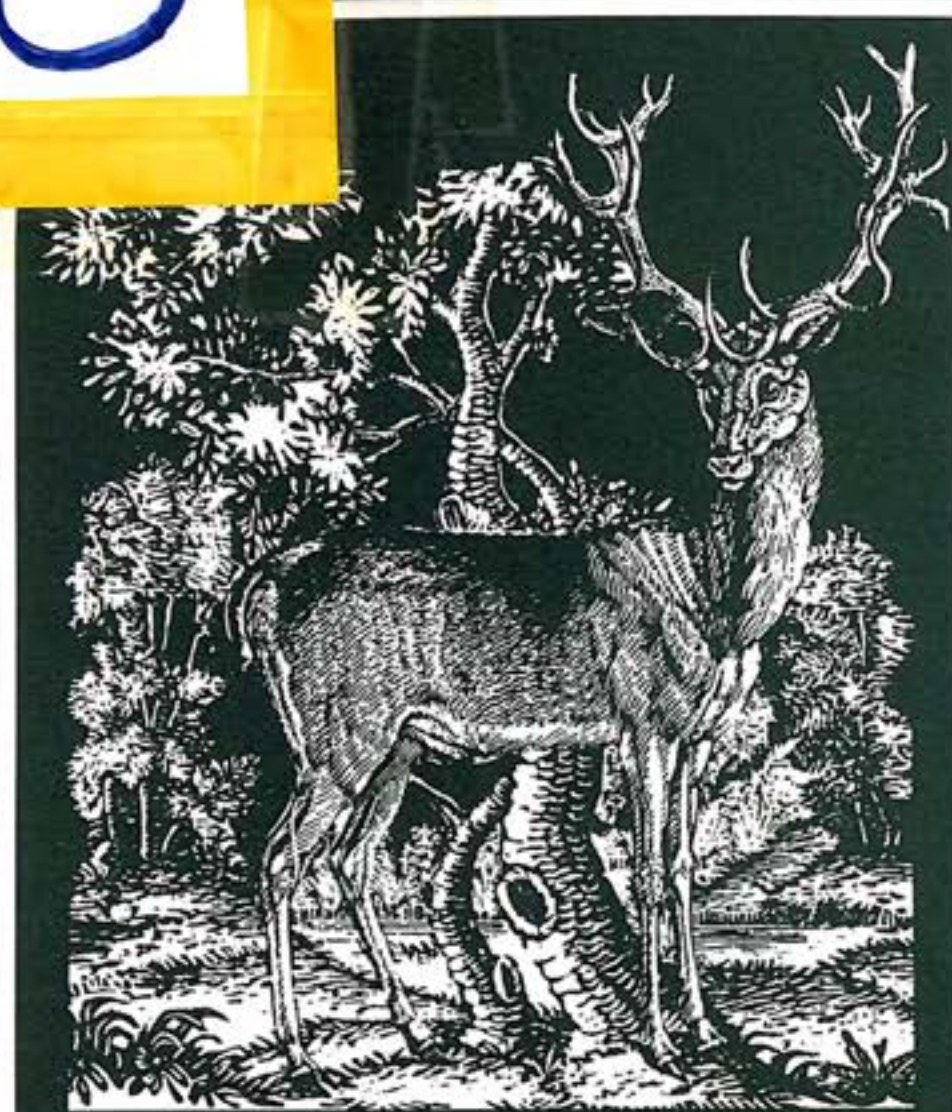


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Nov. 2000

THE GROUNDBREAKERS

FROM JOURNALISM TO ADMINISTRATION TO RECORD-BREAKING DEEDS ON THE PITCH, WOMEN HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHING AND HOLDING IMPORTANT POSITIONS WITHIN THE GAA WORLD. MICK DUNNE SPOKE TO FOUR WHO ARE LEADING THE WAY

Family atmosphere experienced in childhood, and its influence on the growing youngster, usually determines the sporting directions to be taken in later life, for females as much as for males. Consequently, it was probably inescapable that Noreen Doherty would spend much of her adult life devoted to the GAA in Donegal, but not inevitable that she would eventually become secretary of the county board. "I come from a very traditional GAA family and I became involved at a very early age," she says.

Similarly it is hardly surprising that Cliona Foley found her way into sports reporting before rising to become one of the *Irish Independent's* leading reporters on Gaelic games. She says: "I love the GAA. Both my parents are sports mad, my mother is nearly worse than my father, so we spent all our lives going to matches and my brothers played."

Not just unavoidable for Angela Downey, more a case of she and twin sister Ann being born into hurling. What else with one of Kilkenny's most celebrated players for a father, Shem Downey from famed Tullaroan, who starred at centre half-back, midfield and in attack throughout the second half of the Forties? "We were encouraged from an early age, we were two tomboys," states Angela. "Sure, there was a match every Sunday and there was no dinner most Sundays - or if there was, it was a very late dinner."

No such famous guiding hand can be claimed by Orla Bannon, who is now well-established covering Gaelic games, including the All-Ireland finals, for the *Irish News* in Belfast. But proximity to the St. Enda's club as she grew up in Omagh was influential, and Tyrone's first appearance in the All-Ireland football final might be said to be something of a defining moment in her life, as well as a hugely significant occasion in the county's history. "I was sports captain at school," she recalls, "and I had been following the games and then my first All-Ireland final was in '86 between Tyrone and Kerry. So whenever I got the chance to do freelancing it was always sport I wanted to do."

These are four women whose lives have been closely connected with Gaelic games. At a time when more and more



Angela Downey

women have become deeply involved in some aspect or another of the GAA's affairs, Noreen Doherty has risen to the most prominent position in administration, while Cliona Foley and Orla Bannon have reached the most exalted positions in daily sports journalism. However, many more are engaged in the running of clubs, even county boards, and both provincial newspapers and local radio stations have women reporters covering the national sports.

Cliona Foley says: "I'm in a very privileged position, so people take notice of you. But there are so many other women who are involved in the GAA who are

doing much more effective and useful and better things than I'm doing. It's just because I happen to be in the limelight that people would ask me questions at times, but I'm always conscious that there are an awful lot of women working at grassroots level in coaching, increasingly more so at senior level. And now there are a lot of women working in the media, in the provincial newspapers in this area, which is a great thing, it's great to see it happening. But when you work in the national media people take a bit more notice."

Noreen Doherty's workplace, on the other hand, is her home in Ballybofey, A

full-time housewife, she now has an office at home where she conducts the business of the Donegal Board. Her brothers PJ and Noel McGowan played football - PJ wore the county jersey as well as spending a period as the county team manager, while Noel lined-out with the Sean MacCumhalls club.

She says: "I was the oldest girl, a twin, in a family of six and I was always taken to matches. My father, Patrick, also played club football, it was then Erin's Hope, in the Forties and my mother would have played camogie. We were always interested in the GAA and it started from there." There was no chance of a decline in her interest in the association with her marriage to Aidan Doherty, a teacher at the Vocational School in Stranorlar. There he is responsible for games and is involved at underage level with the MacCumhalls club.

Noreen's entry into administration happened 20 years ago when the then-secretary of Sean MacCumhalls, Eugene Boyle, retired. "I remembered going to a meeting," she says, "but I can't remember who proposed me for club secretary, but somebody did and that was my introduction. Of course, I would have been in touch all the time and would have been seen at the matches and was involved in anything at all to do with the club, on a ladies' committee and so on."

This was a position she held for six years until she was successfully nominated for assistant county secretary to Bart Whelan, whom she succeeded in 1991 when he announced he wouldn't go forward again. Noreen recalls: "I had no ambition to become county secretary; I was quite happy as assistant secretary as I was dealing with fixtures and getting to know the clubs and all that. I was happy that I was always learning something. But I was asked and encouraged to put my name forward when Bart was retiring and I felt I owed it to a few clubs that had supported me." In a contest she succeeded by one vote over Pat Conaghan, who was to become the county chairman four years later.

Despite Cliona Foley's family background when she grew up in Abbeyleix, she drifted somewhat from Gaelic games during her days in secondary school. Her parents, now spending their retirement in Tramore (which gives Cliona an attachment to Waterford as well as Laois), sent her to Loreto Convent in Kilkenny and, when they stopped taking boarders, to the Brigidine Sisters in Mountrath.

Cliona recalls: "Kilkenny was a real hockey school and then when I moved to Mountrath it was a very successful basket-

ball school. I never went to a school that had a strong Gaelic tradition, never to a school that had camogie or [ladies'] football, which was funny because we grew up with camogie and football."

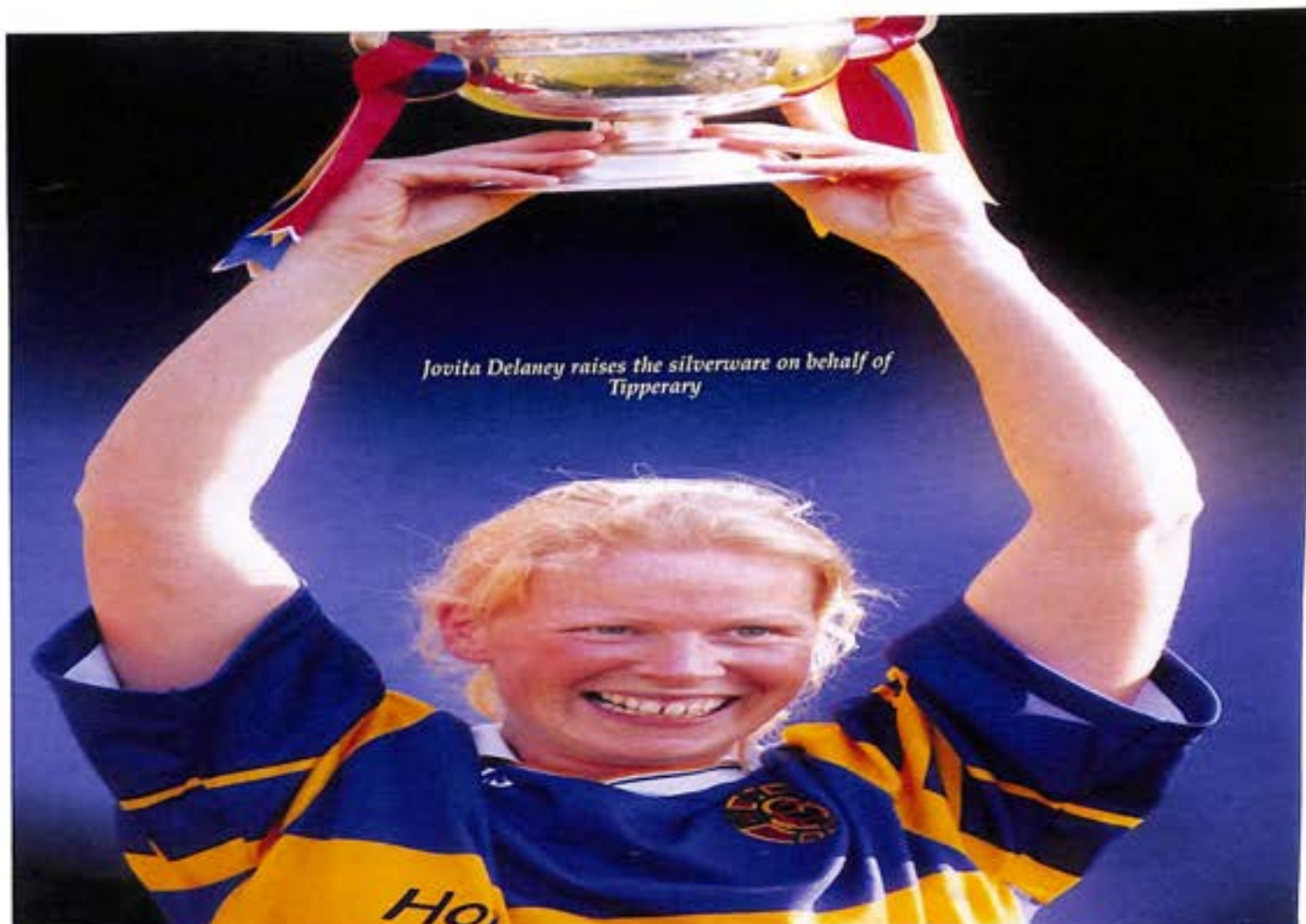
College for Cliona was in Limerick, when the third level institution there was known as Thomond College, and where Galway footballer Brian Taitz was in a senior class at the time (Cliona just missed the successful run the college had in the All-Ireland Club championship of 1978). "When I was leaving school it was a toss-up between physical education and journalism," she states. "But I decided that if I did PE it would be a good grounding further down the road, so I taught for a year in Kilkenny and then for five years in Navan Loreto, English as well as PE. But then I decided I'd like to go back and try journalism, so I did the one-year post-graduate course in DCU."

"I did about a year and a half freelancing and did everything in that time, everything, you name it. I was editing an engi-

neering magazine at one stage! I was very lucky in that I did my work experience in the *Independent* and freelanced with them, so I knew people in there which was useful. After about a year and a half I was blessed when one of the racing correspondents retired and instead of employing somebody as a racing corr they decided they needed another general sports reporter. I got that job and another job didn't come up for four or five years."

The freelance route was also the one Orla Bannon took before getting a staff appointment with the *Irish News* a year-and-a-half ago. In addition to Gaelic games, she covers rugby and Republic of Ireland soccer matches. At the highest levels of daily journalism women reporters are still rare, so is there any unfavourable reaction when they appear at matches? "Oh, there is," says Orla, "but you get used to it. At the end of the day the way I look at it is that there are a lot of guys out there who are bluffing their way through things, they like to





Jovita Delaney raises the silverware on behalf of Tipperary

Tipp-Top!

