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~ROWNEY

suitable for line and wash



Nov. - DEC
2005

The Evening Echo honours Cork's sporting legends on November 8



Eamonn Murphy

THERE are other counties in which the dual star can burn bright, but nowhere on this island do they illuminate the sky so blindingly and frequently as above Leaside.

Down through the decades, legends such as Teddy McCarthy, JBM and Jack Lynch, combining football and hurling, or Dave Barry and Dinny Allen, who mastered the ball from both the hand and ground, Cork has been the home of dual heroes.

Joining those established male names is that of Sandie Fitzgibbon who starred on both the camogie pitch and basketball court.

Whether wielding a caman or dribbling a ball Sandie was undoubtedly the star of the show.

During the heady two weeks this year when the Rebel women emulated '90 with a Cork double, five players captured medals in both camogie and football, reminding us of the similar abilities of Cork's other heroines.

Juliet Murphy, captain of the footballers has the energy and drive to attempt to carry the winning streak onto the basketball court during the winter.

But the precedent for such multi-talented Cork players has been established in the last 25 years.

From the early '80s, senior camogie player Liz Trowler went on to become a soccer international, and Mary Geaney also played international hockey for Ireland.

One coin, glimmered particularly strongly on both sides, even from the golden collection of that era.

The heads and tails of Sandie's basketball/GAA career both shone with remarkable success and colour; her role of honour says it all, a staggering list of national and local successes with Cork, Glen Rovers and Blarney.

Her precocious brilliance was evident from an early age, and in her teens she featured on a Cork minor camogie team that won four All-Irelands in succession and on the basketball court on a North Pres school team that won the All-Ireland cadet title in 1978.

She graduated to senior success during Cork's All-Ireland winning year in 1982, but she only blossomed into a starring role the following season, with another All-Ireland at the dawn of a brilliant camogie career.

Fitzgibbon's achievements with the sliothar were enough to earn her a place on the Team of the Century, yet she still managed to find time to not only play, but star at basketball.

On top of the all the honours with her Blarney team-mates, including captaining one of their National Cup triumphs, she played 64 times for the international team.

It was the meeting of international hoops and club camógaiocht in October '90 that best illustrated the demands of battling on two fronts; a non-stop tour of duty from Derry to



Sandie Fitzgibbon, left, in action for Cork camogie team and above for Blarney basketball side.

Sandie Fitz the role of a legend

Dual in the Cork crown of sports stars



Boston to Kilkenny.

Sandie played the All-Ireland club camogie semi-final on the weekend, flew to the US and lined out three times for the Irish basketball team, then returned for the Glen's All-Ireland club win at Nowlan Park the following weekend.

A dizzying blur between the north and east of Ireland and the east coast of America; three-pointers, planes, sliothars, camógs, basketballs, and passports all melting into the most remarkable week of dual activity from a most remarkable dual star.

There was no favourite between club, county and country, like any Rebel they all carried equal weight.

Though her intercounty camogie career got off to an auspicious start, it was filled with more than its share of big day heartbreak — semi-final defeats in '85, '86, '90,

final defeats in '84, '87, '88, '89, '91.

With the safety net of a brilliant career in basketball despite being only 5' 6", it would have been understandable for her to ease off in her pursuit of O'Duffy Cup glory.

It seemed to make her even more determined.

The reward was all conquering back-to-back All-Irelands with both Cork and the Glen in '92-'93, a brief respite in '94 with a defeat, before another O'Duffy Cup in 1995.

Her tenacity, determination and crisp striking marked her out from the pack and she was equally comfortable in half-back or at midfield.

The passion and desire that motivated her to fly across the ocean and back in 1990 to honour her commitment to club and country, was

always on display in battles in the engine room.

Sandie's intercounty career ended on the deserved high in '97, when she landed the O'Duffy Cup for the sixth time.

But she had almost bowed out in the depths of defeat.

Galway had shocked Cork in '96, and exhausted from her commitment to the county spanning three decades, Sandie was opting out.

Luckily, her comrades appealed to the hunger that sustained during the non-stop cycle of basketball and camogie and she was one of Cork's MVPs all that year.

She committed another two seasons to the Glen, before announcing her retirement in 1999 — 26 years after she first lined out for the famous northside club at the age of nine.

Sometimes, a strained shelf of medals and individual awards (twice camogie player of the year, twice honoured as a Jury's Sports Star, the Delta Airlines Olympic Basketball Award) — with Sandie Fitzgibbon they only hint at the magnitude of an epic dual career.

Sandie Fitzgibbon — for club, county and country.



Sandie Fitzgibbon factfile

Age: 41 CAMOGIE

Honours with Cork — Minor All-Ireland '78, '79, '80, '81; Senior All-Ireland '82, '83, '92, '93, '95, '97.

Honours with Glen Rovers — All-Ireland club '86, '90, '92, '93; 10 Cork senior county titles.

BASKETBALL

Honours with Blarney — Four national leagues; three national cups; six Cork senior league; six Cork senior championship.

Linda is the first lady



Eamonn Murphy

LINDA MELLERICK, a memorable name and the marquee name in Cork camogie.

She twice captained Cork in their glorious spell from '92-'98, during which they annexed five of the seven available All-Irelands; she starred in an all-conquering Glen team that landed a seven-in-a-row haul from '90-'96 and bowed out at the top, preventing a Tipp four-in-a-row in 2002.

Along the way she added three club All-Irelands, player of the year in '93 and '98, culminating in selection on the Team of the Century last year, something which brought home to Linda her place in the pantheon of camogie greats.

"I didn't think much about it when I got nominated to be honest; I was genuinely just delighted to be there. I suppose it's only when you win an award like that or start looking back when you're retired that you realise how great a run it was."

Her trademark was scorching solo runs from the engine room. It was as fulcrum that she was happiest, and while she mastered the role to such a degree that she is now seen as the prototype all-action centre-fielder, she played at corner-forward until 1992.

Her camogie career began in St Patrick's Secondary School, Gardiner's Hill. It was the lure of half days and a cooked lunch on match days that first drew her in.

"I remember them coming into our class in first year to ask if we were interested in playing camogie. I didn't know what I was getting myself into to be honest, but it worked out great you could say. It was also nice to have the chance of a couple of hours out of class and the cookery class having a cooked lunch ready for you, so that was always nice," she chuckles.

Still those bonuses almost outweighed any perks during her time as a Cork senior star. With increased sponsorship, support from the Cork Camogie Supporters Club and the high profile achieved through TV and media coverage, the current players are involved in the most professional era in the history of the game.

"It's fantastic to see how much the game has developed. The media coverage is the big thing, before we used to be looking for one or two pieces a month, now the All-Ireland build-up is the same as we probably got over the whole time I played."

With the profile of the players hugely increased, and the numbers playing from local level across the country rising to unprecedented levels, would it be fair to say the game is at its peak?

"It's brilliant that people are getting credit but I don't think the standard has improved any great deal. There were fantastic players involved and I think you'd be hard pressed to find players as good as Sandie Fitz, Mary O'Leary or Angela Downey. The problem was that only those following the sport knew it."

Ah Angela Downey. It was a name you were almost afraid to mention. From 1985 when Linda began her senior Cork career until 1992 when they ended a painful losing streak, Angela Downey and Kilkenny dashed Rebel dreams almost every year.

CORK'S SPORTING LEGENDS 2005
in association with **Evening Echo**

FACTFILE

- Tipperary born, Linda's family moved to live in Cork when she was three.
- She started her career with the Brian Dillon's club before moving to Glen Rovers, where she won ten Cork County Championships and three All-Ireland Club championships.
- In an intercounty career which spanned 21 years she won one minor, one junior and six senior All Ireland titles, ten National Leagues and four Gael Linn titles add to her collection. She captained Cork to All Ireland success in 1993 again in 1997.
- Linda was twice honoured with the Player of the Year Award in 1993 and '98.
- A player of great energy and skill, she covered the playing pitch in search of the action, always making herself available to help colleagues in defence or attack.
- Her trademark solo runs are legendary. She split many a defence as she set up or took scores. Her wonderful spirit and leadership made her a most popular player.
- She retired from the game in 2002 following Cork winning the All Ireland.

"I used to hate Kilkenny at the time, because year after year it was nearly always Kilkenny who beat us. We had seven long years without winning anything. You'd get a pat on the back as the 'second best team in the country', which made it worse."

The flipside of the rivalry was that victories over the foe brought a high that couldn't be matched. Unsurprisingly it was the first All-Ireland final victory over the Cats in 1995 that jumps to mind when she looks back at her favourite memory.

"1995 was just great; it was the one that meant the most to us alright. We were losing by two points with a couple of minutes to go and we won by four in the finish after we hit a goal and a few points."

"The funny thing was that when we were talking to the Kilkenny girls afterwards the likes of Angela Downey just said

'fair play to ye, we stole plenty of games from ye in the last few minutes.' They understood what it was like."

With her the Glen, the duels with Downey's Lisdowney, provide both the highlights and lowlights.

"1990 was the best club win, because it was up in Kilkenny and against Angela's club St Paul. They got their revenge in '94 though. Angela scored four goals in 10 minutes and turned over our nine-point lead. That was a real sickener to lose."

Even now she speaks with hints of respect and fear talking about her nemesis Downey; the same fear and respect the rest of the camogie world looked at Linda with.





(Rear) Sheila Golden, Mary Bugler, Kay Dunne, Deputy County Mayor Cllr Gerry Kelly, Pat Murray, Mary McSweeney, and Mary Newman with (at Front) Lord Mayor Cllr Deirdre Clune, Linda O'Connell, Miriam O'Callaghan, National Association President, Elaine Burke, Marion McCarthy, Anna Geary and Amanda O'Regan at the Cork camogie victory celebration at The Rochestown Park Hotel on Sunday.

Picture: Larry Cummins.



Gemma and Geraldine O'Connor, Liz Magee and Amy Mannix at Cork camogie victory celebration on Sunday

Picture: Larry Cummins.



Cork Senior Camogie players Colette Desmond, Jennifer Browne, Emer Dillon and Sarah O'Donovan having fun.

Picture: Larry Cummins.



Anna Geary, Ciara Healy and Rachel Maloney at the Cork camogie victory celebrations at The Rochestown Park Hotel.

Picture: Larry Cummins.



Mary Coleman, Ballyhea and Anna Geary from Milford seen at the Cork County Camogie Association Centenary dinner in the Rochestown Park Hotel

Cork honours camogie stars

CORK camogie continued its celebrations with a victory dinner dance at the Rochestown Park Hotel last Sunday.

Joined by guests, family and friends, the All-Ireland winning side were feted alongside the junior team which won the national league, the intermediate team, which were crowned provincial champions, and the victorious U18 provincial winners of 2004 and 2005.

A guest list that included Lord Mayor Cllr Deirdre Clune, Deputy County Mayor Cllr Jerry Kelly, national camogie president Miriam O'Callaghan, Cork GAA chairman Jim Forbes, Tracy Sheehan, chairperson of the

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie Celebrations.

juvenile camogie board, Eamonn Browne and Rose Malone, Munster council, Linda Mellerick, chairperson Cork supporters club and Sharon O'Keeffe, secretary ladies football board listened as Lord Mayor Clune paid tribute to the team and the manner in which they recorded their historic victory

"I am so proud of the way you represented our county, your victory was a special one in a historic year for gaelic games in the county when we took four All-Ireland titles."

She also reminded the gathering that the camogie board's dream of securing a home for Cork camogie

will be fulfilled in the near future. "As you are aware we in city council have been mindful of your quest to secure your own playing facility and the dream will shortly become a reality when your own pitch in Blackrock comes on stream."

Cllr Clune paid tribute to the committee under the leadership of chairperson Marion McCarthy which have worked with city council to help secure the facility.

The large gathering was welcomed by chairperson Marion McCarthy who congratulated all four teams and their management on their victories.

Marion paid special tribute to the senior side which recorded a tremendous victory over a Tipperary side going for three in-a-row. She was loud in her praise for the se-

lectors John Cronin, Lillian Zinkant and Ollie Hallihan and coach Fiona O'Driscoll all of whom were made presentations on behalf of the county board along with the intermediate and U18 selection committees.

Senior captain Elaine Burke was introduced to loud applause and she thanked all concerned with the victory. She also spoke of the overwhelming feeling of the players at the final whistle and the wonderful receptions they have received on their visits to school and clubs with the O'Duffy cup.

National President Miriam O'Callaghan presented the senior and junior medals while Eamonn Browne presented the provincial medals to the Intermediate and under 18 teams.

CAMOGIE

All-Ireland Club semi-finals

Cashel (Tipperary) 1-13 (C. Grogan 6-7 (0-11), 0-1 45), D. O'Connell 1-0, P. Fogarty, C. Hennessey 0-2 each, A. Loneragan, E. Hayden 0-1 each) **Davitts (Galway) 3-7** (L. Kavanagh 1-4 (0-11), C. Kelly, D. Murphy 1-1 each, D. Gilchrist 0-1)

Cashel: J. Delaney, S. Morrissey, U. O'Dwyer, N. O'Dwyer, P. Bullin, S. Miles, F. O'Dwyer, P. Fogarty, L. Grogan, C. Hennessey, E. Hayden, C. Grogan, D. O'Connell, A. Loneragan, C. Grogan.

Subs: L. Twomey for L. Grogan, 54mins.

Davitts: K. Power, D. Watson, A. Broderick, L. Fahy, R. Broderick, A. Kelly, L. Gohery, D. Murphy, P. Hayes, Caroline Kelly, Cailiona Kelly, D. Gilchrist, O. Forde, L. Kavanagh, M. Kelly.

Subs: L. Flynn for L. Fahy 16mins, D. Kelly for O. Forde 38mins, Y. Donnelly for M. Kelly, 54mins.

Ref: A. Lawlor (Westmeath).

● Replay, November 12, Cashel.

St Lachtains 4-14 (M. O'Connor 3-1, A. Dalton 1-2, I. Kennedy 0-9 (all frees), S. Connery, D. Delaney 0-1 each) **Rossa 2-9** (J. Adams 2-9 (2-8))

St Lachtains: L. Comerford, S. Cash, G. Dillon Maher, F. Dowling, M. McCarthy, M. Costelloe, D. Minogue, A. Fitzpatrick, D. Delaney, S. Connery, E. Costelloe, I. Kennedy, E. Fitzpatrick, M. O'Connor, A. Dalton.

Subs: M. Hickey for E. Fitzpatrick, 42mins.

Rossa: T. McGowan, T. Adams, H. Healy, B. Bell, C. Gault, M. Stewart, C. McGinley, C. Doherty, S. Daykin, G. Connolly, J. Adams, K. O'Neill, F. Kennedy, D. Healy, B. Orchin.

Subs: S. McGourty for B. Orchin.

Ref: P. Downey (Cork).

Junior Club Championship semi-finals

Newmarket-on-Fergus 2-10 (C. Arthur 2-1, M. McMahon 0-3 (0-21, 0-1) 45), R. Kaiser 0-3, S. Ryan, A. Ryan, A. O'Brien 0-1 each) **Four Roads 0-5** (N. Coyle 0-2, B. Mannion, M. Finneran, M. Grehan 0-1 each)

Liatroim Fontenoys 3-9 (M. Mc Aleenan 3-4, S. Brackenbury 0-2, K. O'Higgins, N. O'Higgins, L. McCrackard, A. Morgan 0-1 each) **Drumcullen 1-4** (M. Lynch 1-3, K. Nugent 0-1)



Pictured at the Cork County Camogie Association Centenary dinner in the Rochestown Park Hotel were officers Sheila Golden, Mary Bugler, Kay Dunne, Cllr Gerry Kelly (Mayor Cork County); Pat Murray, Mary McSweeney and Mary Newman with Cllr Deirdre Clune, Lord Mayor Cork; Linda O'Connell, Miriam O'Callaghan, National President camogie Assoc; Elaine Burke, Marion McCarthy, Cork President; Anna Geary and Amanda O'Regan

No v. 2005

CELEBRATIONS CONTINUE

CELEBRATIONS continued on Sunday last at the Rochestown Park Hotel for the victorious All Ireland winning side that were joined by the Junior national league winning team, the intermediate team who were crowned provincial champions and the victorious under 18 provincial winners of 2004 and 2005.

Amongst the many guests were Lord Mayor Cllr Deirdre Clune, Deputy County Mayor Cllr Jerry Kelly, National Camogie President Miriam O'Callaghan, and Cork GAA chairman Jim Forbes, Tracy Sheehan Chairperson of the Juvenile Camogie Board, Eamonn Browne and Rose Malone Munster council, Linda Mellerick Chairperson Cork supporters club and Sharon O'Keefe Secretary Ladies Football Board.

All speakers were loud in their praise for the teams who brought great honour to the county but the night belonged to the seniors who were presented with their All Ireland medals by National President Miriam O'Callaghan. Ms O'Callaghan paid tribute to the teams and the mentors with both clubs and county who are working to make Cork one of the game strongest. "I have been in Cork so often during my term of office that I am really beginning to feel like one of your own" She went on to praise the county for the successful organising of both national congress and Feile an Gael. "These were two huge undertakings which you as a county

ran so smoothly, already counties are looking forward to returning for Feile 2006 which Cork will again host"

Lord Mayor Clune expressed delight on behalf of the city for the huge contribution cork camogie has made in this historic year. "To win an All Ireland title is special but to do it in this historic year is something that will always be remembered, the camogie players hurlers and ladies footballers have not let us down in this our year as European capital of culture and we are so very proud of you"

She also spoke of the new pitch for Cork camogie which is about to come on stream shortly. "Over the last number of years your quest to secure your own playing facility has been a big priority for your county board and now that dream will shortly be a reality when your own camogie pitch in Blackrock becomes a reality"

Cllr Clune paid tribute to the committee under the leadership of Chairperson Marion McCarthy who have worked tirelessly in the promotion of camogie.

Chairperson Marion McCarthy welcomed the large gathering and congratulated all four teams and their management on their victories. She paid special tribute to the senior side who recorded a tremendous victory over a Tipperary side going for three in a row, she was loud in her praise for the selectors John Cronin, Lillian Zinkant and

Ollie Hallihan and Coach Fiona O'Driscoll all of whom were made presentations on behalf of the county board along with the Intermediate and under 18 selection committees.

Senior Captain Elaine Burke she thanked all concerned with the victory, she also spoke of the wonderful reception they have received since the victory on their visits to school and clubs with the O'Duffy Cup.

Eamonn Browne chairperson Munster council reiterated all the speakers by congratulating all concerned he then presented the provincial medals to the Intermediate and under 18 teams.

Deputy county Mayor Cllr Jerry Kelly brought a lighter note to the speech making when he rounded off his address with a song much to the delight of an appreciative audience.

Presentations of flowers were made to Lord Mayor Clune, President Miriam O'Callaghan, Elaine Burke and chairperson Marion McCarthy, Mary Moran who was the recipient of a Presidents award from Sean Kelly earlier in the year but was out of the country on the evening it was presented, on Sunday last Jim Forbes formally handed over the presentation to Mary. Celebrations continued long into the night as the dancing and singing continued to celebrate a wonderful year for Cork camogie.

Camogie chat

With Mary Newman

ALL STAR BANQUET

JUST a reminder that the All Star banquet takes place on November 12th at the City West Hotel, Cork top the bill with ten nominations while beaten finalists, Tipperary, have seven, Wexford six, Galway and Dublin four, Kilkenny and Clare two and Limerick and Laois one. Nine of last years All Stars are again amongst the thirty seven nominees, Aoife Murray, Cork, Suzanne Kelly, Tipperary, Aine Codd, Wexford, Mary Leacy, Wexford, Therese Brophy, Tipperary, Gemma O'Connor, Cork, Kate Kelly, Wexford, Clare Grogan, Tipperary and Jennifer O'Leary, Cork. Rena Buckley and Brieghe Corkery are also nominated for awards and they are now in line for a double also having been nominated for a ladies football All

Star. Also amongst the nominees are Stephanie Dunlea, Mary O'Connor, Anna Geary, Rachel Moloney, and Emer Dillon.

A Young player of the Year will be named and there are four nominees from the minor grade Colette McSorley, Armagh, Katie Power, Kilkenny, Siobhán Flannery, Offaly, Aoife McLoughney, and Tipperary.

This year a Manager of the Year will be chosen and the nominees are Cork manager John Cronin, Sharon Glynn Galway, and Peter Lucey, Dublin.

The evening promises to be one not to be missed and tickets for the black tie event are available at 80 and can be obtained by contacting Sinéad O'Connor or Phil Clarke in Croke Park at 01 8364619.

Weather spoils activities

VERY little activities on the playing fields with the weather playing spoil sport, in the under 16 b league semi final Rockban and Valley Rovers played out a

draw and will have to meet again while the Douglas versus Sarsfields Junior A league final on Monday fell foul to the elements.



Jim Forbes, chairman of Cork County Board with the Liam McCarthy Cup for hurling and Elaine Burke with the O'Duffy Cup for camogie, two of the cups on display at the Oireachtas Mass yesterday.

Picture: Donagh Glavin

Cork success marked at Oireachtas Mass

CORK'S sporting achievements were celebrated at a very special Mass yesterday.

The hugely successful Oireachtas na Gaeltachta festival came to a close with the annual Oireachtas Aifreann at St Peter and Paul's Church. The three All-Ireland Cups won by Cork teams this year were presented as part of the offertory procession.

More than 10,000 people attended Oireachtas events over the past week including the sean-nós singing and dancing competitions at the weekend.

The annual Oireachtas mass however proved to be the highlight of the weekend as Bishop of Cork and Ross Dr John Buckley celebrated the service in the heart of Cork city.

A packed church heard from the renowned Cór Chuil Aodha singing Aifreann Uí Riada under the direction of Peadar Ó Riada along with musicians Seán Keane, John Kelly and

By ALISON DONNELLY

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Séan Potts. Bishop Buckley was joined by Fr Donal O'Brien, Fr Pat McCarthy, Fr John O'Sullivan, Fr Donal O'Brien and Fr Aidan O'Driscoll to help kick start a final day of celebrations yesterday. The Mass was broadcast live on RTE 1 and Raidió na Gaeltachta. Chairman of the Cork branch of the Oireachtas, Peadar Ó Riada, said the crowds that attended events last week far surpassed anything they had expected.

"What surprised us most were the thousands of young people who were there all week. They were extremely well behaved and we were delighted to see that there wasn't a word of English to be heard anywhere. "There was also huge support from the local media and I'd like to thank the *Evening Echo* for all their coverage this past week," he said.

Kavanagh earns Davitts second bite

CASHEL'S 1-13 DAVITTS 3-7 A GOAL in the third minute of extra time from Galway senior, Lourda Kavanagh earned Davitts another bite at the cherry when they drew 3-7 to Cashel's 1-13 in yesterday's club All-Ireland semi-final in Tynagh, writes Máire Uí Scolai.

The game had the crowd on their toes from the first minute when Tipperary star Claire Grogan sent over the first point of the day in the opening minute. However, Davitts then sent over five superb points from play before the first goal of the day came from Cashel corner forward Danielle O'Connell to leave it. That goal did wonders for Cashel, as they went to lead, 1-9 to Davitt's 0-6 at the break.

Davitts were not ready to surrender and a goal after the restart from Deirdre Murphy sparked off the Davitts revival.

Cashel: J. Delaney, S. Morrissey, U. O'Dwyer, N. O'Dwyer, P. Bullin, S. Milne, F. O'Dwyer, P. Fogarty, L. Grogan, C. Hennessy, E. Hayden, H. Grogan (L. Twomey 54), D. O'Connell, A. Loneragan, C. Grogan.
Davitts: K. Power, D. Watson, A. Broderick, L. Fahy (L. Flynn 16), R. Broderick, A. Kelly, L. Gohery, D. Murphy, P. Hayes, Caroline Kelly, Cathriona Kelly, D. Gilchrist, O. Forde (D. Kelly 38), L. Kavanagh, M. Kelly (Y. Donnelly 54).

Nov. 2005

■ ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Liatroim looking Offaly good

Down club relying on experience to see them into another All-Ireland final

BY PAUL WELSH

AFTER dominating Down camogie for almost 20 years, as well as winning their fair share of Ulster Senior Club Championships, Liatroim Fontenoy's finally made the breakthrough last year when they beat Four Roads of Roscommon to lift the All-Ireland Junior Championship at Parnell Park.

Captain on that historic day was Anne Morgan and as Liatroim prepare to face Leinster champions Drumcullen in this year's All-Ireland semi-final on Sunday, Morgan admitted the memories of last year's final are something that will live with her forever.

"It was fabulous, amazing, and something that I'll never forget," said Morgan.

"It's probably every players dream to win an All-Ireland, especially with you club and to captain Liatroim was something special."

"This year, the hunger is still definitely there though."

"Personally I've more hunger than last year because the pressure of being captain is not there so I can focus solely on my camogie."

"Not that I wasn't focusing last year, but it's just that as captain there are a few other things to consider too."

It has been some eight weeks since Liatroim defeated Armagh champions Keady to lift their second Ulster Junior Championship title and while the other three provinces have only recently completed their own championships, Liatroim have been far from idle.

"It's a very long time since the Ulster final and we've spent the time training," Morgan said.

"We also had a training weekend in Galway a few weeks ago when we played Davitts [who face Cashel in the senior championship semi-final]. They beat us but we didn't take our scores and it was our own fault we lost rather than them beating us."

"But then again they are a senior club and it was a good tester for us. Although I didn't see that much of a difference in standard between the two teams."

"We've been training very hard, training three times a week, sometimes four."

"But we need that because we haven't had the matches."

"For the first five weeks after the Ulster final we had some very hard tough training but it was enjoyable. And it was enjoyable because everyone was doing it."

Liatroim will have to plan for Sunday's game without veteran Donna Mullen and Majella Reilly who are both definite non starters.

But there is good news for Liatroim and Morgan confirmed that both McCrickard, Lisa and Catriona have been back in training and should start on Sunday, if both are selected.

While Liatroim had played in a few All-Ireland senior championship semi-finals, last year's venture into the Junior Championship was a step into the unknown. This year though, Morgan admitted they know exactly what is ahead of them.

"Last year we went in not knowing exactly what sort of level we'd be meeting at junior," Morgan said.

"We didn't know what the difference was going to be between senior and junior but this year we know exactly what it takes to win an All-Ireland semi-final and a final."

"Although I don't think there is any pressure on us because it has been eight weeks since the Ulster final."

"It is almost as if we've been forgotten about because the championships have been taking place in the other three provinces since then."

"At the minute there is not much being written about us, nor is there much talk about, bar maybe the Rossa game, but that suits us fine."



Anne Morgan led Liatroim Fontenoy's to All-Ireland success last year

CAMOGIE IN BRIEF

Dublin set to honour All-Ireland champions

DUBLIN will host their 'Adult Players Night' on Friday November 18 in the Spa Hotel in Lucan.

Players of the Year will be announced at the function while the All-Ireland winning team will be the centre of attraction on the night.

The Juvenile Presentation will take place on Saturday November 18 between beginning at 6pm in Naomh Brid Clubhouse, Russell Park, Navan Road. Juvenile Club and County players of the Year will be announced. The Dublin County Board Annual Convention will take place on Saturday November 29 in St Jude's Clubhouse with Registration at 10am.

Roscommon to discuss future

AN open meeting to discuss the future of Camogie in Roscommon is to take place within the next few weeks.

The meeting follows discussions between the National Camogie Development Officer Lynn Kelly and Regional Development Officer Caroline Murray, and Roscommon County Board Officials last week.

Parents, teachers, players and anyone interested in assisting with the future development of Camogie in Roscommon will be invited to the meeting.

Fixtures:

Saturday November 5

All-Ireland Senior Club Championship semi-final

Davitts (Galway) v Cashel (Tipperary), Tynagh at 2pm

All-Ireland Junior Club Championship semi-final

Four Roads (Roscommon) v Newmarket-on-Fergus (Clare), Ballyforan at 2pm

Sunday November 6

All-Ireland Senior Club Championship semi-final

St Lachtain's (Kilkenny) v O'Donovan Rossa (Antrim), Freshford at 1pm

All-Ireland Junior Club Championship semi-final

Drumcullen (Offaly) v Liatroim Fontenoy's (Down), Rath at 12:30pm

Rossa have it all to do against champions Freshford

BY MÁIRE UÍ SCOLAI

REIGNING All-Ireland club champions St Lachtain's of Freshford, Kilkenny have home advantage as they face Antrim and Ulster champions O'Donovan Rossa on Sunday in the All-Ireland Senior Club Championship semi-final (1pm). Belfast side Rossa are aiming for a first ever All-Ireland appearance but it will be a tough assignment against Freshford.

The first semi-final goes ahead tomorrow between the Munster champions Cashel who travel to Tynagh in Galway to take on Davitts who last appeared in an All-Ireland final in 2003. Like Cashel however,



Cashel's Claire Grogan

Davitts have yet to inscribe their name on the O'Carroll Cup.

Antrim camogie has not enjoyed the best of times over the last few years and even with nine intercounty players including, 2003 All-Star Jane Adams, Rossa will face a real test on Sunday.

Freshford like Rossa, have several experienced county players within their ranks but they also have some fine young players like Marie O'Connor, who nicked two goals late in the Leinster Club final against Oulart the Ballagh of Wexford.

It is hard to see Rossa making it to the final on November 20 and it would need Jane

Adams and company to be at their very best if they are to cause a surprise on Sunday.

In the other semi-final in Tynagh on Saturday, two clubs who have never won an All-Ireland title go head-to-head. However, Cashel manager Liam Cahill is taking it all in his stride. "There is no pressure on us to win," Cahill said. "At the same time though, this is the one medal that eludes a lot of our players so we will be hoping to make it to the All-Ireland Final."

"At the start of the season our aim was to win back the county title and after that, everything else was a bonus. Now that we are nearer to the

final we are very much focused on winning tomorrow."

As a county Galway began the year well winning the National League title but surprisingly, they fell away in the Senior Championship. This could be the spur that Davitts need to make it past but it will take a lot to defeat a Cashel side which boasts two of this year's All Star nominees, Jovita Delaney and Claire Grogan.

The Tipperary side also have the advantage of having had competitive games over the last few weeks, while it has been over eight weeks since Davitts won the Galway Championship.

Last year's defeated All-Ire-

land finalists, Four Roads of Roscommon, face Munster and Clare champions Newmarket-on-Fergus in Ballyforan on Saturday.

The second semi-final takes place on Sunday in Rath between reigning All-Ireland champions Liatroim Fontenoy's of Down and Offaly side Drumcullen, who appeared in the first Junior All-Ireland final in 2003 where they lost to Armagh side Crossmaglen Rangers.

On paper Newmarket possess too much experience for the Connacht champions while Drumcullen too, may well find the going a bit too tough against Liatroim.



Tracy Sheehan, chairperson Juvenile Camogie Board, presents Fiona O'Connell, Inniscarra with the Player of the Match award after the Under 16 B County Final.

Inniscarra take county title in style

by Mary Newman

Inniscarra 2-10
Courcey Rovers 2-5

INNISCARRA were crowned Under 16 B county champions at Ballyanley on Saturday in an exciting contest that went down to the closing minutes before victory was secured.

Four times the sides were level through the second half after Inniscarra had come back from a two point interval deficit. Inniscarra's Catherine O'Brien and Niamh Dilworth gave them a two point advantage before Ciara Hayes opened the Courcey account with a point.

Courceys found the going tough against a strong Inniscarra defence where Fiona O'Connell excelled. Eighteen minutes into the game, Rachel O'Riordan set up O'Brien for the opening goal and Inniscarra looked to be dictating matters.

Four minutes before the half time whistle Ciara Hayes showed her pace by creating space for herself before blasting the ball into the net. Just two points now separated the teams.

Ursula Quinn gave Courceys the lead for the first time in the contest when her free dropped to the net and, with Elaine Ryan pointing, Courceys turned over two points ahead at the interval.

Inniscarra, in a good tactical move, switched Niamh Dilworth to the full forward role for the second half and inside two minutes she had the sides on level with two well struck points.

It was nip and tuck to the 20th minute as the sides exchanged points, and it took a superb save from Courceys Aileen O'Brien to deny Fiona O'Connell a certain goal with nine minutes remaining, but Catherine O'Brien eventually edged Inniscarra into a one point lead.

Inniscarra now upped the pace and were benefiting from Niamh Dilworth in the full forward role where she was showing her pace and giving the Courcey defence a huge amount of work. With Dilworth forcing a superb save from Aileen O'Brien, Catherine O'Brien finished to the net to give Inniscarra the advantage. Captain Sinead Ni Riann pointed and Inniscarra were now in control.

Elaine Ryan and Ursula Quinn continued to put the Inniscarra defence under pressure, twice coming near with goal chances, but the Inniscarra defence held their composure as they held firm to record a deserving victory in a game where the excellent refereeing of Mossie Butler allowed the game to flow.

Inniscarra's Fiona O'Connell was the recipient of the player of the match award from chairperson Tracy Sheehan following a superb display.

Inniscarra: J. Casey, J. Clair, M. McCarthy, A. Punch, K. Jones, F. O'Connell, A. Kavanagh, N. Keating, N. Dilworth (0-5, 0-3 frees, 0-2 play) K. O'Mahony, S. Ni Riann (0-2, 0-1 f, 0-1 play), G. Desmond, A. O'Keefe, C. O'Brien (2-2), R. O'Riordan (0-1) Subs S. McCarthy for N. Keating (inj. 18 mins) J. Farmer for A. O'Keefe (28 mins) E. Kingston for R. O'Riordan (59 mins).

Courcey Rovers: A. O'Brien, N. Finn, O. Twomey, A. Ryan, M. Hayes, C. O'Neill, N. O'Reilly, G. Hurley, E. O'Regan, U. Quinn (1-1 free), M. Ryan, E. Ryan (0-3), C. Hayes (1-1), S. O'Reilly, K. Crowley.

Referee: M. Butler, Buttevant.

Senior trophy a first

by Mary Newman

Kilbrittan/Timoleague 0-13
Barryroe 0-7

IT may have taken some time to complete, but Kilbrittan/Timoleague will no doubt savour the moments as they lifted the 2004 Senior League title and in doing so made it a first senior trophy for the club.

Played on the excellent CIT pitch, both sides gave it their all in quest of victory. Barryroe, aided by the strong wind, made the better start, and led 0-5 to 0-3 at the interval with points from Jennifer O'Leary, Elaine McCarthy and Ger Collins, replied to by Miriam Deasy, Danielle O'Sullivan and Val O'Keefe to keep Kilbrittan/Timoleague in touch.

From the start of the second half Kilbrittan/Timoleague set about narrowing the gap and two pointed frees from Val O'Keefe had them level inside three minutes.

Emer O'Regan and Val O'Keefe exchanged points as the sides remained on level, but aided by the wind Kilbrittan began to gain the upper hand, and seven points in succession from Val O'Keefe (3), Miriam Deasy, Maebe O'Sullivan and Catriona Deasy had Kilbrittan in control. Barryroe fought hard to get back into contention, but found the going hard against a Kilbrittan/Timoleague side that closed them down at every opportunity.

Kilbrittan/Timoleague: E. O'Regan, E. O'Donovan, D. Coughlan, C. Deasy, M. Deasy, A. O'Sullivan, Eibhlin O'Sullivan, M. O'Sullivan, L. Kavanagh, M. Murphy, V. O'Keefe, Danielle O'Sullivan, Deirdre O'Sullivan, E. O'Donovan, Emer O'Sullivan. Subs A. Desmond for Deirdre O'Sullivan, S. O'Donovan for C. Deasy.

Barryroe: E. White, D. Collins, E. Carroll, P. Moloney, C. Keohane, C. Dineen, M. O'Brien, N. O'Driscoll, E. O'Regan, K. Mc Carthy, I. Dineen, J. O'Leary, R. Dineen, G. Collins, E. Mc Carthy.

Subs: L. Gannon for E. O'Regan, S. Donovan for E. Mc Carthy.

Referee: C. MC Alistair Middleton.

Camogie Junior 'B' Shield Final: St. Finbarr's 2-9 Millford 1-7; **U16 'A' League Semi Final:** Douglas 3-1 Buttevant 1-1; **U16 'B' League QF:** Courcey Rovers 2-04 Glen Rovers 0-0.

Inniscarra power home with a late closing surge

Inniscarra 2-10
Courcey Rovers 2-5

A STRONG closing ten minutes ensured Inniscarra engraved their names on the U16B county championship trophy at Ballyanley on Saturday, writes Mary Newman.

Inniscarra set the trend with a Catherine O'Brien opening point inside five minutes and with Niamh Dilworth pointing a free they had stretched their advantage before Ciara Hayes opened Courcey's account.

Courcey's found no way through Inniscarra's defence and when Rachel O'Riordan set up O'Brien for the game's opening goal in the eighteenth minute, Inniscarra looked to be in control.

Courcey's got the boost they needed with four minutes to the break when Ciara Hayes showed her pace, soloing confidently past four Inniscarra defenders to crash to the roof of the net and leave just two points separating the sides.

Ursula Quinn rocked Inniscarra when her long range effort from a free dropped to the net and with Elaine Ryan pointing Courcey's turned over two points ahead at the interval.

Inniscarra switched Niamh Dilworth to the full forward position for the second half and inside two minutes she had the sides level and it remained deadlocked to the 20th minute as the sides exchanged points on three occasions.

With play swinging from end to end a draw looked on the cards only for O'Brien to edge Inniscarra into a one-point lead.

Then Dilworth's shot, saved Aileen O'Brien, was hit into the net on the rebound by O'Brien before Sinead Ni Riann pointed to put five between the sides.

Inniscarra's defence held their composure with Fiona O'Connell's long relieving clearances relieving the pressure turning defence into attack as her side held out to record a deserving victory in a game where the excellent refereeing of Mossie Butler allowed the game to flow.

Fiona O'Connell was the recipient of the player of the match award from Chairperson Tracy Sheehan following a superb display.

INNISCARRA: J. Casey, J. Clair, M. McCarthy, A. Punch, K. Jones, F. O'Connell, A. Kavanagh, N. Keating, N. Dilworth (0-5, 0-3 frees), K. O'Mahony, S. Ni Riann (0-2, 0-1 f), G. Desmond, A. O'Keefe, C. O'Brien (2-2), R. O'Riordan (0-1).

Subs: S. McCarthy for N. Keating (inj. 18 mins), J. Farmer for A. O'Keefe (28 mins), E. Kingston for R. O'Riordan (59 mins).

COURCEY ROVERS: A. O'Brien, N. Finn, O. Twomey, A. Ryan, M. Hayes, C. O'Neill, N. O'Reilly, G. Hurley, E. O'Regan, U. Quinn (1-1 free), M. Ryan, E. Ryan (0-3), C. Hayes (1-1), S. O'Reilly, K. Crowley.

Referee: Mr M. Butler, Buttevant.



All Ireland winning camogie captain Elaine Burke, with Aidan O'Callaghan, and event co-host Lynn Dunlea-O'Callaghan at The Evening Echo Cork's Sporting Living Legends night at the Rochestown Park Hotel. Picture: Larry Cummins

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A fitting tribute

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St Finbarr's club player Gemma O'Connor is in line for back-to-back All-Stars this year.

CORK'S all-conquering heroines celebrated in force today as Gemma O'Connor and Valerie Mulcahy were named the Vodafone GAA Camogie and Ladies' Football Players of the Year for 2005.

It is the first time that players from the same county have been honoured together in this award scheme, a fitting recognition of Cork's remarkable achievement of capturing both All-Ireland senior titles.

The president of the Camogie Association Miriam O'Callaghan, ladies' football president Geraldine Giles and Vodafone sponsorship executive Enda Lynch made the presentations at a reception in Dublin's Westbury Hotel.

In Cork, Gemma won her first All-Star award last year and was actually presented with the trophy while on duty with the Defence Forces in Liberia.

That tour of duty delayed her introduction to competition this year but she made a huge contribution at both midfield and centre-forward to Cork's championship victory.

Valerie Mulcahy is 22 and has already won everything in the game of Ladies' Football. An All-Star for the first time last year, she enjoyed an outstanding season in 2005 as Cork swept the boards when winning both the National League and the All-Ireland championship.

A PE Teacher who plays with the Rockbarr club, Valerie has been in prolific scoring form throughout the

Rebel double heroines are rewarded for their efforts

At the age of just 20 it is widely predicted in the sport that Gemma O'Connor will be the recipient of many more awards in her career. This year's All-Ireland triumph was her second senior success. She is also the holder of two All-Ireland medals at minor level.

From the Naomh Fhionbarra club

year. When Cork won their first National League title, Valerie scored 2-2, and in the All-Ireland final she scored 1-5 to help her team to glory.

In a message, the president of the GAA Sean Kelly paid tribute to both players.

"It was a year of extraordinary success for Cork and the contributions both Gemma and Valerie were remarkable. They have set a very high standard for the future."

On behalf of Vodafone, Enda Lynch said: "It is a great pleasure for us at Vodafone to be part of the growing recognition of the contribution of players like Gemma and Valerie to the sports culture of Ireland. Cork enjoyed a wonderful year and we are already looking forward with relish to next year's competitions."

Double delight for Rebels in awards

by Brendan O'Brien

A RICHLY rewarding season for Cork GAA got even better yesterday with the announcement that Gemma O'Connor and Valerie Mulcahy had been named as Vodafone camogie and ladies' football players of the year.

This is the first time that players from the same county have been honoured in this award scheme, more recognition for an historic year when Cork won senior All-Irelands in both female codes.

The 'Rebel Treble' was achieved last month when the ladies' footballers followed the successes of the senior hurlers and camogie team and captured the senior All-Ireland for the first time.

"It's been a great year for GAA in Cork. It was the first win for the Ladies footballers and for the camogie and hurling teams to win their All-Irelands as well was amazing. There's been a great buzz around Cork this year," Mulcahy said.

