mullagh to level the sides. Orla Hobbins followed this score with a goal to put Mullagh in the lead. Mullagh missed a goal shot just before half-time with the kick coming after the referee's whistle. The score at half-time was Mullagh 1-2 Lucan Sanfields 1-1.  
Lucan Sanfields started as they meant to go on. Alison Twomey raised the green flag and her team mates followed this goal with 2 points the first coming from Lynsey Jordan and the second from Tara Keenan. Lucan Sanfields improved second half performance saw them take home the Purcell Cup.  
**Teams:**  
Lucan Sanfields: Orla Beagan, Shannon Clarke, Annmarie Courtney, Sarah Courtney (1-0), Aoife Doolin, Alish Dowling, Siobhán Grimes, Lynsey Jordan (0-1F), Tara Keenan (0-1), Rachel Kenny, Laura Morrissey, Sarah Muldoon, Grace Mulhern, Lucy Mulligan, Laura Murtagh, Alish O'Grady (1-0), Claire Rigney, Gráinne Rochford, Ailbhe Ryan, Clara Sheehan, Alison Twomey (1-0), Kate Whyte, Niamh Williams.  
Mullagh: Catherine Daly, Sharon Dolan, Niamh Kennedy, Shauna Coen, Fiona Whyte, Niamh Murphy (1-0), Miriam Reynolds, Azarah Gordon, Clara Donohue, Mairéad Whyte, Amy Murphy, Claire Dolphin, Sinead Whyte, Rachel Monaghan (0-2) (Capt), Orla Hobbins, Maria O'Brien, Maeve Reynolds, Tara Kennedy, Patricia Manning.  
Referee: Pat Delaney.

JUNE 2008

# Rebelettes exact revenge on Wexford

by Jackie Cahill

2007 runners-up Cork turned the tables on champions Wexford with a comfortable 3-6 to 0-5 victory in the Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship yesterday.

The Rebelettes gained sweet revenge for last year's final reverse against the Model County by recording a comfortable 10-point victory in New Ross.

With two wins from two, Cork are now on course for the semi-finals of this year's competition but Wexford face a battle to make the last four.

Cork led by just a single point at half time, 1-1 to 0-3, but they outscored Wexford 2-5 to 0-2 in the second half as goals proved crucial.

Orla Cotter scored Cork's first half goal after 21 minutes but the decisive strike was supplied by top scorer Rachel Moloney two minutes after

half time to open a 2-1 to 0-3 lead.

Cork never looked back and when Sile Burns netted three minutes later, the game was over as a contest as lustre Wexford capitulated.

Moloney finished with 1-4 of Cork's total as Brieghe Corkery and Una O'Donoghue chipped in with points.

Kate Kelly was Wexford's leading scorer with three points while Una Lacey and the impressive Aine Codd supplied a point each.

Meanwhile, league champions Kilkenny defeated Limerick in atrocious conditions in Kilmallock on Saturday to record their first victory in this year's Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship.

The Cats bounced back from their opening round defeat against Tipperary by recording a handsome 3-10 to 0-5 win against the outclassed hosts.

The game was effectively over as a contest after just 10 minutes as Marie

Dargan's goal opened up a 1-5 to 0-0 advantage for Kilkenny.

The visitors led by 2-7 to 0-3 at half-time as Marie O'Connor added a second goal after 20 minutes.

Limerick battled hard to stay in contention as Joanne Clifford, Eileen O'Brien and Niamh Mulcahy were on target with points.

The second half was academic as Keeva Fennelly, daughter of former Kilkenny hurling great Ger, registered a third goal for the victors with ten minutes of normal time remaining.

Marie O'Connor (1-2), Sinead Millea (0-4), Aoife Neary (0-3) and Lizzie Lyng (0-1) were on target for Kilkenny while Limerick will attempt to pick themselves up after suffering a second successive defeat in the competition.

Former champions Tipperary came good after half-time to register a second successive victory over Dublin (2-13 to 2-9).

Cork 3-6  
Wexford 0-5

CORK recorded their second victory in a row in the Gala All-Ireland championship round-robin series with a superb victory over All-Ireland champions Wexford at Kennedy Park, New Ross.

The gale force wind played havoc with the game and didn't look to be favouring either team and it was Wexford who made the better start, with points from Kate Kelly, Ursula Jacob and Aine Codd. However, Cork never allowed them get out of sight and when Orla Cotter finished to the net after an excellent Sile Burns excellent solo run at the Wexford defence, Cork were back in the game. Rachel Moloney pointed a free on the half-time whistle, putting Cork in the lead, 1-1 to 0-3.

Cork's ability to grab goals was crucial, with Rachel Moloney finishing to the net inside two minutes of the restart after Wexford keeper Mags Darcy failed to hold a long dropping ball. Boosted by the goal, Cork kept the pressure on. With Brieghe Corkery covering every inch of grass on Kennedy Park it was inevitable she would get on the score sheet and she shot a superb long-range effort between the posts to stretch the lead by the fifth minute of the half. Seconds later, Sile Burns struck for Cork's third goal and the champions were struggling. Una O'Donoghue stretched the Cork lead before Kate Kelly and Rachel Moloney swapped pointed frees. Kelly pointed a 45 in the



Even without her camán, Julia White takes command during Cork's intermediate victory over Wexford at New Ross on Sunday. Picture: Patrick Browne Jnr

13th minute but this was to be Wexford's last score as the superb Cork defence held firm with Joanne O'Callaghan, Mary O'Connor and Gemma O'Connor in tremendous form.

Rachel Moloney pointed twice as Cork finished on a high, a result which will no doubt boost Denise Cronin's charges ahead of their next outing against Tipperary on July 6.

**Cork:** A Murray; L O'Connell, C Foley (C), J O'Callaghan; R Buckley, M O'Connor, G O'Connor; B Corkery, L Dorgan; J Duffy, O Donoghue, E O'Sullivan, S Burns, R Moloney, O Cotter. Subs: S Hayes for R Buckley (52), A O'Regan for O Cotter (55). Scorers: R Moloney 1-4 (0-3f), O Cotter and S Burns 1-0 each, U O Donoghue and B Corkery 0-1 each.

**Wexford:** M D'Arcy; N Lambert, O Loughlin, C O'Connor; A O'Connor, M Lacey (C), D Codd; A Codd, C Murphy; K Kelly, RM Breen, L Holohan, U Lacey, U Jacob, K Parrott. Subs: M O'Leary for L Holohan, L Codd for K Parrott. Scorers: K Kelly 0-3 (0-1f 0-1 45"), U Jacob and A Codd 0-1 each.

**Referee:** Eamonn Browne, Tipperary

Cork 2-10  
Wexford 1-5

CORK recorded their first victory in the Gala All-Ireland championship round-robin series with eight points to spare over Wexford on Sunday last. A gale-force wind made it difficult for the sides. A point from Claire Spellman opened the scoring but Wexford replied with a Ciara O'Connor goal after 13 minutes. Charlotte Kearney won a penalty 18 minutes into the half and it was Michelle Browne who confidently found the net to bring the sides level. Aoife O'Connor edged Wexford ahead with a pointed free on 20 minutes but Cork grabbed a second goal when Liz Bugler found the net. Michelle Browne and Julia White added points to leave Cork 2-5 to 1-2 ahead at the break.

Michelle Browne and Aoife O'Connor swapped points, and with Cork holding the upper hand Marion Jagoe and Marie Watson stretched the lead. Wexford battled hard but the Cork defence was superb and held them at bay. Points from Jennifer Lynch and Michelle Browne ensured a win for Cork.

**Cork:** G Harrington; S Gleeson, N Mulcahy, C O'Neill; L Hawkes, M Walsh, L Weste; J Lynch, J White; L Bugler, C Spellman, M Jagoe; C Kearney, M Browne, M Watson (C), Subs D Twomey for C Kearney (52), E Royane for C Spellman (57). Scorers: M Browne 1-5 (1-0 pen 0-2f), L Bugler 1-0, J White, M Jagoe, M Watson, J Lynch and C Spellman 0-1 each.

**Wexford:** L Cloney; E Moran, K Atkinson, Stacey Kehoe; N O'Connor, C Storey, JG Hayden; S Redmond, E Doyle (C), A Moran, F Kavanagh, M Kelly, A O'Connor, S Carr, C O'Connor. Subs Shelly Kehoe for M Kelly (hvt), Stacey Kehoe for A Moran (40), S Nolan for S Carr (53). Scorers: C O'Connor 1-4 (0-2f 0-1 45"), A O'Connor 0-1f.

**Referee:** Alan Lagrue, Kildare

# Determined Cork dig deep to triumph over Tipp

Cork 3-12  
Tipperary 2-5

CORK had to fight to the finish before victory was secured in this entertaining All Ireland U16 championship meeting at Ballinlough. It was level on three occasions but a strong Cork rally ten minutes from full-time ensured victory.

Emma Kingston, Katrina Mackey and Finola Neville scored points for

Cork before Tipperary replied with points from Amy Kennedy and Cait Devane. Gemma Grace finished Catriona Shortt's long-range effort to the net in the 12th minute to edge Tipp ahead but Katrina Mackey had Cork level with two pointed frees. Tipp responded with Cait Devane pointing a long-range effort but Finola Neville put Cork back in front, getting the final touch to the net from Katrina Mackey's long de-

livery. Tipp responded before the break with points from Alice Fogarty and Cait Devane.

Finola Neville and Katie Buckley scored points for Cork on the resumption but Tipperary's Amy Fogarty fired a shot to the roof of the net to rally her side. Now putting the Cork defence under pressure, Tipp battled to stretch their lead but with Rosie O'Mahony Katie McCarthy and Emma Kingston in top

form they could find no way through the Cork defence. Four points without reply saw Cork begin to pull away before a goal from Finola Neville killed the Tipp challenge. A goal from Joanne Casey and a point from Katrina Mackey sealed victory for Cork, who have secured their semi-final spot irrespective of the outcome of next Wednesday's game against Limerick.

**Cork:** T. Hawkes; S Harrington, A Coughlan,

K McCarthy; R O'Mahony, P Mackey (C), C Lynch; K Mackey, E Kingston; J Casey, M Reidy, A O'Donovan; F Neville, K Buckley, S O'Halloran. Subs: F Cotter for C Lynch (25), S Cooney for S O'Halloran (51). Scorers: F Neville 2-2, K Mackey 0-4 (0-2f 0-1 45" 0-1p) J Casey 1-1, K Buckley 0-3, A O'Donovan, E Kingston 0-1 each.

**Tipperary:** A Lucey; S O'Meara, S Ryan, N Stapleton; E Spillane, M Barry, D Fogarty; C Devane, C Shortt; A Kennedy (C), L Power, A Fogarty, N O'Donoghue, G Grace, N Walsh. Sub: E Carey for N Walsh (hvt). Scorers: A Kennedy 1-1, C Devane 0-3 (0-2f 0-1 45"), G Grace 1-0, A Fogarty 0-1.

**Referee:** Dermot Connolly, Galway.



## Rosina McManus



One of the most respected camogie officials in the province passed away on Tuesday evening.

Rosina McManus collapsed shortly after the final whistle sounded for the Ulster Senior final between Derry and Antrim in Dunloy on Sunday evening. She was taken to the Causeway Hospital but died just over 48 hours later.

Having moved from Kilkeel to Belfast, Rosina became closely associated with camogie in her adopted county of Antrim. She served Antrim and Ulster Council in many roles down through the years and rose to the highest office in the Association as National President for the three years 1968-71. It gave her particular pleasure to present the inaugural All-Ireland Junior title to her native Down in 1968, although one of her regrets was that Antrim didn't add to their national title-haul during her term in office.

Rosina was also a hugely respected referee and became one of the few people to referee a national senior final - that honour coming in 1980. Rosina's devotion to the Association she loved was also evident in her commitment to the development of young referees. She was an excellent coach and led the Saffrons to an All-Ireland minor final in 1981. Rosina, along with her great friend Lily Spence, was the main driving force behind the development of schools camogie. In the late 1960's and early 70's she was instrumental in setting up coaching courses at Orangefield Belfast which were attended by teachers and club coaches from all over Ireland. Her methods and enthusiasm for the game endeared and inspired all of her "pupils". Indeed Rosina was a real pioneer in the whole area of camogie coaching and laid the foundations for all that is now readily available in the form of various coaching aids. Her dedication to schools camogie was reflected in the fact that she was treasurer of Ulster Colleges Council for almost half a century. While she never shied from letting people know that she was entitled to a free

bus pass, she continued to work for the game of camogie, coaching the U14 Connollys Belfast camogie team as recently as last week.

For someone so involved in camogie, it was fitting that her last hours should be spent at an Ulster final in the company of her many many friends. It was of course appropriate that her last game saw Antrim regain the Senior provincial title. Pre-deceased by her husband Frank, Rosina will be sorely missed by everyone involved in Gaelic games in the province and we all offer our sympathies to her family and friends.

Go mbÁodh leaba i measc na naomh ag an bhean uasal Gaelach seo.

### Cumann Camógaloichta na nGael pays tribute to Former President

She served camogie at all levels from club to national level. Rosina served as President of Cumann Camógaloichta na nGael from 1968 to 1971. Following her term as President she served on both the Northern Ireland and Irish Sports Councils. She had a great interest in coaching particularly at juvenile level and was involved with underage teams in her club until the time of her death. She was a member of the National Coaching Committee for many years. Rosina was also involved in 2nd Level Colleges Camogie in Ulster and at national level and served on Ardchomhairle as its representative for many years. Rosina also refereed at all levels, including the All-Ireland Senior Championship Finals in Páirc an Chríoigh. Rosina passed away after a brief illness. Suaimhnas slán go raibh ag an mbeán uasal seo. The funeral arrangements for Rosina McManus are as follows: Friday at 6pm to St. Columba's Church, Newtownards Road, Belfast and Mass on Saturday at 9.30am.



### Ulster Senior Final

Tailored Finances Ulster Senior final: Antrim 3-6 Derry 1-6  
National League positions counted for little in Dunloy yesterday evening in a hotly contested Tailored Finances Ulster Senior camogie final.  
Division 3 champions Antrim outscored Division 2 runners-up Derry by 3-6 to 1-6 to collect their 44th provincial crown and first since 2002.  
Derry were hot favourites going into the game, but were forced to chase Antrim who opted to play with the aid of the breeze in the opening half.  
The pace of the Saffrons forwards Shannon Graham, Orla McCaul, Michaela Convery and - of course - Jane Adams caused Derry endless problems, but it was the tight-marking of the defence that probably secured the title for Antrim.  
Derry shot a lot of wides over the hour, many of them under pressure, but they will point to the timing of the three Antrim goals as the key to the game.  
Jane Adams scored the opening goal - a harmless shot from 35 metres that took a fluke bounce and beat Claire O'Kane. That score gave Antrim a lot of confidence and settled them into the game.  
Derry however had come back well and, although 1-4 to 0-3 down, were well placed coming into the break to use the second half breeze.  
However Adams drilled home a 25 metre free a minute from half-time to really lift her side.  
They fought and battled during the second half, but Derry again looked to be taking over by the three-quarter mark when Ashling Diamond and Aileen Lavery combined for a goal.  
The gap had now closed to 2-5 to 1-5, but Adams went on another penetrating run and although her shot was brilliantly saved by Claire O'Kane, full-forward Ashlene McCaul poked home in a crowded square.  
That 49th minute goal effectively killed the game. There was only a point each after it, with both defences on top - and Antrim's in particular not looking likely to collapse.  
Antrim: Christine Doherty, Emma Connolly, Mairead Graham, Orla Donnelly, Colleen Doherty, Kelly Maybin, Sinead Lavery, Charlene Hamill, Rhona Torney capt, Michaela Convery, Jane Adams, 2-3, 1-2 frees, Shannon Graham 0-1, Claire Lavery, Ashlene McCaul 1-0, Orlagh McCaul 0-2.  
Derry: Claire O'Kane (cpt), Denia McGuigan, Edel Henry, Clara Cusnahan, Kate Lavery, Jane Carey, Sinead McKeever, Grainne McGoldrick 0-3, 0-2 frees, Bridie Convery, Aisling Diamond 0-1, Katie McAuley, Aileen Lavery 1-0, Keelin Bradley, Donagh Mullan 0-1, Meath McGoldrick, 0-1.  
Subs: Katrina O'Kane for O Mullan, Karen Kelt for E Henry.  
Referee: Una Kearney (Armagh).  
Karen Kelt, who came into the Senior final as a second half sub, earlier in the evening top-scored as Derry easily beat Down 5-12 to 0-0 in the Ulster under 16 final.  
The Kilses forward shot 1-7 with Grainne McGoldrick hitting 1-2 in a disappointing final.



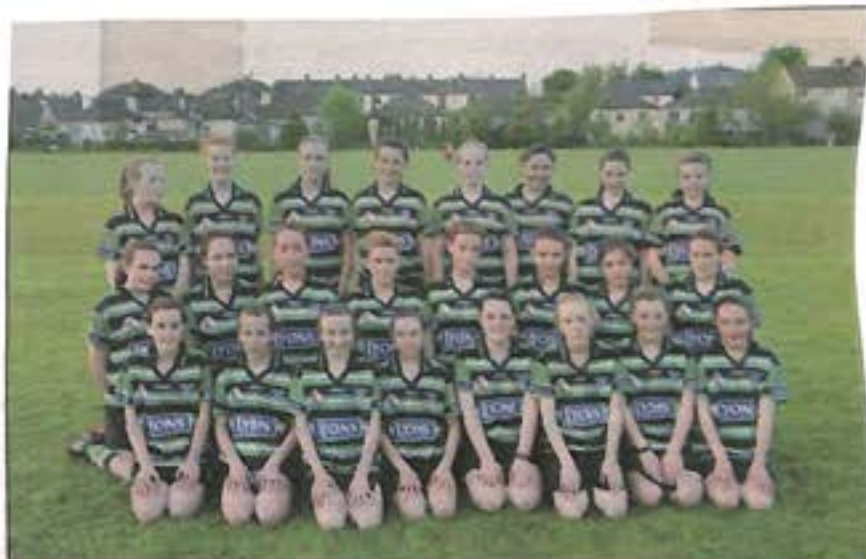
## Cork take on the champions

A STRANGE position for the Cork seniors as they travel to Wexford for a tilt with the All Ireland champions, so often in the past Cork have been the defenders of the crown but this time out it Wexford who are custodians of the O Duffy cup following their victory over Cork in last years final.

Round two of the Gala All Ireland senior championship on Sunday is a repeat of last years All Ireland final and Cork will be anxious to continue the winning trend having got their campaign in the round robin series off to a good start with a victory over Dublin. Sunday is a huge test as Wexford will be out to prove their success of 2007 was no fluke. It's a first outing for them as they received a bye in round one and they know that Cork will be determined to get one back having been disappointed to lose out in Croke Park in their bid for three in a row last September. It's be a somewhat new look Cork side this year for

both league and championship campaigns, Emer Dillon Anna Geary and Jennifer O Leary are amongst the player who are not available but preparations have gone well and with a championship victory over Dublin under their belt the new panel members such as Emer O Farrell, Eimear O Sullivan and Linda Dorgan will be confident while players such as Aoife Murray, Mary O Connor, Una O Donoghue Rena Buckley, Gemma O Connor and Rachel Moloney continue to spearhead the Corks challenge to regain the title, against Dublin Amanda O Regan was amongst the substitutes but no doubt she will be pushing hard for inclusion in the starting fifteen.

Former inter county senior player Stella Sinnott led Wexford to the promise land last season now she will be determined to add make it back to back titles and players such as Kate Kelly Ursula Jacob Louise Codd and the Lacey sisters Mary and Una should once again back bone her side.



Douglas who represent Cork in the Camogie Feilena NGael this weekend.

## Intermediate side seek first win

THE second Cork side will also be in action when the face Wexford in the second round of the Intermediate championship.

Having lost out to Derry in a close encounter in their first game Cork will need to record a victory to stay in the hunt for a place in the shake up.

Under the guidance of Bobby Thornhill the panel has many new faces this season exams have hampered their preparations thus far but with these now drawing to a conclusion they should be more organised. Against Derry

Cork had a bad opening half display and ultimately they price as they lost out by four points to a strong Derry side.

Through the first half the physically lighter Cork side allowed the northern's time to close them down but a change of tactics for the second half saw Cork blossom they will be hoping to build on this on Sunday and will look to players such as Charlotte Kearney, Julia White, Leah Weste, Denise Luby Marion Jagoe and Evelyn Roynane to lead the way

## Good luck to Douglas and Nicole

BEST of luck goes to Douglas who represent Cork in the National Feile na NGael competition this weekend in Laois Offaly. Douglas meet their host Thurles in the first game on Friday.

Then it a meeting against Toomevara and Good luck also to Nicole O'Brien Glen Rovers who represents Cork in the skills competition which takes place in O Moore Park Portlaoise on Saturday at 1pm.

## Imokilly advance

CARBERRY became the first team to exit the Evening Echo Senior county championship when they lost out to Imokilly at Ballinlough

on Sunday last. Imokilly now meeting with county champions Muskerry in the next round.



# ANTRIM MOURNS THE PASSING OF A PURE SAFFRON



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19 June 2008

One of the most respected camogie officials in the province passed away on Tuesday evening. Rosina McManus had collapsed shortly after the final whistle sounded for the Ulster Senior final between Derry and Antrim in Dunloy on Sunday evening. She was taken to the Causeway Hospital but died just over 48 hours later.

Originally from Kilkeel, Rosina was closely associated with camogie in her adopted county of Antrim after moving to work in Belfast in the late 1940s. She served Antrim and Ulster Council in many roles down through the years and rose to the highest office in the Association – national President – for the three years 1968-71. It gave her particular pleasure to present the inaugural All-Ireland Junior title to her native Down in 1968, although one of her regrets was that Antrim didn't add to their national title-haul during her term in office. Rosina was also a hugely respected referee and she became one of the few people to referee a national senior final after serving as President. That honour came in 1980. Rosina also represented her sport well as a member of both the NI Sports' Council and also Cospoir – the Dublin equivalent.

Rosina's devotion to the Association she loved was also evident in her commitment to the development of young referees and she pioneered coaching with courses in Orangefield in the late 1960s that attracted participants from all over the island. Rosina also put those skills into action and coached the Saffrons to an All-Ireland minor final in 1981. Along with her great friend Lily Spence, Rosina was the main driving force behind the development of schools' camogie and she was treasurer of the Ulster Post-Primary Schools' Council for many decades. While she never shied from letting people know that she was entitled to a free bus pass, she continued to work for the game of camogie and took a weekly under-age coaching session for girls in her beloved Connolly's club in Belfast right up to her death. For someone so involved in camogie, it was fitting that her last hours

The camogie final was played off on a blitz format on opening night, with Togher emerging victorious for the third year in a row, defeating Glasheen and Greenmount.

Captain Rebecca O'Neill, Deonne Delaney, Maedbh Cahalane and Laura Lynch excelled for Togher; Sarah McCluskey, Emma O'Riordan, Peig Walsh and Anna O'Sullivan played well for Glasheen, while Michelle Falvey, Jade McSweeney and Haley Byrne were superb for Greenmount who entered the camogie section for the first time.



should be spent at an Ulster final in the company of her many, many friends. It was of course appropriate also that Antrim should regain the provincial title in that final. Pre-deceased by her husband Frank, Rosina's wit, personal charm and enthusiasm for camogie will be sorely missed by everyone involved in Gaelic games in the province and we all offer our sympathies to her family and friends. Rosina's funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday morning at 9.30am in Ballyhackamore Church. Go mbíodh leaba i measc na naomh ag an bhean uasal Gaelach seo.

Mícheál Ó Muirheartaigh pictured in 2004 with Rosina McManus centre and Antrim's other camogie national past Presidents Nancy Murray left and Lily Spence right. The picture was taken at a Camogie Centenary Dinner in Loughgiel.

(Nancy died in 2005).



JUNE 2008



June 2008

# Gala CAMOGIE world

## CONNACHT ARE GAE LINN WINNERS

By Jackie Cahill

Connacht captured the prestigious Interprovincial Gael Linn Camogie title for the first time since 2000 with a thrilling one-point victory against Munster on Sunday 18 May.

The girls from the West ended an eight-year wait for glory as they hung on in a gripping finish to secure a 1-14 to 2-10 victory at Donaghmore Ashbourne, County Meath. Connacht led by 0-7 to 0-5 at half-time but the game really sprung to life two minutes after the restart when Tipperary's Geraldine Kinnane goalied to open up a 1-7 to 0-6 lead for Munster.

Midway through the half, the sides were deadlocked as Connacht rallied brilliantly to draw level at 0-10 to 1-7 before the outstanding Jessica Gill found the net from a free with seven minutes of normal time remaining.

Cork's Sile Burns netted with a last minute goal for Munster as Connacht were left hanging on for the victory, secured with the aid of superb individual performances from Galway stars Gill and Veronica Curtin.

Munster had fine displays from Tipperary pair Philly Fogarty and Claire Grogan, who exerted a huge influence on the game when she was moved from full forward to a roving commission out around the half forward line.

Munster had booked their place in the final with a nail-biting 3-14 to 2-14 victory against Leinster, who were backboned by Noleen Lambert and Clare O'Connor in the full back line, along with the free-scoring Louise O'Hara and goalscorers Sarah Ryan and Una Lacey.

In the other semi-final, Connacht enjoyed a facile 1-28 to 0-7 victory over Ulster but they were made to fight to the very end in a memorable tit-for-tat final against Munster.

There was some degree of consolation for the Southern province with a comprehensive 3-17 to 0-3 victory against outclassed Ulster in the junior decider.

Waterford star Aine Lyng was voted player of the match after weighing in with an individual haul of 2-7, with 2-5 of that total contributed from play. Clare's Roisín O'Brien was also in scintillating form as she bagged 1-5, the goal scored in the second half after Lyng's first half double, in the space of three minutes, helped to open up a 2-6 to 0-3 interval lead.

Ulster had recorded a 2-11 to 1-6 semi-final victory against Connacht while Munster were pushed all the way by Leinster before emerging narrow 4-6 to 1-12 winners.

Veronica Curtin of Galway and Connacht

Name: Erin Corkery.  
Sponsor: Ruby Styles.  
Age: 19.  
Occupation: Hoping to begin a course in PE Teaching in University College Cork or the University of Limerick in September.

Hobbies: Camogie, singing and playing the guitar.  
Ambitions: Become the first female President of the GAA, a secondary school PE teacher and travel the world.



## Camogie blitz in Rathkeale

THE Munster Camogie Council are holding its inaugural primary school development squads blitz on Sunday at 11am in Rathkeale, writes Mary Newman.

The six Munster counties have followed the best practice 'double-blind' trial system and subsequently followed a schedule of skills sessions in preparation for the blitz.

The Munster Camogie Council development plan prioritises coaching development in schools, with PR work and the improvement of the weaker counties amongst the core areas being addressed.

Munster GAA are supporting the development plan and have been proactive in the venture, ensuring both associations follow an integrated approach to improve the profile and development of camogie.

The various sponsors, Roches Daybreak, Whitechurch (Cork), All Season's Sportswear (Limerick), Lee Strand Co-op (Kerry), Vision Homes Ltd (Clare Sponsor) all are delighted with the strategic approach Munster Council have adopted to develop the sport in the province.

The format for Sunday is a round-robin system with multiple substitutions, where the emphasis is wholly on participation and enjoyment for the future stars of the game.

A subsequent blitz is scheduled for Saturday, August 16 in Cahir.



Gael Scoil Carraig Ui Leighinn, winners of the Roinn C3 competition.

Picture: Mike English



Cork senior Elaine O'Riordan and Brieghe Corkery at the launch of the Bord Gas Net works sponsorship of the Cork senior team.



June 2008



Kilbrittain's captain Lauren Taplin gets a great reception as she climbs the steps to receive her Sciath na Scol medal at Páirc Uí Rinn. Picture: Mike English

Name: Denise Cronin.  
Sponsor: Ballincollig Camogie Club.  
Age: 19.  
Occupation: Hoping to begin a course in Nursing in University College Cork in September.  
Hobbies: Going to the gym, socialising and camogie.  
Ambitions: Win a county medal with Ballincollig Camogie Team, play senior camogie with Cork and study nursing.



## UNDER 12 LEAGUE QUARTER FINALS

ALREADY the under 12 competitions have reached quarter final stages and on Saturday with two pitches in operation Coachford is the venue for four

interesting games. In the Under12B quarter finals Na Piarasigh meet Cloughduv at 1.15 with Eire Og and Mallow in opposition at 2.30. In the Under12D

quarter finals Aghabullogue and Barryroe are in action at 1.15 while Sarsfields second team meet Ballyhea at 2.30.

## Intermediate team record victory

A SUPERB victory for the Cork Intermediate team as they recorded their first victory in the Gala All Ireland championship round robin series with eight points to spare over Wexford on Sunday last. Conditions were hard for both sides but it was Cork who led 2-5 to 1-2 at the break after first half goals from Michelle Browne and Liz Bugler. Michelle Browne and Aoife O'Connor exchanged

second half points; Cork held the upper hand. Marion Jaego and Marie Watson stretching the lead.

Ciara O'Connor pointed twice from placed balls but there was no way through a determined Cork defence. Points from Jennifer Lynch and Michelle Browne before the final whistle ensured a victory for Cork and ensures their quest for a semi final place stays alive.

## Senior championship gets under way

SEVEN games in the Evening Echo Senior county championship are down for decision in the week ahead as the focus turns to the clubs.

On Saturday Imokilly fresh from their victory over Carbery take on county champions Muskerry at Delaney's at 6.30pm while out in Coachford at 7.30pm Milford meet Courcy rovers

Sunday has two double headers down for decision in Ballinlough Seandun take on Carrigdhoun at 3.30pm followed by St Finbarrs against Ballygarvan at 5pm. Brinney is the venue where Barryroe meet Inniscarra at 6.30pm and Douglas takes on Aghabullogue at 8pm. On Monday St. Catherine's and Cloughduv meet at 7.30 a venue to be arranged for this game.

## CORK DEFEAT CHAMPIONS

CORK took the scalp of All Ireland champions Wexford as they recorded their second victory in a row in the Gala All Ireland championship round robin series at Kennedy Park New Ross.

Wexford made the better start and led to the twentieth minute with points from Kate Kelly Ursula Jacob and Aine Codd but Cork struck back with an Orla Cotter goal. Rachel Moloney pointed a free on the half time whistle where Cork led 1-1 to 0-3.

Cork ability to grab goals was proved important. Rachel Moloney finished to the net inside two minutes of the restart and boosted by the

goal Cork kept the pressure on. Briege Corkery who had a superb hour added a point and when Sile Burns struck for Cork's third goal and the champions were struggling.

Una O'Donoghue stretched the lead before Kate Kelly and Rachel Moloney swapped pointed frees, Kelly pointed a forty five on the thirteenth minute but this was to be Wexford's last score as the superb Cork defence held firm.

Rachel Moloney pointed twice as a spirited Cork finished on a high, well done to Denise Cronin and her charge whose next outing which is against Tipperary on July 6.

Riverstown 2-0  
Ballinspittle 1-1

THIS Allianz DC1 clash was a thrilling tie with Ballinspittle trying to the last second to get the vital goal but Riverstown showed great resolve came out on top writes SARAH O'DONOVAN.

Sarah Fahy was closest after five minutes for Riverstown but for much of the first half it was the defences which were on top.

Niamh Cannery, Chloe Ahern and Maeve McCarthy were unyielding at the back for Riverstown while goal-keeper Emer Gilroy was called upon on numerous occasions to keep out a persistent Ballinspittle forward line.

Laoise Burke was to the fore for Riverstown during this spell as was Cliona Crowley and Isabelle Twomey.

Courtney McCarthy put Riverstown in front when she deftly flicked the ball past Ballinspittle goalkeeper Eimear Crowley but Ballinspittle full-forward Leah O'Sullivan equalised to leave the score at a goal apiece.

Captain Katie Walsh put Riverstown back in front with a great goal before O'Sullivan pointed for Ballinspittle to leave just two between the sides.

Edel Moloney, Elaine O'Reilly and Aisling O'Reilly pressed for a Ballinspittle goal with time running out and stalwart full-back Lisa O'Donovan was moved forward to turn the tide. It nearly worked but for the courageous display of Riverstown's Lucy Allen and Sarah Fahy who worked tirelessly throughout the game to secure victory for Riverstown.

Scorers for Riverstown: C McCarthy 1-0, K Walsh 1-0.

Ballinspittle: L O'Sullivan 1-1.

RIVERSTOWN: E Gilroy, N Cannery, C Ahern, M McCarthy, C Crowley, L Burke, I Twomey, L Allen, S Fahy, A O Kelly-Lynch, K Walsh, J Allen, K Marnell, C McCarthy, H Herlihy.

Subs: A O'Sullivan, L Kelly, C Mullane, T McCarthy, G Looney.

BALLINSPITTLE: E Crowley, C O'Reilly, L O'Donovan, F O'Donovan, T O'Donoghue, E O'Reilly, I Lordan, E Moloney, E O'Reilly, L Collins, A O'Reilly, R Collins, L White, L O'Sullivan, S Minihane.

Subs: R Murphy, S Keating, F Moloney, M O'Mahony, R McGregor, A Hannon.



Riverstown's Courtney McCarthy celebrates after scoring a vital goal. Picture: Mike English

## U16 book semi spot

IRRESPECTIVE of the result of last night meeting with Limerick the Cork under 16 team are through to the All Ireland semi final by virtue of their victory over Tipperary on Wed last.

In a game that was level on three occasions over the hour Cork upped the pressure in the closing quarter to ensure victory was secured.

Their semi final opponents will be known in the coming week and they can look forward with confidence to taking another step in the right direction.





■ Aoife O'Connor delivers a handpass as Cork's Mary O'Connor challenges.



■ Kate Kelly sends a low ball goalwards as Gemma O'Connor closes in during Sunday's clash.

## ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIP WEXFORD WALLOPED AFTER SECOND-HALF COLLAPSE

# Camogie champs are clobbered

**Cork 3-6, Wexford 0-5:** Winning an All-Ireland is a mammoth undertaking, and retaining the crown is even harder.

That point was brought forcibly home at a well-attended O'Kennedy Park, New Ross, on Sunday last when Wexford were walloped by Cork in a repeat of last September's decider which fell far short of expectations.

The only excuse that one could offer for the home side's poor showing is the fact that they were making their Gala Senior camogie championship debut, whereas Cork had overcome Dublin three weeks earlier.

However, that alone cannot explain the lack of hunger and appetite for hard work displayed by so many of the home side on a day when they managed the pathetic tally of two points from play, with just one forward contributing.

Certainly, the result should lead to a lot of soul-searching from players and management alike, because it simply wasn't good enough. It would be a crying shame if this squad was to be content with just one All-Ireland title, because they are capable of so much more.

Now is the time to show what they are really made of, starting on Saturday week when they make the long journey to Killimor to take on Galway who already have a win over lowly Limerick under their belts.

The strong, swirling wind didn't help the game as a spectacle, and a period of rainfall was added to the mix at the start of the second-half. However, the pitch was in immaculate condition, and it was encouraging to see such a decent crowd in attendance despite the Croke Park counter-attractions. The only pity was that Wexford didn't give their fans what they deserved as they were a poor shadow of the side which filled everyone with such joy nine months ago.

The elements favoured the home team in the first-half, but

they were unable to make territorial advantage pay on the scoreboard. An early foul on Kate Kelly led to the 2007 player of the year getting the locals off the mark from a free in the second minute, and an Ursula Jacob effort was then waved wide when many felt it had whizzed over the bar.

However, she made no mistake when picked out by Una Leacy after five minutes, although Wexford then lost their way and were guilty of taking the wrong options when in the final third of the field.

Over-elaboration didn't help their cause, with one extra hand-pass too many playing into the hands of a diligent Cork defence. Just one wide was chalked up in that period, from Lenny Holohan, before Aine Codd finally made it 0-3 to nil from a long-range effort in the 20th minute.

The St. Martin's lady stood head and shoulders above her colleagues throughout the first-half, receiving best support from half-backs Aoife O'Connor and Mary Leacy, but the good supply of ball which they produced wasn't utilised by an under-performing attack.

Cork were aided by a soft goal after 22 minutes when Sile Burns played the ball to Orla Cotter who had ghosted into a central position and given Noeleen Lambert the slip, and she flicked the sliothar past the advancing Mags D'Arcy who didn't stand a chance (1-0 to 0-3).

The visitors followed up with three wides as Wexford lost their way completely, and they took the lead in added time when Rachel Moloney converted a free which was conceded on the endline by Claire O'Connor.

The beginning of the end for the Slaneysiders came two minutes into the new half when Mags D'Arcy could only bat down a long-range effort from Briege Corkery, leaving Rachel Moloney with a simple tap-in to the net (2-1 to 0-3).

Corkery followed up with a long-range point before an Una

O'Donoghue centre found Sile Burns who raced away from her marker and drilled a sweet low shot into the far corner with less than five minutes gone.

O'Donoghue then added a point to make it 3-3 to 0-3, and Wexford were in serious trouble. A Kate Kelly free went wide via Ursula Jacob before the former did tap the sliothar over the bar after being impeded herself.

Rachel Moloney (free) and Kelly ('45) swapped points, but Wexford failed to score in the last 16 minutes as Cork closed out the game at their ease.

Michelle O'Leary had joined the fray in place of Lenny Holohan at half-time while Kelly moved to midfield and Caroline Murphy spent time at full-forward, but nothing seemed to work.

There was one good chance for a goal with eleven minutes to go when Kate Kelly let fly, but her head-high shot was well saved by Aoife Murray. Kelly then sent a free wide but the Cork goal wasn't threatened at all in the last nine minutes.

The leaders were comfortable, and they could afford two more wides to bring their tally to ten (compared to four for Wexford) before Rachel Moloney landed two late points, one from play.

**Wexford:** Mags D'Arcy; Noeleen Lambert, Catherine O'Loughlin, Claire O'Connor; Aoife O'Connor, Mary Leacy (capt.), Deirdre Codd; Aine Codd (0-1), Caroline Murphy; Kate Kelly (0-3, 2 frees, 1 '45), Rose-Marie Breen, Lenny Holohan; Una Leacy, Ursula Jacob (0-1), Katrina Parrock. Subs. - Michelle O'Leary for Holohan, Louise Codd for Parrock, Bernie Holohan for C. O'Connor, Bridget Curran for Breen.

**Cork:** Aoife Murray; Linda O'Connell, Catriona Foley (capt.), Joanne O'Callaghan; Rena Buckley, Mary O'Connor, Gemma O'Connor; Briege Corkery (0-1), Linda Dorgan; Jenny Duffy, Una O'Donoghue (0-1), Emer O'Sullivan; Sile Burns (1-0), Rachel Moloney (1-4, 0-3 frees), Orla Cotter (1-0). Subs. - Sarah Hayes for Buckley, Amanda O'Regan for Cotter.

**Referee:** Eamonn Browne (Tipperary).



■ Noeleen Lambert stoops low to gather possession ahead of Orla Cotter.



■ Caroline Murphy gets in a clearance as Rachel Moloney applies pressure.



# Cork cruise to easy win

**Cork 2-10, Wexford 1-5:** The Wexford Intermediate camogie team never really got to grips with the Cork challenge as they endured a double-score beating in Sunday's curtain-raiser at a blustery O'Kennedy Park, New Ross.

The final scoreline was a fair reflection of proceedings as the Leesiders had a greater range of options in attack and scored 1-8 from play compared to a mere goal from their rivals.

It did take them until the ninth minute to put wind advantage to good use when Claire Spellman picked off a point, and they were rocked not long after when Wexford goalied in their most inventive move of the game.

Nearly 13 minutes had elapsed when Ciara Storey played a low free into the path of Ciara O'Connor, and she gave

her marker the slip before soloing through for a well-taken goal.

O'Connor added a pointed free after a foul on Stacey Redmond, but Wexford's lead was shortlived. Sharon Kehoe was penalised for impeding Charlotte Kearney in the 16th minute, and the resultant penalty was drilled high into the roof of the net by Senior panel member Michelle Browne.