As defending champions, Tipp's senior camogie players could have been expected to suffer somewhat from the weight of expectation coming into the 2000 knock-out campaign. But did it weigh them down? Not a bit of it!

Prior to this year's Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie decider, an all-Munster affair was about as common as the cornerake.

Not since 1980 - when Cork beat Limerick - had two teams from the deep south met in the championship final. As things worked out, the 2000 decider between traditional kingpins Cork and the new Queens of the sport, Tipperary, was well worth waiting for, as ace attacker Deirdre Hughes is only too pleased to report:

"It was just brilliant. I'm not so sure whether this year's success or last year's victory was the sweetest. Both of them were great but this year's was probably all the more special because it was Cork.

"We were hammered by them (Cork) earlier in the National League final so it was good to get revenge on them and to prove to ourselves and everyone else that we were a better team than we showed that day."

In addition, Deirdre concedes that the Tipp lads were a

bit miffed at suggestions that last year's All-Ireland triumph had a bit of the beginners' luck tag about it. That somehow they were a tad lucky to beat Kilkenny - their one point win reflecting, as their detractors saw it, how 'lucky' they were in '99.

"Tipp had never beaten Cork in a championship encounter and that was a great incentive for us going into this year's final.

"Also, some people felt that we had something of an easy ride to the title last year. It was great to be able to come back this year and prove just how good a team we have," the Toomevara and county star adds.

Interestingly, Deirdre - joined on this year's county panel by clubmates, Noelle Kennedy, Suzanne Kelly and Grainne Shanahan - suggests that the coolness and maturity of the panel had to be seen to be believed. "There was a bit more pressure on us this year because of the fact we were defending our title but we took it on board fairly well and I

don't think it affected our game at all," Deirdre opines.

Certainly, the introduction of some new faces and fresh blood to this year's panel strengthened Tipp's resolve, seemed to heighten their ambition and embellish the county's armour for their campaign in 2000.

As things transpired, workmanlike rather than hugely impressive victories over Down and Clare paved the way for the team for the team's head-to-head battle with Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final.

Tipperary's 2-11 to 1-8 victory over Galway at Parnell Park was hard-fought but well-deserved.

Noelle Kennedy's goal midway through the second half proved to be the decisive score in Tipp's victory. The teams were level at 1-8 apiece when Kennedy's 55-yard free was misjudged by the Galway goalkeeper and the ball ended up in the net.

The goal proved to be a turning point and helped Tipp lead by 1-7 to 0-6 lead by the end of the second quarter. Thereafter, Tipp never looked back and actually finished the strongest of the two sides. For her part, Deirdre - as is her wont - once again got on the scoresheet with a fine point.

"The Galway game was by far our biggest game of the year at that point. We had heard a lot about them and that they were up for it. There was probably more pressure on us against Galway than there was in the final itself," Deirdre comments.

And so to the final - the first ever meeting between Tipperary and Cork in an All-Ireland final. Nearly 13,000 people were there to see the two evenly-matched sides do battle and what entertainment they produced!

Up until this year's final, Tipp had never beaten Cork before and the defeat suffered by the Premier County at the hands of the Rebel County in the National League final earlier in the year must have been preying on the minds of the Tipp players as the countdown to the match gathered momentum.

In careering to a well-merited 2-11 to 1-9 win, the Premier County put on an exhibition of camogie skills, the likes of which had seldom been seen at Croke Park.

Slick and sharp in all sectors of the field, utterly focussed and fiercely competitive, the Michael Cleary-managed Tipp ladies were full value for their eventual five point winning margin.

And it was left to Deirdre to engineer the platform which was to catapult the defending champions all the way to an absorbing victory. Team-manager Cleary was quick to acknowledge the importance of the Toomevara player's brace of goals, her opening one in particular:

"It gave the girls confidence, and having never beaten Cork before, it injected the belief that we could do it. And the fact we beat Cork means as much as winning the All-Ireland itself," Cleary declared after the final whistle.

But was Deirdre satisfied that Tipp's 2-5 to 0-4 lead was good enough to allow the Premier County go on and win it?

"No, not at all. It wasn't until very near the end of the game that I felt we had our hands on the cup. We had a great first 20 minutes but it was even-even after that and after half-time, it was a totally different ball game with Cork trying their best to get through for goals.

"Thankfully, our couple of goals helped give us enough of a cushion of a lead to stay ahead to the very end," adds Deirdre who also won a Junior All-Ireland medal with Tipp in 1992 (having beaten Galway) and an All-Ireland Intermediate medal in 1997 - Clare, their victims.

Indeed. And when Caitriona Hennessy converted a free and another point from Emer McDonnell flew over shortly after the restart, the writing was on the wall for the Leesiders. There was to be no stopping the Tipp ladies. Their 2-11 to 1-9 win adequately reflected their superiority on the day.

And so can we expect the champions to make it three-in-a row next year?

"It's difficult to know how next year will go. The enthusiasm and hunger will be there anyway and I think the motivation will be there too but Cork, Galway, Kilkenny, and Clare will probably have a big say in how things go. We'll hope for the best," Deirdre concludes.

For the record, the following is the Tipp team, and scorers, which triumphed over Cork to win the 2000 Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship final:

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



Tipperary, All-Ireland senior camogie winners 2000

Cork face a tough challenge from Limerick

by Mary Newman

WEATHER conditions again played havoc with the weekend fixture list. The Junior A county final between Douglas and Ballygarvan and the Junior B semi-final between Castlemagner and Youghal were cancelled.

On Sunday next Cork travel to Limerick in defence of the Munster Under-18 title, while it is hoped to play the Junior A county final and Senior B semi-final between Valley Rovers and Eire Og on consecutive weekends.

Traditionally, the under-18 competition is played late in the year.

Given that it is only played at a provincial level, it is a pity that it is not organised earlier in the year because at this stage in the season, pitches are not in the best order.

Cork will face a very tough challenge from a Limerick side who will field a strong team that includes Jean Cullinane, Eileen O'Brien and Laura Lesley.

But the Cork team will feature sen-

ior inter-county player Ciara Healy, who is joined by Amanda O'Regan, Catriona Kelly, Niamh Goulding, Aoife Murray, Joanne O'Callaghan and Emer Dillon in a very strong Leeside line-out.

Ballyhea Valley Rovers 7-2 0-0

BALLYHEA made their journey to Brinney a winning one on Wednesday last, recording a fine victory over Valley Rovers to qualify for the Under-16 B county quarter final.

A close first half saw Valley Rovers work hard to contain the Ballyhea attack, and with Laura Davis and Eilmarie Cottrell playing well, Ballyhea were contained.

However, two goals from Rena Garvey and Nora Healy were enough to give them a comfortable interval lead.

Playing with determination from the restart, the Ballyhea girls progress was reflected in the play of defenders Karen O'Leary and Amy Morrissey,

who captained the side.

Two goals from the lively Norma Healy left Valley Rovers with a mountain to climb.

They stuck to the task, but could not match the Ballyhea side for whom Stephanie McNiry, Karen O'Leary, Rena Garvey and Mary Coleman all added scores to leave them comfortable winners.

Clonakilty Killeagh 4-3 0-2

CLONAKILTY made no mistake second time round in the Under-16 B Championship replay against Killeagh last Wednesday.

Nicola O'Donovan's pointed free opened the scoring and was followed by points from Jane Lowney and O'Donovan.

Battling hard to hold the upper hand, Clonakilty introduced substitute Lisa O'Flynn, who was an instant success when her goal twenty minutes into the game put Clonakilty in the driving seat.

Jane Lowney stretched that lead three minutes later with Clon's second goal to leave it 2-3 to 0-0 at the break. Killeagh fought back with a point to open the second half, but again Clonakilty answered the challenge with a Josephine McCarthy goal.

A second Killeagh point failed to upset the Clon girls who went on to seal victory with another goal from Josephine McCarthy.

Douglas Bishopstown 3-1 0-0

DESPITE the scoreline, Douglas and Bishopstown served up an exciting Seandún Under-11 league final at Blackrock recently.

The first half had the sides evenly matched throughout the opening ten minutes, and with both defences playing good camogie the forwards found scores hard to come by and young Bishopstown goalkeeper Vivienne O'Mahony denied Douglas with two superb saves.

Hilary O'Connor broke the dead-

lock 19 minutes into the first half when she goaled to give Douglas the lead.

Three minutes later captain Emma Heffernan extended the Douglas lead when her long shot from out field dropped to the net.

Linda McCarthy added a point to leave Douglas ahead 2-1 to 0-0 at the interval.

In the second half again both defences kept it tight with play swinging from end to end.

Fiona Curtin, Caoimhe Morris Laura Bowen and Kate Hickey worked with determination to further the Bishopstown cause, but Douglas held firm with Rachel O'Sullivan and Niamh O'Donovan in excellent form. Zoe Dunlea's goal minutes from full time was the final score in a game for which both clubs deserve to be congratulated for their level of commitment and sporting play.

Marion Mc Carthy, chairperson, Seandún, presented the trophy to Douglas captain Emma Heffernan after the game.

Cork too strong for Limerick

Cork 3-12 Limerick 1-2

by Mary Newman

ON a Pallasgreen pitch which was barely playable, Cork advanced to the Munster U-18 Championship semi-final when they proved too strong for Limerick yesterday.

Rachel Maloney settled Cork with a pointed free two minutes into the opening half and Ellen O'Herlihy and Mairead Kelly exchanging points, Cork led 0-2 to 0-1 after fifteen minutes.

Points from Maloney and Emer Dillon stretched that advantage to leave us 1-7 to 0-1 at the break.

Limerick staged a brief revival from the resumption with a Marie Keating goal inside the opening minute but it failed to ruffle Cork.

Scorers: Cork: R. Maloney 0-5 (0-2 free), J. O'Leary 2-1, C. Corkery 1-1, E. O'Herlihy 0-3, C. Healy 0-2, E. Dillon 0-1. Limerick: M. Keating 1-0, M. Kelly 0-2. CORK: A. Murray (capt), J. O'Callaghan, R.

Holland, A. O'Regan, G. O'Sullivan, S. Hayes, N. Bowles, E. Dillon, A. O'Regan, C. Corkery, C. Healy, R. Maloney, J. O'Connor, J. O'Leary, E. O'Herlihy. Subs: C. Desmond for J. O'Connor, A. Kelleher for E. Dillon, J. Twomey for E. O'Herlihy. LIMERICK: E. Real, M. Nash (capt), B. Cleary, A. Creed, G. McNamara, A. O'Connell, M. Fleury, A. White, E. O'Brien, P. Fitzgerald, A. Lane, M. Kelly, A. Sheehan, M. Keating, D. Fitzpatrick. Subs: N. Barry for P. Fitzgerald, A. Roche for A. Lane, C. Cronin for N. Barry.

Eire Og Valley Rovers 3-3 1-2

ÉIRE ÓG booked their place in the Cork senior B championship final when they proved too strong for Valley Rovers in the semi-final replay at Shanbally on Saturday.

Deirdre Healy's opening goal set the foundation for Eire Og's victory and aided by the elements a second goal from O'Herlihy gave them a 2-4 to 0-1 half time lead. They play Milford in the final next weekend.

Scorers: Eire Og: E. O'Herlihy 2-1, D. Healy 1-0, Y. Malone 0-2. Valley Rovers: C. Dessy 1-0, E. Burke, M. Hurley 0-1 each. ÉIRE ÓG: M. McCarthy, D. O'Sullivan, L. O'Leary.

N. O'Leary, S. O'Driscoll, A. McKenna, Y. O'Leary, M. Howard, C. Crowley, K. Walsh (capt), M. Lehane, Y. Malone, Y. Corkery, E. O'Herlihy, D. Healy. VALLEY ROVERS: S. Shields, S. Dessy, AM. Murphy, N. O'Donovan, C. McSweeney, M. Hurley, C. O'Riordan, D. Shields, H. Bugler, ME. O'Mahony, L. Bugler, E. Burke, M. McCarthy, M. Murphy, C. Dessy. Sub: C. O'Mahony for H. Bugler.

Ballygarvan Douglas 4-7 0-0

DESPITE the scoreline, Ballygarvan and Douglas served up an entertaining Cork Junior A Co. Final at Ballygarvan on Saturday.

The winners held 3-7 to 0-0 advantage at the short whistle.

Scorers: A. Murphy 2-0, C. Kelly 1-2, J. O'Sullivan 1-1, E. Dillon 0-3, D. Daly 0-1. BALLYGARVAN: M. O'Riordan, K. Brown, J. Brown, M. Lane, A. O'Neill, N. Brady, N. Hallahan, D. Daly, C. Kelly, K. Dineen, J. O'Sullivan, A. Murphy, SA O'Halloran, Sub: Z. Forrest for K. Dineen. DOUGLAS: C. Barry, G. Burke, G. Carroll, AM Downey, C. Downey, E. Downey, M. Harrington, C. Jordan, F. McSweeney, E. Murphy, L. O'Brien, F. O'Donovan, A. O'Regan, L. O'Regan, N. Fanaghan. Subs: H. Jordan, H. O'Barry.