And she was responsible for much of the success. The Rockbarr woman contributed 2-2 to the scoreline against Galway when the county won their first National League title earlier in the season and another 1-5 followed against the same opposition in the All-Ireland decider.

Gemma O'Connor's career has been equally fruitful. The 20-year-old from the Naomh Fhionbarra club won her second senior All-Ireland this year and also has two minor medals.

Like Mulcahy, O'Connor was an All-Star last year and was actually presented with the trophy while on duty with the Defence Forces in Liberia.

Those commitments delayed her introduction to competitive action in 2005 but her displays at midfield and centre-forward since have been more than enough to win her the main individual award.

"It means so much just to be playing at the top level of your favourite sport, doing what you love, be it men's football, hurling, ladies football or camo-



Cork's Gemma O'Connor, right, and Valerie Mulcahy, who were named Vodafone Camogie and Ladies Footballer-of-the-Year, respectively.

gie. It's what dreams are made of. If you put in the hard work during the year it pays off," said O'Connor.

Few could begrudge the Cork camogie team their success this year. Having lost to Tipperary in the decider in 2003 and again last year, the roles were finally reversed last September when the reigning champions were beaten by four points in Croke Park.

As O'Connor admitted, losing three finals in a row would have been a potentially fatal blow to this team's aims and ambitions. "Even now it feels like it's a whole weight lifted off our shoulders. We were under pressure because 2002 was our last win and we lost the next two finals. No-one wants to finish in second place but Tipperary are a great team and it was sweet to beat them in the final."

Camogie looks back on great year

MORE than 250 people attended the Rochestown Park Hotel last Sunday evening to applaud the feats of the Cork senior squad as they walked up to accept their All Ireland medals.

Throughout the evening, in the background, the final was replayed on a large screen as were the celebrations and the homecoming, all marvellously edited and compiled by Michael O'Regan.

The large attendance included guests such as Miriam O'Callaghan, president of the Camogie association, Cork GAA chairperson Jim Forbes, Lord Mayor Deirdre Clune and the highly entertaining deputy Lord Mayor of the County Councillor Gerry Kelly.

Tributes were paid to the players and their mentors not only for their success but their magnificent second half final display and the manner in which they won.



Linda Mellerick

When one looks back on the Camogie events that have taken place in Cork this year it is hard not to be impressed.

In April Cork hosted Congress. Commencing on a Friday evening and running through to late Saturday over 100 delegates from 32 counties along with GAA president Mr Sean Kelly attended the Blarney Park Hotel.

Next came Feile in June. 26 Cork clubs hosted visiting sides from as far afield as Birmingham.

On top of that we introduced a new 'back door' system into the senior A championship for the first time this year which involved a large amount of extra games. With 16 teams entered into the 'A' championship there were some great clashes.

The championship was a great success with Cloughduv emerging as champions for the third time.

We entered the minor, under 18, junior, intermediate and senior inter-county championships.

There are big changes next year with the minor championship age limit now extended to 18 as opposed to the original 16 age bracket. The junior championship is now strictly for junior graded counties only and the Intermediate championship will be the second most important competition for senior graded counties.

We have a juvenile board which introduced a D section this year for the first time to ensure we keep our youths interested and involved and all games have been run off and completed by year end.

We received backing for a Cork Camogie Supporters' club which aided the Cork senior team in no small way towards their All Ireland

success. The objective of the supporters club is to grow and support all Cork teams as they prepare for All Ireland success.

Mary Moran received the GAA president's award earlier in the year and was officially presented her award to a standing ovation at last weekend's dinner. The amount of work and service Mary has given to Camogie over many years is legendary. Her expertise on all aspects of Camogie cannot be matched and her four history books ranging from Colleges to Munster Camogie are a must for any fan.

It has been a great year. The work that a small band of people, led by excellent chairperson Marion McCarthy, has done this year should be complimented. It is a credit to them and as long as we have hardworking volunteers like this leading us Cork Camogie will long be at the top.

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The Evening Echo honours Cork's Sporting Legends



THE LIVING LEGENDS back row: Noel A Murphy (rugby family award), Billy Morgan (football), Gerald McCarthy (hurling), Mick Barry junior helping his dad, Mick Barry (Road bowling).

Donal Lenihan (Rugby), Kieran Joyce (boxing), Teddy McCarthy (special

award), Donie Wallace (soccer), John Cooney (basketball), Christy O'Callaghan (draghunting), Jerry O'Neill on behalf of Jonjo O'Neill (Horse racing), David Myerscough for Vincent O'Brien (Horse racing), Brian Clifford (swimming), Karl Dillon for Denis O'Sullivan (Golf), ?? Jim

Crockett (judo), Dave Barry (special award).

Front row: John O'Sullivan, who collected the award on behalf of Marcus (Athletics), Somers Payne (Sailing), Anita Philpott (Athletics), Hanora Kelleher (Ladies football), Sandy Fitzgibbon (special

award), Deirdre Sheehan (Swimming), Maggie Cantwell on behalf of her late husband Noel (special award), Ruth O'Mahony (Special Olympics), Rachael Kohler (Hockey), Caroline Forde (Basketball), Linda Mellerick (Camogie), Clare Coughlan (golf), Reg Treacy (Hockey).



Gillian O'Mahony, John McHale, Evening Echo Sports Editor, Lynn Dunlea-O'Callaghan and Aidan O'Callaghan enjoy the night. Picture: Larry Cummins



At the awards last night were, from left: Anita Philpott, athletics; Maurice Gubbins, Editor, Evening Echo, Caroline Forde, Basketball; Ger Marshall, Bank of Scotland; and John O'Sullivan who accepted the athletics award on behalf of Marcus O'Sullivan. Picture: Brian Loughheed



Pictured at the awards last night at the Rochestown Park Hotel, were, from left: Jerry O'Neill, Maurice Gubbins, Editor, Evening Echo, Mark Guilfoyle collecting on behalf of Vincent O'Brien, Ger Marshall, Bank of Scotland and Reg Treacy, hockey. Picture: Brian Loughheed

Stars light

RARELY before had such a glittering array of Cork's favourite sporting sons and daughters gathered under one roof.

Last night the Evening Echo, in association with Bank of Scotland, paid homage to the sporting legacy that has Cork to the fore in all things sporting.

From Gaelic football to hockey to swimming and road-bowling every conceivable sport and legendary sports person was honoured at a nostalgic night at the Rochestown Park Hotel.

True *Leaside Legends* were feted as 30 of Cork's, and indeed Ireland's, greatest sports people were singled out for their sporting prowess.

Maurice Gubbins, Editor of the Evening Echo, spoke with unbridled passion and enthusiasm about the impact these sports people have had on our lives.

"We have identified the Evening Echo to be Cork's greatest supporter and when necessary its sternest critic. We have invested significantly in improving our sports coverage and tonight's function is our way to acknowledge and mark your great achievements," he said.

Gerard Marshall of the Bank of Scotland, the night's co-sponsor, also spoke about special place sport has in Cork life and paid tribute to the 30 recipients.

The night started off on an upbeat and unique note when the Deputy County Mayor, Cllr. Gerry Kelly, broke into song as he waxed lyrical about the achievements of All-Ireland double winner Teddy McCarthy. Cllr Kelly aired an original song he had penned in honour of McCarthy's historic achievement.

The Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr Deirdre Clune, also paid tribute to the role sport plays in our lives and



At the awards last night at the Rochestown Park Hotel, were, from left: Linda Mellerick, camogie; Maurice Gubbins, Editor, Evening Echo, Billy Morgan, football, Ger Marshall, Bank of Scotland and Claire Coughlan, golf. Picture: Brian Loughheed



By CONOR GEORGE

At the Rochestown Park Hotel also paid homage to the 30 recipients.

Rochestown Park Hotel General Manager Liam Lally highlighted the need for other businesses in Cork to get involved in the sponsorship of sport in Cork.

"The Rochestown Park Hotel is committed to sponsoring sport in Cork.

"I would urge other businesses and hotels to also get involved in this type of sports sponsorship.

"Cork has a rich and vibrant sporting history and continues to set the trend for sporting excellence

in Ireland.

"It is important that we support this," Lally said.

Stars of yesteryear were the real highlight on the night with special mention going to the late Noel Cantwell, whose widow Maggie accepted his award.

The calibre of the sports people honoured had many in the audience gasping in disbelief as the individual citations were read out.

Each of the 30 *Leaside Legends* honoured was joined by family and friends on the night and each recipient received a specially commissioned piece of Cork Crystal as a memento of the night.

Camogiechat

With Mary Newman

TITLE FOR INNISCARRA

A FITTING tribute to the hard work which went into securing their own pitch was rewarded on Saturday last as Inniscarra were crowned Under 16 B county champion. The only camogie club in the county to have a dedicated venue for camogie the Inniscarra club hosted the final when a neutral one was unavailable because of the appalling weather conditions. The sun appropriately chose Saturday to shine and it resembled a summer afternoon as an exciting contest went down to the closing minutes before victory was assured.

Through the second half it was score for score with the team's level on four occasions after Inniscarra had come back from a two point interval deficit. Two early points from Catherine O'Brien and Niamh Dilworth gave Inniscarra the lead before Clara Hayes opened the Courcsey account with a point.

Inniscarra defence with Fiona O'Connell excelling closed down the Courcsey's attack and eighteen minutes into the game Rachel O'Riordan set up Catherine O'Brien for an Inniscarra goal to increase their advantage. At this stage Inniscarra looked set to run away with the title but this was far from the case as from here to the half time whistle it was all Courcsey's. With four minutes to the half time whistle Clara Hayes took on the Inniscarra defence and finish to the net to put just two points between the sides. Ursula Quinn gave Courcsey's the lead for

the first time in the contest when her long range effort from a free dropped to the net and with Elaine Ryan pointing Courcsey's turned over two points ahead at the interval.

Inniscarra switched Niamh Dilworth to the full forward role for the second half and inside two minutes she had the sides on level with two points. From here to the twentieth minute the sides swapped points on three occasions and it took an excellent save from Courcsey's Aileen O'Brien to deny Fiona O'Connell a certain goal with nine minutes remaining. Catherine O'Brien edges Inniscarra into a one point lead from the resulting play and now as they upped the pace Niamh Dilworth again forced Aileen O'Brien to be at her best before Catherine O'Brien finished to the net to give Inniscarra the advantage. Captain Sinead Ni Riann pointed to put five between the sides and now Inniscarra were now in control. Elaine Ryan and Ursula Quinn worked hard to get Courcsey's within striking distance but good defending by Inniscarra held them at bay as Inniscarra recorded a deserved victory. The excellent refereeing of Mossie Butler deserves a mention as he allowed the game to flow with some excellent decisions.

Inniscarra's Fiona O'Connell was the recipient of the player of the match award a superb performance at the heart of the Inniscarra defence.



Juvenile Camogie Board chairperson Tracy Sheehan presents Inniscarra Captain Sinead Ni Riann with the under 16 B County championship trophy

First senior title for Kilbrittan

KILBRITTAN/ TIMOLEAGUE celebrated the capturing of the 2004 Senior League title and in doing so made it a first senior trophy for the club. The excellent C. I.T pitch helped make the game an enjoyable one as both sides gave it their all in quest of victory. Barryroe made the better start and led 0-5 to 0-3 at the interval points from Jennifer O'Leary, Elaine McCarthy and Ger Collins helping them maintain their advantage to the final whistle. Miriam Deasy Danielle O'Sullivan and Val O'Keeffe kept Kilbrittan/Timoleague in touch with points.

the determination of Kilbrittan/Timoleague was evident from the start of the second half as they set about cutting the deficit and two pointed frees from Val O'Keeffe had them on level inside three minutes.

Emer O'Regan and Val O'Keeffe exchanged points as it remained all square but aided by the wind Kilbrittan began to gain the upper hand. Seven points without reply from Val O'Keeffe (3), Miriam Deasy, Maebh O'Sullivan and Catriona Deasy had Kilbrittan in control. Barryroe fought hard to get back into contention but found the going hard against a strong Kilbrittan/Timoleague defence. Jennifer O'Leary did point a free but it came to late to make a difference with Kilbrittan's Maebh O'Sullivan pointing at the final whistle.

The Buckley - Dunne trophy was presented to the winning captain Miriam Deasy by county board register Kay Dunne as the trophy was donated over forty years ago by Kay's family to the county board.

AWARD FOR GEMMA

FOLLOWING on a superb season Cork's Gemma O'Connor was named as the Vodafone Camogie Player of the Year on Monday last at a reception in Dublin. Gemma had a wonderful season in the Cork colours and gave an outstanding performance in the All Ireland final. Congratulations to Gemma and also to Cork ladies footballer Valerie Mulcahy who was also a worthy recipient in her code.

ALL STARS

BEST wishes to all the Counties nominees at the All Star banquet on Saturday night in the City West and to John Cronin who will surely be named as Manger of the Year.



Professor Gerry Wrixon, President, UCC, with students who were players with the All-Ireland winning Cork ladies football, camogie and hurling teams. Front: Regina Curtin, Colette Desmond, Ronan McGregor, Jennifer Browne, Laura Power, and Caoimhe Creedon and (rear) Pat Price, PE Officer; Stephen Manning, Athletics Union; Eamonn Ryan, GAA Development Officer and Ladies Football coach, Kevin Hartnett, Tom Kenny, Rachel Maloney, Sarah O'Donovan, Emer Dillon, Catriona Foley, Christine O'Donovan, Acting Director of PE & Sport, and Shane O'Neill.

College hails its GAA heroes

UNIVERSITY College Cork (UCC) president Gerry Wrixon has saluted the 15 students involved in Cork's big sporting wins this year.

The students were involved in Cork's three All-Ireland senior title wins in hurling, camogie and ladies football and Professor Wrixon met with them earlier this week to congratulate them on their great achievements. The three All-Ireland Cups — the Liam McCarthy, the O'Duffy and

By ALISON DONNELLY
alison.donnelly@eecho.ie

the Brendan Martin — were all on show for the special occasion. Caoimhe Creedon, a final-year Arts student, was one of five ladies footballers who are students at the college and are part of the team which won the senior title for Cork for the first time this year. It was her first time meeting Prof Wrixon.

"He congratulated us on our achievements this year and also told us how proud the college was of us all. "We all get fantastic support from the college during the season and the ladies football side of things is very well organised. There's never any hassle when any players from any sport need time off for games during the year or anything," she said. Star hurlers attending the college include Tom Kenny, Ronán

McGregor, Shane O'Neill and Kevin Hartnett. Camogie players who picked up national honours this year were Rachel Maloney, Joanne O'Callaghan, dual player Catriona Foley, Colette Desmond, Jennifer Browne, Sarah O'Donovan and All-Ireland final player of the match, Emer Dillon. The ladies footballers were Caoimhe Creedon, Regina Curtin, Emer Walsh, Catriona Foley and Laura Power.

Kelly Davitts' hat-trick hero

Davitts 3-9 Cashel 1-9 DAVITTS All Star nominees Lourda Kavanagh and Deirdre Murphy were happy to make the dash from New Inn, Tipperary to last night's All-Star Banquet in Citywest Hotel following their 3-9 to 1-9 victory over Cashel in yesterday's All-Ireland club championship semi-final replay.

Caitriona Kelly was the toast of the West with a hat-trick of goals, the first after just seven minutes, but still they trailed 1-1 to Cashel's 0-9 at the break.

However, Davitts who now play St Lachtain's Freshford, the reigning All-Ireland champions next Sunday in the final took charge in the second half with some fines displays from Clare

player Deirdre Murphy who totalled 0-3 in the second half. Scorers — Cashel: C Grogan 1-3 (21, 145), C Hennessy 0-3, P Fogarty, L Grogan, E Hayden 0-1 each. Davitts: Caitriona Kelly 3-1, D Murphy, 0-3 (21), L Kavanagh 0-3, Caroline Kelly 0-2. Cashel — J Delaney, S Morrissey, U O'Dwyer, N O'Dwyer, P Biffin, S Millar, F O'Dwyer, P Fogarty, L Grogan, C Hennessy, E Hayden, H Grogan (cpt), D O'Connell, A Loneragan, C Grogan. Subs: N Morrissey for F O'Dwyer, R Nash for D O'Connell. Davitts — K Power, D Watson, A Broderick, L Flynn, R Broderick, A Kelly, L Gohery, D Murphy, P Hayes, Caroline Kelly, Caitriona Kelly, D Gilchrist, O Forde, L Kavanagh (cpt), M Kelly. Subs: D Kelly for R Broderick, Y Donnelly for D Gilchrist.

Rebels dominate All Star honours

THE 2005 Camogie All Stars team in association with O'Neills was announced last night in Citywest Hotel.

Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland champions, Cork, reigned supreme taking home six awards. Gemma O'Connor, who won her first All-Star in 2004, picked up her second major award of the week having been awarded the Vodafone Player of the Year on Monday. Jennifer O'Leary also picked up her second All Star. Four other Cork players were honoured for the first time: Anna Geary, Rachel Moloney, Emer Dillon and Mary O'Connor. 2005 All Stars: J Delaney (Tipperary), S Cahalan (Galway), C O'Loughlin (Wexford), J Kavanagh (Tipperary), A Geary (Cork), M O'Connor (Cork), T Maher (Galway), G O'Connor (Cork), C Lucy (Dublin), J O'Leary (Cork), R Moloney (Cork), C Grogan (Tipperary), E McDonnell (Tipperary), C O'Loughlin (Clare), E Dillon (Cork). Young Player of the Year: Colette McSorley (Armagh). Manager of the Year: John Cronin (Cork).



Cork winners, from left, Jennifer O'Leary, Gemma O'Connor, Rachel Moloney, Mary O'Connor, Anna Geary and Emer Dillon, at the Camogie All-Star Awards, in association with O'Neill's at Citywest Hotel, Dublin.

Picture: Ray McManus/SPORTSFILE

Nov
2005

A GREAT day at the office.

Cork bagged six All Star awards at the glittering gala banquet held in the City West hotel on Saturday night. All Ireland finalists Tipp took four, Galway took two and Wexford, Dublin and Clare got one a piece.

Cork's Anna Geary was the first rebel name to be announced at right half jack to great applause.

Next it was Mary O'Connor chosen to sit alongside her colleague on the podium.

Player of the Year Gemma O'Connor capped a great year when announced at number eight. She was one of the definites in the many debates held throughout the country these past few weeks and it was no surprise when her name was called out.

The quiet, unassuming Jennifer O'Leary was named at right half forward. Scorer of 23 points in this year's championship she was another worthy recipient. Impeccable accuracy from placed balls, an incredible turn of speed and a hard working player when not in possession.

One of the most popular announcements on the night Rachel Moloney was named at centre forward.

For her commitment and work eth-

Cork claim six All-Stars

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie All-stars

ic alone those that know Rachel were thrilled at her selection.

Covering miles during the course of a game, she had one of her best seasons in the rebel jersey.

Regularly switching between centre field and half forward Rachel's blocking, hooking, hassling and never give up attitude broke many an opposition's heart. Throw in the fact that almost every half chance is slotted over the bar and one is aware of the reason why this player was named as an All Star.

Emer Dillon, the last player to win a 2005 All Star at left corner forward, was another who just had to collect one. Without doubt her best season in the red and white jersey Dillon got better and better as the year progressed.

Her magnificent performance in the All Ireland semi final against Limerick showed an eagerness and sharpness that destined her for a Player of the match All Ireland final display. Strong, confident and not afraid to take a chance, she scored some breathtaking points in the championship and is more than worthy of this prestigious award.

To crown off a great night Cork

mentor John Cronin was named Manager of the Year. His relationship, patience and respect for his players is evident.

A most popular manager and a very popular choice on Saturday night, it was with great pride that John walked up to accept his award.

The Camogie All Star line up for 2005 reads as:

Jovita Delaney (Tipp); Sinéad Cahalan (Galway); Catherine O'Loughlin (Wexford); Julie Kirwan (Tipp); Anna Geary (Cork); Mary O'Connor (Cork); Therese Maher (Galway); Gemma O'Connor (Cork); Clara Lucey (Dublin); Jennifer O'Leary (Cork); Rachel Moloney (Cork); Clare Grogan (Tipp); Emer McDonnell (Tipp); Catherine O'Loughlin (Clare); Emer Dillon (Cork).

Young player of the Year: Colette McSorley (Armagh).

Manager of the Year: John Cronin



Armagh's Collette McSorley receives the Young Player of the Year Award

CAMOGIE ALL-STAR AWARDS

Cork dominate gongs

Six awards for All-Ireland champions

ALL-IRELAND champions Cork reigned supreme at the 2005 Camogie All-Star Awards, in association with O'Neill's, at the CityWest Hotel on Saturday night, taking home six awards.

Presented over by Miriam O'Callaghan, President of the Camogie Association, over 500 guests attended the glittering banquet.

Ossie Kilkenny, Chairperson of the Irish Sports Council, presented the awards to the All-Star team of 2005, the Young Player of the Year and the Manager of the Year.

Cork's Gemma O'Connor, who won her first All-Star in 2004, picked up her second major award of the week having been awarded the Vodafone Player of the Year on Monday.

Jennifer O'Leary also picked up her second All-Star. Four other Cork players - Anna Geary, Rachel Moloney, Emer Dillon and Mary O'Connor - were honoured for the first time.

O'Connor, recently employed by the Camogie Association as Regional Development Co-ordinator, was one of four players to do the historic

double when she won both a camogie and ladies football All-Ireland senior medal this year.

Tipperary received four All-Stars. Claire Grogan took home her second award while Eimear McDonnell, Jovita Delaney and Julie Kirwan all received their first All-Stars.

Therese Maher and Sinéad Cahalan brought home two awards for National League winners Galway.

Wexford's Catherine O'Loughlin received an All-Star for her outstanding performances at full-back while Clare's Catherine O'Loughlin (full-forward) became the Banner's first All-Star.

Clara Lucey became the first Dublin recipient of an All-Star award in a year which saw the Metropolitans take their first junior All-Ireland success in 30 years.

The Manager of the Year award went to victorious Cork manager, John Cronin, who guided the Rebels to their 21st All-Ireland title.

Armagh, also received their first ever award with the talented Colette McSorley accepting the Young Player of the Year award for her out-

standing performances for the Orchard County.

Miriam O'Callaghan, President of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael, reflected on the high quality of this year's recipients.

"The calibre of the nominations for the 2005 Camogie All-Stars demonstrates the continuing development of our game," she said.

"The interest which the event engenders among our players supports the need to acknowledge and reward the achievements and huge commitment players and mentors give to the game."

2005 All-Stars

Jovita Delaney (Tipperary); Sinéad Cahalan (Galway); Catherine O'Loughlin (Wexford); Julie Kirwan (Tipperary); Anna Geary (Cork); Mary O'Connor (Cork); Therese Maher (Galway); Gemma O'Connor (Cork); Clara Lucey (Dublin); Jennifer O'Leary (Cork); Rachel Moloney (Cork); Claire Grogan (Tipperary); Eimear McDonnell (Tipperary); Catherine O'Loughlin (Clare); Emer Dillon (Cork).

Young Player of the Year: Colette McSorley, Armagh

Manager of the Year: John Cronin, Cork

Cronin planning decade of dominance as Rebel heroes top

by Jim O'Sullivan and Colm O'Connor

CORK'S All-Ireland winning camogie manager, John Cronin, hopes the county can remain in the ascendancy of the sport for "the next 10 years."

Cronin was named manager of the year at a gala function on Saturday night and six of championship winning team were named in the All-star selection.

"It is marvellous," Cronin said yesterday.

"It is a great boost for the sport in Cork to receive such honours. We are happy enough with the selection. Naturally there are a few ifs and buts but it is the same when you are selecting any team. I think that all the players named are there on merit."

And he hopes the county can build on their exploits of 2005. "Now that we are on top, it would be nice to keep Cork up there for the next 10 years."

Over 500 guests attended the

function and Ossie Kilkenny, chairman of the Irish Sports Council, presented the awards to the team, the young player of the year and the manager of the year.

Gemma O'Connor picked up her second major award of the week, having been awarded the Vodafone player of the year on Monday while Jennifer O'Leary also landed a second All-star. Four other Cork players were honoured for the first time: Anna Geary, Rachel Moloney, Emer Dillon

and Mary O'Connor. O'Connor, recently employed by the Camogie Association as Regional Development Coordinator, was one of four players to do the historic double when she won both a camogie and ladies football All-Ireland senior medal this year.

Tipperary received four selections. Claire Grogan took home her second award while Eimear McDonnell, Jovita Delaney and Julie Kirwan all received their first All-stars. Therese Maher and Sinéad Cahalan brought

home two awards for National League winners Galway. Wexford's Catherine O'Loughlin received an All-star for her outstanding performances at full back while Clare's Catherine O'Loughlin (full-forward) became the Banner's first All-star.

Ciara Lucey became the first Dublin recipient of an All-star award after the county won their first junior All-Ireland in 30 years.

Armagh, also received their first ever award with the talented Colette

Allstar awards

McSorley accepting the Young Player of the Year award for her outstanding performances for the Orchard county.

2005 ALLSTARS: J Delaney (Tipperary), S Cahalan (Galway), C O'Loughlin (Wexford), J Kirwan (Tipperary), A Geary (Cork), M O'Connor (Cork), T Maher (Galway), G O'Connor (Cork), C Lucey (Dublin), J O'Leary (Cork), R Moloney (Cork), C Grogan (Tipperary), E McDonnell (Tipperary), C O'Loughlin (Clare), E Dillon (Cork).

Young Player of the Year: Colette McSorley, Armagh.

Manager of the Year: John Cronin, Cork.

St Finbarr's secure an historic first junior shield

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie	
St Finbarr's	2-9
Milford	1-7

ST FINBARR'S took the junior shield title in an exciting game at Ballyanley yesterday.

Earlier in competition the North Cork girls had recorded a four point victory over the city side but yesterday the Barrs turned the tables to take their first junior shield title.

Strengthened by the return of Claire Harrington who had been abroad and Orla O'Sullivan who missed out on the senior championship through illness, they set the foundations for victory with a superb opening half display.

Aided the experience of former inter county senior player Colette O'Mahony, the Barrs 2-5 to 0-3 at the break.

Goals from Ellen Crowley and O'Mahony helping them set the pace of the first half after Milford's Ashling Thompson had opened the scoring with a point. Barrs worked hard and held a ten point lead before Milford got on the score board again with two points from Noelle O'Riordan and Justine Lynam leaving eight between the sides at the interval.

The Milford back room team must have had some strong words for their charges at the break as they tore into the Barrs from the start of the second half.

Four points without reply from Ashling Thompson and Aoife Dillon cut the lead and it was fifteen minutes into the half before Niamh Cooke struck for a point to settle the Barrs nerves but more importantly to break the Milford momentum.

Two minutes from full time Thompson showed the class which was so evident from her play throughout the contest when she left the Barrs defence flat footed before finishing to the net but by now it was too little too late as the city girls hung on for a five-point victory.

County board chairperson Marion McCarthy presented the trophy to her club colleague O'Mahony at the full time whistle.

ST FINBARR'S: A Clarke, C Mc Carthy, D Clarke, M Collins, S O'Connell, S Kenefick, C Sergeant, C Harrington, D Banks, E Crowley (1-2), C O'Mahony (1-4, 0-1 from free, 1-0 from 45", 0-3 from play), V Hosford, N Cooke (0-1), O. O'Sullivan (0-2, 0-1 from free), T Fitzpatrick

Subs: V Russell for S O'Connell, N Mc Kenzie for C Sergeant.

MILFORD: E Hanley, E Browne, R Finn, S Linehan, S Carroll, A Dillon (0-2), M Broderick, F Curtin, C Galvin, J Lynam (0-1), A Thompson (1-3, 0-1 from free, 1-2 from play), O. O'Mahony, M Geary, N O'Riordan (0-1), J Hickey. **Sub:** T Mahony for M Broderick

Referee: M Butler Buttevant

by Mary Newman

IT WAS a great night for Cork as six of the county's players picked up All star awards at the City West hotel last Saturday.

Defeated finalists Tipperary picked up four awards, two went to league champions Galway, while Junior All Ireland champions Dublin and defeated finalists Clare each picked up one award.

It was a first for Mary O'Connor, Anna Geary, Rachel Moloney and Emer Dillon while Gemma O'Connor, who earlier in the week was named Vodafone camogie player of the year, picked up her second All Star along with Jennifer O'Leary.

Cork senior manager John Cronin was named manager of the year. Earlier this month, John was named alongside hurling manager John Allen as the 96/103fm Rochestown Park Hotel award winner for September and both awards are a fitting tribute to the wonderful work and rapport the Cloughduv native has with his team.

John has the distinction of never having lost an All Ireland final — he has led the county to no fewer than five minor titles.

However, while Cork are celebrating the six All Star awards, the main talking point must be the exclusion of Brieghe Corkery from the awards. The Cloughduv youngster had a superb season in the heart of the Cork defence and was outstanding in the All Ireland final.

While one does not want to pick out individuals, it's amazing that se-



Camogie Mary Newman

Cork's John Cronin, left being presented with the Manager of the Year by Joe McDonagh, former President of the GAA and Miriam O'Callaghan, President, Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael, at the 2005 Camogie All-Star Awards. Picture: Brendan Moran / SPORTSFILE

nior players playing in top grade can be overlooked for players playing junior.

Surely, All Stars must be competing in and selected from the players playing top grade camogie.

Another contentious award is that of Jovita Delaney getting in ahead of Cork's Aoife Murray. Maybe the judges were not at or did not look back on the recording of the All Ireland final and the goal that changed the match.

I was surprised Corkery was not nominated in the young player of the

year category but assumed it was because she would be chosen on the All Star team. I am even more shocked that she was not the recipient of an All Star award. Surely the judges were not looking at or did not base their selections on all of the games through the championship and league campaign. If they did, Brieghe Corkery's name would surely have been one of the first on the paper.

The All Star team for 2005 is as follows: Jovita Delaney, Tipperary; Sinéad Cahalan, Galway; Catherine O'Loughlin, Wexford; Julie Kirwin, Tip-

perary; Anna Geary, Cork; Mary O'Connor, Cork; Therese Maher, Galway; Gemma O'Connor, Cork; Ciara Lucey, Dublin; Jennifer O'Leary, Cork; Rachel Moloney, Cork; Claire Grogan, Tipperary; Emer McDonnell, Tipperary; Catherine O'Loughlin, Clare; and Emer Dillon, Cork.

The young player of the year award went to Armagh's Colette Mc Sorley.

So, as the curtain comes down on the inter-county scene for another year, Cork can look back on the 100 years of camogie in the county as a job well done.

St Finbarrs take junior shield title

by Mary Newman

St Finbarrs	2-9
Milford	1-7

by Mary Newman

ST FINBARRS took the junior shield title when they defeated Milford in Ballyanley on Sunday.

With former inter-county senior players Orla O'Sullivan and Colette O'Mahony bringing experience to the side, the Barrs lead 2-5 to 0-3 at the half-time whistle and set the founda-

tions for victory with a strong first half display.

Seven minutes into the game, an Ellen Crowley goal helped the city side settle, and with Colette O'Mahony pointing on three occasions they held the upper hand after Ashling Thompson had opening the scoring with a Milford point.

The Barrs increased their lead thanks to the accuracy of Orla O'Sullivan with a point and a Colette O'Mahony goal from a 45-metre free before Milford had two points from Noelle O'Riordan and Justine Lynam

to leave eight points between the sides at the interval.

From the start of the second half, Milford upped the pace and came thundering into the contest. Four points without reply from Ashling Thompson and Aoife Dillon cut the lead before Niamh Cooke struck for a Barrs point 15 minutes into the half.

Twice Milford come close to grabbing a goal, but solid defending kept them at bay before Orla O'Sullivan, Colette O'Mahony and Ellen Crowley with points had the lead back to eight points. Milford refused to die

and with the superb Ashling Thompson leading the way they struck for a goal with two minutes remaining. However, it was too little too late to change the result as the Barrs hung on for a deserved victory.

Barrs: A Clarke, C Mc Carthy, D Clarke, M Collins, S O'Connell, S Kenefick, C Sergeant, C Harrington, D Banks, E Crowley, C O'Mahony (1-3, 0-1 from free, 1-2 from play), O. O'Sullivan, M Geary, N O'Riordan (0-1), J Hickey. **Sub:** T Mahony for M Broderick

Milford: E Hanley, E Browne, R Finn, S Linehan, S Carroll, A Dillon (0-2), M Broderick, F Curtin, C Galvin, J Lynam, A Thompson, O. O'Mahony, M Geary, N O'Riordan, J Hickey. **Sub:** T Mahony for M Broderick Ref M Butler Buttevant

SIX ALL STAR AWARDS FOR CORK

A WONDERFUL night for Cork at the City West Hotel on Saturday last as six players picked up All Star Awards. Defeated finalists Tipperary were not forgotten and picked up four, a tribute to league champions Galway with two of their side honoured, while Junior All Ireland champions Dublin got one and defeated finalists Clare also picked up one award.

Mary O'Connor, Anna Geary, Rachel Moloney and Emer Dillon were on the podium for the first time and all very deserving winners following on their performances right through the campaign while Gemma O'Connor who was earlier in the week was named Vodafone Camogie player of the year picked up her second award. Last year Gemma was out of the country but this time out she was there in person to celebrate at the end of a tremendous season. Jennifer O'Leary who

also has had a tremendous year leading U.L. to Ashbourne cup success was also picking up her second All Star, Jennifer who also named as award winner in February so a season not to be forgotten for the Barryroe star.

The exclusion of Brieghe Corkery and Stephanie Dunlea was a surprise the Cloughduv youngster had a superb season and for the sixty minutes of the All Ireland final was outstanding. Stephanie Dunlea made the conversion from defence to attack with ease and certainly grabbed crucial scores in both the league and championship campaign. While one does not want to pick out individuals its amazing that senior players playing in top grade can be overlooked for players playing junior, surely your All Stars must be competing in and selected from the players playing top grade camogie. It was a surprise that Brieghe Corkery was not

nominated in the Young Player of the Year award category but one assumed it was because she would be chosen on the All Star team certainly she has been a young player who has caught the eye.

The All Star team for 2005 is as follows Jovita Delaney Tipperary, Sinéad Cahalan Galway, Catherine O'Loughlin Wexford, Julie Kirwin Tipperary, Anna Geary Cork, Mary O'Connor Cork, Therese Maher Galway, Gemma O'Connor Cork, Ciara Lucey Dublin, Jennifer O'Leary Cork, Rachel Moloney Cork, Claire Grogan Tipperary, Emer MC Donnell Tipperary, Catherine O'Loughlin Clare, and Emer Dillon Cork.

The young player of the year award went to Armagh's Colette McSorely, again well done to the Cork contingent who did the county proud.

John Cronin honoured again

THREE weeks ago we were celebrating as John Cronin was named the joint winner alongside John Allen as the September winner of the 96/103fm Rochestown Park Hotel award on Saturday night there were more celebration as he was named Manager of the Year. The award is new one and John Cronin certainly is a worthy recipient, not just this year but since his first involvement in camogie John has been one of the games gentlemen, always readily available be it for an interview before or after games

or to help solve a problem John is there. It's a fitting tribute to the wonderful work and rapport the Cloughduv club man has with his team. John has the distinction of never having lost and All Ireland final as her led the county to no fewer than five minor titles. Behind every manager is his home team and certainly Norma, Ciara and Aoife are a tremendous support as a family, John Cronin is a popular a worth winner of the inaugural award.

Juvenile convention

A REMINDER to clubs that the juvenile county board hold their annual convention at the Brian Dillon club on Tuesday next at 8pm.

Well done to chairperson Tracy Sheehan and her committee who once again organised the competitions smoothly and efficiently and ensured the under age players were well catered for, it a tribute to their hard work that by Sunday only three league finals will remain to be played again well done to all concerned.

Camogiechat

With Mary Newman



County Board chairperson Marion McCarthy presents the junior shield trophy to St Finbarrs captain and her fellow club colleague Colette O Mahony after the final on Sunday last

BARRRS TITLE

ST FINBARRS captures the Junior Shield title for the first time defeating Milford in an exciting final, the special championship for second team in club has since its inauguration three years ago gone from strength to strength. With former Inter county senior players Orla O'Sullivan and Colette O Mahony and club players Deirdre Clarke and bringing a wealth of experience the Barrs had a good balance of youth and experience. It was this balance that helped them hold a 2-5 to 0-3 lead at the half time whistle play a goal seven minutes into the game from Ellen Crowley and three Colette O Mahony points giving them the lead after Ashling Thompson had opening the scoring with a Milford point. Barrs thanks to the accuracy of Orla O'Sullivan with a point and a Colette O Mahony goal from a forty five metre free maintained their lead, two Milford points from Noelle O Riordan and

Justine Lynam left eight points between the sides at the interval.

From the start of the second half Milford came into the game and four points without reply from Ashling Thompson and Aoife Dillon cut the deficit Niamh Cooke struck for a Barrs point fifteen minutes into the half. Twice Milford come close to grabbing a goal but solid defending saw the Barrs hold their lines before Orla O'Sullivan, Colette O Mahony and Ellen Crowley with points increased the lead to eight points. Ashling Thompson struck for a Milford goal with two minutes remaining but it did little to effect the result as Barrs hung on for a deserved victory much to the delight of county board chairperson Marion McCarthy who presented long serving Colette O Mahony with the trophy after Marion had dashed back from the All Star celebrations to be present in Ballyanley.



The 2005 Camogie All-Star team, back row, from left, Jennifer O'Leary, Cork, Rachel Moloney, Cork, Claire Grogan, Tipperary, Elmeare McDonnell, Tipperary, Catherine O'Loughlin, Clare, Emer Dillon, Cork, Ciara Lucey, Dublin and Gemma O'Connor, Cork. Front, from left, Jovita Delaney, Tipperary, Sinéad Cahalan, Galway, Catherine O'Loughlin, Wexford, Julie Kirwin, Tipperary, Ossie Kilkenny, Chairperson, of the Irish Sports Council, Miriam O'Callaghan, left, President, Cumann Camogalochta na nGael, Anna Geary, Cork, Mary O'Connor, Cork and Therese Maher, Galway, at the 2005 Camogie All-Star Awards, in association with O'Neills. Citywest Hotel, Dublin.



Jennifer O'Leary, from Cork, who was presented with her award by Ossie Kilkenny, Chairperson, of the Irish Sports Council and Miriam O'Callaghan, left, President, Cumann Camogalochta na nGael, at the 2005 Camogie All-Star Awards, in association with O'Neills. Citywest Hotel, Dublin.

CAMOGIE

Munster Colleges Senior A quarter final:
Thurles 1-8 Loreto, Fermoy 1-11; Coachford 3-8 Carrigaline 2-4. **Senior B:** Clonsilla 5-4 Cashel 4-3; Templemore 5-4 Nenagh 3-4. **Senior C:** Carrick on Suir 4-9 Newcastlewest 2-5; **Senior League:** Scariff 2-8 Nenagh 3-10; Lismore 1-6 Waterford 1-9; Ennis 5-11 St. Als 1-2. **Intermediate A:** St. Flannans 2-9 Borrisoleigh 1-8; Templemore 3-9 Roscrea 2-5. **Intermediate B:** Laurehill 5-5 St. Pats Shannon 5-4; St. Pats Shannon 3-6 Tulla 3-12. **Intermediate C:** Carrigrohilly 4-3 Colalate Eoin 2-2; Ballyphehane 0-1 Blackrock 6-1; Doon 2-5 Millstreet 0-2. **Junior A:** Bandon 4-3 Christ The King 1-3; **Junior B:** St. Calmin's 4-4 Borrisokane 0-1; Cashel 9-7 Newcastlewest 0-1; Clonsilla 2-1 Coachford 4-4; St. Als 1-2 Carrigaline 8-8. **Junior C:** Hospital 1-2 Tulla 3-6; Carrigrohilly 1-1 Pres Thurles 3-4; Glanmire 1-2 Colalate Dalbeid 1-2. **U16 1/2 A:** Crosshaven 2-2 Doon 5-2; **U16 1/2 B:** Kilkenny 1-2 Croom 3-3.

Cork camogie girls deserve reward for fantastic season

WITH the camogie season almost at an end both locally and nationally, thoughts turn towards a holiday for the inter-county teams.

It has become part of the All-Ireland champions' beaten finalist's ritual that after 10 months of hard work and commitment a week or so in the sun is deserved.

Despite huge financial support the Cork hurlers still had to organise a corporate dinner to meet the total cost of their trip. However, their intended trip is a trip of a lifetime with each player inviting a partner/guest. It is thoroughly deserved and well done to them.

The camogie team are likewise, trying to fundraise. Unfortunately every cent has to be raised with no organisation/company biting at their heels to give them a cheque.

Last week at the Evening Echo Living Legends awards night (which was a tremendous evening), Liam Lally of the Rochestown Park Hotel commented on the lack of sponsorship from various sections of the Cork community.

Mr Lally commented on the fact that those who are seen to support Cork sport get 'hit on' time and time again.

And of course he is right. We did it ourselves this year when trying to raise funds for the Cork team through the Supporters Club.

The same few came up trumps but as this stage it is not fair to try and take advantage of their generosity.

Speaking to Elaine Burke, captain of the victorious Cork team during the week, she told me that response to their intended corporate dinner is not great.

Many of the players are finding it hard to get a table (each player was to try and secure a table of ten).

Once again they are possibly going to the 'old reliables' who have to call a halt to it at some stage. There will be large media coverage of the event on December 1st with Michael O'Muirheartaigh as MC and entertainment provided by Frank Twomey of 'Bull Island' and 'Santa Ponsa or Bust'.

It would be great if some Cork company would say 'enough is enough' and step forward to help the girls out.

Another event planned by the Cork squad is a well organised fashion show.