The scorer then added a point which Ciara O'Connor cancelled out after Fiona Kavanagh was taken down. However, Cork never looked back after a Marie Watson handpass set up Liz Bugler for their second goal in the 21st minute (2-2 to 1-2).

They added three late points from Michelle Browne, Julia White and Browne again, leaving Wexford with a major mountain to climb.

Shelley Kehoe came into the attack for Mag Kelly who was suffering from illness, and she was later joined by her twin Stacey - both of whom were returning after concentrating on their Leaving Certificate.

In truth, Wexford never really looked like breaking down a strong Cork back line, and it was 2-8 to 1-4 by the end of the third quarter.

Ciara O'Connor had pointed a free and a '45, but Michelle Browne (free), Marian Jagoe and Marie Watson did the honours for the visitors who have the Indian sign over Wexford in this grade.

The home side's last score came from a Ciara O'Connor free in the 49th minute, and Cork finished on a high note with points from Jennifer Lynch and free-taker Michelle Browne. Wexford cannot afford another

loss and will have to up it considerably for the visit to Kilmor to play Galway on Saturday week.

**Wexford:** Lucy Cloney; Emma Moran, Karen Atkinson, Sharon Kehoe; Niamh O'Connor, Ciara Storey, Jean Hayden; Stacey Redmond, Elaine Doyle (vice-capt.); Aishling Moran, Fiona Kavanagh, Mag Kelly; Aoife O'Connor, Sandy Carr, Ciara O'Connor (1-5, 0-4 frees, 0-1 '45). Subs. - Shelley Kehoe for Kelly, Stacey Kehoe for A. Moran, Sara Nolan for Carr.

**Cork:** Gillian Harrington; Siobhán Gleeson, Noreen Mulcahy, Christine O'Neill; Lucy Hawkes, Maria Walsh, Leah Weste; Jennifer Lynch (0-1), Julia White (0-1); Marian Jagoe (0-1), Claire Spellman (0-1), Liz Bugler (1-0); Charlotte Kearney, Michelle Browne (1-5, 1-0 pen., 0-2 frees), Marie Watson (capt., 0-1). Subs. - Denise Twomey for Kearney, Evelyn Ronayne for Spellman, Inj.

**Referee:** Alan Lagrue (Kildare).



Elaine Doyle on the ball for Wexford during Sunday's Intermediate championship defeat.



**The Wexford Intermediate squad.** Back row (from left): Eilish Kearns, Frances Doran (capt.), Grace Hearn, Amy Ryan, Sara Nolan, Louise O'Leary, Shelley Kehoe, Ciara Storey, Sharon Kehoe, Karen Atkinson, Sandy Carr, Fiona Kavanagh, Elaine Doyle (vice-capt.), Evelyn Quigley. Front row (from left): Aoife O'Connor, Bridget Murphy, Ciara O'Connor, Eimear O'Connor, Stacey Kehoe, Lucy Cloney, Jean Hayden, Emma Moran, Niamh O'Connor, Stacey Redmond, Aishling Moran, Mag Kelly.

## Oulart-The Ballagh make exit in Féile

THERE WAS no joy for Oulart-The Ballagh when they took part in the national Féile na nGael camogie competition last weekend.

Having won their first matches against Silvermines and Dicksboro, they lost to Burgess from Tipperary. As Burgess won their three matches in the group, they advanced to the semi-final. The girls enjoyed the Féile experience and many friendships were no doubt struck up over the weekend.

**Oulart-The Ballagh:** Anna O'Brien, Siobhán Britton, Aileen Brennan, Nicola Doyle, Georgina Sutton, Shauna Sinnott, Dearbhla Nimmo, Louise Sinnott, Bridlín Redmond, Amy Hammell, Emma Fortune, Ann-Marie Murphy, Elaine Lyndon, Lorraine Elliott, Emma Leacy, Eimear Doyle, Aoife Brown, Lorraine Redmond, Nicole Elliott, Christine Doyle, Joanne Sutton, Aine Sheridan, Julie O'Brien, Orla Nimmo.

In the Féile skills competition, Emma Walsh from Glynn-Barntown performed very well and came fourth in a strong competition. Well done Emma.

# Win for Tipperary over Dublin

Tipperary 2-13; Dublin 2-9

by Kieran Slattery, Co PRO

Last weekend saw the second round of the Camogie Championship get under way. On Saturday Kilkenny emerged victorious over Limerick, while in Wexford on Sunday afternoon Cork registered their second win in the campaign over the All Ireland champions, thus leaving all eyes on Semple Stadium on Sunday evening when Tipp entertained Dublin.

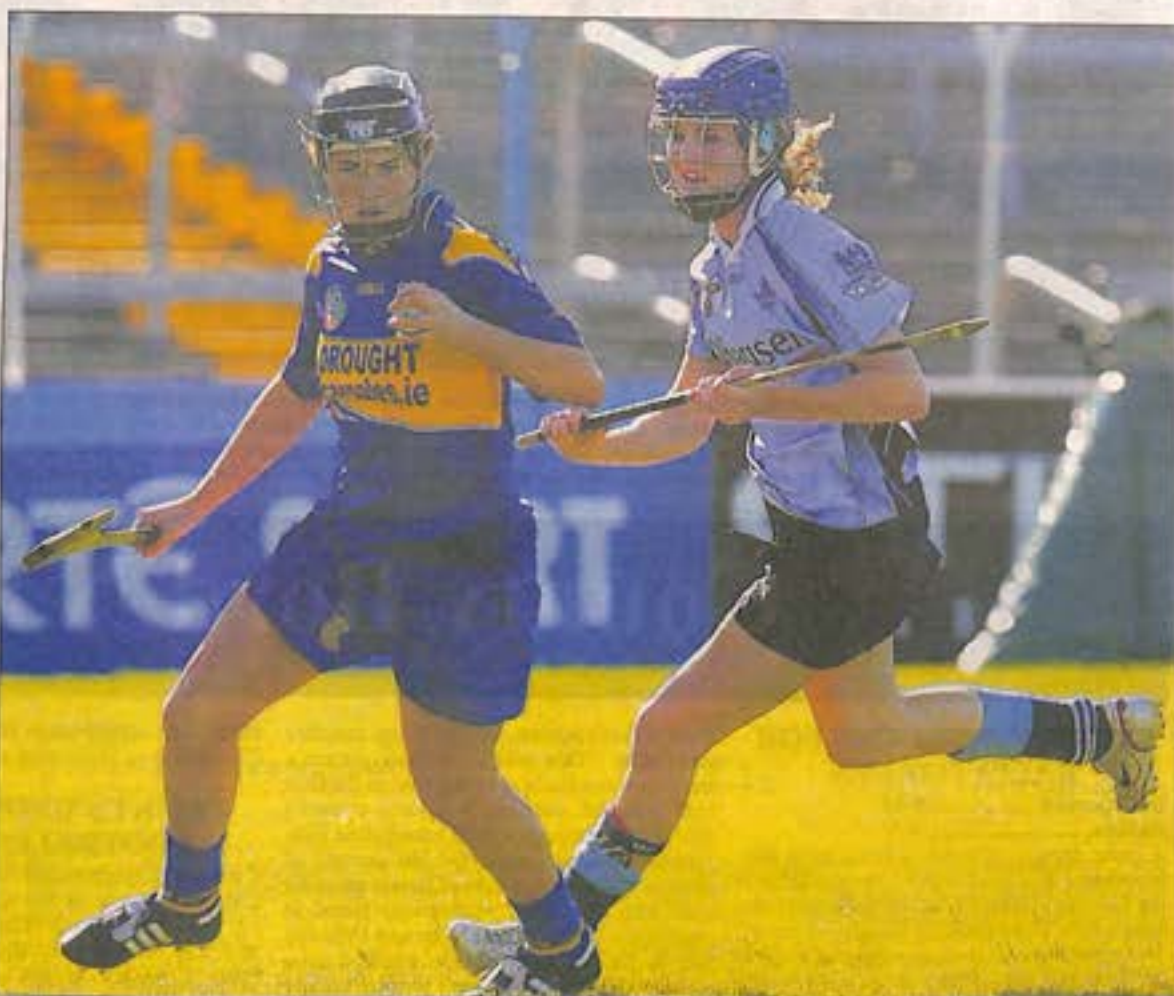
Dublin won the toss & played with the strong wind & registered a point straight from the throw in. It took the home side a while to adapt to Dublin's constant attacking & chasing & it was only in the 6th minute that Emily Hayden was able to raise Tipp's first white flag.

Claire Grogan popped up for Tipp's first goal in the 8th minute when she received a good pass from Cora Hennessy after some good combination work from Tipp to work the ball into the danger area. This was cancelled out by Dublin when a long ball was floated into the Tipp goal mouth. Paula Ryan was waiting to catch when Dublin's Aisling Jordan got a flick to it to register their first green flag. Another point from Dublin kept them ahead & Tipp were playing second fiddle to the visitors in most areas of the field.

Dublin were guilty of some poor shooting, but by the 20th minute still registered another goal & 2 points. Therese Shortt got Tipp's second goal & flurry of points from Cora Hennessy, Mairead Morrissey & Emily Hayden was matched by Dublin's attack. At half time Tipp went in trailing by 1 point 2.05 to 2.06.

Tipp resumed the second half with a bit more urgency when Emily Hayden scored. Tipperary tagged on another 5 points from here with some good individual scores from Philly Fogarty & Joanne Ryan. Dublin registered two more but couldn't get through the defence for a goal. Tipp's defence settled into the second half better & seemed to cope with the Dublin challenge after being wrong footed on a couple of occasions in the first 30 minutes. It was Dublin who picked off the last score with a point before the whistle sounded.

This Tipperary performance didn't have the sparkle of other games, & were lucky only to be down by a point at the interval. Speaking after the game, selector John Ryan said they were happy with the win, but felt that the performance may not have been up to scratch in the first half. He felt that a good team effort in the



Claire Grogan sets up a Tipperary attack against Dublin at Semple Stadium. Picture: Bridget Delaney

second half got them through what was always going to be a strong Dublin challenge. Two wins out of two games is exactly where the panel & management want to be before they travel to Cork on July 6th.

**Team -** Paula Ryan, Paula Bulfin, Suzanne Kelly, Julie Kirwin, Michelle Shortt, Patricia O'Halloran, Mary

Ryan, Mairead Morrissey (0.01), Jill Horan, Cora Hennessy (0.02), Philly Fogarty (0.02), Joanne Ryan (0.02), Claire Grogan (1.02), Emily Hayden (0.03), Therese Shortt (1.0). Subs used: Mairead Luttrell (0.01), Aoife Moloughney. Referee: Una Carney, Armagh

JUNE

2008





Jessica Ni Eanadain, Ballincollig, has her shot blocked down by Millstreet's Siobhan Sheehan during their Sciath na Scol final game. Picture: Mike English

# Millstreet's high five sees them through



SARAH O'DONOVAN

Pres, Millstreet 5-2  
Scoil Mhuire, Ballincollig 1-1

**PRES MILLSTREET** scored five goals to claim this Allianz C2 final but did not have it all their own way in the opening exchanges with Scoil Mhuire Ballincollig dominant at midfield.

Rachel Ni Chnámhín was especially prevalent for Scoil Mhuire and her staunch defence kept out Máire Ellen O'Connor and Leanne Kelleher on two occasions before Shauna O'Sullivan struck a rasper to billow the Scoil Mhuire net.

Judy Ni Mhurchú and Jessica Ni Eanadain looked for an equaliser as did Shannan Ni Bhriain but couldn't find it and Millstreet grabbed a second through Leanne Kelleher who latched on to a ball from Máire Ellen O'Connor.

Showing tremendous determination, Scoil Mhuire pulled a goal back when Cáit Ni Uaine sent a free to the net.

After the break Scoil Mhuire put just two between the sides when Cáit Ni Uaine found the posts with a long range effort but a tenacious Millstreet defence would not let Scoil Mhuire past for a goal although Lorraine Ni Chonaill came closest.

Máire Ellen O'Connor made no



Ballincollig's Judy Ni Mhurchú gets to the ball before Millstreet's Kelly Murphy at the Sciath na Scol finals. Picture: Mike English

mistake when a ball from midfield was played over the defence and found the player alone.

She doubled the ball to the net from 10 yards to give Millstreet a cushion.

Further goals from Kelleher and Aileen Buckley as well as two points from Shauna O'Sullivan put the game out of Scoil Mhuire's reach.

**Scorers for Pres Millstreet:** L Kelleher 2-0, S O'Sullivan, M O'Connor, A Buckley, 1-0 each, S O'Sullivan 0-2.

**Scoil Mhuire Ballincollig:** C Ni Uaine 1-1, **PRES MILLSTREET:** R O'Brien, S Sheehan, L O'Reilly, E Dineen, N Sheehan, J Dunne, K Murphy, L Murphy, M O'Connor, A Buckley, M Buckley, S O'Sullivan, L Kelleher, Subs: C Byrne, L Smyth, E Breen, M Buckley, A McSweeney.

**SCOIL MHUIRE BALLINCOLLIG:** M Ni Laoire, V Nic Suibhne, O Ni Dhonnabháin, L Ni Chonaill, C Ni Shiocháin, R Ni Chnámhín, J Ni Eanadain, C Ni Uaine, J Ni Mhurchú, L Ni Rinn, S Ni Bhriain, A Ni Chruaí, S Ni Chóir.



Lauren Taplin and Bernadette O'Mahony took the Sciath na Scol silverware to Kilbrittain. Picture: Mike English

## Kilbrittain hold on to land crown in a tense decider

Kilbrittain NS 2-0  
GS an Gort Alainn 1-1

By SARAH O'DONOVAN

Sciath na Scol

THE final game of the day was a cracker with both sides hurling to the end in the hope of collecting the Allianz DC3 title.

It was Kilbrittain who triumphed despite losing by the minimum for the majority of the second half.

The Mayfield Gael Scoil were under immense pressure in the opening exchanges but Shauna Breathnach, Niamh Nic Oitir, Roisin Ni Chinnéide and Emma Ni Ghearáin played brilliantly to keep Kilbrittain at bay.

Kilbrittain's defence following Gael Scoil example, marshalled superbly and deadlock ensued until Caoimhe Aic Ruadhri pointed for the Gael Scoil.

Aine Crowley grabbed the lead for Kilbrittain but Lauren de Barra put the Gael Scoil back in the lead.

Caroline Murphy and Amy Hickey prevailed at midfield for Kilbrittain, pressing for the elusive goal which finally arrived when Aine Crowley showed great composure to rattle the net after picking the ball five yards from the goal with four Gael Scoil defenders around her.

The remaining minutes were tension filled as Kilbrittain defended their narrow lead and there was much celebration by the jubilant Carbery school at the final whistle.

**Scorers for Kilbrittain:** A Crowley 2-0.

**GS an Gort Alainn:** L De Barra 1-0, C Aic Ruadhri 0-1.

**KILBRITTAIN:** E O'Neill, S O'Sullivan, L Taplin, S Burke, T Lordan, A Hickey, E Wall, C Murphy, A Crowley, L O'Sullivan, K Twohig, A Casey, P Madden.

**Subs:** R Sedgwick, S Butler, S O'Donovan, A Considine, B O'Mahony, M O'Neill.

**GS AN GORT ALAINN:** S Breathnach, N Nic Oitir, R Ni Chinnéide, E Ni Ghearáin, C Ni Loinsigh, Y Ni Cheallaigh, R Ni Bhrosnacháin, C Aic Ruadhri, A Ni Gabhann, F Ni Cheslaigh, S Ni Chionnath, M Ni Bhuachalla, L de Barra.

**Subs:** S Ni Chóirín, C Ni Laoire, F de Barra, M Ni Labhradha, A Ni Mhurchú.



Gael Scoil Gort Alainn's Ruth Brosnan in the thick of the action as Amy Hickey of Kilbrittain pulls on the ball. Picture: Mike English



and Lucan (r) celebrate their camogie win

JUNE 2008



# Nenagh Eire Og Camogie Club



Nenagh Eire Og camogie club won their first ever County title by accounting for Holycross in the U-14 'C' County Final at Dulla on Sunday last. Back row: (from left) - Michael Ryan (Manager), Martin Ryan (Coach), Amy Darcy, Janette Collins, Alice Darcy, Aine Long, Caitlin Shoer, Amy Heffernan, Joey Gratton, Aoife Hynes, Laura Doherty, Stephanie Browne, Rebecca Moran (selector), Cora Collins (selector), Pat Sheridan (club Chairman). Front: Aisling King, Judy Mulqueen, Aileen Duggan, Alana Morris, Ciara McGrath, Claire Collins, Shannon Moran, Jessica Maher (captain), Gemma Morris, Ceri Healy, Colleen O'Brien, Cathriona O'Connor, Laura Glennon. Front: Emma Ryan. Picture: Bridget Delaney



Nenagh Eire Og U-14 camogie captain Jessica Maher receives the County 'C' Shield from Theresa Nevin (Catwalk Ladies Fashions). Also present is County Camogie Board Chairman Larry O'Brien. Picture: Bridget Delaney



The Cork camogie team which drew with Dublin in the 1963 All-Ireland semi-final at the Mardyke. BACK: Maura Fitzgerald, Stephanie O'Connell, Maura Browne, Noreen O'Callaghan, Deirdre Young, Joan Clancy, Anne Honahan, Anne Comerford and Donie Buckley. FRONT: Marie Barrett, Rena Manley, Deirdre Sutton, Teresa Murphy, Peggy Dorgan, Kitty Barry Murphy, Mel Cummins and D Blackshields. Picture: Ref Exam photo



Clonad with their medals after the Division 4 Camogie Final

Picture: Alf Harvey

Kerry 3-1  
Clonad 0-0

BY SIOBHÁN WALSH

LOCAL side Clonad took on the Kerry camogie team in the division 4 final in Portlaoise GAA Grounds on Sunday. Kerry who first fielded a camogie team in the county in 2006 reached the final last year but were defeated so they were back to win the title.

Clonad are also a young camogie side and very hopeful of doing well in the future. It was an extra special achievement for them to make it to the final as a host team (to Castleblaney in county Monaghan).

Kerry started off well

Div 4 camogie final

getting two goals, the first from Mairéad Fitzgerald and another from Marie Quirke. Kerry added a point to their tally. The score at half-time was Kerry 2-1 Clonad 0-0.

Kerry's Marie Quirke and Caroline McCarthy were a very solid part of their team in the middle of the field. They showed great skill, soloing up the field at pace through players. Sarah Murphy rattled the net for Kerry, hitting it in after a lot of pucking around in front of the goals by the Kingdom.

Clonad's defence worked hard. They kept Kerry to 3-1. Aoidheann Delaney was very solid

at centre-back. Róisín Dunne was tireless in her efforts at midfield and Orla Rigney made some great blocks in the defence.

Kate McDonald, captain of Clonad, was very gracious in defeat and thanked Kerry for the game. Mairéad Quirke lifted the shield for Kerry.

KERRY: Mairéad Fitzgerald (1-0), Michelle Gilbert, Aoife Fitzgerald, Kathy Casey, Rachel McEillgott, Megane Weir, Lorna Sheehan, Marie Quirke (1-1), Caroline McCarthy, Orla Young, Marliza O'Dwyer, Linda Twomey, Ann-Marie Leen,

Saidhbe Horgan, Ashling Mangan, Niamh Duffy, Isabel O'Connor, Aine O'Connor, Niamh Whyte, Marian Leahy, Sarah Murphy (1-0), Maura Godley, Jessica Fitzell, Mairéad Leen.

CLONAD: Emma Donovan, Pauline Dunne, Sophie Meredith, Sinéad Dunne, Orla Rigney, Aoidheann Delaney, Jane Kennedy, Lorna Deegan, Róisín Dunne, Kate McDonald, Aine Fitzpatrick, Aoife Boyle, Anita O'Dea, Sarah Fitzpatrick, Rachel Cross, Leanne Donovan, Veronica Donovan, Róisín McWey, Tiffany Conroy, Laura McWey.

REFEREE: John McLeish.

Camogie: Best Dressed Visiting Club - Na Brideoga (Mayo); Best Banner Visiting Club - Portaferry (Down); Best Dressed Host Club - The Harps (Laois); Best Banner Host Club - Thurles (Tipperary).

JUNE 2008



## Milford to get past Rovers

**TOMORROW**  
**Evening Echo County**  
**Championship first**  
**round, Milford v**  
**Courcey Rovers,**  
**Coachford 7.30pm.**

THERE is a plethora of matches in the Cork Senior Camogie championship this weekend as no fewer than 14 teams see action, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

With Carbery out of the running after their opening preliminary game against Imokilly a fortnight ago, the remaining divisional sides do battle while Milford, Courcey Rovers, St Finbarr's, Ballygarvan, Barryroe, Inniscarra, Aghabullogue, Douglas, St. Catherine's and Cloughduv face each other respectively. Milford and Courcey Rovers meet in Coachford at 7.30pm on Saturday evening. Milford will be without their star player Anna Geary, who is currently abroad and her loss to this club side is immense. Milford were almost caught by a strong Ballygarvan comeback in the quarter-final last year. A point separated the sides with seven minutes remaining with Milford pushing ahead to win, 3-13 to 1-14. Their luck ran out

when, as strong favourites, they failed to perform against a dogged Muskerry side in the semi-final and finished on the losing side of a 1-11 to 2-9 game. Courcey Rovers were comfortably defeated by Milford in round two 12 months ago, 1-10 to 0-5, and suffered their second and final defeat in round three at the hands of St. Catherine's. At this stage they exited the championship. Despite being without Geary, Milford will head into this encounter with the favourites tag with the Watsons sisters, Elaine O'Riordan, Aishling Thompson and Christine O'Gorman in their side but won't have it all their own way against a Rachel Moloney and Sarah Hayes-led Rovers. **Verdict:** Milford



Muskerry players celebrate last year's county final success. They will put their title on the line tomorrow when they face Imokilly.

# Champions to start with win

**TOMORROW**  
**Evening Echo Senior County**  
**Championship, Muskerry v**  
**Imokilly, Delnys, 6.30pm**

**COUNTY** champions Muskerry open the defence of their crown when they meet divisional side Imokilly at Delnys on Saturday evening.

Already Imokilly have a game under their belts, having recorded an impressive victory over Carbery last week, and no doubt this will stand to them as divisional sides sometimes

By **MARY NEWMAN**  
*Camogie*

find it hard to get training organised, given the hectic club and intercounty schedules players have at present.

In 2007, Imokilly were defeated county finalist and last season were disappointed not to have gone a step further they are a well-organised side and they will test the champions to the limit.

Backboned by intercounty senior player Mary O'Connor, who captains the side, they have excellent performers in former Cork senior Angela Walsh (Killeagh) and Edel

Murphy (Sarsfields), while the Erin's Own duo of Niamh O'Keeffe and Caoimhe O'Callaghan were very impressive against Carbery.

There is a doubt regarding the availability of Cork senior Emer O'Farrell, who picked up an injury in training which sidelined her for Cork's championship clash with Wexford and her club's championship meeting with Ballyhea.

Were she to be unavailable it would be a setback to Imokilly.

Muskerry blazed a trail last season to take the titles after 74 years but now that will be put to one side as they set out to defend their crown.

They are a strong side with Cork senior Catriona Foley, Linda Dorgan and Sile Burns in their line-out and they are joined by Eire Og's Margaret O'Herlihy, Siobhan Gleeson, Catriona and Alanna McKenna, while Ballincollig will have strong representation with Leah Weste, Denise Cronin and Marie O'Donoghue expected to be in the line-out.

It's winner-takes-all with no second chances for divisional sides.

Imokilly will be fired up and raring to go but, on paper, the champions look to be better balance and should have enough in reserve to make it to through.

## Douglas to make winning debut in top flight

HAVING won the Senior B title last season, Douglas make their senior county championship debut on Sunday when they meet Aghabullogue in Brinny, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

Given their success at under-age level it would come as no surprise to see them progress

to the latter stages of the championship in their first year, but they first have to get over Aghabullogue who will no doubt be fired up for the challenge.

They are a determined group of players who will give it their all. Joan Twomey, Linda Ronan, Sinead Buckley,

**SUNDAY**  
**Evening Echo County**  
**Senior Championship:**  
**Aghabullogue v Douglas,**  
**Brinny, 8pm**

Michelle Healy and Clara Murphy will not lack determination but they face a huge task in containing a Douglas

side that includes Amanda O'Regan, Julia White, Helen O'Mahony and the Mackey twins, Pamela and Catriona.

Douglas are a confident outfit, well used to facing tough challenges, and they have been boosted this season by the acquisition of former Drom & Inch player Maria Harkin,

from Tipperary, who has transferred to them this year.

They have turned in excellent displays in all their league game to date and on paper they look to hold too much power for an Aghabullogue side that will battle all the way in a bid to secure their place in round three.



JUNE 2008

## Barryroe to just edge out Inniscarra

**SUNDAY**  
Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship.  
Barryroe v Inniscarra, Brinny, 6.30pm  
BARRYROE open their quest for their first senior county championship title when they meet Inniscarra in Brinny on Sunday.

Reports from the team camps suggest that both will be fielding minus several players who have lined out in recent year.

Without doubt, Barryroe have been dealt a killer blow, losing the services of two inter-county senior players this season. Jennifer O'Leary has taken a year out to travel and, just when they were coming to terms with this news, Barryroe lost the services of defender Rosalie Holland, sidelined with a shoulder injury picked up in a football game.

To lose players of this calibre is a huge blow but Barryroe are renowned championship campaigners and they will battle on.

They have excellent players in Ger Collins, Eimear White, Elaine McCarthy, Rosemary Dineen, Patricia Moloney and Karen McCarthy, all players who have plenty of championship experience and no doubt they will answer the call as they did in their league final outing against St Finbarr's.

Inniscarra, striving to win their first senior title, will be backboned by senior intercounty player Rena Buckley and they will be building their team around their successful underage sides who have brought honours to the club.

Emma Kingston, Niamh Dilworth and Katie O'Mahony have intercounty experience at underage level while Sinéad Ní Riain, Rosalyn McCarthy and Trisha Murphy are amongst the experienced players on the panel.

They have the potential to go a step further but Barryroe are an experienced outfit and they have been in tight corners before and they will not let the loss of their inter county duo upset them.

A back-door meeting with the winning division awaits the losers and this is a clash that could be dangerous.

It will be a close one to call but the league champions should have enough in reserve to make it through to round.

Verdict: Barryroe.



# Finbarrs to take the first step to glory

**BEATEN** finalists St Finbarr's take on Ballygarvan in the second game at Ballinlough on Sunday.



**LINDA MELLERICK**

**SUNDAY**  
Evening Echo Cork County Senior Championship first round: St Finbarr's v Ballygarvan, Ballinlough, 5pm

one thanks mainly once again to Emer Dillon and Catriona Kelly.

Unfortunately, they couldn't level the game and ended up on the losing side; 3-13 to 1-14.

Ballygarvan had a very commendable season and an even bigger test awaits them on Sunday.

Have they stepped it up for 2008?

Emer Dillon is presently working in Dublin and has also ruled herself out of the intercounty panel for 2008. Her fitness will be a key factor as Ballygarvan rely heavily on their star player.

St Finbarr's, on the other hand, will rue their county final defeat.

They didn't perform. In fact, if truth be told, the Barrs, despite reaching the county final, didn't reach their full potential at any stage in 2007.

One feels they are more than aware of this and are bursting to get back out there in 2008.

They possibly have the most evenly-balanced side in the championship but need more scoring power up front than Vivienne Harris.

Verdict: St Finbarr's

Favourites, in my view, to take this year's county championship, there is a long road ahead for the southside club and they may yet be their own worst enemy along the way.

The Barrs could find it tough against Ballygarvan. It's a difficult opening encounter.

A titanic battle between Ballygarvan and Imokilly in round three last year saw the game produce seven goals and 19 points, a last minute point from Killeagh's Claire Keohane drawing the game at 2-14 to 5-5.

The replay lived up to expectations. The lead changed hands twice in the second half until a nine minute scoring spell from Ballygarvan saw them score 1-4 without reply and effectively secure their place in round two.

Their second-half performance against Milford in round three was a pleasure to watch.

Behind by nine points, Bally reduced the deficit to

St Finbarr's Vivienne Harris scores a point from a free in last year's county final against Muskerry. Harris will be the Barrs' main scoring threat against Ballygarvan on Sunday.

## Carrigdhoun to edge past city slickers

**CARRIGDHOUN** and Seandún contest the first game in the Evening Echo sponsored Cork County Senior Camogie championship double header fixture in Ballinlough on Sunday, writes **LINDA MELLERICK**.

Twelve months ago Carrigdhoun didn't have the best of seasons and were out of the championship after just round one.

The divisional clash between Carbery and Carrigdhoun ended all square with Carbery taking the replay by two points; 1-10 to 1-8.

2005 seems such a long time ago for the then Carrigdhoun county champions.

The divisional side lost the services of Ballygarvan after the club side moved up to the senior grade three years ago.

Surprisingly their performance against Carbery in 07 didn't quite match the talent they have on paper.

They can still boast a lot of successful clubs and players in their line up. Valley Rovers, Ballinhassig, Tracton, Carrigaline and Sliabh Rua provide

**SUNDAY**  
Evening Echo Cork County Senior Championship divisional preliminary round: Carrigdhoun v Seandún, Ballinlough 3.30pm.

them with plenty of talent.

Marion Jaego, Liz Bugler, Gillian Harrington, Eimear O'Sullivan, Lucy Hawkes, Clodagh Deasy and Laura Thompson are just a few of the big names.

Carrigdhoun is still a strong division and are always a diffi-

cult side to overcome.

Seandún lost to eventual county champions Muskerry last year in Round one; 3-9 to 0-9.

However, they have lost the services of Douglas this year who have stepped up a grade to senior. The side is managed by Ross Corcoran (St Vincent's), Liam O'Sullivan (Passage) and Mairead Ni Mhaolleoin (Blackrock).

Seandún have won three-in-a-row U16 inter-divisional titles and will be hoping

that they can build on this success. Players from Bishopstown, Passage, Glen Rovers, Na Piarasigh and Blackrock make up the squad with names such as Ciara Healy, Joanne Browne, Miriam Crowley, Orla Burke, Charlotte Kearney, Lydia Cunningham, Michelle Hegarty, Denise Luby, Sinead O'Reilly and Lisa O'Sullivan on the team sheet.

Carrigdhoun should have too much strength for the city divisional side.

Verdict: Carrigdhoun



JUNE 2008

# Cork on track for the semi

WITH two wins from two, Cork are on course for the semi-finals of this year's All-Ireland Championship.

All-Ireland champions Wexford need to exercise caution in order to make the last four after losing their opening match against the rebels last Sunday.

Limerick and Dublin are almost certain not to advance as both have two defeats from two.

The remaining five teams of Cork, Wexford, Tipperary, Kilkenny and Galway will fight it out for four semi-final positions. There's a bit to go yet though.

Cork led by just a single point at half time, 1-1 to 0-3, but they outscored Wexford 2-5 to 0-2 in the second half in a highly impressive performance.

Cork won't be getting too carried away. My comment last week about Wexford not yet being back on track after the celebrations of last September rang true.

Their league performances were poor and they didn't have the same bite in them last Sunday that they had when they faced Cork 12 months ago.

Last year Wexford faced Cork every time with vigour. I don't see that trait in 2008 to date.

This current squad has never experienced losing an All-Ireland final and they need to do that before it hits home how precious each season is.

Meanwhile, National League champions Kilkenny defeated Limerick in Kilmallock last Saturday to record their first victory in this year's Gala All-Ire-



LINDA MELLERICK

land Championship.

The Cats bounced back from their opening round defeat against Tipperary by recording a facile 3-10 to 0-5 victory against the outclassed hosts. No shocks there.

The game was effectively over as a contest after just 10 minutes as Marie Dargan's goal opened up a 1-5 to 0-0 advantage for Kilkenny.

The visitors led by 2-7 to 0-3 at half-time as Marie O'Connor added a second goal after 20 minutes. Limerick battled hard to stay in contention as Joanne Clifford, Eileen O'Brien and Niamh Mulcahy were on target with points.

The second half was a case of going through the motions as Keeva Fennelly, daughter of former Kilkenny hurling great Ger, registered a third goal for the victors with 10 minutes of normal time remaining.

Marie O'Connor (1-2), Sinéad Millea (0-4), Aoife Neary (0-3) and Lizzie Lyng (0-1) were on target for Kilkenny. Limerick, finding life tough back in the senior ranks, will attempt to pick themselves up after suffering a second successive defeat in the competition.

I don't see Limerick taking many, if any, points from this year's championship and if this were Six Nations rugby they'd be well on track to collect the wooden spoon.

Dublin also suffered at the hands of Tipperary but I still feel that Dublin are making strides.

I don't see any such future at present for this current Limerick squad.

Trailing by 2-6 to 2-5 at the break against spirited Dublin at Semple Stadium Tipp reeled off six unanswered scores after half-time to move into a match winning five-point lead.

The Premier County outscored the visitors 0-8 to 0-3 in the second half to maintain their 100% record in this year's Gala Championship on a score line of 2-13 to 2-9.

Dublin stood toe to toe with their opponents in a tight first half and responded to Claire Grogan's eighth-minute goal for Tipperary as Ciara Burgess found the net just four minutes later.

Tipp's second goal came courtesy of Therese Shortt after 16 minutes but Dublin refused to buckle and responded



Cork's Gemma O'Connor closes down Wexford's Kate Kelly during last week's senior camogie championship match. Picture: Patrick Browne Jnr

## CAMOGIE

**Saturday: Gala Senior Championship O' Duffy Cup:** Galway v Wexford, Kilmot, 3pm; Dublin v Limerick, Trinity Gaels, 2pm; **Gala Intermediate Championship, McGrath Cup:** Galway v Wexford, Kilmot, 1pm.  
**Sunday: Gala Senior Championship O' Duffy Cup:** Cork v Tipperary, Ballincollig, 3pm; **Intermediate Championship McGrath Cup:** Derry v Kilkenny, St. Oliver Plunketts, Greenlough, 1pm; Cork v Tipperary, Ballincollig, 1pm.  
**Minor A Championship:** Clare 2-17 Galway 1-6; Limerick 5-7 Wexford 1-11

## Gala All-Ireland Championship Round Up

BY JACKIE CAHILL

NATIONAL League Division 2 champions Clare got their All-Ireland Gala junior camogie championship campaign off to a perfect start with a hard-fought 0-10 to 0-7 victory against Clare at Cusack Park yesterday (Sunday).

Clare, last year's beaten All-Ireland finalists, overturned a 0-5 to 0-3 half-time deficit against dogged Offaly, who were restricted to just two points in the second half, both from placed balls.

Laura Linnane, Deirdre Murphy and Aoife Ryan were on target with Clare points from play in the opening half but Offaly held the interval advantage thanks to scores from Michaela Morkan, Siobhán Flannery, Michelle Davis (2) and Arlene Watkins.

However, Clare were right on their game after half time and picked off the first three points to move into the lead. Claire Connolly drilled over three points in the second half, Karina Rosenkrantz supplied a brace of points while Murphy and Linnane chipped in with a point each.

Offaly could only muster two frees midway through the half from leading scorer Morkan in response as Clare registered a gritty win, with Down up next on July 13.

Meanwhile, Ulster champions Antrim ran out comfortable 4-17 to 2-9 winners against Down in Bellela to ignite their championship charge. Antrim had already beaten Down in the Ulster championship and were too good again on this occasion as Jane Adams scored a brace of goals with sisters Orla and Aisling McCall also on target.

The three goalscorers all hail from the Rossa club while Antrim's defensive performance was also noteworthy as Loughiel teenager Emma Connolly and Sinéad Lavery were particularly impressive.

The one bright spot for Down was the return from long-term injury of Fionnuala Carr, daughter of Down senior football manager Ross. This was a much improved and polished performance from Antrim compared to their recent Ulster final performance and their sights are now firmly set on the forthcoming fixture against Offaly on July 13.

In Group 2 of the competition, Waterford were far too good for Laois at Walsh Park and with just three teams in this section, the Déise look a good bet to qualify.

Waterford, who will meet Dublin in their other group game, had Sunday's game against visitors Laois wrapped up at half-time as they led by 3-6 to 1-2 before finally sealing a 4-10 to 1-5 success.

Kate Marie Ahern scored all but one goal of her 2-2 tally in the first half as Nicola Morrissey and Jenny Simpson scored the Munster outfit's other goals.

Nicola Morrissey scored a first half goal for Laois but it was never going to be enough as Waterford opened up that huge half-time lead with the wind at their backs and only conceded 0-3 in the second period.

Elsewhere, impressive Derry guaranteed their place in the latter stages of the Gala All-Ireland intermediate championship with an emphatic 3-18 to 0-6 victory against Tipperary, with the game changed from Castledawson to Bellaghy at the eleventh hour.

Caitriona O'Kane helped herself to 2-7 and attracta McPeake scored 1-1 for the Oak Leafers, who led by 1-14 to 0-3 at half-time. The McGoldrick sisters Maeve and Gráinne were also in free-scoring form as the siblings contributed 0-4 apiece in this handsome win. Derry have now recorded three victories in the competition as this success adds to the earlier conquests over Cork and Galway.

through Jolene Hoary as the impressive Burgess turned provider 10 minutes before half-time.

With two wins from two, five-times champions Tipperary are looking good at this early stage for a place in the semi-final while Dublin remain pointless from two outings.

To give Cork credit after their league performances many supporters felt that it would be a few years before we saw any silverware again.

But most definitely the team are gelling and improving as a unit. It's early days yet and Cork still has a lot of work to do but they're certainly moving in the right direction.

I have to admit I've never been happy with Orla Cotter in at corner forward but she is caus-



Cork's Sile Burns tries to block down Wexford's Mary Leacy in last week's game. Picture: Patrick Browne Jnr

ing problems for all opposition whenever she has possession.

She might not always end up on the score sheet but she is creating chances. I still believe she needs plenty of space, but it's working.

Cork's next outing is an exciting one against Tipp at home on July 6.

Unfortunately I'll miss that game but I'll have the result within one minute of the final whistle blowing. I can assure you of that.





Valley Rovers U12 team who defeated Inniscarra recently.

# Classy Valley land the title

Valley Rovers 4-4  
Inniscarra 3-0

IT was a historic day for Valley Rovers as they were crowned U12 A League Champions for the first time in their history as they edged out Inniscarra in an exciting final on Saturday last.

On a day when weather conditions were horrific both teams battled bravely against the elements to land the title.

Inniscarra, with wind advantage, had a goal in the first minute from midfielder Niamh McCarthy but Eimear Cummins pointed a 45 metre free to get Valley on the score board.

Inniscarra applied severe pressure and a shot for goal from Ciara O'Callaghan was saved superbly by Lisa Lynch only for the rebound to find the net.

Valley Rovers held their composure and battled on and they were rewarded with a point from Eimear Cummins.

Boosted by the score they kept the pressure on the Inniscarra defence and a long range effort from the same player was deflected to the net by an Inniscarra defender to put just a point between the sides.

Inniscarra rallied with a Siofra Daly goal from but it was to be their final score for the remainder of the game as they failed to breach the strong Valley Rovers defence.

Valley pointed a free before the break to leave just a goal between the sides.

With wind advantage for the second-half Valley Rovers set about gaining the upper hand and pointed free from Eimear Cummins was followed by goals from Megan O'Brien and Lisa Lynch.

The conditions played havoc as an Inniscarra defender deflected the ball to the net for goal a fourth Valley Rovers' goal.

Despite Valley holding a seven point lead Inniscarra refused to give in and they battled on to get back into the game but excellent defending from the Valley Rovers' rearguard proved crucial as they

withstood constant pressure on goal.

For Valley Rovers Leona Murphy, Aibheann Harte and Jennifer Murphy were superb in defence breaking up attack after attack as their side held on for a deserved victory.

Following the game Tracey Sheehan, chairperson Cork Juvenile Camogie Board, presented the trophy to Valleys' captain, Emily Palmer amid tremendous excitement. Valley Rovers' Eimear Cummins was named as player-of-the-match following on an excellent display.