Winning Cork minor and camogie teams hosted by Mayor

By NOEL HORGAN

A Civic Reception in honour of the minor football team and intermediate camogie team which brought All-Ireland glory to Cork this year was hosted by Lord Mayor, Cllr. P.J. Hourican at the City Hall last week.

Congratulating all involved with the successful teams, the Lord Mayor said he was delighted on behalf of the people of Cork to be in a position to give official recognition to their tremendous achievements.

"We aren't just honouring the players for their victories, we are honouring them as well for displaying the outstanding commitment and dedication required to secure those victories."

"It takes an immense amount of hard work to win an All-Ireland at any level, a lot of sacrifices have to be made, and you were prepared to make them for the pride and glory of the county, and we greatly appreciate that," he told the gathering.

"The minor footballers' win over Mayo in Croke Park last September was wonderful to witness, and I'm sure that the occasion will never be forgotten by the players."

"Their path to the final was not easy, and we are

extremely proud of the great character which they showed to negotiate all the obstacles."

ELUSIVE

"While Cork has a very good record in camogie in recent times, the intermediate All-Ireland proved elusive until this year", continued the Lord Mayor.

"In beating Limerick in the final, therefore, the girls wrote themselves into the history-books, and their march to the top was all the more creditable for the reason that the opposition encountered in all three games along the way were the top teams in their respective counties."

The Lord Mayor said it gave him great pleasure to pay tribute to the players on both Cork teams, their mentors and their families for what has been accomplished during the past year.

"You are a credit to Cork, and I wish the players every success in the future, both as sportsmen and women, and in whatever career they decide to pursue", he concluded.

Replying on behalf of the camogie team, Sheila Golden, Chairperson County

Camogie Board, thanked the Lord Mayor for the Civic Reception which she described as a great honour and a public acknowledgement of all the hard work put in by the players and mentors over the past 12 months.

Her remarks were reiterated by Cork County Board Chairman, Jim Cronin, who went on to recall the success of the minor football team.

"They had a very tough campaign in Munster, but they really blossomed once they got to Croke Park, giving two tremendous displays against Derry and Mayo."

"It was a very important win because Cork hadn't won a football All-Ireland in any grade since 1996", he revealed, and it was achieved by a very talented bunch of players, many of whom, no doubt, will be wearing the Cork colours in senior ranks in the near future."

Special presentations were made to Mr. Cronin and Ms. Golden, and to Mr. Teddy Holland and Mr. P. Murray, minor football team coach and intermediate camogie team coach respectively, by the Lord Mayor at the reception.

City honours its hurling heroes



Lord Mayor PJ Hourican with Cork minor hurling team captain James Masters and Helen Walsh, vice captain of the Cork All-Ireland Intermediate camogie champions.

Nov.

2000



July, Lizzie O'Dea, City Jun camogie manager



Douglas' Catherine Jordan under pressure from Ballygarvan's Aileen O'Neill and Maura Lane.

Picture: News Pics

Ballygarvan take first Junior A title

Ballygarvan 4-7
Douglas 0-0

BALLYGARVAN took their first Junior A county champions title at the on Saturday last in a game that despite the scoreline was an entertaining contest.

Aided by the gale force wind in the opening half a goal from Julie O'Sullivan in the opening minute settled the Ballygarvan nerves.

Emer Dillon had added a point before Player of the Match Catriona Kelly's fifth minute goal signalled Ballygarvan's dominance.

Kelly added a point before alert full forward Amanda Murphy had Ballygarvan's third goal.

"Aided by the gale force wind in the opening half a goal from Julie O'Sullivan in the opening minute settled the Ballygarvan nerves."

Working hard the Douglas defence came under constant pressure whilst at the other end it was difficult to turn possession into scores they did squander scoring chances that one felt may have settled their side.

As it was Ballygarvan added further points before the break.

These came from Emer Dillon, Catriona Kelly, Julie O'Sullivan and Deirdre Daly.

Douglas aided by the wind for the second half played better and with their defence tightening up considerably Ballygarvan found it harder to get scores but despite this Douglas never hit the target.

Mary Maher, Ger Burke, Carmel Downey and Fiona O'Donovan gave it their all to for Douglas.

However the day belonged to Ballygarvan for whom Deirdre Daly, Aileen O'Neill, Catriona

Kelly and Sally Ann O'Halloran played major roles in what was a superb team performance.

After the game coach Oliver Hallihane who has given long service to the Ballygarvan club expressed his satisfaction at his sides success.

"I am really thrilled for the girls, they worked hard since last February to achieve this success and after losing last years final vowed to come back and win it, they deserve all the praise."

Ballygarvan: M. O'Riordan, K. Brown, J. Brown, M. Lane, A. O'Neill, N. Brady, N. Hallihane, E. Dillon (c), M. Hallihane, D. Daly, C. Kelly, K. Dineen, J. O'Sullivan, A. Murphy, SA O'Halloran. Sub: Z. Forrest for K. Dineen.

Douglas: C. Barry, G. Burke, AM Downey, C. Downey, E. Downey, M. Harrington, C. Jordan, F. Mc Sweeney, E. Murphy, I. O'Brien, F. O'Donovan, AO Regan, I. O'Regan, N. Flanagan. Sub: H. Jordan for C. Barry, H. O'Mahony for N. Flanagan. Ref: B. Joyce, Killeagh.

Cork beat Limerick

Cork 3-13
Limerick 1-2

IN THE Munster U-18 Championship Cork set up a semi-final meeting with Tipperary following their victory over Limerick on Sunday.

Cork lead 1-7 to 0-1 at half time after a Jennifer O'Leary goal 23 minutes into the opening half settled her side.

In the second half Limerick with a Marie Keating goal cut the deficit but it failed to upset a Cork side whose defence shone.

Two goals inside three minutes from Catherine Corkery and Jennifer O'Leary finished the game as a contest long before points from Ellen O'Herlihy, Rachel Moloney, Ciara Healy and Catherine Corkery had Cork safely through.

Cork: A. Murray, J. O'Callaghan, Rhodan, Amanda O'Regan, J. O'Sullivan, S. Hayes, N. Bowles, E. Dillon, Aine O'Regan, C. Corkery, C. Healy, R. Moloney, G. O'Connor, J. O'Leary, E. O'Herlihy. Sub: C. Desmond, A. Kelleher, J. Twomey. Limerick: E. Reel, M. Nash (c), B. Cleary, A. Creed, G. McNamara, A. O'Connell, M. Flaherty, A. White, E. O'Brien, P. Fitzgerald, A. Lane, M. Kelly, A. Sheehan, M. Keating, D. Fitzpatrick. Sub: N. Barry, A. Roche, C. Cronin. Ref: J. Morrissey

Victory for Eire Og

Eire Og 3-3
Valley Rovers 1-2

THE winners grabbed an early lead after a Deirdre Healy goal. Elaine Burke and Ellen O'Herlihy exchanged points but Eire Og got a second goal from Ellen O'Herlihy. Yvonne Molone, added two points to leave Eire Og leading 2-3 to 0-1.

Valley Rovers Marie Hurley had a pointed free which they followed with a Clodagh Deasy goal but again O'Herlihy struck with her sides third goal.

Valley Rovers: S. Shields, S. Deasy, AM Murphy, N. O'Donovan, C. McSweeney, M. Hurley, CO Riordan, B. Shields, H. Bugler, ME O'Mahony, I. Bugler, E. Burke, M. McCarthy, M. Murphy, C. Deasy. Sub: C. O'Mahony.

Eire Og: M. McCarthy, D. O'Sullivan, I. O'Leary, N. O'Leary, S. O'Driscoll, A. McKenna, Y. O'Leary, M. Howard, C. Crowley, H. Walsh, N. Lahane, Y. Malone, E. O'Herlihy, D. Healy.

Fixtures

Saturday, November 18
Snr B co. final: Eire Og v Milford, 2.30pm. Venue unknown.

Sunday, November 19
Jnr B co. final: Youghal v St Cathelines, 1pm. Venue unknown.

U-18 c/ship: Glen Rovers v Clonakilty, 11.15am at Glen Rovers.

St Finbarrs v Bishopstown, noon at St Finbarrs. Newtownshandrum v Ballinhassig, 2pm at Newtownshandrum. Carrigaline v Aghbullogue, noon at Carrigaline. Fr O'Neills v Killeagh, 11.30am at Fr O'Neills.

U-16 B. c/ship of finals take place either on Saturday or Sunday at times and venues to be arranged.

Seandún U-13 sf: Douglas v Glen Rovers, 12.15pm at Glen Rovers.

Youghal reach Junior B final with ease

Youghal 1-7
Castlemagner 0-2

A JUNE FITZGERALD goal in the opening half plus points from Ashley Corcoran and Kelly McCarthy, had Youghal leading at half-time in the Junior B semi-final.

Four points from Ashley Corcoran stretched Youghal's advantage before Elaine Donovan pointed for

Castlemagner to which June Fitzgerald replied.

Elaine Donovan had a second point for Castlemagner but it mattered little to a Youghal side who had their final spot secured.

Youghal meet St Cathelines in the final on Sunday.

● Inniscarra and Glen Rovers served an exciting U-16 A county semi-final at 11.15am on Sunday with Glen Rovers on Sunday with

Inniscarra advancing to the final against Milford on Nov 25 on a 3-3 to 1-2 scoreline.

Glen opened the scoring 15 minutes into the half with a goal from Denise Tobin.

Liz Hayes opened Inniscarra's account with a free after 21 minutes.

Glen conceded a goal minutes into injury time when a Grainne O'Mahony shot was deflected to the net

to give Inniscarra the lead. But, Glen Rovers fought back with an Amy Cuthbert point to level matters.

Amy Cuthbert gave the Glen the lead 12 minutes after the resumption with a pointed free.

Inniscarra then led when Grainne O'Mahony goal. Liz Hayes and Treasa McCarthy pointed to strengthen the Inniscarra

lead which was consolidated when Treasa McCarthy finished a long range free to the net.

Glen Rovers with Susan Collins, Claire Fitzgerald, Denise Tobin and Alison Burke tried to pull the game back but couldn't overcome Inniscarra for whom Liz Hayes, Treasa McCarthy, Eadaoin O'Mahony and Sinead Cronin excelled.

Camogie stars impress with will to win

THE scene is Saturday evening last in the Horse and Jockey Hotel outside Thurles, and a lively discussion is taking place about what the first Irish camogie team of the new Millennium and the All-Ireland champions, Tipperary have just accomplished.

Phrases like: a legend, born leader, class act, great athlete are all used to describe the top camogie players who clashed in the Whirlpool sponsored exhibition match between the Rest of Ireland and the recently crowned All Ireland winners.

It's all good craic now but when the two teams stepped into Semple Stadium five hours earlier it was very apparent that both sets of players felt an emotion that they had not expected — fear of losing.

For the Irish squad picked from Cork, Limerick, Clare, Galway, Kilkenny, Wexford, Dublin, Derry, Down and Antrim, it was important for camogie that a county team not beat the cream of the crop.

As for Tipperary, they now have that air of cockiness (and rightly so) that goes with win-

VIEW FROM THE GROUND



ning All-Irelands.

But on Saturday there were no losers. Level on the scoreboard 1-11 to 2-8, and with 45 girls playing the numbers off their shirts, there were no losers on the pitch either. On

evidence of the performance given by the Blue and Gold, they are well on course for three in a row next season.

To be truthful, the Rest of Ireland team had to negotiate the camogie equivalent of a

tightrope to protect their unbeaten status.

Linda Mellerick, who lined out at midfield, readily acknowledged that the reigning champions would again be hard to beat next season: "They are a very fine team, both very strong and physical. I thought after the All-Ireland final that it was more us not playing well, but Tipp are still playing with huge confidence." Linda was one of five Cork players selected — Mary O'Connor, Fiona O'Driscoll, Eithne Duggan and captain Vivienne Harris.

In fact, the versatile Fiona O'Driscoll continued her journey on Saturday evening to Laois, where the following day she played a major part in a historic first ever victory for Timahoe in the All-Ireland Ladies Football Club semi-final.

Likewise Limericks Eileen O'Brien played at midfield for Limerick in the Munster U18 championship quarter-final 24 hours later. Their commitment to the cause is amazing especially when you consider that players have been going non-stop all year.

When the going gets tough, the Cork girls get going

Cork Limerick 3-13 1-2

CORK overcame the challenge of Limerick on a sodden pitch at Pallsigreen to advance to a semi-final meeting with Tipperary in the Munster Under-18 championship.

With underfoot conditions not the best, both sides found the going extremely hard but it was Cork who mastered the conditions to lead 1-7 to 0-1 at the break, the goal coming from Jennifer O'Leary seven minutes from the short whistle.

A determined start to the second half saw Limerick cut the Cork lead with a Marie Keating goal, but despite this it failed to lift a Limerick side who never got to terms with the stronger Cork side. Two goals in the 6th and 8th minute from Catherine Corkery and Jennifer O'Leary quenched a chance Limerick had of getting back into the game.

Cork advanced with ease, picking off points from Ellen O'Herlihy, Rachel Moloney, Ciara Healy and Catherine Corkery to which Limerick replied with a Mairead Kelly point.