The Cork hurlers and Camogie players will be modelling on a night which will also include children's fashions.

The Clarion hotel is the venue on December 6th. Many stores have already signed up for this big event namely — Havana, Style for Life, Richard Alan, Morgan, Elements, Crowley Calnan, Welch Sports, Tony's Menswear and



Linda Mellerick

Gentlemen's Quarters.

25-30 players are looking to get away for just one week to a European destination.

It's not a huge amount to ask after the pride they brought to Cork this year.

The last event on the national calendar for 2005 is the All-Ireland club camogie final which takes place tomorrow in McDonagh Park, Cloughjordan, Co. Tipperary at 2.30pm. Reigning All-Ireland champions St. Lachtain's Freshford of Kilkenny take on Davitts of Galway.

Davitts deserve to win an All Ireland at this stage after the heartbreak of losing in '99 and '03 to Granagh-Ballingarry of Limerick. John Lyng (father of intercounty hurler Derek) leads the Kilkenny club.

Hopefully the re-emergence of Kilkenny in club camogie will filter into the county team which has taken a massive step backwards from the force they were.

Camogie needs Kilkenny to be strong.

Davitts finally saw off the challenge from Cashel last weekend in the semi-final replay. Catriona Kelly is a huge player for Davitts, scoring a hat-trick seven days ago.

Both teams have a number of former and current inter-county players. All Star nominees Imelda Kennedy (St. Lachtain's), Lourda Kavanagh and Deirdre Murphy (Davitt's) are three such players.

It promises to be an exciting game with a high standard of camogie on display.

Speaking of high standards, the All-Star event in the City West Hotel last weekend was a great night.

The venue 'rocked' until the very early hours and the Cork contingent present were extremely proud of their award winners.

One of two other Cork players were unlucky not to be selected but that's the way it goes. The excitement was at fever pitch.

The best part of the night for me was mixing with players you played against for years and who were the sworn 'enemy'. I thoroughly enjoyed the company of Galway's Sharon Glynn and Pamela Nevin.

We recalled the '96 All Ireland which Galway took from Cork and the '97 and '98 finals where we gained revenge.

Of course we both had different versions of what happened and laughed ourselves silly at the memories.

It brought back to me the reason why there can be no substitute for sport.



LADIES' NIGHT: Cork's quintet of All-Ireland winners Angela Walsh, Briege Corkery



Joanne O'Callaghan and Rachael Maloney, Cork Camogie Team at last night's GAA medals presentation in Silversprings Moran Hotel



The all-conquering Rossa camogie team from Belfast display their Gaelic Gear kit

Camogie celebrations continue with visits and fund raising

CELEBRATIONS continue for the All-Ireland camogie champions with the teams visiting schools, clubs and hospitals.

The players have through the season put in a tremendous effort in capturing the O'Duffy cup at the expense of Tipperary. The effort from the players has been huge and the sacrifices many, and now as they enjoy the celebrations they are also busy fund raising and are working to try and raise money which they hope to use towards a well deserved holiday.

Various events have been planned amongst which is the sale of a calendar for 2006 which is available from any of the panel. A corporate lunch is planned for the Rochestown Park Hotel on December 1 and captain Elaine Burke is hopeful that the remaining two weeks ahead will see a big improvement in the uptake of tickets as they strive towards their target of 30 tables.

Centre stage to the fund raising is a fashion show which takes place at the Clarion Hotel on Tuesday, December 6.

Fashions from 15 stores will be modelled by players from the camogie team and they have also roped in several of the victorious senior hurling side to model on the evening.

One of the organising committee, Sarah O'Donovan, said they are looking forward to the evening. "We have worked hard to get the fashion show off the ground and hopefully on the night it will be a success. We have 350 tickets on sale and are hopefully that it

will be a sell out. Everybody will be catered for with ladies, gents, children and sports wear on show.

"Hopefully, with Christmas around the corner, people's thoughts will be focused on fashion."

Amongst the big names the girls will have on the catwalk will be Havana, Pronuptia, Crowley Callanan, Style for Life, Element, Tony's Menswear, Welch Sports, Gentlemen's Quarters, walk in Wardrobe Morgan, and O'Neills Sports.

Tickets for the fashion extravaganza go on sale from Friday next at Centra Oliver Plunkett Street and Centra Grand Parade.

At €20 each the night will provide all who come along with a great evening's entertainment and, more importantly, allow supporters and followers to show their appreciation of a superb team who did the county proud.



Pictured at the Tracton Camogie dinner at Bawnleigh House Hotel with the Cork County Junior B Championship and league trophies, were Marion McCarthy, Chairperson Cork County Board; Mary Byrne, Chairperson Tracton Camogie Club; captain Eileen Collins and Mary Bugler, Cork County Board.

Picture: Howard Crowley

Carolyn pivotal in title win

Dungourney 3-10
Blarney 0-3

A SUPERB performance from Carolyn Motherway helped Dungourney annex the under-16 12 a side league title.

Later named player of the match, Motherway notched up 2-8 of her side's tally, breaking the hearts of a Blarney side who earlier in the season lost to Cloughduv in the championship decider.

A close opening half saw Dungourney lead 0-7 to 0-2, with Motherway being joined on the score sheet by Ella Ryan while Andrea Bickerdyke was on target for Blarney.

Dungourney grabbed the game's opening goal thanks to Motherway and she followed up with goal number two.

Cliona McGovern was on hand for Dungourney's third goal and with Ella Ryan and Carolyn Motherway adding points, the title was secured long before the final whistle.

fore the final whistle.

Dungourney: A O'Neill, L Harnedy, E Cullinane, S O'Keefe, D O'Riordan, E Ryan, C McGovern, E Hennessy, C Motherway, V Broderick, E Rohan, A Griffin. Sub: Cullinane, for V Broderick, K O'Brien for L Harnedy, E Ahern for A Griffin.

Blarney: L Walsh, A Fogarty, A Mitchell, C Cremin, A Madden, A Bickerdyke, Y Horgan, J Dufourey, C Manley, R Campbell, A Murphy, R O Connell. Sub: S McCoy for C Manley.

Referee: M Sheehan (Liscarroll).

Douglas through to league final

Douglas 3-1
Buttevant 1-1

DOUGLAS defeated county champions Buttevant to book their place in the Under 16 A league final, turning the tables on their opponents who knocked them out at championship semi-final stage.

Douglas opened the scoring with corner forward Zoe Dunlea setting up Julia White for a goal. They extended their advantage thanks to Niamh O'Donovan but before half time Buttevant reduced the deficit with a goal from Elaine Murphy to leave just one point between the sides at the interval.

From the start of the second half, Douglas upped the ante with Rachel O'Sullivan putting four points between the sides with a well taken goal.

Buttevant responded with Elaine Murphy pointing a free. Buttevant threw everything into attack but the Douglas backs stood firm with goalie Cliona Conway making the save of the day. From the clearance Douglas swept down field with Ailín O'Donovan poaching the ball from her player to hand pass to the back of the net. Despite pressure Douglas stood firm.

SENIOR PLAYERS TAKE TO THE CATWALK

SUPPORTERS will have a chance to show their support for the senior camogie players in the weeks ahead as the players organise various fund raising events for the player's fund. Through a long season they have put in a tremendous effort which culminated in capturing the O'Duffy Cup at the expense of Tipperary. The efforts from the players and their back room team has been huge and the sacrifices many and now as they enjoy the celebrations they are also busy fund raising and are working to try and raise funds which they hope to use towards a well deserved holiday.

At present they have a calendar for 2006 on sale which is available from any of the panel, a corporate lunch is planned for the Rochestown Park Hotel on December, Thursday 1 and while the uptake on the table has been slow captain Elaine Burke is hopeful that the remaining two weeks ahead will see a big improvement with companies coming on board to support the venture and also enjoy an afternoon in the company of the All Ireland champions.

A huge effort has gone into organising a fashion show which takes place at the Clarion Hotel on Tuesday, December 6. Fashions from fifteen stores will be modelled by players from the camogie team and they have also roped in several of the victorious senior hurling side to model on the evening.

The players are looking forward to the evening and have worked hard to get the fashion show off the ground, hopefully on the night it will be a success, everybody will be catered with fashion for ladies, gents, children and sports wear on show. Hopefully with Christmas around the corner peoples thoughts are now focused on fashion. Amongst the big names the girls will have on the catwalk will be Havana, Pronuptia, Crowley Callanan, Style for Life, Element, Tony's Menswear, Welch Sports, Gentlemen's Quarters, Walk in Wardrobe Morgan, and O'Neills Sports.

Tickets for the fashion extravaganza of the year go on sale from tomorrow Friday at Centra Oliver Plunkett Street and Centra Grand Parade priced at €20 each.

The night promises to be a big hit and for all who come along it allows supporters and followers to show their appreciation to a superb team who have done the county proud.

Title for Dungourney

CAROLYN Motherway was the star of the show as Dungourney were crowned under 16 twelve a side league champions on Sunday last. Contributing 2-8 of her sides tally she helped dictate matters as Dungourney defeated Blarney who earlier in the season lost to Cloughduv in the championship decider. Five points separated the teams at the half time whistle as Dungourney lead 0-7 to 0-2. Carolyn Motherway and Ella Ryan getting on the score sheet for the leaders while Andrea Bickerdyke was on target for Blarney.

An early goal from Carolyn Motherway extended the Dungourney advantage and she quickly followed up with goal number two to put her side firmly in the driving seat. Cliona McGovern grabbed a third goal and with Ella Ryan and Carolyn Motherway adding points the title was secured long before the final whistle.

Camogiechat

With Mary Newman

Fixtures Continue

THE effort to get the remaining competitions completed continues with St Finbarrs travelling to Cloughduv to meet the home side on Sunday in the under 18 B championship semi final. In the Junior thirteen side semi final

Greagh and Mallow meet in Inniscarra at 12 noon. Ballygarvan entertain neighbours Ballinhassig at 10.30am in the Under 18 A championship while Douglas entertain Eire Og at 11.30 in the same competition.

Juvenile Convention

THE county juvenile board reviewed a very busy year's activities at their annual convention on Tuesday evening. Outgoing secretary

Eileen O'Brien reported that the board organise seventeen competitions from under twelve to sixteen and held a total of five hundred and fifty five competitive games. She also reported on the successful organising of a D competition in the under 16 grade. Chairperson Tracy Sheehan in her address thanked all the clubs for the co-operation shown to the juvenile section, she also complimented the club whose cooperation ensured the smooth running of competitions. With outgoing secretary and registrar Eileen O'Brien and Yvonne Lane not seeking re-election the board elected Tina Sheehan Douglas to the position of secretary while outgoing secretary Eileen O'Brien takes up the position

of registrar. Ger Sheehan Douglas was elected to the position of PRO. in a contest he defeated the outgoing Ann Marie Healy. Tracy Sheehan was re-elected to the position of chairperson, while Kathleen Healy vice chairperson, Bina O'Callaghan Treasurer and Mary Barrett child welfare officer were also returned unopposed.

County president Sile Golden representing the senior board addressed delegates and compliments all on the wonderful work for camogie being done by the juvenile board, she complimented them on the amount of games played and the wonderful efforts made by Tracy Sheehan and her officers in the season gone by.

There was one motion on the agenda for discussion and after debate the bye law restriction officers holding office for only three year was removed.

Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael
Cluichí Ceannais na hÉireann Idirclub



Síle de Bhailís
Ardstiúrthóir

Páirc Mac Donnchadha
Cloch Shiurdáin
An Domhnach, 20ú Samhain, 2005
Clár Oifigiúil, Luach €2

Teachtaireacht an Uachtaráin



Welcome to Cloughjordan GAA Grounds which hosts the last of the 2005 Camogie All Ireland competitions – the All Ireland Senior and Junior club finals.

As in 2004, all four provinces are represented here today. Munster and Ulster are represented by the junior finalists Newmarket-on-Fergus and Liatroim Fontenoy's while Leinster and Connacht are represented by senior finalists St. Lachtains and Davitts. This is the first time we have the champions in both competitions defending their titles – St Lachtain's of Kilkenny and junior champions Liatroim Fontenoy's of Down.

2005 All Ireland competitions have brought new champions to the fore – Galway Division 1 National League winners and Cork in Division 2. Offaly in the Minor B championship and Kilkenny in the Minor A championship and then in September Cork emerged as Foras na Gaeilge All Ireland Senior champions with Dublin taking the Junior championship honours. All teams have produced many games of skilful camogie and the club championship has been no different with the added excitement of a draw at semi-final stage. To all players I say mile buíochas for your dedication and the enjoyment you bring to others through camogie. You are all worthy All-Stars.

Today's games have all the ingredients for competitive, exciting and skilful matches. All Ireland titles are being defended and the challengers are hungry to achieve All Ireland success. Club championship competitions see teams emerge at local level and progress through to national level bringing with them a loyal band of supporters making this competition special.

I wish all concerned in today's games – players, mentors, match officials and supporters who have travelled – every success and above all else an enjoyable day. To all those who have assisted in preparing the grounds in particular Kilruane McDonagh GAA Club and Tipperary County Camogie Board, we appreciate your support and the time given in hosting our games.

Miriam Uí Cheallacháin
Uachtarán

All Ireland Senior & Junior Club Championship Finals

McDonagh Park, Cloughjordan, Tipperary

Sunday, 20 November, 2005

Sóisear: Newmarket-on-Fergus, Clare v Liatroim Fontenoy's, Down @ 12.45pm

Sinsear: Davitts, Galway v St. Lachtains, Kilkenny @ 2.30pm

Junior Final

Newmarket-on-Fergus v Liatroim Fontenoy's
12.45pm



Jack McGrath

An Réiteoir: Jack McGrath, Portláirge
Standby Referee/Line Umpire: Peter Downey, Corcaigh
Line Umpire: Morgan Conroy, Portláirge
Sideline Officials: Mattie Curran, Ceatharlach
Damian Noble, Áth Cliath

Senior Final

Davitts v St Lachtains
2.30pm

An Réiteoir: John Pender, Cill Dara
Standby Referee/Line Umpire: Una Kearney, Ardmhacha
Line Umpire: Damian Noble, Áth Cliath
Sideline Officials: Morgan Conroy, Portláirge
Mattie Curran, Ceatharlach



John Pender

Admission prices: Adults €10 Students/OAPs €5 Juveniles €2

Gabhtar buíochas ó chroí le muintir Chumann Lúthchleas Gael Cill Ruadháin Mac Donncha agus muintir Chumann Camógaíochta na nGael Thiobraid Arann



15 November 2005; Camogie players, from left to right, Catriona Kelly and Linda Gohery, Davitts, Marie O'Looney, Newmarket-on-Fergus, Mairín McAlleenan, Liatroim Fontenoy's, Sinead Costello, St. Lachtain's Freshford, Lisa McCrickard, Liatroim Fontenoy's, and Margaret Kavanagh, St. Lachtain's Freshford, at a photocall in Croke Park ahead of the All-Ireland Camogie Senior and Junior club championship finals. St. Lachtain's and Davitts together contest the Senior final while Liatroim Fontenoy's and Newmarket-on-Fergus contest the Junior final.

Picture: Brian Lawless / SPORTSFILE

Paths to the Finals

	St. Lachtains	Davitts
Provincial Final	Beat Oulart the Ballagh (Wexford) 3-11 to 0-08	N/a
All Ireland semi-final	Beat O'Donovan Rossa (Antrim) 4-14 to 2-09	Beat Cashel (Tipperary) Replay: 3-09 to 1-09 Drawn game: 3-07 to 1-13
Provincial Final	Newmarket on Fergus Beat Croydon (London) 6-15 to 1-03	Liatroim Fontenoy's Beat Keady (Armagh) 2-10 to 2-08
All Ireland semi-final	Beat Four Roads (Roscommon) 2-10 to 0-05	Beat Drumcullen (Offaly) 3-09 to 1-04

Nov.

Fontanóigheannaí Liatroma

Dathanna: Glas, Bán agus Bui



Ar chúl (a chlé): D. Ní Mhaolán, E. Ní Riocaird, G. Ní Uiginn, C. Ní Chumneagáin, D. a Préith, N. Ní Uiginn, L. Ní Riocaird, capteen, E. Ní Cormaic, K. Ní Mhaolán, C. Ní Uiginn, S. Ní Bhreagáin, S. a Préith, C. Ní Riocaird, C. Ní Shamhráin, N. Mhic Áodha, Chun tosaigh (a chlé): J. Ní Cheallaigh, R. Ní Uiginn, L. Ní Cheallaigh, C. Ní Mhaolán, R. Ní Mhuir, L. Ní Choinne, A. Ní Mhuiréagáin, R. Mhic Cána, M. Ní Galla Fhinnéin, S. de Brún, B. Ní Mhuiréagáin, C. Ní Shamhráin.

1
Joan Brown
Siobhán de Brún

2
Ann Morgan
Aine Ní Mhuiréagáin

3
Elaine McCrickard
Léan Ní Riocaird

4
Sinead O'Prey
Sinead a Préith

5
Karen McMullan
Karen Ní Mhaoláin

6
Lisa McCrickard (Capt)
Loise Ní Riocaird

7
Gráinne O'Higgins
Gráinne Ní Uiginn

8
Rosaleen McCann
Róisín Mhic Cána

9
Ciara McGovern
Ciara Nig Shamhráin

10
Catriona McCrickard
Caitriona Ní Riocaird

11
Kelly O'Higgins
Ceallai Ní Uiginn

12
Lisa Quinn
Lisa Ní Choinne

13
Sinead Brackenbury
Sinead Ní Bhreagáin

14
Máirín McAleenan
Máirín Ní Giolla Fhinnéin

15
Niamh O'Higgins
Niamh Ní Uiginn

16 **Denise O'Prey** Denise a Préith
17 **Corina Cunningham** Corina Ní Chumneagáin
18 **Janine Kelly** Janine Ní Cheallaigh
19 **Aisling Murray** Aisling Ní Mhuir

20 **Bronagh Morgan** Bronagh Ní Mhuiréagáin
21 **Claire Malone** Clár Ní Mhaoláin
22 **Róisín O'Higgins** Róisín Ní Uiginn
23 **Elaine Kelly** Léan Ní Cheallaigh

BAINISTEOR: Paul McStravick Pól Mac Sraibhog

2005

Córa Chaitlín

Dathanna: Gorm agus Órga



Ar chúl (a chlé): Á. Ní Roin, E. Ní Cormaic, A. Ní Leathlobhair, C. Ní an Airchinnigh, P. Ní Ghráda, Banisteoir, M. Ní Luanaigh, S. Ní Mhathúna, Ní an Airchinnigh, I. Kaiser, A. Ní Galla Fhinnéin, M. Kaiser, Physio, B. Ní Luanaigh, Raghnaid, S. Ní Laoire, Chun tosaigh (a chlé): M. O'Cheallaigh, aghaid C. Kaiser, C. Ní Laoire, R. Kaiser, C. Ní Artúir, M. Ní Uiginn, C. Ní Chuilleanáin, A. Ní Bhriain, C. Ní Laoire, M. Ní Mhathúna, S. Ní Roin.

1
Trish O'Grady
Pádraichín Ní Ghráda

2
Mary Higgins
Máire Ní Uiginn

3
Aileen Kilmartin
Eibhlín Ní Giolla Mhártain

4
Iris Kaiser
Iris Kaiser

5
Jane O'Leary
Sinead Ní Laoire

6
Aimee McInerney
Aimee Ní an Airchinnigh

7
Marie O'Looney (Capt)
Máire Ní Luanaigh

8
Sinead Cullinan
Sinead Ní Chuilleanáin

9
Maira McMahon
Máire Ní Mhathúna

10
Aoife Ryan
Aoife Ní Riain

11
Ruth Kaiser
Rút Kaiser

12
Aine O'Brien
Aine Ní Bhriain

13
Clare Arthur
Clár Ní Artúir

14
Sharon McMahon
Sharon Ní Mhathúna

15
Sinead Ryan
Sinead Ní Riain

16 **Eleanor McCormack** Eilín Ní Cormaic
17 **Carol Kaiser** Caral Kaiser
18 **Carol O'Leary** Caral Ní Laoire

19 **Cara McInerney** Cara Ní an Airchinnigh
20 **Aine Lawlor** Aine Ní Leathlobhair

BAINISTEOR: Trish O'Grady Pádraichín Ní Ghráda
ROGHNOIR: Bridie O'Looney Bríd Ní Luanaigh Mike Kelly Michael Ó Ceallaigh
PHYSIO: Marie Louise Kaiser Máire Lóis Kaiser

Daibhéid

Dathanna: Flannbhui agus Dubhgorm



Ar chúl (a chlé): A. Ní Cheallaigh, L. Ní Chasánáin, capteen, K. de Paor, D. Ní Uait, L. Ní Eochaidh, R. Ní Bhruadair, D. Ní Galla Chríost, C. Ní Cheallaigh, Chun tosaigh (a chlé): D. Ní Cheallaigh, M. Ní Cheallaigh, O. Mhic Giolla Fhinnéin, F. Ní Aodha, C. Ní Cheallaigh, A. Ní Bhruadair, D. Ní Mhuiréagáin, L. Ní Fhloinn.

1
Karen Power
Karen de Paor

2
Orla Watson
Orlaith Ní Uait

3
Ann Broderick
Aine Ní Bhruadair

4
Lizzy Flynn
Ellis Ní Fhloinn

5
Rita Broderick
Rite Ní Bhruadair

6
Ailbhe Kelly
Ailbhe Ní Cheallaigh

7
Linda Gohery
Linda Ní Fochaidh

8
Deirdre Murphy
Deirdre Ní Mhuiréagáin

9
Phyllis Hayes
Filimíne Ní Aodha

10
Caroline Kelly
Cearúilín Ní Cheallaigh

11
Catriona Kelly
Caitriona Ní Cheallaigh

12
Deirdre Gilchrist
Deirdre Ní Giolla Chríost

13
Olivia Forde
Oibhe Mhic Ghiolla Fhinnéin

14
Lourda Kavanagh (Capt)
Lourde Ní Chaoimhanagh

15
Mary Kelly
Máire Ní Cheallaigh

16 **Lisa Fahy** Lisa Ní Fhathach
17 **Doreen Kelly** Dóirín Ní Cheallaigh
18 **Yvonne Donnelly** Aobheann Ní Dhoimhne
19 **Aisling Tuohy** Aisling Ní Tuathach

20 **Gemma Starr** Gemma Starr
21 **Elaine Brudair** Léan Ní Bhruadair
22 **Emma Kilcar** Emma Ní Giolla Chathair
23 **Sinead Donohue** Sinead Ní Dhoimhne

BAINISTEOR: David Blake Daibhéid de Bliac
ROGHNOIR: Ann Fahy Aine Ní Fhathach

Naomh Lachtain

Dathanna: Dubh agus Ómra



Ar chúl (a chlé): M. Ní Chonchubhair, N. Ní Chonchubhair, A. Uí Chas, M. Ní Nualláin, A. Dhaláin, L. Ní Chas, L. de Barra, S. a Lóthair, A. Ní Chonchubhair, G. Dhaláin Uí Mheachair, A. Phuirseil, M. Ní Chonchubhair, S. Uí Chas, M. Ní Chonchubhair, A. Ní Chonchubhair, C. Ní Dhaláin, E. Ní Chonchubhair, Chun tosaigh (a chlé): E. Ní Galla Fhinnéin, L. Ní Chonchubhair, D. Ní Mhuiréagáin, M. Ní Uí, capteen, D. Ní Dhaláin, A. Ní Galla Fhinnéin, F. Ní Dhaláin, S. Ní Chonchubhair, I. Ní Chonchubhair.

1
Laura Comerford
Lára Ní Cumascaigh

2
Sinead Cash
Sinead Uí Chais

3
Gillian Dillon Maher
Gillian Dhiolún Uí Mheachair

4
Fiona Dowling
Fiona Ní Dhubhaigh

5
Margaret McCarthy
Mairéad Ní Chárthaigh

6
Mairead Costelloe
Mairéad Ní Coistealbha

7
Danielle Minogue
Danielle Ní Mhuineog

8
Deirdre Delaney
Deirdre Ní Dhubhshláine

9
Aoife Fitzpatrick
Aoife Ní Giolla Fhinnéin

10
Sinead Connery
Sinead Ní Chonchubhair

11
Esther Costelloe
Eistir Ní Coistealbha

12
Imelda Kennedy
Imelda Ní Chinnéide

13
Anne Dalton
Aine Dhaltún

14
Marie O'Connor
Máire Ní Chonchubhair

15
Eileen Fitzpatrick
Eibhlín Ní Giolla Fhinnéin

16 **Margaret Hickey** (Captain) Mairéad Ní Uí
17 **Aine Connery** Aine Ní Chonchubhair
18 **Helen Burke** Léan de Barra
19 **Claire Dermody** Clár Ní Dhaláin
20 **April Purcell** April Phuirseil

21 **Mairead Lawler** Mairéad Ní Leathlobhair
22 **Noelle Corrigan** Nollaig Ní Chorráin
23 **Sinead Corrigan** Sinead Ní Chorráin
24 **Mariga Nolan** Mariga Ní Nualláin
25 **Lorraine Cass** Lorraine Ní Chas

BAINISTEOR: John Lyng Seán Ó Loinn
ROGHNOIR: Donal Heaphy Donal Ó Héasigh
TRAENEALAI: Paul Quigley Pól Ó Coigligh

All-Ireland Junior Club Camogie final:

Liatroim Fontenoys (Down) 3-7 Newmarket-on-Fergus (Clare) 0-8

McAleenan blitz propels Liatroim to junior glory

From Seamus McAleenan in CloghJordan

YOUTH and class stood out for Liatroim Fontenoys and the end result was a second successive All-Ireland title for the Down champions in far-off CloghJordan yesterday.

In the absence of four experienced first team players, five teenagers (two more joined as substitutes) stepped up to the mark and pushed their team to victory.

But it was the class of full-forward Mairin McAleenan that turned this game in their favour during a 10-minute spell midway through the second half.

McAleenan (right) spent a lot of time this year on the sidelines with a persistent knee injury, but, nine minutes into the second half with her team trailing by 0-6 to 0-3, she turned on the scoring style.

Kelly O'Higgins's high effort came back off a post and McAleenan's reaction was quicker than anyone else – she slammed the sliotar into the net.



MATCH STATS

Liatroim Fontenoys: J Brown, A Morgan, E McCrickard, S O'Prey, K McMullan, L McCrickard, G O'Higgins, R McCann, C McGovern (0-1), C McCrickard (0-1), K O'Higgins (0-2), L Quinn, S Brackenbury (0-1), M McAleenan (3-2), N O'Higgins

Subs: D O'Prey for N O'Higgins (49), C Cunningham for L Quinn (58)

Newmarket-on-Fergus: T O'Grady, M Higgins, A Kilmartin, J Kaiser, J O'Leary, A McInerney (0-1 free), M O'Looney, S Cullinan, M McMahon (0-2 frees), A Ryan (0-2), R Kaiser, A O'Brien, C Arthur, S McMahon (0-1), S Ryan (0-1)

Subs: C Kaiser (0-1) for R Kaiser (5), E McCormick for C Arthur (59)

Referee: J McGrath (Cork)

She quickly added two points and set Sinead Brackenbury up for another.

Kelly O'Higgins then went on a long solo run. McAleenan picked up the sliotar and rounded three players before burying goal number two with a powerful strike.

She opened up space for Catriona McCrickard to point soon after and the same player delivered a huge free into the square for McAleenan to deftly flick home a third goal in the 49th minute.

But Liatroim were about much more than the full-forward. Their defence was brilliant throughout, with the McCrickard sisters, Lisa the captain and full-back Elaine, strong and resilient.

Anne Morgan cleaned up a lot of loose ball at corner-back and Karen McMullan was dominant at wing-back.

The midfielders eventually broke even with the Newmarket pair who had a good opening half-hour.

Young Kelly O'Higgins's penetrating runs caused the Clare side's defence untold problems as did Sinead Brackenbury when she eventually got going in the second half.

Liatroim worked hard during the opening half against the breeze, but, with a few refereeing decision going against them and a bit of bad luck, they found themselves trailing 0-6 to 0-2 at the break.

Newmarket were doing well down the centre and Liatroim eventually brought McAleenan out to the half-forward/midfield area to disrupt them.

As a result, the Down team trapped the Clare girls in their own half for the second quarter without really making it count on the scoreboard.

It was a similar story for a while at the start of the second half until the floodgates eventually opened and the cup returned north.

The competition is due for restructure next year and Liatroim will find it tough to retain



■ FONTEN-JOY: Liatroim Fontenoys captain Lisa McCrickard raises the All-Ireland Junior Club Camogie Championship trophy in triumph
Picture: Pat O'Hare

their crown.

However, with emerging talent like Karen McMullan, Kelly, Niamh and Grainne O'Higgins

and Sinead and Denise O'Prey taking on a lot of responsibility, the future still looks bright for the Fontenoys.

All-Ireland Senior Club Camogie final: St Lachtain's (Kilkenny) 1-9 Davitt's (Galway) 1-4

Lachtain's Kill of Davitt's challenge

From Seamus McAleenan in CloghJordan

ST Lachtain's of Kilkenny, made it a double for defending champions by retaining the senior club title at the end of a tough encounter with Davitt's of Galway.

The players who ended Rossa's dreams a fortnight ago – Marie O'Connor and Imelda Kennedy – delivered the goods again in CloghJordan yesterday.

But it was the industry of many of other players, and Esther Costelloe in particular, that saw the cup return to

Kilkenny.

Costelloe was everywhere in the middle third of the field, especially during the opening half when her side built the platform for their comprehensive victory.

Marie O'Connor's goal in the 21st minute opened up a four-point gap and in a very tight game of this nature it was obvious goals were really going to count.

St Lachtain's went on to lead by 1-5 to 0-3 at the break with Imelda Kennedy punishing fouls with points.

Davitt's struggled for scores as well with only Lourda Kavannah looking

likely to do anything.

Their other main scoring threat, Deirdre Murphy, was tied down by the Freshford midfield.

Lourda raised Davitt's expectations at the start of the second half with a 36th minute goal.

But Imelda Kennedy hammered over two points in reply and the Connacht champions soon realised that their only chance of victory would come through scoring goals.

Those goals never really looked like coming and Freshford got a chance to field their injured captain Margaret Hickey for the last five minutes so that

she could contribute to the win and collect the trophy.

MATCH STATS

St Lachtain's: L Comerford, S Cash, G Dillon-Maher, F Dowling, M McCarthy, M Costelloe, D Minogue, D Delaney, A Fitzpatrick, S Connery, E Costelloe, I Kennedy (0-6, 0-4 frees), A Dalton, M O'Connor 1-3, E Fitzpatrick

Subs: Mt Hickey (capt) for A Dalton (55)

Davitt's: K Power, O Watson, A Broderick, L Flynn, R Broderick, A Kelly, L Gohery, D Murphy, P Hayes, C Kelly, C Kelly, D Gilchrist, O Forde, L Kavanagh (capt) (1-4), M Kelly

Subs: Y Donnelly for M Kelly (22), A Touhy for O Forde (53)

■ ALL-IRELAND JC CAMOGIE FINAL

Liatroim retain title

LIATROIM FONTENBOYS 3-7

NEWMARKET ON FERGUS 0-8

LIATROIM Fontenboys put the controversy of the choice of venue for their All Ireland Club Final with Newmarket-on-Fergus behind them as they retained their All Ireland club title with eight points to spare against the Clare and Munster champions.

The 400 mile round journey proved no obstacle to Liatroim as they turned the course of the game around during an 11 minute period to retain their All-Ireland junior club title yesterday.

Playing with wind advantage in the opening half, it was the Munster and Clare champions who looked the stronger as they deservedly led 0-6 to 0-2 at the break, with midfielder Moira McMahon in top form.

Although it took the defending champions 18 minutes to get on the scoreboard, two points from Kelly O'Higgins and Clara McGovern towards the end of the half kept the Fontenboys in touch.

The Liatroim backroom team played a crucial part in their side's recovery when they brought full-forward Máirín Mc Aleenán out to the centre.

After the restart, Liatroim showed real character and within four minutes were a point to the good with O'Higgins pointing.

A goal eight minutes into the second half and two further points from

the stick of McAleenán put the champions 1-8 to 0-6 ahead. She added a brilliant goal midway through the half to compound further woe on the Munster champions.

However the crowning moment for the Ulster and All-Ireland champions came in the 20th minute when Caitríona McCrickard sent in a long ball from the right and the artistic McAleenán was there once again to bang home her third and final goal of the day.

Newmarket could not do anything but look on as they failed to raise either a green or a white flag until Sinéad Ryan sent over their opening second half point with seven minutes to go. Aimee Mc Carthy pointed a late free on the stroke of full-time, but ultimately it was too little too late.

LIATROIM FONTENBOYS: J Brown, A Morgan, E McCrickard, S O'Prey, K McMullan, L McCrickard (cpt), G O'Higgins, R McCann, C McGovern (0-1), C McCrickard (0-1), K O'Higgins (0-2), L Quinn, S Brackenbury (0-1), M McAleenán (3-2), N O'Higgins.

Subs: D O'Prey for O'Higgins (51mins), C Cunningham for Quinn (58mins).

NEWMARKET ON FERGUS: T O'Grady, M O'Higgins, A Kilmartin, I Kaiser, J O'Leary, A McInerney, M O'Looney (cpt), S Cullinan, M McMahon (0-2), A Ryan (0-1), R Kaiser (0-1), A O'Brien (0-1), C Arthur, S McMahon (0-1), S Ryan (0-1).

Subs: E McCormack for Arthur (59mins).

REFEREE: J McGrath (Waterford)



Newmarket goalkeeper Trish O'Grady and Liatroim's Máirín McAleenán collide during the All-Ireland Club Final

Camogie News

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2nd All-Ireland title of the year for Kilkenny >> 59 times read

ST. Lachtain's of Freshford are the two thousand five All-Ireland club champions following their 1-9 to 1-4 victory over Davitts of Galway in the club All-Ireland final played in Cloughjordan, Tipperary.

Backed by the opening first half wind, Lachtain's who overcame O'Donovan Rossa in the semi-final only had to wait five minutes before Imelda Kennedy got the Black and Amber's first score-a free. However, Davitts who were chasing their first ever title had to wait a further five minutes before their captain Lourda Kavanagh pointed for them. Watched by a large crowd both sides played some great camogie and it was very much of defense in the opening half.

As in the semi-final, it was their full-forward Marie O'Connor who seized the goal opportunity twenty one minutes into the game. That goal proved decisive as it gave the first time champions of 2004 a nice cushion lead at the break of 1-5 to 0-3. Davitts, whom it has often been said of that they are a second half team knew they had a lot to do in the second period, but by the third minute they had responded with a Lourda Kavanagh free in direct answer to Imelda Kennedy's second minute point.

Supporters now urged on both sides and it was Davitts who rose to the occasion with a Lourda Kavanagh goal just three minutes later. Suddenly the deficit was cut to two points, 1-4 to Lachtain's 1-6. While the Galway champions battled away that goal became their final score of the game. Instead it was St. Lachtain's who sent over the necessary scores from Marie O'Connor and two Imelda Kennedy scores, one from play and one from a free.

With five minutes to go, the St. Lachtain's captain Margaret Hickey left the sideline and despite a hand injury got into the action. While she may not have had a lot to do on the pitch she made up for it in her rousing acceptance speech! "we had to wait a long time for this cup and now we do not intend letting go of it yet".

This was a real Lachtain's effort from their goalkeeper, Laura Comerford to the player of the match Esther Costelloe and no doubt first time camogie manager John Lyng will be more than happy with his charges as they headed back to Freshford on Sunday in the company of the Bill O'Carroll Cup.

LACHTAIN'S DO IT AGAIN

■ CAMOGIE

ST. LACHTAIN'S yesterday brought silverware to Kilkenny for the second year in a row when they retained the All Ireland Camogie Club Championship, defeating Davitts of Galway, 1-9 to 1-4.

The Kilkenny side were managed by John Lyng, father to inter-county player Derek and the player of the match went to centre forward Esther Kennedy.

Meanwhile, the Junior final saw the reigning All-Ireland champions Liatroim Fontenboys of Down retain the McBride Cup when they defeated first-time finalists Newmarket on Fergus of Clare 3-7 to 0-8. Máirín McAleenán was the star of the show, scoring three goals.



EARNING THEIR STRIPES: St Lachtain's celebrate after their All Ireland final win

Super Saints take second title



Plenty to smile about - St Lachtain's celebrate following their second win in the All-Ireland club senior camogie final.

Picture: Ray McManus / SPORTSFILE

St. Lachtain's1-9 (12 pts)
Davitts1-4 (7 pts)

The scorers - St Lachtain's - Marie O'Connor (1-3), Imelda Kennedy (0-6, 0-2 frees, 0-1 45). Davitts - Lourda Kavanagh (1-4, 1-2 frees).

scores were evenly shared by Kennedy and the dangerous Marie O'Connor for Lachtain's, with two in reply from Lourda Kavanagh.

After Kennedy's free gave Lachtain's the lead again, they didn't waste time doubling it. Eileen Fitzpatrick picked off

through Kavanagh, but that was as close as they would get to the champs before the break.

Some strong defending, plus a brilliant diving save by Laura Comerford to deny Olivia Forde a 27th minute goal, ensured Lachtain's had

got the lucky break.

The sliotar came down a few feet from the goal-line. As the Lachtain's backs tried to make the clearance, the sliotar took a wicked deflection off a hurley, and zipped past keeper Laura Comerford.

Costelloe, Imelda Kennedy and Marie O'Connor.



Margaret McCarthy, St. Lachtain's, in action against Doreen Kelly, Davitts in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Club Championship final.

Picture: Ray McManus / SPORTSFILE



Trevor Spillane

NEVER underestimate the true resolve of champions.

The pressure to retain a crown may be greater after winning just one, but the desire to keep what they have makes them very dangerous.

Galway side Davitts will know all about that after this fiercely contested All-Ireland club senior camogie final.

For an hour on Sunday, they laid siege to senior club camogie champions St Lachtain's. The goal was to make off with the Kilkenny team's title, but they left Cloughjordan empty-handed.

Instead, it was the Freshford girls who were celebrating an incredible double success. There were spells when their reign looked to be on a knife-edge, but the combination of a team filled with battling spirit and some excellent scorers ensured the day was theirs again.

When the winners look back at the video of their second triumph – backed by commentary from dedicated clubman Paddy Butler – they should keep an eye out for an Imelda Kennedy free, which split the posts in the 18th minute.

Purple patch

The point was from a good scoring position, but it was what followed afterwards that was even more important. That score was the start of a real purple patch for the Saints.

Both sides had laboured on a sticky North Tipp pitch, resulting in a small haul of just four points in the first quarter. Those

the resulting Davitts puck-out, then slipped the sliotar to Kennedy, who slotted it over the bar.

The Freshford team continued to move up the gears. Another strike on 22 minutes saw them race ahead of Davitts.

Teasing delivery

Much of the damage was caused by a teasing delivery from Fitzpatrick. Anne Dalton was quickest to the dropping ball, flicking a one-handed shot towards goal.

Goalkeeper Karen Power did well to stop the initial effort. However, there was nothing she could do to prevent Marie O'Connor from lashing the loose ball to the net.

Another point from O'Connor, and Lachtain's were on cloud nine. Davitts were stunned by that five minute rally, which rattled their title hopes.

They bagged a point

a big lead at the interval (1-5 to 0-3).

When Imelda Kennedy landed a 45 two minutes after the break, it looked like Lachtain's would ease away to their second successive title. However, a short sharp shock was around the corner.

Thorn in side

Despite having a surname that would not sound out of place in North Kilkenny, Lourda Kavanagh proved to be a thorn in the side for Lachtain's. Controlling much of their forward play, she hit back with a 34th point from a free, before faring even better two minutes later.

Badly needing a big score, it was no surprise to see Kavanagh opt to drop a free into the square rather than take a point in the 36th minute. While her previous efforts had been swatted away by an in-form Freshford defence, this time she

There was nothing the Saints could do about that score. However, they did plenty to make sure more would not follow.

Abrupt halt

Just as Davitts looked certain to build on that goal, their charge was brought to an abrupt halt. Eileen Fitzpatrick was the architect once more, winning a long ball then supplying a pass for Marie O'Connor to fire over a great point.

As the umpire raised the white flag, so too did Davitts. Freshford did not ease up too much, but two more Imelda Kennedy points (one free) made the often bumpy run-in to the final whistle a little more comfortable.

Top performers for Davitts were Caroline Kelly, Olivia Forde and Lourda Kavanagh.

What of the champions? All were heroines on the day, but there were exceptional performances from Deirdre Delaney, Esther

The teams

St Lachtain's – L. Comerford, S. Cash, G. Dillon-Maher, F. Dowling, M. McCarthy, M. Costelloe, D. Delaney, E. Costelloe, A. Fitzpatrick, A. Dalton, S. Connery, I. Kennedy, E. Fitzpatrick, M. O'Connor, D. Minogue. Sub: M. Hickey for Dalton, 56 mins.

Davitts – K. Power, O. Watson, A. Broderick, L. Flynn, R. Broderick, A. Kelly, L. Gohery, D. Murphy, P. Hayes, Caroline Kelly, Catriona Kelly, D. Gilchrist, O. Forde, L. Kavanagh, M. Kelly. Subs: Y. Donnelly for M. Kelly, 23 mins; D. Kelly for Gilchrist, 42 mins; A. Tuohy for Forde, 54 mins.

Referee – J. Pender (Kildare).

The St Lachtain's captain Margaret Hickey lifts the Bill Carroll Cup after the All Ireland Senior Camogie Club Championship Final.

Picture credit: Ray McManus / SPORTSFILE



Lachtain's were ready for anything – Kennedy

TOTAL preparation was the key to success for St Lachtain's.