**VALLEY ROVERS:** Eimear O'Sullivan; Niamh Loran, Lisa Lynch, Jessica Woods; Jennifer Murphy, Leona Murphy, Casey O'Sullivan; Aibheann Harte, Eimear Cummins; Katie Lynch, Mary Ellen Sweetnam, Ciara Richardson; Megan O'Brien, Patricia Kenneally, Emily Palmer.

**Subs:** Eimear Wall, Cathy O'Donovan, Elaine Hallahan, Michaela O'Connell, Ciara Kilduff, Roisin Egan, Michelle Cottrell.

**INNISCARRA:** Roisin Hennessey; Joanne Walton, Aileen O'Connell, Meghan Kenneally; Grace Heffernan, Hailey O'Sullivan, Aoife Dineen; Niamh McCarthy, Meg Fitzgerald; Donelle O'Leary, Eimear Colman, Siofra Daly; Katie O'Shea, Ciara O'Callaghan, Kate Walton.

**Subs:** Ann Marie Roche, Atric O'Riordan, Mairead Manning, Aoife Dineen, Chloe O'Leary, Heather Bennett, Katie Cosgrave, Emily Naughton, Leah Gallagher.

## Saints go marching on into round two

By MARY NEWMAN

At Douglas

St Catherine's 1-7  
Cloughduv 0-9

A GOAL deep into injury time gave St Catherine's the lead for the first time and the win in this entertaining Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship first round tie in Douglas last night.

12 months ago when the sides met Cloughduv recorded a comprehensive victory, this time out a year older and wiser St Catherine's fought to the finish and were rewarded as they grabbed a winner when all looked lost.

Cloughduv started brightly and led 0-4 to 0-0 thanks to the accuracy of Una O'Donoghue who shot over three points from play and one from a free inside 14 minutes.

St Catherine's shrugged off a nervous start to get on the score board 15 minutes into the game, Orla Cotter converting a free.

Breige Corkery, working tirelessly for Cloughduv, fired over a point to stretch the advantage, but again Orla Cotter displayed her accuracy with a pointed free.

Corkery and Orla Cotter traded points as Cloughduv led 0-6 to 0-3 at the break.

St Catherine's were quick off the mark with Orla Cotter converting their fourth point inside a minute of the restart.

Una O'Donoghue edged Cloughduv further ahead. Orla Cotter responded for St Catherine's first from play four minutes into the half.

But from here neither defence yielded and we had to wait nearly 18 minutes before the next score as Orla Cotter converted a free to cut the lead to just one point.

Again it was nip and tuck as Cloughduv just kept their noses ahead. Una O'Donoghue pointed two frees in the 19th and 25th minute in between and Orla Cotter did likewise.

With the game moving into injury time Cloughduv were holding on.

The Conna girls summoned up one last assault in search of the winner and Orla Cotter floated a long ball into the square, where Deirdre Twomey got a touch to finish to the net to give her side the lead for the first time.

Cloughduv swept up field from the puck out but the St Catherine's defence cleared to safety to the sound of the full-time whistle, leaving Cloughduv stunned and facing a backdoor meeting with neighbours Aghabullogue as the Saints march on into round three.

**Scorers for St Catherine's:** O Cotter 0-7 (0-6), Deirdre Twomey 1-0.

**Cloughduv:** U O'Donoghue 0-7 (0-3), B Corkery 0-2.

**ST CATHERINE'S:** D Leahy, F Noonan, N Mulcahy, H Lane, Y O'Neill, L Power, O Neville, O Cotter (c), F Cotter, L Higgins, M O'Keefe, F Neville.

**Deirdre Twomey, AM Hayes, Denise Twomey.**

**Sub:** J Hurley for M O'Keefe (46).

**CLOUGHDUV:** A Murray, A Buckley, S Corkery, Emma Dunne, M Corkery, O McCarthy, J O'Callaghan, B Corkery, J Lucey, U O'Donoghue, Eva Dunne, Marie Lucey, C O'Donoghue, S Buckley, A Barry-Murphy.

**Referee:** Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers).



Old Aloysians 1960 Cork Senior Champions. Back: Betty Walsh, Lil Coughlan, Margaret Barry, Gerry Vaughan, Deirdre Young, Anna McCarthy, Marion Hadden and Breda Lyons. Front: Audrey Geany, Jos O'Grady, Gretta O'Sullivan, Joan Clancy (Capt), Mary Clancy, Rena Manley and Elaine O'Donovan.

JUNE

2008



# Dilworth on target as Inniscarra win well

By MARY NEWMAN  
Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship

Inniscarra	2-10
Barryroe	0-7

IN THE finish, the margin of nine points somewhat flattered Inniscarra but no denying they were deserving of their victory in the first game in Brinny last evening.

Barryroe battled to the finish but the loss of their two inter county players Jennifer O'Leary (travelling for a year) and the injured Rosalie Holland was just too big a mountain to climb.

Inniscarra had tremendous displays from their younger brigade, Cork U16s Katie O'Mahony and Joanne Casey showed maturity beyond their years, confidently striking vital scores while Cork minor Niamh Dilworth was also prominent. Inniscarra were grateful to goalkeeper Sinéad Ni Riain, who made crucial saves at vital stages in the second half.

A goal from Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan nine minutes from the break helped Inniscarra enjoy a 1-7 to 0-3 interval lead. Niamh Dilworth pointed two early frees before Rosemary Dineen had Barryroe on the scoreboard.

Ger Collins levelled but Niamh Dilworth and Joanne Casey had edged Inniscarra ahead before O'Sullivan first-timed a ground shot past Eimear White and Inniscarra tacked on three points to which Barryroe replied with one from Rosemary Dineen.

A determined Barryroe applied early second-half pressure and were denied goals twice by an alert Sinéad Ni Riain but with Louise Gannon converting the resulting 45s and Ger Collins adding a point from play, the margin was four inside 10 minutes of the restart.

Katie O'Mahony struck an excellent long-range point but Barryroe battled on and missed a glorious chance to cut the deficit when they opted to go for goal from a scoreable free with 14 minutes remaining.

Inniscarra, sensing a let-off, regrouped and when Joanne Casey finished to the net from the edge of the square Barryroe had it all to do. Louise Gannon pointed a 45 after another goal chance was denied by the Inniscarra defence and with Niamh Dilworth pointing twice before full-time, Inniscarra were safely through to round three, leaving Barryroe to face a back-door meeting with the winners of the divisional play-off, county champions Muskerry or Carrigdhoun.

**Scorers for Inniscarra:** N Dilworth 0-5 (0-2f, 0-1 45), J Casey and MN O'Sullivan 1-1 each, K O'Mahony 0-2, A Kavanagh 0-1.  
**Barryroe:** R Dineen, G Collins (0-1f) 0-2 each, L Gannon 0-3 45.  
**INNISCARRA:** S Ni Riain; R McCarthy, O'Brien, M Buckley, T Murphy, R Buckley, K Jones; N Dilworth, E Kingston; J Casey, N O'Sullivan, A Kavanagh; G Desmond, M Cosgrave, K O'Mahony.  
**Subs:** F O'Connell for G Desmond (50) A O'Keefe for M Buckley (58).  
**BARRYROE:** E White; E Carroll, AM Fleming, P Moloney; K McCarthy, C Dineen, A O'Donoghue; I Dineen, L Gannon; S O'Donovan, R Dineen, N O'Driscoll; G Collins, E McCarthy, M Sheehy.  
**Subs:** F Collins for M Sheehy (half-time), D Collins for P Moloney (inj, 54).  
**Referee:** Oliver Webb (Tracton).

# Barrs win in tough game



Ballygarvan's Emer Dillon gets away from St Finbarr's Lynda O'Connell and Rachel Myers during the Evening Echo Cork Senior Camogie Championship game in Ballinlough. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

St Finbarr's	0-14
Ballygarvan	0-11

**A BRUISING encounter best describes this hard-fought, physical first-round championship game between the Barrs and Ballygarvan in Ballinlough yesterday.**

On a day when past and present inter-county players dominated play for both sides, the Barrs were lucky to finish the game with their full complement of players.

This was a game which Ballygarvan could have won had they even one more scorer than Catriona Kelly in the full-forward line.

Kelly tended to come out in search of the ball but often she was left with too much to do and many attacks sailed wide.

But St Finbarr's had the better-balanced side and despite the fact that Gemma O'Connor played a storming game the city side, overall, possibly just about deserved to shade it.

The tag of underdogs suited Bally as they settled first and did the bulk of the early attacking.

Sarah O'Donovan was playing well in her new role of centre-back, Valerie Browne was in the thick of the action and a very fit Emer Dillon was excellent.

Bally looked promising but also looked as if they had to work much harder for their possession than the Barrs.

Gemma O'Connor lined out at left half forward.

**LINDA MELLERICK**

Her first three touches resulted in two points in the fifth and 11th minutes.

Ballygarvan began without their goalkeeper, Mary Ellen O'Donovan, and this proved costly with at least two 45s being gift-wrapped to the Barrs. Vivienne Harris was lethal with placed balls, scoring 0-6 in the opening period.

Both sides were guilty of a number of wides.

Midway through, the score stood at 0-4 apiece, but in the remaining 15 the Barrs hit five, one from play, to Bally's one leaving the half time score standing at 0-9 to 0-5, a score that possibly flattered the Barrs.

While the first half showed signs of temperatures rising, the second half became a battle ground with numerous frees and stoppages.

Hence, almost 12 minutes of additional time were added at the end.

Ballygarvan tore into the action and points from Kelly, one epitomising her club's spirit on the day, saw the gap down to two.

The game then hung in the balance. An important score by Niamh Cooke settled the Barrs again.

O'Connor began to play a roaming game and covered the entire pitch.

Last year's Cork captain was lucky to be on the field after retaliating early in the second half and it is ironic that if she had been dismissed, Bally would almost certainly have won this game.

Jenny Duffy was instrumental in the Barrs victory and cleared a huge amount of ball.

A Suzanne Lynch point brought Bally within three points of their opponents with seven minutes of normal time remaining.

For the next nine, both sides fought equally for possession.

Harris had the chance of the insurance point from a free a minute into injury time but hit wide.

She made no mistake a minute later after O'Connor was fouled and at that point victory had to be going South side.

Twelve minutes of added time however, still gave Bally a chance. Dillon and Kelly (free) hit two points.

They rued their seven second-half wides when Niamh Goulding hit over for the Barrs to stretch it to three again, the same player also lucky to be on the field at the final whistle for a wild pull on Aileen O'Neill.

**Scorers: St Finbarr's:** V Harris 0-7 (0-4f, 0-3 45), G O'Connor 0-4, N Cooke, C Spellman, N Goulding 0-1 each.

**Ballygarvan:** C Kelly 0-5 (0-3f), E Dillon 0-4 (0-1f), C Murphy, S Lynch 0-1 each.

**ST FINBARR'S:** E Clifford; C Myers, T Doyle, M McCarthy; R Myers, J Duffy, C Barrett; L O'Connell, B Maher; V Harris, N Goulding, G O'Connor; N Cooke, C Spellman, V Maher.

**BALLYGARVAN:** A O'Neill; M Hallahan, A Moynihan, SA O'Halloran; J Browne, S O'Donovan, N Hallahan; V Browne, A Murphy; C Murphy, E Dillon, D Daly; S Lynch, C Kelly, L Browne.





Louise O'Regan, Douglas and Michelle Healy, Aghabullogue challenge for the sliothar during their Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship clash in Brinny. Picture: Larry Cummins

# Douglas off to winning start

Douglas  
Aghabullogue

1-17  
1-4

By MARY NEWMAN  
Camogie

**A strong second-half performance ensured Douglas a winning debut in the Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship last night in Brinny.**

They had to dig deep to ensure victory against a tenacious Aghabullogue side that refused to give up.

In the finish, it was the ability to pick off points that stood to Douglas, with players such as Cork U16 Katrina Mackey, Julia White and Maria Harkin all that bit craftier than their opponents and when the need was greatest they had plenty in reserve to see them through while Aghabullogue lacked the killer instinct in front of goal.

In a close opening 30 minutes, it was nip-and-tuck as both sides battled to gain control.

It was Aghabullogue who created the goal chances, twice coming close only to be denied by the alert Jessica Kavanagh, who cleared smartly to safety.

Katrina Mackey opened the scoring with a free but Aileen Twomey replied for Aghabullogue and with both defences on top, scores were scarce.

Two points from Julia White who was caused plenty of problems for the Aghabullogue defence and two pointed frees from Katrina Mackey and Amanda O'Regan helped Douglas enjoy a 0-5 to 0-1 interval lead.

Douglas dictated the early exchanges in the second half and had stretched their lead to nine

points thanks to Julia White, Katrina Mackey and Maria Harkin and it looked as if they were going to run away with the game but suddenly Aghabullogue sprang to life with two Mary Buckley points.

Jenny O'Donovan and Julia White replied for Douglas but Aghabullogue continuing to show improvement and driven on by the excellent Sinead Buckley and Ciara Murphy grabbed a goal through Mary O'Sullivan.

Now just six points separated the sides as Katrina Mackey and Jill Crowley traded points and still Aghabullogue kept the pressure on but strong Douglas defending held them at bay.

Julia White stretched the lead to seven and as Douglas upped the pace Aghabullogue had nothing left and finishing stronger Douglas struck three points without reply, Katrina

Mackey and Aileen O'Donovan on target before Jenny O'Donovan's goal two minutes into injury time sealed victory after a tough hour's camogie.

The draws for round three will hold little fear for a confident Douglas while Aghabullogue will have to prepare for a meeting with the losers of the Cloughduv-St Catherine's clash.

**DOUGLAS:** J Kavanagh; S O'Regan, L O'Regan, L O'Regan, F McSweeney; H O'Connor, A O'Regan, P Mackey; H O'Mahony, E Morgan; J White, M Harkin, K Mackey; E Jordan, M O'Donovan, A O'Donovan.

**Subs:** J O'Donovan for E Jordan (43).

**AGHABULLOGUE:** E O'Connell; Marian Twomey, J Twomey, L Ronan; C Kiely, S Buckley, J Crowley; C Murphy, M Buckley; N O'Connell, B Twomey, A Twomey; M Healy, A Lehane, Mairead Twomey.

**Subs:** E McSweeney for A Lehane, M O'Sullivan for Mairead Twomey (half-time).

**Referee:** Michael Sheehan (Liscarroll).

## Saints experience will be the key

**Tonight, Evening Echo Senior County Championship, Cloughduv v St Catherine's, Douglas, 7.30pm.**

LAST YEAR they met in the early stages of championship where Cloughduv recorded 3-14 to 0-10 victory.

This year the Conna girls are a year wiser with more experience under their belts and they will be determined to get one over on Cloughduv.

St Catherine's are looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead and have prepared well.

Denise Twomey has made a successful re-

covery from a serious hand injury that kept her out of competition during 2007 and her return is a huge boost.

Orla Cotter is a big player for them and is acclimatising herself well with the Cork seniors, while Noreen Mulcahy, Deirdre Twomey and Orna Neville will be ones to watch as the Conna girls set out in search of their first senior county title.

Cloughduv are experienced championship campaigners. Two years ago they relinquished their title at semi-final stage to Imokilly.

They are the holders of three titles and are a strong side backboned by no fewer than four of

the Cork senior side goalkeeper Aoife Murray, Briege Corkery, Joanne O'Callaghan and Una O'Donoghue.

Add in Marie Corkery, Emma Dunne and Sinead Buckley and the strength of Cloughduv is very evident.

Cloughduv look to have the talent to make it to round three, but Catherine's are determined to make their mark on this championship and go the direct route.

It's a close one to call but just maybe the Saints have enough to go the direct route this time out.

**Verdict:** St Catherine's.

## Carrig win it with a fine second half display

By LINDA MELLERICK

In Ballinlough

Carrigdhoun

Seandún

1-13

2-4

IT WAS all Carrigdhoun in the opening 15 minutes of this Evening Echo Cork County Senior Camogie Championship divisional preliminary round game in Ballinlough yesterday.

Backed by a strong wind, Carrig raced into a 0-8 to 0-1 lead entering the 16th minute. Out in front, they forced Seandún to give away frees and Laura Thompson capitalised.

Cork senior Eimear O'Sullivan lined out at half-forward and created a stir when in possession but Doireann Ni Mhuiri stuck to her task and minimised O'Sullivan to a large degree.

From the odd breakthrough that Seandún did make in the opening period, it was obvious that they had the talent up front to get scores. Denise Luby had the better of Jennifer Foster and Karen O'Connell had pace in the corner. They weren't getting the supply though, their solitary point coming from Charlotte Kearney.

Eighteen minutes in, Seandún began to get to grips with the game and a great score by Denise Luby showed promise.

Two minutes later, a high ball in from Julie Crowley dropped into the square and O'Connell was there first to hit it home. Now only three separated the sides and a little bit of belief crept into Seandún's game. With three minutes of the half left O'Connell, on the second time of asking, struck past Gillian Harrington and suddenly, Seandún were level.

Jacqui O'Keefe edged Carrig ahead again and one expected it to be the last piece of first half action.

Three minutes of added time however cost Seandún dearly as Cliona Meaney kicked over the line to push Carrig a vital four points ahead at the break.

It looked as if it was Carrig who had the wind advantage again in the second half as they attacked from the throw-in. An excellent free from a difficult angle from Thompson pushed the gap to five. Eimear O'Sullivan found more space and became more involved scoring nice points in the eighth and 11th minutes.

Carrig were starting to gain distance. Seandún began to exert pressure but Lucy Hawkes and Clodagh Deasy did excellent work in defence.

Sixteen minutes in good awareness by Doireann found Denise Luby who pointed. The same player added a free five minutes later to narrow the gap to five but in truth Carrigdhoun weren't going to let the game slip and a further point from Gráinne O'Keefe with six minutes to go finished the scoring for the day.

**Scorers: Carrigdhoun:** L Thompson 0-5 (0-4f), E O'Sullivan 0-3, Joanne O'Keefe 1-0, G O'Keefe 0-2, L Hawkes, C Deasy, Jacqui O'Keefe 0-1 each.

**Seandún:** K O'Connell 2-0, D Luby 0-3 (0-1f), C Kearney 0-1.

**CARRIGDHOUN:** G Harrington (Valley Rovers); J Kiernan (Carrigaline); J Foster (doi), AM Murphy (Valley Rovers); S Cotter (Carrigaline); L Hawkes (Valley Rovers); MA Hawkes (doi); M Moran (Carrigaline); L Bugler (V Rovers); G O'Keefe (Carrigaline); E O'Sullivan (Ballinlough) Capt; Jacqui O'Keefe (Carrigaline); C Deasy (Valley Rovers); Joanne O'Keefe (Carrigaline); L Thompson (doi).

**Sub:** D O'Leary (Carrigaline) for J Foster (half-time).

**SEANDÚN:** M Gould (St Vincent's); L Burns (Na Piarasigh); L Cunningham (Glen Rovers); C Meaney (Blackrock); J Crowley (Bishopstown); D Ni Mhuiri (Blackrock); A Ni Mhuiri (doi); K Twomey (Passage); P Kearney (Na Piarasigh); C Kearney (doi); J Browne (Bishopstown); M Crowley (doi); K O'Connell (Glen Rovers); D Luby (doi); R De Faoite (Blackrock).

**Subs:** E Keane (Brian Dillon's) for A Ni Mhuiri (16); C Shortt (Glen Rovers) for K Twomey (46); L O'Sullivan (Passage) for P Kearney (inj, 58); K Fleming (Blackrock) for J Browne (inj, 62).

**Ref:** J O'Leary (Mallow).



JUNE 2008

# Easy win reveals little about Milford



LINDA MELLERICK

Milford 3-25  
Courcey Rovers 1-8

IT'S HARD to know just how good Milford are or how realistic their tag of contenders for this year's championship is after their comprehensive victory over Courcey Rovers in Coachford on Saturday.

This game was mere shooting practice for the north Cork side but even at that Milford will take very little from the game apart from the next step.

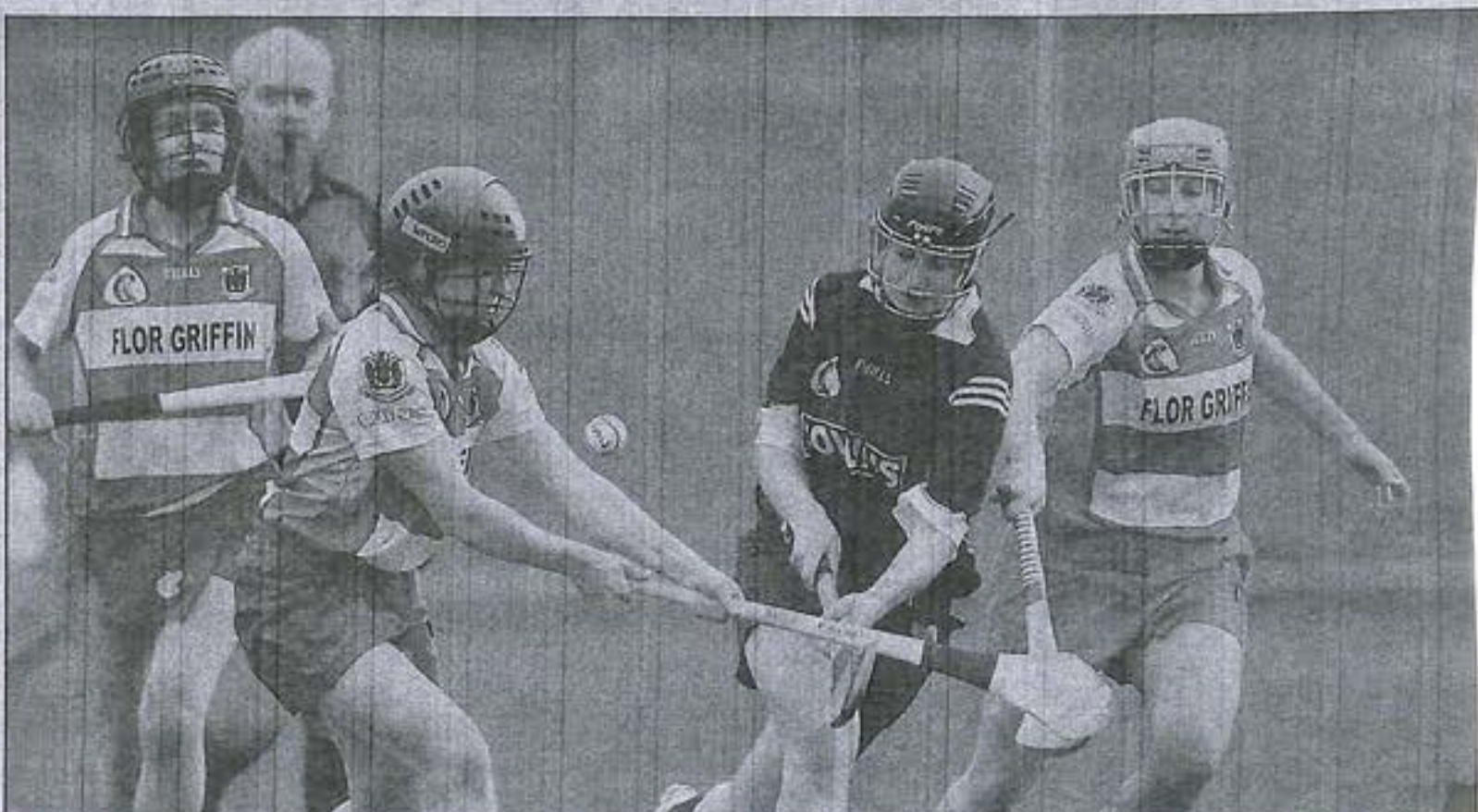
Courcey's just couldn't compete in almost every section of the pitch and should possibly consider playing senior B in 2009 and partake in fixtures which will stand to them as they develop.

The slight breeze favoured Milford in the opening half but wasn't a major influence on the game. Within eight minutes Milford led 0-7 to 0-1 and the gap in standards was obvious at that stage.

Courcey's puck outs were failing to land beyond their half back line and, under pressure, they gave away a number of frees which Emer Watson was only too happy to slot over.

Surprisingly Rovers opted to play Rachel Moloney at centre back, thus limiting their scoring options. However, their possession up front was very limited in any case with their full forward line starved of the ball for the first 20 minutes.

Deirdre O'Reilly was playing a strong game on Cork player Sarah Hayes and Elaine O'Riordan lauded



Milford's Rebecca Finn fighting her way past Courcey Rovers' Sara Hayes and Maire O'Regan during the Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship in Coachford.

Picture: Richard Mills

it in the half forward line.

With 18 minutes gone Rovers switched Hayes and Moloney and to be fair, both players tried hard right to the final whistle. But the move had little impact.

O'Riordan seemed to be the provider for almost every score, her telepathic play with Watson a joy.

Time and again the tigerish player won possession amidst flying hurleys and sent long low balls in to Watson, who seemed to score effortlessly, finishing with an incredibly impressive tally of 2-16.

At 1-18 to 0-4 at half time, it must have been difficult for Courcey's to take to the field for the second half.

But credit where it's due, they began with a far greater urgency than was evident in the opening period and attacked the Milford goal.

The Milford defence were jittery, with the exception of Regina Curtin who made some great catches and cleared the danger area.

Despite Rovers' pressure, it was Milford who widened the gap. With nine minutes gone O'Riordan again

dismissed the challenge of three players, found her partner inside and Watson was out in front, gathering with ease and almost in slow motion struck the far corner of the net.

Rovers cancelled it out when Noelle Collins was pulled down and Moloney converted the resultant penalty.

It turned out, however, to be just a token score as Milford, showing no mercy, kept piling it on.

It was misery for Courcey Rovers long before the final whistle blew.

**Scorers for Milford:** E Watson 2-16 (0-6), M Watson 1-4, E O'Riordan 0-2, A Thompson, C Galvin and N O'Riordan 0-1 each.

**Courcey Rovers:** R Moloney 1-4 (1-0p, 0-4), S Hayes 0-2 (0-1), N Collins and A Twomey 0-1 each.

**MILFORD:** E Hanley, M Geary, R Curtin, L Healy, A Watson, R Finn, S Sexton, A Thompson, D O'Reilly (c), C Galvin, E O'Riordan, M Watson, S O'Flynn, E Watson, N O'Riordan. **Subs:** J Sheehy, L O'Flynn, E Browne for A Thompson, S O'Flynn and N O'Riordan (52), C Mullane for C Galvin (54), J Hickey for M Watson (56).

**COURCEY ROVERS:** A O'Brien, C Hayes, N O'Reilly, G Twomey, C O'Neill, R Moloney, E Ryan, S Hayes (c), M O'Regan, N Collins, K Keohane, A O'Regan, A Twomey, G Twomey, S Quinn. **Sub:** E O'Regan for G Twomey (45).

**Referee:** P Downey (Annisarra).

# Muskerry crush Imokilly with second-half spree

Muskerry 4-14  
Imokilly 0-3

MUSKERRY began the defence of their Evening Echo championship crown with an impressive win over Imokilly on Saturday, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Imokilly stayed the distance through the opening quarter but a rather fortuitous Muskerry goal seven minutes from the break signalled what was to follow as through the second half the champions dominated completely.

Muskerry had strength in key areas and this was cru-

cial. Centre-back Catriona Foley was inspirational, Linda Dorgan did trojan work at midfield while up front Sile Burns, Margaret O'Herlihy and Denise Cronin were thorns in Imokilly's side.

The champions led by two points inside five minutes, Sile Burns on target with a 45 before striking one from play as Imokilly matched them stride for stride with Mary O'Connor, operating up front at full forward, tapping over two points frees.

Enjoying plenty of possession aided by the stiff breeze, Imokilly looked as if they were going to trouble the

champions, and twice they came close to snatching a goal, but Muskerry survived.

O'Herlihy edged Muskerry ahead with an 18th minute point and the same player came close to grabbing a goal minutes later, her effort flying across the face of the goal and wide.

Seconds later, though, Dorgan found the net when her long-range strike ended up in the Imokilly net and from here to the finish Muskerry were dominant.

Denise Cronin pointed twice and in between O'Herlihy grabbed a goal as she left the Imokilly defence in her wake before blasting

to the net.

Imokilly were now feeling the pressure could only reply with a point from Angela Walsh.

The second half belonged to Muskerry and to in particular to Burns, who notched up 1-7 as the Imokilly challenge faded.

Aided by the strengthening wind, Muskerry quickly stretched their advantage; Cronin pointed inside a minute and from here until the 20th minute it was all Muskerry, with Burns sending a free to the net before adding six points without reply to her side's tally.

O'Herlihy helped herself to

1-1 and the final say was fitting left to Burns who added a point before Cathal Egan blew the final whistle.

And so a strong statement of intent from the champions who will meet the winners of the Seandun/Carrighoun clash in the next round and on this form they will take stopping.

A late venue change saw the game switched at very short notice from Delaney's to Mayfield and the club must be complimented on helping the county board out at the 11th hour.

**Scorers for Muskerry:** S Burns 1-9 (0-2f 0-1 45), M O'Herlihy 2-2, L Dorgan 1-0, D Cronin 0-3.

**Imokilly:** M O'Connor 0-2 (f) A Walsh 0-1.

**MUSKERRY:** T O'Donnell (Ballincollig), C McKenna (Eire Og), S Gleeson (Eire Og), C Foley (Rockban), C McKenna (Eire Og), L Dorgan (Grenagh), M O'Donoghue (Ballincollig), E O'Herlihy (Eire) A McKenna (Eire Og), D Cronin (Ballincollig), S Burns (Rockban), C O'Leary (Eire Og), M O'Herlihy (Eire Og). **Subs:** A Lovett (Ballincollig) for C McKenna (46), C McCarthy (Eire Og) for C O'Leary (46), S Buckley for L Dorgan (46).

**IMOKILLY:** Y O'Keefe (Fr O'Neill), AM Walsh (Killeagh), N Barry (Castleyons), J Day (Fr O'Neill), J Murphy (Sarsfields), E O'Farrell (Sarsfields), C Motherway (Dungourney), A Walsh (Killeagh), E Murphy (Sarsfields), C Smith (Enn's Own), E Ryan (Dungourney), E O'Connell (Youghall), E Rohan (Dungourney), M O'Connor (Killeagh), Jc, C O'Callaghan (Enn's Own). **Subs:** O Barry (Sarsfields) for E O'Connell (47).

**Referee:** Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers).





Eimear O'Brien and Emma Murphy of the Waterford primary panel challenge Rachel Sheehan of the Cork primary panel in the Munster Council Camogie 2008 Primary Development Squads Blitz at Rathkeale, Co Limerick on Sunday last. **Picture: Don Moloney/Press 22**



Cork Senior B player Leah Weste gets her Junior A Camogie League medal from Marion McCarthy, Cork County Board.



Pamela Mackey, Douglas, clearing the ball from the left backline during the opening match between Douglas and Aghabullogue in Brinny on Sunday.

Picture: Lenny Cummins



IT Tralee's camogie squad for 2008 pose for the camera

## Wexford lose again while Dubs savour win

### CAMOGIE

By Jackie Cahill

**REIGNING** champions Wexford slumped to a second successive defeat in this year's Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship as the prolific Jessica Gill struck 1-9 to fire Galway to within touching distance of the semi-finals.

A superb solo goal by Gill, four minutes before half-time, was the crucial score as Galway led by 1-7 to 1-2. Ursula Jacob found the net for Wexford after just eight minutes but Galway soon assumed control and Gill's strike put them in the driving seat. Wexford, despite Katrina Parrock's second half goal, could never get to within touching distance of the hosts.

Meanwhile, Dublin collected their first win of the competition with a 0-16 to 1-6 success against Limerick.

Dublin had the better of the early exchanges but Joanne Clifford's 15th minute goal for Limerick tied the scores at 1-2 to 0-5. Dublin came on strong once again and after establishing a 0-9 to 1-3 half-time advantage, the Sky Blues outscored the visitors 0-7 to 0-3 in the second half.

Louise O'Hara finished as Dublin's top scorer with 0-5 and her switch from midfield to centre forward was pivotal as the Dubs pulled away.

### CAMOGIE

**ALL-IRELAND SNR CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Galway 1-12 (J Gill 1-9 (7fs), V Curtin, D Burke 0-1 each) Wexford 2-4 (U Jacob, K Parrock 1-0 each, K Kelly 0-2, R Breen, U Leacy 0-1 each)  
Dublin 0-16 (L O'Hara 0-5 (0-2f, 0-14f), A Jordan 0-4, F Ni Chordáin 0-3, C Burgess 0-2, S Ryan, C Donnelly 0-1 each) Limerick 1-6 (J Clifford 1-0, EOBrien 0-5f, N Mulcahy 0-1)  
**INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Galway 2-10 (S Staunton 1-1, M Reynolds 1-0, M Conroy 0-3, V Molloy, S Coen 0-2 each, E O'Sullivan, T Rutledge 0-1 each) Wexford 1-7 (C Storey 1-0, E Doyle 0-5, M Kelly, E Quigley 0-1 each)  
**MINOR SPECIAL CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Final: Kildare 3-4 (C Mc Sweeney 3-2, N Fleming, C Farrell 0-1 each) Carlow 1-2 (M Murphy 1-0, T Ralph 0-2)  
**MINOR B CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Waterford 3-10 (C Malone 1-2, S Curran, M Russell 1-0 each, P Jackman 0-8 (3fs)) Meath 1-3 (F Ni Cholláin 1-0, O Doyle, E Mangari, C Troy 0-1 each)  
**U16 CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Kilkenny 1-14 Antrim 3-6  
Galway 5-11 (N Mc Grath 1-6, D Ward 1-4, S Hanberry, S Ryan, A Donohue 1-0 each, L Mitchell 0-3) Limerick 1-6 (S Carey 1-0, M Mc Mahon, C Carroll 0-2 each, C Scanlon 0-1)







# Gala CAMOGIE world

## TIPP TOPPLE DUBLIN

In the latest round of the All-Ireland camogie championship there were impressive wins for Tipperary, Cork and Kilkenny. By Jackie Cahill

Former champions Tipperary came good after half-time against Dublin to register a second successive victory in the 2008 Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship. Trailing by 2-6 to 2-5 at the break against spirited Dublin at Semple Stadium today, Tipp reeled off six unanswered scores after half-time to move into a match winning five-point lead.

The Premier County outscored the visitors 0-8 to 0-3 in the second half to maintain their 100 per cent record in this year's Gala championship.

Dublin stood toe to toe with their opponents in a tight first half and responded to Claire Grogan's eighth-minute goal for Tipperary as Ciara Burgess found the net just four minutes later. Tipp's second goal came courtesy of Therese Shortt after 16 minutes but Dublin refused to buckle and responded in kind through Jolene Hoary as the impressive Burgess turned provider ten minutes before half-time.

With two wins from two, five-times champions Tipperary are looking good at this early stage for a place in the semi-final while Dublin remain pointless from two outings.

Tipperary scorers: C Grogan 1-2 (0-1 45), E Hayden & C Hennessy 0-3 each, T Shortt 1-0, M Morrissey 0-2, P Fogarty, J Ryan & M Luttrell 0-1 each.

Dublin scorers: C Burgess 1-2, J Hoary 1-1, A Jordan 0-3, F Corcoran, S Ryan & C Lucey (f) 0-1 each.

The Rebelettes gained sweet revenge for last year's final reverse against the Model County by recording a comfortable ten-point victory in New Ross.

With two wins from two, Cork are now very much on course for the semi-finals of this year's competition but Wexford now face a battle to make the last four after losing their opening match.

Cork led by just a single point at half time, 1-1 to 0-3, but they outscored Wexford 2-5 to 0-2 in the second half as goals proved crucial.

Orla Cotter scored Cork's first half goal after 21 minutes but the decisive strike was supplied by top scorer Rachel Moloney

just two minutes after half time to open up a 2-1 to 0-3 lead.

Cork never looked back from there and when Sile Burns netted three minutes later, the game was effectively over as a contest as a surprisingly lacklustre Wexford capitulated.

Moloney finished with 1-4 of Cork's total as Brieghe Corkery and Una O'Donoghue chipped in with the other points.

Kate Kelly was Wexford's leading scorer with three points while Una Lacey and the impressive Aine Codd supplied a point each.

Meanwhile, National League champions Kilkenny defeated Limerick in atrocious conditions in Kilmallock on Saturday to record their first victory in this year's Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship.

The Cats bounced back from their opening round defeat against Tipperary by recording a handsome 3-10 to 0-5 victory against the



outclassed hosts.

The game was effectively over as a contest after just ten minutes as Marie Dargan's goal opened up a 1-5 to 0-0 advantage for Kilkenny. The visitors led by 2-7 to 0-3 at half-time as Marie O'Connor added a second goal after twenty minutes. Limerick battled hard to stay in contention as Joanne Clifford, Eileen O'Brien and Niamh Mulcahy were on target with points. The second half was academic as Keeva Fennelly, daughter of former Kilkenny hurling great Ger, registered a third goal for the victors with ten minutes of normal time remaining.

Marie O'Connor (1-2), Sinéad Millea (0-4), Aoife Neary (0-3) and Lizzie Lyng (0-1) were on target for Kilkenny while Limerick, finding life tough back in the senior ranks, will attempt to pick themselves up after suffering a second successive defeat in the competition.

## CAMOGIE ASSOCIATION SECURES 'GALA' COMMITMENT FOR ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

At the launch of this year's Gala All-Ireland Camogie Championships, Gala, Ireland's fastest growing convenience retailer of the last decade, announced it's to sponsor the Gala All-Ireland Championships (inclusive of the Senior, Intermediate and Junior championships) for a further three years. This secures the partnership until the end of the 2010 Championships.

The six-figure sum further reinforces Gala's commitment to one of Ireland's most indigenous Irish female sports and is reflective of how successful the association has been for the

Group.

2008 is the Group's 10th year in business and Gala CEO, Gary Desmond, comments:

"Our award-winning partnership with the Camogie Association has been an overwhelming success for the Group and raised brand awareness to an all time high. The Gala Group stores fully support our association as many of our retailers' staff, shoppers, family and friends have close ties with Camogie, an iconic female sport. Gala's network of stores spans towns and cities across Ireland, and this synergy with the Camogie Association is where the sponsorship's success lies.

"We're looking forward to this year's championship after 2007's closely contested senior and junior finals and the record attendance at Croke Park. Similar to Camogie, Gala's profile is growing year-on-year. This year will be a milestone for the Group as it celebrates ten years in business.

"A fully-integrated marketing plan, including Gala's sponsorship of the National Event Guide on TV3, a corporate social responsibility campaign, and major 10th birthday promotion, make this an exciting year for our retailers".

At the launch of the Gala All-Ireland Camogie Championship, President of the Camogie Association, Liz Howard, was joined by the captains and managers of all 27 counties competing in this year's Championships. Reigning Champions Wexford will be hoping to retain the crown they won last year for the first time since 1975. There will be several sides aiming to relieve them of the O'Duffy Cup including last year's runners up and 2006 winners, Cork.

The Gala Group employs over 3,000 people in both retail and wholesale operations, with projected Group retail sales in 2008 expected to be in excess of €550 million.

Cork's Brieghe Corkery





# Linda Mellerick

## Playing through injury is not always a good idea

APART from the single divisional preliminary game three weeks ago between Imokilly and Carbery, the 2008 Evening Echo Cork County Senior Camogie Championship only really kicked off last weekend.

Already a number of divisional sides have said goodbye to their chance of glory for another 12 months.

Imokilly, Carbery and Seandun are all out while the last two standing, Carrigdhoun and Muskerry, now face each other in the final divisional clash before one advances to take on the remaining club sides.

Based on the magnitude of Muskerry's victory over Imokilly, 4-14 to 0-3, they will surely go in as favourites against Carrigdhoun, who defeated Seandun with a score of 1-13 to 2-4.

The scale of Muskerry's win over the 2006 county finalists took many by surprise.

However, when one considers that Imokilly played an evidently-injured Eimear O'Farrell at centre-back and defender-in-chief Mary O'Connor at full-forward, then maybe it's not such a big surprise after all.

One thing that strikes me about camogie players over the years, and my own playing days included, is how we continue to play through injury, injuries that should not be ignored.