CORK: A Murray, J O'Callaghan, R Holland, Amanda O'Regan, J O'Sullivan, S Hayes, N Bowles, E Dillon, Aine O'Regan, C Corkery, C Healy, R Moloney, G O'Connor, J O'Leary, E O'Herlihy, Sub: C Desmond for G O'Connor, A Kelleher for E Dillon, J Twomey for E O'Herlihy. **LIMERICK:** E Reil, M Nash (C), B Cleary, A Creed, G McNamara, A O'Connell, M Fleury, A White, E O'Brien, P Fitzgerald, A Lane, M Kelly, A Sheehan, M Keating, D Fitzpatrick. Sub: N Barry for P Fitzgerald, A Roche for A Lane, C Cronin for N Barry. **REFEREE:** John Morrissey, Tipperary.

Solid performance brings victory to Coachford

Coachford Presentation Milltown 1-7 0-1

DESPITE losing, Presentation Milltown, the only Kerry representatives participating in the Munster colleges camogie competition, will be reasonably pleased with their performance against Coachford in the Intermediate Munster League game which was played in Dr Croke's ground, Killarney.

A solid performance from Emma Healy, Louise Roche and Linda Daly kept Coachford in control during the opening half. Despite the efforts of Presentation's Ellen Barrett, Sinead O'Sullivan, Sinead O'Shea and Mary Walsh, Coachford ran out winners to finish top of their group.

Coachford now await the result of the Blarney Colaiste Choilm clash to see if a play-off is required or if they will meet Middleton or Lismore in the semi-final.

Ballygarvan Douglas 4-7 0-0

BALLYGARVAN were crowned Junior A county champions on Saturday last, after a final where the scoreline doesn't reflect the Douglas contribution to an entertaining contest.

The victory was aided by the gale force wind in the opening half, and took the lead inside two minutes courtesy of sixteen year-old Julie O'Sullivan, who shot first time to the net from close range.

Emer Dillon added a point, before Catriona Kelly's fifth minute goal had the Ballygarvan girls settled. A point from Kelly was quickly followed by a goal, when the hard working Amanda Murphy scored. Failing to be unsettled, Douglas worked hard but, against the strong wind, it was difficult to turn possession into scores.

With their defence coming under constant pressure, Douglas were forced to concede further points before the break — to Dillon Catriona Kelly, Julie O'Sullivan and Deirdre Daly.

Douglas played well in the second half and, with their defence tightening up considerably, the Ballygarvan forwards now found scores harder to come by. Lack of scoring power up front cost Douglas however, as they shot several wides in the second half.

Despite this, they never gave up and fought to the end. Mary Maher, Ger Burke and Gemma Carroll gave it their all to further the Douglas cause, on a day when Ballygarvan's Emer Dillon, Deirdre Daly, Aileen O'Neill and Nora Hallihane shone like a beacon, in what was, overall, a superb team performance.

After the game, Catriona Kelly was named as Player of The Game, and presented with a memento from Chairperson Sile Golden.

BALLYGARVAN: M O'Riordan, K Brown, J Brown, M Lane, A O'Neill, N Brady, N Hallihane, E Dillon (C), M Hallihane, D Daly, C Kelly, K Dineen, J O'Sullivan, A Murphy, S A O'Halloran; sub: Z Forrest for K Dineen. **DOUGLAS:** C Barry, G Burke, A M Downey, C Downey, E Downey, M Harrington, C Jordan, F Mc Sweeney, E Murphy, L O'Brien, F O'Donovan, A O'Regan, L O'Regan, N Flanagan; sub: N Jordan for C Barry, H O'Mahony for N Flanagan. **REFEREE:** Joyce Killeagh

Eire Og 3-3 Valley Rovers 1-2

EIRE OG got it right the second time around, when they advanced to the final of the Senior B championship at the expense of Valley Rovers, at Shanbally.

Four weeks ago, Eire Og grabbed a last minute equaliser to earn a second bite of the cherry and, this time, they made sure not to be in the same position again. Aided by the strong wind, they had the game's opening score; a Deirdre Healy goal.

Elaine Burke replied with a Valley Rovers point, to which Ellen O'Herlihy replied. Continuing to set the pace of the game, Eire Og further increased their lead when O'Herlihy scored their second goal. Yvonne Molone, with two points, brought the opening half to a close, with Eire Og leading 2-3 to 0-1.

With the elements now in their

Brilliant Ballygarvan are county champions



Ballygarvan's Aileen O'Neill heads past Douglas' Louise O'Regan during the county Junior A final.

Picture: News Pics

for the Glen girls a minute into injury time, when a Grainne O'Mahony shot was deflected to the net to give Inniscarra the lead. Glen responded well, and Amy Cuthbert levelled matters, to leave it all square at half time.

Again, as in the opening half, both defences were made work hard in the second half. Amy Cuthbert shot Glen into the lead 12 minutes from the resumption, with a pointed free. Now fighting hard, Inniscarra again took the lead when Grainne O'Mahony was on hand to finish to the net. Liz Hayes and Treasa Mc Carthy scored points to strengthen the Inniscarra lead, which was extended when Treasa McCarthy finished a long-range free to the net.

Glen Rovers — with Susan Collins, Claire Fitzgerald and Denise Tobin working hard — tried to pull the game back, but found the going tough against a strong Inniscarra side for whom Liz Hayes, Treasa Mc Carthy and Aoife Buckley excelled.

Coachford College 1-5 St Joseph's Tulla 1-4

St Joseph's Tulla provided stiff opposition for Coachford College in an exciting Munster Colleges Senior B match. Tulla took an early lead, after points from Mary Hayes and Nora Murphy. Melissa O'Connell and Sharon Naughton, in the Tulla defence, excelled at stifling the Coachford attack.

Two Kate Crowley pointed frees had the sides level, before Nora Murphy edged Tulla ahead, to leave just a point between the sides at the break.

A determined start to the second half had Coachford back on level terms, thanks to a Mary Twomey point. Michele O'Regan gave them the lead minutes later, but again Tulla replied courtesy of Nora Murphy.

Now level, both sides strove desperately to take the lead. Tulla's Mairead Sheehan looked to have the game sewn up with a well taken goal with just three minutes remaining, but there was more in Coachford — a long free from Joan Twomey found substitute, Maura O'Leary, who finished well to the net. Then, under pressure, Kate Crowley converted a free 30 metres out to secure victory for Coachford.

favour, Valley Rovers set about cutting the lead.

A point from a Marie Hurley free was followed by a Clodagh Deasy goal but again it was O'Herlihy who proved to be Eire Og's inspiration, with a well taken goal to send her side safely through to a final meeting with Milford.

VALLEY ROVERS: S Shields, S Deasy, A M Murphy, N O'Donovan, C Mc Sweeney, M Hurley, C O'Riordan, B Shields, H Bugler, M E O'Mahony, L Bugler, E Burke, M McCarthy, M Murphy, C Deasy; sub: C O'Mahony for H Bugler. **EIRE OG:** M Mc Carthy, D O'Sullivan, L O'Leary, N O'Leary, S O'Driscoll, A Mc Kenna, Y O'Leary, M Howard, C Crowley, H Walsh, N Lahane, Y Malone, E O'Herlihy, D Healy. **REFEREE:** D Daly

Youghal 1-7 Castlemagner 0-2

ASHLEY Corcoran proved to be Youghal's trump card in qualifying for the Junior B county final, when her contribution of five points helped her side advance over Castlemagner, on Sunday last.

A June Fitzgerald goal in the opening half, plus points from Corcoran and Kelly Mc Carthy, had the Youghal girls in the driving seat at the interval.

Four points from the accurate

Corcoran consolidated Youghal's advantage, before Elaine Donovan pointed for Castlemagner. June Fitzgerald replied with a point. Working hard, Castlemagner never got to grips with the fitter Youghal side — who conceded just another point, again to Elaine Donovan, before the final whistle.

Youghal now meet St Catherines in what is sure to be an interesting final, on Sunday next.

Inniscarra 3-3 Glen Rovers 1-2

INNISCARRA and Glen Rovers served up a thrilling Under-16 A county semi-final, at Glen Rovers on Sunday last, with Inniscarra advancing — through two second half goals — to a final meeting with Milford, on November 25.

A close opening 15 minutes saw both defences dominant Glen hit the front, after the alert Denise Tobin finished to the net, after a free from Amy Cuthbert struck the upright and came back into play. Liz Hayes pointed an Inniscarra free, to keep her side in touch with four minutes left in the half. Disaster struck

Ballygarvan's bonanza

Ballygarvan Douglas 4-7 0-0

BALLYGARVAN passed a huge character test on Saturday to take the Cork County Junior A camogie championship title with as comprehensive a victory as they could have wished for over a Douglas outfit.

Marshalled superbly by centre-field player, Emer Dillon, the South East showed early on that it would be only a matter of time before they would stamp authority on proceedings.

First half goals from Amanda Murphy, player of the match Catriona Kelly, and Julie O'Sullivan set up the winners for a 3-7 to 0-0 interval lead.

The icing on the cake came in the closing period with a second goal from Murphy.

The city side, although outclassed, deserved to get on the scoreboard, if alone to reward the efforts of Mary Maher, and Amanda O'Regan.

Captain, Emer Dillon was quick to praise trainer Ollie Hallahan, saying: "He has been with us all the years up along the ranks."

Looking forward to life in the senior grade, Emer added: "We are eager to give it a go."

Meanwhile, in the Senior B semi-final played on Saturday, Eire Og beat Valley Rovers in a replay, 3-3 to 1-2, to set up a final meeting with Milford next weekend.

In the Junior B decider, Youghal will meet St Catherines in an all East Cork final.

Saints march to final

St Catherines Bandon 3-3 1-0

WITH a powerful team performance, St Catherine's beat Bandon in the county junior B grade camogie semi-final in Brinny. St Catherine's full-forward, Denise Twomey, was the star of the show, scoring all of her team's three goals.

The Saints last won this championship in 1984. This is their first time in the final since then.

Fr O'Neills Youghal 4-2 0-6

FR O'NEILLS advanced to the quarter-final of the county u-16 B grade camogie championship. They proved too strong for their neighbours, Youghal, in this second-round tie played at the Fr O'Neills Sportsfield in Abavine, Ballymacoda. Gearóidín Kearney and Laura Hayes were best for Fr O'Neills.

Nov. 2000

Tipp hold their own

By T. O'CALLAGHAN
at Semple Stadium

Rest of Ireland 1-11
Tipperary 2-8

PARITY was the fairest result on Saturday, when a Rest of Ireland selection took on the champions, Tipperary at Semple Stadium.

The Whirlpool-sponsored event resulted in a hard-fought tussle with neither side willing to relent.

First-half goals from Deirdre Hughes and Clare Grogan set up the Premier County for an interval lead of 2-4 to 0-5. The Irish selection relying on points from Eileen O'Brien, Fiona O'Driscoll, and Galway pair Therese Maher and Veronica Curtin.

The second-half resumed with six splendid points from the Rest of Ireland to Tipp's one. And when Therese Maher clocked their only goal five minutes from time, they appeared to be home and dry. However, the champions dug deep and replied with three unanswered points to share the spoils.

Elsewhere, in the Munster U-18 championship quarter-final, Cork comfortably defeated Limerick 3-13 to 1-2.

Leading 1-7 to 0-1 at the interval, and despite very soft underfoot conditions in Pallasgreen, two goals from the Rebel County immediately after the restart from Catherine Corkery and Jenny O'Leary effectively ended this game as a contest.

CAMOGIE . . .



April, Ashling Creed, Blackrock



May, Helen Collins, Killeedy



June, Siobhán O'Brien, Patrickswell



July, Michelle Casey, Killeedy



August, M. Lonergan, Cappamore



September, Kay Bourke

Milford strike late to force draw with Eire Óg

Eire Óg 3-0
Milford 1-6

IT finished all square thanks to a goal from substitute Lisa Healy in the dying seconds of an entertaining Cork County Senior B Camogie Championship final at Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday.

Having the benefit of a stiff breeze to their backs, Eire Óg shot into an early lead which they held throughout.

They got off on the right foot when Ellen O'Herlihy finished to the net in the eighth minute and they continued to put the Milford defence under pressure. Milford were out of it at this stage as Eire Óg enjoyed maximum possession.

O'Herlihy was again the tormentor, banging home her second goal after Brigid Geary had saved well from Yvonne Malone.

Struggling to get into the game, Milford with points from Elaine O'Riordan and Marie Watson cut the Eire Óg lead but found themselves in further trouble after a point attempt from O'Herlihy was batted down and finished to the net by the in-running Niamh Lehané.

Deirdre O'Reilly had a Milford point but it was Eire Óg who appeared to hold all the aces, leading 3-0 to 0-3 at the break.

From the restart a determined effort from Milford was well held by an Eire Óg defence where Louise O'Leary, Yvonne Corkery and Alanna McKenna were in control.

Two points in the 12th and 14th minute signalled a Milford revival and

now putting the Eire Óg defence under tremendous pressure, Emer Watson forced Marion McCarthy to make a superb save before Deirdre O'Reilly pointed with two minutes remaining.

Then came the drama. Winning the puck-out, O'Reilly floated a long shot into the square where substitute Lisa Healy coolly slotted past Marion McCarthy to give her side a second chance. On the run of play they can be grateful for it.

Scorers: Eire Óg: E. O'Herlihy 2-0, N. Lehané 1-0, Milford: L. Healy 1-0, D. O'Reilly 0-2, C. O'Gorman 0-1 (free), M. Watson 0-1 (free), E. O'Riordan 0-1. EIRE ÓG: M. McCarthy, L. O'Leary, N. Lehané, D. O'Sullivan, A. McKenna, Y. O'Leary, S. O'Driscoll, D. Healy, Y. Corkery, M. Howard, H. Walsh (capt), C. Crowley, E. O'Herlihy, Y. Malone, N. O'Leary Sub: Y. Webster-Coakley for Y. Malone. MILFORD: B. Geary, A. Dillon, N. O'Riordan, S. O'Reilly, A. Geary, L. Long, C. O'Gorman, D. Hayes, D. O'Reilly, M. Watson, E. O'Riordan, E. O'Friel (capt), I. Sexton, E. Watson, E. Lenihan. Sub: L. Healy for I. Sexton.