That was the opinion of a tired but happy Imelda Kennedy, who was full of praise for her team-mates.

Captain of the 2004 winning team, Kennedy was a vital cog in the Lachtain's machine against Davitts on Sunday, scoring 0-6 in the final.

That tally helped St Lachtain's to retain the senior club camogie All-Ireland crown. However, Kennedy believed that it was their mental toughness which helped the side most of all.

"It was mentally tougher than anything else," she said. "To retain a title is harder than to go out and win just one."

If there was pressure on the team, they never showed it. The Freshford side played with the greatest skill and determination throughout,

even in times of fierce pressure from their Galway opponents.

Champions tag

The team coped well with the pressure of the champions tag, something Kennedy attributes to the high confidence levels that are flowing through the team.

"We have the confidence now to go out and do well," she said. "Last year we wanted to win a title so badly – there was a fear of losing, but we got over that."

"This year, we wanted to make it known that we wanted to be All-Ireland champions again, that our 2004 victory wasn't a one-off."

"As Mickey Harte said after Tyrone won their All-Ireland title, a great team can win one All-Ireland, but it takes an exceptional team to win two. I think we proved that today."

Great praise

A key part of that double success has been the backroom teams that have helped the St Lachtain's side. Both the 2004 manager Adrian Finan and his successor John Lyng came in for great praise from the half-forward.

"We had always been there or thereabouts in the camogie championship," Kennedy said. "Last year Adrian Finan brought us through the mental side of the game and prepared us for it."

"As Adrian said, success breeds confidence. John Lyng continued with that this year, and did a tremendous amount of work to help us retain our title."

All that work prepared the team for the onslaught that Davitts brought to them throughout the game. The Galway side kept the pressure on throughout the

game, but could not break down a strong Lachtain's team.

Strong team

"Davitts are a big strong team, especially down through the central positions," said Kennedy.

"Their forwards were strong too, but great credit to our experienced backs they were solid throughout."

"After the final whistle I spoke to former camogie player Fiona Connery, now a hockey international, who told me that she couldn't get over the physical strength our team has shown."

"The compliments for that go back to our trainer Paul Quigley," Kennedy added. "As captain Margaret Hickey said in her speech it's worth coming out to see the girls train. He has brought us on leaps and bounds in the last couple of years, which stood to us in the final."

Calibre

Victory in the semi-final replay over Cashel proved that Davitts had the calibre to be in an All-Ireland final. That was a fact not lost on the Lachtain's team.

"After drawing with Cashel in their semi-final, Davitts stormed back to win the replay. That fact was always in our minds, and made things very, very tough," Kennedy said.

"They came back from the dead against Cashel, with Lourda Kavanagh getting amongst the goals for them. With that in the back of our minds we knew we could not give up."

"Go into the St Lachtain's dressing-room and you'll see a side who never give up," she added. "Thankfully, that attitude stood to us in the final."

Nov 2005

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CAMOGIE *world*

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O'CONNOR AND MULCAHY NAMED VODAFONE GAA CAMOGIE AND LADIES' FOOTBALL AWARD WINNERS

Cork's all-conquering heroines were celebrating in force when Gemma O'Connor and Valerie Mulcahy were named the Vodafone GAA Camogie and Ladies' Football Players of the Year for 2005.

It is the first time that players from the same county have been honoured together in this award scheme, a fitting recognition of Cork's remarkable achievement of capturing both All-Ireland senior titles.

The president of the Camogie Association Miriam O'Callaghan, Ladies' Football president Geraldine Giles and Vodafone Sponsorship Executive Enda Lynch, made the presentations at a reception in Dublin's Westbury Hotel. At the age of just 20 it is widely predicted in the sport that Gemma O'Connor will be the recipient of many more awards in her career. This year's All-Ireland triumph was her second senior success. She is also the holder of two All-Ireland medals at minor level.

From the Naomh Fhionbarra club in Cork, Gemma won her first All Star award last year and was actually presented with the trophy while on duty with the Defence Forces in Liberia. That tour of duty delayed her introduction to competition this year but she made a huge contribution at both midfield and centre forward to Cork's championship victory.

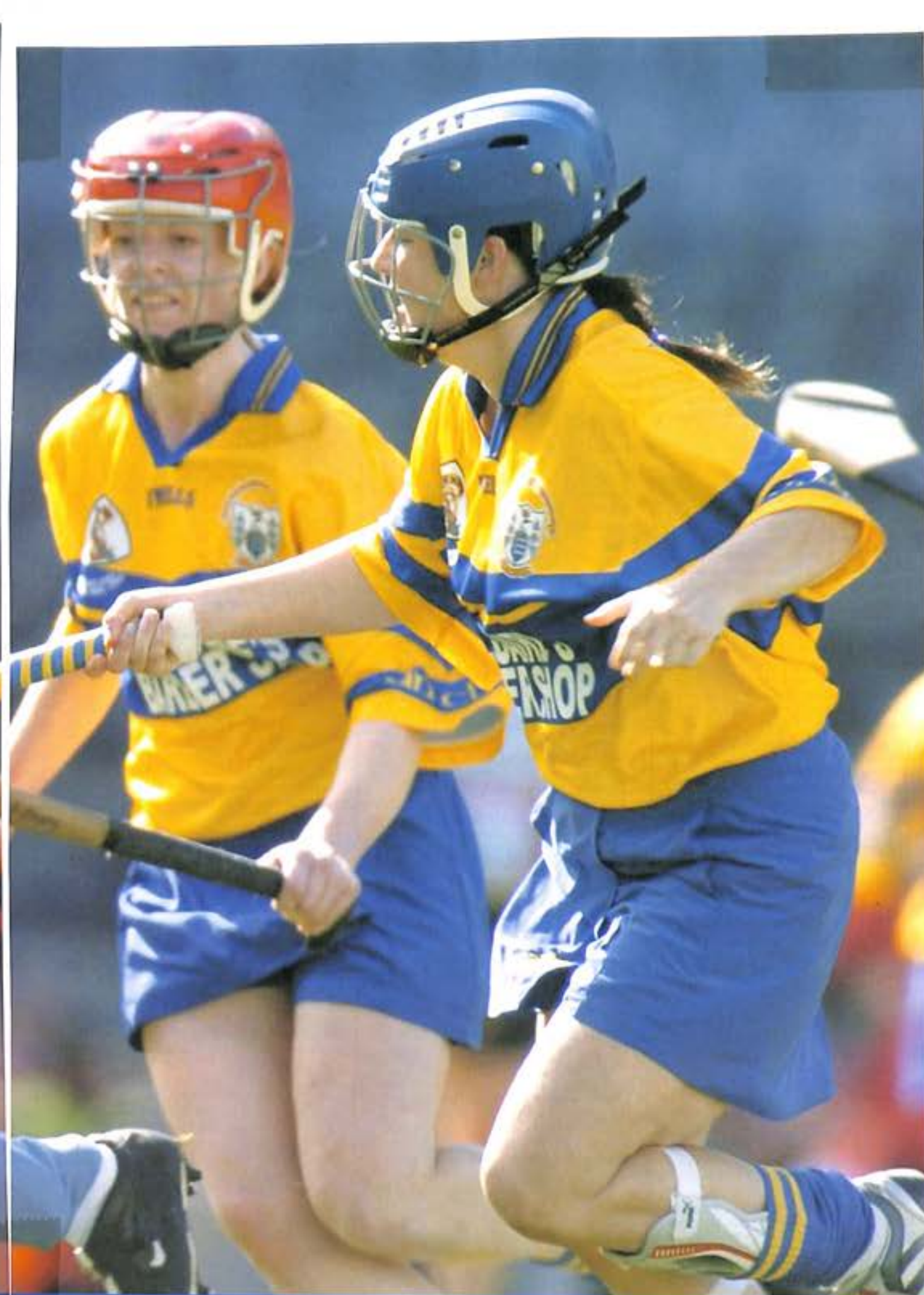
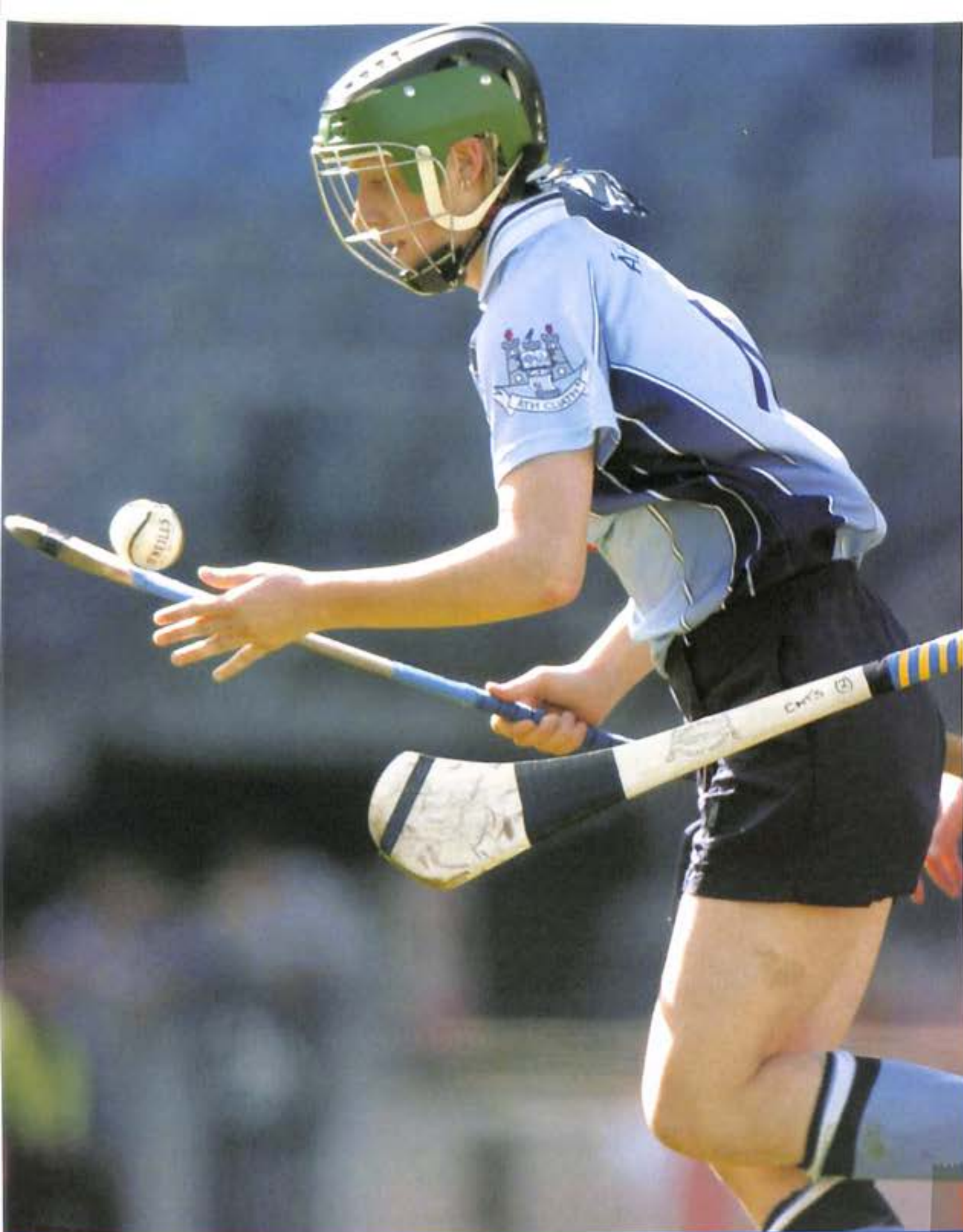
Valerie Mulcahy is 22 and has already won everything in the game of Ladies' Football. An All Star for the first time last year she enjoyed an outstanding season in 2005 as Cork swept the boards when winning both the National League and the All-Ireland championship.

A.P.E. Teacher who plays with the Rockban club, Valerie has been in prolific scoring form throughout the year. When Cork won their first National League title Valerie scored 2-2 and in the All-Ireland final she scored 1-5 to inspire the team to victory.

In a message the president of the GAA Sean Kelly paid tribute to both players. "It was a year of extraordinary success for Cork and the contributions of both Gemma and Valerie were remarkable. They have set a very high standard for the future." On behalf of Vodafone, Enda Lynch said: "It is a great pleasure for us in Vodafone to be part of the growing recognition of the contribution of players like Gemma and Valerie to the sports culture of Ireland. Cork enjoyed a wonderful year and we are already looking forward with relish to next year's competitions."

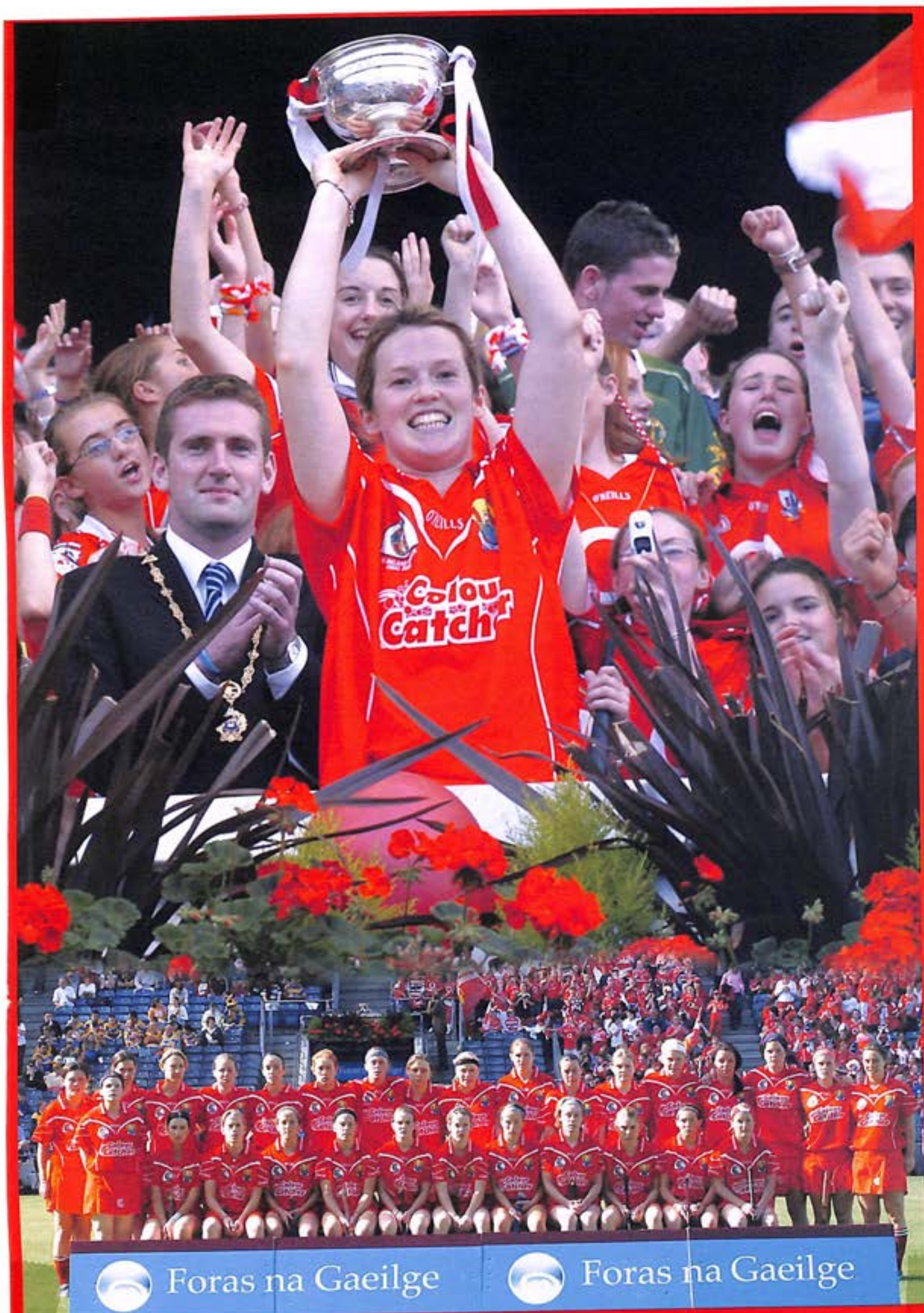
Cork players Gemma O'Connor, right and Valerie Mulcahy who were presented with the Vodafone Player of the Year awards for camogie and football respectively





Dublin's Gillian McCluskey, balances the sliothar while being chased by Clare's Catriona McMahon and Deirdre Murphy

Nov. 2005



Foras na Gaeilge



Foras na Gaeilge

Elaine Burke captained Cork to a stunning All-Ireland camogie win

OUR GAMES

AR & CLUICHÍ FÉIN

Tracton celebrate historic triumphs

BAWNLEIGH House Hotel was decked out in the green and red colours of Tracton camogie team who celebrated a unique double at their annual dinner and awards night at the hotel last weekend.

The club won the junior B county championship and the junior B league for the first time in their history and over 180 people turned up last weekend to celebrate the double.

Tracton, whose last victory in the county championship was back in 1993, recorded a fine victory over Blackrock to claim their first title in 12 years.

They followed up their championship success with a league victory over Ballincollig to claim their first league title and a unique double for the club.

It was third time lucky for the Tracton club in the championship, having contested in the previous two finals, losing to Loughbawn and Ballyhea, but the team were determined to make amends and they did so with a polished performance against Blackrock on their home pitch in Cork.

Chairperson of the club Mary Byrne congratulated everyone associated with the Junior B's success this year, the players, sponsors, committee, selectors and especially trainer Patrick Murphy.

"This has been a fabulous year for the club and will be long remembered for the double," she remarked in front of team members and players, family, friends and members of the club.

Also present was the chairperson of the Cork County Camogie Board Marion McCarthy and Mary Bugler who both complimented the club on their wonderful achievement and were confident that the club would do well in the Junior A Championship next season.

The Player of the Year Award, the Mona Collins Memorial Perpetual Trophy, was presented by Tom Collins to Karen O'Sullivan, while medals were presented to members of the team which did Tracton proud in 2005.



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Camogie - Where the titles went in 2005

Cork camogie celebrated its centenary year in style, capturing the O'Duffy Cup in the Foras na Gaeilge senior Championship. They defeated champions Tipperary in a wonderful final. Both sides scored top quality points. The game was in the balance with three minutes to go. Gemma O'Connor was the star of the victory ably assisted by Jennifer O'Leary, Mary O'Connor and Emer Dillon. Tipperary too had stars in Julie Kirwan, Therese Brophy, Jovita Delaney, Eimear McDonnell and Clare Grogan.

Junior All Ireland honours were claimed by Dublin who defeated Clare in a replay. The camogie team was the only adult team to bring national honours to Dublin. Louise O'Hara, Caitriona Power, Ciara Lucey, Gillian Mc Cluskey and Ciara Durkan had impressive championship performances. The long serving Catherine O'Loughlin, Deirdre Murphy and Claire Mc Mahon did well for the Banner.

Kilkenny minors won the "A" championship, defeating Tipperary in the final. They were a skilful team led by Lucinda Gahan. Katie Power was the most consistent forward. She netted two goals in the final. Aoife McLoughney did likewise for Tipperary. For sheer excitement the "B" minor final was hard to beat. Armagh looked set for victory when in typical Offaly fashion the wearers of the Green/White/Gold came back to win their first ever All Ireland title. This was a team victory in every sense. Offaly President of Cumann Camógálochta na nGael Miriam O'Callaghan presented Captain Marcella Maloney with the cup. Colette McSorley from Armagh won

Player of the Match, an exceptionally talented and exciting player.

Galway won the National League under the guidance of Manager Sharon Glynn and former Galway hurler PJ Molloy. Regina Glynn, Sinéad Cahalan, Therese Maher and Lourda Kavanagh impressed during the campaign.

At Third Level, UL retained the Ashbourne Cup and Garda College won the Purcell Cup. Second level competitions saw Coláiste Bríde, Enniscorthy win the senior "A" C'ship, Mercy Convent, Woodford won the senior "B". Athenry won the junior "A" and Coláiste Mhuire Ennis won junior "B".



ALL-IRELAND CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS
The Cork Squad which defeated Tipperary in the All-Ireland Final.



Clare's first Camogie All Star Catherine O'Loughlin, Kilnamona receives her award.

Carley re-appointed as Wexford boss

BY MÁIRE UÍ SCOLAI

THE Wexford Camogie Board have confirmed that senior team manager Willie Carley will be staying on for another year.

However, having thought long and hard about the coming season Carley, who was also Wicklow hurling manager this year, has now decided to give it one more season.

When he came to post at the beginning of the year, the Glynn-Barntown man had little pre-season preparation time but he will shortly meet



Wexford's Michelle O'Leary

with his players and formulate a plan for the 2006 season.

"We need to start winning early in the season," said Carley.

"Last year we concentrated a lot on the championship, but I intend to hold county trials early in the spring and hopefully will have an initial panel of around 60 players to pick from."

"The quality players are there in Wexford but it is a matter of picking the best and then setting up training plans and the likes."

While their league form blew hot and cold this year, Wexford upped the ante by

beating National League winners Galway in the final All Ireland championship group stage match game to set up a meeting with Tipperary in the semifinal.

However, for the second year running, the Premier County had the upper hand on Wexford.

It is generally acknowledged that some of the finest camogie players in the country are in Wexford, and that a National League or All Ireland senior Championship title is not too far away.

Players of the calibre of

2005 All-Star Catherine O'Loughlin, Áine Codd and Mary Leacy and her sister Úna, along with midfielder Kate Kelly all have the skill to bring Wexford to Croke Park within the next year or two.

While manager Carley is setting the wheels in motion for 2006, he will have to plan the start of his league campaign without the services of the O'Connor sisters, Clare and Aoife, along with Michele O'Leary. All three will be on a world trip at that stage and won't return until next April at the earliest.

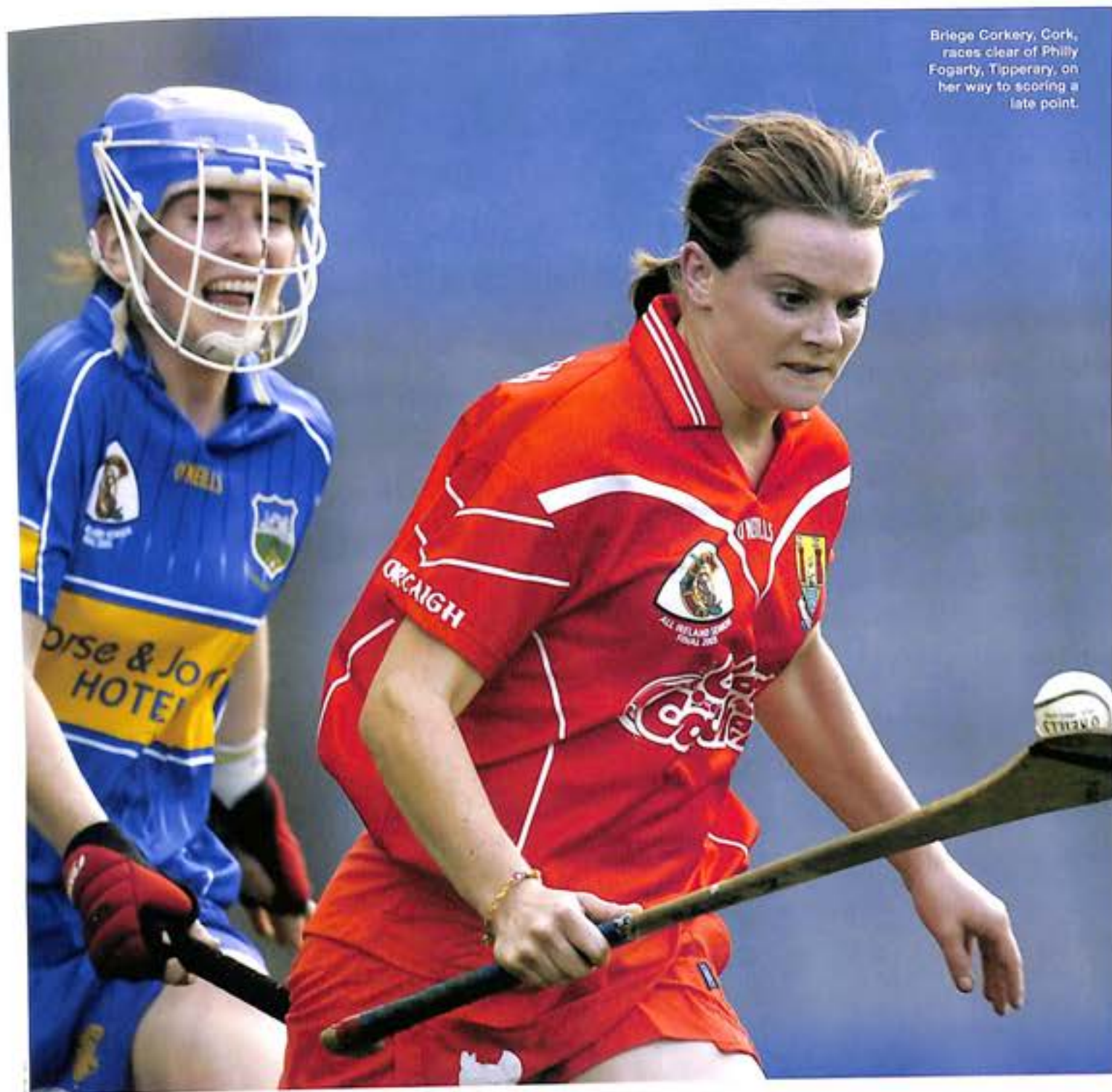


Camogie
Lucinda Gahan

Lucinda had the honour to lead her county to ultimate honours when Kilkenny won the All-Ireland minor title. She also helped her club, Mullinavat, reach the senior county final for the first time ever.

However, it was at minor level she achieved her ambition. She led Kilkenny to victory over Dublin in the Leinster final; she gave a tremendous display in ousting All-Ireland champions Galway in the semi-final and in the All-Ireland final she dominated the game from midfield as her county outplayed Tipperary.

Rebelettes bag another title to leave Tipp vanquished



Briega Corkery, Cork, races clear of Philly Fogarty, Tipperary, on her way to scoring a late point.



Joe O'Leary, Cork, races clear of Philly Fogarty, Tipperary, on his way to scoring a late point.

Cork 1-17
Tipperary 1-13

As she stepped up to take the O'Duffy Cup and complete a fantastic Cork hurling double within one week, ecstatic captain Elaine Burke summed up the buoyant feeling in 'de real capital' these days by proudly

announcing: "Rebels abu aris!" Just eight days after the men's success, Cork's heroic senior women demolished Tipperary's second three-in-a-row bid with a sublime second-half performance in yesterday's Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland camogie final at Croke Park. Whether it spells the end for many of Tipp's older stalwarts only time

will tell. Manager Paddy McCormack paid them the ultimate tribute, saying: "They were great players coming in here today and are great players going out. The whole of Tipperary is proud of them and they'll be back." This fourth final meeting in-a-row between great rivals was a truly epic battle. Like their male

counterparts this summer, the Cork mentors made a couple of vital switches that turned this thriller their way. Toppling Tipp to win their second title in four years was always going to need some tactical masterplan and Cork manager John Cronin produced it by bringing teenager Briega Corkery (18) and Gemma

O'Connor to midfield in the second half to wrestle back the dominance that Philly Fogarty's first-half brilliance had established.

The players also credited Fiona O'Driscoll, the hat-trick hero of their 2002 victory and this year's trainer, for giving them the peak fitness needed in the crucial final quarter when players like Emer Dillon, O'Connor and dual stars Corkery and Mary O'Connor dug so deep and sparked.

Drastic action was needed after Tipp's lucky goal three minutes before half-time. Claire Grogan's speculative lob bounced in front of All star goalkeeper Aoife Murray who took her eye off it momentarily to allow it through her legs, a huge set-back after Cork had battled back from a four-point deficit to trail by just a point.

After a tense opening 25 minutes in which Joanne Ryan hand-passed a great goal-chance into the side-netting, this quickly created a gap through which Tipp raced ominously.

Jill Horan tagged on a quick point, as did Noelle Kennedy and Eimear O'Donnell, and they went in five points up (1-10 to 0-8). But Cork took heart from the fact that the margin flattered Tipp and that Deirdre Hughes still hadn't a championship score this summer thanks to Rosarie Holland.

Gemma O'Connor was immense in the second half, scoring two of her three points and 'cutting' numerous line-balls while also pulling all the attacking strings as the game turned into a tactical dogfight.

Within 20 minutes Cork had the margin back to a single

point again and crucially their defence, led by Mary O'Connor and Anna Geary, did not yield a single second-half score until a 51st-minute free by Claire Grogan.

And then, crucially, Cork got a goal from an equally big defensive blooper when Amanda O'Regan dropped a long free into the goalmouth and Tipp full-back Una O'Dwyer fumbled the catch past her own keeper Jovita Delaney.

Points from Hughes and Grogan actually put Tipp back into the lead with five minutes remaining but Cork's confidence soared and they raced to a memorable victory by reeling off an unanswered point per minute, including a barnstorming, inspirational score from Corkery.

Cliona Foley

Report courtesy of the Irish Independent

SCORERS

Cork: E Dillon 0-4, J O'Leary 0-4 (2f), A O'Regan 1-0 (1f), G O'Connor 0-3, B Corkery, U O'Donoghue, R Moloney, S Dunlea, E Burke and A Walsh 0-1 each.
Tipperary: C Grogan 1-5 (3f, 1'45), J Horan and E McDonnell 0-2 each, P Fogarty, J Ryan, N Kennedy and D Hughes 0-1 each.

Cork: A Murray, R Buckley, R Holland, A O'Regan, B Corkery, M O'Connor, A Geary, V Harris, R Moloney, U O'Donoghue, G O'Connor, J O'Leary, E Dillon, S Dunlea, E Burke (Capt), Subs J O'Callaghan for Harris (half-time), S Donovan for Burke (51), A Walsh for O'Donoghue (55).

Tipperary: J Delaney, S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, J Kirwan, S Neeson, C Gaynor, T Brophy, P Fogarty, A McDermott, J Ryan, N Kennedy, C Grogan, E McDonnell, D Hughes (Capt), J Horan, Subs E Hayden for Kennedy (37), M Shortt for Gaynor (in 55).

Ref: J Pender (Kildare).

Nov
2005

Briege's cup of joy for alma mater

by Helen O'Callaghan

THE atmosphere was nothing short of electric at Rusheen National School last Friday when past pupil and double All-Ireland senior medal holder Briege Corkery paid a visit.

Only the day before the school had lost the Sciath Na Scol football final, so spirits were somewhat low, but the whole mood changed on Friday morning when Thursday's blue and white was discarded and the full complement of 70 pupils got all dressed up in red and white.

Briege arrived just after midday to chants of Ole, Ole and a school decked out with banners and flags in the County colours. A pupil in the school from 1991-98, the All-Ireland star spent much of the visit signing jerseys and answering questions. One of five young women who won medals for her performances in both the camogie and ladies' football senior All-Ireland finals, Briege brought both cups to the school but feels her achievements haven't really sunk in yet. "I don't think it's all hit me yet. It'll take a good few years — when I'm older and not playing, that's probably when I'll think it was a great achievement," says the girl who, this year, also won a senior County championship medal for her performance with Cloughdun camogie team and who was declared player of the match in that final.

Briege's success has come as no surprise to school principal Gerard Coakley, who always knew she'd do great things. "When she was only seven, she represented us in the Sciath Na Scol camogie final. She

Briege Corkery, former pupil of Rusheen National School, with her relatives that still attend the school: Shane McSullivan, Moira Twomey, Aodh Twomey, Mairead Corkery, and Aileen Corkery. Picture: Cillian Kelly/News Digital



Left: Cork's Briege Corkery with 4th, 5th and 6th class pupils at Rusheen. Briege brought along team-mates Una O'Donoghue, and Stephanie Dunlea and both All-Ireland Cups.



Moira Twomey Briege's niece gets a piece of the All-Ireland action at Rusheen.

was playing with fifth and sixth-class... She was also a great runner and won many medals for us in the Cork Primary School Sports.

"I remember before one race she broke her hand and came to school with a cast on. She insisted she could run the race — I was reluctant to let her run but she did and she won the race by about 40 metres. Now I often hear commentators talking about her energy levels. I saw that energy a long time ago, that spirit and determination."

Briege was accompanied on the visit by fellow camogie players Stephanie Dunlea and Una O'Donoghue, but what made the visit even more special was that among the excited pupils were some of her own family: her sister, Mairead, is in third class, while her niece, Aileen Corkery, is also in third class and her nephews, Shane McSullivan and Aodh Twomey, are in second class and junior infants respectively. "Her father, Michael, and mother, Kitty, came too, along with

her older brothers and sisters. Her father in particular has put an awful lot into our local community — as secretary of GAA and he's also involved in heritage. Her parents have been very helpful.

"The visit lifted our whole spirit. The mood is wicked and the atmosphere absolutely festive," said Mr Coakley, who made a presentation of a statuette to the school's most famous past pupil.



CATHERINE TIERNAN (02), MARY NEWMAN, SARAH O'DONOVAN, LINDA O'CONNELL + JOANNE O'CALLAGHAN

CROWLEY (Fergus, Dripsey): On December 1, 2005, peacefully, at home, KATIE, beloved daughter of Rena and Jerh, much loved sister of Sheila, Roseanne and Michelle and loving girlfriend of Derry. Sadly missed by her heartbroken parents, sisters, boyfriend, grandmother Sheila, aunts, uncles, cousins, relatives, neighbours and a large circle of friends. Funeral on today (Saturday), after 2pm Requiem Mass in St. Patrick's Church, Coachford, to St. John's Cemetery, Coachford. Always on our minds, Forever in our hearts.

Camogie: U18 A Championship semi-final: St. Catherine's 2-5 Ballygarvan 1-4; Milford 10-9 Clonakilly 3-2; **U16 BL semi-final:** Valley Rovers 5-4 Killeagh 1-4.

CAMOGIE

Colleges Senior 'B' GF: Templemore 4-8 Roscrea 0-4; **Senior 'C' GF:** Middleton 1-4 Glanmire 1-3; **Intermediate 'A' GF:** Borrisokane 4-9 St. Flannan's 4-9; **Intermediate 'B' GF:** Rathkeale 1-2 Glanmire 0-1; **Junior 'B' SF:** Coachford 4-4 Ursulines 1-6; **Junior 'C' GF:** Tulla 3-7 Pres Thirlas 2-9.

Camogie: U18A championship: Ballygarvan 3-10 Ballinhassig 3-5; Douglas 5-5 Eire Og 2-4; **Junior 13-a-side semi-final:** Mallow 3-12 Grenagh 1-3; **U18BC semi-final:** St. Finbarr's 1-5 Cloughduv 1-1; **U18CC semi-final:** Dungourney 7-3 Watergrasshill 2-1.

Agenda set for camogie convention

Mallow u13 juniors in final

Mallow 3-12
Grenagh 1-3

by Mary Newman

Mallow booked their place in the junior 13 side league final after they had too much strength for Grenagh on Sunday last in Shanballymore.

A Michelle Browne goal in the first half set the foundations for victory and helped Mallow lead at the interval points from Michelle Browne, Kathleen O'Brien and Fay O'Donoghue helping to increase the advantage while Linda Dorgan opened the Grenagh account with a first half point.

From the start of the second half Mallow continued to dictate matters and further goals from Kathleen O'Brien and Fay O'Donoghue gave Grenagh a mountain to climb. To their credit they battled on despite Mallow picking off their points thanks to the accuracy of Karen O'Halloran, Fay O'Donoghue, Michelle Browne and Kathleen O'Brien. Linda Dorgan goal from a free before the same player repeated the feat pointing a free helped Grenagh cut the deficit, but it was not enough as by now Mallow had booked their place in the final.

Mallow: E. Forde, K. Mc Auliffe, Linehan, F. Doocey, K. O'Leary, A. Kelleher, K. O'Halloran, K. Coakley, M. Byrne, M. Browne, K. O'Brien, F. O'Donoghue, A. O'Rourke, Sub S. O'Connor for A. O'Rourke.

Grenagh: A. Sheehan, G. O'Sullivan, K. Barry, S. O'Mahony, L. Buckley, L. Dorgan, T. Coughlan, K. Vaughan, N. Hurley, E. Mc Sweeney, M. Barry, T. O'Sullivan, S. Dorgan, Subs R. Jones for M. Barry, E. Barry for T. O'Sullivan, L. Corkery for M. Barry.

Ref: J Birmingham

by Mary Newman

IT'S convention time on Thursday in Pairc Ui Rinn as the Cork Camogie Board takes stock of the year's activities.

All officers have been returned unopposed, with Marion Mc Carthy from St Finbarr's re-elected chairperson, Valley Rovers' Mary Bugler continues as vice chairperson, Pat Murray is once again secretary, Mary McSweeney continues as treasurer, Kay Dunne as registrar, Mary Newman is PRO and Sile Golden continues in the role of honorary president.

There are just two motions down for discussion on Thursday. One is from the Inniscarra club asking for the county board to organise an inter-divisional under-21 tournament. During the centenary year, a similar tournament took place and Inniscarra's motion is looking for a similar event to become a feature of the Cork camogie calendar.

The second motion comes from Glen Rovers and they are proposing that Cork hold a Cork Feile Na NGael competition before the national one comes to the county.

In previous years the Cork winners have represented the county at national level but because the national competition is in Cork in 2006, there will be no Cork champion.

However, the Glen Rovers club are seeking to still have the competition played.

Selectors play a vital role with the inter-county teams and the county has shown a vote of confidence returning senior selectors Lillian Zinkant and Ollie Hallihan. They will be joined by a representative from county champions Cloughduv and it is widely assumed to be the outgoing John Cronin who did such a marvellous job as manager last year.

For the new Senior B grade, three selectors will be elected from the following: Brendan Coleman, Kay Dunne, Sile Golden, Ann Marie



Miriam Crowley (centre) winner of a Munster U18 camogie medal with Cork this year, representing her club, Bishopstown, photographed with her parents Tim (former Newcestown and Cork hurler) and Eileen, sister Julie and brother Barry at reception at Bishopstown G.A.A. to honour the Cork All-Ireland Camogie Champions.

Picture: Mike English.

Barrs through to final

St. Finbarrs 1-5
Cloughduv 1-1

by Mary Newman

A STRONG opening half ensured St. Finbarrs advanced to the final of the Under 18 B championship at the expense of Cloughduv on Sunday.

The Barrs led at the break, 1-4 to 1-1, with the goal coming from Niamh Cooke, while Susan Kennefick showed her accuracy from placed balls with three points. Niamh McKenzie added one more.

Cloughduv replied with a Niamh Carroll goal and a point from the stick

of Antoinette O'Connell.

The second half was a close affair with both defences standing firm. The Barrs added a point to their tally, while Cloughduv found the going tough against St Finbarrs defence who held firm. The Barrs will now face Buttevant in the final.

St Finbarrs: S. Hallihan, L. Towler, M. Collins, A. Mc Carthy, D. Banks, S. Kenefick, M. Murray, N. McKenzie, E. Crowley, S. White, V. Hosford, N. Cooke, S. Fitzgerald, P. Murphy, J. Megahan, Subs K. Collins for S. White (inj).

Cloughduv: L. Hallissey, M. Byrne, S. O'Leary, Ashling O'Sullivan, F. Murphy, Emma Dunne, N. Barrett, S. Lucey, E. Dunne, E. Ahern, A. Cronin, Ann O'Sullivan, N. Cronin, A. O'Connor, N. Carroll.

Ref: C Egan, Glen Rovers.

Healy, Pat Murray and Willie O'Regan.

Following on the success of last year, the junior selection committee of Brendan Coleman and Willie O'Regan are returned unopposed. They will be joined by one from the junior champions Douglas.

There will be a contest for under 16 with two to be elected from Denis Burns, Paddy Corkery, Pat Murray,

and Rose White. A very important selection committee this year is the under 18s, which now goes to All Ireland level and here two will be elected from Ann Marie Healy, Pat Murray and Sile O'Brien.

The convention will look back at a tremendously successful year for the game in the county and no doubt Cork's All Ireland victory will be top of the agenda.

Senior players fundraising

THE senior players held a very successful corporate lunch on Thursday last in the Rochestown Park Hotel as part of the players fundraising, where guests enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon. It was then on to Tuesday last and a fashion show at the Clarion Hotel

and here again the girls got the support they deserved.

A large gathering attended the hugely successful event where the camogie players and Cork hurlers as well as fifteen willing younger participants modelled.

On behalf of the players

a big thanks you to the people who supported both events, well done also to the girls who have showed great drive and enthusiasm in their quest to organise a well earned sun break for themselves following a tremendously successful season.

Valley Rovers make it to final

Grabbing vital goals Valley Rovers secured their place in the under 16 B league final and set up a meeting with Courcy Rovers on Saturday next in Brinney at 11.30am.

Nora Murphy and Mary Ann Hawkes finding the net early as Valleys settled, Ina Coughlan having pointed from a free to set the foundations for victory. Ashley Gavin and Mary Ann Hawkes added points before Clare Keohane had Killeagh on the score board before the break where

Valleys held the half time advantage of 2-3 to 0-1.

Sandra Smiddy had a Killeagh point before Ina Coughlan struck for two Valley Rovers goal and now dominant Valley Rovers kept the foot on the pedal. Clare Keohane had three Killeagh points to which Orla Lehan replied but the Innishannon girls were not going to be denied their place in the final as they finished with a Mary Ann Hawkes point to advance.



Chloe O'Callaghan and Ciara Edmonds, captain and vice-captain of the Sciath na Scol team are overjoyed with their thrilling win in the Sciath na Scol finals.