Unlike men, who typically from day one obtain a diagnosis and adhere to the rehabilitation schedule, women tend to ignore the experts, play through the pain, play at 50% of their ability and do lasting damage.

And worse still, their mentors allow them. Eimear O'Farrell should not have lined out last week.

She didn't do justice to herself or her team and could very well have cost herself a place in Cork's starting 15 against Tipperary tomorrow because she just won't be ready in time.

We all did it. In once sense, it's admirable, yet in another it's crazy.

Despite having many intermediate and senior Cork panellists in their side, Carrigdhoun didn't have it so easy against Seandun.

They dominated in patches but Seandun's forward division threatened with limited possession. Carrig deserved to win the game but will have to be a lot better if they hope to go any further in the championship.

Clubwise, St Finbarr's and Ballygarvan played out a highly-entertaining first-round game and this one was the pick of the fixtures to date. Ballygarvan are short two or three players in key positions.

The likes of Emer Dillon and Castriona Foley have to work very hard and often end up both starting and finishing moves. The Barrs, on the other hand, have a more balanced team. However I did expect them to be better than they were.

They too are weak in some positions but at the end of the day this is a club side, not intercounty, and you just won't have stars all over the pitch.

Full credit to Douglas for their debut victory at senior level. Their underage success is coming through and it's great to see.

I was surprised at their margin of victory, 1-17 to 1-4, as Aghabullogue

are a good side who last year gave Ballygarvan a tough run in the opening round and only lost out to finalists St Finbarr's by a single point.

The loss of Jennifer O'Leary and the injured Rosalie Holland proved too much for Barryroe, as expected, as they succumbed to Inniscarra.

Courcey Rovers received a thrashing from Milford and will possibly re-grade next year. Unfortunately for them, their back-door fixture is against Ballygarvan now.

Elaine O'Riordan impressed me that evening. Even considering the weak opposition, she is as tough as nails, covers a lot of ground and has a good strike.

I think, at times, Elaine has to play twice as well as anybody else to be noticed due to her small stature. But this shouldn't be the case.

Some of Cork's greatest players over the years, namely Sandy Fitzgibbon and Fiona O'Driscoll, were small.

St Catherine's produced the shock of the season to date when a last-minute goal gave them a one-point advantage over Cloughduv at the final whistle.

When one considers Cloughduv's history in this competition and the number of intercounty players they have in the side, this was a huge win for Catherine's.

Let's hope they can build on it.

So now for round two. All club victors move on to round three and these fixtures will be made at a later date. Round two is the back-door play off and sees the following in opposition:

Aghabullogue v Cloughduv, Muskerry, dhoun v Barryroe, Ballygarvan v Courcey Rovers.



Eimear O'Farrell didn't do herself justice, despite playing through the pain barrier.

### Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship - Round Three Preview, July 5th and 6th

Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship Round Three - 5th and 6th July

Galway will be hoping to deliver All-Ireland Champions Wexford's second straight defeat in this year's Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship when the teams face each other this weekend.

The two sides met in the semi-final of last year's Championship when Wexford had a comfortable ten point win but Galway have been much improved so far this year. The Tribeswomen had a very impressive National League that saw them narrowly lose out to Kilkenny in the final.

Since then, Galway have continued their fine form with a comprehensive win over Championship newcomers, Limerick, in the first round of games. A victory this weekend would put Galway within touching distance of a place in the semi final while a loss for Wexford would leave them under pressure and need of a win in their next game against League Champions Kilkenny.

Wexford have had an indifferent start to 2008. The Model County got the better of Cork and Dublin in the League but lost to Kilkenny for a place in the final. In their first game of this year's Championship, Cork returned the favour with a comprehensive 3-6 to 0-5 win over them in the last round of games that leaves Wexford in a desperate need of a win on Saturday.

Galway captain, Sinéad Cahalan, is aware of the threat a wounded Wexford poses but is still confident of achieving a win: "We know that there is potentially going to be a backlash from Wexford. They were well beaten by Cork and in many ways they need to get a win here. We know they will be seriously up for it. On the other side of that we're not afraid of facing any team. We have to play every team and if Wexford had beaten Cork last time, it would be a different story but at the end of the day we still need the win and so do they."

The Mullagh clubwoman went on to say, "We haven't had a match in a long time and the game against Limerick didn't really test either team. Since then we've been training exceptionally hard, we have eased off in the last week but we couldn't be anymore more prepared. We're ready to go out and win but if we lose it won't be for lack of preparation or lack of desire."

Elsewhere in the Championship, Dublin entertain Limerick with both looking for their first win. Dublin lost out to Cork and Tipperary while Limerick have had a tough start to their Senior Championship life. The Shannonsiders were well beaten by both Galway and Kilkenny.

Cork and Tipperary put their 100% records on the line when they clash on Sunday. The 2006 Championship finalists have looked impressive this year and go head to head on Sunday in what should be a tight encounter.

#### Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship

##### Fixtures

Saturday 5th July  
Galway v Wexford - 3pm - Kilmar, Galway  
Dublin v Limerick - 2pm - Trinity Geels, Dublin

Sunday 6th July  
Cork v Tipperary - 3pm - Ballincollig, Cork

##### Table Standings:

	P	W	L	D	PTS
Tipperary	2	2	-	-	4
Cork	2	2	-	-	4
Galway	1	1	-	-	2
Kilkenny	2	1	1	-	2
Wexford	1	-	1	-	0
Dublin	2	-	2	-	0
Limerick	2	-	2	-	0



The Ballinasclary U16 girls camogie team with a new set of jerseys at Ballinasclary Community Hall with C O'Connor of O'Connor Coach Hire, Killbritain who presented them with the jerseys.

Picture: Den



# Form sides go head-to-head

JUNE 2008

**SUNDAY**  
Gala All-Ireland Senior  
Championship,  
Cork v Tipperary,  
Ballincollig, 3pm

**WITH two victories under their belts, Cork and Tipperary go head-to-head on Sunday in round three of the Gala All-Ireland Championship in Ballincollig.**

It's a game that is eagerly awaited and with the victors set to lead the table heading into round four, it's all to play for.

Down through the years, Cork and Tipperary clashed have always been special and this one should be no exception.

Tipperary showed just how determined they are to add to their five titles, getting their campaign

**By MARY NEWMAN**  
Senior camogie

off to a perfect start with a 2-12 to 2-10 victory against Division One league champions Kilkenny when they travelled to Nowlan Park.

The sides were level at the break, 1-4 to 0-7, but Tipp took control of the game in the second half. Therese Shortt and Philly Fogarty scored crucial goals before Kilkenny staged a late rally.

Tipperary's Joanne Ryan, operating at midfield for the second half, proved a handful, as did Claire Grogan, who contributed nine points. In their second outing against Dublin, Tipp were pinned to their collars as a spirited Dublin made them fight to the finish.

Again it was the familiar names of Emily Hayden, Claire Grogan

and Philly Fogarty to the fore.

Cork opened their campaign with a good victory over Dublin before going on to turn in a superb performance defeating All-Ireland champions Wexford. This was a huge game for Cork and they answered the call in no uncertain fashion.

From the throw-in they were focused and played with tremendous determination never allowed Wexford any leeway. In attack, Orla Cotter and Sile Burns have settled into their respective roles and are combining well. Rachel Moloney is also playing well and is also impeccable in her free-taking.

Briege Corkery covered every inch of grass and her determination was infectious as the players around her rallied to the cause. In defence, Cork were magnificent

and played as a unit and if they can maintain this level of performance they will be hard to beat.

This season, under the guidance of former All-Ireland winning captain Denise Cronin, there seems to be a new spring in their step and Denise's charges will now need to refocus after their victory over Wexford and not slip up.

A victory on Sunday would set them up nicely with three games to go against Galway, Kilkenny and Limerick.

Already this year, the sides met in the Munster final, where Cork recorded a five-point victory.

No doubt it will be tough but Cork are sensible enough not to be carried away by their victory over the champions and they should be good enough to record their third victory on the trot.

Last September Wexford claimed their first All-Ireland title in 32 years when they defeated Cork in Camogie's showpiece in Croke Park. However, after two losses in their opening two games the reigning champions cannot afford another defeat if they hope to retain the O'Duffy Cup.

Kilkenny have re-emerged this season as one of the Championship contenders under the stewardship of twelve time All-Ireland winner Ann Downey. Following a poor year last year they stormed back to win the National League title with victory over Galway. Despite this good form the Cats lost their opening game to Tipperary.

Downey feels they have bounced back from that early defeat. "We were very disappointed to lose to Tipperary the way we did in the first game of the Championship after performing so well in the League. We came back very well against Limerick in our second game so it's all looking good now for Sunday's game against Wexford."

The last few years have been extremely disappointing from a Kilkenny Camogie point of view but with an extensive and highly successful youth set-up in place the future is bright for the Cats. An early start back at training has reaped its rewards so far but Downey knows that Wexford need a win on Sunday to get back on track.

"Wexford have lost their first two fixtures but they haven't had the easiest of games in Cork and Galway. They are very talented team and we'll be hoping to get favourable playing conditions. We are a light team compared to Wexford but are exceptionally tough to beat. We've got our game plan and we'll pay no attention to Wexford's style, Kilkenny are concentrating on Kilkenny and that should be enough," Downey said ahead of the game.

## Cork look to keep their title challenge on track

**SUNDAY**  
Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Championship,  
Cork v Tipperary,  
Ballincollig, 1pm

HAVING bounced back from defeat at the hands of Derry in the opening game of the round-robin series, the Cork intermediates were full value for their win over Wexford in round two and now the focus of attention is on Sunday and their meeting with Tipperary in round three of the All-Ireland championship.

Tipperary will be determined to keep their quest for a place in the later stages of the championship alive and have already lost out to Derry and Kilkenny, a win is vital to their challenge.

In their outing against Derry, they suffered a 3-19 to 0-6 defeat and this was a source of disappointment, having lost narrowly in the opener with Kilkenny.

Ciara Johnston was very much to the fore striking seven points, six from play, against Kilkenny and she is

**By MARY NEWMAN**  
Intermediate camogie

one who Cork will need to keep a close eye on while Brid Byrne, Ailish Langton, Jackie O'Connor and Ciara Callinane, who were all to the fore.

Cork showed fierce determination to fashion a good victory over Wexford.

Having lost their first game in the series, Cork needed to win to keep their championship aspirations alive and all over the pitch

they worked themselves to a stand still to ensure victory was secured.

In defence, Christine O'Neill, Noreen Mulcahy and Lucy Hawkes never put a foot wrong while at midfield Jennifer Lynch and Julia White combined well.

Liz Bugler, Marie Watson, Michelle Browne and Julia White kept the Wexford defence busy as Cork confidently dispatched their opponents, recording a 2-10 to 1-5 victory,

something which pleased coach Bobby Thornhill, who is determined to take his side all the way in this his first season the helm.

Bobby has instilled a great sense of belief in his side and one could sense his determination and commitment coming through in his charges.

No doubt, with their challenge now back on course, Cork will be fired up and raring to go and anything other than a Cork victory would be a surprise.

## Moloney magnificent as Rebelettes see off Tipp

**LAST** year's beaten finalists Cork moved to within touching distance of the Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship semi-finals with a 1-16 to 0-10 victory against Munster rivals Tipperary yesterday.

The Rebelettes who trailed by four points at the break, scored 1-8 in a powerful second half performance in Ballincollig to claim a comfortable victory.

Rachel Moloney was the key player for Cork, hitting 11 points, including eight frees and a 45. Ace attacker Moloney edged her scoring duel with Tipperary's leading scorer Claire Grogan, who finished with 0-9, six from frees.

With three wins from three in the Gala championship, Cork know one more victory will virtually guarantee a top-four finish and that could be achieved as early as next weekend against Galway.

Corner forward Orla Cotter also caught the eye for Cork and her goal, nine minutes after half-time, edged Cork 1-7 to 0-9 ahead. Moloney added two further points to put the hosts in the driving seat but Cork played the last 13 minutes of the game with 14 players after Gemma O'Connor was sent off for a second bookable offence.

**Camogie**  
**By Jackie Cahill**

Cork readjusted by dropping Cotter to midfield while Briege Corkery moved from midfield to centre back and Rena Buckley switched from the centre to left half back for the closing minutes.

Meanwhile champions Wexford slumped to a second successive defeat in this year's campaign as the prolific Jessica Gill fired beaten National League finalists Galway closer to the semi-finals.

Gill, 2007 Connacht Young Player of the Year, put Wexford to the sword with a 1-9 haul as Galway ran out 1-12 to 2-4 winners at Killimor on Saturday.

The Tribeswomen have collected maximum points from their opening two games while Wexford are in trouble, with no victory from two outings.

A superb solo goal by Gill, four minutes before half-time, was the crucial score as Galway led by 1-7 to 1-2 at the break.

Ursula Jacob goalied for Wexford after eight minutes but Galway soon assumed control and Gill's strike put them in the driving seat.



**PREMIER PASS:** Tipperary keeper Paula Ryan releases the ball as she is challenged by Cork's Orla Cotter and Rachel Moloney during the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship in Ballincollig.

Picture: Richard Mills

Wexford, despite Katrina Parrock's second-half goal, could never get within touching distance of the hosts, who are clearly building on a great league run.

Meanwhile, Dublin collected their first win of the competition with a 0-16 to 1-6 success against Limerick at the home of Trinity Gaels on Saturday.

Dublin had the better of the early

exchanges but Joanne Clifford's 15th minute goal for Limerick had them level (1-2 to 0-5). But after establishing a 0-9 to 1-3 half-time advantage, the Sky Blues outscored the visitors 0-7 to 0-3 in the second half.

Louise O'Hara finished as Dublin's top scorer with five points and her switch from midfield to centre forward was a pivotal move after

half-time as the hosts pulled away with the breeze at their backs. Meanwhile, Kildare made history in Aughrim, County Wicklow on Saturday to win the inaugural minor championship blitz. Five counties — Wicklow, Kildare, Carlow, Roscommon and Westmeath — competed and the Lilywhites registered a notable success by defeating Carlow in the final.



Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship Round Up

CAMOGIE  
BY JACKIE CAHILL

LAST year's beaten finalists Cork moved to within touching distance of the Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship semi-finals with a 1-16 to 0-10 victory against Munster rivals Tipperary on Sunday. The Rebels scored 1-12 during the course of a powerful second half performance in Ballincollig to claim a comfortable nine-point victory, having trailed by 0-8 to 0-4 at half-time. Rachel Moloney was the undoubted star turn for Cork as she weighed in with 0-11 for the winners, including eight frees and a 45. Ace attacker Moloney edged her scoring duel with Tipperary's leading scorer Claire Grogan, who finished nine points to her credit, six of those from frees. With three wins from three outings in the Gala championship, Cork know that one more victory will virtually guarantee a top-four finish and that could be achieved as early as next weekend against Galway. Corner forward Orla Cotter also caught the eye for Cork and her goal, nine minutes after half-time, edged Cork ahead by 1-7 to 0-9. Moloney added two further points to put the home side in the driving seat but Cork played the last 13 minutes of the game with 14 players after Gemma O'Connor was sent off for a second bookable offence. Cork readjusted by dropping Cotter to midfield while Briega Corkery moved from midfield to centre back and Rena Buckley switched from the centre to left half back for the closing minutes. Meanwhile, reigning champions Wexford slumped to a second successive defeat in this year's Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship as the prolific Jessica Gill beat National League finalists Galway closer to the semi-finals. Gill, 2007 Connacht Young Player of the Year, put Wexford to the sword with a 1-9 haul as Galway ran out 1-12 to 2-4 winners at Kilmor on Saturday. The Tribeswomen have collected maximum points from their opening two games but Wexford are in trouble having both of their outings to date.

A superb solo goal by Gill, four minutes before half-time, was the crucial score as Galway led by 1-7 to 1-2 at the break. Ursula Jacob had goaled for Wexford after just eight minutes but Galway soon assumed control and Gill's strike put them in the driving seat. Wexford, despite Katrina Parrock's second half goal, could never get to within touching distance of the hosts who are proving that their impressive league form was no flash in the pan. Meanwhile, Dublin collected their first win of the competition with a 0-16 to 1-6 success against Limerick at the home of Trinity Gaels in the capital on Saturday. Dublin had the better of the early exchanges but Joanne Clifford's 15th minute goal for Limerick tied the scores at 1-2 to 0-5. Dublin came strong once again after establishing a 0-9 to 1-3 half-time advantage, the Sky Blues outscored the visitors 0-7 to 0-3 in the second half. Louise O'Hara finished as Dublin's top scorer with 0-5 and her switch from midfield to centre forward was a pivotal move after half-time as the hosts pulled away with the breeze at their backs. Meanwhile, Kildare made history in Aghrim, county Wicklow on Saturday as they claimed victory in the inaugural minor championship blitz. Five counties - Wicklow, Kildare, Carlow, Roscommon and Wexford - competed in this new competition and the Lilywhites registered a notable success by defeating Carlow in the final.

Gala All-Ireland Camogie Senior Championship  
Cork 1-16 v Tipperary 0-10

By Kieran Slattery County P.R.O.

Tipperary's unbeaten run in the Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship came to an end last Sunday in Ballincollig, while Cork now have full points out of their 3 games. Clashes of goals win matches & a game of two halves are very appropriate when summerising this game.

Conditions were very greatly underfoot but apart from both goalmouths the field was in good condition. Cork registered the first point from a free in the 3rd minute but Tipp were soon to follow with Claire Grogan pointing her first free. Cork took another point from play but at this stage Tipp were getting to grips with the Cork effort & were cutting off the supply to the Rebels full forward line. The centre field for Tipp was very effective as was the half back line, they launched numerous attacks and Tipp were able to hit 4 unanswered points before Cork found the target with 2 frees. Tipp then followed this with 3 more points before the break putting them 8 points up to Cork's 4pts. There was a lot of good play from Tipp, & their line balls & free taking was of great standard considering the weather conditions. The support play was also a feature of the first half & they constantly harassed the Cork girls when they were in possession.

The resumption of the second half stirred up a wind which favoured Cork & they scored from play in the 32nd minute. Tipp answered with their own effort but were not to score again until 5 minutes from the end when Cork had pulled away out of reach.

Cork's goal came again from a scramble in Tipp's goal mouth & uncertainty from defence & goalie. This has caught Tipp out before in other games. Another factor was that Cork scored 6 points from frees in the second half. They were also given this lifeline with two frees when Tipp were dominant in the first half & it cut down Tipp's margin at half time. Conditions may have been part of the reason but against Cork at this level every foul will be punished. Even when Cork's Gemma O'Connor received her second yellow in the second half Tipp could not use the extra player to their advantage, such was the Cork's improvement in this half.

There was disappointment from the Tipp camp after the game and reflecting afterwards the management felt that Tipp's performance in the first half when they took the game to Cork was exactly what they wanted. Unfortunately the goal came at the wrong time for Tipp's challenge & they ended up playing catch up for the rest of the half. However, Tipp's campaign is far from over as they now travel to Kilmallock this Saturday July 12th for a 1pm throw in against Limerick. A victory here would get their quest for a semi final spot back on course.

Tipperary team: Paula Ryan, Paula Biffin, Suzanne Kelly, Julie Kirwin, Michelle Short, Patricia O'Halloran, Mary Ryan, Joanne Ryan, Jill Horan, Cora Hennessy, Mairead Lutzert, Philby Fogarty, Therese Short, Emily Hayden (0-01), Claire Grogan (0-09). Subs used: Geraldine Kinnane, Maria Tynan. Ref: Fintan McLamara, Clare.

Results from Weekend of 5th & 6th July  
Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship 3rd rd.

Dublin 0-16: L O'Hara 0-5 (0-2F, 0-1'45), A Jordan 0-4, F Ní Chonchóirín 0-3, C Burgess 0-2, S Ryan, C Donnelly 0-1 each.  
Limerick 1-6: J Clifford 1-0, E O'Brien 0-5F, N Mulcahy 0-1.

Galway 1-12: J Gill 1-9 (0-7F), V Curtin, D Burke, O Kilkenny 0-1 each.  
Wexford 2-4: K Parrock, U Jacob 1-0, each K Kelly 0-2, R Breen, U Leacy 0-1 each.

Cork 1-16: O Cotter 1-2, R Moloney 0-11 (0-0F, 0-1'45), U O'Donoghue 0-2, S Burrs 0-1.  
Tipperary 0-10: C Grogan 0-9 (0-6F), E Hayden -1.

Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Championship:  
Galway 2-10: S Staunton 1-1, M Reynolds 1-0, M Conroy 0-3, V Mollay, S Coen 0-2 each, E O'Sullivan, T Rutledge 0-1 each.  
Wexford 1-7: C Storey 1-0, E Doyle 0-5, M Kelly, E Quigley 0-1 each.

Cork 3-17: M Jaego 2-0, C Kearney 1-2, M Browne 0-5 (0-3F), Spellman 0-4, A Thompson, J White 0-2 each, L Bugler, L Walsh 0-1 each.  
Tipperary 0-0

Kilkenny 3-13:

Derry 1-9: O Mullan 1-0, G Mc Goldrick 0-6 (0-3F), A Lavery, B Convery, K Keitt 0-1 each

Minor A C'ship: Cork v Dublin off

Minor B C'ship:

Waterford 3-10: C Malone 1-2, S Curran, M Russell 1-0 each, P Jackman 0-8 (0-3F).  
Meath 1-3: F Ní Choleain 1-0, O Doyle, E Mangin, C Troy 0-1 each.

Minor special C'ship Final:

Kildare 3-4, C Mc Sweeney 3-2, N Fleming, C Farrell 0-1 each.  
Carlow 1-2, M Murphy 1-0, T Ralph 0-2.

U16 C'ship:

Kilkenny 1-14.  
Antrim 3-6: L Mc Kewen 2-3, M Connolly 1-0, R Welsh 0-2, A Mc Fadden 0-1.

Dublin 2-11: S Duff, 1-2 M Moynihan 1-1, M Twomey 0-3 '45's.  
Wexford 1-12: M Byrne 1-1, L Bolger 0-4F, E Kelly 0-4, T Somers, C Doyle, M E Doyle 0-1 each.



Jessica Gill, Galway, in action against Aoife O'Connor, Wexford, during the Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship on Saturday



The Cork team who took part in Munster Council Camogie 2008 Primary Development Squads Blitz.

Picture: Press 2

# Camogie blitz provides a fun day for the girls

## THE INAUGURAL primary schools development squads blitz took place on Sunday in Rathkeale, Co. Limerick.

The brainchild of regional development officers Deirdre Murphy and Rose Malone was run in conjunction with Munster Colleges Camogie and Munster Cumann na mBunscol.

The event was an important step in the Munster Council's development plan for camogie and with the recent approval of funding from the Munster GAA Council to help in the development of camogie, this was the first in many positive steps that will be taken in the promotion and development of the game in Munster.

Teams from the six counties in Munster participated in a round-robin series of games which were refereed by transition year students Ciara O'Keeffe, Louise Stack and Michelle O'Sullivan from Coachford College.

They recently completed the green-card referee course and the day afforded these girls to put their new-found knowledge into operation.

Cork team manager Fr Terry O'Brien was the driving force behind the Rebels as they turned in some excellent displays as they defeated Clare, Kerry, Waterford and Limerick.

In their final game, they had to give way to arch-rivals Tipperary but Fr Terry was delighted with the event and the display of his young charges, who have continued to show progress since the idea was mooted four months ago.

The organisation of the day, which ran on schedule, and was blessed with glorious sunshine was something which all team managements remarked on and compliments must go to the organisers for this which is an important feature of such an event.

The medal presentation was historic in itself, with 180 players gathered around the podium after the fifth set of games and the array of different jerseys made welcome viewing.

The various teams had plenty of talent on display and players such as Jessica Swayne, Orla Healy, Siobhan



Waterford's Eimear O'Brien challenges Cork's Rachel Sheehan in the Munster Council Camogie 2008 Primary Development Squads Blitz.

Picture: Press 22

### By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie news

Hutchinson and Joy Leo from Cork, Jane Flanagan, Kate Collins and Jennifer Greene from the Clare Michelle Gilbert, Louise Horgan and Aoife Fitzgerald from Kerry were prominent throughout the day.

Amongst the coaches who praised the event was Donal McCarthy from Tipperary, whose side only lost one game to a Limerick side who themselves only lost a game to Cork.

Players of note from Tipperary included Aine Devane, Sarah Ryan and Clara O'Toole while Katie O'Sullivan, Claire Keating and Noelle Carroll were to the fore for Limerick.

Waterford were well-represented with Beth Carton, Eimear Fennell and

Lydia Mangan battling for glory but due to holidays they were missing some of their stronger players.

An excellent souvenir programme was produced for the day and all the girls were keen to hold onto this as a memento.

Such was the success of the event that another blitz has been provisionally scheduled for Cahir on August 16 with Dublin and Kilkenny now expressing an interest in organising similar events enthusiasm is growing.

Certainly a wonderful initiative which, given the feedback from last weekend, no doubt can, and will, only go from strength to strength.

We look forward to keeping a close eye on the continued progress of all participants.



## Tipp manager cannot hide disappointment

By Gerry Slevin

Wearing his heart on his sleeve Tipperary senior camogie team manager John McGrath was really lost for words when asked for his immediate reaction to his charges loss to Cork in Sunday's Gala All-Ireland championship match. Unable to conceal his disappointment he readily admitted that in travelling to Ballincollig he was confident of success.

"We had huge expectations. We thought we were ready for it and I felt very confident that we would win today" the Borrisoleigh man declared as the rain poured down. He found it difficult to reconcile the way in which things went in the first half when Tipp played with such confidence with what happened after that. He admitted he didn't have the answers and it would not be until he sat down and looked at the video of the match that he could figure out what really went wrong.

"I don't have the answers now," John added.

Asked if there was an over-reliance on team captain Claire Grogan in attack from a scoring viewpoint, the manager said they had two exceptional players in attack in Claire and Philly Fogarty and both were probably needed further out. While not for a moment demeaning the other forwards, all talented in their own way, they would be flying with four more attackers of the ability of Claire and Philly. When things were going well outfield, it worked well to have them to finish things off but when things broke down further out they were probably wasted inside. It was very difficult to get the proper balance.

The manager said victory would have copper-fastened Tipp's place in the semi-finals. There were still three matches to go and he was firmly of the view that there was still another level for Tipperary to reach.

"We feel we are not at full throttle and we would be hoping to get to the semi final and then go up that extra notch. You need another gear to slip into to win an All-Ireland. But we will come back on Thursday, train again, try to get the two points against Limerick at the weekend which would bring us to six points. Then, with whatever way the other results are going, who knows you could still be in a semi final with six points?" said John.

There is still quite a long road to travel before All-Ireland semi final day on Saturday August 16th. Tipp would be confidently expected to get over Limerick on Saturday, even away, the Treaty side having failed to pick up a point yet in the competition. While the other six teams are in action on Sunday week Tipp will be the non-playing side although, no doubt, keeping a keen eye on how other results pan out. Next come two home matches against All-Ireland champions Wexford (who have already dropped four points in defeats by Cork and Galway) on Sunday 27th and against their league conquerors Galway on Sunday August 3rd.

# Cork take Tipp assunder in blistering second half

Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship

Cork 1-16 Tipperary 0-10

By Gerry Slevin  
Photographs: Rose Mannion

Events in Cork's Pairc Ui Chaoimh and out in Ballincollig last Sunday had a coincidental ring to them. While Cork's footballers were enduring a first half roasting from their Kerry counterparts in the Munster football final, their camogie team was in a similar situation against visitors Tipp. Half time in Pairc Ui Chaoimh saw Cork behind by eight points. At full time they were ahead by five. In Ballincollig Cork were behind by four at the break and at full time the tables had been turned to such an extent as to have them ahead by nine.

In what was Tipp's heaviest championship defeat for quite some time, things looked anything but hopeless at the interval. Leading 0-8 to 0-4 Tipp were by far the more ambitious side and their hunger for possession was well illustrated in being first to the ball, a tight marking defence and an effective first touch even in appallingly wet conditions. Yes, Tipp looked good for victory at the break although for all Tipp's dominance, in hindsight, the fact that all bar one of their first half points came from Claire Grogan's accurate stick showed the attack wasn't working on all cylinders.

That fact was to be demonstrated in the second half when Cork resumed,

moving up a gear or two very determinedly. Their defence solidified, their mid field was in total control and it was only a matter of time before the attack took off to devastating effect. It wasn't that the Tipp defence caved in. No, but a strong tendency to foul played into the hands of Cork sharpshooter Rachel Moloney who lofted over no fewer than six second half points from frees.

Tipp were at sea for most of that second half. A Claire Grogan point after seven minutes when she picked up a well-delivered Trish O'Halloran pass was sandwiched between Cork scores from Orla Cotter and Rachel Moloney and after Moloney had reduced the margin to two points with a pointed free, Orla Cotter found herself ideally positioned to avail of an accurate delivery across the goalmouth and she slapped the sliotar past Paula Ryan. It was the score Tipp did not want to concede and from there on Tipp were struggling as Cork's confidence continued to grow. Nor even the sending off of Gemma O'Connor following a second yellow card affected their flow and points came with great flair as the Tipp challenge, so encouraging in the first half wilted beyond recognition.

With the score at 1-15 to 0-9, Claire Grogan sent over only Tipp's second point of the half from a free, a minute remaining. In fairness the forwards kept up the pressure and Claire opted for goals from two close-in frees. Both were saved and after the first one Cork swept downfield and Sile Burns scored a point. Claire's second goal attempt was again foiled, the sliotar deflected out for a 45 which failed to yield a score. After almost four minutes of added time the final whistle brought an end to Tipp's frustrations and there was no denying Cork's entitlement to the two championship points.

Certainly a game of two halves in terms of how both teams played and this week Tipp will be wondering, quite seriously, just what happened in that second half to make things



Trish O'Halloran (Tipperary) challenges Una O'Donoghue (Cork) in the Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship on Sunday last in Cork.

change so drastically. It was difficult to come to terms with the comparison between the confidence they showed and the flair that expressed itself so heartily and the manner in which they seemed to throw in the towel when Cork upped the tempo thereafter. The obvious answer probably is that Cork raised their game to heights to which Tipp had no response and in front of their own crowd they were determined to show the real Cork team. Cork were a much more physical side and Tipp found it hard to get to grips with much of the no-nonsense pulling and hard tackling undertaken by some of the Rebelettes.

In the end, it was all too easy for Cork, Gemma O'Connor's dismissal not fazing them one bit but rather imbuing them with a greater sense of determination to put one over on their old rivals.

While providing an informal Rachel Moloney with gilt-edged opportunities to send over points from frees was hardly to be recommended, in general play the Tipp defence did very well. The full back was especially sound in the first half and both Paula Bulfin and Julie Kirwan in the corners cleared excellently while Suzanne Kelly covered off well in the central role, Paula Ryan immediately behind her always confident too. Suzanne went over on her ankle in the first half and it did militate against her after that. She hung in, despite the pain

but was forced to retire seven minutes from the end. The half back trio of Michelle Shortt, Trish O'Halloran and Mary Ryan was also very solid. While Jill Horan was the better of the two midfielders (Joanne Ryan had an off day by her own high standards and she received a yellow card just before the final whistle) she might have travelled in possession a bit more and taken on the Cork defence. No blame - again - to Claire Grogan, the real live wire in attack. Apart from an Emily Hayden point in the 20th minute, all the scoring honours belonged to her, some of her points from difficult angles and long range frees being of the top-class variety. The move of Mairead Luttrell to centre forward didn't entirely succeed and while both Cora Hennessy and Philly Fogarty worked very hard, their imprint on the match wasn't as pro-

nounced as might have been expected. Cora was also the victim of some wild pulling that deserved to be punished far more than it was. Inside, Therese Shortt and Emily Hayden found the leech-like attentions of the Cork defence difficult to shake off and Tipp never looked capable of notching a goal at any stage.

Cork will surely be favourites to make up for their final loss to Wexford last September and, clearly, they are intent on going all the way. Tipp are still there, this being their first defeat of the campaign. They travel to meet Limerick on Saturday and they have two home games after that, against Wexford and Galway. The door is still very much open but the mid field and attacking sector will have to improve drastically if another serious attempt at regaining the O'Duffy Cup is to be entertained.

## Match Digest

**Scorers:** Cork: R Moloney 0-11 (9 frees), O. Cotter 1-2, B. Corkery, U. O'Donoghue and S. Burns 0-1 each.  
**Tipperary:** C. Grogan 0-9 (6 frees) and E. Hayden 0-1 replied.

**Cork:** Aoife Murray, Linda O'Connell, Catriona Foley (captain), Sarah Hayes, Mary O'Connor, Rena Buckley, Gemma O'Connor, Briega Buckley, Linda Dorgan, Jenny Duffy, Una O'Donoghue, Emer O'Sullivan, Sile Burns, Rachel Moloney, Orla Cotter.

**Tipperary:** Paula Ryan, Paula Bulfin, Suzanne Kelly, Julie Kirwan, Michelle Shortt, Trish O'Halloran, Mary Ryan, Joanne Ryan, Jill Horan, Cora Hennessy, Mairead Luttrell, Philly Fogarty, Therese Shortt, Emily Hayden, Claire Grogan (captain).  
**Subs:** Geraldine Kinane for Suzanne Kelly, Maria Tynan for Paula Bulfin.

**Referee:** Fintan McNamara, Clare.



Tipperary's Mairead Luttrell competes for possession with Elaine O'Riordan of Cork in the Gala Senior All-Ireland Camogie Championship.



# Only 14 line out against Cork

Intermediate Camogie Championship

Cork 3-17 Tipperary 0-0

By Gerry Slevin  
Photographs by Rose Mannion

Having seen their charges go down a week earlier away to Derry (3-16 to 0-6) the Tipp Intermediate camogie management team could only gather 14 players to take to Ballincollig on Sunday. Consequently, on what was surely a bleak occasion for Tipperary camogie, the team lined out with one less than the full complement of fifteen and, understandably, suffered a humiliating defeat, 3-17 to 0-0. With only two inside forwards, it was never going to be easy to score and a rampant Cork team showed no mercy, building up a 1-12 interval lead against what was now a totally demoralised Tipp side.

Within two minutes of

the resumption, Cork had slammed home two goals and the remainder of the match was played out in a totally unreal championship atmosphere. Cork were content to stroll through their paces, lofting over the odd point when it would have been an embarrassment not to score even if sympathy for their luckless rivals became a consideration.

The Tipp girls tried extremely hard but were completely outclassed and even at full complement it is most unlikely they would have caused their opponents any serious problems. The heads were down long before the final whistle, indeed the body language as the team strolled on to the pitch ini-



Tipp's Karen Doherty gives chase to Cork's Maria Walsh during the All-Ireland Intermediate Championship in Ballincollig last Sunday.

tially was quite revealing too. Bad enough to be taking on Cork in their own back yard with a full team. To have to do so with one player less than their

opponents and in circumstances that saw many of those who did wear the blue and gold, clearly not up to inter-county standard, only helped to create

a situation that asked questions about the grade and, more importantly, about the reasons behind such a black day for Tipperary camogie.

## O'Rourke blames board and clubs for players' absence

By Gerry Slevin

A completely demoralised group of Tipperary players meandered along to the dressing room having been on the receiving end of a 3-17 to 0-0 hammering by Cork in Sunday's All-Ireland Intermediate camogie championship game in Ballincollig.

Some of them, so embarrassed and so humiliated were crying, and were comforted by relatives and friends as they emerged off the pitch. Earlier, a team that could only avail of fourteen players for the entire game was totally out of its depth against a rampant Cork team that eased up considerably in the second half, the match having been placed totally out of Tipp's reach when the home side led half time 1-12 to 0-0.

Asked for a comment as he too made his way to the dressing rooms, team manager P.J. O'Rourke responded with a shake of the head and said 'no comment'. His attention was then drawn to the fact that he had presided over a team that could field 14 players only. He responded that it was partly due to

"clubs and stuff like that not letting their players go".

"We have been told that certain players, under 18s, are not allowed play with the Intermediate team. Also, members of the senior panel (who would have been eligible) were asked to play with us and they refused, so what can we do?" asked the Newport man.

"We have 14 players (today). Three girls are in their sick bed. One girl is on holidays, we only have a panel of twenty and at the end of the day all credit to these fourteen girls for coming out here and playing. They mightn't have scored, but listen, they tried. Some of them know they are not worthy to be even there playing and would prefer to be on the sideline. We also had a sick girl out there, dying with the 'flu, so that at the end of the day it is very disappointing and I believe the Tipperary County Board needs to get its act together and fairly quick at that," the manager (who is also vice chairman of the County Camogie Board) added.

He said it was demoral-



Cork's Claire Spellman prepares to challenge Tipp's Ailish Langton in Sunday's All-Ireland Intermediate camogie championship game in Ballincollig.

ising in more ways than one for the players who did turn out, and added that the management team had

apologised to the players. "We don't understand it. We are doing our level best to get players but when

players decide they don't want to play camogie for their county. What can you do?" he said.

## Senior championship

COUNTY championship Muskerry brushed aside the challenge posed by Imokilly as they recorded a 4-14 to 0-3 victory. With Sile Burns Margaret O Herlihy and Castriona Foley to the fore they held to much power for an Imokilly side that battle hard but could never get to grips with the challenge posed by a strong Muskerry side. Carrighoun had to battle hard before victory was secured against a Seandun side that showed fierce determination after going seven points in arrears however in the finish it was Carrighoun spear-headed by Eimear O Sullivan and Luck Hawkes who advanced to a meeting with champions Muskerry.

Iniscarra had a good hour from under age players Niamh Dilworth, Katie O Mahony and Joanne Casey while Sinéad Ní Riain excellent in goal and Rena Buckley were excellent in defence as they defeated Barryroe 2-10 to 0-7. Barryroe minus the services of Inter county senior players Jennifer O Leary and Rosalie Holland put up a tremendous show and they can look forward with confidence to a back door meeting with the winner of the Muskerry versus Carrighoun clash.

Douglas contesting their first senior championship game following promotion held to much power for an Aghbullogue side that created plenty of first half chances but failed to get past an alert Jessica Kavanagh in the Douglas goal. Again the younger brigade came up trumps Julia White

and Katrina Mackey picked off scores while Louise O Regan lining out at full back turned in solid hour as Douglas triumphed on a 1-17 to 1-4 score line.

Last year defeated county finalists St Finbarrs had to call on all their resources before edging out Ballygarvan 0-14 to 0-12 in a tough hours camogie Ballygarvan now face Courcy rovers in a back door encounter after Courcy lost out a the hand of Milford in a game which Milford controlled from the throw in with Elaine O Riordan Eimear Watson and Regina Curtin very much to the fore.

Cloughduv and St Catherine's was an action packed finish it was St Catherine's who snatched victory with a last gasp goal from Deirdre Twomey. Cloughduv held the lead from the throw in but St Catherine's never gave them much head way and keeping them within striking struck for the goal at a time when Cloughduv had no time to respond it finished 1-7 to 0-9 a one point victory for ST Catherine's Cloughduv now meet neighbours Aghbullogue in a game that will have huge interest given the close proximity of both clubs.

In the Evening Echo Junior "A" championship round robin series Sarsfields recorded a victory over Ballyhea, Ballincollig got the better of Fr O Neills while Newtownshandrum had a victory over Mallow, Clonakilty had a goal to spare over Tracton, Fr O Neills in their second game defeated Ballyhea while Ballincollig defeated Blackrock.

## Cork meet Galway on the double

THE Gala Senior and Intermediate championship continue this weekend and with three good victories over Dublin Wexford and Tipperary the Cork senior teams will be looking to build on these successes when they meet on Sunday next in Galway.

With two victories under their belts over Limerick and Wexford will travel in confident mood but Cork will equally as determined to stay top of the group another victories would ensure

Cork of a semi final spot and with game to come against Limerick and Kilkenny the selectors will be hoping to continue the good progress which the side have shown to date.