St Catherine's 2-4
Youghal 0-5

St Catherine's took the Junior B title when they proved too strong for their divisional rivals, Youghal at Castlemartyr.

A goal mid way through the opening half from minor player Denise Twomey gave the victors an interval lead.

However, Youghal battled hard and came more into the game in the second-half with points from Ashley Corcoran and June Fitzgerald. But a June Bolger goal and a point from Noreen Mulcahy sealed the issue for St Catherine's.

Helen Cagney, Castletown, Kilmallock, and Cyril Coffey, Drombanna, Limerick, at their wedding in Ballygran Parish Church with pageboy William Cagney, nephew of the bride.
Picture: John O'Brien

REST OF IRELAND V. TIPPERARY

Tipperary 2-8
Rest of Ireland 1-11

This game took place in Semple Stadium on a wet miserable cold Saturday last, before a handful who bravely shivered in their seats to see a drawn game. Considering that the rest of Ireland team had a substantial win over the Tipperary girls last year, one can see how the home side have improved clearly. Held each year as a fundraiser which is organised by National camogie committee, Saturday's clash was a financial disappointment.

Both sides gave all players a chance to grace the pitch, in a game that rarely came up to any great heights.



Nov 2000

Staunton's award a less painful experience

by Mark Gallagher

CORA STAUNTON was able to forget the pain of a broken jaw for a while yesterday, as she was awarded the Eirecell Player of the month for October in Croke Park.

Staunton, who bagged three goals in the All-Ireland semi-final and followed it up with two more in the final, was honoured alongside the Tipperary camogie keeper, Jovita Delaney.

Only a few weeks ago Staunton, playing colleges football with Athlone IT, was the victim of an elbow in the face. The incident resulted in two fractured jaws which have been wired up since. She admitted the awards made up for it, the next month is brimful of similar functions which she can't enjoy fully.

Staunton is one of the new breed of women footballers who have infused the game with excitement. Increased televi-

sion exposure and more media coverage has helped raised the profile, but it may get even better, according to Staunton.

"It is about time it is getting a heightened profile. It has been on the borderline for a long time. Now, with the All-Ireland semi-final and the final being televised, more people are realising how exciting the games are."

"Hopefully, soon, the provincial finals will be televised too. You just need to look at the reaction in Mayo to see the potential for the game. With the men losing in '96 and '97, we have got the two in a row and the county have really gotten behind us. It is good for Gaelic in the county after the men losing."

Her form this year has compensated for missing out on Mayo's first Ladies success in 1999, when she broke her collar-bone the week before the game. Nineteen-year old Cora has been winning All-Ireland titles with Mayo since

Under-14 and is widely considered one of the best forwards in the game. But, she is puzzled by the attention.

"It's not bad to get all these awards, especially after missing out on last year. But once the whole team is winning, it doesn't matter who is picking up the awards."

Tipperary camogie players, similar to Mayo, were thought to be a flash in the pan last year when they captured the All-Ireland title. However, inspired by Jovita Delaney, Tipperary completed a successful double in October.

Delaney, also the captain, pulled off five outstanding saves in the final against Cork to secure the title. The 25-year-old teacher, who works in Tarbert, has been a member of the Tipperary senior team since their promotion to senior ranks two years ago and played all over the field for her county before settling in goals last year.



Tipperary's Jovita Delaney, right, and Mayo's Cora Staunton who were presented with the Eirecell awards with GAA President, Sean McCague.



Milford's Christine O'Gorman racing away from Eire Og's Yvonne Corkery during the Senior B camogie game at Pairc ui Rinn.

Picture: Richard Mills

O'Neills advance past Killeagh

Fr O'Neills
Killeagh

2-3
0-2

FR O'NEILLS advanced at the expense of fellow east Cork side Killeagh in the U-18 championship at Killeagh.

Kilbrittan beat St Fanahan's 8-7 to 0-0. With Edel Foley, Maebh O'Sullivan, and Eibhlís O'Sullivan in form Kilbrittan advance at the expense of St Fanahan in Mitchelstown in the U-18 championship.

Glen Rovers beat Douglas 0-1 to 0-0. One point from Gerlyn Nolan's free early in the opening half was enough to book the Glen a place in the Seandun U-13 league final. With both defences under constant pressure play swung from end to end.

For Glen goalie Lorraine Dunlea, who had also lined out in the U-18 championship game which preceded the semi-final, Kelly Laffin, Emer Mulcahy and Gemma O'Regan were outstanding while for Douglas Rachel O'Sullivan, Kim O'Driscoll and Kate Barry tried to the final whistle.

St Finbarrs beat Brian Dillons 6-4 to 0-0. In the second semi-final St Finbarrs, with Joanne Brown in tremendous form, recorded a victory over a young Brian Dillon side.

At half-time the Barrs lead by 2-3 and despite a spirited display from the Brian Dillons girls the Barrs went on to record a merited victory and book a final spot.

Coachford beat Colaiste Choilm 4-3 to 0-0. Despite enjoying ample possession Colaiste Choilm failed to convert it to scores in the Cork colleges Intermediate Championship quarter-final played at Ballincollig. Two goals from full forward Elenore Foley helped her side to a semi-final spot after an entertaining game.

Rockbawn defeated Ballyhea 2-4 to 2-1. With captain Sile Burns and centre-back Catriona Foley in form Rockbawn reserved a place in the county U-16 B championship semi-final.

Carrigaline beat Na Piaraisaig 2-15 to 0-0.

Experiencing little difficulty the stronger Carrigaline side had a victory over Na Piaraisaig in the U-16 B quarter-final despite the best efforts of Na Piaraisaig's Taryn Lynch, Lisa Burns and Lorna Kelly.

Big games next weekend include the clash of Milford and Inniscarra on Saturday in the U-16 A County final a venue to be announced later in the week.

Whilst on Sunday at Carrigrohaid at 1.30 old rivals Cork and Tipperary clash in Munster U-18 Championship semi-final.

Super sub saves the day for Milford

Eire Og
Milford

3-0
1-6

SUBSTITUTE Lisa Healy was the toast of Milford after her goal, with seconds remaining, gave her side a second chance in the Senior B county final at Pairc Ui Rinn on Saturday last.

Eire Og's opening half saw them aided by the wind and they led after full-forward Ellen O'Herlihy struck for the first of her goals.

O'Herlihy was in the spotlight three minutes later when she finished to the net after Yvonne Malone had forced Brigid Geary to bring off a tremendous save.

With Helen Walsh, Mary Howard and Louise O'Leary in fine form Eire Og dominated.

Elaine Riordan opened the Milford scoring with a point, 16 minutes into the half, and with Marie Watson pointing a free it narrowed the gap.

Eire Og got a lucky break after

69 Substitute Lisa Healy was the toast of Milford after her goal, with seconds remaining, gave her side a second chance in the Senior B county final at Pairc Ui Rinn.

Ellen O'Herlihy's attempt for a point was finished to the net by Niamh Lehan. Deirdre O'Reilly scored a point for Milford to leave Eire Og ahead 3-0 to 0-3 at the break.

Eire Og worked hard to defend their lead against the wind and it took Milford until the 11th minute for Christine O'Gorman to point a free.

Captain Emer O'Friel reduced the deficit with 11 minutes remaining and, putting on the pressure, Milford rallied.

With their defence coming under pressure Eire Og held solid but failed to get that extra score they so desperately needed.

Marion McCarthy saves a certain goal chance from Emer Watson but then came the Milford point they so desperately needed.

Two minutes remaining and Deirdre O'Reilly pointed to put just a goal between the sides.

Winning the puck out the unmarked Deirdre O'Reilly dropped it into the square for substitute Lisa Healy to finish to the net. Eire Og did come down field but could not get the score they needed to clinch the title and so it the two teams have it all to play for on the weekend of December 9/10, hopefully at Pairc Ui Rinn.

A close fought game saw Bishopstown beat St Finbarrs 2-4 to 1-2 at St

Finbarrs on Sunday morning.

Two points from Senior Inter-county player Ciara Healy gave Bishopstown an early lead.

Jackie O'Hea had further stretched that lead before Healy with two points had Bishopstown in a strong position at the break.

Showing great determination the Barrs fought back. Gemma O'Connor with a point quickly followed with a goal, Ciara Healy relieved the pressure on Bishopstown with a goal but back came the Barrs with two O'Connor points.

Bishopstown with Inter-county player Jean O'Sullivan, Sinead O'Donoghue and Orla Crowley, performing well, held on for a win.

Eire Og: M McCarthy, L O'Leary, N Lehan, D O'Sullivan, Y O'Leary, A McKenna, S O'Driscoll, D Healy, Y Corkery, H Walsh/C, C Crowley, M Howard, E O'Herlihy, Y Malone, N O'Leary. Sub: Y Webster-Coakley for Y Malone.

MILFORD: B Geary, A Dillon, N O'Riordan, S O'Reilly, A Geary, L Long, C O'Gorman, D Hayes, D O'Reilly, M Watson, E O'Riordan, E O'Friel, I Sexton, E Watson, E Linehan. Sub: L Healy for I Sexton. Ref: B Joyce Killeagh.

Catherines on form Glen overwhelm Clon

St Catherines
Youghal

2-4
0-5

ST CATHERINES took the Junior B County championship after a thrilling final against Youghal in Castle-martyr.

Helen Lane opened the scoring with a pointed free and with Denise Twomey hitting a cracking goal, St Catherines settled quickly.

With Janette Galvin and Helen

Lane exchanging points, St Catherines held their lead and with Denise Twomey pointing St Catherines held the half-time lead.

Youghal set about challenging that lead from the resumption. Ashley Corcoran with a pointed free cut the deficit but again, it was St Catherines who responded with a June Bolger goal.

Youghal's best were Ann O'Connell and captain Teresa Byrne.

Glen Rovers
Clonakilty

2-7
1-0

CLONAKILTY found the going tough against Glen Rovers in the under-18 championship at the Glen Field.

An early goal from Niamh Goulding was quickly followed by points from Amy Cuthbert (2) and Denise Tobin to see the home side in command.

Captain Goulding pointed a 45 before a well-struck line ball from 40

metres went all the way to the net to leave the home side ahead 2-5 to no score at the break.

A determined effort from Clonakilty saw them come into the game from the restart and put the Glen defence under pressure. However two points from Amy Cuthbert and Niamh Goulding had Glen Rovers safely through before Aoife Murphy had a Clonakilty goal with four minutes remaining.

FIXTURES

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25

Under 16A County final: Inniscarra v Milford at venue to be announced 2pm.

Under 18 championship: Valley Rovers v St Catherine's at Binn 3.15pm.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 26

Munster 18 Championship Semi-Final: Cork v Tipperary at Carrigrohaid 1.30pm.

Under 18 championship: Buttevant v Youghal at Buttevant 2pm.

Under 16B Championship quarter final: Carrigaline v Clonakilty at Clonakilty 1pm.

Seandun under 13 final (group): Glen Rovers v St Finbarrs, venue and time to be announced.

Limerick U18's are trounced by Cork

THE expected occurred at Pallasgreen on Sunday last and Cork U18s advanced to the semi-final of the Munster championship with a deserved 3-12 to 1-2 victory over Limerick.

It was very even for the first quarter and Limerick played well and were 0-1 to 0-2 behind at the end of 15 well contested minutes. Superior strength began to show at that juncture and at half time, Cork, though playing against the wind led 1-7 to 0-1.

Limerick gave some hope of a revival after the interval when Mary Keating scored a goal. Cork fielded many players Rachel Moloney, Jennie O'Leary, Ciara Healy, etc who are well on the way to becoming inter-county

household names and went on to score freely, eventually running up a tally of 3-12.

Limerick will be disappointed. After last years excellent showing against the same opposition in the Munster final, there were high hopes of closing the gap further. It was not to be however.

The Limerick girls tried very hard with Bernie Cleary and Mairead Kelly, Alison White, Deirdre Fitzpatrick, Aoife Sheehan, Meadhbh Nash most prominent.

Limerick: Edel Reed, Meadhbh Nash, Aisling Creed, Grace McNamara, Aine O'Connell, Maire Fleury, Alison White, Eileen O'Brien, Pamela Fitzgerald, Avril Lane, Mairead Kelly (0-2), Aoife Sheehan, Marie Keating, Deirdre Fitzpatrick.

Subs: Noreen Barry, Aoife Roche, Caroline Cronin, Margaret Leahy, Grainne Quilligan, Eileen Collins.

On the local scene, on Sunday next, top of the bill is the re-fixtured of the postponed senior B championship final between Ballyagran and Newcastle West. A venue has not been announced as we go to press.

Also on the week-ends agenda are the completion of the U/15 B championship (Crecora are into the final). All in camogie extend their sympathy to the Fitzgerald and Sheehy families on the death of Helen Fitzgerald (nee Sheehy) who died recently. The late Helen from Knockaderry was an outstanding camogie player with Croagh/Kilfinny and Limerick. May she rest in peace.