Picture: Mike English

Camogiechat

With Mary Newman

Sorrow for Aghbullogue

IT WAS with great sorrow that camogie players and mentors learned on Thursday night last of the untimely death of Katie Crowley from the Aghbullogue club.

Katie was a breath of fresh air since becoming involved in the game and despite her young age was one of the corner stones of the Mid Cork club. Nothing was too much trouble for Katie she was mentor to nearly all of the under age teams in the club from under 10 upwards and was the one to ring if you had a match against Aghbullogue.

She was also a fine player and represented Coachford Community college and Aghbullogue with distinction. Despite having been ill for a little under twelve months Katie never let her illness get in her way and just six weeks ago lined out in goal with Aghbullogue in

the junior shield semi final against Milford.

Many friends have recalled their memories of Katie over the last few days but my abiding one will be of her will be my meeting with her in the Glen Rovers field on a beautiful summers morning last year when Aghbullogue travelled to play our under 12 team.

Katie was there as always to the fore hopped around organising her charges and getting everything ready with the baseball bat on her head and pony tail bobbing behind, proudly as always wearing the Aghbullogue pole shirt.

To her club Aghbullogue goes sincere sympathy, to her dear family, parents Rena and Jerh, sisters Sheila, Rosanne and Michelle and boyfriend Derry our thoughts are with you at this difficult time.

Rest peacefully dear Katie

you will always be remembered.

FIXTURES

IT MAY be nearly Christmas but the games continue on Sunday next Milford and St Catherine's meet in the under 18 A county final while on the same afternoon St Finbarrs meet a Buttevant side who will be hoping to make it an under age double by adding the Under 18 B title to the Under 16 A one annexed earlier in the season. Venues are still awaited for both games and announcement will be made on local radio as soon as they come to hand. On Saturday Courcy Rovers and Valley Rovers meet in Brinney at 11.30 to decide the destination of the Under 16 B league title.

Nov. 2005

Moroney goal paves the way for Catherine's

St. Catherine's 2-5
Ballygarvan 1-4

ST. CATHERINE'S advanced to the final of the U18 A championship with a four point win over Ballygarvan in Conna yesterday, writes Mary Newman.

The home side settled quickly thanks to a Patricia Moroney goal inside three minutes and it helped them enjoy an interval lead of 1-3 to 0-3.

Ballygarvan's Margaret Murphy opened the scoring with a point and she got her side back on level terms with two well struck points after Moroney's goal.

St Catherine's regained control and scores from Deirdre Twomey (two) and Orla Cotter gave them a three points lead at the break.

Orla Cotter pointed a free to stretch the advantage but Suzanne Lynch replied for Ballygarvan.

St Catherine's continued to edge matters and a goal from substitute Paula O'Brien with eight minutes remaining looked to have put the issue beyond doubt.

Ballygarvan refused to yield, however, and a goal from substitute Rachel Keohane left just a goal between the sides.

A Deirdre Twomey point with two minutes remaining sealed victory for the home side who will meet Milford in the final.

ST. CATHERINE'S: D Leahy, L Kearney, A Hartnett, O'Brien, D Mulcahy, O Neville, J Hurley, O Cotter (10-2), M O'Keefe, C Hurley, A Hogan, K Murphy, A O'Brien, D Twomey (0-3), P Moroney (1 goal), Subs: P O'Brien (1 goal) for C Hurley (25 mins), A O'Keefe for P Moroney (50 mins), F Cotter for A O'Brien (55 mins).

BALLYGARVAN: M E Donovan, B Keohane, D O'Mahony, R Byrne, M Dunne, A Moynihan, C O'Hea, N Browne, S Lynch (0-1), R Ni She, L Ryan, M Keohane, C Murphy, M Murphy (0-3), S O'Mahony, Subs: R Keohane (1 goal) for R Ni She (18mins), K O'Sullivan for S O'Mahony (50 mins), A O'Hea for M Keohane (55 mins).

Milford 10-9
Clonakilty 3-2

SENIOR All-Star inter-county player Anna Geary led the way as holders Milford booked their place in the U18 A county final.

A strong first half display saw Milford hit Clonakilty with six goals, Geary, Aine Watson, Triona O'Mahony and Clara Curtin to the fore for the champion as they led 6-6 to 2-2 at the half-time whistle.

Wanita Brennan and Sharon Whelton had goals in the opening half for a Clonakilty side that battled bravely against a stronger Milford side that held all the aces.

Milford continued to dominate after the restart with Aine Watson, Mairead and Anna Geary and Triona O'Mahony grabbing goals. Aoife Deasy had one back for Clon but, with Milford producing first class performances in all departments, they advanced to a final showdown with St Catherine's.

MILFORD: E Hanley, E Brown, R Finn, M Broderick, C Galvin, Sarah Sexton, J Lynch, A Geary (3-3), C Curtin (1-0), T O'Mahony (2-0), A Thompson (0-3), O Mahony, M Geary (1-2), A Watson (3-1), C Mullane, Subs: K Galvin for T Mahony (54 mins), Siobhan Sexton for C Curtin (55 mins).

CLONAKILTY: K O'Brien, A Dorgan, C O'Leary, L Kelleher, C Desmond, H O'Regan, S O'Brien, C O'Mahony, H Coughlan, S O'Neill, S Whelton (1-2), W Brennan (1-0), E Jennings, A Deasy (1 goal), M Connolly.

Sub: M Beamish for A Deasy, M Mc Manus for M Connolly.

Referee: H O'Mahony (Newcestown).

Milford too strong for Clon

Milford 10-9
Clonakilty 3-2

POWERED by senior inter county All-Star Anna Geary, Milford coasted to their under 18 A county final at the expense of Clonakilty.

Milford, with first half goals from Anna Geary, Aine Watson, Triona O'Mahony and Clara Curtin led 6-6 to 2-2 at the half time whistle.

Wanita Brennan and Sharon Whelton found the net for a Clonakilty side that battled bravely to stay in contention with the holder.

Through the second half, Milford continued to dominate, with Aine Watson, Mairead and Anna Geary, and Triona O'Mahony all grab-

bing goals. Aoife Deasy had one back for Clon, but with Milford dominant in all sectors they advanced to the decider and a meeting with St Catherine's.

Milford: E Hanley, E Brown, R Finn, M Broderick, C Galvin, Sarah sexton, J Lynch, A Geary, C Curtin, T O Mahony, A Thompson, O Mahony, M Geary, A Watson, C Mullane, Subs K Galvin for T Mahony (54mins), Siobhan Sexton for C Curtin (55mins)

Clonakilty: K O Brein, A Dorgan, C O Leary, L Kelleher, C Desmond, H O Regan, S O'Brien, C O Mahony, H Coughlan, S O'Neill, S Whelton (1-2), W Brennan (1 goal), E Jennings, A Deasy (1 goal), M Connolly, Sub M Beamish for A Deasy, M Mc Manus for M Connolly



Pictured with the All-Ireland senior and Cork senior B camogie trophies in Ballygarvan were Lauren Kenefick, Mary Ellen O'Donovan and Meave Moynihan from Ballygarvan.

St Catherines end Ballygarvan challenge

by Mary Newman

St Catherine's 2-5
Ballygarvan 1-4

ST CATHERINES had four points to spare over Ballygarvan as they booked their place in the Under 18 A Championship final. A Patricia Moroney goal inside three minutes of the start helped the Conna girls hold an interval advantage 1-3 to 0-3.

Ballygarvan's Margaret Murphy had opened the scoring with a point, but Moroney's goal saw the home side hold the lead to the half time whistle. In between two Margaret Murphy points had Ballygarvan back on level by the midway stage, but points from Deirdre Twomey (2) and Orla Cotter had St Catherine's back in control by half time.

Orla Cotter stretched the advantage inside four minutes of the second half, pointing a free, but Suzanne Lynch replied for Ballygarvan. With both sides battling it out for a place

in the final St Catherine's held their lead, and with eight minutes to the full-time whistle they had stretched this advantage with a goal from substitute Paula O'Brien. Three minutes later Ballygarvan did like wish grabbing their first goal. Ballygarvan continued to apply pressure, but the St Catherine's defence stood firm. Deirdre Twomey had the final say with a St Catherine's point to ensure her side a place in the final where they will meet Milford.

St Catherine's: D Leahy, L Kearney, A Hartnett, O'Brien, D Mulcahy, O'Neill, J Hurley, O'Cotter, M O'Keefe, C Hurley, A Hogan, K Murphy, A O'Brien, D Twomey, P Moroney, Subs: P O'Brien for C Hurley (25mins), A O'Keefe for P Moroney (50mins) F Cotter for A O'Brien (55mins)

Ballygarvan: M E Donovan, B Keohane, D O'Mahony, R Byrne, M Dunne, A Moynihan, C O'Hea, N Browne, S Lynch, R Ni She, L Ryan, M Keohane, C Murphy, M Murphy, S O'Mahony, Subs: R Keohane for R Ni She (18mins) K O'Sullivan for S O'Mahony (50mins), A O'Hea for M Keohane (55mins).

Referee: C M Alistair

Valley Rovers take U16 B league

by Mary Newman

Valley Rovers 5-4
Killeagh 1-4

THE ability to create and score goals proved vital as Valley Rovers secured their place in the under 16 B league final. Nora Murphy and Mary Ann Hawkes helped Valleys settled with first half goals after Ina Coughlan had pointed early from a free to set the foundations for victory. Ashley Gavin and Mary Ann

Hawkes added points before Clare Keohane had Killeagh on the score board before the break as Valleys held the half time advantage of 2-3 to 0-1.

Sandra Smiddy had a Killeagh point before Ina Coughlan struck for two Valley Rovers goal and now dominant Valleys kept the foot on the pedal. Clare Keohane had three Killeagh points to which Orla Lehane replied but holding their composure the Innishannon girls never panicked and fin-

ished with a Mary Ann Hawkes point as they booked their place in the final against Courcey Rovers.

Valley Rovers: T Hawkes, K Sedas, S O Shea, E Forde, C Ryan, J Melia, R O Regan, A Coughlan, A Lynch, E Butler, M A Hawkes, A Glavin, I Coughlan, O Deasy, N Murphy, Subs: O Lehane for O Deasy, M Forde for E Forde, A O Donovan for N Murphy, J Hawkes for M A Hawkes.

Killeagh: C O Connor, C Meade, S Green, A Murphy, Y Coleman, S Swaine, E Kelly, C Keohane, N Loughlin, S Smiddy, J Meade, D Keniry, C Scully, L O Connor, R Cronin.

Referee: C. Egan

Principal officers exit

IT will be a case of all change for Clare camogie in 2006 following the county convention that was staged in the Auburn Lodge Hotel at the weekend.

All because, outgoing officers such as chairperson Orla Hayes, secretary Brid MacNamara, treasurer Michael O'Halloran and PRO Seamus O'Sullivan did not seek re-election.

Orla Hayes paid tribute to all of those who contributed to a successful year for Clare camogie - a year which saw Clare played 17 intercounty games, won a Munster title, contested an All-Ireland, while Newmarket won Munster and contested the All-Ireland and Denise Lynch won the Poc Fada. Pending the election of a secretary, Brid MacNamara will act as secretary for intercounty affairs, while a treasurer will also be elected at a special meeting of the county board in January.

At the convention, the new national development officer Lynne Kenny and regional development officer Mary O'Connor outlined their strategies for growing and supporting camogie.

Officers for 2006:

President - Fr Liam Murray (Whitegate)
Chair - Maura Sheedy (Ogonelloe)
Vice Chair - Mary Hogan (Tulla)
PRO - Tom Wolfe (Éire Óg)
Registrar - Orla Hayes (Broadford)
Irish Officer - Anne Marie Arthur (Newmarket)
Delegate to Munster Council - Bridie O'Looney (Newmarket) Delegates to Congress - Seamus O'Sullivan and Michael O'Halloran.



Name:
CLAIRE BARRY

What organisation(s) or service do you volunteer for?
ST FINBARRS CAMOGIE CLUB

How long have you been volunteering?
33 YEARS

What does your voluntary work involve doing?
COACHING AND ORGANISING MATCHES FOR CHILDREN AND TEAMS OF ALL AGES

Why do you volunteer?
TO PROMOTE THE GAME OF CAMOGIE IN THE BROADER COMMUNITY AND HELP KEEP RESIDENTS ACTIVE

How much time (weekly) do you give to volunteering?
15 HOURS



Photographed at Bishopstown GAA on occasion of reception for members of the Cork All Ireland Camogie Champions were Clara Healy (Bishopstown and Cork), Emer Dillon (Vice Captain), Clr Mary Shields, Pat Murray (Camogie Board), Mary O'Hea and members of Bishopstown Under Age Teams Miriam Crowley (Munster U18 medal winner), Laura Bowen and Fiona Shannahan. Picture Mike English

TIME TO LOOK BACK

THIS evening in Pairc Ui Rinn the Cork Camogie Board take stock of very busy year's activities, there will be no contest for the positions on the top table as all officers are returned unopposed. Marion McCarthy the board's hard working chairperson continues in the role with, Mary Bugler Valley Rovers continuing as Vice chairperson. Pat Murray is once again Secretary, Mary McSweeney has the task of balancing the budget as she continues in the important role of treasurer, Kay Dunne is returned as registrar and Mary Newman is PRO while Sile Golden continues in the role of Hon President.

In what is somewhat surprising there are only two motions down for discussion one from the Inniscarra club asking for the county board to organise an inter-divisional under 21 tournament. During Centenary year a similar tournament took place and Inniscarra are looking for it to become a feature of the Cork camogie calendar.

The second motion comes from Glen Rovers and they are proposing that Cork hold a Cork Feile Na NGael competition before the national one comes to the county. In previous year the Cork winners represent the county at national level but because the national competition is in Cork in 2006 there will be no Cork champion however the Glen Rovers club are seeking to still have the competition played.

Selectors play a vital role with the inter county teams and the county has shown a vote of confidence returning senior selectors Lillian Zinkant and Ollie Hallihan they will be joined by a representative from county champions Cloughduv and one assumes this will be outgoing John Cronin who made such a marvellous job as manager last year.

For the new Senior B grade three selectors will be elected from the following Brendan Coleman, Kay Dunne, Sile Golden, Ann Marie Healy, and Pat Murray Willie O'Regan

Following on the success of last year the junior selection committee of Brendan Coleman and Willie O'Regan are returned unopposed they will be joined by one from the junior champions Douglas.

There will be a contest for Under 16 with two to be elected from Denis Burns, Paddy Corkery, Pat Murray, and Rose White

A very important selection committee this year is the under 18 which now goes to All Ireland level and here two will be elected from Ann Marie Healy, Pat Murray and Sile O'Brien.

Delegated will look back at a tremendously successful year for the game as Cork camogie celebrated its hundred year, the successful hoisting of National Congress, and National Feile Na N-Gael were just two event which the hard working board organised and took in their stride before going on to topple Tipperary to become All Ireland champions in a historic year for Cork sport.

Mallow through to final

MALLOW advanced to the final of the junior thirteen side league final as they had

too much strength for Grenagh on Sunday last in Shanballymore.

Michelle Browne grabbed and early goal in the first half and it set the foundations for victory as Mallow lead at the interval, points from Michelle Browne, Kathleen O'Brien and Fay O'Donoghue helping to increase the advantage while Linda Dorgan opened the Grenagh account with a first half point. Mallow held the upper hand

throughout the second half and dictate matters, goals from Kathleen O'Brien and Fay O'Donoghue stretching their advantage. To their credit Grenagh battled to get into contention a Linda Dorgan goal and a point from a free a keeping them in touch but with Karen O'Halloran, Fay O'Donoghue, Michelle Browne and Kathleen O'Brien adding Mallow points there was no way back for the Grenagh girls as Mallow advanced to a final meeting with

FIXTURES

ON Saturday Valley Rovers and Killeagh meet in the semi final of the Under 16 B league in Brinney at 11.30am with Courcey Rovers awaiting the winners also on Saturday Douglas travel to

Clonakilty to play a vital under 18 A championship game, on Sunday the two semi final will take place with the winner on Saturday taking the fourth spot joining Milford Ballygarvan and St Catherine's, the semi final parings will depend on Saturdays result.

Senior playes take to the catwalk

A HUGE effort has gone into organising a fundraising fashion show by the county senior players and it takes place at the Clarion Hotel on Tuesday, December 6. Fashions from fifteen stores will be modelled by players from the camogie team and they have also

roped in several of the victorious senior hurling side to model on the evening. They have worked hard to get the fashion show off the ground, hopefully on the night it will be a success, everybody will be catered with fashion for ladies, gents, children and sports wear on show. On Monday the girls were joined by the senior

hurlers as they did some promotional work in an effort to boost ticket sales and complements to all the staff at The Edge Hair salon and to Nicola Whelton of Bobby Browne at Brown Thomas who ensured the ladies were looking their best.

Tickets for the fashion extravaganza of the year

not to be missed are on sale at Centra Oliver Plunkett Street and Centra Grand Parade priced at €20 each. The night promises to be a big hit and for all who come along it allows supporters and followers to show their appreciation to a superb team who have done the county proud.

Nov. 2005

MILFORD AND ST CATHERINES THROUGH TO FINAL

HOLDERS Milford advanced to the final of the Under 18 A county championship turning in a star performance against a brave Clonakilty side on Sunday last. Senior Inter county All Star Anna Geary helped book their final place in a game which Milford dominated from the throw in.

First half goals from Anna Geary, Aine Watson, Triona O Mahony and Clara Curtin helped Milford lead 6-6 to 2-2 at the half time whistle despite strong resistance from a spirited Clonakilty defence.

Wanita Brennan and Sharon Whelton had goals for a Clonakilty side that battled bravely to stay in contention with the holder through the opening thirty minutes.

Through the second half Milford continued to domi-

nate Aine Watson, Mairead and Anna Geary, and Triona O Mahony all grabbing goals. Aoife Deasy had one back for Clon but with Milford dominant in all sectors they advanced to the decider and a meeting with St Catherine's.

St Catherine's didn't get it as easy as they booked their place in the final; just four points separated them from Ballygarvan at the final whistle. A goal from Patricia Moroney three minutes into the game helped the Conna girls lead at the break 1-3 to 0-3. Margaret Murphy had opened the scoring with a Ballygarvan point but the goal saw the home side hold the lead to the half time whistle.

Two Margaret Murphy points had got Ballygarvan back on level by the mid way stage of

the first half but points from Deirdre Twomey (2) and Orla Cotter had St Catherine's back in the lead at the half time whistle.

Orla Cotter stretched the advantage inside four minutes of the second half pointing a free but Suzanne Lynch replied for Ballygarvan.

St Catherine's continued to hold their and with eight minutes to the full time whistle they had stretched the advantage with a goal from substitute Paula O'Brien, three minutes later Ballygarvan's Rachel Keohane grabbing her sides first goal.

Ballygarvan continued to apply pressure but the St Catherine's defence stood firm. It was left to Deirdre Twomey to have the final say with a St Catherine's point as they advanced to the final.

Ensuring there is fun for everyone

WHEN I was young and started playing sports for the first time, all of our coaches and everyone involved in those teams were volunteers.

When I look at the people who are running those teams now some of the same people are involved and that says a lot for their dedication.

The ultimate volunteers are those who give of their time for many, many years and without them sport in Ireland would greatly suffer.

One of the great things about the GAA has always been the level of volunteers at a grass-roots level and that's what makes the association so strong at higher levels.

It's been the same with all of the teams I have been lucky to play with over the years.

When teams are successful you always see players getting the credit and the coverage and it's easy to forget about all those behind the scenes who have made those good days possible, so it's fantastic that today we can highlight the work of just some of those in Cork who do such wonderful work.

When I've been lucky enough to be involved in All-Ireland wins with Cork, I always remember the people at my clubs who have given their time to help me along the way.

I also try to volunteer myself and when I'm finished playing, I want to do as much as I can to give back



Mary O'Connor, Cork Ladies Football and Camogie dual All-Ireland winner 2005.

to the clubs who have given so much to me over the years.

At the moment I am coaching the Killeagh under-10 camogie team. It's volunteer work in a very small way for now but when I am less hectic with my own training, I want to become a regular volunteer with the club.

One of the things that I want to pass onto the kids I coach is to make sure they enjoy it all of the time.

That's what volunteers who are coaching in sport are all about — making sure there is fun for all involved.

Mary O'Connor
Cork Ladies Football and
Camogie dual All-Ireland
winner 2005.

'Years of Plenty' launched in Nenagh

TIPPERARY'S impact on the national camogie scene since 1999, with five out of seven All Ireland titles won, was the subject of a book entitled 'Years of Plenty' which was launched in the Abbey Court Hotel, Nenagh on Friday night last by President of the Camogie Association, Miriam O'Callaghan.

Former 'Guardian' editor Gerry Slevin is the esteemed author of this concise tome on the fortunes of Tipperary camogie in a decade of success for the blue and gold and hundreds turned up to wish Gerry well at the Baronial Hall in the hotel.

MC on the night was well-known Tipperary great, Donie Nealon who paid tribute to Gerry for his work on the book and to Bridget Delaney for her beautiful photographs which liberally adorn the book.

The launch evening also included musical interludes by the well-known singing/instrumental local group Ama Deus.

The book was something Gerry originally planned to write following the team's three-in-a-row success in 1999. However, having spoken about it with a

friend he was advised to wait, his friend's view being that there was a lot more in this team.

Tipp went on to win two more All Irelands and in the centenary year of the Camogie Association (2004), not alone did they win the All Ireland, they also won the provincial title and the National League for only the second time ever, the first back in 1977.

In the 200 plus pages, those great years are vividly recalled, years, that saw Tipp rise to the top of the senior camogie ladder, following ninety-five titleless years.

For seven seasons saw Tipp become not alone the team to be envied by all aspiring champions, but also the team that had brought something very special to the game in terms of craft, skill and dedication.

All of this comes through in 'Years of Plenty' and along with the games, the players, the management teams and everyone involved in Tipp's great run of success, other significant events during that period are recalled like the honour bestowed on Deirdre Hughes as the only present

day inter-county player to make the Team of the Century. Recalled too is a never-to-be-forgotten Micheal O'Muireheartaigh-hosted evening in Nenagh to honour Deirdre's selection, which was organized by the Toomevara club.

Each year is dealt with separately and included too are quotes from players and selectors both before and after the All Ireland finals. Another chapter deals with the story of two sisters, twins, Deirdre McDonnell (junior) and Eimear (senior) who won All Ireland medals on the same day, in 2001.

The Centenary Banquet and the O'Neills All Stars also feature and the author has included his own personal highlights of the seven seasons in a chapter entitled 'Magic Moments'.

The front cover sees Deirdre Hughes scoring her 6th All Ireland final goal in the 2004 decider against Cork.

Complementing the narrative is a series of excellent photographs from Bridget Delaney, the photographic content dealt with on a year-by-year basis along with the inclusion of many other shots,

sprinkled throughout the various chapters. There are also pictorial contributions from Ray McManus of Sportsfile and from Rose Mannion.

The book is dedicated to the many players, living and dead, who wore the Tipp colours over the decades and who, unlike the present day players, didn't have the thrill of experiencing All Ireland senior success.

It is also dedicated to the memory of a famed Dublin player with strong Tipperary connections who died last December. Orla Ryan was wife of Jack Ryan, Moneygall, a member of the Tipp All Ireland winning side of 1971. Orla won several All Ireland medals with Dublin and was selected on the Leinster Team of the Century last year. She was daughter of Sean O'Siochain, former Director General of the GAA and her father in law is Seamus O'Riain, Moneygall, former GAA President. Orla took a very keen interest in Tipp's progress in recent years and up to her untimely passing.

'Years of Plenty' is now on sale at €20 and proceeds after production costs will go to the Tipperary Camogie Supporters Club.

Coachford battle through

Coachford College 44
Ursulines, Thurles 16

COACHFORD qualified for the Munster Junior B camogie final by virtue of a well deserved victory over Ursulines, Thurles at Inniscarra.

The visitors got off to a flying start with two early points from a lively Catriona Shortt and another from Sharon Dwyer. Emer Kennedy and Dwyer were well on top at midfield during the early exchanges and Mary Flanagan added another point to put Thurles ahead by four points, with the Muskerry side yet to register a score.

Thurles were full value for their lead as they were well in control of matters, but Michelle Healy, Maire McCarthy and Niamh O'Carroll began to win vital possession against the stiff breeze to keep Ursulines at bay.

A fortuitous goal by Eilise Corkery who was on hand to finish a deflected save by keeper Joan Tierney came against the run of play. Niamh Dilworth added a free and both teams were on level terms after 20 minutes. Ciara O'Keefe, who tormented the Thurles defence all afternoon, earned a free which Dilworth promptly dispatched to the net.

Thurles responded with a point from Dwyer but with

Rosie O'Mahony curtailing Shortt, Healy and Kingston dominant in front of the impressive Catherine O'Brien, the Tipp school was unable to breach the Coachford rear-guard.

Coachford started well after the resumption, with Marguerite Vaughan and Joanne Casey asserting themselves to devastating effect in the central position and supplying useful possession to the inside forwards.

Mary Ronan gave Joan Tierney no chance with her first goal and added her second within a minute to put some daylight between the sides. Siobhan Dwyer narrowed the margin with a long range speculative free but late points from O'Keefe and Dilworth sealed the victory.

Best for Coachford were Maire McCarthy, Michelle Healy, Niamh O'Carroll and Ciara O'Keefe whilst Catriona Shortt, Siobhan Dwyer and Emer Kennedy tried hardest for the Tipperary side. Coachford now await the winners of Carrig On Suir and tournament favourites St. Caimin's, Shannon.

Coachford: M. Gleeson, J. O'Connell, C. O'Brien, M. McCarthy (C), E. Kingston, M. Healy, R. O'Mahony, M. Vaughan, J. Casey, M. Ronan (2-0), N. O'Carroll, C. O'Keefe (0-1), K. McCarthy, N. Dilworth (1-3), E. Corkery (1-0). Subs: S. McCarthy, A. O'Connor, L. McCarthy, L. Bergin, F. Ward, J. Farmer.



Gerry Slevin's book 'Years of Plenty' was launched at Nenagh Abbey Court Hotel on Friday night, December 2nd by Camogie President Miriam O'Callaghan. Seated: Meadhbh Stokes, Miriam O'Callaghan, Gerry Slevin (author), Michael Cleary. Standing: Donie Nealon (who acted as MC), Michael Fenton (sponsor - Omada), Munster Council Camogie Chairman Eamonn Browne and County Camogie Board Chairman Stephen Fitzgerald.

First ever bursaries to be awarded

THE third Level Camogie Council, Comhairle Camógachta na nInstitiúidí um Ardoideachas (CCIA) has joined with parent body Cumann Camógachta na nGael to launch a Camogie's 'Triple Header' in the Croke Park on Monday.

The 'Triple Header' launch focuses on two new initiatives as well as the announcement of the draws for this year's Ashbourne and Purcell Cup Competitions.

The two new initiatives to be announced are the Third Level Bursary Scheme and the Women in Sport Camogie project.

The bursaries, the first of their kind for CCIA, have been made possible through the de-



Laura Lavery of Armagh

velopment funding received from the Irish Sports Council by Cumann Camógachta na

nGael and the recipients include some of the big names from camogie including two time All Star Jennifer O'Leary from Cork, All Star and Cork All Ireland winning goal-keeper Aoife Murray, as well as Laura Lavery of Queens University and Niamh Taylor of Trinity from the victorious Dublin Junior All Ireland winning team.

The Women in Sport Project - Cúil le Coláistí, is also being funded by the Irish Sports Council through their Women in Sport special budget measure.

The project centres on a blitz day in four locations hosted by Waterford IT, UCD, NUI Maynooth and Limerick IT for schools in their respective re-

gions. The aim is to encourage first and second year girls to see camogie as a recreational pastime and one that can be continued at third level even if you are not playing at performance level.

A support structure will be put in place for teachers to allow them to prepare for the blitz and to follow up on interest after the blitz.

Ashbourne participants: University of Limerick, UCD, UCC, Waterford IT, National University of Ireland Galway, Garda College, Cork IT and Mary Immaculate College.

Purcell participants: University of Ulster Jordanstown, Queens University Belfast, NUI Maynooth, St Patrick's College Drumcondra, Tralee

IT, Athlone IT, Sligo IT, Trinity (Hosts), Carlow IT, Galway IT, Mayo IT, Dublin City University, Limerick IT and St Mary's College Belfast.

Bursary recipients:

Aoife Murray, LIT and Cork Niamh Taylor, TCD and Dublin Lizzie Flynn, WIT and Galway Jennifer O'Leary, UL and Cork Laura Lavery, QUB and Armagh Grace McNamara, Tralee IT and Limerick Denise Twomey, NUIG and Cork Sharon McMahon, Mary I and Clare Trish O'Hallaron, WIT and Tipperary Anna Geary, UL and Cork

been recorded by former Nenagh Guardian editor Gerry Slevin in his book Years of Plenty — Tipperary Camogie's New Age Queenpins 1999-2005, which will be launched by the Camogie Association President Miriam O'Callaghan in Nenagh's Abbey Court Hotel on Friday.

Packed with a detailed account of those seven seasons, Years of Plenty is liberally sprinkled with the content of photographer Bridget Delaney.

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TAMARA O'CONNELL on a fashion fund-raiser

Camogie stars put on style!

THE Christmas party season is almost upon us; a time when everyone is determined to dress to impress. Some of you will already have a perfect outfit in mind, but maybe you're unsure about where to find it. Others won't have a clue about what to wear.

Either way, you could find the answer to your festive style problem at a fashion show being held at the Clarion Hotel in Cork city next Tuesday, December 6.

Cork camogie star Sarah O'Donovan is organising the charity event. The 21-year-old is a second year arts student at UCC and a member of the Ballygarvan Camogie Club. She has been involved in the sport for the last 12 years.

Sarah works hard and plays hard, but also thinks it's important to make time for fun and fashion. "There's a misconception about camogie players," she says, "yes, we play a tough sport but that doesn't mean that we're not interested in clothes and make-up. We're just

like other women. We love to dress up and go out. Hopefully, the fashion show will raise the profile of camogie and go some way towards improving the sport's image."

To underline her point, the entire Cork Senior Camogie panel is taking to the catwalk to model for the fashion show. A number of Cork Senior Hurlers including Diarmuid O'Sullivan, Brian Corcoran and coach John Allen will also be taking part.

The show is due to begin at 8.30pm, but there will be a wine and cheese reception held beforehand. There are 15 shops involved and there are more than 80 outfits to model.

The camogie players will mostly be modelling evening wear from shops such as Rouge, Havana, Morgan, Honey, Richard Alan, Lulu Blu, Walk-In Wardrobe, Elements and Crowley Calnan. "It's going to be very glamorous," said Sarah. "The senior hurlers will mainly be modelling suits from Tony's Menswear."

"There are ten children in the show. They will be modelling clothes from O'Neill's Sports-wear and Welsh's Sports. Our hair is being done by The Edge hair salon and Bobbi Brown from Brown Thomas is doing our make-up."

Paudie Palmer from 103FM and Lynn Dunlea will be presenting the show. There are only 250 tickets available, so if you are interested you should get one now in case you miss out.

The fashion show is just one of the events the camogie team are organising to raise money for the players' fund. There is also a corporate lunch tomorrow at the Rochestown Park Hotel at 1pm, where signed Cork jerseys will be auctioned off and comedian Frank Twomey will provide entertainment.

The money raised from the events will be used to pay for training weekends and a holiday for the girls, in either Mexico or Thailand.

"We organised a training weekend before last year's All-Ireland. On the Saturday before the final, we all went to Youghal," said Sarah. "Training weekends are very important because they give the team a chance to spend time together and to bond."

● Tickets for the fashion show cost €20 and are on sale at the Centra shops on Oliver Plunkett Street, Cork City and the Centra on Grand Parade, Cork City. For more information contact Sarah O'Donovan on 087-9285363.

STEPPING OUT: Cork camogie players Colette Desmond, Jennifer Browne and Sarah O'Donovan, with Cork hurlers Kieran Murphy, Neil Ronan and Brian Murphy announce details of their fashion show in aid of the players fund at the Clarion Hotel on December 6.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Camogie queens strut their stuff

Jenny O'Leary on the ramp during the Cork Camogie fashion show in the Clarion Hotel. Picture: Richard Mills



Camogie stars hit the catwalk for holiday fund

STARS from Cork's All-Ireland winning hurling and camogie teams are to take to the catwalk next month for a glamorous fund-raising fashion show.

The Cork camogie team yesterday launched their upcoming fashion event which they hope will raise €25,000 for their holiday fund. The event will take place on December 6 in the Clarion Hotel.

Organisers including players Sarah O'Donovan, Jennifer Browne, Colette Desmond and captain Elaine Burke yesterday donned their gowns to launch the event. They were joined by senior Cork hurlers Kieran Murphy, Brian Murphy and Neil Ronan who will be just some of the male models taking to the catwalk on the night. Fashions from 15 stores in Cork

will be modelled by players from the camogie team with six senior hurlers also on hand. Among the big names the girls will have on the night will be Havana, Pronuptia, Crowley Callanan, Style for Life, Element, Tony's Menswear, Welch Sports, Gentlemen's Quarters and O'Neill's Sports.

Sarah O'Donovan said: "It's been a very long year for the squad and

we'd love to head off somewhere sunny to celebrate together before the championship kicks off again." Tickets are on sale from Centra Oliver Plunkett Street and Centra Grand Parade and cost €20. A corporate lunch will be held also this Thursday at Rochestown Park Hotel on December 1. A table to ten costs €1,000. More details are available on (086) 3979044.

Members of Cork's camogie team line out in style for a fashion bash at the Clarion

Camogie queens show off the glam

SOCIALDIARY

By Siobhan Hourihan



SHOWING glam really does rock, the Cork camogie beauties dumped their shell suits last night and slipped into sexy little black dresses, eye-popping minis and gowns with daring plunging necklines.

The All-Ireland winners were showing off the best designs Cork's fashion houses have to offer, so the hurleys and helmets were left on the sidelines as they strutted their stuff in a fashion extravaganza.

The occasion was one of many events to celebrate the beauties' triumphant season and will help fund their well-earned vacation. I like their style! More than 250 people gathered in the plush surroundings of the Clarion Hotel to offer their often raucous support.

Feisty Sarah O'Donovan took the lead in organising the evening, demonstrating the forthright style she brings to the playing field as she defiantly declared: "Tonight, we really showed that we do sporty well, but glam even better."

She wasn't wrong. Model after model drew gasps of admiration and, if anyone out there thinks she needs to trim and tone a little, I suggest she takes up camogie. These girls were fit, in every sense of the word.

They showcased their fab figures in Richard Alan, Hevana, Style 4 Us, Timberland, Element Clothing and Morgan, to name but a few.

Helping out the compere, the lovely Lynn Dunlea was at hand to lend her sartorial knowledge on the night, wowing us with her elegant attire – and, yes, Lynn had as many changes of outfit as the models.

But behind every beautiful woman lurks a tall, dark and handsome beau, so cue the select and tastefully chosen few from the Cork hurling team who were at hand on the night to lend support and to model too.

Indeed, if Tom Kenny ever decides to ditch the hurley, he'll never be out of demand on the catwalk. The same goes for Diarmuid O'Sullivan. The Rock got a fantastic reception as audience temperatures soared.



Cork camogie team members who took part in the fashion show in the Clarion Hotel.

Picture: Richard Mills

With not a hint of helmet hair in sight, the Edge Hair Design transformed the girls' usual styles into beehives, bouffants and chignons to suit the myriad fashions.

Complementary make-up was courtesy of Nicola Welton from Bobbie Brown in Brown Thomas, who was working with five top beauty students from the Cork College of Commerce.

Gemini Jewellers lent sparkle to the evening with their gems on display.

Rapturous applause from an excited crowd ensured the girls felt like stars on the ramp.

Michael O'Mahony spun the decks while Sapphire, a two-sister combo from Bandon, kept the momentum going during the break. Watch out, the Conways! Alas, all great things must come to an end, and Pronuptia and The Wedding Dress were responsible for the final march down the aisle.

Cupid took centre stage as some interesting couples were minted – while Tom showed us what a fine catch at the altar he'd be.

Try as hard as she could, Sarah O'Donovan was left standing as her partner in crime, Brian Corcoran, walked solo.



Rena Buckley on the ramp during the Cork camogie fashion show.

Picture: Richard Mills



Maria Crowley with her model son Jerry from Innishannon.

Picture: Richard Mills



Rachel Moloney, Ballinspittle, and Joanne O'Callaghan, Cloughduv.

Picture: Richard Mills



Johnny Murphy, Blackrock, and Nick Moore, Douglas, at the Clarion.

Picture: Richard Mills



Catrina Foley steps out at the Clarion Hotel

Picture: Richard Mills

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SOME of Cork's top sporting stars took to the catwalk last night at the Clarion Hotel. Twenty senior camogie players and six senior hurlers modelled at the glamorous fashion show held to raise money for the camogie players fund for the coming season.

The preparation started early yesterday as the girls had their hair done at the Edge Hair Design salon, before students from the Cork College of Commerce put finishing touches on their make-up and the look was finished off with jewellery from Gemini Jewellers. The male models on the night were hurlers Diarmuid O'Sullivan,

Brian Corcoran, Tom Kenny and Kieran Murphy. Cork manager John Allen and camogie manager John Cronin also joined in the fun. Comperees were former camogie star Lynn Dunlea and Paudie Palmer from 103fm.

Sarah O'Donovan one of the main organisers, said it was a huge success. The 21-year-old arts student at UCC is a member of the Ballygarvan Camogie Club. "We had more than 200 people at the show and everything went very well. We want to thank everyone who supported and helped us out with the event."

● See Saturday's Social Diary.

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Catherine's wrest U18 camogie title from Milford

By MARY NEWMAN

U18 camogie

St Catherine's 2-7
Milford 1-6

HOLDERS Milford had to give way to St Catherine's who were crowned U18 A champions in Newtownshandrum yesterday.

The new kids on the block got a dream start with Orla Cotter sending a fourth minute free all the way to the net.

They maintained the pressure with Deirdre Twomey and Orla Cotter pointing before Aine Watson settled Milford with an eleventh minute shot to the net.

Senior intercounty All-Star, Anna Geary showed her experience by shooting two points to get Milford back on level terms but twice Cotter pointed before Denise Twomey rocked Milford with a goal to put five points between the sides.

Geary and Orla Cotter exchanged points as St. Catherine's led 2-5 to 1-3 at the half-time whistle.

The second half was a low scoring affair, Watson pointing inside seven minutes as Milford battled to get back into the contest but St. Catherine's, with the title firmly in their sights, were in no mood for a Milford rally.

They responded immediately with Cotter twice on target, again Geary tried to rally Milford with points in the twelfth and fifteenth minute to put four between the two teams.

As play swung from end to end the closing quarter was hard for both defences, Milford giving everything to hold their title, St Catherine's battling to hold their lead.

This they did with both sides failing to record a score in the closing quarter as St Catherine's held their advantage to the final whistle to run out victors.

ST. CATHERINE'S: D Leahy, N Kearney, A Hogan, C O'Brien, D Mulcahy, O. Neville, J Hurley, O Cotter (1-5, 1-5 frees 0-1 play), M O'Keefe, K Murphy, A Hogan, P O'Brien, A O'Brien, D Twomey (1-1), C Hanley.

Subs: F Cotter for C Hanley, A O'Keefe for K Murphy, P Moraney for A O'Brien.

MILFORD: E Hanley, E Brown, R Finn, M Broderick, C Galvin, S. Sexton, S Carroll, A Geary (0-5, 0-2 frees, 0-1 45" 0-2 play), C Curtin, T O'Mahony, A Thompson, O Mahony, M Geary, A Watson (1-1), C. Lynam.

Subs: K Galvin for T Mahony (54mins), S Fitzgibbon for T O Mahony.

Referee: R Downey (Brinsford).

Courceys have too much quality

Courcey Rovers 6-6
Valley Rovers 1-0

STRENGTH in all sectors from number one to 15 proved the key as Courcey Rovers annexed the U16 B camogie league title in Brinny on Saturday.

Driving wind and rain added to the difficult underfoot conditions but it did not deter thirty camogie players serving up a good contest.

From the throw in Courcey's applied the pressure and they were rewarded with a Ciara Hayes goal inside the opening ten minutes.

Courcey's goalkeeper Aileen O'Brien had to be her best with a superb save to deny lively corner forward Ina Coughlan before Ciara Collins forced the ball over the line in a crowded goalmouth to claim goal number two.

Aided by the wind, Valley Rovers enjoyed their share of possession but found the going tough against a strong Courcey's defence where Christine O'Neill and Jemma Hurley worked hard.

By the half-time whistle the lead was increased after Ursula Quinn's forty five metre free deceived everyone to end up in the net, to give Courcey's a three-goal interval advantage.

The second half was always going to be hard for the home side but they battled on. Ursula Quinn had added 1-3 to the Courceys' tally, ably assisted by a Jemma Hurley point before the goal Valleys had worked so hard to get finally came. Aine Coughlan seizing her opportunity to finish to the net with 12 minutes remaining.

By this stage the score did little to alter the result but credit Valley Rovers who never gave up and continued to stand up and be counted through the closing stages, however with Elaine Ryan and Ursula Quinn both adding 1-1 to the



Courcey Rovers' Ciara Hayes is first to the ball against Valley Rovers in the U16 camogie league final which was played at Brinny. Picture: Larry Cummins.

By MARY NEWMAN

U16 Camogie

Courcey's score line.

Elaine Ryan was named as Player of the Match by county juvenile board chair person Tracy Sheehan at the presentation ceremony which followed.