The Cork Intermediate side having lost out to Derry regrouped to record victories over Wexford and Tipperary they will be hoping to build on this against a Galway side that also lost out to Derry but defeated Wexford

## County championship

THE Evening Echo Senior B championship has Bishoptown and Carrigaline in action tomorrow Friday in Passage at 7.30pm. On Wednesday next Muskerry and Carrighoun meet in a senior clash with the win-

ners going forward to meet Barryroe on the same night in the Evening Echo junior "A" championship Mal-low meet Clonakilty, Ballyhea face Watergrasshill while Blackrock meet Fr O Neills.





Cork camogie players Caitriona Foley and Joanne O'Callaghan with GALA retailers Emma O'Brien, Pat Morris, Kerry and Pascal Donnelly, Ivan Camier, Colin Gurhy, M&P O'Sullivan Wholesalers and Shane Byrne, GALA Regional Manager at the announcement that GALA Group is to extend sponsorship of the junior and senior national camogie Championships for a further three years.

Picture: Larry Cummins

## Carrigaline approach game with confidence

By MARY NEWMAN

Senior B Championship

TONIGHT

Evening Echo Senior B

Championship,

Carrigaline v Bishopstown,

Passage, 7.30pm

CARRIGALINE have started the season well and with good league results under their belts are looking ahead with confidence to this first game in the round-robin series in the Evening Echo Senior B Championship in Passage.

Over a number of years they have built up a young side that has now matured and under the guidance of John Middleton they are hoping to take a step forward and establish themselves in the senior B grade and book themselves a place in the closing stages.

Jan Kiernan, Ann Kiely, Jacqui O'Keeffe and Emily Power are amongst the driving force of the club while young players such as Patie O'Keeffe, Jenny Foster, Donna Smyth and Sarah Cotter are well able for the challenges that lie ahead.

Bishopstown will provide the first stiff challenge to Carrigaline but they have been dealt a severe blow with leg injured to Jean O'Sullivan and Ciara Healy, both players who have given so much to the club and who will be a huge loss to their starting fifteen.

However, Bishopstown always give a good account of themselves and with experienced players such as Julie Crowley, former Cork senior captain Eithne Duggan, Joanne Browne, who captains the side, Miriam Crowley and Sinead O'Donoghue in their ranks they will not lack determination.

Younger player who have come through such as Maureen Egan, daughter of former Kerry great John, Maria Monahan and Aoife Noone have slotted in well.

The side is coached this season by former club senior player Brian Cuthbert and he will no doubt bring all his knowledge and experience to the fore. He is joined by selectors Frank Scannell and Seamus Coffey as they strive to plot the downfall of Carrigaline.

A tough hour lies ahead but one which either side are more than capable of surviving.

# Cork should secure a spot in semi-final

SUNDAY  
Gala All-Ireland Senior  
Championship,  
Cork v Galway,  
Páirc Uí Rinn, 3pm

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie

**UNBEATEN** as they head into round four of the Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship this weekend, Cork know they have will to remain focused to ensure them of a semi final spot.

Having recorded victories over Dublin, champions Wexford and Tipperary a win on Sunday will suffice for Cork before they meet Limerick and Kilkenny.

Galway, though, are travelling south protecting an unbeaten run having beating Limerick and Wexford, but have one game less than Cork having had a bye in round two, and want to remain unbeaten.

Last season, Galway lost out to Wexford in the All-Ireland semi-final and last weekend's victory over the All-Ireland champions will have given them a terrific boost.

Galway have made great strides and are one of the teams to watch

this year.

Liam Donoghue has worked hard with his side and having brought them to the league Final he is determined to take it a step further.

They also represented Connacht in the Gael-Linn Interprovincials, where they took the title for their first time in eight years and they will pose a huge stumbling block on Sunday.

One of their main threats will come from Jessica Gill, who has been causing plenty of headaches for defences. On Sunday last she notched up 1-9 out of a tally of 1-12, Veronica Curtin, who played on the only Galway side to win an All-Ireland title in 1996 is still going strong while their defence is marshalled by goalkeeper Susan Earner, who gets great support from players such as Niamh Kilkenny, the experienced Ann Marie Hayes and Sinead Cahalane.

Cork will go into Sunday's clash with their feet firmly on the

ground, they have done everything that has been asked of them and now they must stay focused.

The season has gone exceptionally well and they are taking each game as it comes, the mood in the camp is positive and certainly, having observed their set-up at close quarters, one could not be but impressed.

The new backroom team have settled in well and have a great rapport with their charges, manager Denise Cronin has been there herself and is very focused on the game and her enthusiasm and drive is coming through in her charges, her fellow selectors Con Moloney and Pat Murray are shrewd and know their stuff, while coach Jim McCarthy has the side in peak condition.

Starting out at the start of the season minus players such as Jennifer O'Leary and Emer Dillon, the Cork backroom team knew they would have to make changes but they have not been afraid to do this and throughout the league campaign tried out players in different roles.

Linda Dorgan has continued to hold onto the midfield position in the championship outings and she has done well, Gemma O'Connor has continued in defence and has settled in, Eiméar O'Sullivan, in her first season, is an addition to the attack while Orla Cotter is proving to be a goal-getter after grabbing vital scores against Wexford and Tipperary.

Rachel Moloney is enjoying her best season to date and is proving just how valuable she is, notching up 0-11 last weekend.

Last weekend, Joanne O'Callaghan was sidelined due to injury but Sarah Hayes stepped in to the defence and turned in an excellent hour, as did Elaine O'Riordan, who came on as a replacement for the injured Jenny Duffy.

Cork will be without Rena Buckley, who departed last Wednesday to travel until the end of August, and she will be a loss to the side.

This is another big test but one which this Cork side are capable of passing and they should in the process secure a semi-final berth

## Still all to play for as Rebels encounter Galway

ROUND four of the Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Championship and still all to play for as Cork and Galway meet on Sunday in Páirc Uí Rinn writes MARY NEWMAN.

Galway had a bye in round one and as a result are contesting their third game while it's game four for Cork. With high-fliers Derry losing last weekend at the hands of Kilkenny, the race for the semi-final spots is wide open.

Cork picked themselves up after defeat in their first game at the

hands of Derry and they had good victories over Wexford and Tipperary, and while it was hard to judge last weekend's game such as Tipperary's lack of interest, fielding just 14 players, the Cork backroom have strengthened their panel with the return of Marie Corkery and Regina Curtin, two players who bring vast experience something missing in the first round against Derry.

This is a good Cork panel and a semi-final spot is well within reach, however coach Bobby Thornhill is

SUNDAY  
Gala All-Ireland Intermediate  
Championship,  
Cork v Galway,  
Páirc Uí Rinn, 1pm

on record as telling his squad that All-Ireland titles don't come in the post and they have to be earned and his charges have responded splendidly to his request to keep focused on the task in hand.

This Galway side are not travelling to Cork for the spin on the bus,

they are determined to make it back to back wins.

They had a first victory over Wexford last weekend having lost out to Derry in their opening game. Their line-out is built around former senior players such as Martina Harkin, Aisling Hobbins and Caroline Murray, and it includes several players who have come through their underage structure in recent years and names such as Tara Rutledge Lorraine Lally, Sinead Keane and Darelle Coen will

be familiar ones to anybody who has been following the fortunes of underage intercounty camogie in recent years.

Martina Harkin, who lines out at right corner-back is also a selector and she is joined by Stephen Glenon and Michael Gallagher.

In last season's league clash between the counties' second teams, it went down to the wire many of the same players are in action again this weekend we can expect a similar contest.





Old Aloysians Camogie Club celebrate their 21st anniversary in 1958. Seated are Siobhan O'Sullivan, Josie Young, Ide Bean Ui Shea, Gus Healy, Rita Healy, Alice Quigley, Lil Crowley, Sheila Brennan and Maura Conlon. Maybe you can identify those in the background?

Picture: Ref. Examiner photo

## Éire Óg are favourites to start with win

**TONIGHT**  
Evening Echo SBC,  
Newcestown v Éire Óg,  
Brinny, 7.30pm.

ATTENTION turns to the Evening Echo Senior B camogie championship this evening as Éire Óg and Newcestown get proceedings under way in the first game of the round robin series in Brinny writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

Last season's defeated semi-finalists Éire Óg will be hoping to get their campaign off the ground with a win.

Last season was a long season for the Mid-Cork side with several on the Muskerry panel and it's similar this season.

For the last two seasons they have contested the semi-finals and they have excellent players. Margaret O'Herlihy was named as player of the match fol-

lowing a superb display in the Muskerry colours in the senior county final.

Catrina McKenna, Alanna McKenna Ella Kelleher and Siobhán Gleeson will also be hugely influential as the Ovens girls bid for victory.

Newcestown are renowned championship campaigners and always show plenty of determination.

They have excellent players in

Colleen Long, Rose Desmond, Colette Desmond and goalkeeper Lisa O'Sullivan, while former intercounty player Hilda O'Mahony is back following the birth of her daughter.

It will be a tough battle and hard to predict but Éire Óg may just have that little bit extra to make it through and take the first set of points on offer.

**Verdict: Éire Óg**

July 2008

**SHE WAS** one of Cork's greatest-ever camogie players, six All-Ireland senior medals safely tucked away and a successful winning captain in 1995.

As a club player she bagged the lot Glen Rovers and it was a case of success breeding success.

But that was then and this is now and today Denise Cronin has a new role within the Cork camogie framework, she is the new team boss of the county senior team.

Apart from some underage coaching with the Glen, she had no experience of managing an intercounty team would bring but her rich pedigree as a player gave her the confidence to accept the post when she was first approached.

"I suppose initially I was a bit apprehensive about taking on the job. I didn't have any experience but after some time thinking about it and a chat with my boyfriend Connor, I said why not.

"How it all came about was the fact that last year's management team stepped down and I was approached by Gemma O'Connor about taking on the job."

The first move in her new career was to construct a backroom team and she struck it rich in that aspect of things when Jim McCarthy agreed to train the team.

"I knew Jim and his expertise from my own playing days and the first thing I did was approach him.

"When he agreed it was a huge plus and with Con Malone and Pat Murray alongside me, I am surrounded by good and able people."

Since her own playing days, she acknowledges that the preparatory

# Denise looking to make her mark Cronin takes charge

By **JOHN HORGAN**  
Camogie news

work has changed completely. Gone are the days of four or five laps of the field and a few sprints.

"The whole business has changed beyond recognition.

"Today's methods are based on SAQ, speed, agility and quickness.

"There's a lot of ladder work as well on the field before games, it's got a way more technical and ultra professional.

"In fact, when I think what the players of today do compared to what we did, it's mind-boggling.

"But all these girls are very de-

termined in their outlook, they look after themselves, know when to socialise and when not to."

When she took over the dressing room for the first time she admits to some nervousness and a little apprehension but having the right people in place helped her.

"I'd be nervous it alright, not for myself but for the players. I suppose I have learned a lot myself down the years from the great players that I was involved with, girls like Sandle (Fitzgibbon), Therese (O'Callaghan), Linda (Mellorick) as well as the people in charge."

So far, everything has gone smoothly for her, three games

played and three wins over Dublin, Wexford, the reigning All-Ireland champions, and Tipperary.

Those three wins put Cork into a very advantageous position in their efforts to regain the All-Ireland.

Denise herself believes that it is one of the most open All-Irelands for years.

"Camogie needs more counties to be challenging for the top honours and this year I believe you have five very much in contention."

And she believes too that losing last September's All-Ireland could actually strengthen the challenge this time.

"I think it could because we have

a determined and focused bunch who want to make up for last year.

"It's not going to be easy though because as I said already there are a lot of good teams about who will all be challenging.

"So far, overall I would have to say it's a pleasure to be involved with this bunch of girls.

"We are taking each game as it comes along and as you know a lot of the girls have dual involvement.

"However, we work around that, knowing the schedule and it's not a great problem," declared one of Cork's great servants, now putting back something into a sport which she got an awful from herself.



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# Denise goes in search of Munster long puck honours

DENISE LUBY from Glen Rovers was the winner of the Cork camogie long puck competition held recently and will travel today to Thurles to represent the county in the Munster competition.

The final, held in conjunction with the GAA long puck competition, has become an annual event held on the eve of the Munster hurling final in Thurles Racecourse.

It's the second year that the Glen Rovers girl has represented the county at the competition, which is in its third year.

Earlier in the year, Denise completed her Leaving Certificate in Coláiste an Chroí Naofa, Carraig

na bhFear, where she won camogie championship and league honours. Denise also won Sciath na Scol honours with Scoil Oilibhéir, Dublin Hill.

A member of the Cork U16 team that contested the All-Ireland final last season, she is currently a member of the Cork minor and intermediate squads.

At club level, Denise is a member of the Glen Rovers senior and minor teams and is very active within the club. She comes from strong Gaelic games background and parents Brigid and Tom hail from Tipperary and Kilkenny but no doubt she will represent the Rebel county with pride as she

seeks to bring the first camogie long puck title back to Cork.

There will be strong opposition on the day with all of the Munster counties represented. Clare will be represented by Denise Lynch from Kilmaley, it's her third year representing the county and the Clare goalie has a proud record in the competition having being crowned Munster and All-Ireland winner with a win over the famous Cooley Mountains two years ago.

Competitors will gather at 12 noon with the action getting under way at 12.30pm, we wish Cork's representative Denise Luby the very best of luck.



Last year's Seandún U16 captain Denise Luby heads to Thurles today to represent Cork in the All-Ireland long puck competition.

## Laura fires Carrigaline to a fine victory

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie

Carrigaline  
Bishopstown

4-10  
0-6

A SOLID second-half display earned Carrigaline the two points on offer in this Evening Echo Senior B Camogie Championship round-robin series game in Passage.

Laura Thompson was their scorer-in-chief, helping herself to 3-7, but it was by no means a one-woman show as Joanne O'Keeffe, Maria Moran and Gráinne O'Keeffe all played their part in securing an excellent result for a Carrigaline side that had to play 20 minutes of the second half with 14 players after losing the services of Elaine Egan, who was dismissed having received a second yellow card.

The opening half was a close affair, Gráinne O'Keeffe and Maebh Scannell exchanged points before Joanne O'Keeffe and Laura Thompson edged Carrigaline ahead inside the opening quarter.

A goal from Elaine Egan 28 minutes into the half came at a vital time for Carrigaline and they kept the pressure on the Bishopstown defence to the interval, two Laura Thompson points before the break giving them a 1-5 to 0-2 interval lead.

Bishopstown cut the deficit on the resumption with Maebh Scannell pointing two frees, but they continued to find the going tough against the strong Carrigaline defence that were giving little away.

Carrigaline upped the tempo with Laura Thompson again to the fore, hitting a point, before the same player grabbed two goals within nine minutes as Carrigaline began to pull away.

Maebh Scannell again showed her accuracy for Bishopstown, pointing a free, but failure to breach the Carrigaline defence from play continued to be a problem for Bishopstown.

Laura Thompson struck four points from play before rounding off a productive evening by grabbing her side's fourth goal five minutes into injury time.

Joanne O'Keeffe and Scannell traded points as the contest came to its conclusion with Carrigaline safely securing the points on offer.

**Scorers for Carrigaline:** L Thompson 3-7 (0-2), E Egan 1-0, J O'Keeffe 0-2, G O'Keeffe 0-1.

**Bishopstown:** M Scannell 0-6.

**CARRIGALINE:** A Kiely, J Kiernan, J Foster, R Pinfield, A Collins, S Cotter, M Moran, D Smyth, J O'Keeffe, G O'Keeffe, J O'Keeffe, D O'Leary, E Egan, C O'Keeffe, L Thompson.

**Subs:** L Kelleher for A Collins (21), G Harrington for J O'Keeffe (53).

**BISHOPSTOWN:** M Monahan, M Egan, A Noone, S O'Donoghue, O Crowley, J Crowley, E Duggan, R Nunan, J Browne, S Kelly, O Ni Dhomhnaill, B Sheehan, M Crowley, M Scannell, E Foyle.

**Subs:** M O'Brien for R Noonan (49), M Kearney for O Ni Dhomhnaill (53), C Healy for B Sheehan (52), A Corcoran for M Egan (54).

**Referee:** F Fitzpatrick (Clyda Rovers).

July 2008

## This used to be a man's game

Dear Noel,

"I'm tough, and I always have been. During a primary school match, after I scattered three or four players, some of them from the opposition, my teacher roared in 'mighty stuff, you're as strong as two men' and it stuck. I've never lost that edge to my game. Noel, I think they are making a mess of the game entirely. You can't break a hurley across

anyone's back at all anymore, not even during the warm-up. Even the hurling analysts on The Sunday Game have gone soft, and that's the straw (and not the hurl, alas) that broke the camel's back.

"You could always rely on them to promote the bit of timber. What do you think, Noel?"

— Louise (14), Lower Upperchurch, Co Tipperary

■ "YOU'VE said it all there Louise. The whole thing is ruined now. They may as well take the hurleys off them completely and call it athletics. If I were you, I'd transfer to a club in Dublin, Louise."



NOEL  
Replies

### CAMOGIE

**ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
Tipperary 2-22 (J Ryan 1-2, C Hennessy 1-1, C Grogan 0-8 (4f, 145), E Hayden 0-5, G Kinnane 0-3, P Fogarty, T Shortt, J Mc Giath 0-1 each) **Limerick 0-5** (M Casey 0-4 (3f, 145), S Collins 0-1)  
**GALA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Kildare 0-12 (S O'Carroll 0-10 (2f, 145), O Bamberg, S Hurley 0-1 each)  
**Roscommon 1-9** (C Hurley 1-1, K Hopkins 0-7, G Dowd 0-1)  
Meath v London off.



Belle of Ballincollig winner, Denise Cronin, the Camogie Club Belle, celebrates her win at the Ballincollig GAA Club. Picture: Gerard Bonus

## Wexford bid to get back on track against rejuvenated Cats

by Martin Claffey

**ALL-IRELAND** champions Wexford take on National League holders Kilkenny in the top game of round four in the Gala All-Ireland Camogie Championship tomorrow.

Last September Wexford claimed their first All-Ireland title in 32 years when they defeated Cork at Croke Park. However, after two losses in their opening two games the champions cannot afford another defeat if they hope to retain the O'Duffy Cup.

Kilkenny have re-emerged as one of the championship contenders under the stewardship of 12 times All-Ireland winner Ann Downey. Following a poor spell last year, they stormed back to win the League title with victory over Galway.

However, despite that boost, the Cats lost their opening game to Tipperary, but Downey feels they have bounced back from that setback. "We were very disappointed to lose to Tipperary after performing so well in the League. We came back very well against Lim-

erick in our second game so it's all looking good now for Sunday's game against Wexford."

The last few years have been extremely disappointing for Kilkenny, but with an extensive and highly successful youth set-up in place the future is bright.

However, Downey knows Wexford will be dangerous as they must win to get back on track.

"Wexford have lost their first two fixtures, but hadn't the easiest of games against Cork and Galway. They are still a very talented team and we'll be hoping to get

favourable playing conditions. We are a light team compared to Wexford but are exceptionally tough to beat. We've got our game plan and we'll pay no attention to Wexford's style. Kilkenny are concentrating on Kilkenny and that should be enough," said Downey.

In the remaining fixtures, Limerick host Tipperary today, while Galway travel to take on Cork tomorrow.

Newcomers to this year's championship, Limerick, will be looking to register their first victory

over Tipperary. Tipp, who won their first two games, will be hoping to bounce back after a nine point defeat to Cork in their last outing.

2006 All-Ireland champions Cork will be hoping to keep up their 100% championship record as they seek a fourth successive victory and a guaranteed spot in the semi-finals.

Galway are the only other unbeaten side so far following victories over Limerick and Wexford so they will be hoping to make it three-in-a-row.



# Cork just one game away from the semis

Cork  
Galway

1-17  
2-4

By MARY NEWMAN  
All-Ireland Intermediate Championship

**ANOTHER** good display from the Cork intermediate team as they made it three wins on the trot.

In the process they virtually ensured themselves of a semi-final spot with just one game to go against Kilkenny in the Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Championship in Páirc Uí Rinn yesterday.

Having lost out in the opening game in their section of the round-robin series to Derry, Cork were under pressure but they have shown fierce commitment and improvement in all their games since.

They approached yesterday's game determined to take the points on offer and all over the field they held the upper hand.

In defence, Maria Walsh at centre-back was excellent and she was well supported by Lucey Hawkes and Regina Curtin, who held a tight reign on their opposite numbers.

Michelle Browne again showed superb accuracy, striking nine points in total five from placed balls and four from play while Marion Jagoe, Julia White and Jennifer Lynch also impressed in what was overall an excellent team performance.

From the throw-in, Cork hit the front, Claire Spellman striking the ball over the bar inside 12 seconds and in a blistering four minutes Charlotte Kearney had fired home a goal as Michelle Brown and Julia White stretched the lead to 1-4 before Galway had even crossed the half-way line.

Julie Brien pointed with Galway's first attack six minutes into the game but they had to wait another 12 minutes to register their second score as Cork picked off the points.

Julia White struck a superb effort from way out on the wing before Michelle Browne made free-taking look simple as she continued to show her accuracy, knocking over a free and a 45 and it was Charlotte Kearney who had the final say of the half for Cork with a point in the 18th minute as Galway began to tighten up in defence.

With the Cork attack held scoreless from the 18th minute to half-time, Galway's Caroline Murray pointed twice from placed balls and it was 1-8 to 0-3 at the interval in favour of Cork.

Cork enjoyed the better of the early second-half exchanges and with Michelle Browne pointing two frees the margin increased, but Galway, now playing with more confidence, began to gain a foothold and a goal from substitute Stephanie O'Dwyer was followed by a Caroline Murray point on the three-quarter stage.

Cork, with Jennifer Lynch and Marie Corkery prominent at midfield, never took the foot off the pedal and, upping the tempo, hit six points in reply to firmly quench any hopes of a Galway rally.

Caroline Murray hit a goal on the stroke of full-time for a Galway side who never recovered from Cork's flying start.

**Scorers for Cork:** M Browne 0-9 (0-4f, 0-1 45), C Kearney 1-3, J White 0-2, J Lynch, M Jagoe, C Spellman 0-1 each.

**Galway:** C Murray 1-3 (0-2f, 0-1 45), S O'Dwyer 1-0, J Brien 0-1.

**CORK:** G Harrington; L Weste, S Gleeson, C O'Neill; L Hawkes, M Walsh, R Curtin; J Lynch, M Corkery; J White, C Spellman, A Thompson; C Kearney, M Browne, M Jagoe. **Subs:** D Twomey for A Thompson (half-time), AM Fleming for R Curtin (54), L Bugler for M Corkery (in), 55), C Collins for C Spellman (in), 56).

**GALWAY:** C Nee; D Coen, A Poniard, M Harkin; A Hobbins, P Hayes, C Coleman; M Reynolds, C Murray; C Moran, V Molloy, J Brien; C Staunton, E O'Sullivan, T Rutledge.

**Subs:** H Campbell for C Nee (in), 18), S O'Dwyer for C Coleman (22), S Coen for V Molloy (35), C Killeen for P Hayes (53).

**Referee:** Alan Lagrue (Kildare).



Cork's top scorer Michelle Brown looks to pass as she is challenged by Galway's Phyllis Hayes during the All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship game in Páirc Uí Rinn.

Picture: Richard Mills

## Thornhill is delighted

A DELIGHTED Cork coach Bobby Thornhill wasn't slow to heap praise on his charges after they had seen off the challenge posed by Galway in the opening game in Páirc Uí Rinn yesterday, writes MARY NEWMAN.

"Absolutely brilliant to win three games out of four, we felt Galway would be strong and we had problems picking our team, we did have a few injuries but fortunately everything came right for us.

"To be honest, we played very well from start to finish and the subs that came in did very well also.

"The players know what is required of them at this stage and hopefully we have done enough to now to be in the semi-final.

"We have one game to go against Kilkenny and these players have a great belief in themselves they really believe they are good enough to win an All-Ireland, that's our aim.

"Mental attitude and toughness is what it is all about and I have no doubt that every one of these girls are prepared to put in 110 per cent effort to win this All-Ireland.

"We have a number of minors on our panel and this is a team with

plenty of experience, we have a good blend and everybody is working really hard."

Bobby had plenty of praise for his free-taker Michelle Browne, who scored nine points in total.

"Michelle works hard at her free-taking and she has been excellent in all our games, again today she hit some great scores both from frees and play, she drives the ball with great accuracy and strength.

"In total, we hit 17 points and we are pleased with this a good performance and we will drive on from here."

Again, though, Bob expressed disappointment that his charges still have not secured a team sponsor.

"We are nearly into an All-Ireland semi-final and its disappointing to note that the intermediate team still have no sponsor.

"I am hoping that somebody will contact the county board or any of the selectors and come on board this team are heading to an All-Ireland final and need support so I am putting out a call today for somebody to come on board with us, we won't let you down."

## Wexford ladies far too good for Cats

Jackie Cahill

WEXFORD won the battle of the champions at Buffers Alley yesterday to kick-start their 2008 Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship charge.

The All-Ireland champions defeated National League kingpins Kilkenny 3-14 to 2-4 to record a first championship victory of the season in their third outing.

Two-goal hero Ursula Jacob set Wexford on their way with the game's opening goal after 15 minutes but Kilkenny hit back when Ann Dalton goalied a 20th minute free.

The Noresiders were right back in the hunt when Sinéad Millea converted a 26th minute penalty but after half time, it was one-way traffic as Wexford showed glimpses of the form that brought All-Ireland glory last year.

At Páirc Uí Rinn, last year's beaten finalists Cork suffered their first defeat of the campaign as National League runners-up Galway ran out 1-9 to 0-9 winners.

Galway led by 0-6 to 0-4 at half time and after stretching 0-8 to 0-5 clear early in the second half, the Tribeswomen looked set for victory.

Cork struck back to draw level at 0-8 apiece but Galway sub Lourda Kavanagh scored a fine solo goal three minutes from time, clinching the tie for the visitors.

Jessica Gill was Galway's scorer-in-chief with seven points, six frees and a 45, while Veronica Curtin grabbed two points.

Meanwhile, on Saturday, Tipp moved closer to qualification for the semi-finals after recording an emphatic 2-22 to 0-5 victory against Limerick in Kilmallock.

## Tipp on brink of Gala semis

CAMOGIE

TIPPERARY are on the brink of qualification for the semi-finals of the Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship after recording an emphatic victory over Limerick in Kilmallock yesterday afternoon.

The Premier County ran out 2-22 to 0-5 winners against their opponents, who slumped to a fourth consecutive defeat in this year's competition.

With home games remaining against champions Wexford and Galway, one more win will be enough for Tipp to clinch a place in the last four.

Tipp's Claire Grogan contributed eight points and Cashel clubmate Emily Hayden bagged five.

Joanne Ryan and Geraldine Kinnane were also prominent for the winners as their attacking arsenal proved to be just too hot to handle for Limerick.



Cork's Rachel Moloney in action against Galway at Parc Uí Rinn on Sunday.



# Galway inflict first defeat on Rebels

Galway 1-9  
Cork 0-9

**CORK'S** unbeaten run was brought to an end yesterday in Páirc Uí Rinn as they lost out to a determined Galway in the Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie championship.

Cork can have little complaint as they failed to find the form that had seen them secure victories over Dublin, Wexford and Tipperary.

Granted, they never let Galway far out of sight but when the chance arose to grab the game and forge ahead with seven minutes remaining but Cork couldn't do so.

Cork had problems yesterday, particularly up front — only three of points coming from play over the hour, not good enough at this level.

In an effort to get more ball inside in the second half, Cork brought Orla Cotter to midfield and moved Brieghe Corkery to half-forward, but they did not get the return from their forwards, just two of the starting six scoring.

Maybe it's time that Cork looked at bringing Gemma O'Connor back into her usual midfield role, from where she could come forward.

Galway had their homework done and closed Cork down at every opportunity. They hunted in packs and never allowed Cork get to grips with a game that never really got off the ground.

With both sides striking six points from frees, there was little from either side from play but in the finish a goal from sub Lourda Kavanagh in the closing minutes was enough to give Galway the points on offer at a stage when it looked as if Cork were about to weather the storm and take control.

Jessica Gill and Veronica Curtin had Galway ahead 0-4 to 0-1 20 minutes in. Eimear O'Sullivan on target for Cork as their inside line failed to make an impact against a strong Galway defence.

Entering the final stages of the first half, Cork enjoyed the better of the exchanges and picked off three points without reply, Rachel Moloney pointing a free on 22 and by the 27th minute, Eimear O'Sullivan and



Cork's Emer O'Sullivan, scorer of two points, solos away from Galway's Sarah Noone during the the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship game in Páirc Uí Rinn.

Picture: Richard Mills

## Murray remains upbeat

CORK selector Pat Murray was disappointed at yesterday's result but remains optimistic that Cork can put it behind them and drive on.

"It's disappointing to lose but I suppose it's not the end of the world or indeed our participation in the championship.

"Galway were flying today and were the better team and deserved to win. Our girls will have learned from it and it will give them that extra incentive to even try harder next time we meet Galway and hopefully we will be all the better for it."

Was it fair to say the game was

very flat and, with the huge amount of frees, very stop-start?

"You just have to play the game according to the way it goes. If it's tough you have to be tough. You have to play it what every way it works out.

"We have no excuses, to win you have to get scores on the board and today we just didn't do that. Hopefully we will pick it up again next weekend. We have two games to go and hopefully we will get the point we need next weekend to qualify and from then it's would be on to an All-Ireland semi final and we can just focus on it from there."

By MARY NEWMAN

All-Ireland senior camogie

Linda Dorgan had Cork back level.

However, two Jessica Gill points before the break helped Galway to an interval lead of 0-6 to 0-4.

Inside a minute, Veronica Curtin stretched the lead to three points, before Rachel Moloney and Jessica Gill traded pointed frees.

Cork, with Orla Cotter now operating at centrefield, began to exert

more pressure and three pointed frees had Cork back on level terms.

Without a score since the ninth minute of the half it was backs to the wall for Galway but the siege was lifted as they won a free in their own half and Ann Marie Hayes long delivery was won near the end line by Lourda Kavanagh. She somehow squeezed past the Cork defence and finished to the net.

Rachel Moloney pointed a Cork free with two minutes remaining

but in reply Jessica Gill converted a 45 as Galway pressurised the Cork defence.

Cork did have a chance of a late goal but Susan Earner dealt with substitute Amanda O'Regan's effort to the sound of the full-time whistle.

Cork meet Limerick next weekend and, with Kilkenny to come, need just one point to secure a semi-final spot.

With three victories from three games, Galway are now the only side unbeaten in what is turning out to be an intriguing championship.

Elsewhere, All-Ireland champions Wexford put two defeats behind them and got their campaign back on track as they defeated national league champions Kilkenny on a 3-14 to 2-4 scoreline.

**Scorers for Cork:** R Moloney 0-6f, E O'Sullivan 0-2, L Dorgan 0-1.  
**Galway:** J Gill 0-7 (0-6f, 0-1 45), L Kavanagh 1-0, V Curtin 0-2.

**CORK:** A Murray; J O'Callaghan, C Foley, L O'Connell; S Hayes, M O'Connor, G O'Connor; B Corkery, L Dorgan; U O'Donoghue, E O'Riordan, E O'Sullivan; S Burns, R Moloney, O Cotter. **Subs:** E O'Farrell for E O'Riordan (46), A O'Regan for E O'Sullivan (51).

**GALWAY:** S Earner; S Tannion, A Kelly, T Manton; A M Hayes, S Cahalan, N Kilkenny; A Hillary, S Noone; L Ryan, T Maher, V Curtin, C Cormican, J Gill, O Kilkenny. **Subs:** L Kavanagh for L Ryan (half-time), B Kerins for O Kilkenny (45).

**Ref:** Eamonn Browne (Tipperary).

## Champs Muskerry hold on to win

Muskerry 3-9  
Carrigdhoun 3-7

A STIFF test for county champions Muskerry, but they weathered the storm to hold on to their title.

In doing so they booked their place in round two of the Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship, where they meet Barryroe.

Over the hour, Carrigdhoun fought hard, Marion Jagoe giving them an early lead when finishing to the net for the opening score.

The champions cut the deficit with points from Margaret O'Herlihy and Sile Burns, but Carrigdhoun struck again, through Laura Thompson, who finished to the net to stretch the lead.

Sile Burns and Catriona Collins exchanged points as the sides battled on. Burns struck for a goal to bring Muskerry back into it when Carrigdhoun threatened to take control.

Showing plenty of resolve, the holders were level by half-time, thanks to points from Denise Cronin and Sile Burns.

Laura Thompson and Grainne O'Keefe pointed to give Carrigdhoun a two-point cushion but two Sile Burns frees had Muskerry back on parity.

Two Margaret O'Herlihy goals gave the champs a five-point lead. Denise Cronin put two goals between the sides and they looked to have won.

But again Carrigdhoun showed fierce determination and battled back. Eimear O'Sullivan finished to the net from close range and the game was again up for grabs. Grainne O'Keefe pointed with minutes remaining and now the champions were hanging on.

Carrigdhoun battled to grab a winner but the Muskerry defence held firm to the final whistle to just shade it.

**Scorers for Muskerry:** S Burns 0-7 (0-3f), M O'Herlihy 2-1, E O'Sullivan 1-0, D Cronin 0-1.

**Carrigdhoun:** L Thompson 1-3 (0-1f, 0-1 45), M Jagoe 1-1, E O'Sullivan 1-0, G O'Keefe 0-2, C Collins 0-1.

**MUSKERRY:** T Donnell (Ballincollig); Catriona McKenna (Eire Ogl), S Gleeson (Idol), L Weste (Ballincollig); L Murphy (Eire Ogl), C Foley (Rockbawn), C McKenna (Eire Ogl); L Dorgan (Glenagh), M O'Donoghue (Ballincollig); E O'Herlihy (Eire Ogl), A McKenna (Idol), D Cronin (Ballincollig); S Burns (Rockbawn, capt), C O'Leary (Eire Ogl), M O'Herlihy (Idol). **Subs:** V Mulcahy (Rockbawn) for E O'Herlihy (40).

**CARRIGDHOON:** G Harrington (Valley Rovers); J Kiernan (Carrigaline), J O'Keefe (Idol), MA Hawkes (Valley Rovers); S Cotter (Carrigaline), L Hawkes (Valley Rovers), C Deasy (Idol); M Moran (Carrigaline), J Lynch (Tracton); G O'Keefe (Carrigaline); E O'Sullivan (Ballincollig), L Bugler (Valley Rovers); M Jagoe (Tracton), C Collins (Ballincollig), L Thompson (Carrigaline). **Ref:** Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers).

## Carrigdhoun capable of causing upset

COUNTY champions Muskerry take on Carrigdhoun this evening in Passage to decide who goes forward to meet Barryroe in round two of the Evening Echo County Senior Championship, writes MARY NEWMAN.

In the opening round, where all the divisional sides played off to decide who went into round two, the champions easily disposed of the challenge

posed by Imokilly. On the form shown, they will be favourites to advance this evening.

Last season, they breached a 70-year gap to take the title to Mid-Cork and they seem still have plenty of hunger. Cork senior captain Catriona Foley and her Rockbawn and Cork team-mate Sile Burns spearhead a side that also have plenty of experience in Eire Og's

**TONIGHT**  
Evening Echo camogie championship: Muskerry v Carrigdhoun, Passage 7.30pm

Alanna McKenna, Ellen and Margaret O'Herlihy, as well as Ballincollig's Leah Weste and Denise Cronin.

Carrigdhoun took their first title in 2005 but have lost the services of the Ballygarvan players

since then. They had to fight all the way before defeating Seandún in their opening game but, boosted by this, they will look forward to another big challenge as they bid to knock out the champions.

Cork senior Eimear O'Sullivan, from Ballinhassig, is joined by Valley Rovers players Gillian Harrington, Lucy Hawkes and Liz Bugler

while Carrigaline's Laura Thompson, and Maria Moran and Jacqui O'Keefe help form a strong Carrigdhoun panel.

Given the form shown to date, the champions will be favoured to advance.

It will take a huge effort from Carrigdhoun but they are certainly more than capable of causing an upset.





## Picture Diary

**MATCH OF THE DAY:** Ballygarvan's camogie team act as a guard of honour with a salute to their player Nora Hallahan and her groom Michael Connolly on their wedding day at Crosshaven Church yesterday.

Picture: Darragh Ka

## Seniors lose out

CORK'S unbeaten run came to an end as they lost out to Galway in round four of the Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship last weekend.

Cork failed to find the form that had seen them secure victories over Dublin, Wexford and Tipperary and never go to grips with a game where the awarding of thirty five frees over the hour never allowed the game to flow as a contest.

With both sides striking six points from frees there was little from play but in the finish a goal from substitute Lourda Kavanagh in the closing minutes was enough to give Galway the points on offer at a stage when it looked as if Cork were about to weather the storm and take control. Jessica Gill struck three points from placed balls and Veronica Curtin one from play as Galway led 0-4 to 0-1 20 minutes into the contest.

Cork had the better of

the exchanges and picked off three points without reply but it was who led 0-6 to 0-4 at the break. Veronica Curtin stretched the lead to three points before Rachel Moloney and Jessica Gill traded pointed frees but three pointed frees between the tenth and twenty-third minute had Cork back on level terms but it was Lourda Kavanagh who finished to the net to give Galway the advantage.

Rachel Moloney pointed a Cork free with two minutes remaining but Jessica Gill converted a forty-five to steady Galway. Cork did have a chance of a late goal but Susan Earner dealt with substitute Amanda O'Regan's effort to the sound of the full-time whistle.

Cork meets Limerick on Saturday at 1.30pm at a Cork venue and need just one point to secure a semi-final spot.

## Third win for intermediate team

ANOTHER good display from the Cork Intermediate team as they made it three wins on the trot and in the process virtually ensured themselves of a semi final spot with just one game to go against Kilkenny.

From the throw in Cork hit the front Claire Spellman, Charlotte Kearney Michelle Brown and Julia White giving Cork a 1-4 before Galway's Julie'Brien pointed with Galway's first attack. Cork continued

to pick off the points and it was 1-8 to 0-3 at the interval in favour of Cork. Cork enjoyed the better of the second half exchanges and with Michelle Browne pointing two frees the margin increased Stephanie Dwyer had a Galway goal and a Caroline Murray point saw them come into the contest.

Cork upping the tempo hitting six points without reply to finish the game as a contest.

## Championship continues

VICTORIES for Eire Og and Carrigaline in the first game in the round robin series of the Evening Echo Senior B Championship, in the Junior A championship Sarsfields defeated Water-

grashill, Ballincollig were too strong for Blackrock, and Father O'Neills defeated Ballyhea while Tracton had a win over Newtownshandrum.



## Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship Preview

### Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship Preview

#### Galway on the brink of the semi-finals

This weekend Galway have the opportunity to secure their place in the semi-finals of the Gala All-Ireland Camogie Championship as they take on Kilkenny. This is quite a turnaround for a side who endured a disappointing season last year.

The Tribeswomen narrowly made the semi-finals last year following a win over Championship newcomers Dublin, but they were well out of their depth when they came up against a rampant Wexford who defeated them by ten points.

So far this year Galway have made the final of the National League, where they narrowly lost out to Kilkenny, while they are currently the only undefeated team in the Championship with impressive wins over Cork and Wexford under their belts.

Joint manager of the side this year is Anne Broderick and she sees something different in this year's team. "I can't really put my finger on it but there is something about this team this year. There's something there that wasn't there before so I feel that this could be a good year for Galway camogie. Beating Wexford and Cork has given the girls a belief that they can go on and press for the big titles."

The match against Kilkenny is a replay of the League final, something which Broderick feels hit the team hard. "To be fair, the girls took the loss to Kilkenny in the League final quite badly. It was very close but we just fell short. I think the reason why they took it so badly is that they prepared very well for the League, we took it very professionally. At the start of the year we had dieticians and nutritionists as well as sports conditioning trainers for a while at the start to get things together so we could press on ourselves."

While a win for Galway would ensure a place in the semi-final draw a loss for Kilkenny would seriously dent their hopes of a last four place and Broderick is aware of what this game means to the League winners. "If we could get a win here it would leave Kilkenny with three losses and looking shaky. It's going to be very tough as they will treat it as an All-Ireland final of sorts so it will be a great game."