Diarmuid O'Donovan at the Glen Hall last night with his family, Donal Óg (16), Brid (5), Sean (9), wife Anne and mother Sheila with the Donal (Donie) O'Donovan trophy.

Picture: Newpics

O'Donovan memorial trophy

THERE'S some new silverware up for grabs for the county's premier minor football champions and thanks, to the family of the late Donie O'Donovan, it will be a striking addition to any GAA club's trophy cabinet.

The trophy is to commemorate former St Nick's player and mentor Donie O'Donovan and was presented by his widow Sheila to the Cork Minor Board at a special cere-

mony in the Glen Hall last night.

O'Donovan rendered the county fabulous service and was coach to the Cork senior football team which won the All-Ireland in 1973.

Designed and created by Brendan Byrnes, himself a former St Nick's player, the trophy epitomises all facets of the late Donie's life.

As well as members of the O'Donovan family, those present at the

Glen last night included Cork County Board chairman Jim Cronin, former selector Denis McDonald and many of Donie's former playing colleagues, including John Lyons, Ger Lenihan, Sean O'Brien and Jimmy Lynam.

There was also a strong contingent from Clonakilty, with whom St Nick's have strong links. The Clon delegation was led by president Thady O'Regan.

No V.

2000

CAMOGIE

The Garda College students are preparing well and although they have not had a full strength team in any of their league matches, they have put in some quality performances. Tipperary's Ciara Gaynor has been rested and her return will be a boost for the team but Karina Carroll, Tara Corrigan, Maria Daly and Sharon Dempsey are showing good form at the present time and playing well. Team management of Sandra Gillick and Ailish Delaney are delighted with progress and are looking forward to the championship.

Scoring power can tip game for Cork

TIPPERARY have achieved much already in the field of camogie.

But they will surely hit a brick wall on Sunday when they come up against a strong Cork team in the semi-final of the Munster U-18 championship at Carrigrohoid.

The home side will go into this tie as favourites, having rattled up an impressive 3-13 in their quarter-final meeting with Limerick, conceding just 1-2.

The Leesiders are not short of top class forwards, illustrated by the scoring prowess of Catherine Corkery, Rachel Moloney, Jennifer O'Leary and Ellen Herlihy.

Senior players, Ciara Healy and Sarah Hayes will once again renew acquaintances with the Tipp's Clare Grogan, Philly Fogarty and Niamh Harkins.

The Rebel County can also call on seven of this season's junior side that lost to Derry in the All-Ireland Final.

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN
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Elsewhere, on Saturday in Rathpeacon, Milford and Inniscarra will meet to decide the destiny of the Minor A County Cup.

Underdogs, Inniscarra have thrown down the gauntlet to the defending champions and hot favourites from North Cork.

"We are delighted to get the opportunity to have a crack at them," said mentor, Joe McCarthy.

"Milford have made great strides at juvenile level, but we are building too from under-age having recently contested the U12 and U14 finals. We are worthy of a county and will be quietly confident."

Elizabeth Hayes won a place on the Cork minor team this year and she will lead their challenge tomorrow afternoon.

Milford are the title holders and

will not release their crown too easily.

With much inter-county experience on their side, and 10 of last weekend's selection that drew the Senior B final, they will be cooing with confidence.

Meanwhile, Cork Senior player Caoimhe Harrington, a 2nd year Physiotherapy student, was recently awarded a camogie scholarship for the coming year at UCD.

Cork and Tipperary tie off

TOMORROW'S Munster under-18 camogie championship semi-final between Cork and Tipperary at Carrigrohoid has been cancelled due to the death yesterday of Cork selector Ted Roche.

Roche (Coachford): On November 24, 2000, at the Mercy Hospital, Cork, peacefully, TIMOTHY (THADY), dearly beloved husband of Mary (nee Twomey), Coolacullig, a wonderful loving father to Julie, Tim, Caroline, John, Ann, Tina, Bobby, Tony and Louise. Deeply regretted by his heart broken wife, children, brothers Ned and John, and sister Sheila, brother-in-law, sisters-in-law, nephews, nieces, also Eamonn and Adrian, relatives and a wide circle of friends, RIP. Reposing at his residence, Coolacullig. Rosary on this (Saturday) evening at 9pm. Removal on tomorrow (Sunday) at 4pm to St. John's Church, Aghabullogue. Requiem Mass on Monday at 2pm. Funeral immediately afterwards to St. John's Cemetery, Coachford.



CHAMPIONS: The St Catherine's team, who won the county Junior B title when they defeated Youghal in the final, are pictured.

Camogie fever takes young Clon

CAMOGIE is on the up in Clonakilty. Its club, although just ten years in existence, now fields engaged teams in the Under 12, 14, 16 and 18 and Junior B grades with the county board.

Younger players are also enthusiastic to participate in under-age coaching within the club.

With the Local school Sacred Heart Clonakilty so successful in taking the All-Ireland college's Senior B title in 1998, it was only a matter of time before the game took off in the area.

The club are fortunate that in the Sacred Heart, camogie plays a central part in the girls' activities. Indeed the coaching the girls receive gives them a firm base to work from at club level.

The guidance of coaches Liam Nash and Kilkenny Senior player Eleanore Walsh, who joined the

“Success came to the babies of the club during the season when the U-10 team won the prized Inaugural Ballinascarty blitz against tough competition

teaching staff this term, is sure to pay huge dividends both at club and college level.

The local National schools also play a huge role in providing players. St Joseph's National School and Darragh NS actively play in the very successful Seith Na Scoil competitions.

Success came to the babies of the club during the season when the U-10 team won the highly prized Inaugural Ballinascarty blitz where teams from Clon, Ballinascarty, Newcestown and Bandon took part. The girls played three games, with the top two qualifying for the final.

In the final Clon came out on top to defeat Neacestown 4-0 to 2-0. On the day two goals from Anita Brennan paved the way.

The other goals came from Maeve Beechinor and Michelle Barrett, while stellar performances by Clare O'Mahony and Mairead Deasy are also worth of mention.

Going from strength to strength since they began playing camogie with the U-10 team, the girls are under the guidance of Grace O'Regan and Patrick O'Connor. The coaches hope the hard work will again show fruition when many of the girls participate in the

county U-12 league in the season ahead.

Club members, who proudly wear the red and green jersey of the famous Clon, are under the guidance of secretary Rose O'Regan, with hard-working committee members Michael Harrington, Willie O'Regan, Patrick O'Connor and Grace O'Regan all actively involved.

The club also receives tremendous support from the Clonakilty GAA club under the chairmanship of John O'Brien.

With the enthusiasm and dedication in Clonakilty, camogie has firmly established itself and can look forward to a bright future.

● At the time of going to print, it is hoped to transfer last weekend's fixture list to next weekend, with the U-16 A final and the Munster U-18 championship going ahead on Saturday and Sunday. Times and venues will be confirmed later in the week.

Fr O'Neills withstand Douglas rally

Fr O'Neills
Douglas

1-4
2-0

FATHER O'NEILLS edged out Douglas in a thrilling U-16 B county championship quarter-final last Wednesday.

The winners opened the scoring with a point from Gearoidin Kearney 10 minutes into the contest.

O'Neills, inspired by Laura

Hayes and Clare O'Leary, continued to press forward and stretched their advantage when Marion Ahern set up Jennifer Hayes for the game's opening goal midway through the half.

Douglas upped the tempo but despite the efforts of Catriona Vaughan and Louise O'Regan got little change from a solid O'Neills defence.

O'Neills reasserted their authority after the re-start and three unanswered points from Gearoidin Kearney put them in charge.

But Douglas rallied in style and were rewarded with a goal from the hard working Fiona O'Donovan midway through and when O'Donovan struck for her second goal four minutes later they were right back in the game.

Douglas drove forward in search of an equalising score but O'Neills, with Ursula Day and Coleen O'Keefe working tirelessly, repelled their best efforts.

Eiblish Murphy, Natasha Flanagan and 13-year-old Deirdre Murphy impressed for Douglas while Kearney, Ahern and Hayes turned in top drawer performances for the winners.

Sheila has been at helm for Golden era

UNLUCKY for some, but for Sheila Golden her thirteen year tenure as Chairperson of the Cork County Camogie Board has proved very successful.

Two weeks from tonight at the annual convention in the Doughcloyne Hotel, Sheila will once again allow her name go forward for the hottest seat in the house.

Having spent almost a lifetime involved in camogie, the Grenagh-born mother and housewife, now domiciled in Donoughmore, is a member of the Inniscarra club.

Her own sporting career spans back to her student days with South Presentation. However, much has changed since then but Sheila observes that some things have not altered, like the friendliness and camaraderie of the people.

"South Presentation Past Pupils was my club. We had our own school's board when I was in second level education. I was secretary and we had to liaise with the county board. In fact, all the officers on that school's board were students.

"When I married I moved to

VIEW FROM THE GROUND with THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

Donoughmore, and when the girls started playing with Inniscarra I too got involved with the club."

Sheila has always had that taste for the administration side of affairs. Before taking the

chair in 1988, she was secretary of the County Board from '64 to '68 inclusive.

Mrs Golden is looking forward to further progress in the coming years for camogie.

"The spread of camogie is

huge. I would like to see a Juvenile Board set-up to nurture the under-age level. There is tremendous work going on in the divisions, but with the increased numbers it would be a great help if we had a board especially to look after the needs of our younger players.

"Also, I would love to see us owning our own pitch. It would solve a lot of headaches. The GAA are very good to us and for that we are extremely grateful. But if we had our own grounds, it would ease the pressure considerably."

"Sponsorship, or the lack of it, is always high on the agenda. Presently, we are seeking sponsorship for the coming season, to look after our inter-county teams."

Sheila agrees that her term of office has seen many ups and downs, gladly she reports more highs than lows.

"Beating Kilkenny in the All Ireland final of '95 was the best of all. Taking them at home in Ballinlough in '92 was sweet, and then going on to win the All Ireland that year was very memorable."

S. East convention

The Carrigdhoun Camogie Division of Clubs held their annual convention at the Riverstick Community Centre on Wednesday last.

The past year has been a hugely active one by all the clubs of the division. Ballygarvan were congratulated by all present on their winning of the junior 'A' county championship while Courcy Rovers advanced past the first round of the senior 'A' championship. Many teams in the division are still involved in the county under 16 and under 18 championships. All acknowledge that it is through the work being done with the youth in Carrigdhoun that the division's teams are gaining success.

The meeting was attended by representatives from all the camogie clubs in South East Cork. These clubs include Sliabh Rua, Courcy Rovers, Ballinhassig, Ballygarvan, Valley Rovers, Carrigaline and Tracton.

Outgoing chairman, Mary Hurley, thanked her fellow officers and included special thanks to the Cork South East G.A.A. Board for their help and support. Mary wished the incoming officers every good luck for the coming season.

Elizabeth Quinn of the fixtures committee presented her report to the meeting. Elizabeth recalled the Carrigdhoun indoors competition saying it was a very enjoyable day for all the competitors. Eleven teams had competed in the under 10s and nine teams in the under 11s. All clubs helped out on the day.

Congratulations were extended to the winners of the under 10s which was Carrigaline, who defeated Sliabh Rua in the final, while under 11 honours went to Ballygarvan who defeated Sliabh Rua. Elizabeth went on to give all results in the under 11 and under 13 finals and finals in the indoors competition.

Well done to Eire Og who defeated Courcy Rovers in the final. Eire Og had defeated Ballinhassig. Courcy Rovers defeated Ballygarvan in a replay. Eire Og defeated Courcy Rovers 2-1 to 2-0.

In the under 13 indoor competition Carrigaline defeated Sliabh Rua 5-1 to 1-2, Ballinhassig defeated Courcy Rovers 5-0 to 3-3. Carrigaline defeated Ballinhassig 8-4 to 1-0 in the final. Carrigdhoun competed in the county interdivisional blitz on St. Patrick's Day, 2000. Carrigdhoun defeated Carbery and Seandun 1-6 to 1-3 and 4-5 to 2-2 respectively. Alas they were defeated by a fresher Muskerry outfit, Muskerry having had just one game prior to the final, 3-7 to 2-4. Elizabeth thanked John O'Donovan, Mary Coughlan and Ollie Hallihan for all their work in training and selecting this under 16 side.

The Carrigdhoun senior team were defeated by Bishopstown, the eventual county senior 'A' winners. Nevertheless Carrigdhoun gave a great account in this game, being defeated in the end 1-14 to 0-8. Elizabeth extended her thanks to Mary Bugler, Jack McGrath, Gerard Crowley and Billy Dillon for

CAMOGIE

their selection duties and for their tireless work in arranging all the challenge matches prior to the game.

A very successful skills competition was reported to the meeting. The results were: Individual prizes—U 11, 1st, Aine Moynihan, Ballygarvan; 2nd, Ursula Quinn, Courcy Rovers; 3rd, Sinead O'Callaghan, Ballinhassig. Team prize results were—1st, Ballygarvan; 2nd, Courcy Rovers; 3rd, Ballinhassig. In the U 11 goalie competition—1st, Aine Moynihan, Ballygarvan; 2nd, Sinead O'Callaghan, Ballinhassig; 3rd, Sarah Keohane, Courcy Rovers. The U 13 winners of the skills competition were Sarah Downing, Courcy Rovers; 2nd, Eimear O'Sullivan, Ballinhassig; 3rd, Andrea Quinn, Courcy Rovers. The team winners were: 1st, Courcy Rovers; 2nd, Ballinhassig; 3rd, Ballygarvan. The goalie winners at under 13 were: 1st, Ber Reynolds, Ballinhassig; 2nd, Susan Lynch, Ballygarvan; 3rd, Jessica Nyhan, Courcy Rovers. The U 15 winners were: 1st, Noelle Collins, Courcy Rovers; 2nd, Joanne Calnan, Ballinhassig; 3rd, Laura Jeffers, Ballinhassig. Team winners were: 1st, Ballinhassig; 2nd, Courcy Rovers; 3rd, Carrigaline. The U 15 goalie winners were: 1st, Laura Jeffers, Ballinhassig; 2nd, Ellis Nyhan, Courcy Rovers; 3rd, Ann Kiely, Carrigaline.