Courcey Rovers: A O'Brien, N. Finn, O Twomey, A Ryan, M Hayes, C O'Neill, N Reilly, J Hurley (0-1), E O'Regan, U Quinn (3-4, 1goal from 45", 2 frees, 2-2 play), E Ryan, (1-1), C Collins; C Hayes (1-0), S O'Reilly, Y Rohan. **Subs:** K Crowley for A Ryan (52mins), A Mc Carthy for S O'Reilly (56mins), K Collins for E O'Regan (56 mins).

VALLEY ROVERS: T Hawkes, K Sedas, S O'Shea, C Ryan, E Forde, A Lynch, A O'Callaghan, M A Hawkes, A Coughlan (1-0), E Butler, V Mellis, A Galvin, A O'Donovan, O Deasy, I Coughlan. **Subs:** N Murphy for I Coughlan (49 mins), C Palmer for E Forde (56 mins).

Referee: Cathal Egan; Glen Rovers



Courcey Rovers' Martina Hayes breaks out of defence during the U16 camogie league final against Valley Rovers at Brinny. Picture: Larry Cummins.



The Boherlahan-Dualla County U12 Camogie Champions pictured with coaches, and manager before the presentation of medal's on Sunday evening last. Front L/R. Kelly Edinborough, Claire O'Dwyer, Edel O'Dwyer, Sharon O'Reilly, Aisling Kavanagh, (Captain) Sinead Kavanagh, Aoife Kennedy, Margaret Ann Geehan, Grainne Manton. Centre L/R. Michael O'Dwyer, Maureen Edinborough, Orlagh Gleeson, Lauren Bergin, Eibhlis Maher, Ciara Gleeson, Sinead Ryan, Aine Devane, Naoimh Maher, Monica Kennedy, Pat Kavanagh. Back L/R. Aisling Barrett, Aoife Clancy, Eimear Lowth, Elaine Devane, Ciara Edinborough, Dearbhla Kennedy, Kelly Ann Fennell.

BUTTEVANT ON THE DOUBLE

JUST over three months ago Buttevant were celebrating the success of their under 16 A team as they were crowned county champions for the first time in the club's history. For many this would have been reason enough to celebrate and to look back on the season with satisfaction but on Sunday last another chapter was written in the club's history when they annexed the under 18 B championship title.

An entertaining hours camogie on the superb Inniscarra camogie pitch kept followers on their toes to the final whistle and here it was Buttevant who hung on to take the honours.

Elaine Murphy point inside two minutes to give Buttevant the lead and with Emer Murphy's forty five metre free going directly to the net they increased their advantage. St Finbarr's Pauline Murphy struck back with two Barr's goals inside a

minute but Buttevant were back on level with point from Tracy O'Reilly and Ann Marie Sheehan. With both defences under pressure Pauline Murphy again worked the Blues magic with goal number three and it was St Finbarr's who led of 3-0 to 1-3 at the break.

Buttevant started the second half in a whirl and points from Elaine Murphy and substitute Triona O'Connell (2) had them back on level terms. Buttevant kept the pressure on the Barr's defence through the second half but Dara Banks edged Barr's back into the lead with a minute point but this was to be her sides only score of the second half as Buttevant held a firm grip on proceedings. Katie Crowley denied Sharon Sheehan a certain goal before Dawn O'Keeffe repeated the feat for Buttevant as she denied Ellen Crowley a chance to put Barr's four points ahead. With four minutes

remaining Elaine Murphy reacted quickest to Tracy O'Reilly's well struck free to finish to the net, second later O'Reilly pointed to put four points between the sides. Barr's applied the pressure in the closing stages the Buttevant defence held firm to record a historic victory after an exciting contest.

Credit Inniscarra for the superb condition of the playing surface and venue, the only camogie club in the county have their own camogie pitch. What a pity followers will not adhere to host clubs request to stay of the playing surface in winter months. It was disappointing to witness the abuse levelled on Sunday last as the officials from the host club and the county board tried in vain to stop followers entering the pitch to both congratulate and commiserate with players after the game, in an amateur sport officials should not and must not be subjected to such abuse.

County Board vice Chairperson Mary Bugler presents St Catherine's Captain Orna Neville with the Under 18 A county Championship trophy



COURCEYS CELEBRATE

COURCEY Rovers brushed aside the disappointment of losing the county championship final to be crowned under 16 B league champions on Saturday last. It's hard to get the momentum going again after losing a county final but credit to the Courcsey girls and their mentors who worked hard since losing out to Inniscarra and on Saturday last reaped the rewards. The strong wind and driving drizzle that fell on and off during the hour made it hard for both teams but the excellent Brinney pitch ensured followers were treated to a good contest. Both teams mastered the difficult under foot condition and are to be credited for the level of their commitment on such a bad day. Ciara Hayes gave her side an early lead with a goal in the eight ten minutes but they were thankful to goalkeeper Aileen O'Brien who denied corner forward Ina Coughlan with a point blank save from close range before Ciara Collins claimed their second goal in a crowded goalmouth scramble.

Aided by the wind Valley Rovers worked hard to get into the game and

enjoyed a fair share of possession but they found the going tough against a strong Courcsey's defence. Ursula Quinn's forty five metre free went all the way to the net, to give Courcsey's a three goal interval lead. They turned to play with the aid of the wind.

In the second half and with Ursula Quinn grabbing a goal and three points for Courcsey's and Jemma Hurley adding a point Valley's were in big trouble. Aine Coughlan finished to the net with twelve minutes remaining to give them the goal they deserved but as Courcsey's continued to hold the upper hand adding two goals and two points to their tally without they ran out deserving winners with Elaine Ryan was named as Player of the Match the presentation ceremony which followed. Great to see club senior players and former inter county player Sarah and Joanne Hayes so actively involved with the coaching of the team, this is what is badly needed in the game more involvement from those who have plenty of knowledge to impart to the younger players well done girls.

GLORY FOR ST CATHERINES

A WONDERFUL day for St Catherine's on Sunday last as they were crowned under 18 A champions in the process dethroning holders.

From the throw in the Conna girls showed fierce determination and they led from start to finish as they made Milford play a chasing game. As early as the fourth minute they held the upper hand a free going all the way to the net from They maintained the pressure with Deirdre

Twomey and Orla Cotter pointing before Aine Watson had Milford on the score sheet with an eleventh minute goal.

Senior Inter county All Star Anna Geary had Milford back on level terms with two points but twice Orla Cotter replied before Denise Twomey extended the advantage with a goal to put five points between the side, Anna Geary and Orla Cotter exchanged points as St. Catherine's led 2-5 to 1-3 at the half

time whistle.

With both defences on top the second half was a low scoring affair, Aine Watson pointing inside seven minutes as Milford worked hard to get back into the game but St. Catherine's were unshaken by the Milford rally and held their composure. Orla Cotter twice on target with well struck points as Anna Geary tried to rally Milford with points in the twelfth and fifteenth minute.

As play swung from end

to end through the closing quarter as still four points separated the sides, Milford battled to gain the upper hand but St Catherine's were ahead and were not going to be caught. With either side failing to record a score in the closing quarter St Catherine's held their advantage to the final whistle to run out deserving winners.

Nov 2005

Croke Park to host Camogie and U-21 finals as double-header

by Brendan O'Brien

THE U21 All-Ireland hurling final will next year be played in Croke Park on the same day as the senior camogie decider, it was announced yesterday.

Both finals have clashed with each other time and again in recent years, much to the displeasure of

both parties but particularly the camogie fraternity who have long lobbied to have the third Sunday in September to themselves.

More than once in the past, a county has been represented in both games, meaning supporters had to choose between games which have often been played on different sides of the country.

News that both competitions will share HQ on their big day should end any such problems and ensure a greater attendance as well.

GAA President Sean Kelly said that the format would be tried for the next few years before a decision is made on whether to continue the practise or find another formula.

For the second year running the Martin Donnelly All Ireland camogie poc fada took place and had seven contestants, the same number as 2004. Clare lady, Denise Lynch took the honours with 30 pocs from Carlow's Lyndsey Condell in second. Louth's Vourneen Quigley was third and the contestants were made up by Bronagh Keenan from Armagh, Eimear O'Connor, representing London; Laura O'Brien, Galway; and Louth's Aine McKeown. President of Cumann comogaiochta made the presentation to the winner.

€30,000 input set to boost games

Camogie

Cliona Foley

AFTER the depressing statistics in the latest ERSI report, the latest initiative to get more women playing sport was part of a triple header at Croke Park yesterday which also awarded camogie's first official college scholarships and a new 'third division' colleges championship called the Fr Meagher Cup.

The camogie association has received €30,000 from

the government's recent €750,000 to fund 'women in sport' initiatives, to set up an upcoming blitz day at four locations (WIT, UCD, NUI Maynooth and LIT) to introduce first and second-year secondary students to take up the game.

Among those they will be depending on to act as ambassadors for the game are the 10 players who received the inaugural college bursaries yesterday, who included Jennifer O'Leary, Aoife Murray and Anna Geary of All-Ireland champions Cork who are also both students in the University of Limerick.



An Taoiseach Bertie Ahern at Croke Park with students involved in the Women in Sport project and ten camogie bursary winners. Included are: Oonagh O'Shaughnessy, Gillian Kearney, Amy Brennan, Katie Tyan, Anna Geary, UL; Trish O'Halloran, WIT; Sharon McMahon, MICE; Aoife Murray, LIT; Sarah Murreann, Jennifer O'Leary, UL; Laura Lavery, QUB; Grace McNamara, IT Tralee; Niamh Taylor, TCD; Lizzy Flynn, WIT and Denise Twomey, NUIG.

DEC

2005

Buttevant hang on and make it a double

Buttevant 2-7
St Finbarr's 3-1

By MARY NEWMAN
Ladies' football

LITTLE divided the sides in an entertaining U18 B championship final at the superb Inniscarra camogie venue yesterday but at the finish it was Buttevant who took the title to make it a double having won the U16 A championship crown earlier in the season.

Elaine Murphy had opened the scoring with a Buttevant point inside two minutes and they dictated the early stages with Emer Murphy's 45-metre free deceiving the Barrs' defence to go directly to the net. Inside 30 seconds Pauline Murphy had turned the game with two goals but Buttevant regained their composure getting back on level thanks to points from Tracy O'Reilly and Ann Marie Sheehan.

With both defences under pressure, Pauline Murphy struck for goal number three and it was enough to give St Finbarr's an interval lead of 3-0 to 1-3.

Buttevant started the second half in determined fashion and three points from Elaine Murphy and substitute Triona O'Connell (2) had them back on level terms.

Through the second half Buttevant kept the pressure on the Barrs defence shooting eight wides in total but it was Dara Banks who edged Barrs back in front with a point but this was to be her side's only score of the second half.

With the clock ticking Elaine Murphy, who through the hour had caused the Barrs defence lots of problems, reacted quickest to Tracy O'Reilly's well-struck free to finish to the net. Second later O'Reilly pointed to put four points between the sides.

Despite coming under pressure in the closing stages the Buttevant defence held firm to record a historic victory after an exciting contest.

Credit Inniscarra for the superb condition of the playing surface and venue — the only camogie club in the county have their own camogie pitch.

More camogie Page 35.

BUTTEVANT: D O'Keefe, N Curran, D Dowling, M Lee, T Roche, E Murphy (2 goals, 1 goal from play, 1 goal from 45), E Harrington, T O'Reilly (0-2 frees), M T Foley, L Harrington, S Sheehan, A M Sheehan (0-1), E Murphy, F O'Connell, D O'Callaghan. **Subs:** T O'Connell (0-2) for M Lee (half time), O Johnson for M T Foley (41 mins).

St Finbarr's: K Collins, L Towler, M Collins, A Mc Carthy, M Murray, S Kenefick, N Cooke, N Mc Kenzie, E Crowley, S White, D Banks (0-1), V Hosford, G Fitzgerald, R O'Regan, P Murphy (3 goals). **Sub:** E Forde for S Fitzgerald (41).

Referee: Oliver Webb (Carrigrohane).

St Catherines dethrone Milford

St Catherines
Milford

2-7
1-6

by Mary Newman

ST CATHERINES defeated holders Milford to be crowned under 18 A champions in Newtownshandrum on Sunday last.

The new champions had 1-2 on the score board inside 10 minutes an Oral Cotter free in the fourth minute going all the way to the net quickly followed by points from Deirdre Twomey and Orla Cotter. Aine Watson brought Milford

into the game with an 11th minute goal and two points from senior inter county All Star Anna Geary had the teams level.

Twice Orla Cotter pointed before Denise Twomey put five points between the side with a well taken goal. Anna Geary and Orla Cotter exchanged points as St. Catherines led 2-5 to 1-3 at the half time whistle.

The second half was a low scoring affair, Aine Watson cutting the deficit with a point inside seven minutes, but the St Catherines response was immediate with Orla Cotter on target twice, Anna Geary in the 12th and 15th minute, pointing to

put four between the team. Play swung from end to end for the closing quarter, but with both defences holding firm St Catherines held their advantage and did so to the final whistle to run out victors.

St. Catherines: D Leahy, N Kearney, A Hogan, C O'Brien, D Mulcahy, O. Neville, J Hurley, O Cotter, M O'Keefe, K Murphy, A Hogan, P O'Brien, A O'Brien, D Twomey, C Hanley. **Subs:** F Cotter for C Hurley, A O'Keefe for K Murphy, P Moroney for A O'Brien.

Milford: E Hanley, E Brown, R Finn, M Broderick, C Galvin, S. Sexton, S Carroll, A Geary, C Curtin, T O'Mahony, A Thompson, O Mahony, M Geary, A Watson, C. Lynam, Subs K Galvin for T Mahony (54mins), S Fitzgibbon for T O'Mahony.

Referee: P Downey Inniscarra.

Buttevant take U18 B title in close final

Buttevant 2-7
St. Finbarr's 3-1

by Mary Newman

BUTTEVANT completed 2005 on a winning note taking the under 18 B championship title at the expense of St. Finbarr's.

Little divided the sides through an exciting contest Barrs led at the interval 3-0 to 1-3 Pauline Murphy having grabbed goals in the 14th, 15th and 20th minutes for the Togher girls.

Elaine Murphy opened the scoring with a Buttevant point inside two minutes and by the 11th minute Emer Murphy had stretched the advantage sending a 45 metre free directly to the net. Murphy had Barrs in control with two goal inside 30 seconds before Tracy O'Reilly and Ann Marie Sheehan had the sides level, but it was Pauline Murphy's goal four minutes from the break that separated the teams.

Buttevant started the second half strongly and three points from Elaine Murphy and substitute Triona O'Connell (2) had them back on level terms. Dara Banks edged Barrs back in front with a point and from here on both sides battled it out. Barrs were lucky to have keeper Katie Crowley deny Sharon Sheehan a goal before Buttevant keeper Dawn O'Keefe repeated the feat at the opposite end.

With four minutes remaining Buttevant Elaine Murphy reacted quickest to Tracy



Valerie Scannell, Carrignavar, and Noelle O'Farrell, Watergrasshill, at the Cork Camogie fashion show in the Clarion Hotel.

Picture: Richard Mills.

O'Reilly's dropping free to finish to the net. Seconds later O'Reilly pointed to put four points between the sides, but still the Barrs pressed. However, the Buttevant defence held firm to record a historic victory and add the title to the Under 16 A crown annexed earlier in the season.

Buttevant: D O'Keefe, N Curran, D Dowling, M Lee, T Roche, E Murphy, E Harrington, T O'Reilly, M T Foley, L Harrington, S Sheehan, A M Sheehan, E Murphy, F O'Connell, D O'Callaghan, Subs T O'Connell for M Lee (half time), O Johnson for M T Foley (41 mins).
: K Collins, L Towler, M Collins, A McCarthy, M Murray, S Kenefick, N Cooke, N Mc Kenzie, E Crowley, S White, D Banks, V Hosford, G Fitzgerald, R O'Regan, P Murphy, Sub E Forde for S Fitzgerald (41).

Courcey Rovers UI6B champions

Courcey Rovers 6-6
Valley Rovers 1-0

by Mary Newman

COURCEY ROVERS have been crowned Under 16 B league champions.

A Ciara Hayes goal in the early part of the game settled Courceys but they were thankful to goalkeeper Aileen O'Brien who denied corner forward Ina Coughlan with a point blank save from close range before Ciara Collins forced the ball over the line to claim goal number two.

Valley Rovers worked hard to get into the game and indeed they had plenty of possession but found the going tough against a strong Courcey defence. Ursula Quinn sent a 45-metre free all the way to the net, to give Courceys a three goal interval advantage.

Ursula Quinn grabbed a goal and three points for Courceys, with Jemma Hurley adding a point before Valley's Aine Coughlan finished to the net with 12 minutes remaining. However, Courceys added two goals and two points without reply.

Elaine Ryan was named player of the match.

Courcey Rovers: A O'Brien, N Finn, O Twomey, A Ryan, M Hayes, C O'Neill, N Reilly, J Hurley (0-1), E O'Regan, O Quinn (3-4, 1 goal from 45", 2 p frees, 2-2 play) E Ryan, (1-1) C Collins, C Hayes (1 goal), S O'Reilly, Y Rohan. **Subs:** K Crowley for A Ryan, A McCarthy for S O'Reilly, K Collins for E O'Regan.

Valley Rovers: T Hawkes, K Sedas, S O Shea, C Ryan, E Forde, A Lynch, A O'Callaghan, M A Hawkes, A Coughlan (1 goal), E Butler, V Molia, A Galvin, A O'Donovan, O Deasy, I Coughlan. **Subs:** N Murphy for I Coughlan, C Palmer for E Forde.

Referee: Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers).



County Minor All-Ireland Camogie Finalists 2005

Back Row, (L to R) - Aine Bristane (Toomevara), Ruth Barry (Burgess), Patricia McGrath, Antoinette Kennedy (Drom/Inch), Fiona Young, Captain, (Toomevara), Sarah Nolan (Templemore), Marian Ryan (Shannon Rovers), Sharon Hayes, Deirdre Ryan (Cashel), Niamh O'Connell (Knockvilla), Christina Kenneally (Drom/Inch), Bonnie Kennedy (Toomevara), Marie Ryan, Karen Seymour (Kilruane), Tracey Flanagan (Boherlahan), Catherine Kelly (Annacarty).
Middle: Laura Young (Toomevara), Sarah Dwyer (Boherlahan), Mary Gleeson (Slievenamon), Cathiona Maher (Templemore), Geraldine Stapleton (Silvermines), Sarah Morrissey (Cashel), Aoife McLoughney (Shannon Rovers), Aoife Shinnors (Newport), Therese Shortt, Patricia McGrath (Drom/Inch), Sheena Ryan (Knockvilla), Rita McGrath (Cashel), Cathiona Walsh (Moycarkey), Ailish O'Connell (Templemore), Eimear Shannahan (Drom/Inch).
Front: Cliona Ryan, Margaret Kirwan (Moneygall), Louise O'Brien (St. Cronan's) Norah Costigan (Templemore), Marie Horan (Cashel).

Tipperary County Under 14 Camogie Panel who won the Limerick Colleges Shield in April.

Back Row, L to R: George Mahony (Mentor, Burgess), Becky O'Brien, Cait Devane (Clonoulty), Michelle Moten, Cliona Ryan (Moneygall), Aoife Butler (Drom/Inch), Aoife Murphy, Aine Bristane (Captain), Ethna Canning, Sandra Dunne (Toomevara), Laura Mahony (Burgess), Anne-Marie Quinlan (Kilraune), Michaela Cooley Courtney (Kildangan), Emer Ryan (Burgess), Laura Power (Silvermines), Johnny Kirwan (Mentor, Moneygall).
Middle: Margaret Collins, Mary Kate Burke (Thurles), Emma Spillane (Holycross), Olivia McCarthy (Brian Boru), Catherine Shortt (Drom/Inch), Amy Kennedy (Burgess), Laura Greene (Silvermines), Jennifer Lewis (Lorrha), Niamh Williams (Kilruane), Sinead Moloney, Claire McGrath (Roscrea).

Front: Donie Kelly (Mentor, Toomevara), Aoife Cronin (Carrick-Swans), Sarah Kirwan (Moneygall), Laura Duane (Holycross), Michelle Walsh (Brian Boru), Catherine O'Meara (Lorrha), Emma Mulqueen (Kildangan), Sarah Kennedy (Portroe), Niamh Kelly (Toomevara).



Canon Hayes Awards

Camogie News

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::Croke Park "Triple Header" for Colleges Camogie >>
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Press Release
Croke Park
December 12th

An Taoiseach Bertie Ahern, TD was in Croke Park today for a "triple header" with CCIA, the Camogie Association's 3rd level council. The day included the draws for Ashbourne and Purcell Cup competitions, the launch of the Association's "Women in Sport" Project and the presentation of the first national camogie bursary awards.

Speaking at the event CCIA President, Louise Byrne, said "Today we are literally taking colleges camogie to a 3rd level by acknowledging some of our talented players through the Bursary Scheme and by introducing a new championship competition "The Fr Meagher Cup" to compliment our existing championships, "The Ashbourne Cup" and "The Purcell Cup." In doing so we are catering for players of all standards in colleges throughout Ireland. The Women in Sport project being launched here today will also help ensure a pool of talented and enthusiastic players for 3rd level camogie in years to come."

John Treacy, Chief Executive of the Irish Sports Council, presented the first national camogie bursary awards to ten recipients from eight third level colleges.

Miriam O'Callaghan, President of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael, speaking in Croke Park said: "I'm delighted that CCIA is in a position to recognise its players through the bursaries funded by the Irish Sports Council. Third level camogie competitions play a very special part in the career of camogie players and we are hoping to increase the profile of the championship competitions and we are delighted to have An Taoiseach here to launch events for 2006. I am also thrilled to be announcing the details of the Women in Sport Project, funded by the Irish Sports Council and launched here today. It is vital that we maintain the interest of girls in their early teens in sport and in our case camogie to increase overall participation.

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Winners at the Canon Hayes National Sports Awards pictured with Master of Ceremony Martin Quinn - Brian Dooher (National Award), James Walsh (Local Award), Sean Kelly (Golden Memory), Martin Quinn, Mary O'Connor (Outstanding Achievement), Seamus McCarthy (County Award on behalf of Tipp Senior Football team).

By Noel Dundon

The 10th annual Canon Hayes National Sports Awards evening was celebrated in fine style in Aherlow House Hotel on Saturday evening last with top personalities from the local, county, national and international sporting scenes coming together to honour the winners.

One of the sporting social events of the calendar, the Canon Hayes Awards has become the

most sought after sports award with many distinguished names from across the sporting spectrum attending the presentation evening year after year. This year was no exception either with some of the top names in sport making their way to Aherlow House Hotel for the glittering event.

There were five awards on offer - the local, county and national awards, and the Outstanding Achievement Award and Golden

Memory Award.

Nominated for the local awards were Tipperary hurler and footballer Pa Morrissey, St Michael's AFC soccer player James Walsh, and Timmy Kiely also of St Michael's club. James Walsh was the award winner having been recently named as the Captain of the Republic of Ireland Amateur soccer team.

The county award saw the Clonmel Rowing Club

Ladies u-18 team nominated alongside, Basha racing partnership Con Marname and Kevin Ryan, and the Tipperary senior football team. The award went to the Tipp senior football team and was accepted by Manager Seamus McCarthy, himself a recipient of the county award in 1988.

The national award saw the Irish Cricket team, athlete David Gillick and All-Ireland senior football

champions Tyrone nominated. Tyrone took the honours with Captain Brian Dooher accepting the trophy sculpted by Tipperary man Jarlath Daly.

The Outstanding Achievement Award went to Cork lady Mary O'Connor who won All-Ireland medals in 2005 with the Cork camogie and ladies football team - one of four players to achieve the honour.



Juvenile Chairperson Tracy Sheehan Presents Courcey Rovers Captain Niamh Reilly with the Under 16 B league Trophy.

Ballinascarty crowned U18C champions

Ballinascarty 3-3
Dungourney 3-2

BALLINASCARTY hung on to be crowned U18 C camogie county champions after a terrific tussle with a spirited Dungourney on Sunday.

In the first half, wind and rain made conditions difficult but the two determined sides battled it out.

Evelyn Ronayne grabbed an early goal for Dungourney within two minutes of the start but Ballinascarty came into the game thanks to two Ella Ryan points. Ryan set up Samantha Hurley for her side's opening goal.

With their defence managing to hold the Dungourney attack and with their midfield pairing on top, Ballinascarty ensured a plentiful supply to the inside line but sloppy shooting saw them hit eight wides over the 30 minutes. At the interval, they led 2-2 to

1-0, with Sinead Crowley's long range going all the way to the net before the break.

Inside two minutes of the restart, Evelyn Ronayne found the net for Dungourney and the score gave her side a timely boost.

Time after time they cleared their lines as Ballinascarty threw everything at them in search of a second-half score. In the 13th minute it was Ella Ryan - but this time the Dungourney Ella and not her namesake from Ballinascarty - who struck a point to put just one between the teams.

Both sides worked furiously for the vital score that would seal victory. Marie Condon pointed for Ballinascarty's first score of the second half with nine minutes remaining, and from the puck out Louise O'Sullivan's lobbing shot deceived Aoife O'Neill to end up in the net and Ballinascar-

ty had regained control.

To their credit, Dungourney refused to die and their persistence was rewarded with Brid Cullinane shooting low to the net with four minutes on the stopwatch. A minute later, Caroline Motherway had the lead down to one, twice Dungourney were wide from close range as the Ballinascarty defence held their composure to run out winners by the narrowest of margins.

Ballinascarty: M O'Brien, M Hennessy, M Deasy, C Deasy, G Condon, D Carroll, E Murphy, L O'Sullivan, (1 goal) Eva Ryan, L Hennessy, S Crowley, (1 goal) M Condon, (0-1), C Walsh, S Hurley, (1 goal) Ella Ryan (0-2)

Dungourney: A O'Neill, S O'Keefe, E Cullinane, M O'Sullivan, E Collins, D O'Riordan, A M Hennessy, E Ryan, (0-1) S Rohan, C McGovern, C Motherway, (0-1), N Kelleher, B Cullinane, (1 goal) E Ronayne (2 goals), M Beecher, Subs: C O'Neill for M Beecher, E Hennessy for N Kelleher

Referee: Ger Sheehan, Douglas



Kay and Terry Dunne, CQMS, at a special ceremony at Collins Barracks to mark the 50th anniversary of Ireland's joining the United Nations.

Picture: Larry Cummins

DEC 2005

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2005

GAELIC GAMES

Cork Dominate Camogie Awards



FIRST TIME WINNER: Emer Dillon of Cork won her first All-Star Award last month.

ALL-IRELAND Champions Cork took six awards at the 2005 Camogie All-Stars announced last month at the Citywest Hotel in Dublin. Gemma O'Connor, Jennifer O'Leary, Anna Geary, Rachel Moloney, Emer Dillon and Mary O'Connor all took gongs for the Rebels while 20-year-old midfielder Gemma O'Connor was named as the Player of the Year.

Beaten All-Ireland finalists Tipperary scooped four awards, Galway two and Catherine O'Loughlin won an All-Star at full-back for Wexford.

History was made when Dublin and Clare, the All-Ireland junior finalists, won All Star awards for the first time.

Clara Lucey, instrumental in Dublin's title win, was selected at midfield, while Clare's Catherine

O'Loughlin was a winner at full-forward.

There was success too for Armagh as Colette McSorley was named as Young Player of the Year.

John Cronin, who guided Cork to their 21st senior camogie title, was named Manager of the Year.

2005 Camogie All Stars:

Jovita Delaney (Tipperary); Sinéad Cahalan (Galway); Catherine O'Loughlin (Wexford); Julie Kirwan (Tipperary); Anna Geary (Cork); Mary O'Connor (Cork); Therese Maher (Galway); Gemma O'Connor (Cork); Clara Lucey (Dublin); Jennifer O'Leary (Cork); Rachel Moloney (Cork); Claire Grogan (Tipperary); Eimear McDonnell (Tipperary); Catherine O'Loughlin (Clare); Emer Dillon (Cork).

Mrs. Nora Daly

(St. Mary's, Clonmel)

Nora O'Connell, a native of Derricknue, Killenaule, who died in April, was one of the founder members and star players of the St. Mary's camogie Club of the 1930s. She played with Munster in the Tailteann Games in 1932 and, after she had married Finn Daly and settled in Clonmel, she acquired a reputation as a pitch-and-putt player. In 1974 she became the first non-Cork person to win the Munster Ladies Stroke Play championship and in the same year she was the recipient of a Cidona award. She was born on the same day as her colleague on the

Tailteann Games team and her lifelong friend, Johanna Healy, and by peculiar coincidence the two died with a couple of months of each other - she at the end of April and Johanna Healy at the end of June.

Mrs. Johanna Healy

(St. Mary's, Clonmel)

When St. Mary's Camogie club was formed in 1932 the joint secretary and one of the most active players was Johanna Meaney, a popular member of the nursing staff of

St. Luke's Hospital. Born and reared on Clonmel's old Kerry Road she was one of the group of young ladies who paid what was then the huge membership fee of half a crown to form the club. In the Tailteann Games she was one of two St. Mary's players, the other being Nora Daly (nee O'Connell), who were picked to play for Tipp when the county represented Munster in the inter-provincial game against Connaught. She married Jim Healy of Knockaun, Upperchurch and in Clonmel they reared a family of five children, one of whom is Seamus Healy, South Tipp's Independent T.D. Her death in June severed what was probably the last link with the Tailteann Games team.



2005 CAMOGIE ALL-STARS

Back row, left to right: Jennifer O'Leary (Cork), Rachel Moloney (Cork), Claire Grogan (Tipperary), Eimear McDonnell (Tipperary), Catherine O'Loughlin (Clare), Emer Dillon (Cork), Clara Lucey (Cork) and Gemma O'Connor (Cork).

Front row, left to right: Jovita Delaney (Tipperary), Sinéad Cahalan (Galway), Catherine O'Loughlin (Wexford), Julie Kirwan (Tipperary), Ossie Kilkenny (Chairman, Irish Sports Council), Miriam O'Callaghan (President, Cumann Camógaiochta na nGael), Anna Geary (Cork), Mary O'Connor (Cork) and Therese Maher (Galway).



september

www.womeninsport.ie

The Cumann Camogaíochta na nGael project centres on a blitz day to be hosted by third level colleges for schools in their counties. The aim is to encourage girls to see camogie as a recreational pastime and one that can be continued at third level even if you are not playing at performance level. A support structure will be put in place for teachers to allow them prepare for the blitz and to follow up on interest afterwards. Pictured Sarah O'Donovan gets away from her marker in the Cork versus Limerick Foras Na Gaeilge All Ireland Camogie semi-final in Nolan Park, August 2005

THE
IRISH SPORTS
COUNCIL





With Mary O'Connor, centre, at the announcement of her appointment as camogie regional development coordinator for Limerick, Clare, Cork, Tipperary, Kilkenny, Wexford and Carlow, were Camogie Association president Miriam O'Callaghan, right, and Limerick Institute of Technology director Dr Maria Hinfelaar. Ms O'Connor holds the All-Ireland camogie trophy, the Seaghan O'Duffy Cup, which she won with Cork this year. She also won an All-Ireland medal in football. She will be based at the Limerick Institute.

DEC 2005

Camogiechat

With Mary Newman

Title for Ballinascarty

BALLINASCARTY were crowned Under 18 C camogie county champions as they defeated a spirited Dungourney side on Sunday last in a thrilling final where only one point separated the teams at the final whistle.

The excellent condition of the Tracton pitch helped in a game where the determination from both sides was second to none. The only pity was that there had to be a loser as both sides gave it their all to the final whistle.

Wind and rain through the opening half made life hard but never the less two determined sides battled in out for the title. Evelyn Ronayne grabbed an early Dungourney goal within two minutes of the throw in from the first passage of play but Ballinascarty settled with two Ella Ryan points.

Minutes later Ryan was again a key player as she set up Samantha Hurley for her sides opening goal and aided by the strong wind Ballinascarty were winning the battle in every sector and dictating matters.

With their defence holding the Dungourney attack and with their

mid field pairing on top they got plenty of ball to their inside line but over the thirty minutes they hit eight wide however they lead 2-2 to 1-0 at the half time whistle Sinead Crowley's long range effort going all the way to the net before the break.

Inside two minutes of the restart Evelyn Ronayne grabbed a goal back for Dungourney and it gave them a huge boost and aided by the elements their confidence grew. Ballinascarty threw everything at them in search of a second half score but the dungourney defence held solid, in the thirteenth minute it was Ella Ryan from Dungourney Ella and not her namesake from Ballinascarty who struck a point to put just one between the teams and now the game was delicately poised.

Both sides work furiously for the vital score that would seal victory. Marie Condon pointed for Ballinascarty's first score of the second half with nine minutes remaining and from the puck out Louise O Sullivan lobbing shot deceived Aoife O'Neill to end up in the net and Ballinascarty had regained control.

To their credit Dungourney battled on and their persistence was rewarded with Brid Cullinane shooting low to the net with four minutes on the stopwatch, a minute later Caroline Motherway pointed to cut the Ballinascarty lead to one point.

Twice Dungourney were wide from close range as the Ballinascarty defence held their composure to run out winners by the narrowest of margins after a thrilling contest ably handled by Douglas referee Ger Sheehan.

SEASONS GREETINGS

As this is my last column of the year may I take this opportunity to thanks everybody for their help and support through what has been a tremendous year for Cork camogie. To all the players, mentors and officials a big thank you for all your help and cooperation at games through the year. Over the next few weeks we will take a look back at 2005 but for now a Very Happy Christmas to everyone.



St Catherine's who defeated Milford to take the Under 18 A county Championship title

Seasonal activities

JUST a few notes from clubs who have asked to give their seasonal activities a mention on St Stephen's morning my own club Glen Rovers will hold a long puck.

Teams of three register at the club from at 10am, members and friends both male and female welcomed.

On to Tuesday, December 27 and activities move across the river to Toghier where St Finbarrs are holding their long puck competition, again its teams of three both male and female and they are asked to assemble at the club from 11.30am to 2.30pm. Good luck to everyone in what is hoped will be great fun day events.

NO SENIOR JOY FOR TIPP CAMOGIE WITH ONLY 2ND DEFEAT IN 30 GAMES

By Gerry Slevin

The ending that every Tipperary person dearly wished for on September 18th, namely that Deirdre Hughes would raise the O'Duffy Cup in triumph, alas, failed to materialise. For only the second time in thirty championship games since July 1999, were Tipp forced to taste defeat. Truly, an astonishing record, one that provided all players with ample reason to be hailed as worthy to take their place among the all-time greats of the game.

Thurles man Paddy, GAA Development Officer with Tipperary Institute in his native town, had steered the minor hurlers to three successive provincial titles up to 2004. He had decided to put his feet up for a short while at least, before re-embarking on team management affairs, at whatever level. Then came the call to succeed Raymie Ryan as team manager, an offer he couldn't refuse and things were on the move again.

With Paddy on selection duties were Martin Bourke from Clonmore and Olivia Hogan from Kildangan. The 2005 season would have a special significance in that the captain's arm-band would be worn by Deirdre Hughes and what this meant in the context of Tipperary camogie needed no elaboration.

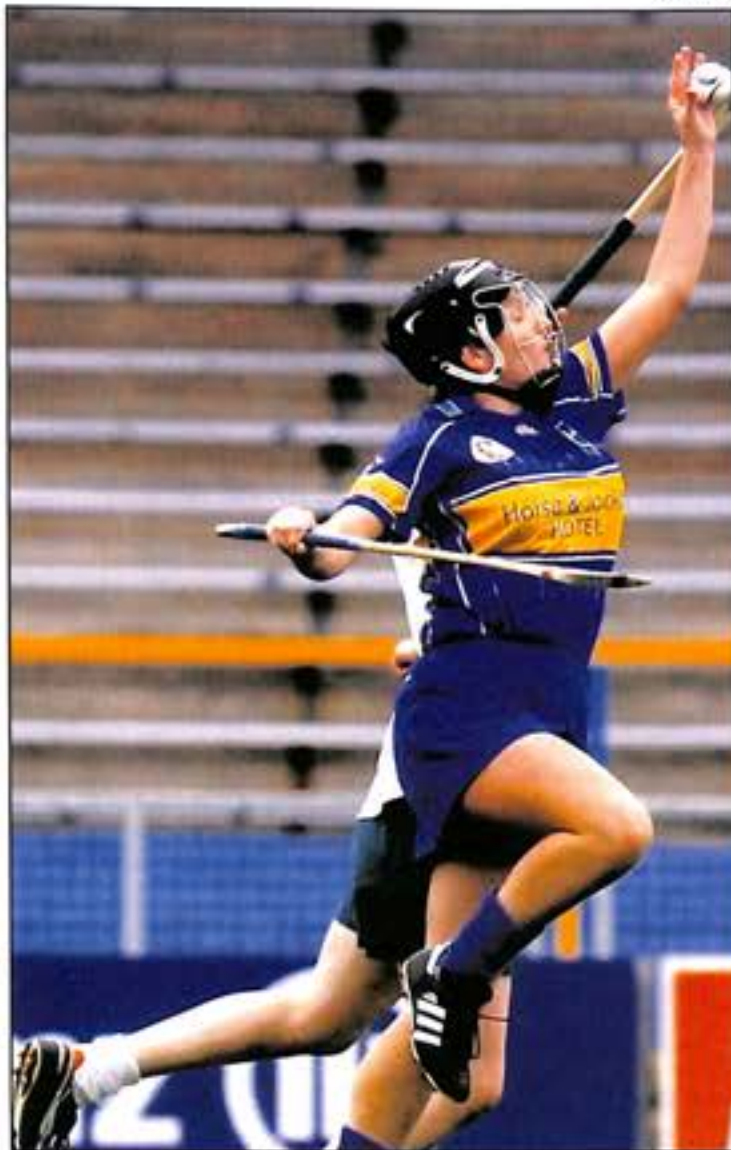
As soon as Toomevara had dethroned Drom-Inch in the 2004 county final, it was clear that Deirdre would lead Tipp's bid for yet another All Ireland title. And none was more deserving of that honour.

So, the season began. There were three titles to defend but, of course, the keenest eye would be on the O'Duffy Cup. Tipp would be seeking their 6th title in seven years, their second three-in-a-row achievement in that same period.

Cork came out on top when the sides met in Cork in the league and it was yet another Tipp-Cork Munster final, neither side at anything near full strength with Tipp avenging that league defeat.

Anyhow, with two competitions out of the way, it was time to concentrate on the All Ireland. Tipp were grouped with Antrim, Kilkenny and Limerick. Cork, Galway and Wexford comprised the other group. However, only days before they were scheduled to travel to meet Tipp in the

opening encounter, the Glens ladies pulled out of the competition. Now, we had an All Ireland championship confined to a mere SIX counties, and that championship would provide a total of only NINE games, one less than the Tyrone footballers played in order to regain the Sam Maguire trophy! On the day that Tipp should have been



Tipperary's Sheena Howard goes highest against Limerick in the All-Ireland series at Semple Stadium

playing Antrim, we had the first upset of the season, Kilkenny's defeat by Limerick. Maybe now, we thought, this competition mightn't be the two horse race we all felt it would be. It was a result that placed much pressure on Kilkenny. Quite simply, they couldn't afford another loss and even though they had home venue for the visit of Tipp, the signs were there that Kilkenny needed more than that to inspire them.

Deirdre Hughes led her colleagues out in

Nowlan Park on Saturday July 16th. Una O'Dwyer's absence because of cruciate ligament trouble saw Niamh Harkin at full back, flanked by Suzanne Kelly and Maedhbh Corcoran. The half back line was the same and at mid field Tricia O'Halloran partnered Angie McDermott. Sheena Howard was at centre forward, the remainder of the attack as we had come to know it. Not a spectacular performance from the All Ireland champions, sufficient for the day probably summing it up. Though the final score of 0-13 to 1-6 might suggest a somewhat close match, it wasn't. Tipp built up a 0-7 to 0-3 interval lead and by the three quarter stage had added five points to their opponents one. The Kilkenny defence did not stand on ceremony, so that the Tipp attack was not allowed all the space it would have wished for. Kilkenny did get through for the game's only goal nine minutes from time and they finished well. However, Una Kearney's final whistle saw Tipp through to the semi final irrespective of the Limerick game result. Kilkenny, alas, had departed the championship scene.

Incidentally, that was the first occasion that Tipp had failed to score a goal since the All Ireland final of 1999, their opponents then also being Kilkenny.

Tipp and Limerick had played a game apiece, each winning ones, so they moved directly to the All Ireland semis. Their Semple Stadium clash on Saturday July 30th would have no importance other than to decide the group winner, which in turn would meet the runner-up in the other group, come semi final day. Cork had cleared both the Galway and Wexford hurdles en route to the semis but Galway were at home to Wexford earlier on the 30th and expected to get through. Not so, however, a surprise result here that was known in the Stadium before Tipp and Limerick moved into action. Una O'Dwyer after her long lay off fronted Jovita Delaney in a Tipp side that saw Julie Kirwan restored to the left full back berth. Joanne Ryan moved to mid field beside Angie and Emily Hayden was at centre forward with Ger Kinane in Jill Horan's corner. Jill was in far off Detroit on a soccer scholarship. Former Limerick hurler Ger Hegarty had taken up the management of his county's caillins and with Kilkenny's scalps under their belts they were not a side to be treated lightly. Tipp hadn't had any great bother against the Treaty sides in previous years but Limerick's credentials in getting over the Cats augured well for them and if Tipp were to avoid a semi final meeting with Cork - a game they did not want at that stage of proceedings - then there could be no slackening off.