There are also vital games in Wexford and Cork this weekend. The Rebels host Limerick on Saturday and a win will guarantee 2006 winners Cork a place in this year's semi-final. Limerick are without a point following a tough return to senior championship action and it looks unlikely that they will get anything from this game.

Wexford will be hoping to continue their revival as they take on Dublin. The reigning champions lost their opening two games before returning to true form last weekend with a 13 point win over National League winners Kilkenny. Dublin, like Wexford, have only one win so far but they will have to put in an outstanding performance if they are to overcome Stella Sinnott's side on Sunday.

#### Fixtures

Saturday 19th July  
Cork v Limerick - Ballinacorney, Cork - 1:00pm

Sunday 20th July  
Wexford v Dublin - Buffers Alley, Wexford - 1:30pm  
Kilkenny v Galway - Tom Ryall Park, Kilmahonagh - 3:30pm

#### Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship Table

Group	P	W	L	D	Pts
Cork	4	3	1	0	6
Tipperary	4	3	1	0	6
Galway	3	3	0	0	6
Kilkenny	3	1	2	0	2
Dublin	3	1	2	0	2
Wexford	3	1	2	0	2
Limerick	4	0	4	0	0



July 2008

## Chance to help camogie

IT'S the perfect chance for Munster camogie supporters to do their bit for their beloved sport, writes MARY NEWMAN.

The Munster camogie council, in conjunction with Munster GAA, are endeavouring to develop the skills of camogie and improve school and community involvement in the game.

They have established school development squads at primary level and wish to introduce coaching on a full-time basis to schools and clubs.

To ensure this the Munster council are organising a fundraising event

and are putting the call out to former and present players and friends of the game. Over the last number of years they have held a successful golf classic which continues to go from strength to strength.

Dundrum GC is the setting for this year's big day which takes place on Wednesday July 30. Munster PRO Orla Conside is one of those involved in the event and she is calling for support.

"We are working hard with all the counties as we strive to continue the development of camogie in our schools clubs and counties. We can guaran-

tee a great day's golf and meal and we are hoping for huge support for the venture. Dundrum is a top quality Golf championship course and is very popular and hugely in demand with all golfers.

"We are hoping to get teams of four which will cost €300 and this includes dinner. We are also hoping to get sponsorship from clubs, county boards, groups, businesses or individuals for the tee boxes which will cost €100."

Anybody interested can contact the organisers on [munsterpro@camogie.gaa.ie](mailto:munsterpro@camogie.gaa.ie)

## Cats lie in wait as unbeaten Galway bid for semi-finals

by Darren Norris

THIS weekend, Galway have the opportunity to claim a place in the semi-finals of the Gala All-Ireland Camogie Championship as they take on Kilkenny, quite a turnaround for a side who endured a disappointing season last year.

The Tribeswomen just about made the semi-finals last year after a win over Championship newcomers Dublin, but were well out of their depth when beaten by

10 points by a rampant Wexford.

So far this year, Galway have made the final of the National League, where they were unlucky to lose out to Kilkenny, while they are currently the only undefeated team in the Championship, with impressive wins over Cork and Wexford under their belts.

Joint manager of the side this year is Anne Broderick, and she sees something different in this year's team. "I can't really put my finger on it but there is something about this team this year. Beating

Wexford and Cork has given the girls a belief that they can go on and press for the big titles."

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While a win for Galway would ensure a place in the semi-final draw, a loss for Kilkenny would seriously dent their hopes of a last four spot, and Broderick is aware

of what this game means to the league winners. "If we could get a win here, it would leave Kilkenny with three losses and looking shaky. It's going to be very tough as they will treat it as an All-Ireland final of sorts, so it should be a great game."

There are also vital games in Wexford and Cork this weekend. The Rebels host Limerick on Saturday and a win will guarantee 2006 winners Cork a place in this year's semi-final. Limerick are without a point following a tough

return to senior championship action and it looks unlikely that they will get anything from this game.

Wexford will be hoping to continue their revival as they take on Dublin. The reigning champions lost their opening two games before returning to form last weekend with a 13-point win over National League winners Kilkenny.

Dublin, like Wexford, have only one win so far but they will have to put in an outstanding performance if they are to overcome Stella Sinnott's side on Sunday.

# Rebels will be so determined

#### TOMORROW

All-Ireland U16 Championship semi-final,  
Cork v Dublin,  
Cloughjordan, Tipperary, 2.15pm

**CORK and Dublin meet in the U16 All-Ireland Championship semi-final in Cloughjordan on Sunday at 2.15pm in what is a repeat of last season's meeting of the sides.**

Cork topped their group recording impressive victories over Galway, Clare, Tipperary and Limerick and now just 60 minutes stands between them and an All-Ireland final appearance and the Cork girls will be determined to drive on and go one better this season having lost out in last season's decider to Kilkenny.

Cork are a very settled side this season and have certainly looked impressive in all their outings to date, several of last season's panel are again underage this season and

By MARY NEWMAN

camogie latest

the experienced gained is sure to be a huge help.

Twins Katrina and Pamela Mackey, Emma Kingston, Joanne Casey, Alison Coughlan, Aileen O'Donovan, Mariah Reidy, Sarah Harrington and Mary Ellen O'Donovan have been there before and now know just what is required to reach the decider having been involved last season.

This season the Cork side has been strengthened by the inclusion of players such as Katie McCarthy, Sinéad O'Halloran, Finola Neville and Tessa Hawkes, who have all been impressive at various stages through the campaign.

Dublin proved a stern test in last year's semi-final as they pinned Cork to their collars before Cork ran out winners with five points to spare.

They came through a tough sec-

tion and got their campaign off to a good start, recording a 4-16 to 2-4 victory over Antrim. Wexford provided a strong challenge but the Dubs weathered the storm with two points to spare in a 2-11 to 1-12 encounter.

Four-in-a-row chasing Kilkenny continue to produce the players and their meeting with Dublin was a classic. In the finish eight points separated the sides but with 10 minutes to go it was all-square but a stronger finish by the Kilkenny girls saw them edge home with two goals in the final five minutes. Amongst the players to impress for the Dubs have been Aoife Dunne, Laura Burns and Miriam Twomey, who have shown they are capable of notching up the scores while in defence their half-back line of Clara Donovan, Irene Dempsey and Clara O'Leary have done well.

It's a relatively new Dublin panel this season with Miriam Twomey and Maire Moynihan survivors from last season's side.

Cork manager Tracy Sheehan is looking forward to Sunday's game.

"We know Dublin will pose a huge threat, last year we had a great contest with them and no doubt they will be tough."

"We have prepared well but have a few injuries and added to this we are caught with players on holidays but hopefully we hope to be on the right side of the result, the girls are very focused and know what is required and we have every confidence in them."

**CORK PANEL:** Tessa Hawkes (Valley Rovers), Sarah Harrington (Fr O'Neill's), Alison Coughlan (Ballinacorney), Katie McCarthy (Eire Og), Pamela Mackey (Douglas, capt), Fiona Cotter (St Catherine's), Katrina Mackey (Douglas), Emma Kingston (Inniscarra), Mariah Reidy (Newtownshandrum), Joanne Casey (Inniscarra), Aileen O'Donovan (Douglas), Kate Harrington (Fr O'Neill's), Finola Neville (St Catherine's), Katie Buckley (Mallow), Sinéad O'Halloran (Glen Rovers), Jessica Kavanagh (Douglas), Meabh Moynihan (Ballygarvan), Clara Lynch (Douglas), Claire Meaney (Eire Og), Orla Bourke (Na Piarasigh), Niamh O'Brien (Milford), Jane Fitzpatrick (Mallow), Sinéad O'Reilly (Passage West), Mary Ellen O'Donovan (Ballygarvan), Rosie O'Mahony (Inniscarra), Samantha Cooney (Ballinacorney).

## TRIBE REVIVAL

GALWAY can secure their place in the Gala All-Ireland Camogie championship semi-finals with a win over Kilkenny today to confirm a turnaround from last year's woes.

Having been beaten by a rampant Wexford side in the last four last year, they are the only undefeated team in this year's championship and came up just short in the league final against today's opponents.

Wexford, meanwhile, will be hoping to continue their revival as they take on Dublin. The reigning champions lost their opening two games before returning to true form last weekend with a 13-point win over Kilkenny.



**TODAY**  
Gala All-Ireland  
Senior Championship,  
Cork v Limerick,  
Ballinlough 1pm.

**ROUND five of the Gala All-Ireland Championship round-robin series of games and Cork chasing just one point in order to secure a semi final spot, writes MARY NEWMAN.**

They play host to a Limerick side that have struggled in all their games to date and are still chasing their first victory.

The disappointment was evident on Sunday as the Cork players and management trooped to the dressing room having lost out to Galway in a game that was always there for the taking.

On the day, Galway were hungry and grabbed their chance with both hands to secure their third victory in row and in the process end Cork's unbeaten run which had seen victories over Dublin, Wexford and Tipperary.

It's been a fascinating championship to date with lots of twists and turns. Holders Wexford looked to be heading out of contention but bounced back last weekend to defeat league champions Kilkenny.

Cork, having defeated Dublin in round one, travelled to Wexford on a mission to erase the defeat suffered at the hands of the same opposition in last season's final and they never put a foot wrong as they brushed the champion aside.

Next up were Tipperary, who came to Cork in determined fashion with two wins to their credit but a very focused Cork side were in no mood for defeat and showed fierce determination to fashion a splendid victory.

However, Cork's form seemed to have deserted them last weekend and they never reached the same heights as in the previous weeks.

Over the hour, just three scores from play was a poor return from their forward division but hopefully this is something that can be rectified as Cork must get more from the six up front if aspirations of taking the O'Duffy Cup are to be achieved.

Eimear O'Sullivan was surprisingly substituted last Sunday having scored two of Cork's three points from play.

She is a young player who has continued to show promise and is certainly one worth persevering with. Orla Cotter, another young prospect, was moved to mid field last weekend in an effort to get more ball to the inside line but her presence around goal was missed as in previous outings against Wexford and Tipp she poached valuable goals.

For today's clash, the selectors have named the same forward line as started last weekend, Elaine O'Riordan, Una O'Donoghue, Eimear O'Sullivan, Sile Burns, Rachel Moloney and Orla Cotter. Into the side comes Amanda O'Regan for her first championship start of 2008, Amanda is named at number nine position to the exclusion of Linda Dorgan.

It remains to be seen if O'Regan will start at midfield to partner the reliable Briege Corkery or if she will slot into the half-back line in a move which would allow Gemma



Amanda O'Regan who will start at number nine in her first championship outing of 2008 will be a key player for Cork.

# Anything other than home win would surprise

O'Connor to take up her familiar role at midfield, a position where she has excellent.

Gemma has done well in the half-back line but Cork need to be pushing forward more and Gemma O'Connor is a player who fits this mould to perfection.

To date, one could not find fault with the Cork defence, who have done exceptionally well.

Aoife Murray is hugely reliable while Sarah Hayes is a player who continued to grow in stature with every outing.

Mary O'Connor Joanne O'Callaghan, Linda O'Connell and Catriona Foley continue in a defence that was only breached by the Galway attack who annexed just three scores from play.

The selectors have added the name of former senior player Vivienne Harris to their panel. Vivienne, who retired from inter-county camogie three years ago, gave huge service to Cork, is now lining out with St Finbarr's.

The former Bishopstown star captained Cork in 1999 and 2000 and while the move to return to the intercounty scene may be seen as a surprise, Vivienne is performing well at club level and will bring a wealth of experience to what is a young Cork panel.

Limerick, following on their victory in the senior B grade last season, are finding the going hard on their promotion. They lost the services of influential coach Ciarán Carey this year and they have

struggled to find their feet and the from they showed in annexing the B crown last season. However they will relish the challenge that Cork will pose.

Rose Collins, Aoife Sheehan, Eileen O'Brien and Grace McNamara are joined by younger players such as Claire and Niamh Mulcahy and Fiona Morrissey and they will be determined to gain their first set of points in a season in which they will have learned a lot.

They would like nothing better than to deny Cork that elusive point and make them sweat just that little bit longer for their place in the All-Ireland semi-final, but anything other than a Cork win would be a surprise.

## Imperative the minors get better of Antrim

**TOMORROW**  
All-Ireland minor championship  
Cork v Antrim  
St Finbarr's, 1pm

A BIG game for the Cork minor side on Sunday as they strive to put their opening round defeat at the hands of Clare to one side, writes MARY NEWMAN.

They want to get their All-Ireland championship campaign back on track when they entertain Antrim at 1pm in St Finbarr's in round three of the round robin series of games.

It's a long journey for the northerners but one which will not bother them as they travel to Cork with a superb victory over Galway under their belts.

Galway, who would be one of the fancied sides, had to give best to a determined Antrim side when they met two months ago in a close encounter where Antrim were full value for their 2-11 to 2-8 victory margin and, boosted by this, they will not fear Cork.

Cork had a disappointing start to their campaign, losing to Clare on 1-8 to 0-6 scoreline on a day when they never got the chance to settle and allowed Clare to take control. It was a disappointing second round as Dublin failed to travel thus Cork were awarded a walkover, certainly not ideal preparations for their third-round clash this weekend.

From the throw-in against Clare, Cork were chasing the game and another performance such as this and they can wave goodbye to their chances of making the play-off stages.

Clare have already secured their spot in the semi-final with victories over Cork and Galway while they also received a walkover from Dublin, with just one spot left up for grabs it's all to play for.

The Ulster champions lost out in their opening game at home to Clare but they bounced back in tremendous style in a thrilling contest in Athenry. Up front, sharpshooter Raquel McCarry was in excellent form shooting eight points and Cork will have to close her down from the start.

Emma McMullan and Cathy Carey are two forwards who will also pose plenty of problems for the Cork defence as they showed against Galway as they grabbed two vital goals while in defence they have strong performers in Sinead Lafferty, Laura Connolly and Catriona Hasson.

Against Galway they were without two key players, Katie McAleese and her cousin Louise, who were both unavailable through injury but it's expected that Louise will be their line out on Sunday.

Cork have recovered from the shock and have upped the pace and prepared well since losing out to Clare and with exams out of the way the focus has been on gaining the point from their remaining games and securing a semi-final spot.

Several of the minor side have featured prominently with the Cork intermediate side in recent championship outings Julia White, Christine O'Neill, Maria Walsh, Jennifer Lynch, and Aisling Thompson have all been very much to the fore.

The minor and intermediate panels have built up a rapport and it has worked well as both panels have benefited from training and working together hand in hand.

Sunday is the big test and Cork must put the performance against Clare aside and bounce back they have the talent and the capabilities but must also have the belief in them selves to do it this time out.





The Cork U16 team who take on Dublin in Sunday's All-Ireland semi-final.

July

2008

## Rebelettes outclass Limerick to claim semi-final spot

**Cork** 2-21  
**Limerick** 1-5  
By Jackie Cahill

ON SATURDAY, last year's beaten finalists Cork qualified for the semi-finals of the Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship with a facile 2-21 to 1-5 victory against outclassed Limerick.

The Rebelettes were far too good for a spirited Limerick in Ballinlough and booked their place in the last four with their fourth victory from five outings in this year's competition.

Kilkenny repeated their National League final victory over Galway by scoring a 1-13 to 1-9 victory against the Tribeswomen championship yesterday.

The Cats overturned a 1-5

to 0-6 half-time deficit to outscore the visitors to Tom Ryall Park in Kilmanagh by 1-7 to 0-4 in the second half.

Kilkenny and reigning All-Ireland champions Wexford are now on four points, two behind Tipperary and Galway with Cork already qualified for the semi-finals on eight points.

Kilkenny have home advantage against Cork in next weekend's crucial round of

fixtures with Wexford due to face Tipperary at Semple Stadium.

Sinead Millea scored six points for Kilkenny as they upped the ante after half-time to see off Galway.

A tit-for-tat first half swung Galway's way two minutes before half-time when 1-5 heroine Jessica Gill scored her goal.

Kilkenny fought their way back after the break and

Marie Dargan's goal 10 minutes into the second half proved the game's decisive score.

The Noreiders led 1-8 to 0-7 at that point and followed up with three unanswered points to open up a match-winning lead.

Meanwhile, Wexford ran out comfortable 3-8 to 0-7 winners against Dublin at Buffer's Alley.

Una Leacy scored 2-2 for

the Slaneysiders as the in-form Katrina Parrock sent the champions on their way with a 7th minute goal.

Leacy struck her first goal of the game after 28 minutes to open up a 2-5 to 0-1 interval lead for the Model County.

Leacy struck again midway through the second half for her second goal while Dublin's sole scorer of the afternoon was Louise O'Hara.

## Cats keep cool to hold off Galway

### Camogie

KILKENNY repeated their National League final victory over Galway by scoring a 1-13 to 1-9 victory against the Tribeswomen in the Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship yesterday.

The Cats overturned a 1-5 to 0-6 half-time deficit to outscore the visitors to Tom Ryall Park in Kilmanagh by 1-7 to 0-4 in the second half.

A gripping finish to the group stages of this year's Gala championship is in store. Kilkenny and All-Ireland champions Wexford are locked together on four points, two

behind Tipperary and Galway with Cork already qualified for the semi-finals on eight points.

Kilkenny are home to Cork in next weekend's crucial round with Wexford due to face Tipperary at Semple Stadium.

Sinead Millea scored six points as Kilkenny stepped it up after half-time to see off Galway, who lost Veronica Curtin to an early injury.

A tit-for-tat first half swung Galway's way two minutes before half-time when Jessica Gill scored her goal.

Kilkenny fought back and Marie Dargan's goal 10 minutes into the second half proved the game's decisive score.

The Noreiders led 1-8 to 0-7 at that point and followed up

with three unanswered points. Wexford beat Dublin 3-8 to 0-7 at Buffer's Alley.

Una Leacy scored 2-2 as Katrina Parrock sent the champions on their way with a seventh minute goal.

Leacy struck her first goal after 28 minutes to help open up a 2-5 to 0-1 interval lead.

She struck again midway through the second half, while Dublin's sole scorer of the afternoon was Louise O'Hara, who contributed three frees, three 45s and a point from play.

On Saturday, last year's beaten finalists Cork qualified for the semi-finals with a 2-21 to 1-5 victory over Limerick.

The Rebelettes were far too good for a spirited Limerick in

Ballinlough and booked their place in the last four with their fourth victory from five outings in this year's competition.

Powered by the attacking of Rachel Moloney, Gemma O'Connor, Sile Burns, Una O'Donoghue and Amanda O'Regan, Cork ran out comprehensive winners.

Eileen O'Brien scored a 25th-minute goal for Wexford but Amanda O'Regan struck back just before half-time to open up a 1-15 to 1-2 interval advantage.

Two minutes after the break, O'Regan turned provider for Elaine O'Riordan's goal.

It was exhibition stuff from Cork, who welcomed back former captain and All-Ireland medallist Vivienne Harris.

## Lame Limerick are outclassed

### CAMOGIE

LAST YEAR'S beaten finalists Cork qualified for the semi-finals of this year's Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship with a facile 2-21 to 1-5 victory over outclassed Limerick.

The Rebels were too good for a Limerick in Ballinlough, running out comprehensive 19-point winners to book their place in the final four with four victories from five outings in this year's competition.

Limerick continue to find life difficult in the senior ranks - this was a fifth defeat from five for the Shannonsiders.

Meanwhile, there was a welcome second-half return for multiple All-Ireland medallist Vivienne Harris.

Harris, Cork captain in the 1999 and 2000 seasons, came on as a half-time substitute having been absent from the inter-county scene in recent years.

### CAMOGIE

#### GALA SENIOR C'SHIP

Cork 2-21 (E. O'Riordan 1-2, A. O'Regan 1-1, S. Burns 0-7, R. Moloney 0-5 (0-2), G. O'Connor 0-1, O'Donoghue 0-2 each, F. O'Farrell, D. Cronin 0-1 each) Limerick 1-5 (E. O'Brien 1-3 (0-3), N. Mulcahy, S. Collins 0-1 each).

#### GALA INTERMEDIATE C'SHIP

Derry 2-6 (G. Mc Goldrick 1-2, M. Mc Goldrick 1-0, K. O'Kane, K. Mc Auley, A. Lafferty, J. Carley 0-1 each) Wexford 0-11 (C. O'Connor, E. Quigley 0-3 each, Stacey Kehoe 0-2, Shelley Kehoe, N. O'Connor, S. Carr 0-1 each).

#### GALA JUNIOR C'SHIP

Armagh 3-12 (C. Mc Sorley 1-8 (0-4), M. Mc Guigan 2-1, M. King 0-2, L. Gribben 0-1) Derry 0-0.

#### GALA MINOR B C'SHIP

Waterford 2-13 (Down 3-7).

## Rebel girls seal last-four spot

CAMOGIE: Last year's beaten finalists Cork qualified for the semi-finals of this year's Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship with a 2-21 to 1-5 victory over Limerick in Ballinlough.

Powered by the attacking brilliance of Rachel Moloney, Gemma O'Connor, Sile Burns, Una O'Donoghue and Amanda O'Regan, Cork were very impressive.

An O'Regan goal on the stroke of half time gave them an unassailable 1-15 to 1-2 interval lead, and victory was confirmed two minutes after the break when Elaine O'Riordan found the net.



Catriona Foley will be a key player for Rockbawn.



## Outcome is never in doubt for the minors

By LINDA MELLERICK

Minor camogie

Cork 3-12  
Antrim 0-3

THE OUTCOME was never in doubt as Cork comfortably accounted for Antrim in this minor All-Ireland Championship third-round qualifier in St Finbarr's yesterday.

Leading 2-6 to 0-1 at the break, Cork piled on the pressure in the second half, and indeed the winning margin would have been far greater had Cork found the target with their 10 wides.

The Rebels' hunger was evident from the outset. Julia White was a constant thorn in the Northerners' side as was the very accurate Niamh Dilworth.

The game was slow in finding its rhythm with both sides jittery.

Dilworth hit the first of her seven frees after four minutes. A Jennifer Lynch point followed. With 12 minutes played, the ever-searching Julia White won possession and drew the defence.

Her pass found Dilworth who, while still having work to do, managed to get a strike in and defy competent goalkeeper Catherine McCarry.

Antrim did put attacks together but came across a disciplined, hard-working Cork defence in which Mary Ann Hawkes, Christine O'Neill and Lydia Cunningham were excellent. Antrim's play was disjointed with little team work or direction evident.

An Una McNaughton free after 18 minutes went all the way to the net but was disallowed as a square goal. Had the goal stood, Antrim might have made a game of it but instead matters only got worse for the visitors.

McNaughton struck a free to register Antrim's first point but five minutes later play was held up for 20 minutes as mentors awaited an ambulance in the middle of the pitch to assist Louise McAleese, who suffered an horrific knee injury.

Upon the restart Julia White found the net for Cork again and with Dilworth hitting a further two points Cork were in the driving seat.

Despite Emma Connolly, Shannon Graham and Aishling McFadden's efforts, Cork proved far too strong and with the Rebels winning the midfield battle, on top in defence and running riot up front it was just a case of running out the clock in the second half.

Cork made use of their five subs and now face Galway next Friday evening with a spring in their step after an impressive performance.

**Scorers for Cork:** N Dilworth 1-8 (0-7), J White 2-2, J Lynch, S O'Callaghan 0-1 each.  
**Antrim:** U McNaughton, A McFadden, E McMullan 0-11 each.

**CORK:** M Gleeson; R de Faoite, MA Hawkes, S Cotter, M Walsh, L Cunningham, C O'Neill, S Buckley, J Lynch, J White, N Dilworth, A Thompson, K O'Mahony, S O'Callaghan, C Collins.

**Subs:** D Luby for C Collins (42), K Jones for S Cotter (52), C Keohane for K O'Mahony (53), M Moran for J Lynch (54), R Finn for R de Faoite (55).

**ANTRIM:** C McCarry, C Hasson, S Laverty, N McGuinness, M Quinn, E Connolly, A Connolly, L Connolly, U McNaughton, L McAleese, S Graham, H Wilson, E McMullan, R McCarry, A McFadden.

**Subs:** C O'Kane for L McAleese (25, inj), N Graham for M Quinn (37), D McGuigan for C Hasson (58).

**Referee:** E Browne (Tipperary).

# Limerick no match as ladies saunter on

Cork  
Limerick

2-21  
1-5  
By MARY NEWMAN  
Camogie

**WITHOUT** ever reaching second gear Cork comfortably accounted for Limerick in a one-sided Gala All-Ireland senior championship clash in Ballinlough on Saturday.

Cork needed just one point to secure their place in the semi-final stages of the competition as they took on a Limerick side still seeking their first victory after suffering four defeats in the earlier rounds.

The gaps in standards was evident from the start and all over pitch Cork were simply a class apart, up front their forwards moved with a spring in their steps and were sharper and more determined, in defence they held a firm hand on the Limerick attack.

Cork reshuffled their line-out and started last season's captain Gemma O'Connor at midfield.

This was an inspirational move with Gemma showing just what contribution she can make from the midfield position.

From the throw-in she dictated proceedings around the centre of the field ably, assisted by Orla Cotter, who showed good pace and determination.

With O'Connor driving forward at every opportunity, Cork kept the Limerick defence under constant pressure and up front the

Cork attack were quick into their stride Sile Burns pointing after just 30 seconds as the home side set about annexing the points needed to ensure them selves of a semi-final spot.

By the end of the opening quarter the result was inevitable as Cork picking off some excellent points had 13 on the score board before Eileen O'Brien pointed a Limerick free.

With Rachel Moloney adding three and Sile Burns and Gemma O'Connor one apiece Cork led by 14 points before Eileen O'Brien grabbed the games opening goal after she got the last touch to a high dropping ball in the Cork goalmouth.

A minute later the same player converted a free but Amanda O'Regan had a Cork goal on the stroke of half-time to give her side a 1-15 to 1-2 interval lead.

The second half was always going to be a foregone conclusion but nevertheless Limerick battled on. Sile Burns opened the half with pointing a Cork free before Elaine O'Riordan linked up well with Amanda O'Regan before firing the ball to the net.

Cork had by now introduced all their substitutes, among them former inter-county player Vivienne Harris who earlier in the week rejoined the senior inter-county panel



after a lapse of three years.

While it was an ideal way for the selectors to re-introduce Harris to the inter-county fray Limerick were never going to provide the test that was needed but never the less she fought hard and was very involved.

As the game floated to its conclusion the

sides trade Sarah Collin Limerick substitutes Em brought the sion.

While Lir

## Dubs have no answer for rampant Cork

Cork  
Dublin

3-17  
1-3

By MARY NEWMAN

All-Ireland U16 semi-final

A SUPERB team effort saw Cork totally overpower Dublin to confidently book their place in the All-Ireland U16 A final in Cloughjordan yesterday.

Playing against the strong wind in the first half, Cork made all the running and they led 2-9 to 0-3 at the interval.

From one to 15 they were in control, Emma Kingston was a powerhouse in their half-back line, breaking up attack after

attack and driving her side forward.

Fiona Cotter and captain Pamela Mackey closed down the Dublin attack continuously while Sarah Harrington, Alison Coughlan and Katie Mc Carthy dealt with anything the Dublin forwards had.

At midfield the hard-working Katrina Mackey and Mariah Reidy were influential while up front the workrate of the forwards was superb.

With the half-forward line of Joanne Casey, Kate Harrington and Aileen O'Donovan playing

a roving game against the wind, their inside line had plenty of ground to cover but their contribution was excellent, corner forward Sinead O'Halloran helping the half line, leaving Katie Buckley and Finola Neville plenty of space inside where they did plenty of damage.

With Cork two points ahead, Finola Neville had the game's opening goal inside seven

minutes after Katie Buckley had forced a good save from Eabhla Levin.

Strong Dublin pressure saw the Cork defence concede a penalty but a poor effort was swept to safety as the Dubs still looked for an opening score.

Twelve minutes in, Laura Burns opened their account but as Cork piled on the pressure the points tally increased, Finola Neville, Katie Harrington, Katrina Mackey all on target before Shauna Duff and Laura Burns pulled two back

for Dublin.

With four minutes to the interval and looking comfortable, Cork effectively put the game out of reach when Katrina Mackey linked up with Katie Buckley, who made no mistake from close range, Katie Harrington added a point and turning to play with the wind Cork were looking good at 2-9 to 0-3.

Never taking their foot off the pedal, Cork continued to hurl with confidence in the second half, Joanne Casey pointed two frees in succession, Kat-





Cork's Amanda O'Regan uses a short grip on the hurley as she taps the ball past the Limerick keeper to score a goal in the Gala All-Ireland Camogie Championship game at Ballinlough on Saturday. Picture: Larry Cummins



Cork's Briege Corkery bursts away from her Limerick marker in the Gala All-Ireland Camogie Championship game at Ballinlough on Saturday. Picture: Larry Cummins

strong test the game helped Cork get back on the winning trail and the backroom team will no doubt have been impressed with the display of Briege Corkery in defence where she played an attacking role coming forward continuously while Gemma O'Connor proved without doubt that her best position with this Cork team is at midfield.

Kilkenny will provide a stiffer test next weekend, but one which Cork will relish.

**Scorers for Cork:** S Burns 0-7, R Maloney 0-5 (0-2F) E O'Riordan 1-2, A O'Regan 1-1, G O'Connor and U O'Donoghue 0-2 each, D Cronin and E O'Farrell 0-1 each

**Limerick:** E O'Brien 1-3 (0-3F) N Mulcahy and S Collins 0-1 each

**CORK:** A Murray; L O'Connell, C Foley (capt.), J O'Callaghan; B Corkery M O'Connor, S Hayes, G O'Connor, O Cotter; E O'Riordan, U O'Donoghue, E O'Sullivan; S Burns, A O'Regan, R Maloney

**Subs:** V Harris for U O'Donoghue (h-t) E O'Farrell for O Cotter (h-t) J Duffy for B Corkery (h-t), M Murphy for R Maloney, D Cronin for S Burns (44)

**LIMERICK:** S Moynihan; G McNamara, R Collins, J Garvey; N Collins, A Sheehan, G McNamara; D Fitzpatrick, (c) N Mulcahy; E O'Brien, F Morrissey, C Mulcahy, T Power, S Collins, R Carmody

**Subs:** E Collins for N Collins (35) B Cleary for S Moynihan (51) A Neville for T Power (52)

**Referee:** Eamonn Browne (Tipperary).

## Jim is keen to keep winning run going

**JIM MCCARTHY**  
Cork trainer

CORK trainer Jim McCarthy was pleased with his side's display but wasn't getting carried away with the result.

"It was a good victory for us today and we are pleased with the result, the important thing was that we won.

"It was disappointing to lose last weekend to Galway and we need to get used to winning games, every game we play we want to win it's all about building confidence and the more games we play and win the better we will get.

"This year it is a relatively new team and the players are settling well.

"We had good victories over Dublin, Wexford and Tipperary and last weekend defeat at the hands of Galway brought it home to us that we will get

### Reaction

nothing easy. To win games gives everybody confidence and we can build on that.

"The players did everything that was required today and we took every opportunity that arose. We got some excellent scores and were always in control.

"Next week we play Kilkenny in the last game in the section and again we will be going all out for victory.

"While we know our semi-final spot is now secured, we want to continue our winning streak and hopefully continue to produce the right results.

"It's all about team building and things are going well for us hopefully that will continue. We will prepare in the coming week and go on from there."

## Dozen from Jamie fires Piarsaigh to minor title

By JOHN COUGHLAN

Scandun minor B hurling

**Na Piarsaigh**  
**St Finbarr's**

**1-17**  
**1-5**

NA PIARSAIGH concluded a good week at all levels when they captured the Scandun Minor B Hurling Championship at Ballinlough yesterday.

This was a vintage performance from the Farranree side that had a star performer in Jamie Curtin, who amassed 12 points over the hour.

Curtin was simply in another class and although the Barrs tried hard to curtail him they failed to do so.

Some clubs might not appreciate winning a B championship but Na Piarsaigh selector Don O'Leary believes this success was vital to their club.

"First of all, if you did not have a championship of this nature there is a chance you will lose players who are not fortunate to play in the premier grade," O'Leary said.

"We are thrilled as we have many young players who have two years left in minor and hopefully this is the start of good things to come for them."

It was evident in the opening half that Na Piarsaigh had the more polished hurlers, in particular Curtin who finished the half with six points as the northside team commanded a 0-7 to 0-3 interval lead.

Credit to the Barrs, they battled hard and when Darren Ronan drilled a goal home from close range in the 34th minute it gave them a ray of hope.

The joy was short-lived as Na Piarsaigh raised a green flag five minutes later from the stick of Darren Waters.

With Curtin continuing to pick off some impressive points Na Piarsaigh were always in control of this final.

**Scorers for Na Piarsaigh:** J Curtin 0-12 (0-6F), D Waters 1-2, C Buckley, R Doyle, S Lynch 0-1 each.

**St Finbarr's:** D Ronan 1-1, J Burns 0-3F, N Hallahan 0-1.

**NA PIARSAIGH:** R Price; D Coleman, J McMahon, S Sheehan; C Wanglin, S Lynch, S Burke; D Leahy, L Connery; K O'Sullivan, J Curtin, A Keating; C Baker, K Waters, R Doyle. **Subs:** C Buckley for C Baker (45), E Connolly for D Coleman (47), C O'Sullivan for K O'Sullivan (49), M Sheehan for S Sheehan (52), J O'Connell for A Keating (52).

**ST FINBARR'S:** E Kennefick; R Scannell, B Dineen, S Bowen; D Murphy, B Healy, S O'Donoghue; R Twohig, S Cassidy; C Green, J Burns, N Hallahan; J O'Sullivan, R Carroll, D Ronan. **Subs:** I Lavton for J O'Sullivan (half-time), C Madden for R Scannell (47), R Sheehan for S Bowen (48), P O'Mahony for N Hallahan (52).

**Referee:** Br Raymond Dwyer (St Vincent's).

## in All-Ireland semi-final

rina Mackey hit one from play but a battling Dublin were not going down without a fight and strong pressure saw Mairi Moynihan grab their goal inside the 10th minute, kicking to the net after a mix up in the Cork defence. A temporary blip but quickly remedied as normal service was resumed Joanne Casey, Kate Harrington Katrina Mackey and Mariah Reidy firing over points before Sinéad O'Halloran fired a ground shot to the net.

In the first semi-final, four-in-a-row-chasing Kilkenny

had to battle to the finish before securing a 1-15 to 3-8 victory over a Galway side that will rue the many missed chances over the hour.

The stage is now set, can Cork stop the Kilkenny girls making it four in row? August 2 will tell but on the evidence yesterday, this Cork side will give it one hell of a go.

**Scorers for Cork:** F Neville 1-2, K Harrington and K Mackey J Casey 0-4 (0-3F) M Reidy 0-3, K Buckley and S O'Halloran 1-0 each

**Dublin:** M Moynihan 1-0, L Burns 0-2F, S Duff 0-1

**CORK:** T Hawkes; S Harrington, A

Coughlin, K McCarthy; E Kingston, P Mackey (capt); F Cotter; K Mackey, M Reidy; J Casey, K Harrington, A O'Donovan; F Neville, K Buckley, S O'Halloran.

**Subs:** R O'Mahony for Cotter (48), Lynch for K Mackey (49), M Moynihan for A O'Donovan (53), N O'Brien for K McCarthy (55), O Bourke for S O'Halloran (56).

**DUBLIN:** E Levins; R Drohan, L Grogan, K Mulvey; C O'Leary, I Dempsey; C Donovan, L Brogan; M Twomey (capt); O Durlin, M Moynihan S Duff; L Burns, A Dunne, K Mc Carry.

**Subs:** N Webb for K Mulvey (21), B O'Neil for K Mc Carry (half-time), E Whyte for L Brogan (43), E Mc Carthy for L Burns (45), E Cooney for O Durlin (58).

**Referee:** Alan Lagrue (Kildare).

## Tracy hails her side's determination as she looks ahead to Cats in final

CORK MANAGER Tracy Sheehan was pleased with her side's display in beating Dublin.

"We played extremely well and never lost our focus, from the throw-in the girls were very determined," she said.

Looking ahead to the challenge four-in-a-row chasing Kilkenny will pose, she knows it won't be easy.

"Today was all about winning our semi-final and booking a place in the final, Kilkenny fought hard to hold off Galway, I only saw the first

### Reaction

half but they looked impressive.

"Galway threw everything at them but they coped. They have won three in a row but we are determined to end their run.

"Preparations start today, we have less than two weeks and we will be keeping our fingers crossed that everyone will be okay.

"This is a huge chance for Cork camogie to take the first All-Ireland

title of 2008 and we would be hoping it would set the trend for the weeks ahead.

"Our senior and intermediate teams are into the All Ireland semi-finals and the minor team have just one game to go and will hopefully get through to a semi-final also.

"Camogie in Cork is forging ahead and hopefully we will bring the title back on Saturday week, we can't wait to be honest and are just counting the days to the final."



## Camogie Chat

by Mary Newman

### Senior team

THE victory over Limerick in the Gala Senior championships on Saturday all but guarantees the senior side a place in the last four, this weekend they face Kilkenny in what will be a tough game.

Last weekend Kilkenny defeated Galway to keep their hopes alive, as the table stands Cork are on eight points with next weekend game to play. Galway and Tipperary are on six but have two games to play as have Kilkenny and Wexford who are each

on four, pending results its a possibility that a play off situation could arise but Cork can put a stop to this notion if they defeat Kilkenny and finish the group on ten points.

Sunday is another big challenge but one this cork side are capable of facing, with the exception of their game against Galway the sides have done exceptionally well and they will be determined to finish their programme on high and make qualification certain next weekend.

### Minors defeat antrim

THE minor team put their defeat at the hands of Clare behind them when they comfortably defeated Antrim in the Minor All Ireland championship third round game.

Leading 2-6 to 0-1 at the break Cork were always in control. With Niamh Dilworth and Jennifer Lynch on target they led before Una McNaughton pointed an Antrim free. Play was held up for

twenty minutes as an ambulance had to be called to assist Louise McAleese who suffered an horrific knee injury and when play resumed Julia White and Niamh Dilworth stretched the Cork lead.

Antrim battled on but Cork remained in control to the final whistle Cork now face Galway tomorrow (Friday) in a crucial game where they could seal a semi-final spot.

### Under 16's

A SUPERB effort helped Cork defeated Dublin to book their place in the All Ireland under 16 final. Playing against the strong wind in the opening half Cork led 2-9 to 0-3 at the break. Finola Neville and Katrina Mackey had early points before Finola Neville struck for a Cork goal.

Laura Burns pointed a free for Dublin but piling on the pressure Cork stretched their lead with points from Finola Neville, Katie Harrington, and Katrina Mackey before Shauna Huff and Laura Burns had two for Dublin. With four minutes Katie Buckley she

made no mistake from close range, and Katie Harrington added a point as Cork led 2-9 to 0-3. Cork played with confidence through the second half Joanne Casey pointed two frees, Katrina Mackey had one from play but Dublin's Mairi Moynihan grabbed a goal inside the tenth minute.

Cork responded magnificently Joanne Casey, Kate Harrington Katrina Mackey and Mariah Reidy pointing before Sinéad O'Halloran first timed to the net to seal Corks victory, they now meet four in a row chasing Kilkenny in the final on August 2.

### Another busy weekend

BUSY day on Sunday as the Intermediate and senior teams travel to Kilkenny for the last game in the Gala championship.

The Intermediate team are already qualified having just one game in their section whilst it's a similar story with Kilkenny who recorded wins over Derry, Wexford, Tipperary and Galway, never less the game must be played and it goes ahead at Ryan Park, Kilmallick, 1.30pm

The senior team are the second game on the programme at the same venue 3.30 and a victory here for home sides would bring

them right back into contention but Cork will be determined to finish the section on a winning note.

In local championship action in the Evening Echo Junior B championship on Saturday Sliabh Rua meet St Catherine's, on Monday Erins Own meet Douglas, on Wednesday Bride Rovers meet Na Piarasigh Dungourney meet Brian Dillon's and Greengh meet Buttevant.

In the Junior C championship on Saturday its Ballinascarty against Millstreet, Cobh meet Passage and Delaney's meet Youghal first names teams have home venue.