County camogie fixtures secretary Mary Bugler chaired the election of officers as follows: Chairman, Jack McGrath; Vice-Chairman, Noreen Quinn; Minutes Secretary, Patsy Downing (outgoing); P.R.O., Billy Dillon; Treasurer, Tricia Pounds; Asst. Treasurer, Brid Buckley, Tracton. Competitions committee: Michael Moynihan, Eleanor O'Keefe and a delegate to be nominated from Ballinhassig Camogie Club.

Chairing the second part of the meeting, the newly-elected chairman of Carrigaline club, Jack McGrath, pledged support to the division's referees, especially the younger referees that are being trained. He said any verbal abuse from the sidelines would not be tolerated. He stressed the importance of trained referees.

The selection of selectors for the divisional teams both senior and U 16 would be decided at the division's first meeting in January 2001. All club delegates would have those interested notified for the next meeting.

Billy Dillon of the senior selectors in 2000 thanked the club for their co-operation and the players. Outgoing P.R.O. Noreen Quinn thanked the division's sponsor in John McNamara Super Valu, Kinsale. She also thanked 'Southern Star' reporter John Newman and photographer Howard Crowdy for their publicity as well as Jim Forbes and Mary Newman. The division will plan for the year ahead at their first meeting to be held on the 31st January, 2001.

Saints take title in thrilling final

St Catherine's 2-4
Youghal 0-5

by Mary Newman

ST CATHERINES took the Junior B championship title, after a thrilling final at Castle-martyr. A Helen Lane point gave the winners an early lead and a Denise Twomey goal settled them. Janette Galvin pointed for Youghal, before Helen Lane and Denise Twomey hit points for St Catherine's. On the restart, Youghal challenged the lead. Ashley Corcoran pointed a free but June Bolger responded with a goal. Ashley Corcoran then pointed for Youghal. Noreen Mulcahy and June Fitzgerald exchanged points, but St Catherine's held on for a victory.

Fr O'Neills 1-4
Douglas 2-0

Fr O'Neills and Douglas played out a thrilling Under-



Sheila Golden, chairperson of the county board, presents Elaine Harper of St Catherine's with the County Cup.

16 B county championship quarter-final, on Wednesday last. A point from Gearóidín Kearney gave O'Neills an early lead and they stretched their advantage with a Jennifer Hayes goal. Gearóidín Kearney pointed three times without reply but Douglas, to their credit, fought back. Two goals from Fiona O'Donovan put them right back in it. However, O'Neills hung on for victory.

Glen Rovers 2-1
St Finbarr's 0-0

Under the guidance of senior inter-county star and former Cork captain, Denise Cronin, Glen Rovers took the Seandun under-13 league title on Sunday last. Glen Rovers

took the lead after 15 minutes, when corner forward Gerlyn Nolan hit a superb goal. Glen defended their lead, with Charlotte Duke and Emer Mulcahy doing work good work.

They held their lead at half time and after the resumption, came forward in search of scores. The Glen held solid and, with Denise Luby and Elaine Hourihan playing well, they held their lead.

Up front, Glen's Jennifer Busted, Sarah Egan and Lorna Dorgan worked hard and were rewarded with a Gerlyn Nolan point. Refusing to give in, the Barr's tried hard to breach the Glen defence but it was Noelle Gearey who had the last say, with a Glen goal. After the

game, Seandun chairperson Marion McCarthy, presented the Nancy Hourihan memorial trophy to Rachel Donovan, the Glen Rovers captain

Eire Og 3-4
Milford 1-4

A last-minute goal from substitute, Lisa Healy, left it all square in Pairc Uí Rinn, after Eire Og had led from the start, in this Senior I camogie match.

Aided by the wind, Eire Og got two goals in six minutes from Ellen O'Herlihy. Elaine O'Riordan opened the Milford scoring with a point and, with Marie Watson pointing a free, the gap narrowed. Eire Og got another goal when O'Herlihy's attempted point was finished to the net by Niamh Lehan. Deirdre O'Reilly pointed for Milford, to leave it 3-0 to 0-3 at the break.

It was 11 minutes into the half before Christine O'Gorman had a Milford point. Captain, Emer O'Friel, further reduced the deficit while Eire Og struggled to score. With two minutes left Deirdre O'Reilly put just a goal between the sides. Lisa Healy then coolly slotted to the net for Milford, leaving it all square at the end. The replay will take place the week end of December 9.

Milford retain their crown

Milford 2-5
Inniscarra 0-3

MILFORD retained their Cork county U-16 'A' camogie championship title at the expense of Inniscarra at Glen Rovers on Saturday morning last.

The victors laid their foundation with the superb opening half performance which saw them lead 2-4 to 0-0 at the break.

With goals in the fourth and 19th minute from Tricia O'Riordan and Emer Watson, indeed in that opening half Emer Watson's display at full forward put the Inniscarra defence under constant pressure throughout.

On the resumption, Inniscarra came more into the game with Liz Hayes and Edel O'Sullivan working hard.

Scorers: Milford: E. Watson 1-2, M. Watson 0-3, T. O'Riordan 1-0; Inniscarra: T. McCarthy 0-2, R. Buckley 0-1.
MILFORD: E. Curtin, S. Carroll, E. O'Riordan, C. O'Regan, T. McLoughlin, A. Geary, L. Healy, D. Hayes, I. Sexton, J. Sheehy, J. Hickey, M. Watson, E. Lenihan, E. Watson, T. O'Riordan.
INNISCARRA: C. Hogan, S. Cahill, M. Healy, A. Buckley, C. Ryan, E. O'Mahony, E. O'Keefe, L. Hayes, E. O'Sullivan, G. O'Mahony, M. O'Regan, E. Forbes, R. Buckley, F. O'Riordan, T. McCarthy.
Referee: B. Jolyne (Killeagh).

● CAMOGIE ●

Tipperary Camogie Board Chairman Noel Hennessy has blasted politicians for their failure to secure lotto funding to complete the development of the County Camogie Grounds at The Ragg.

Speaking at the Board's convention in Thurles Hennessy said that the politicians are plentiful when it comes to getting on the back of a truck after Tipp win an All Ireland but are not in a position to help when it comes to securing funding.

"We appreciate all their nice words but words will not buy anything," he said. He regretted that no further lotto funding was forthcoming to complete the development but said that there was great credit due to the Tipperary Board which were the only board in Ireland with its own camogie pitch.

Officers elected: Chairman N. Hennessy, Drom-Inch; Vice Chairpersons, P. Carroll (St. Cronans), M. Browne (Cashel); Secretary, J. Harlan (Drom-Inch); Treasurer R. Mannion (Lorha); Registrar B. Philips (Thurles); PRO M. Graham (Moycarkey); Munster Council Rep T. Moloney (Cashel).

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Those were the days of camogie greats

DO you remember the rivalry between Killeagh and Eire Og? How could you forget? What a treat it was to have two such gifted teams in the same era. Those were the days.

1980 will stay long in the memory of the girls from East Cork, as it was the year that they claimed their precious one-and-only All-Ireland Club camogie win. What made it even more special was that it was also their first County and Munster title, and also the fact that they were the first Cork club to inscribe their names on

the All-Ireland Cup.

Where are they all now? 20 years later and all will be revealed at the Park Hotel in Middleton next Sunday night when every member of that victorious side will come together and party the night away.

Much anticipation and excitement surrounds the homecoming of two of the players who moved on to pastures greener. Barbara Kirby makes the long journey from the States, while Catherine Griffin will arrive in Ireland from Australia.

VIEW FROM THE GROUND with THERESE O'CALLAGHAN



Eire Og and Killeagh were two of the top teams in Cork camogie at that time. The Mid Cork side had beaten their East Cork counterparts in the previous two county finals of '78 and '79. However, they were re-

warded when the sides met in the first semi-final of the 80's. Killeagh emerged victorious with a comfort zone of 4-8 to 3-2.

In the county final a few weeks later they defeated Glen

Rovers 4-9 to 1-4 at Ballinlough. Munster Club action was a whole new ball game for the Cork ladies. However, they sailed through with considerable ease - Ardkeen and Ballygarvan were accounted for, before Cashel fell victim to the Leesiders in the Munster final.

In those days, it was not unusual to see busloads of people depart from The Old Thatch Pub to lend their support to this famous team. All-Ireland semi-final day was no different, as the convoy moved off from the East Cork village. They were not

disappointed, as the girls fashioned a marvellous 13-point victory over Galway representatives, Orammore. At the same time, Buffers Alley of Wexford continued their good run beating northern side, Killeel. And so, the stage was set in Thomastown for Killeagh's first appearance in the All-Ireland Club final.

Buffers Alley were the queens of club championship in those years. So, not alone did they interrupt a massive six-in-a-row for the Wexford champions, but they did it in magnificent style.



The Glen Rovers U-13 team who defeated St Finbarr's in the Seandún U-13 league final.

Death of a county camogie stalwart

CAMOGIE followers were rocked last week by news of the death of Aghabullogue stalwart Thady Roche.

A tremendous worker at both club and county level, Thady served as a selector with Cork teams at minor and U-18 level for several years.

It was a source of tremendous pride to Thady to be involved as a selector when Cork took the minor All-Ireland title in 1998 after a lapse of 13 years.

He was selector and coach to the U-18 team that took provincial honours in 1999 and was a member of that selection committee at the time of his death.

A representative for his club to the County Board, Thady was well respected. Always fair in his dealings, he was never slow to let his feelings be known, but always listened to his opponent's point of view.

A familiar figure on the sideline at all Aghabullogue games he was involved with the many successes enjoyed by the club.

Sincere sympathy is extended to his wife, family and clubmates. Ar Dheis dhe ar a Ainm.

Milford put rivals through wringer

Milford 2-5
Inniscarra 0-3

MILFORD were crowned U-16 A county champions for the second consecutive year after beating Inniscarra on Saturday at Glen Rovers.

Milford turned in a superb opening half and took the game to Inniscarra from the throw-in.

Trisha O'Riordan gave them an early lead when she goaled after four minutes.

Still applying the pressure on Inniscarra Milford stretched their lead with two Marie Watson pointed frees.

“ Milford turned in a superb opening half and took the game to Inniscarra from the throw-in. Trisha O'Riordan put them ahead, goaling after four minutes.

Their defence kept a tight reign on the Inniscarra forwards and Milford continued to dominate.

A second goal six minutes from the interval from full forward Emer Watson stretched the Milford lead and when the same player knocked over two further points it gave her side a comfortable half-time lead.

Inniscarra came out for the second half in determined mood and began to grow in confidence.

Now putting the Milford defence under pressure, they had two points from Treasa McCarthy with Liz Hayes and Eadoine O'Neill and working tirelessly, they made Milford fight to retain their lead.

However, Milford's defence in Elaine O'Riordan, Anna Geary and Lisa Healy absorbed the Inniscarra pressure.

They held firm and with Rena Buckley and Marie Watson exchanging points, Milford's first-half performance was enough to ensure they retained their title after an entertaining contest.

Teams
Milford: E. Curtin, S. O'Carroll, E. O'Riordan, C. O'Regan, T. McLoughlin, A. Geary, I. Healy, D. Hayes, I. Sexton (capt), J. Sheehy, J. Hickey, M. Watson, L. Linehan, E. Watson, T. O'Riordan.
Inniscarra: C. Hogan, S. Cahill, M. Healy, A. Buckley, C. Ryan, E. O'Mahony, E. O'Keefe, I. Hayes, G. O'Mahony, M. O'Regan, E. Forbes, R. Buckley, F. O'Riordan, T. McCarthy.
Ref: B. Joyce, Killeagh Munster Colleges.

Mary's hold all the aces

St Mary's 6-7
Colaiste Mhuire 1-3

ST MARY'S Charleville, under the guidance of Vincle Harrington, swept aside Colaiste Mhuire Ennis in the Munster senior A colleges camogie championship.

All-Ireland champions St Mary's Nenagh bowed out to Our Lady's Templemore on a 1-9 to 1-6 scoreline.

Weather permitting, the replay of the senior B championship involving Eire Óg and Milford will go ahead on Saturday at a venue yet to be decided.

The sides finished all square in Pairc Uí Rinn three weeks back when a goal from Milford substitute Lisa Healy tied it up at 1-6 to 3-0.

The Munster U-18 championship semi-final, cancelled last Sunday for the third week in a row, is scheduled to go ahead next Sunday at the UCC grounds, The Farm, Bishopstown, with a 1.30pm start.

Rovers defence too strong for St Finbarr's

Glen Rovers 2-1
St Finbarr's 0-0

THE scoreline does little to reflect what was a superb game at St Finbarr's where Glen Rovers took the Seandún Under-13 league title.

With play swinging from end to end the defences on both sides had plenty of work.