The opening five minutes saw the teams share four points but when a move involving Eimear McDonnell and Deirdre Hughes ended with an Emily Hayden goal after ten minutes, the game took on an appearance that didn't bode well for the visitors. By half time it was 2-9 to 0-5 and worse was to follow from a Limerick viewpoint. Despite the fact that Deirdre Hughes failed to score, Tipp moved away with the greatest of ease ending up with a 5-17 to 0-8 victory. Five subs were also given a run, one of them Louise Young figuring in the scoring (1-1) to add to the exploits of such as Claire Grogan 0-7, Emily Hayden 2-2 and

Eimear McDonnell 1-5.

Nothing whatever was learned from this outing as attention turned to Kilkenny's Nowlan Park on Saturday August 20th for the two semi finals.

The Cork-Limerick semi was every bit as one-sided as the Tipp-Limerick clash had been, even down to both Tipp and Cork recording the exact same score, 5-17! Limerick with 0-5 managed three points less than they did in Semple Stadium. Philly Fogarty back in the Tipp colours at midfield for her first championship game of the season. In fact Tipp lined out as they did in the 2004 final against Cork and from the way the game began it looked as though they would blow Wexford away. Less than a half minute from the throw-in, Eimear McDonnell got possession, rounded her opponent, headed goal ward and planted the sliotar well beyond the opposing keeper's reach. Two minutes later she added a point but Wexford received a huge boost after ten minutes when on failing to lift a close in free, Kitty Kelly struck the ball on the ground and it totally deceived the Tipp defence, flying into the top right hand corner of the net. Tipp recovered well and benefited from this Wexford goal more than their opponents did, tapping over some excellent points and taking the interval break with a 1-10 to 1-1 lead.

But what a difference the second half was. Shades of 2004 at the same stage of the competition, at the same venue. Wexford returned with determination in every move and as they chipped away at Tipp's lead, the champions were not at all happy. In fact, following an early Claire Grogan point it took them all of thirteen minutes to add to it. Point by point Wexford continued to reduce the margin, Tipp's defence placed under immense pressure, and for the first time what



Cashel's Philly Fogarty gets sway on Jerry O'Halloran in the senior camogie County Final reply at Holycross.

was seen as an impregnable sector, the half back line, failed to live up to its reputation. Add in the stranglehold, which the Wexford half back line had on their immediate opponents and the manner in which the flow of ball to the lethal Tipp full forward line was stifled.

As they had shown a year earlier Wexford were a match for the best and they had reduced the nine point interval lead to three with normal time almost up. But Tipp rallied. The introduction of Sheena Howard proved to be a good move and when well placed by Deirdre Hughes, she knew where the posts were and put four points between the teams. Though Claire Grogan ended the scoring with a pointed free, it took two fine Jovita saves to keep the Wexford challenge at bay. Tipp's winning margin being a flattering five points, 1-13 to 1-8. The end result of those Saturday afternoon exertions in Nowlan Park was that at Tipp

and Cork would fight out possession of the O'Duffy Cup for the 4th successive season on Sunday September 18th in Croke Park. Tipp would be seeking possession of the famed trophy for the third successive year and hoping to emulate the feat of the 2001 side.

The official attendance of just under 15,000 was disappointing for the final. That figure had been exceeded by at least 10,000 the previous year, which was Centenary Year.

As usual, busloads of young and not so young supporters left the county on the morning of the final. Croke Park, as is now usual for camogie and ladies football deciders, reverberated to the sound of hooters, continuous shouting and cheering, accelerating the decibel levels appreciably. Tipp lined out as they began the semi final which was also the same team that had faced and defeated Cork in the 2004 final. Cork had eleven of the side that began that final, probably the most notable aspect of their line out being the move of 2004 captain Stephanie Dunlea from full back all the way up to full forward. It was a move than began during the league and was persevered with because of its success. Every Tipp-Cork clash is special and this final was no different. It was tense throughout, the opening ten minutes very close before a series of fine points edged Tipp ahead to a 0-5 to 0-2 lead at the end of the first quarter. Jill Horan, Claire Grogan, Joanne Ryan, Eimear McDonnell and Philly Fogarty were Tipp's scorers.

Cork fought back and with three minutes of the first half remaining there was only a point in it, 0-7 to 0-6. Claire Grogan then collected a pass from Noelle Kennedy and her high dipping shot deceived Cork's keeper, the ball finding its way over the goal line to the joy and delight of the Tipp team and supporters. Half time came with Tipp ahead 1-10 to 0-8. It was no more than they deserved, as they had been the more enterprising side. It was a half that had seen them display many of the exquisite skills they had honed over the years and in all sectors they seemed to have the edge on Cork.

Thirty minutes still remained, a half-hour that would change the order of things dramatically. Cork resumed with a new mid field pairing, conscious, no doubt, of the need to put the shackles on a rampant Philly Fogarty and Angie McDermott who had been so influential in that sector throughout the first half. Some judicious switches in personnel were also made as the challengers set out to transform that title into that of champions.

Cork set the pace from the second half throw-in. Three points saw the margin reduced to two by the 7th minute. The supply to the Tipp attack was being cut drastically. The Tipp half back line was under immense pressure and not coping. Therese Brophy moved to the centre. Scoring opportunities at the other end were few and far between, although Jill Horan was very unlucky with two attempts at points. Thanks to a defiant inner defence line, Tipp still managed to



Joan Byrne bursts through with the ball

keep heads above water and precariously they seemed to be holding out. Noelle Kennedy was replaced by Emily Hayden and Michelle Shortt stepped in for Ciara Gaynor. It was all of twenty-one minutes of the half before Tipp added to their interval score of 1-10. Claire Grogan pointed a free after Deirdre Hughes had been fouled. Then, just a minute later, Cork defender Amanda O'Regan lofted a huge free into the Tipp goal area. The ball skidded off Una O'Dwyer's leg and over the line to the dismay of herself and Jovita Delaney standing just behind her. Eight minutes remained and Cork were ahead. But back came Tipp and a Deirdre Hughes point levelled up matters before Claire Grogan regained the lead with a point from a free after she had been fouled soloing through.

1-13 to 1-12 and two minutes remained. Could Tipp hold out? It was a question posed and answered positively in many a previous encounter, but not this time, alas. Two Emer Dillon points saw Cork back in front and there they stayed, finishing very strongly as three points were quickly added to have the O'Duffy Cup snatched away by a 1-17 to 1-13 score line.

Claire Grogan, top scorer in the final, had the satisfaction of being the game's top championship scorer for the season. Going into the final she was in 3rd place with 0-17, behind Wexford's Kitty Kelly (3-12) and Jennifer O'Leary, Cork on 0-19. By scoring 1-5 in the final, Claire leapfrogged over the pair to end the season on 1-22 (25 points) with the Cork girl moving into 2nd spot (0-23) after her four All Ireland final points.

Of course it was disappointing to lose; of course winning a 6th title in seven years would have been fantastic and as the players and mentors stood around on Croke Park's sod with family, friends and supporters afterwards, they knew they had given their all and they were as gracious and complimentary in defeat as they had been so often in victory.

Over that six-year period Tipp had met Cork each year except 1999. In all they clashed seven times, twice in 2001 when it took a replay to separate them at the semi final stage. Tipp faced Kilkenny six times, Wexford five, Limerick three, Down, Clare, Galway and Dublin twice each and Antrim once. But, despite how some might feel about it, that September 18th defeat is by no means the end of an era. It is still a young team and a glance through the substitutes list reveals a wealth of fine talent that will continue to strive for a places.

A blip in a record of rare distinction might be the most apt way of describing the defeat. Deirdre Hughes and her team mates of 2005 deserve no less in defeat than they received in their many victories. Camogie's future in the Premier County is bright and there will be many more great occasions to celebrate.

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BIG PRIZES FOR CORK AND DUBLIN

CORK ARE CAMOGIE QUEENS

Cork recovered strongly to eclipse Tipp and lift the 2005 All-Ireland senior camogie championship with an incredible 1-17 to 1-13 success at Croke Park.

The resilient Rebel lasses played catch-up for most of the match. They trailed by five points at the break and were still behind with only two minutes of normal time remaining, but they simply refused to give up, earning their 21st senior camogie crown with a scintillating late burst.

In the final analysis, Cork's superior fitness and huge heart proved decisive as they overturned their Munster final defeat to today's opposition.

Tipperary almost fell across the winning line but a return of three points in the second half is never going to be enough to win an All-Ireland final – Cork scored precisely that amount in injury time alone!

The winners totally dominated the second half and were worthy winners, even if there was a huge element of fortune attached to the 52nd-minute goal that finally tipped the balance in their favour.

In fairness to Cork, though, the major they conceded in the first half was equally lucky, so those two scores cancelled each other out.

Cork held an early 0-2 to 0-1 lead but Claire Grogan's ninth-minute free drew the Premier County level.

Joanne Ryan demonstrated real predatory instinct to gather possession close to the Cork goal before firing the sliothar over the bar and an excellent Eimear McDonnell point made it 0-4 to 0-2 in Tipp's favour.

Midfielder Philly Fogarty stretched the Blue & Gold lead and Cork had a big let-off when Ryan came within inches of registering the game's first goal.

The Tipp No.10 lost her hurley bearing down on the Rebel

The two capitals stole the limelight when the big prizes of the 2005 camogie year were given out.

goal and cleverly attempted to improvise but her handpassed effort missed the post and went into the side-netting.

McDonnell set up Grogan for a point before Cork midfielder Rachel Maloney lifted the siege with a super score from out the field.

Centre back Ciara Gaynor's second pointed free edged Tipperary four points clear, 0-7 to 0-3.

Captain Elaine Burke intervened with an inspirational Cork score into the Canal End. Jennifer O'Leary's stylish free further reduced the deficit and Eimear Dillon converted a brilliant point from play as the Leesiders closed within a single point.

However, all Cork's good work was undone when Tipperary got a fortuitous goal in the 27th minute. Grogan's long delivery into the danger area bounced in front of unsighted Cork 'keeper Aoife Murray and slipped through her legs to the back of the net.

It was a cruel blow for Cork, who had battled back to within a point with less than four minutes left in the half.

Una Dillon (Cork) and Jill Horan traded points as Cork battled gamely to recover from the body blow of surrendering such a soft three-pointer.



Elaine Burke proudly raises the All-Ireland camogie trophy

veteran full-forward Catherine O'Loughlin hand passed their only goal of the match to the net with six minutes to go it gave the Banner girls some hope having scored the opening point a free two minutes earlier from Claire McMahon.

Clare introduced Marie O'Halloran for centre forward Áine O'Brien at the break but despite this it was the hungrier Dubs who got the dream second half start with a second minute point from player of the match, Dublin's Ciara Lucey. That gave the Dubs their opening point but three minutes later Claire Mc Mahon pointed for the Banner.

Both sides exchanged further scores before corner forward Emer Lucey got Dublin's opening goal with eleven minutes gone to leave the Dubs only trailing by a point, 1-2 to Clare's 1-3. However, straight away second half Clare

substitute Marie O'Halloran sent over a point for the Banner, but that became the Banner's final score.

Instead it was Dublin who stepped into the high gears with a second goal with ten minutes remaining. It came from midfielder Áine Fanning who found the waiting full-forward Louise O'Hara who crashed the ball past Clare 'keeper Rachel Lynch. That gave Dublin a lead of 2-3 to 1-4 and they never looked back after that with both Louise O'Hara and Ciara Lucey both sending over 0-2 each while Eve Talbot also got her name on the score board. Watched by a large crowd, it was a memorable for eight times All-Ireland goal keeper, the legendary Eileen Duffy O'Mahony of Dublin who almost played every ball of the game with the Dubs such was her delight to see the young Dubs in an All-Ireland final.



Cork – All-Ireland senior camogie winners 2005



The Clare junior side

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Clare's Cathy Halley clears the sliotar ahead of Dublin's Niamh Taylor in the junior decider

Noelle Kennedy and McDonnell both registered stellar Tipperary points as the rampant Premier County moved six points clear, but O'Leary kept the Rebels in it with an inspirational point at the other end.

The half time whistle sounded with Tipperary five points to the good, 1-10 to 0-8.

Cork No.13 Eimear Dillon opened the second-half scoring with her second point five minutes after the resumption. Gemma O'Connor followed up quickly with another point for the Rebel girls and the centre forward added another stunning score as the margin was sliced to a mere two points.

Demonstrating the hunger one might associate with a



Dublin eventually took the All-Ireland junior crown after a replay win over Clare



The Tipperary senior side which reached the All-Ireland final

ravenous cannibal on the prowl, Cork were getting about their opponents, hunting in packs, putting the Tipperary defence under incessant pressure.

Tipp, in contrast, only managed to get upfield twice in the third quarter and those sporadic attacks both culminated in wides from the stick of Jill Horan.

Cork's Jennifer O'Leary momentarily considered going for goal but, after a quick assessment of the situation, swivelled in front of the Tipp posts to pop the ball over the bar as Cork closed ominously within a point.

Undisciplined defending gifted Grogan Tipp's first point of the second period a full 21 minutes after the re-start.

Eight minutes from the end, it was Cork's turn to benefit from an extremely flukey goal: Tipp full back Una O'Dwyer tried to catch Amanda O'Regan's booming

delivery but the ball bounced off her hand, deflected, and somehow trickled over the line to nestle in the back of the net.

The goal was almost identical to the one Tipp got around the same stage of the first half, and it completed the great Cork fightback, giving them a 1-12 to 1-11 lead.

Tipp managed to get back in front one last time before Cork's spirit overwhelmed them.

Three minutes from time, the uncharacteristically quiet Deirdre Hughes came into the action with a timely point. It wasn't quite the three-goal haul 'Dee' had exacted in the Munster final but this point seemed every bit as crucial as that memorable hat-trick.

Especially when Grogan won and converted a free to put the Premier County ahead by 1-13 to 1-12 with time ticking away.

But brilliant Cork dug deep to hit five points in the closing two minutes plus stoppage time.

Eimear Dillon landed a stunning riposte to Grogan's free – an excellent 58th-minute point from way out on the right wing.

Dillon hit another point in the final minute as the Reds took the lead right at the death and Cork confirmed their total superiority with three stoppage-time points.

Substitute Angela Walsh got in on the scoring act and wing back Breege Corcoran surged forward to send over a mighty point at the end of a lung-bursting run.

O'Leary converted a late, late free to wrap up a miraculous four-point win for Cork.

DUBLIN CLAIM CAMOGIE CROWN

Dublin are the newly crowned Junior All-Ireland champions following their All-Ireland replay victory of 2-9 to 1-4 against Clare in Birr.

Not since 1975 have Dublin won a junior All-Ireland title and there was no prouder person than captain Eimear Brannigan who accepted the New Ireland cup from Uachtarán Miriam O'Callaghan. The opening half belonged to the Banner who like Dublin were chasing their fourth All-Ireland title and backed by a strong first half wind were 1-1 to no score for Dublin.

Both sides showed a lot of first half nerves but when



Dublin captain Eimear Brannigan with the All-Ireland junior trophy

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TIPPERARY GET FOUR ALL STAR AWARDS

By: Rose Mannion.

Several hundred people came together on Saturday night last in The City West Hotel in Saggart to view the cream of camogie receive their fitting tributes to another year of camogie in this the second awards year to recognise the greats of skill and craft on the field of play.

With seven nominations, three less than old rivals and all-Ireland champions Cork, Tipperary were indeed pleased to have received four all stars.

In all, thirty seven nominations were made from nine counties and when the final fifteen were decided by the powers that be, four from the fifteen were from Tipp.

Although nominated last year, but had no joy, Tipp goalie Jovita Delaney was first up to receive her award from special guest Ossie Kilkenny newly appointed chairperson of the Irish Sports Council and camogie's National President Miriam O'Callaghan. From the back line and another first time winner was Julie Kirwan, also nominated last year and who has enjoyed a great second season at senior ranks, while the Tipperary list was completed from the forwards in Claire Grogan who claimed her second all star, and while also unlucky to miss out last year, but up front this year was Eimear McDonnell another first time winner of this prestigious award. Unlucky to miss out was Therese Brophy, Suzanne Kelly and Philly Fogarty. Therese and Suzanne already hold all stars from last year.

In association with O'Neills, this glittering event also saw Tipp's minor forward Aoife McLoughney from the Shannon Rovers club, nominated for Young Player Of The Year award and while the other three nominees along with Aoife, Siobhan Flannery Offaly, Colette McSorley Armagh and Katie Power Kilkenny, received a plaque for the role they played for their respective

Counties, it was surprisingly Armagh's Colette McSorley who claimed the overall award as young player of the year. An new addition to the awards this year was Manager Of The Year and this went to John Cronin from Cork.

Uachtaran Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael Miriam O'Callaghan who ends her last year in office in just a few month's time, welcomed the crowd and also the thirty seven all-star nominees who entered the banqueting hall, each bearing a yellow rose, to a standing ovation from all present. Special guests included O'Neills managing director, the sponsors of the event Tony Towell, former G.A.A. president Joe McDonagh who is chairman of Foras na Gaeilge who sponsor the all Ireland senior championship. Unavoidably absent was the president of the G.A.A. Sean Kelly. Presenters for the evening were the popular Clare McNamara of RTE news sport and Michael Lyster RTE sport who took it in turn to announce the winners.

All Ireland champions Cork led the way with six awards with Tipperary in hot pursuit with four while Galway had two and Wexford, Dublin and Clare making up the remainder with one each. Dublin's Ciara Lucey, selected at midfield and Clare's Catherine O'Loughlin in the back line, were the two non senior players to be selected.

As like picking a team to take to the pitch, everyone has their own personal

opinion and indeed the All Stars occasion is certainly no different. Plenty of tension and sometimes controversy about the chosen fifteen and there's the added chat about the how's and why's which gives rise to several mind boggling re-plays and club games, which is possibly not even considered. But that will always be as long as there is competition.

Tipperary can be justly proud of their Four All-Stars and after a short winter break, may once again concentrate on bringing back the O'Duffy cup to the County, a County which has provided inspiration and awe to others and also which has been regarded by many as the County to be feared most in the Camogie world. It's good to see so much talent there still and young talent coming through too, so lets hope O'Duffy will be returning to the Premier County in 2006.

The Camogie 2005 All Stars in association with O'Neills are Jovita Delaney (Tipperary), Sinead Cahalan (Galway), Catherine O'Loughlin (Wexford), Julie Kirwan (Tipperary), Anna Geary (Cork), Mary O'Connor (Cork), Therese Maher (Galway), Gemma O'Connor (Cork), Ciara Lucey (Dublin), Jennifer O'Leary (Cork), Rachel Moloney (Cork), Claire Grogan (Tipperary), Eimear McDonnell (Tipperary), Catherine O'Loughlin (Clare), Emer Dillon (Cork).



All Stars from left: Julie Kirwan, Jovita Delaney, Eimear McDonnell, Claire Grogan.
Picture by Rose Mannion.

CASHEL CAMOGIE CLUB

by Anne Moloney

There is nothing more emotionally upsetting than to see a group of players distraught following the disappointment of defeat. Cashel camogie senior team know all about it. On Saturday, November 12, they endured the heartbreak of defeat at New Inn, in the All-Ireland semi-final by Davitts of Galway.

Time is a great healer and on reflection 2005 wasn't such a bad year at all. Playing in the league back in March, and with barely fifteen of the panel, we suffered defeats at the hands of Toomevara and Drom Inch. Plenty of time to regroup, perhaps, but prospects were not very good. Our first game in the championship was against a combination of Portroe and Burgess, a team called Duharra. This game didn't materialise due to a tragedy just half an hour before throw-in. Our next game was against Holycross, which we won by 2-18 to 2-6. We next beat Toomevara in Toom by 0-15 to 0-9, and a further victory over Drom Inch by 1-15 to 0-11 qualified us for the final against Duharra.

The final was played at the Ragg on October 2 and ended all square. The replay couldn't take place the following Sunday as the Munster Club semi-final was scheduled for that date. Cashel were nominated and defeated the Cork champions, Cloughduv, by 1-13 to 0-5. The replay of the county final took place at Holycross on October 16, with victory going to Cashel by 0-16 to 1-9.

There was no rest as the Munster Club final, against Limerick champions, Killeady, was set for the following Saturday at Cappawhite. Cashel came through easily enough, winning by 4-13 to 2-4, to take their third Munster title in five years.

There was a break of one week before the All-Ireland semi-final against Connacht champions, Davitts of Galway. This was played at Tynagh. Five games in six weeks was beginning to take its toll. Cashel were up by six points at half-time but a great comeback by the Galway side forced a draw, Cashel 1-13 Davitts 3-7.

Niamh Bonnar scores a goal



Sarah Hayes

The replay was a week later, November 11, at New Inn. Davitts were physically stronger, a fresher team, and possibly possessed greater hunger. Although the sides were close near the end, Davitts pulled away in the final minutes to win by six points, on a scoreline of 4-9 to 2-9, and qualify for the All-Ireland final.

In spite of the defeat the team gave wonderful hours of enjoyment to their supporters during the year. Much credit for the year's successes goes to Liam Cahill and Joe Williams. Their workrate and dedication brought a new freshness to a team that were in the doldrums for a few years. The panel of players were as follows: Jovita Delaney, Sarah Morrissey, Una O'Dwyer, Nolette O'Dwyer, Fiona O'Dwyer, Sinead Millea, Paula Bulfin, Linda Grogan, Philly Fogarty, Helen Grogan (capt.), Emily Hayden, Claire Grogan, Allison Lonergan, Cora Hennessy, Roseanne Quirke, Kaiffe Moloney, Helen Breen, Libby Twomey, Kira O'Sullivan, Deirdre Ryan, Emma Williams, Sharon Hayes, Mairead Morrissey, Sile Nash, Roisin Nash, Kate O'Dwyer.

Many club players were members of county panels. Jovita Delaney, Una O'Dwyer, Philly Fogarty, Gill Horan, Claire Grogan, Paula Bulfin and Emily Hayden were on the senior panel. Jovita Delaney and Claire Grogan were awarded All-Stars. Allison Lonergan, Kira O'Sullivan and Cora Hennessy were on the under-18 panel. Sarah Morrissey, Deirdre Ryan, Sharon Hayes and Rita McGrath were on the minor panel.

DEC. 2005

Toomevara Camogie Celebrates 30 years

by Suzanne Kelly.

all who attended the day and a special word of thanks to the organising committee, Joe and Mary Stapleton of Borrisoleigh Bouncing Castles and guest players who all added to the occasion.

From humble beginnings the club has grown to be a major force in the camogie world. 2005 is a further reflection of the continued growth. Teams were fielded in the A grades of U/10, U/12, U/14, U/15, U/16, U/18, junior and senior all teams competed in the grade of their relevant competitions.

The club was also to the fore on the county scene. On the senior front Deirdre Hughes captained the side which claimed the Munster final and just fell short to Cork in the All Ireland. Noelle Kennedy, Louise Young, Maria Tynan and Suzanne Kelly were also members of the senior team. Fiona Young captained the minors, who claimed the Munster final and were eventually defeated by Kilkenny in the All Ireland final along with Laura Young, Aine Brislane and Siobhan Kennedy. Donal Kelly served as an U/14 selector with a Tipperary side, that was captained by Aine Brislane along with Sandra Dunne, Eithne Canning, Aoife Murphy and Niamh Kelly. On the primary school team we had Aoife Ryan and Noirin Stapleton, who played in Pairc Ui Caoimh during the Munster final. Congratulations to all our girls who wore the blue and gold and we hope they have many more successful

against St Vincent's Dublin. This game was played at a ferocious pace and both teams matched each other play for play. We laid siege to the Vincent's goal but just could not find the goal we needed and Vincent's claimed the spoils by three points.

Our girls produced their finest performance of the year in Feile and were a credit to all involved. The commitment and passion shown by all our panel was an inspiration to watch. Although victory eluded us narrowly the girls were fantastic ambassadors for the club playing a brand of camogie that earned them many admirers over the weekend. Thanks to all who travelled with the girls throughout the year it has certainly been a long season and we hope that this panel can stay together and produce many more fine performances.

Toomevaras U/15s made history this year as they claimed the inaugural county title in the u/15A section of this competition. This team produced an exceptional performance on a September evening in Moneygall. They awed onlookers with their silken skills and score-taking notching up a total of 4.10 to 2.2 to claim the title. It is hoped that this team will form the foundation for the u/16 championship and we wish them the best luck in the competition. The U/18 competition is still ongoing at this stage we have reached the semi final stage.

The junior team was bolstered by their success in the league last year and was determined to have a say in this year's championship. Preparation was meticulous and the girls played some fine camogie all year. They were finally defeated by Shannon Rovers in the semi-final. Our senior team has similar designs on retaining the county championship but had to bow to the combination of Duharra and Cashel. Although all concerned were bitterly disappointed the spirit that exists amongst the players is constant and the focus is now firmly on the forthcoming season. Our thanks to the management team of Jackie Meagher, Catherine Byrne and Donal Kelly whose preparation of

both teams was second to none and undertaken with the utmost commitment. We hope that in the near future we can rely on the homegrown players we have developing through our underage ranks to serve the junior and senior panels.

By most club standards, claiming three county titles and competing at the highest grade in all competitions would be a fine achievement. However with the well of talent young and old that exists within the club we can surely set our sights on more titles for 2006. Our thanks to all managers, selectors and coaches who worked with the teams throughout the year all of you served the club with dignity and pride. To the parents of all our players who travelled the highways and byways we hope that you enjoyed the year and are looking forward to the coming season. Again we owe a depth of gratitude to our main sponsor Siobhan Tynan of A Sportsman's Dream also to the Toomevara GAA club for the use of the facilities. Many thanks to our loyal supporters who followed the teams throughout the year. Finally to the players the most essential element in any club there have been highs and lows this year nevertheless take heart tiocfaidh ár lá.



30th Celebrations Toomevara Camogie Guest Team
Back L-R: Mammy Maura, Bernie M, Anne G, Auntie Joan, Sr
Bernie, Not so Young Margaret, Crusty
Front L-R: Jordan, Winnie the Witch, Spike, Scream

years playing for Tipperary.

The U/10s has a magnificent year expertly guided by Nora Dwan, Grainne Shanahan and Mary Rose Ryan. They gained valuable experience with numerous challenge games throughout the year and their progress will continue to grow as they head indoors for the winter.

The U/12 team maintained the clubs record at this grade claiming the final against our near rivals Moneygall. The final was a keenly contested game witnessed by a large crowd. All the finer skills of the girls came to the fore as they produced their best camogie to take the final in style.

The U/14 team again claimed the honour of representing Tipperary in Feile na nGael. Defeating Drom & Inch, Moneygall and Burgess in the county championship we progressed as Tipperary champions to the finals in Cork. A very welcoming Ballincollig club hosted us and the girls had to be at the top of their game as they faced their hosts in the opening round. This was a keenly contested game and our girls pulled out all the stops to take the points. On Saturday Inniscarra were the opposition and once again the girls dug deep to produce a fine performance sealing a quarterfinal place

MONEYGALL CAMOGIE CLUB

In October 1995 a small group of people met in the G.A.A. Centre in Moneygall to organise a Camogie Club in the parish. They were reviving a club which had been in existence intermittently down the years. During the ten years of its existence the club had many good years but these pale into insignificance when compared to the success and activity of the last twelve months. The adult team having promised much in recent years delivered on that promise by winning the county intermediate championship and the county intermediate league. In underage the outstanding team were the under-12 side who won a thrilling county B championship and lost out to Toomevara in the A final. Other underage teams were also very successful with the under-10, under-14 and under-15 teams having many memorable wins before losing the county A finals in each grade.

At the beginning of the year the intermediate team had their minds firmly set on winning the Championship. They had the unenviable record of having been the runners-up in the championship for the previous three years. They had finished 2004 on a high note by defeating Burgess in the inaugural senior B final late in the year.

The challenge before them was put into focus when early in 2005 they played newly-promoted Bournea in a league game in Clonakenny. Moneygall were well beaten and now knew that it would require a great effort if the championship were to be won.

The preparations intensified and by the middle of summer it was clear that the team was playing their best hurling. The form in the training field was repeated in the championship which came to a glorious end with hard fought convincing wins over Silvermines in the semi-final and Bournea in the county final. Ecstatic scenes greeted the final whistle in The Ragg as players and supporters celebrated a historic occasion.

The panel consisted of twenty-eight girls all, natives of the parish which is surely rare in camogie circles. The team had a great mix of youth and experience ranging from the three members of the Tipperary senior panel, Julie Kirwan, Eimear Ryan and Mary Ryan, right down to three of our under-14 team, Michelle Moten, Sarah Kirwan and Clíodhna Ryan who all played in the final. There was no weakness in the side and sterling leadership was provided by captain Brid Byrne who never had a bad game during the year. A special contribution came from the Kirwan families who provided nine members of the panel which included Julie, her two sisters and six cousins who all made a major contribution during the campaign.

County Final Line-out: Michelle Moten; Amanda Moten, Caroline Kirwan, Maire Kirwan; Aisling Kennedy, Julie Kirwan, Michelle Kirwan; Brid Byrne, Mary Ryan; Sylvia O'Rourke, Eileen Ryan, Margaret Kirwan; Sarah Doherty, Eimear Ryan, Sarah Kirwan. Subs: Clíodhna Ryan, Deirdre Kirwan, Maeve Kennedy, Sinead Kirwan, Deirdre Treacy, Aisling Kirwan, Mary Guest, Fiona Kennedy, Victorine Byrne, Maria Jones, Leonia O'Rourke, Julie Doherty, Joanne Maher.

The trainer of the team, Denis O'Dwyer was excellent all year and credit must also be given to the other selectors. Seamus Doherty, John Kirwan, Marie Kennedy and Seamus Ryan.

Next year the team have earned senior status and will compete in the senior championship. This will be a huge challenge for the girls since so many amalgamations and conglomerations play in that competition. However the Moneygall girls will approach the challenge in a positive frame of mind.

They have youth on their side since the oldest player in the county final was only twenty two years old. A new chapter in Moneygall Camogie will commence when they take the field in the 2006 Tipperary Senior Championship—amazing progress since ten years ago when the small meeting was held in the G.A.A. Centre in Moneygall.

Under Age:

The county under-12 camogie B final was one of the most memorable of any game played anywhere in 2005. Moneygall qualified to meet Burgess and the game, played early in the summer, ended in a draw. The replay

was not played until the end of August and it also ended in a draw which meant that extra time now had to be played. The very tired girls played out the extra twenty minutes at which stage the score showed that the teams were still level. Such was the intensity of the game that the huge attendance in the stand in Toomevara stood for a spontaneous ovation for the two teams when the final whistle sounded.

The teams and supporters returned to Toomevara the following week for the third and final meeting of these heroic sides. The intensity of the two drawn games prevailed once again. The important difference on this occasion was that the physically stronger Burgess team seemed to be getting the upper hand. Moneygall who had led in the two previous games were unable to score and it appeared that they may have missed their opportunity of winning.

Things looked hopeless for Moneygall when with six minutes remaining the scoreboard read Burgess 2-1, Moneygall 0-0.

The following six minutes will go down in Moneygall folklore among the greatest achievements on the hurling field. Supporters of both sides looked on in awe and amazement as the Moneygall rallied in amazing fashion. The first goal appeared to be just a consolation for Moneygall as it added respectability to the score line. When the sliotar struck the Burgess net for the second time with only three minutes remaining the Moneygall supporters hoped they might have time to score a point and salvage a draw. But in those last three minutes Moneygall scored a further 1-1 to grab an unbelievable and unlikely victory.

The game was followed by wild celebrations as star player and captain Niamh Larkin was presented with the winning trophy. Great credit is due to all the players for never giving up and persevering to achieve a glorious win. The Burgess players must also be commended for three outstanding games in which they played a huge part.

County Final Line-out: Roisin Ryan; Deirdre Madden, Shauna Kirwan, Monica Kirwan; Claire Hogan, Emily Bergin, Jean O'Connor; Elizabeth Cahill, Edwina King; Cianna Maher, Katie Coonan, Niamh Hayes Carol Hogan, Niamh Larkin, Mairead Teehan. Subs: Charlene O'Brien, Eimear Ryan.

The management team at juvenile level are playing a huge role in the community and deserve great credit for their selfless work with the young girls. They have more than seventy girls attending training and they are present in the training field on four and sometimes five nights per week. They are Seamus Hogan, Alice Bergin, Joan Hogan, Michael Bergin and Amanda Moten.

To finish off a memorable year four of the Under 12 girls Niamh Larkin, Elizabeth Cahill, Edwina King and Emily Bergin, played vital roles on the Moneygall team which won the county under-12 B hurling title in September by beating Fethard.



Moneygall Intermediate Camogie Team: Co. Champions 2005-10-09

Back Row (L to R) John Kirwan (Selector), Aisling Kirwan, Sinead Kirwan, Maeve Kennedy, Sarah Doherty, Margaret Kirwan, Amanda Moten, Michelle Kirwan, Michelle Moten, Clíodhna Ryan, Caroline Kirwan, Aisling Kennedy, Leonia O'Rourke, Maire Kirwan, Helen Maher, Sarah Kirwan, Caitriona Jones, Deirdre Treacy, Marie Kennedy (Selector).
Front Row (L to R) Denis Dwyer (Selector), Mary Guest, Julie Doherty, Deirdre Kirwan, Eimear Ryan, Eileen Ryan, Mary Ryan, Brid Byrne (Captain), Maria Jones, Julie Kirwan, Sylvia O'Rourke, Victorine Byrne, Fiona Kennedy, Seamus Ryan (Selector), Seamus Doherty (Selector)

Templemore Are County Junior 'A' Camogie Champions



Back Row (L-R) - Mattie Burke, Michael Curley, Nora Costigan, Lorraine Davis, Siobhan Bourke, Ailish Delaney, Michelle Lawlor, Noelle Bergin, Fiona Loughane, Sara Hennessey, ? , Martin Bourke, Mick Curley.
Kneeling: Grace Ormond, Emma Taylor, Cathriona Maher, Ailish O'Connell, Sorcha Loughane, Niamh Connolly (Captain), Fiona Connolly, Emer Buckley, Sara Nolan, Deirdre Brennan, Elaine Burke



President Mary McAleese meets with the Primary Game Captains from Tipperary and Cork. The Tipperary Captain is Aine O'Carroll (St Marys Nenagh and Burgess Club). Also in the photo are Munster Council Chairman Sean Fogarty and Martin McAleese.



Toomevara players on the Tipperary senior camogie panel at the homecoming ceremony at Toomevara (L-R) - Suzanne Kelly, Maria Tynan, Deirdre Hughes (Captain), Louise Young and Noelle Kennedy



Siobhan Tynan of Sportsman Dream in Nenagh presents the Captain of the Minor All-Ireland Finalists Fiona Young (Toomevara) with a jacket. Also in photo is Aoife McLoughney (Shannon Rovers), Rose Mannion (Co Treasurer), Marian Ryan (Shannon Rovers), Paula Ryan (Selector), Pat McLoughney (Coach)



Cumann na mBunscoil representatives for Tipperary, Noirin Stapleton and Aoife Ryan Toomevara Camogie Club

Camogie Report

COUNTY JUNIOR TEAM

This year Sheila Delaney, Biddy Philips and Brian Lawlor were appointed to take charge of Tipperary's junior team. After a decent league campaign the team were defeated by Clare in the first round of the championship by 3 points. Many people may see this as a huge disappointment that the team didn't progress further but one must take into account that the girls were beaten by a very good Clare side who, as the year went on, would win the Munster final and contest the All-Ireland final on October 8th.

In March and early April the league was run and after wins over Kilkenny and Dublin the team were defeated by Cork and Offaly. The girls continued to train and prepare for their championship meeting against Clare which took place in Newmarket-On-Fergus. Despite a hat-trick of goals from Tipperary's Mary Looby it was Clare who claimed victory on a scoreline of 2-13 to 3-7, and went on to beat Cork in the Munster semi-final. It was a game which Tipperary could have won but credit to Clare they fought hard and scored some great points to keep them in front. The score at half-time was Clare 1-10 Tipperary 2-4. The majority of the players also represented Tipperary at intermediate level and gave a great display against a fancied Cork side in the Munster championship. Unfortunately despite their best efforts Cork won on a scoreline of 1-14 to 1-09.

The All-Ireland championship was subsequently cancelled which was disappointing. The junior panel against Clare was as follows: Rosanna Kenneally, Andrea Davis, Caroline Greed, Ciara Heffernan, Julie Delaney, Niamh Harkin, Mairead Luttrell, Lorraine Davis, Mary Ryan, Jackie O'Connor, Michelle Shortt, Alison Lonergan, Katie Kennedy, Mary Looby, Siobhan Ryan.
Subs: Teresa Maher Noreen Flanagan Siobhan Maher, Margurite Fryday, Jane Ryan, Ciara Callinan, Alish Langton, Ciara Johnston, Roseanne Quirke, Caroline Ryan, Louise Ryan, Deirdre Dunne.

U-18 TEAM

On Bank Holiday Monday August 1st Tipperary recorded a comfortable win over Waterford in the u-18 Munster semi-final. Waterford made the journey to the Ragg hoping to book their place in the Munster final on September 5th but came up against a strong Tipperary outfit that easily defeated the visitors. At half time the match was well and truly over with Tipperary leading by 4-10 to no score. In the second half Tipperary continued to dominate and Waterford had to be content with two consolation goals. All in all it was a very good display. Then on Monday evening September 15th Tipperary travelled to Glanmire in Cork to take on the home side in the Munster final. Cork started brightly and after 2 minutes took the lead when Mary Coleman pointed. Three minutes later Tipperary were stunned by a fine goal from Mary Coleman to put Cork in a commanding position. Cork led by 1-6 to 0-2 at the interval and, despite a great fight back in the second half, Tipperary lost by seven points. This year the team was managed by Sean Johnson and selectors Niamh Harkin and Stephen Fitzgerald.

Team: Rosanna Kenneally, Andrea Davis, Mairead Luttrell, Ciara Heffernan, Michelle Kirwan, Lorraine Davis, Joanne Nolan, Mary Ryan, Cora Hennessey, Ciara Johnston, Ciara O'Sullivan, Noreen Flanagan, Alison Lonergan, Katie Kennedy, Deirdre Dunne.
Subs: Alish Langton, Ciara Callahan, Linda Fanning, Siobhan Bourke, Ann-Marie O'Dwyer.

MINOR TEAM

This year Tipperary's minor team provided the county with lots of entertainment producing great displays to earn them a Munster final victory and to come so close to All-Ireland victory. On Sunday August 7th families and supporters made the trip to Parnell Park in Dublin in anticipation that this gallant young team could make history by capturing the county's first minor All-Ireland title since 1993. In recent years Tipperary's senior camogie team has enjoyed great success winning 5 All-Irelands in 6 years. However this hasn't always coincided with success at minor level. This year a huge effort was made to alter this and after capturing the Munster title (the first since 2000) the girls then set their sights on a place in the All-Ireland final, which they achieved by defeating Antrim. In the beginning of the year former Tipperary hurler and all-star Pat McLoughney was appointed manager of the minor team. Pat has been involved with Shannon Rovers camogie club for a number of years where he has had plenty of

success. Assisting Pat was Helen Kiely (Drom-Inch), Paula Ryan (Toomevara) and Paula Bultin (Cashel). All three selectors are well known camogie players and hold All-Ireland senior camogie medals along with senior county titles with their respective clubs. In February the management team put a strong panel together and began training in the astro-turf in the Ursuline convent Thurles. On Saturday



Dearbhla (left) and Shauna Butler (right) with Sean Kelly at the All-Ireland finals on September 11th.

April 9th the girls had their first game in the Championship a Munster semi-final pairing against 2004 Munster champions Clare in Dolla Tipperary won on a scoreline of 3-2 to 6 points in difficult conditions for camogie. This win meant they now faced Cork in the Munster final on April 30th in Charleville. For the next 3 weeks the management team put the girls through their paces and after an exciting game of camogie Tipperary emerged victorious by the narrowest of margins on a scoreline of 3-5 to 1-10. This was a fantastic win and everyone concerned were delighted with the result. The girls then had to wait until July 3rd to play Antrim in the All-Ireland semi-final. The game took place in the Ragg and after a fine team display Tipperary ran out comfortable winners on a scoreline of 3-13 to 3 points. So on August 7th the team travelled in hope that captain Fiona Young would bring the Corn Tailteann cup back to Tipperary for the first time since 1993. Unfortunately it was not to be and after an entertaining game of camogie it was Kilkenny who claimed victory on a scoreline of 4-7 to 2-7. Two goals is very little in a game of camogie but Kilkenny who defeated Galway in the semi-final were just that bit stronger than the premier side and also led by 6 points at the break scoring 2-6 to Tipperary's 1-3. Tipperary put in a great performance in the second half and only a goal separated the sides in Kilkenny's favour who Tipperary got a close-in free. The goal shot was blocked, the ball cleared and Kilkenny got down the field to score a goal, which gave them a 5 point victory. It was heartbreak for the Tipperary girls who worked so hard all year and came very close to capturing the All-Ireland title. They had displayed great camogie throughout the year and provided lots of thrilling encounters for their loyal supporters who once again travelled in strong numbers to Dublin.

Tipperary Team: C.Kenneally, M.Ryan, S.Morrissey, G.Stapleton, F.Young, D.Ryan, T.Shortt, C.Maher, A.Shinners, M.Gleeson, B.Kennedy, S.McGrath, A.McLoughney
Subs: A. O'Connell for S.Hayes, L.Young for M.Gleeson, T.Flanagan for N.O'Connell, N.Costigan, P.McGrath, S.Nolan, A.Kennedy, C.Ryan, L. O'Brien, R.McGrath,



President of the Camogie Association Miriam O'Callaghan (Tullamore), presents Fiona Young (Captain) with the runner up medals after her defeat to Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final. Tipperary 2-7

DEC 2005

THE CLUB SCENE

Templemore Camogie

By Geraldine Kinane

In the first round of the Junior A championship on July 8th in Fethard, Templemore defeated Fethard by 4-8 to 0-2 but went down to Shannon Rovers in Templemore on July 23rd by 4-7 to 2-5. On August 9th in Templemore they defeated Kilruane McDonaghs by 3-6 to 1-2 to qualify for the semi final and on August 21st in the Ragg they overcame the challenge of Portroe to record a victory on the scoreline 3-5 to 3-3. On Saturday evening September 3rd in the Ragg Templemore gave a star-studded performance to defeat a fancied Shannon Rovers team on the score 3-8 to 2-2.