Jenny Doeblir: Started playing camogie in April 2007 and has now launched a club in her native Germany.

Picture: Neil Danton/News Digital

## Au pair brings back clash of the ash

by Sean O'Riordan



AN au pair who learnt to play camogie in Co Cork has started a club in her native Germany.

Jenny Doeblir started playing camogie with the Sarsfields club in Glanmire, Cork, in April 2007.

Although she'd never picked up a hurley in her life, the 21-year-old has played championship games with Sarsfields and has even completed a coaching course.

Jenny, who works as an au pair for the brother of minister of

state, Billy Kelleher, brought hurleys and helmets back to Bremen, northern Germany, where a number of her friends are now playing the sport.

"They really like it, because it's such a different game from the ones we're used to," Jenny said.

"I hope to get more people playing it so we can have a number of clubs."

Sarsfields camogie club officials see no reason why someday they won't be able to take to the field against a German side.

Club chairperson, Gillian O'Callaghan, said everybody

involved in Sarsfields was very proud of Jenny's achievements.

"She's a very driven person and so enthusiastic about the game that it wouldn't surprise me in the slightest if we ended up having a match between Sarsfields and a German side," Ms O'Callaghan said.

"It's an extraordinary adventure for somebody who only took up the game recently. But she deserves to be in the side on merit. She's very athletic and has a good eye for the ball."

"We're probably the first camogie club in the country to

import a German player," Ms O'Callaghan joked.

Jim Hackett, who trained Jenny last year, said her achievements were phenomenal.

"She took to it like a duck to water," he said.

When Jenny goes back to Germany later this week, she will continue coaching her friends.

While she was working in Glanmire the German players were studying DVDs of the game given to her by friends, including the legendary Teddy McCarthy who won All Ireland hurling and football titles in 1990.

## Wexford aim to up ante and book semi-final spot

by Robert Nodwell

ALL-IRELAND champions Wexford bid to become the first side to join Cork in the semi-final draw of the Gala Senior Camogie Championship when they take on Tipperary in Semple Stadium on Sunday.

After a topsy-turvy season so far, Wexford manager Stellah Sinnott will be looking for her side to change their ways as crunch time approaches.

"We were extremely disappointed about how the first couple of games went," says Sinnott. "The team was well prepared, but we just went out there and we looked extremely flat."

"From one to 15 and even the subs we brought on we just looked like we didn't know what we were at. We just looked flat overall. We had a few meetings about it after the loss to Galway to try and figure it out."

After two games and two defeats, Wexford were staring at an early exit which would compound the poor showing they gave in the National League.

This left them facing a resurgent Na-

tional League winners Kilkenny in a must-win game and their class showed in the end.

"Coming out to play Kilkenny we knew we were in a dog fight and our backs were against the wall, all we could was come out fighting and hope to get the win," adds Sinnott.

"That win against Kilkenny felt like a semi final, we had to win just to get another game at defending our title."

"There are four teams going for three slots. Cork are in the semi-final so ourselves, Tipperary, Galway and Kilkenny are looking to fill the other three places in the semi finals."

"While everybody wants to avoid a playoff, it's looking like that there is going to be one."

Elsewhere, Dublin need a win when they travel to Galway if they are to have any hope of making the semis with the Tribeswomen knowing that a win would secure their passage.

Cork, already qualified, travel to take on League Champions Kilkenny. The hosts will need to take all two points from the game if they are to stay in contention for a semi-final spot.

## Ambitious €150k plan to boost Munster camogie

by Colm O'Connor

MUNSTER GAA and camogie chiefs will invest in excess of €150,000 to develop the ladies game in the province.

The ambitious Munster Camogie Development plan aims to increase the quantity and improve the quality of players and coaches along with increas-

ing the profile of the game across the province over the next three years.

The Plan addresses a wide range of challenges including coaching, public relations, marketing and development of weaker counties.

Munster Council will contribute €64,000 during this three year period while the camogie counterparts aim to raise over €100,000.

Munster GAA Council Chairman Jimmy O'Gorman said: "We see the development of camogie in Munster as vital to the future of our national game and we have pledged every possible support to the Camogie Association in their efforts to develop the sport."

Munster Camogie Council Chairman Morgan Conroy added: "We are extremely grateful to the GAA for

their financial contribution and continued support in other areas such as the provision of facilities, coaching, and an increased recognition of the important role of camogie players and females within the GAA family."

Munster Camogie Council PRO Orla Consideine said that one of their main fundraising events takes place next week.

"We have a successful golf classic each year and it takes place in Dunderum in Tipperary next week. That usually brings in, in the region of €15,000 and we will hope for more of the same."

"That and other events will be on the cards in an effort to make the money to fund this development plan."



# Cork have destiny in their own hands for Cats game

**TOMORROW**  
Cork v Kilkenny  
Gala All-Ireland  
Senior Camogie Championship,  
Kilmanagh, Kilkenny, 3.30pm.

**CORK'S** sixth and final championship qualifier on Sunday against Kilkenny is a game the Cats must win to ensure they advance to the All-Ireland semi-final on August 16.

A loss will not completely rule them out with their last game of the qualifiers against Dublin (game in hand) but with a plethora of ifs and buts surrounding the final games, Kilkenny know that they can't leave it to chance.

If they lose to Cork they will have to rely on other results working in their favour to force a play-off situation.



**LINDA MELLERICK**

Realistically the chances of advancing would be very slim.

Cork, on the other hand, lead the table with eight points after four wins out of five. A victory on Sunday will ensure their passage.

Worst-case scenario is that if Cork lose and other results go a particular way they could end up in a play-off at the end of the group stage. To take control of their destiny will be Cork's intent.

The game has a huge bearing for both sides and for this reason it promises to be a humdinger.

Should Cork perform like they did in the second half against Tipperary on July 6, then it is hard to see anyone stopping them. On the other hand, should they give a display such as the one they gave against Galway on July 13, then the points will be going to Kilkenny.

The old rivalry came to the fore when Cork faced Tipp in Ballincollig and a gutsy, determined performance saw them turn a half-time deficit of four points, 0-8 to 0-4, into a 1-16 to 0-10 resounding victory, an excellent performance from Rachel Moloney the highlight of the day.

Tipp and Cork get the best out of each other almost every time.

The same approach wasn't there against Galway a week later and a lacklustre show by Cork cost them a valuable two points.

Kilkenny, on the other hand, are



Rachel Moloney was in excellent form earlier in the round-robin series when Cork faced Tipp in Ballincollig in June.

now rueing their opening championship loss by two points to Tipperary six weeks after taking the national league title.

While defeating non-hopefuls Limerick on 22 June, they suffered a comprehensive loss thereafter to Wexford, going down 3-14 to 2-4.

It was a case of do-or-die last Sunday against Galway and Ann Downey knew that her side's backs were to the wall. Trailing at half-time by 1-5 to 0-6, the Cats over-

turned Galway in the second half and claimed victory with a score of 1-13 to 1-9. Their victory threw the floodgates open again and they taste the chance of success. Kilkenny's confidence will be sky high particularly as Galway had defeated Cork only seven days previously.

It's an intriguing scenario entering the final stages as five out of the seven competitors still have a chance of going through. Sunday will tell a lot.

## Rebels look to end on a high

The Cork intermediate team make the journey to Kilkenny on Sunday safe in the knowledge that their place in the Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Championship semi-final is already secured **writes MARY NEWMAN.**

Victories over Wexford, Tipperary and Galway have helped the side reach their goal after a disappointing start to their campaign saw them lose out to Derry in their first game.

Their opponents on Sunday are in a similar position with their place in the latter stages also secured. They are in fact unbeaten having recorded victories over Derry, Wexford and Tipperary while they drew with Galway.

Sunday's clash, despite being relevant in the final shake-up, is one which must be played in order to complete the programme in the round-robin series and no doubt both teams will be using it as valuable practice for the semi-final on August 24.

Cork coach Bobby Thornhill is delighted that his side have reached the semi-final stages and is confident that they will give a good account of themselves on Sunday.

"At the beginning of the season we set

**TOMORROW**  
Cork v Kilkenny  
Gala All-Ireland  
Intermediate Championship  
Kilmanagh, Kilkenny, 1pm

ourselves a task of winning all our games. We got off to a bad start, losing to Derry, but we picked ourselves up and got the show back on the road.

"The girls know what is required and Sunday will be no different, despite knowing our place in secure we will be going all out to win, it would be nice to finish the section with victory and finish top and that is what we will be setting out to do."

Cork have improved with every outing, against Derry they looked to be lacking match practice and team work but as the weeks progressed Thornhill has worked on this and the improvement has been noticeable.

Against Wexford they showed tremendous character and heart and fashioned out a good win, the game against Tipperary was a non-event with the opposition failing to make any impact, against Galway Cork dictated proceedings from the

throw-in and were always comfortable.

Marie Corkery and Regina Curtin rejoined the panel before the Tipperary game and both have brought a wealth of experience to the side in the last two games. Michelle Browne has shown how crucial it is to have a good free-taker and her accuracy has been crucial to date.

Kilkenny will no doubt also be determined to finish their campaign in the section on a high, their victory over Derry was a huge boost and they have shown they are there on merit.

The result of their senior game with Cork two hours later in the afternoon is hugely important to the county and this game could take some players from the intermediate side who, like Cork, will be using the game as practice for the semi stages.

The game should allow both backroom teams an opportunity to take a look at their bench and maybe give a chance to some of the fringe players on their panels and afford them the opportunity to push for a place in the respective starting 15.

The result depends on just how seriously both camps approach the game but a Cork victory is very much on the cards.



Cork's Marie Corkery brings lots of experience to the side.



July 2008

# Rebelettes on form as Cats title hopes in the balance

Camogie

**K**ILKENNY'S Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship hopes are hanging by a thread after they slumped to a 5-11 to 0-7 defeat against last year's finalists, Cork, in Kilmanagh yesterday.

With one round of games remaining, the table is now delicately poised. Cork and Galway are both into the semi-finals but there is now a three-way shootout for the remaining two slots. Tipperary and Wexford are locked together on six points, two clear of Kilkenny, ahead of next weekend's decisive round of fixtures.

Cork had their tie against Kilkenny wrapped up by half-time after opening up a 3-5 to 0-3 lead.

Sile Burns goal after 16 minutes and the same player struck again four minutes later for the rampant Leesiders.

Sixty seconds later, Briege Corkery bagged Cork's third goal to establish a 3-3 to 0-1 lead. Amanda O'Regan scored two late goals for Cork to add gloss to the scoreline on a day when Sinéad Millea top-scored for Kilkenny with three points.

Cork had 2-1 hauls from Burns and O'Regan, 1-1 from Corkery and five points from the lethal Rachel Moloney.

Meanwhile champions Wexford secured a dramatic 3-8 to 2-8 victory against Tipperary on Saturday.

The Model County lost their opening two matches but enjoyed three successive victories in recent weeks, none more precious than this crucial victory at Semple Stadium. Una Leacy was the heroine with 2-2 and her second goal, the match-winning strike, arrived



**PREMIER EYE:** Tipperary's Mairead Morrissey in action against Bernie Holohan, left, and Catherine O'Loughlin, of Wexford yesterday.

Picture: Matt Browne/Sportsfile

almost three minutes into stoppage time, with the scores level at 2-8 apiece.

Off the ball, Tipp corner forward Jill Horan clashed with Wexford wing back Aoife O'Connor and Horan was issued with a straight red card to compound the home side's misery.

Tipp held a 1-5 to 0-5 half-time advantage on a humid afternoon as Mairead

Morrissey prodded home the goal after 10 minutes following an uncharacteristic error by Wexford goalkeeper Mags Darcy.

Wexford were level two minutes after half-time as Leacy supplied Ursula Jacob for their first goal before Tipperary's top scorer Claire Grogan, who bagged 1-5, goaled direct from a 20m free.

With nine minutes left, Wexford led by three points before Tipp hit back with scores from All Stars Philly Fogarty and Grogan (2) to level the game. A draw looked on the cards but Leacy had the final say with a deft flick and after Cork did them a real favour against Kilkenny, the Slaneysiders will guarantee a semi-final place with a victory in their

final group match next weekend.

Galway assured themselves of a semi-final berth with a comfortable 3-10 to 0-6 victory against Dublin in Killimor on Saturday.

Galway had scoring contributions from nine different players and first half goals from Deirdre Burke (19 minutes) and Brenda Kerins (25 minutes) helped to open

up a 2-3 to 0-3 half-time advantage.

Dublin had a chance to claw their way back into the game with 13 minutes of normal time remaining but Ciara Lucey's penalty was saved by Galway netminder Susan Earner. Two minutes later, substitute Molly Dunne sealed Galway's win with her side's third goal.

Words Jackie Cahill.



**GONE FISHING:** Munster Camogie Council vice-chairman Eamon Browne gets a helping hand from Tipperary camogie star Deirdre Hughes to retrieve her ball during the Munster Camogie Golf classic at Dundrum Golf and Country Club.

Picture: John D. Kelly



July 2008



# Diarmuid O'Donovan

WHEN Wexford defeated Cork by 2-7 to 1-8 in last year's All-Ireland Camogie final, it looked as if a glorious chapter in Cork camogie was drawing to a close.

Before last September's final, Cork were reigning champions and practically unbackable to retain their title. At half-time in the final, it looked as if Cork would win. Then Wexford moved up a gear, Cork failed to respond and they paid the ultimate price, a shattered All-Ireland final dream.

If it was just the 2007 All-Ireland that was lost it would have been bad enough, but there was more. Cork were bidding for three in a row. In fact, Cork were seeking their fourth win in six consecutive finals.

It was not only the Cork game-plan that unravelled between 3.30pm and 5pm that day. The entire team, five of whom were going for their third winner's medals at senior camogie and ladies football in three years, changed from being invincible to jaded-looking and frayed at the edges.

Last winter brought no relief. Seven members of last year's team announced they would be unavailable for all or most of this season. The reasons varied from work, study and injury to travel. But time marches on, and when the league started in early spring, Cork had little choice but to march with it.

A new selection committee took charge. Jim McCarthy, trainer when Cork won the 2002 final, became the coach; Denise Cronin, a former All-Ireland winning captain took on the role of manager. They two were joined by long-term activists Pat Murray and Con Malone. Whatever would happen on the field, Cork were not going to be short of experience on the sideline.

"Things were not as bad as they looked to an outsider at the start of the year," coach Jim McCarthy told me last Monday.

"It was a case of people looking at the great players that were not going to be available and maybe not appreciating the potential of the players getting their chance."

"This was understandable when you consider the calibre of players that we were going to be without."

"Not many teams could be expected to recover from losing players like Jennifer O'Leary (Barryroe), Emer Dillon (Ballygarvan), Anna Geary (Millford) and Angela Walsh (Killeagh). They are all top class inter-county players."

"As well as that, Rena Buckley was studying, Brieghe Corkery was abroad and Mary O'Connor was recovering from a serious injury. So when we started out it felt like we were putting out a new team."

Cork did not get a great start. "Our first game was against Wexford out in Cloghduv," says Jim.

"We only lost by three points but they were worth a bigger win than that. They out scored us by 15 scores to eight. We got a few goals that kept us in contention."

"After that we beat Dublin, but then we lost to Kilkenny and that knocked us out of contention. As things turned out, I think that worked in our favour."



Cork's Brieghe Corkery scores a goal against Kilkenny during last Saturday's victory in the Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship in Kilkenny. Picture: PJ Browne.

## Another new chapter for camogie side

There is a new format to the senior All-Ireland championship this year. The seven counties that entered, Cork, Tipperary, Galway, Kilkenny, Wexford, Dublin and Limerick are play each other in a league format. The top four will qualify for the semi-finals. This system has served new-look Cork well.

Jim takes up the story again. "We were out of the league by the start of April and we immediately set about preparing for the championship. We trained every Tuesday and Thursday at the UCC Farm."

"We knew we would be playing six competitive games in June and July and felt it was important to get in quality work in April and May. That's exactly how it turned out."

Is the new format better than the old one for camogie, I asked.

"Without a doubt," Jim replied. "When I was involved in 2002 and '03 there were only two teams in serious contention: Cork and Tipperary (They played each other in six of the seven finals between 2000 and 2006 — winning three each)."

This year six of the seven sides are still in contention, all capable of winning every game they play.

"Dublin for example, may not be considered that strong, but they beat Wexford in Leinster. We beat Galway by nearly 30 points in 2003

### Current league table

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Cork	6	5	0	1	10
Galway	5	4	0	1	8
Tipperary	5	3	0	2	6
Wexford	5	3	0	2	6
Kilkenny	5	2	0	3	4
Dublin	5	1	0	4	2
Limerick	5	0	0	5	0

and they beat us a few weeks ago. Every game is a test now, and this has brought our players on."

"It's not just in the quality of their play that the other counties have improved, they all seem to be better managed, trained, kitted out and so on, the whole feel to the early rounds of the championship has been much better."

The Cork coach, who spent much of his spare time between 2003 and 2007 taking a law degree by night at UCC, has a lot to say about the Cork county championship too.

"The county championship has become very competitive. There are a lot of new teams in contention and this has helped develop new players. The fact that the county championship is strong gives us a larger pool of quality players to pick from."

"Cloghduv have four players on the Cork team and they were beaten lately by St Catherine's. Muskerry are champions for the first time and they have provided Catriona Foley

and Sile Burns from Rockbán.

"Other players like Linda O'Connell (St Finbarr's), Rachel Maloney and Sarah Hayes (Courneys), Emer O'Sullivan (Ballinhassig) Elaine O'Riordan (Millford), Linda Dorgan (Grenagh) and Emer O'Farrell — who is getting married next Saturday — have all got chances to break in or establish themselves."

"Of course the fact that Brieghe Corkery and Mary O'Connor are back is a mighty boost too. Any team would be glad to have two players like them."

Cork have completed their games in the round robin series are now qualified for the All-Ireland semi-finals on August the 16th next.

The other six counties play the last round of games this weekend. The results of these games will decide who qualifies along with Cork for the open-draw semi-finals.

The Cork mid-term report suggests that their chances of getting to the All-Ireland final remain firmly within their own control.

A win in the semi-final could see a year that began as a footnote to a tiring team turn into the opening lines of the next chapter in the ongoing success of Cork camogie.

### THIS WEEKEND'S FIXTURES:

Limerick v Wexford, Tipperary v Galway, Dublin v Kilkenny.

## Rockbán lay down a marker with seven goal spree

By MARY NEWMAN

Evening Echo Senior B camogie

Rockbán	7-8
Kilbrittain	0-8

ROCKBÁN sent out strong signals in their first game in the Evening Echo Senior B Camogie Championship round robin series in Tracton last night.

All over the pitch the pace and strength of Rockbán was evident, no more so than in their inside line where Cork senior Sile Burns and Margaret Howard did untold damage.

In defence, Cork captain Catriona Foley was outstanding and had assistance from Sarah Ryan, Niamh Keohane and Mairead Foley.

Kilbrittain battled hard and gave it everything. Miriam Deasy, Marie Moloney and Eimear O'Sullivan doing a huge amount of work up front while in defence Adelle Foley, Michelle Hayes and Marion Murphy battled hard.

The opening quarter was close as both sides found their feet, Sile Burns fired Rockbán ahead with an early 45, Marie Moloney replied for Kilbrittain and with Therese Howard and Miriam Deasy doing likewise it was level. Twice Kilbrittain squandered chances before Howard and Burns hit Rockbán points to give them a lead they held to the finish.

The game turned in Rockbán's favour inside a minute, Burns outpacing her marker before firing to the net and seconds later she repeated the act and Kilbrittain were on the back foot.

Burns struck two points before Deasy had one back for Kilbrittain. But battling to stay in contention, Kilbrittain were dealt a second double-blow with Margaret Howard striking for two goals in two minutes to leave Rockbán comfortably ahead 4-6 to 0-3 at the break.

Kilbrittain made a determined start to the second half, Eimear O'Sullivan pointing but again the ability to grab goals stood to Rockbán with Margaret Howard nipping in to grab her third, and set up Sarah Coleman for another.

Eimear O'Sullivan pointed for Kilbrittain but when Claire Conway struck for a goal at the three-quarter stage the game was long over as a contest.

Huge credit must go to Kilbrittain, who showed fierce commitment, Marian Murphy struck three pointed frees but goals proved vital.

Rockbán's goal threat was hugely impressive and on this display firmly installed themselves as favourites to be there come the final shake up.

**Scorers for Rockbán:** M Howard 3-2, S Burns 2-4 (0-1 45), S Coleman and C Conway 1-0 each.

**Kilbrittain:** M Murphy 0-3f, M Deasy and Eimear O'Sullivan 0-2 each, M Moloney 0-1.

**ROCKBÁN:** E Harie; M O'Keefe, S Ryan, M Foley; D Foley C Foley, N Keohane; M Griffith, C Conway; V Mulcahy, T Howard (cl), E Casey; S Coleman, S Burns, M Howard. **Subs:** U O'Sullivan for M Howard (50), C Burke for C Conway (51), O Mulcahy for M Griffith (51).

**KILBRITTAIN:** M Fullam; D O'Sullivan, A Foley, M Hayes; V Smith, M Murphy, M O'Sullivan; M Dullea, Elish O'Sullivan; J O'Regan, Eimear O'Sullivan, M Deasy; E O'Regan, M Murphy, M Moloney. **Subs:** H Hickey for D O'Sullivan (40), M Dollard for M Moloney (49).

**Referee:** Jack McGrath



# Brave Dubs fall to terrific Tribe

By Niall Scully

DUBLIN'S O'Duffy Road has ended.

It came to the end of the line in Killimor on Saturday.

All that was lacking for Galway was the music of Mundy. Everything else was just perfect. They are one of the best teams around.

The towering Tribeswomen were as sharp as a high-heel as they prevailed 3-10 to 0-6. And they gave every indication that they'll be well in the frame to challenge for Wexford's title.

"Galway were just super," comments Dublin mentor, Marie O'Brien. "They were so fit and fast, and they are such a sporting side."

Dublin will conclude their campaign with a home match against Kilkenny this weekend.

"It would be nice to finish with a win," notes Marie.

The game will be a rehearsal for the Leinster Final, a completely separate competition from the All-Ireland series.

In the highlight of the year, Dublin beat Wexford in the Leinster semi-final out in Skerries.

Against the Cats, the Dubs will hope for Aisling Jordan to deliver another telling display. She impressed in Galway with her touch, pace and vision.

It was a commendable return to the blue jersey for Jordan, who had been carried off the pitch with a leg injury in Wexford the previous week.

Also playing soundly against Galway was Caitriona Power, the Mearnóg maestro.

She has developed into one of the most consistent defenders in the sport. Always does

the simple things well. No fuss. The sign of a good player.

Unfortunately, Dublin had to cope with the loss of their celebrated full-back and All-Star, Eimear Brannigan, who suffered an ankle injury.

She had only returned to the county jersey against Wexford last week following a long spell out with a broken wrist. Despite the lay-off, Brannigan was back to her brilliant best against the All-Ireland champions.

Against Kilkenny, the Dubs will hope to make it two wins from six in the campaign, having lost to Cork, Tipp, Wexford and Galway.

## HARD

They were all hard matches, but as manager David Kennedy reflected: "This is where we want to be. It's all about learning and progressing, and you can only do that against the best teams."

Dublin's one win in the series was at home to Limerick in the new home of Trinity Gaels.

A repeat result would just be the trick this bank holiday weekend for the players and management crew of David Kennedy, Mary McKeon, Marie O'Brien and Dorin Golden.

**DUBLIN:** Eimear Butler; Jean Murphy, Eimear Brannigan, Rachael Ruddy; Andrea Fitzpatrick, Clara Lucey, Caitriona Power; Danielle Smith, Louise O'Hara (0-3); Clara Burgess, Fiona Ní Chiorcáin, Alison Maguire (0-1); Niamh Taylor (0-2), Sarah Ryan, Aisling Jordan. **Subs:** Claire Donnelly, Joeline Hoary, Clodagh Cooney, Aoife Cullen, Lorraine O'Connell, Elaine Ryan, Laura Twomey, Aine Fanning.



**TAKING AIM:** Niamh Taylor scored two points for the Dubs in their defeat to Galway in Killimor on Saturday

## Angela and her trophies pay visit to small screen

ANGELA DOWNEY was on the telly the other night. Camogie's Top Cat has a huge trophy haul. It includes a Texaco award, writes Niall Scully.

But the first winner of the Texaco award was Dublin great Una O'Connor, back in 1966.

Una was one of four Dublin players that were selected on camogie's Team of the Century, the others being Eileen Duffy, Kathleen Mills and Sophie Brack.

Kilkenny come to town this week to face the Dubs, and they are managed by Angela's twin, Ann.

► **WHAT ARE** the chances of marking the big Three-0 in style next season?

It was back in 1979 that Dublin won their first National Senior League title.

They beat Limerick in the final at the Russell Park home of St Brigid's by the incredible scoreline of 0-6 to 0-0.

It was the only time a team failed to score in the Senior League final.

That was some Dublin defence. It included Annette McGrath, wife of Davy Billings, and Camogie Chief Sheila Wallace, who leaves the top job this week.

## CAMOGIE BOARD NOTES

**HARD** luck to the Dublin senior team and management on defeat to Galway. The team has one more game in the series at the weekend against Kilkenny.

The team has not enjoyed the best of luck in the campaign but the form of newcomers to the senior scene like Alison Maguire, Laura Twomey, Rachel Ruddy, Claire Donnelly augurs well for the future.

**Speedy get-well** to Eimear Brannigan (St Vincent's).

The club leagues enter their final round of fixtures this week with Ballyboden St Enda's and St Vincent's vying for honours in Division 1.

Boden hold a two-point lead but Vincents have two games left and victory over Good Counsel on tonight and against Erin's Isle is essential to forcing a play-off providing Ballyboden overcome Raheny.

In Senior B Division 1 Naomh Brid could yet force a play-off with front runners Naomh Jude, who are four in front, but the Blanchardstown side has two games in hand.

In Senior B Division 2 it's even tighter, with only a point separating Lucan Sarsfields and Portobello.

# Towers happy to place faith in the next generation

By Niall Scully

EXAM papers folded neatly away, the green fields of Clondalkin beckoned.

And the Round Towers girls didn't need a second invitation to get back swinging.

On Thursday they'll take the road to Pearse Park for a testing assignment against Crumlin.

But the Hoops have been happy

with their progress in Division 1 of the Intermediate League where they have produced some decent performances.

## HAPPY

"We have been back at it now since the exams finished, and we are happy enough with the way things have gone this season," reports John Pender.

"We have a decent blend in the squad. We have about 23 players,

and among them are several under-16s.

"Four or five of them would be on the first 15, so that provides a nice mix with our more senior players."

There's a harvest of talented Hoops on the rise. The fabulous work of Ann Darbey keeps on echoing.

"The under-age section is doing very well. A lot of effort has gone into that, and many of the young players are filtering through.

"There's no doubt that we have some fabulous prospects. But like in any club, the trick is to keep them playing," notes John.

## ACES

One of the club's aces in doing that is their excellent facilities - their cosy clubhouse in the heart of the village and their ample playing pitches.

Towers use the Community Centre for training and matches, but when they have a big home game, they run

out at the main arena on Monastery Road.

They'd love to be doing that in the quarter-final of the Olhausen Intermediate Championship on August 28.

But firstly they'd have to return from their away trip to Stillorgan with a first round victory over Kilmacud Crokes.

A tall order, but the spinning tops of Clondalkin will give it everything they have.

## OBITUARIES



### Enid O'Loughlin 1988 - 2008

The Community were shocked with the death of Enid earlier this year. She played camogie at all underage levels for the Club and she loved her role as goalkeeper. Though small in stature she was well capable of guarding the goal and many is the time that she made some remarkable saves to deny the opposition. Enid hated training but ask her to play in goal and she was between the posts in a flash, she was our Davy Fitzgerald. She captained the Under 18 team when they won the U18B Championship and was also a member of the Clare U16 panel when they captured the Munster Title. She played in goal Cusack Park when we won the U14C Championship in 2001. The Club held a Remembrance Mass for Enid in Fahy Hall on Friday 24th October celebrated by Fr. Michael McNamara. The Club were privileged to know her and she was proud to say she played for the Parish. Enid's death has left a huge void with her family, friends and team mates. May Enid rest in peace.



## U16 aim for all Ireland glory

THE Cork under 16 team face a tough hour as they set out to dethrone champion's Kilkenny who are aiming for a historic four in a row of under 16 camogie titles.

Kilkenny have produced some excellent teams and they will be determined to become the first county to take the title four years on the trot.

Kilkenny looked impressive in their semi final against Galway as they held their nerves to fashion out a narrow victory. Manager Liam Dunne is also aiming for his fourth title in a row and is determined to reach his goal.

There is a fierce determination in a Cork side that were impressive in their

round robin series and also in taking the provincial crown.

Cork are captained by Pamela Mackey from the Douglas club and she is ably supported by players such as her twin sister Katrina, Katie McCarthy Aileen O'Donovan Sinead O'Halloran, Alison Coughlan, Rosie O'Mahony and Maria Reidy.

There is a lot of experience in the Cork panel and victory on Saturday would be the icing on the cake for the players and their selectors who have worked so hard since last December to reach this final.

Venue is Semple Stadium at 3.30pm, best of luck to the Cork girls in their quest for glory.

## Cork teams book semi final spots

IN the space of two days three Cork teams secure their place in All Ireland semi-final as the senior Intermediate and minor teams all progressed.

### MINORS

The minor team overcame Galway in a game where both teams needed a victory to stay in contention a defeat for Cork would have taken them into a three way play off with Antrim and Galway for the one remaining semi-final place. Tara Rutledge and Jennifer Lynch swapped points before Katie O'Mahony grabbed the games first goal after eight minutes. Niamh Dilworth and Sinead O'Callaghan pointed as Tara Rutledge was on target twice but it was Cork who led 2-4 to 0-3 at the break. Niamh Dilworth pointed inside three minutes of the restart before Catriona Collins and Niamh Dilworth struck for Cork goals and with their defence well on top Cork made life difficult for Galway. Tara Connolly grabbed a late goal for them but Niamh Dilworth Catriona Collins and Jennifer Lynch adding points to safely book Cork's semi-final spot.

### INTERMEDIATES

Both sides may have had their places in the Gala

All Ireland intermediate semi-final secured before the game but a determination performance from Cork saw Kilkenny lose their spot as table toppers. Cork picked off the scores and put Kilkenny under pressure and Kilkenny went twenty four minutes between their first and second Kilkenny score as the Cork defence held their lines. Julia White had Cork on level before Michelle Brown hit four points without reply. Bronagh Neary struck Kilkenny's second point but when Marion Jagoe first timed Julia White's pass to the net Cork were in control and finished the half with points from Charlotte Kearney and Aisling Thompson. Cork controlled the second half to run out convincing winner.

### SENIORS

A polished display saw the senior team make no mistake to confidently brush aside the challenge posed by Kilkenny and book their place in the gal All Ireland semi-final. Goals from Sile Burns, Brieghe Corkery and Amanda O'Regan helped Cork record one of their most impressive victories in the round robin series. Well done to the management and players who now await their semi-final opponents for the game which will take place on August 16.

## Valleys look to go one better this year

TONIGHT,  
Valley Rovers v Carrigaline,  
Evening Echo Senior B  
Championship  
Belgooly 7.30pm

IT'S THE first game in the round-robin series for last season's defeated finalists Valley Rovers as they take on Carrigaline in Belgooly this evening **writes MARY NEWMAN.**

It's Carrigaline's second game in the series of four and they go in boosted by their victory over Bishopstown two weeks ago.

In this clash Laura Thompson was the heroine, striking 3-7 of the total of 4-10. She is a player Valleys must have to keep a close eye on.

Carrigaline are a well balanced side who have continued to show improvement and they are continuing to grow in confidence this season under the guidance of John Middleton, Tom Moran and Adrian O'Mara.

It's the fourth year in a row that the sides meet in the championship. Last season, Carrigaline lost to a strong Valleys side but this time Carrigaline are more organised and are boosted by the availability of several players who were not available last season.

Ann Kiely is reliable goalkeeper while young players such as Maria Moran, Jenny Foster, Sarah Cotter and Patti O'Keefe will not be found wanting.

Valleys, having lost two years in a row on county final day, will be hoping 2008 is to be their year. Having knocked out raging favourites Rockban last year their name looked to be on the trophy but they fell to a very determined Douglas side.

On paper they have the players capable of taking the title but they must perform. Lucy Hawkes is influential in defence and she is assisted by Gillian Harrington, Laura Davis and Clodagh Deasy.

## Killeagh are tough test for Hassig

TONIGHT,  
Ballinhassig v Killeagh,  
Evening Echo Senior B Championship,  
Mayfield, 7.30pm

Last season's junior A champions Killeagh make their return to senior this evening when they take on Ballinhassig in both clubs' first game in the round robin series **writes MARY NEWMAN.**

Ballinhassig have been knocking at the door in senior B for a number of years and are well balanced. Cork senior Eimear O'Sullivan will lead their quest, she will have support from Cork minor Catriona Collins, Katie McCarthy and Deirdre Coomey. Denis McCarthy has worked hard with his panel and he will look on this as a big test.

Killeagh have been recording excellent victories in the league and their name has been mentioned as one of the sides who could be in the final shake-up.

All over the field they have strength, Cork senior Mary O'Connor is influential in their defence while former Cork senior Angela Walsh, Carmel Deane, Marie Smiddy and Ann Marie Walsh are players who have plenty of confidence and experience.

Ballinhassig will have to be at their best to contain Killeagh.



Pamela Mackey, Cork Captain, and Shelly Farrell, Kilkenny Captain, pictured with Liz Howard Uachtarán Chumann Camúgalochta na nGael in Semple Stadium at the Gala All Ireland Senior Championship Game. Cork and Kilkenny meet in the U16A All Ireland Camogie Final this Saturday.

Picture: Matt Browne / SPORTSFILE

## Rebelettes bid to halt Cats' four-in-a-row

**CAMOGIE:** The stars of the future take centre stage this weekend with the All-Ireland U16 Camogie final. Cork are aiming to stop rivals Kilkenny completing a historic four-in-a-row, as they take to the Semple Stadium pitch on Saturday afternoon.

This is the third year in a row that Cork have met Kilkenny in the U16 decider and the Cats have had the upper hand in both previous encounters.

This included a 29-point win for Kilkenny last year.

For Cork selector Treacy Sheehan, this weekend will give Cork the chance to put right what went wrong last year. "Last year we just weren't prepared for Kilkenny in the first half. They way they came at us in the opening period, we had no answer, and by half time, the game was over as a contest. We were taken by surprise."

Sheehan is confident that this year's team, which includes eight of last year's panel, is better prepared to face their opposition.

Cork will look to the strength of twins Pamela and Catriona Mackey at centre back and centre field, respectively, along with Emma Kingston, who has been impressive at wing back in recent games, including the semi final victory

over Dublin.

Sheehan believes her side can do it but knows they face an uphill struggle against a Kilkenny side who are bred in winning.



July 2008

## Walshes turn it in Killeagh's favour

By LINDA MELLERICK

Senior B championship

Killeagh 1-8  
Ballinhassig 0-6

KILLEAGH eventually pulled away and took the points in this closely fought *Evening Echo* Cork County Senior B Championship game in Mayfield last evening.

At half-time, the score stood at three points apiece after a first half that failed to open up and get going.

Ballinhassig opened the scoring with an Aisling O'Brien point. Angela Walsh replied. Emer O'Sullivan struck again after 13 minutes but again Angela responded.

Ballinhassig, even from an early stage, looked as if they had to work that bit harder to create scoring opportunities. Once Walsh came out around the middle of the field and took on Ballinhassig with her runs she created chances. But poor shooting let Killeagh down.

Catriona Collins did an immense amount of work in defence for 'Hassig and O'Brien up front was a threat but still both sides were finding it hard to find the posts. The second half became a more open, faster game. Mary O'Connor swept up a large amount of ball while Emer O'Sullivan did everything she could to edge Ballinhassig ahead.

After 14 minutes the score stood at 0-4 each. The next minute decided the outcome.

Angela Walsh goaled and Ann Marie Walsh pointed almost from the puck out and Killeagh led by four. With the game as low scoring as it was, a goal was always going to win it out.

However the goal seemed to increase the tempo of the game. Ballinhassig tried hard to pull the deficit back but it was Killeagh who really should have pulled further away.

A number of poor wides from both sides, but particularly Killeagh, kept the pressure on the East Cork side.

Ballinhassig, through Brid Coleman and Emer O'Sullivan, brought it down to two with four minutes of normal time remaining.

However three very good scores from Jessica O'Shea (2) and Noelle O'Donovan gave Killeagh their first deserved win at senior level.

**Scorers for Killeagh:** A Walsh 1-2, J O'Shea 0-2, C Keohane 0-1, M O'Connor, A M Walsh, N O'Donovan 0-1 each.

**Ballinhassig:** E O'Sullivan 0-3 (0-2), A O'Brien, J Cullinane, B Coleman 0-1 each.

**KILLEAGH:** C Deane, M Smiddy, C Walsh, M Smiddy, K Kelleher, M O'Connor, E O'Neill, L O'Connor, AM Walsh, C Keohane, A Walsh, S Bosusang, J O'Shea, N O'Donovan, G Cunningham. Subs: K Walsh for L O'Connor (38).

**BALLINHASSIG:** G O'Callaghan, D O'Brien, T Finn, T Holland, C Holland, C Collins, H Cullinane, E O'Sullivan, M Kelleher, A O'Brien, J Cullinane, K McCarthy, B Coleman, A Crowley, A Burns. Sub: E O'Regan for A Burns (36).

Referee: P Downey (Inniscearra).



Rebel twins Pamela Mackey, Kate Harrington, Katrina Mackey and Sarah Harrington will pose major problems for Kilkenny on Saturday. Picture: Mary Newman

**CORK WILL** be hoping that the double twin forces of the Mackey and Harrington twins will send Kilkenny reeling when the sides meet on Saturday in the U16 All-Ireland camogie final in Semple Stadium at 3.30pm.

Both set of identical twins are very much a part of the Cork set up and, given just how alike they are, it's not surprising that opponents do a double-take when they meet them.

Pamela Mackey captains the side and she has plenty of support from her twin sister Katrina while Sarah and Kate Harrington will not be found wanting when the going gets tough.

In the semi-final meeting against Dublin, the Mackeys lined out with Pamela in defence and Katrina at midfield and their paths crossed on several occasions, while for the Harringtons it was slightly different with Sarah taking up the corner-back role and Kate further up the field at centre-forward.

The Douglas twins have enjoyed plenty of success since taking up camogie in St Columba's National School.

Already the holders of senior B county championship honours, they also hold national Féile na nGael honours as well as numerous colleges honours.

Mother Mary is hugely proud of both girls, as was their dad John, who sadly passed away last year. He was a huge supporter of the twins always at their game.

Their uncle Frank, John's brother, is very supportive of the girls and Mary paid huge tribute to him for his support: "Frank comes to all the games and he will be there on Saturday for the girls, he is a great supporter."

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie news

Both girls were members of the Cork teams that lost out in last year's final to Kilkenny and will be hoping for a better day on Saturday.

Mother Mary can wait for Saturday to come.

"To be honest I am very nervous it's a big day for the girls and I am thrilled it's in Thurles."

"Last Sunday the girls were on the pitch after the hurling game and they said they would love to play there so it's a dream come through."

"They take it all in their stride and just get on with the game, they are very calm and relaxed so it's just as well it is me that is nervous."

"We are really looking forward to it and we have to win."

The Harrington girls hail East Cork from and took up camogie by joining Fr O'Neills and then progressed to play in Kilcredan NS.

It's Sarah's second year on the team while both were on the Cork B side that won Munster honours in 2007 so this year is special with Kate joining Sarah on the A team.

Hurling is very much in the family as their mother Nora is a first cousin to Seanie and Mary O'Leary, who won hurling and camogie All-Ireland honours with Cork.

It's a busy few months for the Harrington girls as both are also member of the Cork U16 ladies football team that play All Ireland final on August 10 but in their mothers Nora's words: "Saturday is a huge day for them both they adore camo-

gie and without doubt it's their first love they are thrilled to reach the All-Ireland final and they are really looking forward to Saturday."