Captain of the Templemore team Niamh Connolly accepts the John Hogan Cup from County Chairman Stephen Fitzgerald.

Templemore played with the breeze in the first half and took the game to the Rovers and after ten minutes led by four Fiona Loughnane pointed frees. Noelle Bergin added two well-taken points from play and Templemore led by six points after fifteen minutes. Numerous stoppages in the play did not help Templemore's relentless onslaught and any Rovers attacks were met with a rock solid defence in which centre back Niamh Connolly was outstanding. The crucial score came just before the interval when Noelle Bergin collected a long delivery, and she brushed past her opponent before planting the ball in the bottom corner of the net. Although the Rovers responded with a pointed free two minutes later the score gave Templemore a great boost and at the interval they fully deserved their eight points lead, 1-6 to 0-1.

With the breeze to face for the second half, one wondered if the interval lead would be sufficient and they were to receive a big setback with the concession of a soft goal one minute on resumption. Templemore did not drop the heads but quite the contrary happened and they dug deep to prevent another Rovers score for the next twenty-nine minutes. Every ball was being contested as if their lives depended on the outcome and everyone worked so hard for each other. Templemore laid siege on the Rovers goal and it was only going to be a matter of time when the continuous pressure would payoff. It happened in the fifteenth minute when substitute Ailish Delaney gained possession and laid it off to Cathriona Maher who made no mistake from a close range. This goal was followed four minutes later by a similar score from Noelle Bergin who was a constant tom in the Rovers defence and a pointed Fiona Loughnane free opened up a twelve points margin. It was in injury time when the Rovers registered their final goal and a point. There were scenes of jubilation afterwards with the presentation of the John Hogan cup by county chairman Stephen Fitzgerald to captain Niamh Connolly.



Templemore, Tipperary Junior A Champions 2005

Back Row, (L-R) - Christine Bergin, Cathriona Maher, Matty Bourke, Ailish O'Connell, Sara Nolan, Noelle Bergin, Mick Cortigan, Eimear Buckley, Elaine Burke, Mick Curley, Sara Hennessy, Fiona Loughnane, Ailish Delaney, Martin Bourke.
Front (L-R) - Sorcha Loughnane, Michelle Lawlor, Siobhan Bourke, Niamh Connolly (Captain), Nora Cortigan, Lorraine Bourke, Fiona Connolly, Emma Taylor, Grace Ormond
Missing - Deirdre Brennan

Tipperary Camogie Supporter's Club

Since Tipperary made the breakthrough by winning their first All Ireland senior title in 1999 they have changed the face of camogie and indeed by the standard to which they play, have changed the way ladies sport is viewed around the country. On Sunday September 18th they contested their seventh final in a row and although defeated they put in a great effort and were only piped in the final moments. In the last seven years five All Ireland titles have been won and the teams success does not come about by chance and is a reflection of the enormous time, effort, sacrifice and commitment the players are prepared to make each year over an eight month period, starting with training in early February and concluding in mid September with the All Ireland final. It takes a special and very committed bunch of girls to continue training two and three times weekly over a thirty week period and when you allow for travelling from places as far as Cork, Kerry, Dublin, Waterford and Limerick one gets a picture of the enormous effort and commitment that these players freely put in, the sole reward required being to keep Tipperary at the top of the camogie world.

Martin Bourke and some members of the Camogie Supporters Club



It was as a result of the team's achievements and to ensure that the players were adequately looked after that the Tipperary Camogie Supporters Club was founded in 2002. In three short years we have made great progress and continue to grow from strength to strength and to meet our main objective of providing the necessary financial support to ensure the continued success of our senior camogie team. While our main aim is to cater for the senior team other teams have also benefited and in 2005 a presentation of kit bags was made to the Ursuline Convent in Thurles who contested the All Ireland senior colleges final, kit bags and track suit bottoms were presented to the Tipperary minor team for the Munster and All Ireland finals, track suit tops were presented to the Tipperary U-18 team for the Munster final. During 2005 the club funded its activities by a successful dog night in Thurles track on Saturday April 9th, a Camogie Supporters Club membership which was launched by Michael O'Muircheartaigh in May and a bucket collection taken up at the county senior hurling final on October 17th.

The officers and the committee of Tipperary Camogie Supporters Club are as follows:

Chairperson - Michael Cleary
Secretary - Meadhbh Stokes
Treasurers - Tom Egan, Jean Hayden
PRO - Martin Bourke
Committee - Martin O'Dwyer, Stephen Fitzgerald, Kathleen Hughes, Sean Fogarty

COUNTY CAMOGIE PITCH NEEDS VIEWING STAND

By this stage, it's a good assumption to make that everyone involved in Camogie in Tipperary knows where the County Camogie Pitch and Dressing Rooms are located. It's also a fairly reasonable assumption to make that most of the thirty clubs that are affiliated to the Board, have at some stage or other, over the years, played in this pitch whether it be a semi-final, final or tournament and if they haven't, then there's no doubt that some day they certainly will.

It is a fact however and not an assumption, that the pitch is one of the finest you will find in Ireland and another fact is that the Tipperary Camogie board are the only County Board to have their own playing pitch at their disposal. This is indeed a wonderful achievement for the Board and the development Committee of that time back in the late '80's, who had the foresight and vision to acquire these grounds. However, all of this did not come about easily and many will recall all the fundraising ventures that were undertaken to get to this stage.

So why then I hear you ask, as indeed I ask too, I can assure you, are some of our games played elsewhere, in particular our Senior Championship? Well the answer is obvious. The County grounds is unable to facilitate the spectators who want to view a match in comfort and undercover from the elements thrown up by our weather.

The various camogie development committee's that have strived over the years to bring the present facilities to the stage that all players to the pitch can now enjoy, are to be complimented for their foresight and endeavor and the people who gave so generously over the years to this project, can now see for themselves where their money was spent. Funding was also secured through the National Lottery, but our next stage of this project, the viewing stand, does not feature as a priority for funding, so we must come up with the cost ourselves. We the development committee, agreed to do the work necessary, in different stages so as not to be exerting too much pressure on clubs to come up with the funds. This stage of the development is going to cost in the region of 40,000, which by to-day's standards of building, is not a huge amount of money to be looking for, as I'm sure you will agree. When this target is reached, another stage of the development can then be looked further at, but remember, the work at the County pitch is nearing completion so the demand for fundraising will be lighter and the benefits for both players and spectators will be a huge benefit. And so the fundraising round begins for this stage, which is hoped we can get underway shortly and before the end of 2005.

The members of the Development committee are Chairman John Harkin (0504) 51363, Secretary Margaret Skehan (0504) 21901 (after 7p.m.) Vice Chair and P.R.O. Rose Mannion (086) 8647166, John O'Connor (087) 79215

DEC.

2005

YEAR OF MIXED FORTUNES FOR GALWAY

CAMOGIE

By PAMELA NEVIN BOYLE

After much upheaval in the early stages of 2005, Galway Senior camogie squad settled down under a new managerial group, just two weeks before the commencement of AIB National League 2005. Ex Player Sharon Glynn, with selectors PJ Molloy, Martin Naughton and GAA coach Damien Coleman put a rigorous training regime in place, one which would pay strong dividends in the months ahead.

Almost immediately expectations grew, with the return of 1996 heroines Denise Gilligan and Veronica Curtin to the panel, and with players travelling from Limerick, Cork and Dublin for midweek training, commitment was unquestionable. Only time would tell if Galway could yet again compete with today's camogie greats.

A 12 point margin was as close a Galway team had been to Cork since the All-Ireland performances in the 1990s, and the prospect of an encounter in the League campaign would be some measure of this panel's ability.

The trip to both Antrim and Limerick were facile victories with a varied team lining out on both occasions. Galway quickly settled into a notable rhythm of play, with a strong central line the key strategy from the outset with this team. Captain Therese Maher took up a new role at centre back which she proceeded to make her own for the entire year, while upfront the attack was clocking up impressive tallies with players keen to take every opportunity to impress. The girls continued to improve, running riot against Wexford in Duggan Park, and emerged victors over old rivals Kilkenny in the League semi final stages. However, injuries worries mounted as the League final approached with Lourda Kavanagh, Aine Hillary and Ann Marie Hayes all out of contention for a place. The strength in depth of this panel was to be fully tested with the loss of these three players. The team selected stood up to the task. Despite taking 23 minutes to register a score, when they found their feet, they proceeded to torment Cork. Galway forwards had the edge on their opponents with Brenda Kerins dominating in her corner, and Veronica Curtin converting on the back of Kerin's spadework. Ailbhe Kelly excelled at wing back while Sinead Cahalan and particularly Therese Maher were instrumental in the 2nd half in curtailing the Cork forwards, with two powerful performances. A one point victory was attained, which was an amazing

accomplishment after just three months work with this team. Was this a sign of better things to come, and proof of the ability of this squad? Every title counts, and Galway's third National League title was enjoyed with the knowledge that championship is a very different affair.

Summer time clashes beckoned, with a testing group paired with Cork and Wexford both to be played in the month of July. Both teams had suffered at the hands of the tribeswomen in the league and were keen to gain just revenge for their earlier beatings. Lourda Kavanagh recovered from a fracture in time to take a place on the championship side, who travelled to Paire Uí Rinn on July 2nd. It was a game Galway had control of from the initial stages despite some underperformances on the day. Yet they somehow managed to let Cork off the hook

in this opening round of the Championship. Galway had the Leesiders on the rack in the closing stages but they simply failed to put them away, allowing Cork to storm back into the game in the closing minutes. In the end, it left the Galway girls shattered after what was undoubtedly their finest performance against Cork since their All-Ireland victory in 1996. Galway did have Cork reeling, but they failed to take advantage. Three golden opportunities went amiss for Galway which would have killed off the Cork side. Instead, the game turned full circle, as Cork introduced Breige Corkery and Angela Walsh. In those last seconds Cork levelled, and on the back of that score, Angela Walsh pointed. Galway had been robbed, they were inconsolable.

Four weeks later the unthinkable happened as Galway crashed out of the title

race in a disappointing display against Wexford. Three Wexford goals in the final seven minutes of this game proved to be more than enough to see off an out of sorts Galway in Duggan Park on July 30th. To say the Galway contingent were shell shocked would be an understatement. Despite time, effort, commitment and sacrifice on the part of all involved, they had fallen short. The dream was over. Croke Park would not be reached in 2005.

Yet, there were many positives to be taken from the year. Galway are League Champions for 2005 and have returned Camogie to the forefront of ladies sport in Galway. A new sense of professionalism has emerged from this year and camogie followers can have no question that there is sufficient talent in the county to compete and defeat the top teams in Ireland. There have been many learning curves for all involved in the months gone by.

The maturity to gain from those experiences will be the key to further progress in next year's campaign.

ALL - STARS

After an exciting return to the limelight, Galway were rewarded with four All Star contenters from their senior squad. Three Galway defenders received nominations Sinead Cahalan (Mullagh), Regina Glynn (Athenry) Therese Maher (Athenry), while Galway Bay FM player of the year Lourda Kavanagh of Davitts, was Galway's fourth nominee.

Senior Manager Sharon Glynn also received just recognition of her achievements with this Galway Squad in the National League, receiving a nomination for Manager of the year.

GALWAY JUNIORS

Larry Burns Division 2 side had an impressive run in their League campaign reaching the final stages. Galway came out top of their group after defeating Armagh, Limerick, Wexford and Kildare, and went on to book a place in the League Final after disposing of Waterford in their home patch. Galway looked for a long time like they might pull off a double victory but despite a great display, it was Cork who stepped up to take the honours. Full Forward Molly Dunne was Galway's biggest threat, shooting a total of 1-5 of Galway's 2-7. In championship, this Junior side made light work of Roscommon in the Connaught Final however they failed to deal with the power and experience of the Banner Ladies in their semi final clash.

GALWAY MINORS

Under the stewardship of Kevin Kelly,



Full Back and All-Star Sinead Cahalan clears her lines.

Galway's U16 team fell short against Kilkenny in the semi final stages this year. In what was Galway's 1st outing, the lack of competitive games was surely a factor for this young side, in that Galway had no provincial competitors. Kilkenny were keen for revenge after losing the title race to Galway in 2004, and the Galway minors were simply outclassed in too many sectors of the field. Although they were well beaten on a scoreline of 5-14 to 3-08 they battled on to the end, showing much character. Fifteen of the girls on this panel remain eligible to compete at this grade in 2006 which is an encouraging statistic for next year.

GALWAY U-14

Galway competed in four Blitz competitions held in Limerick, Clare, Cork and Connaught, emerging winners of both the Clare and Connaught competitions. Under the guidance of Emer Kearney, Noel Kelly, and Coach Gerry Kearney this year's panel comprised of players from a total of 19 Clubs around Galway.

2005 Panel: Riona Daly, Tara Rutledge (Capt), Katie O Dwyer, Aisling Griffin, Edel Cunningham, Deirdre Ward, Helen Campbell, Ann Marie Starr, Tara Connolly, Catherine Lee, Marie Duane, Kathy McDonagh, Claire Harte, Rachael Kelly, Rachael Creaven, Adelle Grealish, Aisling Finn, Julie Larkin, Elaine Reynolds, Caoimhe Staunton, Claire Ryan, Claire Killeen, Amanda Dillon, Rosin Walsh, Irene Gleenan, Niamh Fox, Katie Kelly, Nicola Glynn, Aileen Linnane, Gayle Curley.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Davitts dominated at Senior grade in 2005 claiming both the Bus Eireann League and Championship titles, this their 3rd successive Senior County Title. They had stern opposition in pretenders to the throne Athenry, who will feel they had the title within their grasp this year. Yet, it was not to be, and Davitts went onto claim the Catherine Donnellan Cup by the narrowest of margins. They now go forward to

represent Galway in the All-Ireland series in search of their 1st All-Ireland title.

Meanwhile at Intermediate level, Castlegar defeated Davitts on a scoreline of 5-09 to 0-03. Overall, Castlegar had a very successful year, reaching four County Finals including U14, U16 and U18. Overcoming Ardahan, Sarsfields and Killimordaly in the group stages of the Intermediate championship, they had a dual contest with Craughwell in the co-semi final, after a draw on their first meeting. They were eventually crowned champions, overcoming Davitts on a wet and windy day in Turloughmore to the delight of those supporters who braved the elements.

Eyrecoort emerged with two points to spare over a committed Mountbellew-Moylough side in the Galway Junior A County Final. The East Galway side only scored one point in the second half but that score was enough to see them through this thrilling encounter by 1-05 to 0-06.

In the B competitions, Senior Club Mullagh defeated Kinvara 2-11 to 2-06 while at Junior B level, Kiltormer pipped Turloughmore by just 2 points to progress to Junior A next year.

UNDERAGE

Turloughmore were the Galway representative at this year's Feile Na Gael competitions held in Cork on June 25th after overcoming a committed Killimor side in the U14A competition. The Galway U14 Feile Skills title went to Deirdre Ward of Athenry who took 3rd place at the National Feile Na Gael Skills contest also held in Cork the same weekend. The Sarsfields club had a very successful run at underage this year competing in 3 A finals, and winners of the U12A title, while their close rivals Mullagh competed in 2A finals narrowly defeating Sarsfields in the U13A competition.

Grade	Winner	Runner-up
U10 A	Davitts	Sarsfields
U10 A1	Cois Farriage	Oranmore
U10 B	Mouthbellew	Salthill
U10 C	Pearses	Ardahan
U12 A	Sarsfields	Mullagh
U12 A1	Portumna	Mouthbellew
U12 B	Ardahan	Killimordaly
U12 C	Salthill	Castlegar
U13 A	Mullagh	Sarsfields
U13 B	Turloughmore	Killimordaly
U13 C	Ardahan	Ballinsloe
U14 A	Turloughmore	Killimor
U14 B	Portumna	Castlegar
U14 C	Oranmore	Eyrecoort
U16 A	Davitts	Athenry
U16 B	Carnmore	Castlegar
U16 C	St Thomas	Craughwell



Galway Minor Camogie Team who were defeated by Kilkenny in the All-Ireland Semi Final earlier this year. Back Row: Jessica Gil, Jenny Davoren, Tara Rutledge, Lorraine Crowe, Emer Haverly, Niamh Kilkenny, Aisling Hobbins. Front Row: Heather Cooney, Darina Ryan, Louise Callanan, Lorraine Ryan, Noreen Coen, Stacey Coen, Avril Glynn, Deirdre Ward.



Wing Forward Lourda Kavanagh breaks away from the watchful eye of Kilkenny defender Bridget Grennan in National Senior League Semi Final.

DEC 2005

CAMOGIE



Galway Senior Camogie team who captured Galways third National Senior League Title on June 26th 2005. Back Row, left to right: Emma Kilkelly, Shauna Murphy, Therese Mahert (Capt), Aoife Lynskey, Brenda Hanney, Ailbhe Kelly, Colette Glennon. Front Row, left to right: Nicola Gavin, Regina Glynn, Orla Kilkenny, Brenda Kerins, Veronica Curtin, Stephanie Gannon, Lorraine Lally.



Bus Eireann County Champions Davitts who defeated Athenry in Co Senior Camogie Final in Duggan Park on September 25th. Back Row, left to right: Catriona Kelly, Michelle Tynan, Linda Gohery, Anne Broderick, Rita Broderick, Olivia Fonde, Ailbhe Kelly, Lourda Kavanagh (Capt). Front Row, left to right: Caroline Kelly, Deirdre Gilchrist, Orla Watson, Mary Kelly, Phyllis Hayes, Lizzie Flynn, Deirdre Murphy.



Senior Finalists Athenry who were narrowly defeated by Davitts in Bus Eireann Co Senior Camogie Final in Duggan Park last Sunday. Back Row: Regina Glynn (Capt) Alice Poniard, Catherine Glynn, Sarah Donoghue, Therese Maher, Jessica Gill, Sharon Quirke, Nicola Lally. Front Row: Jenny Poniard, Mary Keogh, Sharon Fahy, Crystal Ruddy, Stephanie Gannon, Mary Ward, Noreen Coen.

ATHENRY CAMOGIE CLUB 2005

2005 has been a successful yet disappointing year for Athenry Camogie. To reach our first Senior final since the late 80s and to lose by only a single point was very disappointing for the players and mentors involved.

Last January, when the panel returned to training after a few weeks of a break, our target for 2005 was a Senior County Title.

The League final saw Athenry take on Davitts in a hard game. Davitts were victorious on the day, their experience over shadowing Athenry. With that defeat behind us, the players and the management team's main focus was the championship. The first round saw Athenry take on Pearses, the thorn in Athenry's side down through the years. After a hard fought game, Athenry came away with the win. For the girls to overcome Pearses, a team that have achieved so much, was the injection of belief that these girls needed. Athenry went from strength to strength after this.

The semi final saw Athenry take on Killimor and Davitts take on Pearses. Athenry were the first to book their place in the county final, having beaten Killimor. In the second match, Davitts overcame Pearses. In the final Athenry held the lead for most of the game, only to be pipped at the post by a pointed free in the closing minutes of the game. Out on the pitch after the game, to say that everyone was disappointed would be an understatement but the familiar faces from around the town that had come to support the team were a boost to everyone.

UNDERAGE

Athenry U16 team reached the County final against Davitts. The girls fought hard but in the end, the stronger team took the victory. This was a young Athenry team and most are underage again this year. The U14 Team reached the Semi final. The U18's reached the Semi final.

Our Under 12 and Under 10 are trained by Ann O'Dwyer, Liam Gannon and Noel Mulkerrens and Claire Parr.

SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR TURLOUGHMORE CAMOGIE CLUB

2005 was a milestone for Turloughmore Camogie Club as they captured their first ever Galway Under 14 A title and had the honour of representing Galway at the National Feile na nGael finals. Success has not been too far away from Turloughmore camogie over the years with a positive underage structure but making the breakthrough at top level has always been a difficult assignment. The idea to form a camogie club in Turloughmore was nurtured on the night that Turloughmore won their last Galway Senior Hurling championship in 1985 by two former camogie players from different areas who had come to live in Turloughmore, Ann Kearney from Oranmore and Carmel Costello from Pearses. A year later in 1986 Turloughmore camogie club was formed and concentrating at adult level, the club won the Galway and Connacht Junior Championship in 1989 and the Galway and Connacht Intermediate Championship in 1990. In 1993 the club captured the Co. Under 16 B title but it wasn't until the turn of the century that the club began to make serious inroads at underage level. A comprehensive juvenile policy brought many new parents on board and the club took a new lease of life. An Under 12 B title in 2001 was followed with an Under 14 B title a year later. In 2004 the club captured the Under 13 B title, and this title was retained by the club in 2005.

This year the Under 13 team had defeated St Colman's, Clarenbridge, Mountbellew/Moylough, Pearses and Ahascragh in the group before accounting for Oranmore/Maree in the Co Semi final.

Killimordaly were Turloughmore's rivals in the Under 13 camogie final in a game where neither team played to their capabilities and justice was done when the game ended deadlocked. In a very exciting replay Turloughmore eventually edged off the challenge of Killimordaly in the replayed encounter to retain the Galway Under 13 B Championship title.

One of the most successful developments in the underage structure within the club is the running of the Madge Burke tournament which is run between children of the four schools of the parish and so excellently organised in both camogie and hurling by Cregmore National School Principal Joe Kennelly.

The competition involves a mixture of pupils from all schools at all ages and has proved to be a huge success in the development of camogie in the parish. This has led to two schools in the parish featuring strongly in camogie in recent years with Coolarne winning the Co Schools Camogie title last year and Cregmore coached by former Galway camogie star Anne Ford bringing Cregmore school to this year's school finals only to lose to a stronger Mountbellew side.

The great work carried out at under age within the club where Gerry Linnane, Jim Keane, Ann Kearney, Pat Shaughnessy, Mary Fahy, Yvonne Hansberry, Emer Kearney and Johnny Kane have carried on that trojan work that led to the highlight of the club during the past year which was representing the county at the Feile na nGael National

finals in Cork.

Turloughmore had a difficult season in the Galway championship with defeat by Killimor in their opening group game. However a succession of victories over Davitts and Mullagh, led to a semi final appearance against Carnmore, which led to a place in the Co final against Killimor. There was sweet revenge for Turloughmore in the Co final when they defeated Killimor which gave them the honour of representing the county at the Feile finals.

The excursion to Cork for the Feile finals was special as Turloughmore hurlers were also representing Galway in the hurling competition.

Turloughmore camogie club were hosted by Glen Rovers, and the Galway side were drawn against Glen Rovers, Milford and Newmarket on Fergus of Clare.

However despite a number of quality performances, the Turloughmore side failed to make it to the final stages of the competition. However when it came to enjoying the party from wonderful hosts at the Glen, Turloughmore were in full flight.

The Turloughmore Junior Camogie team reached the county final for the first time in fifteen years. The many young players are not coming on stream and the Club is going from strength to strength. The team won the London 7 a -side tournament and also added the Agnes Keane trophy. They have qualified for the Junior League final.

With the club also winning the Under 9 and Under 16 City Leagues there is no doubt but the future of Camogie in Turloughmore is in a healthy state for the future.



Turloughmore Under 14 panel, back row, left to right: Rachel Creaven, Aileen Naughton, Clodagh Rafferty, Serena Walshe, Emily Moran, Fiona Griffin, Carmel Walsh, Louise Igoe, Sarah Curley, Olivia Lane, Amy Coleman. Middle: Karen Hurney, Aishling Keane, Mairead Linnane, Vivienne Creaven, Leona Kelly, Aleisha Kelly, Niamy Cunniffie, Aisling O'Brien, Emer Joyce, Serena Hansberry. Front row, left to right: Elena O'Neill, Niamh Gill, Leonie Finn, Niamh Shaughnessy, Niam Badger, Dearbhil Greany, Oral Hurney.

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The Roseingrave sisters: Mary, Carina and Teresa who assisted Kilnamona Camogie win the Minor A County in 2005.



Seamus O'Sullivan County Camogie PRO presenting Cup to Minor A Captain Siobhan Lafferty, Kilnamona Camogie Club.



Kilnamona Camogie Under-11 Team 2005 Back row: Aoife Keane, Emma Galvin, Claire Taaffe, Christina Glynn, Kayleigh Hyer, Sarah Cotter, Ciara Cotter. Front row: Teresa O'Keefe, Ruth Croue, Andrea O'Keefe, Aoibheann Hogan, Shauna Hyer, Katie McCreanor.



Kilnamona Camogie Minor A Champions 2005. Back row: Monica Mullins, Jennifer Griffin, Aislinn Dillon, Stephanie Taaffe, Clara O'Connor, Siobhan Commene, Jacinta O'Grady, Bernadette Mullins, Amanda Perrill, Anne Marie McMahon, Claire O'Grady, Ailish Cullinan. Front row: Aisling McInerney, Brid Quigley, Orla Greene, Eimear Croue, Siobhan Garrahy, Siobhan Lafferty (captain), Fiona Lafferty, Carina Roseingrave, Mary Roseingrave, Edel O'Brien, Teresa Roseingrave and Deirdre Croue.



NEWMARKET-ON-FERGUS CAMOGIE TEAM - Senior Champions, League and Munster Junior Champions 2005. Back row (l-r): Aine O'Brien, Ruth Kaiser, Sharon McMahon, Aileen Kilmartin, Jane O'Leary, Aimee McInerney, Hazel McMahon, Catriona McMahon, Iris Kaiser, Clara McInerney, Patricia O'Grady, Carol O'Leary. Front row (l-r): Eleanor McCormack, Sinéad Ryan, Sinéad Cullinan, Moira McMahon, Maire O'Looney, Mary Higgins, Claire Arthur, Elaine McMahon, Carol Kaiser, Aine Lawlor.

DEC.

2005

Mallow hold firm to take the title

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie

Mallow
Enniskeane

2-6
1-4

IT TOOK a Kathleen O'Brien goal four minutes from the full time whistle to finally decide the destination of the junior thirteen-a-side league title after an entertaining hour's camogie in Tracton yesterday.

Despite the death knell being just about ready to sound for the year, both teams turned in a superb afternoon's hurling and certainly there was enough excitement to keep the large attendance on their toes right to the finish of the game.

No more than two points separated the sides as they matched each other score for score through a close encounter.

Ellen Healy's third minute opener for Enniskeane was quickly replied to by Mallow's Michelle Brown.

It was level going into the closing five minutes of the half but to be in that position Mallow were thankful to an alert Emma Forde, who denied Healy a second goal with a point blank save before Brown pointed twice from frees to edge Mallow ahead 1-3 to 1-1 at the mid-way stage.

Enniskeane made the better start to the second half and inside four minutes were back on level thanks to points from Katie Buttimer and Orla Coughlan. With their defence continuing to be marshalled efficiently by captain Marita Collins who had a tremendous hour and with Healy causing the Mallow defence a lot of bother, they continued to press for a lead score but strong defending by Mallow and over-carrying of the ball by their inside line proved costly to Enniskeane.

On the other side, Mallow's distribution was excellent and their more direct and economical style of play ensured plenty of supply and it was as a result this that Brown and Kathleen O'Brien pointed in the eighth and 14th minutes respectively to edge Mallow ahead.

With Enniskeane still applying the pressure, Mallow broke away and again a long clearance found O'Brien who raced past the Enniskeane defence to rattle the roof of the net.

Just three minutes remaining but plenty of drama yet as Forde again denied Enniskeane a certain goal. In the process she conceded a 20-metre free which she again saved at the expense of a 45 which was dealt with efficiently by the Mallow defence.

Healy shaved the crossbar with a shot for goal as Enniskeane pressed but with Fay O'Donoghue replying with the final puck of a highly entertaining final, Mallow were champions after a contest where both sides have to be complimented for the whole hearted effort and commitment on an excellent pitch.

MALLOW E Forde, E Linehan, K McAuliffe, K O'Halloran, S Doocoy, R O'Leary, C Coakley, A Kelleher, K O'Brien (1-1), M Brown (1-3, 1-1 from play, 0-2 from frees) M Byrne, A O'Rourke (0-1), F O'Donoghue (0-1)

ENNISKEANE J O'Sullivan, M O'Donovan, L Collins, C O'Mahony, M Nyhan, M Collins, B Crowley, O Coughlan (0-1) C O'Neill, E Healy (1-1), K Hennessey, K Buttimer (0-2), N Buttimer, Subs A Nyhan for N Buttimer (26 min's) K Crowley for C O'Mahony (39 min's)

Referee: Oliver Webb

MALLOW TAKE LAST TITLE OF 2005

Camogiechat

With Mary Newman

JUST four days after Christmas the camogie players from Mallow and Enniskeane put the festivities to one side as they contested the thirteen A-side junior league final on a splendidly prepared Tracton pitch.

In what was a superb contest, the sides battled it out to the final whistle before Mallow claimed victory, a goal from Kathleen O'Brien with four minutes to the full time whistle finally deciding the issue.

Both teams have to be complimented for the wonderful game of camogie, despite the lateness of the

year and certainly, spectators were kept enthralled to the final whistle.

Through the entire game just two points separated the teams as they picked off their scores through a close contest. Ellen Healy opened the scoring with a goal in the third minute for Enniskeane but it was quickly replied to by Mallow's Michelle Brown.

With play swinging from end to end it was level going into the closing five minutes. Mallow were somewhat lucky to be in that position and it was thanks to Emma Forde who denied Ellen Healy a sec-

ond goal with a point blank save before Michelle Brown pointed twice from frees to put Mallow ahead 1-3 to 1-1 at the half time whistle.

Enniskeane started the second half in determined fashion and inside four minutes were back on level terms thanks to points from Katie Buttimer and Orla Coughlan. Captain Marita Collins and Ellen Healy were superb for Enniskeane as they pressed for scores but they came up against a superb Mallow defence who time out of number held firm.

Mallow made use of their possession more economi-

cally and their overall play was excellent and it in turn ensured plenty of supply to their inside line.

Michelle Brown and Kathleen O'Brien pointed in the eight and fourteenth minutes to edge Mallow ahead, but, with Enniskeane still applying the pressure, Mallow could not afford to be relaxed.

A long Mallow clearance from defence found Kathleen O'Brien who showed great skill as she raced past the Enniskeane defence to finish to the net. Just three minutes remained but still plenty of time for an Enniskeane

Happy new year to camogie players and mentors through the city and county. Here's hoping 2006 will be as good if not better than 2005. Clubs are still enjoying a well deserved break from activities and enjoying a chance to recharge the batteries for what is sure to be another busy season ahead. In the coming weeks we will take a brief look back at some of the stories that made the camogie headlines in 2005.

revival, but, again, Emma Forde denied them a certain goal and in the process conceding a 20 metre free which she again saved at the expense of a forty five which was then dealt with by the Mallow defence.

Continuing to press, Ellen Healy shaved the cross bar with a shot for

goal as Enniskeane laid siege to the Mallow goal. But with a Fay O'Donoghue reply with the final puck of a highly entertaining final, Mallow were champions after a contest where both sides have to be complimented for the whole hearted effort and commitment on an excellent pitch.

Golden Moments 2005



● Cork captain Elaine Burke.

Winning for Cork was the best

CAMOGIE captain Elaine Burke shares her 2005 golden moments.

"Regaining the All-Ireland trophy for Cork was a thrilling achievement, especially as it was our 21st senior title, achieved in our centenary year.

"Being part of the treble Cork win this year also felt like a unique occasion that is unlikely to be repeated again in the same year.

"But just being given the opportunity to be a part of a successful team and ending the year on a winning note after previous disappointments was brilliant!"



All Ireland Camogie Champions Clash the Ash in Support of SHARE. Captain Elaine Burke and her team mates clash the ash with SHARE boys and girls during their fast and fundraising for Cork's elderly at The SHARE Crib, Daunt's Square, Cork. Cork Players Sarah O'Donovan, Joanne O'Callaghan, Colette Desmond with Emma Farrell



Clare captain Deirdre Murphy with her Dublin counterpart Eimear Brannigan and Armagh referee Una Kearney before the replay of the All-Ireland Junior camogie final at Birr.

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Since 1998 the All-Ireland camogie title has gone each year to either Cork or Tipperary. This September they met again. Joanne Ryan, who lifted the trophy a year ago, wins the ball here ahead of Rosarie Holland but Cork went on to take the title after a great second half.

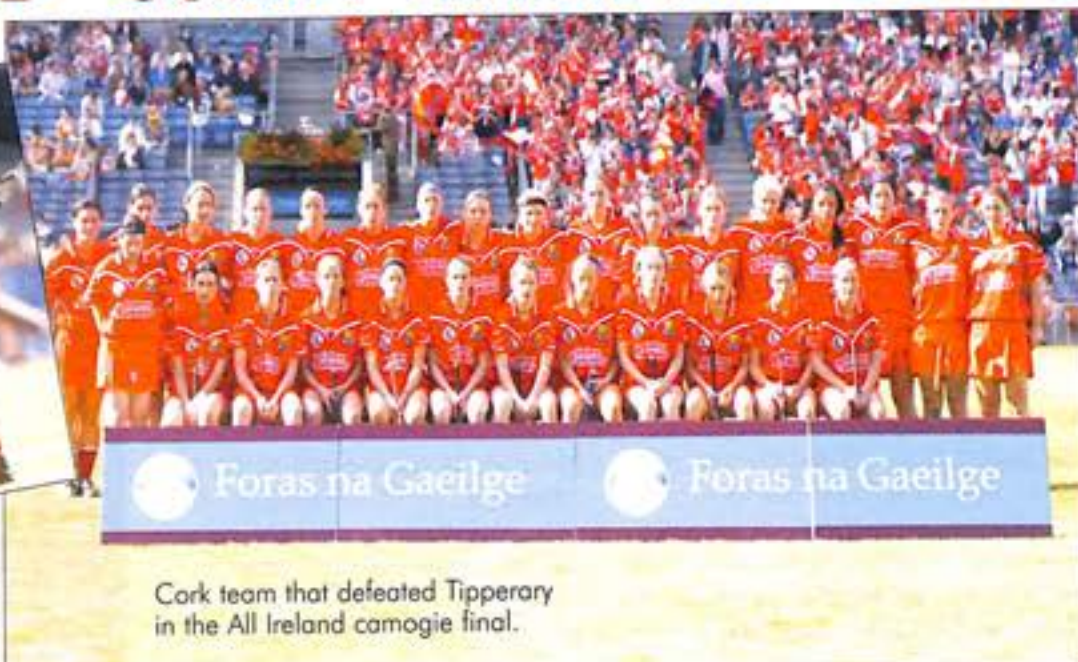
Picture: Brendan Moran / SPORTSFILE

SLENDID COME-BACK BY CORK

NEIL MCCAVANA



Tipperary's Philly Fogarty gets away from Vivienne Harris of Cork in the All Ireland camogie final.



Cork team that defeated Tipperary in the All Ireland camogie final.

It is often said that League form is not a reliable guide to the championship. That certainly proved the case for Cork in senior camogie in the past year.

Back in May Cork lost the National Senior League final to Galway at Semple Stadium. They scored just six points in that game.

Yet in September eleven of the players who appeared during the League summit were in action as the Rebels ended Tipperary's hopes of a treble of All-Ireland senior titles in the Croke Park clash for the coveted O'Duffy Cup.

However, it was a player who was not in action in the League who really stamped her personality on the 1-17 to 1-13 All-Ireland final win.

Gemma O'Connor, who was not available for the League final as she was on duty with the Defence Forces in Liberia, gave a Player-of-the-Match performance with quality play and she also chipped in with three points.

Later in the year her display was recognised in a big way with her selection as the Vodafone Camogie Player of the Year.

Then in mid November few could have been surprised when O'Connor was named at midfield in the All Stars team. That was her second such award as she was honoured in the inaugural All Stars team in 2004.

The year provided many other highlights. Vera Curtin did much at full forward with her clever play and finishing technique that yielded 1-5 to orchestrate Galway's League final win over Cork in May.

Dublin once dominated the All-Ireland senior championship and still lead the Roll of Honour, despite the fact that their last title was won as far back as 1984—the county's 26th title.

However, there was joy for the Dubs in the junior ranks in the past year with Niamh Taylor taking her place in that always appealing story of super substitutes.

Three minutes into added time in the All-Ireland final at Croke Park in September, Clare were a point ahead of Dublin. Then into the picture stepped Taylor, who went into the Dublin side after twenty eight minutes.

Dublin were awarded a 50 metres free

and Taylor displayed a cool nerve in the tense atmosphere as well as accuracy as she sent over the bar to tie the scores at 1-7 each and send the game to a replay.

Taylor was on from the start in the replay at Birr and hit two points as Dublin collected a first title since 1975 with a 2-9 to 1-4 win.

The competitive year ended on a high note with the All-Ireland Club senior and junior finals.

The sharpshooting of full forward Marie O'Connor who scored 2-3, and midfielder Imelda Kennedy, on the target with six points, proved very influential in enabling St. Lachtains, Kilkenny, to retain the senior title in their showpiece game with Davitts, Galway, at Cloughjordan.

Liatroim Fontenoy's, Down, also made it a double by outscoring Newmarket on-Fergus at Cloughjordan to retain the junior crown.

The final was something of a personal triumph for full forward Maureen McAleenan, who highlighted her display by contributing 3-2 to the Down side's 3-7. ■

ALL-STAR



Miriam O'Callaghan presenting the All-Star award to Therese Maher at the All-Star Awards in City West Hotel. Also in photograph is Ossie Kilkenny, President of the Sports Council.

DEC

2005

WHAT A YEAR FOR COLLETTE!

Collette McSorley, bright young camogie talent from Armagh, has more cause than most to look back on sporting activities in 2005. She played minor, junior and senior with Armagh and also collected a number of awards along the way.

Collette, who is a 16-year-old pupil of St. Catherine's, Armagh, won an Ulster Colleges' award in March shortly after she had made a strong impression with the Armagh county senior team.



She was scored some splendid

totals for Armagh in the League and later won a provincial junior medal. In the final success over Down at Clones in June she scored a splendid five points from centre field.

Such was the high quality of her over-all performance in that game that she won the Player of the March award.

Collette also has a memorable time in the minor grade. She helped Armagh to reach the All-Ireland "B" final in the grade. The Orchard County lost that game in August to Offaly by 3-9 to 2-14, but such was the brilliance of Collette - she scored a superb 2-5 - that she won another Player of the March award.

Then, at the end of the year the young Tullysaran player was named Young Player of the Year at the Camogie All Stars Gala Banquet at the City West Hotel in Dublin.

Three other players were nominated for that award—Aoife McLoughney (Tipperary), Siobhan Flannery (Offaly) and Katie Power (Kilkenny).

All in all, then, a year to remember for Collette McSorley, who is undoubtedly a very promising young player with the class and ability to capture plenty of important headlines in the future. ■

ALL-IRELAND FINALS

SENIOR

18th September, Cork 1-17; Tipperary 1-13

JUNIOR

September 18, Clare 1-7; Dublin 1-7

October 9, Birr: Dublin 2-9; Clare 1-4. REPLAY

MINOR "A"

August 7, Parnell Park: Kilkenny 4-7; Tipperary 2-7

MINOR "B"

August 7, Parnell Park: Offaly 2-14; Armagh 3-9

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

FINALS

SENIOR

November 20, Cloughjordan: St. Lachtain's, Kilkenny, 1-9; Davitt's, Galway, 1-4

November 20, Cloughjordan: Liatroim Fontenoy's, Down, 3-7; Newmarket-on-Fergus, Clare, 0-8

SEMI-FINALS

SENIOR

August 20, Nowlan Park:

Tipperary 1-13; Wexford 1-8

August 20, Nowlan Park: Cork 5-17; Limerick 0-5

JUNIOR

August 13, Ennis: Clare 4-12; Galway 2-8

August 14, Parnell Park: Dublin 1-15; Armagh 0-7

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

SENIOR

6th November, Freshford: St. Lachtain's, Freshford, Kilkenny, 4-14; Rossa, Antrim, 2-9

14th November, Tynagh: Davitt's, Galway, 3-7; Cashel, Tipperary, 1-13

12th November, New Inn: Davitt's 3-9; Cashel 1-9 REPLAY

JUNIOR

6th November, Drumcullen: Liatroim Fontenoy's, Down, 3-9; Drumcullen, Offaly, 1-4

6th November, Newmarket-on-Fergus, Clare, 2-10; Four Roads, Roscommon, 0-5

NATIONAL LEAGUE

FINAL

Division I - May 29, Thurles: Galway 1-6; Cork 0-6

Division II - Thurles: Cork 2-10; Galway 2-7

SEMI-FINALS:

May 8, Nenagh: Galway 1-14; Kilkenny 1-4
Cork 1-11; Wexford 2-6

GAEL-LINN INTERPROVINCIALS

SENIOR FINAL

October 15, Ballinteer St. John's, Dublin:
Munster 3-14; Connacht 2-8

JUNIOR FINAL

October 15, Ballinteer St. John's, Dublin:
Munster 2-14; Ulster 2-4

ASHBOURNE CUP

FINAL

February 20, Ballygunner:
University of Limerick 0-12; U.C. Dublin 1-4

SEMI-FINALS

February 19, Ballygunner: U.L. 0-12; U.C. Cork 1-7
U.C.D. 1-5; Waterford I.T. 0-6

ASHBOURNE SHIELD

FINAL

February 20, Ballygunner: Mary Immaculate College,
Limerick 2-7; Cork I.T. 2-4

INTERNATIONAL

October 8, Inverness: Ireland 13; Scotland 0