"They are focused on the final and can't wait for Saturday, they have got huge support from everybody in the club and family and there will be a big crowd travelling."

"I suppose you would always be nervous for them but sure once the game starts we just get on with supporting the team, they are totally relaxed and that's all that matters."

If Cork take the title the Harrington/Mackey combination will make their own bit of history by becoming the first 'dual' twin combination to win U16 All-Ireland camogie medals with Cork. Let's hope they achieve their aim - on the double!

## O'Mahony's late point gives Valley win

Valley Rovers  
Carrigaline

2-7  
1-9

A LATE point from sub Eima O'Mahony was the deciding score in an entertaining *Evening Echo* Senior B Championship game in Belgooly last night, writes MARY NEWMAN.

With two minutes left, a goal from Deirdre O'Leary look to have given Carrigaline a share of the spoils

but up popped O'Mahony to spoil the Carrigaline girls' bid to remain unbeaten in the round-robin series.

The opening half was a close affair. A Clodagh Deasy goal helped Valleys hold a slender 1-2 to 0-4 lead at the break after Lucy Hawkes had pointed twice while Laura Thompson scored all four Carrigaline points from placed balls.

Thompson had Carrigaline level before Hawkes edged

her side back in front, but again Thompson showed her accuracy as Carrigaline hung on to their opponents.

Valley Rovers hit the front with a fortuitous goal when Marie Forde got her stick to a ball that looked to be going wide and deflected it in.

Carrigaline battled back, Thompson pointed twice as Hawkes replied to keep Valleys ahead.

Joanne O'Keefe had the lead down to the minimum

but Hawkes showed how important it is to have a good free-taker when she converted a free and 45 and Valleys Rovers looked to be safe with a three-point lead as the game neared its end.

Carrigaline looked to have grabbed a draw with O'Leary's goal but O'Mahony had the final say.

**Scorers for Valley Rovers:** L Hawkes 0-6 (0-2), 0-2 (45), C Deasy, M Forde 1-0 each, E O'Mahony 0-1.  
**Carrigaline:** L Thompson 0-8 (0-4), 0-3

45), D O'Leary 1-0, J O'Keefe 0-1.

**CARRIGALINE:** A Kiely, J Kiernan, J Foster, R Pinfield, L Kelleher, S Cotter, M Moran, D Smyth, Jacqui O'Keefe, G O'Keefe, Joanne O'Keefe, D O'Leary, C O'Keefe, E Egan, L Thompson. Subs: P O'Keefe for E Egan (half-time), C O'Connell for C O'Keefe (50).

**VALLEY ROVERS:** G Harrington, A O'Callaghan, L Davis, S O'Shea, E Foley, MA Hawkes, E Coughlan, L Hawkes, M Forde, J Hawkes, M Cottrill, C Deasy, A Coughlan, C Foley, O Deasy. Subs: E O'Mahony for C Foley (38).

Referee: Colette O'Mahony (St Finbar's).



July 2008

# Pam is ready to play a lead role

By MARY NEWMAN  
U16 Camogie final

**THE TASK** is a big one as the Cork U16 camogie team attempt to wrestle Kilkenny's grip on the All-Ireland trophy and in the process try and put a halt to a historic four-in-a-row.

The pressure is bound to tell a little but Cork captain Pamela Mackey is looking forward to the big day, nerves are non-existent and this lady, who has enjoyed so much success, is taking it all in her stride and is focused on Sunday.

On Sunday last she met up with Kilkenny captain Michelle Farrell for a photoshoot in Semple Stadium ahead of the final and little did either captain know at that stage that the game would be played on the same pitch where Pamela's sporting heroes, the Cork hurlers, won their recent battles.

"The whole experience was brilliant and we had some pictures taken, I had been in Thurles for the hurling matches and the buzz and the atmosphere was brilliant. It is great we are going to play the final there, the girls are thrilled."

The honours bestowed upon her by her club to lead Cork is one which Pamela is thrilled with.

"To captain Cork is a huge honour and I am thankful to the club for that, winning the U16 A championship and league last year was great and to be picked as captain of Cork was something I could only dream about."

Lining out last season in the senior championship for the first time with Douglas was a wonderful experience in 2007 and to win the senior B was a huge bonus.

"I enjoyed the buzz of the senior championship and playing with the older girls was great because they are such a help, Amanda O'Regan is

an inspiration and she gives the younger player huge encouragement and good advice, and her sister Louise is a huge help also."

St Columba's NS and street leagues in Douglas introduced Catherine to camogie, she won honours at Sciath na Scol before progression to Christ the King Turner's Cross, where this year she won an All-Ireland colleges medal. Pamela is just finished fourth year.

"It was great that there was not as much homework this year with no big exams so therefore it was easier with training," she says.

Her huge enthusiasm for camogie is shared by her twin sister Katrina, who also lines out with Cork.

"We have done everything together since we were babies and it's great that we are both on the team," Katrina says.

Sisters Jessica and Caroline come to the games but neither plays camogie while mother Mary is without doubt the biggest fan.

It comes as no surprise that Pamela mentioned Jerry and Ben



Cork captain Pamela Mackey is ready to lead her side to victory over Kilkenny in the U16 final.



FROM LAST YEAR'S FINAL: Cork's Michelle Healy trying to stop Anna Farrell from Kilkenny scoring a goal. The Rebels will be hoping to reverse the result and stop the four-in-a-row attempt.

## PATHS TO THE FINAL

### CORK

Cork 2-19 Galway 2-10

Cork 5-17 Clare 1-2

Cork 3-12 Tipperary 2-5

Cork 3-12 Limerick 1-2

### KILKENNY

Kilkenny 0-11 Wexford 0-5

Kilkenny 5-7 Dublin 2-7

Kilkenny 3-6 Antrim 1-14

### ALL IRELAND SEMI-FINALS

Cork 3-17 Dublin 1-3

Kilkenny 1-15 Galway 3-8

O'Connor among her favourites, but she assured me it has nothing to do with them being twins.

"They are just great players and Seán Óg is one my favourites, he always wants to win and is determined, he is a defender also so I enjoy learning from watching him."

Many of this panel have been together for two years, selectors Tracy Sheehan, Esther O'Leary and

Ger Sheehan gather their young charges around them, carefully minding and taking care of them and the captain is very conscious of the bond that exists.

"We are very close and there is a fierce bond between us, a lot of the girls would have known each other since the Cork U14 colleges team and some of them are on the panel since last year while for others it was a first time on a Cork panel but we all get on really well."

"When we meet each other at club games it's different but once we leave the pitch we all stop and have a chat outside the dressing rooms after the matches."

Looking ahead to Saturday, Pamela feels confident about her side's chances.

"It's there for the taking and we are more than able to stop them making it four in a row, we probably will be nervous but once the game starts it will be okay."

One thing is sure, when the going gets tough the Cork captain will be in the thick of the action.

## Cork can end five year gap to win

### TOMORROW

**All-Ireland U16 camogie final: Cork v Kilkenny, Semple Stadium, 3.30pm**  
CORK aim to stop Kilkenny in their tracks as the young kittens aim for a historic four-in-a-row of U16 titles.

It's the third year in a row that the sides have met and starved of success at this level since 2003, when Anna Geary lifted the trophy, Cork are determined to get it right this time out.

Kilkenny recorded victories over Wexford, Dublin and Antrim before disposing of Galway in an excellent semi-final.

In all their games in the round robin series they had to battle to the finish, and these battling qualities are something which this side are renowned for and selector John Quilty is confident this will stand to his charges.

"We had to fight all the way in all our games but the girls know what is required, we looked to be heading for defeat up in Antrim but they produced the goods, we hung on against Galway," he says.

The side is captained by Michelle Farrell from Thomastown, without doubt one of the most exciting underage camogie players on the scene, Farrell has everything, exceptional skill, speed and craft.

Without doubt she is one to watch out for as the years progress. Farrell is joined by three survivors from last year, Aisling Dunphy, Niamh Byrne and Ruth Jones.

Cork have impressed in their path to the final and, with eight survivors from last year, look to be a very settled side, a feature of their performances have been the huge scores they have notched, clocking up 16-77 while conceding just 7-22.

Up front, Finola Neville, Sinead O'Halloran and Katie Buckley are all capable of grabbing goals while their defence is superbly marshalled by goalkeeper Tessa Hawkes, captain Pamela Mackey, Katie McCarthy and Alison Coughlan.

Every player on the panel is hugely experienced, already many are holders of All-Ireland medals but a victory over Kilkenny on Saturday would be the icing on the cake.

Cork have an injury worry, Aileen O'Donovan, and therefore they have held back on naming their starting 15 but the line-out will be expected to be along the lines of the semi-final clash with Dublin.

Were O'Donovan not to make it I would expect to see Rosie O'Mahony who missed the semi due to holiday, coming in.

Cork, on their performances in their path to this final, are favourites and one cannot argue with this tag. They have been impressive in all their games but they know the tag counts for little against Kilkenny.

Having watched both semi-finals, Cork were by far the strongest of the four sides on the day, -disciplined in defence, strong in midfield and attack, they possess all the qualities to take this long overdue title.

Kilkenny will be motivated to make history and Cork will have to close down Farrell while Claire Phelan, Ciara Holden and Siobhan Healy will pose threats.

In defence Grace Walsh will be hoping to emulate the feats of her brother Tommy by bringing another All-Ireland medal to the family and she will anchor a solid defence.

Cork they look to have the upper hand but they will no doubt tread carefully.

Mindful of the last two years, 2008 is the year to finally banish the ghost and stop history being achieved, this Cork side are good enough to do just that.



# Gala All Ireland Senior Camogie Championship

## Late Goal Foils Tipp

Tipperary 2.08 Wexford 3.08

Wexford travelled to Semple Stadium last Saturday to get their Championship campaign back on track but for spells of the game it looked as if the Tipp girls were going to spoil the party.

However, a Wexford free from their own 65 received the vital touch from full forward Una Lacey to deny the home side the much needed point that a draw would have given them. Moments before this free, Tipp had

their own free from their 65 yard line & the decision to go short with the placed ball didn't work out & the lost possession gave Wexford the free in the dying moments of the game which led to the winner.

This game was slow to ignite, with both teams appearing nervous on the ball & afraid to make mistakes & it wasn't until the 7th minute that the first score was registered by Claire Grogan with a free.

Wexford responded with their own free before Claire struck for another placed ball. Both teams seemed to play a 2 player full forward line which left the centre field very crowded, something which didn't seem to suit the home side's centre field pairing. A share of Tipp's attacks landed in the Wexford goal mouth only for the Wexford goalie to pick up & clear at her leisure. The Tipp back line were strong & very effective throughout this period

& a long ball into the Wexford goal which wasn't cleared by the goalie allowed Mairead Morrissey to tap in for Tipp's first goal. Wexford battled back & had 3 unanswered points before Philly Fogarty got one back from play & Claire Grogan pointed a free. Meanwhile the backs were throwing themselves at Wexford's attacks & a vital interception by Julie Kirwin in the 21st minute denied Wexford of a certain goal leaving the home side ahead at half time 1.05 to 0.05.

The resumption of the second half saw Wexford take the game to Tipp & registered the first point before Tipp's Claire Grogan rifled a 21 yard free to the Wexford net.

However, Wexford reacted better & hit 4 unanswered points, one from a sideline cut. Wexford's second goal once again came from uncertainty between the Tipp defence & goalie and their indecision about clearing their lines allowed Wexford tap in for the goal. Tipp were guilty of some bad wides but credit to them they pulled level with points from Philly Fogarty & Claire Grogan until in the 2nd minute of injury time.

The teams went back to the regular line out in the 2nd half, & this helped the game become more open. Suzanne Kelly was back at her more comfortable slot of full back. Joanne Ryan at centre field was excellent & has great stamina. Emily Hayden when switched to full forward worked hard but the fact that the Tipp full forward line played most of the game on the 21 gave the Wexford goalie plenty of time to clear her lines. Unfortunately for Tipp, Jill Horan was shown

a straight red near the end of the game. Jill had worked very hard throughout the game & contributed a lot in Tipp's attack.

Tipp now have one last game in the Championship which will be next weekend at home to Galway. The premier girls played well in last weeks game & if the shooting can be improved there is no reason why they can't overcome Galway. Tipp's hunger & attitude & tackling is very positive & the skill that is in the panel is as good as is with any other County team.

Tipperary: Paula Ryan, Suzanne Kelly, Mairead Luttrell, Julie Kirwin, Paula Bulfin, Tishy O Halloran, Mary Ryan, Joanne Ryan, Philly Fogarty, Cora Hennessy, Emily Hayden, Geraldine Kinnane, Jill Horan, Claire Grogan, Mairead Morrissey. Subs used: Marie Tynan, Therese Shortt.

Referee Fintan McNamara, Clare.

### Camogie Notes:

Tipperary's next Senior Championship is against Galway next weekend at home. Time & venue to be decided. Details will be available during the week.

The Intermediates suffered also at the hands of their counterparts from Wexford on a scoreline of 1.12 to Tipp's 0.12. This panel will also face Galway next weekend in the final game of the competition.

Well done to all involved with the County u18 team as they easily overcame Wexford in their game last Tuesday in Toomevara & this win puts the team into a strong position as they chase All Ireland glory.

The club scene is relatively quiet at the moment. In



Claire Grogan bursts past two Wexford players Aine Codd and Mary O'Leary in the All-Ireland senior championship at Semple Stadium. Picture: Bridget Delaney

the Intermediate championship Bournea overcame Templemore in their game. In the Junior B league Semi final Clonoulty recorded a good win over Kildangan to set them up for a County Final clash with Silver-

mines.

The Munster league Division 2 group came to an end last week when Knockavilla played Truagh (Clare) in the final in Dundrum. This was a great game of camogie from both teams and

unfortunately for the home side their dominance throughout the game came unstuck when the visitors got in for two goals near the end to deny the Tipp side a victory. This competition has been a very worth while

venture for all clubs who participated & credit to the Munster Council's Development officer, Deirdre Murphy whose idea it was to launch the competition.



Jill Horan is pursued by Wexford's Deirdre Codd and Kate Kelly in the All-Ireland senior championship. Picture: Bridget Delaney



The Ryan family from Pallas, Borrislough enjoying the camogie action at Semple Stadium on Saturday last (from left) Claire, Eddie, Sinead and Michael. Picture: Bridget Delaney

July 2008



Aug. 2008

# Poor tactics cost Cork against Cats

Kilkenny 3-7  
Cork 2-5

**AN ABSOLUTE** disaster from a Cork perspective but sheer joy for Kilkenny as they create history by becoming the first county to complete a four-in-a-row of U16 All-Ireland camogie titles at Semple Stadium on Saturday.

Cork will look back on this one with regret and ponder what might have been; their decision to employ an extra player in defence for 52 minutes of the game was one of the major factors of this final.

Aided by the stiff wind blowing towards the town end, Cork led by two points at the interval and when they grabbed a goal inside 55 seconds of the restart Kilkenny looked to be in trouble.

However, like true champions the Cats responded holding Cork to just one more score in a second half, that from a Cork point of view, was frustrating to observe.

Time after time Cork attacked but with Laura Fennelly standing unmarked at centre-back, they were fighting a losing battle as their five-forward combination never looked capable of overcoming a strong Kilkenny defence in which Grace Walsh was outstanding.

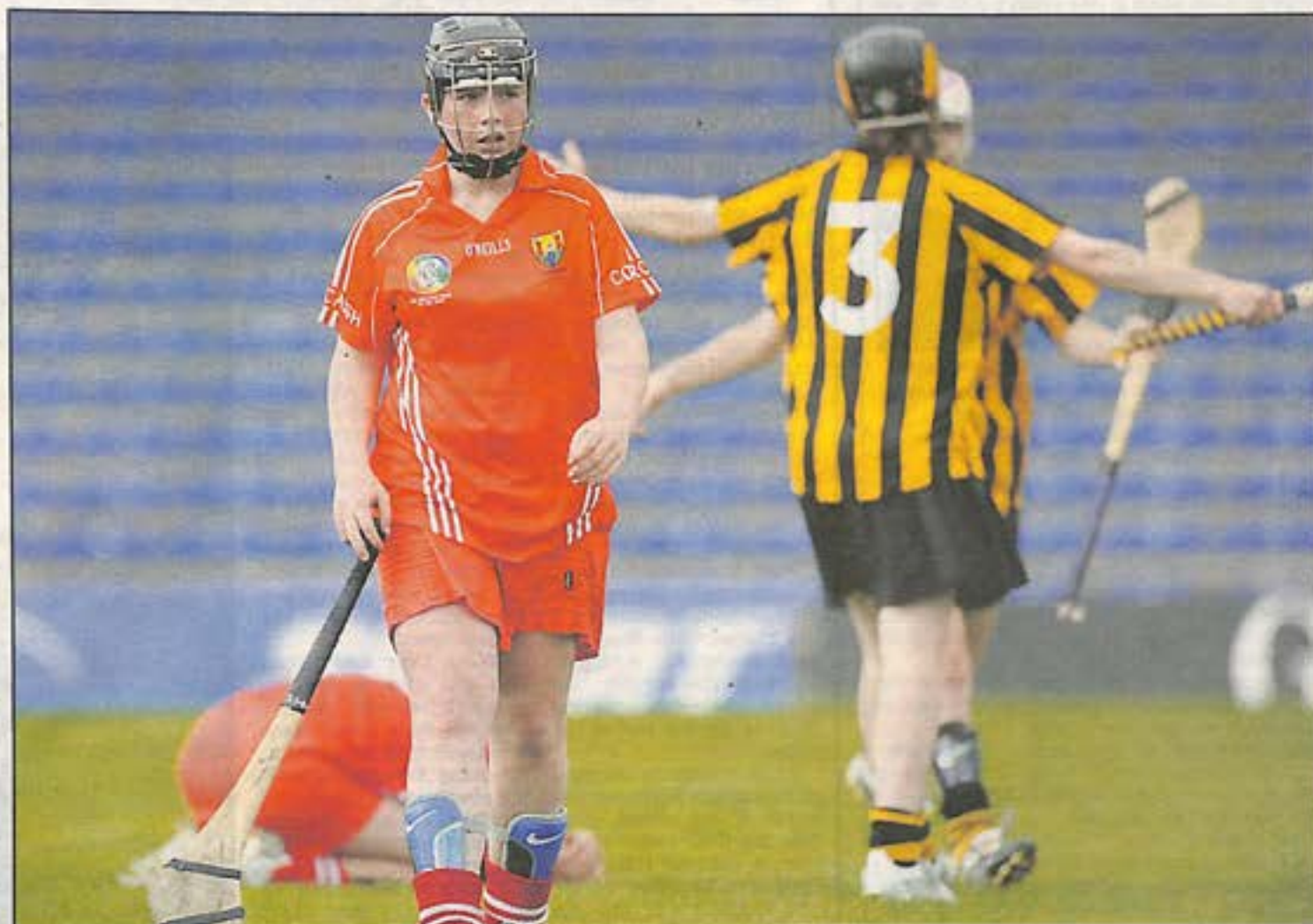
Granted Cork did employ seven in their own defence positioning centre-forward Aileen O'Donovan directly behind their half-back line and while she did clear a lot of ball, the mobility required to act as sweeper was never there, as she was clearly hampered by a leg injury.

Michelle Farrell and Mariah Reidy swapped early points and even from an early stage it was obvious that despite playing with the wind the Cork forwards were going to be starved of possession and they had to wait until the end of the first quarter before Katrina Mackey edged them ahead with a point.

From the puck-out, Cork won possession, Sinead O'Halloran drawing the Kilkenny defence before parting to Kate Harrington who finished to the net for the game's opening goal.

Cork failed to build on this score and it was 15 minutes before they registered another point.

Kilkenny played the ball continuously down the wings, keeping it away from the crowded area where Cork employed their extra player and they were back in contention when Michelle Maher tapped the ball over the line for the simplest of goals.



Despair for Cork player Sinead O'Halloran after the defeat by Kilkenny in the All-Ireland U16 camogie final at Thurles. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

By MARY NEWMAN

U16 Camogie final

Claire Phelan tied the game up five minutes from the interval pointing a free but two points before the break from the Mackey twins Pamela and Katrina gave Cork a 1-4 to 1-2 interval lead.

The second half started well for Cork, Katie Buckley rose high to field Joanne Casey's cross before turning to blast the ball to the roof of the net — Cork were now five points clear.

Kilkenny's midfield pairing of Aisling Dunphy and Eimear Mulholland gradually got on top, increasing the pressure on the Cork defence.

Claire Phelan pointed a free after three minutes and they were back in the game in-

side seven minutes when Ciara Holden finished to the net after sloppy defending.

Kilkenny were dominant for the next quarter and three points without reply from Claire Phelan (2) and Ciara Holden saw them open up a two-point lead. With 10 minutes remaining Michelle Farrell grabbed a decisive goal and with Phelan pointing a free Kilkenny opened up a six-point advantage.

Cork introduced Fiona Cotter who brought pace to their attack and when they eventually reverted to a six-player forward line they began to trouble Kilkenny.

Cork needed a goal and with five minutes remaining Aileen O'Donovan now deployed at full-forward found herself on a one to one with Kilkenny keeper Laura Walker but she chose to take a point.

The champions regrouped and stood firm

defending their lead against a tired Cork attack.

Without doubt the decision to play a player short in attack didn't help Cork's cause but all credit to Kilkenny who wrote themselves a new chapter of camogie history.

Kilkenny midfielder Aisling Dunphy was named as player for the match.

**Scorers for Kilkenny:** C Phelan 0-5 (0-4 ft), M Farrell, C Holden 1-Teach, M Maher 1-0.

**Cork:** K Buckley, K Harrington 1-0 each, K Mackey 0-2, M Reidy, P Mackey, A O'Donovan 0-Teach.

**KILKENNY:** L Walker, J Cullen, R Jones, G Walsh; M Simpson, L Fennelly, D Tobin; E Mulhall, A Dunphy; N Byrne, C Phelan, M Maher; E Comerford, C Holden; M Farrell (c). **Subs:** M Mansfield for M Maher (37); N Maher for M Simpson (43); Y Mc Grath for E Comerford (60).

**CORK:** T Hawkes; S Harrington, A Coughlan, K Mc Carthy, R O'Mahony, P Mackey (c), E Kingston; K Mackey, M Reidy, J Casey, A O'Donovan, K Harrington; F Neville, S O'Halloran, K Buckley.

**Subs:** F Cotter for F Neville (51). **Referee:** Aodhan Mac Suibhne (Dublin)

## Sheehan says extra defender was the way to go

GER SHEEHAN,  
Cork selector

"FOUR in a row was a big incentive for Kilkenny here today and they were driven on by that but at one stage we were five points up but we conceded goals at crucial times and it hampered us.

"We got a great goal at the start of second half but we failed to build on it and Kilkenny picked off the scores at crucial times."

I asked Ger about Cork's decision to play an extra defender, something I

felt worked against them.

"We played seven defenders because we had seen what Kilkenny had up front and we were trying to stop them scoring; we were worried that if we went behind by a few goals early on the game like we did last year we might collapse.

"We tried to cut off the supply of ball into their corner-forwards. With five minutes to go we reversed to playing six up front and we very nearly snatched a goal with four minutes to go and maybe if we had got it who

### WHAT THEY SAID

knows what the outcome might have been."

Would Ger that the tactic didn't work.

"I wouldn't agree because we succeeded in stopping the diagonal ball in to Michelle Farrell and our extra player cleared a lot of ball, but yes I suppose they did a good job and marked our five forwards very tight and we just didn't get the breaks we needed.

"We are gutted, the girls gave it everything and we couldn't have asked for more. They put their heart and soul into it and they are distraught.

"It's the end of the road for a lot of us, I myself have done two years as a selector and it is time for someone else to try. It's a big commitment and enjoyable but I feel two years is enough I had hoped to go out on a high but that's life.

"We have had defeats before and I am sure Cork will bounce back. I would like to acknowledge the huge

amount of work by my fellow selectors Tracy and Esther and also by the players and the county board."

LIAM DUNNE

Kilkenny manager

"Absolutely thrilled to have won it. There was no talk of four in a row we just got on with the job we had to do.

"This team have come from behind in several games this year and we knew that they would respond when Cork hit the front. We are thrilled to have retained our title and, yes, four in a row, is special."



# Cill Chainnigh

Dubh agus Ómra



(16) **Grace Murphy**  
G. Ni Mhurchú  
Lisdowney

(17) **Maeve Mansfield**  
M. Ni Mhóinséil  
St. Martin's

(18) **Noelle Maher**  
N. Ni Mheachair  
St. Lachlain's

(19) **Aoife Lyng**  
A. Ni Loinn  
Rower

(20) **Yvonne McGrath**  
A. Ni Craith  
St. Lachlain's

(21) **Laura Wall**  
L. de Bháil  
Moonrain

(22) **Aoife Murphy**  
A. Ni Mhurchú  
Lisdowney

(23) **Niamh Dowling**  
N. Ni Dhúllaing  
Tullaroan

(24) **Laura Fennelly**  
L. Ni Fhionnalaigh  
Carrickshock

(25) **Claire Aylward**  
C. Ni Aighleart  
Glenmore

(1) **Laura Walker**  
L. Nic Shiúlaí  
Windgap

(2) **Jane Cullen**  
S. Ni Chuilinn  
Rower

(5) **Margaret Simpson**  
M. Ni Shim  
Young Irelands

(8) **Eimear Mulhall**  
E. Ni Mhaolchathail  
Lisdowney

(10) **Niamh Byrne**  
N. Ni Broin  
Clara

(13) **Emma Comerford**  
E. Nic Chumascaigh  
Young Irelands

(3) **Ruth Jones**  
R. Ni Sheoin  
Glenmore

(6) **Laura Fennelly**  
L. Ni Fhionnalaigh  
Young Irelands

(9) **Aishling Dunphy**  
A. Ni Dhonnchaidh  
St. Brigid's

(11) **Claire Phelan**  
C. Ni Fhaoláin  
Lisdowney

(14) **Ciara Holden**  
C. Ni hOláin  
Mullinavat

(4) **Grace Walsh**  
G. Breatnach  
Tullaroan

(7) **Davina Tobin**  
D. Ni Tóibín  
Emeralds

(12) **Michelle Maher**  
M. Ni Mheachair  
St. Martin's

(15) **Michelle Farrell**  
M. Ni Fhearail (Captain)  
Thomastown

Team Managers: Liam Dunne, Stephen Dormer. Selectors: John Quilty, Kathleen Corrigan. First Aid: Ger Dunphy, Eithne Byrne.

# Corcaigh

Dearg agus Bán



(16) **Jessica Kavanagh**  
J. Coomhánach  
Douglas

(17) **Fiona Cotter**  
F. Nic Oitir  
St. Catherine's

(18) **Samantha Coomey**  
S. Ni Chamtha  
Ballincollig

(19) **Maeve Moynihan**  
M. Ni Mhuineacháin  
Ballygarvan

(20) **Claire Lynch**  
C. Ni Loingsigh  
Douglas

(21) **Niamh O'Brien**  
N. Ni Bhraín  
Milford

(22) **Jane Fitzpatrick**  
S. Nic Giolla Phádraig  
Mallow

(23) **Claire Meaney**  
C. Ni Mhaonaigh  
Éire Óg

(24) **Orla Bourke**  
O. de Búrca  
Na Piarasigh

(25) **Sinead O'Reilly**  
S. Ni Raghalloigh  
Passage West

(26) **Mary Ellen O'Donovan**  
M. E. Ni Dhonnabháin  
Ballygarvan

(1) **Tessa Hawkes**  
T. Hawkes  
Valley Rovers

(2) **Sarah Harrington**  
S. Ni hArrachtáin  
Fr. O'Neill's

(5) **Pamela Mackey**  
P. Ni Mhaca (Captain)  
Douglas

(8) **Emma Kingston**  
E. Nic Clochaire  
Inniscarra

(10) **Joanne Casey**  
S. Nic Cathasaigh  
Inniscarra

(13) **Finola Neville**  
F. Ni Nia  
St. Catherine's

(3) **Alison Coughlan**  
A. Nic Cochláin  
Ballincollig

(6) **Rosie O'Mahony**  
R. Nic Mathúna  
Inniscarra

(11) **Aileen O'Donovan**  
A. Ni Dhonnabháin  
Douglas

(14) **Katie Buckley**  
C. Ni Bhuachalla  
Mallow

(4) **Katie McCarthy**  
C. Nic Carthaigh  
Éire Óg

(7) **Katrina Mackey**  
C. Ni Mhaca  
Douglas

(9) **Miraha Reidy**  
M. Ni Riada  
Newtownshandrum

(12) **Kate Harrington**  
C. Ni hArrachtáin  
Fr. O'Neill's

(15) **Sinead O'Halloran**  
S. Ni hAllúráin  
Glen Rovers

Management Team: Ger Sheehan (Douglas), Esther O'Leary (Mallow), Tracy Sheehan (Sarsfields). First Aid: Tina Sheehan.

Aug. 2008

Cluiche Ceannais na hÉireann 2008 Craobhchomórtas Faoi 16A



Pamela Mackey, Cork Under-16 Captain, and Shelly Farrell, Kilkenny Under-16 Captain, pictured with Liz Howard, Uachtarán Chumann Camógaíochta na nGael in Semple Stadium.  
(Photo: Matt Browne/Sportsfile)



**The Cork Under-16A Panel** – Back row: Kate Harrington, Tessa Hawkes, Niamh O'Brien, Katie McCarthy, Alison Coughlan, Emma Kingston, Jane Fitzpatrick, Joanne Casey, Katie Buckley, Orla Bourke, Mary Ellen O'Donovan, Jessica Kavanagh, Claire Meaney. Front Row: Fiona Cotter, Maeve Moynihan, Sinead O'Reilly, Aileen O'Donovan, Sinead O'Halloran, Ciara Lynch, Sarah Harrington, Finola Neville, Katrina Mackey, Pamela Mackey (Captain), Miraha Reidy, Rosie O'Mahony. Missing from picture: Samantha Coomey.



# Cill Chainnigh



**The Kilkenny Under-16A Panel** – Front row (l-r): Laura Fennelly, Aisling Dunphy, Ciara Holden, Ruth Jones, Maeve Mansfield, Laura Walker, Aoife Murphy, Davina Tobin, Margaret Simpson, Jane Cullen, Grace Walsh, Noelle Maher, Shelly Farrell (Captain), Claire Phelan, Niamh Byrne. Back row (l-r): Laura Fennelly, Aoife Lyng, Yvonne McGrath, Emma Comerford, Aisling Carey, Aisling Cunningham, Brid Murphy, Isobel Robinson, Sonia Buggy, Laura Wall, Claire Aylward, Jennifer Brennan, Eimear Mulhall, Grace Murphy, Michelle Maher.



Aug 2008

# Cork's tactical gaffe allows Kilkenny make history

Kilkenny  
Cork

3-7  
2-5

CORK will have nightmares when they look back on this one as Kilkenny created history to become the first county to complete a four in a row of Under-16 All-Ireland camogie titles at Semple Stadium on Saturday.

Cork's decision to employ an extra player in defence for 52 minutes of the game was an amazing one as the Kilkenny centre back Laura Fennelly had to do a double take when she realised she was being allowed a free role in defence. Fennelly being afforded the luxury by Cork ensured Kilkenny always held that little bit extra.

Aided by the stiff wind in the opening half Cork led by two points at the interval and when they added a goal inside 55 seconds of the restart Kilkenny looked to be in trouble. However they came storming back to hold Cork to just one more score in a second half that was dominated by Kilkenny.

Cork's attack was frustrated by the unmarked Laura Fennelly standing isolated at centre-back as their five forward combinations was simply not strong enough to overcome the strong Kilkenny defence. Cork did employ seven in their own defence, positioning centre-forward Aileen O'Donovan directly behind their half-back line but given the superb displays from this side in the lead-up to the final this was a strange decision. Granted, they were trying to cut the supply to Kilkenny danger woman Michelle Farrell but corner back Rosie O'Mahony was more than capable of dealing with the threat posed by Farrell.

Michelle Farrell and Mariah Reidy swapped early points and it was obvious that despite playing with the wind the Cork forwards were going to have to live off crumbs. It was the end of the first quarter before Katrina Mackey edged them



Emma Kingston wins the ball from Kilkenny's Aisling Dunphy in Thurles. However, such valiant efforts were not enough to stop Kilkenny making it an historic four in a row All-Ireland Under-16 Camogie titles. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

ahead with a point and from the puck-out Sinead O'Halloran drew the Kilkenny defence before parting to Kate Harrington who finished to the net for the game's opening goal.

Cork failed to build on this score and it was 15 minutes before they registered another point, as Laura Fennelly continued to enjoy plenty of freedom thwarting the attempts

of the five-player forward line to make headway.

Opening up the play Kilkenny played the wings ensuring no ball to the crowded area where Cork had employed their extra player and when Michelle Maher tapped the ball over the line for a goal Kilkenny upped the pace. Claire Phelan pointed a free but two points from

the Mackey twins Pamela and Katrina gave Cork a 1-4 to 1-2 interval lead.

Katie Buckley gave Cork a dream restart, blasting to the net inside the opening minute and now five points clear Cork should have built on Kilkenny's unsteadiness but with their opponents' midfield pairing of Aisling Dunphy and Eimear Mul-

holland on top the pressure told. Claire Phelan pointed a free after three minutes and they were back in the game when Ciara Holden finished to the net after sloppy defending by Cork. Kilkenny were now dominant as they took control, three points without reply from Claire Phelan (two) and Ciara Holden saw them open up a two-point lead while at the other end the Cork attack continued to be starved of supply. With 10 minutes remaining Michelle Farrell grabbed a goal and with Phelan pointing a free, Kilkenny were six points clear.

Fiona Cotter added pace to the Cork attack when introduced as a substitute and eventually reverting to a six-player forward line Cork began to gain control. With five minutes remaining Aileen O'Donovan now deployed at full-forward found herself on a one to one with the Kilkenny keeper but she pointed as Kilkenny breathed a sigh of relief.

The champions stood firm defending their lead against a visibly tired Cork attack that worked hard but were hampered by their formation.

Credit to Kilkenny who wrote themselves into the history books on a day when Cork knew it was very much there for the taking.

Kilkenny midfielder Aisling Dunphy was named player of the match.

**Kilkenny:** L Walker, J Cullen, R Jones, G Walsh, M Simpson, L Fennelly, D Tobin, E Mulhall, A Dunphy, N Byrne, C Phelan, M Maher, E Comerford, C Holden, M Farrell (c), Subs: M Mansfield for M Maher (37) N Maher for M Simpson (43), Y McGrath for E Comerford (60). **Scorers:** C Phelan 0-5 (0-4 f), M Farrell, C Holden 1-1 each, M Maher 1-0.

**Cork:** T Hawkes, S Harrington, A Coughlan, K McCarthy, R O'Mahony, P Mackey (c), E Kingston, K Mackey, M Reidy, J Casey, A O'Donovan, K Harrington, F Neville, S O'Halloran, K Buckley, Subs: F Cotter for F Neville (51). **Scorers:** K Buckley, K Harrington 1-0 each, K Mackey 0-2, M Reidy, P Mackey, A O'Donovan 0-1 each.

**Referee:** Eadhonn MacSuihbne (Dublin)

## Injury-time point by O'Mahony gives Valley victory

Valley Rovers  
Carrigaline

2-7  
1-9

ELMA O'MAHONY was the heroine for Valley Rovers, scoring a point as this Evening Echo senior B championship clash entered injury time. It was enough to give her side the points, after Carrigaline's Deirdre O'Leary looked to have given her side a share of the spoils with an equalising goal two minutes from the end. Carrigaline went into their second game unbeaten in the round-robin series of championship games, after a good first-round victory over Bishopstown, but the Valley Rovers girls were determined to get their campaign off to a good start and substitute O'Mahony ensured this.

A goal from Clodagh Deasy gave Valley's a 1-2 to 0-4 half-time lead, after Lucy Hawkes had pointed

twice. Laura Thompson was on target, striking all four Carrigaline points from placed balls, as, once again, there was over-reliance on their corner forward for scores.

Thompson had Carrigaline on level terms, before Lucy Hawkes put Valley's back in front. Thompson kept Carrigaline in touch as Valley's threatened to pull away, and, when the alert Marie Forde finished to the Carrigaline net, they had a fight on their hands.

Battle back they certainly did. Laura Thompson pointed a free and then a penalty, as Lucy Hawkes helped Valley's hold their lead. Joanne O'Keefe had the lead down to the minimum, but Hawkes converted a free and 45 as Valley Rovers opened up a three-point lead. Carrigaline looked to be taking a share of the points, thanks to Deirdre O'Leary's goal, but Elma O'Mahony

had other ideas, as she calmly pointed to give Valley's victory after an exciting hour.

**Carrigaline:** A Kiely, J Kiernan, J Foster, R Pinfield, L Kelleher, S Cotter, M Moran, D Smythe, Jacqui O'Keefe, G O'Keefe, Joanne O'Keefe, D O'Leary, C O'Keefe, E Egan, L Thompson, Subs: P O'Keefe for E Egan (h-t), C O'Connell for C O'Keefe (50). **Scorers:** L Thompson 0-8 (0-4 f, 0-3 45), D O'Leary 1-0, J O'Keefe 0-1.

**Valley Rovers:** G Harrington, A O'Callaghan, L Davis, S O'Shea, E Foley, M A Hawkes, E Coughlan, L Hawkes, M Forde, J Hawkes, M Cottrell, C Deasy, A Coughlan, C Foley, O Deasy, Subs: E O'Mahony for C Foley (35). **Scorers:** L Hawkes 0-6 (0-2 f, 0-2 45), C Deasy, M Forde 1-0 each, E O'Mahony 0-1.

**Referee:** Colette O'Mahony (St Finbarr's).

Killoagh 1-8  
Ballinhassig 0-6

KILLEAGH took the points on offer in this Evening Echo senior B championship game, but not before they had to fend off the strong challenge of Ballinhassig, in the first game for both clubs in the

round-robin series.

In a first-half where neither side could gain control, the half-time score read three points each. Ballinhassig opened the scoring with an Aisling O'Brien point, to which Angela Walsh replied, 13 minutes in. Eimear O'Sullivan edged Ballinhassig ahead, but Angela Walsh kept Killeagh in touch with a similar score.

With Mary O'Connor dominant in defence, Killeagh held their lines as the Cork senior cleared a huge amount of ball, while Eimear O'Sullivan did huge work to give Ballinhassig the edge. Fourteen minutes into the second-half, the sides were still deadlocked, 0-4 each, but a goal from Angela Walsh gave Killeagh the lead they had threatened to take. From the puck out, Killeagh stretched their lead to four points, thanks to Ann Marie Walsh.

Ballinhassig worked hard to pull the deficit back, but Killeagh held control, and, despite shooting a lot of wides, maintained their lead until Brid Coleman and Eimear O'Sullivan had it down to two points, with four minutes of normal time remaining. Three points from Jessica O'Shea (2) and Noelle O'Donovan gave Killeagh breathing space and they rallied to hold out to the final whistle, recording a win on their debut at senior level.

**Killoagh:** C Deane, M Smiddy, C Walsh, M Smiddy, K Kelleher, M O'Connor, E O'Neill, L O'Connor, A M Walsh, C Keohane, A Walsh, S Beausang, J O'Shea, N O'Donovan, G Cunningham, Subs: K Walsh for L O'Connor (38m). **Scorers:** A Walsh 1-2, J O'Shea 0-2, C Keohane 0-1(f), M O'Connor, AM Walsh, N O'Donovan 0-1 each.

**Ballinhassig:** G O'Callaghan, D O'Brien, T Finn, T Holland, C Holland, C Collins, H Cullinane, E O'Sullivan, M Kelleher, A O'Brien, J Cullinane, K McCarthy, B Coleman, A Crowley, A Burns, Subs: E O'Regan for A Burns (36m). **Scorers:** E O'Sullivan 0-3(0-2f), A O'Brien, J Cullinane, B Coleman 0-1 each.

**Referee:** P Downey, Inniscarra.