At 15 minutes into the game Glen Rovers hit the front when corner for-

ward Gerlyn Nolan shot low to the Barr's net.

Torrential rain failed to deter as the Glen defended their lead with Jemma O'Regan at centre back and captain Rachel Donovan at centre field doing trojan work in containing the opposition, for whom Dara Banks and Aoife McCarthy kept on the pressure.

On the turn over Barr's with Niamh Long, Maria Murray and Melissa

Browne came forward in search of an equaliser but solid defending from Lorraine Dennehy and Kelly Laffin saw the Glen hold their lead, whilst up front Glen's Clara O'Brien, Jennifer Busted and Roisin Foley worked tirelessly.

With six minutes remaining Glen Rovers Gerlyn Nolan extended her sides lead when she raced 40 metres to finish with a superb point.

Refusing to give in, the Barr's, led by Dara Banks, tried hard to breach the Glen defence but it was Noelle Gearey with an injury time goal for Glen Rovers who put the result beyond doubt.

Seandún chairperson Marion McCarthy presented the trophy to Rachel Donovan who with Barr's captain Dara Banks paid tribute to their respective teams for the superb game.



Milford's Deirdre O'Reilly tries to block Eire Óg captain Helen Walsh during the Senior B camogie game at Parc Uí Rinn. Picture: Richard Mills

Top class Pearses showing

PEARSESS..... 2-11
SWATRAGH..... 1-3
GALWAY side Pearses won their third All-Ireland club camogie championship title in fine style at Cusack Park, Mullingar yesterday.

Michael Davitt's of Swatragh offered stout resistance early on but with Sharon Glynn leading the Pearses attack they gradually took control.

Glynn set Pearses on the road to victory with a pointed free in the fifth minute and the same player grabbed the vital score of the game six minutes before the break.

Glynn delighted the Galway fans in the 1,500 crowd when she drove the ball to the back of the net from a '45 to leave the score at 1-5 to 0-2 and further points from Orla Kilkenny and player of the match Carmel Hannon left the winners in a strong position at the break, 1-7 to 0-3.

Bernie McLoughlin, Grainne Maguire and Claire McNicholl were all on target for the losers. And Maguire lifted her team's spirits with a goal in the 12th minute of the second half (again from a '45) but it was soon cancelled out when Ann Forde got Pearses second goal with seven minutes remaining to seal victory.

The loss of centre half-forward Paula McAtamney during the week was a major blow to Swatragh in their bid for a first All-Ireland title but on the day there was no doubt Pearses' experience stood to them.

SCORERS — Pearses: S Glynn 1-4, A Forde 1-1, O Kilkenny, C Hannon 0-2 each; A Hillary, S Ward 0-1 each. Swatragh: G Maguire 1-1; B O'Loughlin and C McNicholl 0-1 each.

PEARSESS — L Curry, A Divilly, A Ward, P Burke, M Haverly, T Laheen, M Harkin, M Glynn, V Sweeney, C Hannon, A Hillary, O Kilkenny, S Ward, S Glynn, A Forde. Subs: L Lally for S Ward.

SWATRAGH — M McAtamney, A McGuckian, C Scullion, J McKeagney, N O'Hagan, G Maguire, P McKenna, A O'Loughlin, B O'Loughlin, A Mullin, A Tohill, M O'Kane, C McNicholl, O Mullen, D O'Doherty. Subs: B McGuckian for A Mullin.

Sports Star of the Week

Aine Hillary



IT WAS truly a case of saving their best wine until last for Pearses who captured the All-Ireland club camogie title for the third time in five years when they defeated Derry side Swatragh with a convincing performance.

Victory was never really in doubt after the first half when they completely overwhelmed the opposition and centre half forward Aine Hillary played an influential role by the manner in which she won possession and was involved in so many of Pearses scores during that period.

Her towering display wins her our Sportstar of the Week ahead of team mates Sharon Glynn, who gave a wonderful display of scoring from play and frees, and wing forward Orla Kilkenny who was also inspirational.

DEC. 2000

Pearses cruise to All-Ireland camogie title

Pearses (Galway) 2-11 :: Swatragh (Derry) 1-3

—by Declan Tierney—

ALL-Ireland finals often require the ultimate effort but for Pearses it was a relatively simple matter of pressing the cruise control button as they easily dismissed Swatragh of Derry in the club camogie decider at Mullingar on Sunday.

And in doing so, Pearses became the most successful Galway club in camogie history and their rewards were richly deserved as they completely overwhelmed their Northern counterparts and had the match pretty much wrapped up by half time.

Even though they received a mini scare midway through the second half when they conceded a goal, it only served to inspire Pearses even further and it turned out to be their opposition's solitary score during that period.

It's not that Swatragh were a poor side — after all they defeated the reigning All-Ireland club champions Granagh-Ballingarry in the semi-final — but they were made look very ordinary by a rampant Pearses outfit who displayed incredible skill.

From the very outset it was apparent that the Galway club champions had the bit between their teeth judging by the manner they took the game to Swatragh — in fact, it took some considerable time before the Derry side had the ball inside the Pearses half.

Full forward stalwart Sharon Glynn and the vastly experienced Ann Forde opened the scoring for Pearses with two points but Glynn nearly goaled from 50 yards out with a magnificent shot which was well saved by the goalie — still the ball could have ended up in the net when the save deflected off Aine Hillary but the ball went narrowly wide.

Grainne McGuire pointed two frees for Swatragh but the creativity of Aine Hillary resulted in Pearses taking a two

point lead with further scores from Forde and Shauna Ward before they made the major breakthrough.

Another fine move by Hillary resulted in Sharon Glynn making a sufficient amount of space to get a clear shot at goal and she made no mistake with a rasper to the bottom corner of the net which laid the foundation for this success.

Glynn followed this with a converted '45 while Orla Kilkenny, who performed exceptionally well at wing half forward, and Carmel Hannon, who did well at midfield, stretched the Pearses even further with valuable points — again Aine Hillary was hugely influential in these scores.

They led by 1-7 to 0-3 and when Sharon Glynn kicked over a point from play and Carmel Hannon added another from play, there was going to be no denying that it would be Pearses day as they inflicted constant pressure on the Swatragh defence.

They may have harboured a few nervous moments when Grainne Maguire goaled from a free when she struck the ball to the roof of the net despite the goal being lined with Pearses players, but it proved to be Swatragh's only score for the second half.

The Ulster champions tried the same trick some minutes later when Claire McNicholl went for a goal from another free but this time the Pearses players were alert to the danger



ON TARGET... Pearses Carmel Hannon lands a point against Swatragh in the All-Ireland club camogie final at Mullingar on Sunday.

and prevented it from going in.

But most of the action for the remainder of the game was at the other end of the field and Pearses were denied a second goal when a move involving Veronica Sweeney and Sharon Glynn provided Ann Forde with the chance, but it was brilliantly saved by Mairead McAtamney of Swatragh.

But Forde made amends shortly after when she was at the end of a Sharon Glynn pass and scored a well executed goal which effectively ended the game as a contest. Yet Pearses never relented and Sharon Glynn scored two further points in the final five minutes of the game to end what was a very one sided affair.

There was very few chinks in this Pearses performance and the half back line of Martina

Haverly, Tracey Laheen and Martina Harkin played with plenty of confidence and some of their clearances turned into good scoring opportunities.

Carmel Hannon, who has recovered from a recent hand injury, was back to her very best at midfield while Veronica Sweeney also made a substantial contribution to this victory.

The influence Aine Hillary had on proceedings was very significant as she had a contribution in at least four of the first half scores and dominated on the '40. Orla Kilkenny won a lot of possession throughout the game while the scoring prowess of Sharon Glynn and Ann Forde also had a huge bearing.

This is Pearses third All-

Ireland club final victory in five years having won back to back titles in 1996 and 1997 and with such a strong panel at their disposal, it would come as no surprise if they were in the shake up for honours again next year.

Pearses: L. Curry; A. Divilly, A. Ward, P. Burke; M. Haverly, T. Laheen, M. Harkin; C. Hannon (0-2), V. Sweeney; M. Glynn, A. Hillary, O. Kilkenny (0-1); S. Ward (0-1), S. Glynn (1-5, 0-3 frees), A. Forde (1-2). Sub: L. Lally for Ward.

Swatragh: M. McAtamney; A. McGuckian, C. Scullion, J. McKeagney; N. O'Hagan, G. Maguire (1-3, all frees), P. McKenna; A. O'Loughlin, B. O'Loughlin; A. Tohill, A. Mullin, M. O'Kane; C. McNicholl (0-1), O. Mullen, D. O'Doherty.

Referee: A. Derham (Dublin).



VICTORY DELIGHT... Pearses captain Aine Hillary raises the All-Ireland Club trophy aloft after the Galway champions' final win on Sunday.

Back to back win for Milford as fighting form triumphs over determined Inniscarra

by Mary Newman

Milford	2-5
Inniscarra	0-3

MILFORD won back to back U-16 A county camogie titles with a victory over Inniscarra at Glen Rovers recently. The team laid the foundation for victory in the opening half where they led 2-4 to no score at the break.

The vital goals in the fourth and nineteenth minute came from Trisha O'Riordan and Emer Watson. On the resumption Inniscarra came more into the game and proceeded to dominate proceedings with Liz Hayes and Edel O'Sullivan doing Trojan work. Nine minutes into the half they opened the account with a Treasa McCarthy point.

With Marie Watson and McCarthy exchanging points, Milford held their lead but in doing so were made fight all the way from a determined Inniscarra outfit.

Rena Buckley added a third Inniscarra point and kept the Milford defence under constant pressure but failed to grab the vital goal that was needed. For Milford, Aoife Dillon, Emer Watson and Trisha O'Riordan excelled.

Eire Óg	1-5
Milford	0-5

Eire Óg took their first Senior B County camogie title with a victory over Milford in an exciting replay at Pairc Uí Rinn on Sunday last.

Three weeks ago a last minute goal from Milford substitute Lisa Healy led the teams to a draw but this time Eire

Óg guaranteed a difference.

Two points from Player of the Match Ellen O'Herlihy gave Eire Óg an early lead before Marie Watson had Milford's opening score. Deirdre Healy hit the net eight minutes into the half to stretch the Eire Óg lead but fighting Milford were within a point thanks to three Christine O'Gorman points by the eighteenth minute.

Regaining their composure Eire Óg rallied and finished the half stronger, with points from Niamh Lehané and Ellen O'Herlihy to leave them 1-4 to 0-4 ahead at the break. A point from Deirdre O'Reilly had cut the Eire Óg lead inside three minutes of the restart and with Milford putting on the pressure it was nip and tuck.

Having weathered pressure from Milford's inside line Eire Óg came forward in search of scores and again O'Herlihy came up trumps striking a superb point with five minutes remaining. Now three points ahead Eire Óg dug deep and with the finishing line in sight were not going to be caught this time out.

Defending solidly they gave the Milford girls no way through and hung on for a deserved victory which ensures them a place in the Senior grade next season.

EIRE ÓG: M. McCarthy, L. O'Leary, N. Lehané, D. O'Sullivan, Y. O'Leary, A. McKenna, S. O'Driscoll, D. Healy, Y. Corkery, H. Walsh (c), M. Howard, C. Crowley, E. O'Herlihy, N. O'Leary, C. McKenna. Subs: Y. Malone for Y. Corkery.

MILFORD: E. Linehan, A. Dillon, N. O'Riordan, S. O'Reilly, A. Geary, L. Long, C. O'Gorman, D. Hayes, L. Healy, D. O'Reilly, M. Watson, E. O'Riordan, E. O'Friel (c), I. Sexton, E. Watson. Referee: C. O'Mahony, St

Finbarrs.

SCORERS: Eire Óg: E. O'Herlihy 0-4 (0-1 f), D. Healy 1-0, N. Lehané 0-1, Milford: C. O'Gorman 0-3 (0-2 f), D. O'Reilly 0-1, M. Watson 0-1.

County Convention

Camogie delegates gather on Wednesday evening in the Doughcloyne Hotel for the annual county convention.

Delegates will look back on a year where Cork made history recording a Senior and Junior National league success.

Concern will be expressed at the failure in Croke Park on the first Sunday in September losing both the Senior and Junior All-Ireland finals. However the winning of the county's first All-Ireland Intermediate title will be the highlight. A lengthy agenda has twenty motions down for discussion, while there are several contests for positions also to be decided.

One officer faces opposition with outgoing PRO Mary Newman being opposed for her position by Paul Murray, Bishopstown, a brother of present county secretary Pat Murray. Selection committees for all the inter county teams will be selected.

Kathleen Healy, Cloughduv, and Inniscarra's Con Hayes are also in the race. Amongst the twenty motions on the agenda for discussion are ten from the Bishopstown club. Among them, one calling for a Juvenile County Board to be established under the auspices of the Cork County Board.

Another motion is calling for a Development committee to cater for clubs and schools.

All in all a lively convention is promised with proceedings starting 7.15pm sharp.

Eire Óg regain their position in the top grade of Cork camogie

Eire Óg	1-5
Milford	0-5

EIRE ÓG were crowned Senior "B" champions at Pairc Uí Rinn yesterday and in the process regained their position in top grade camogie next season.

With her side leading 0-2 to 0-1, a Deirdre Healy goal eight minutes into the opening half was to be the score that separated the sides at full-time.

Four points down, Milford responded splendidly in the shape of Christine O'Gorman, who with three points inside 10 minutes, left just the minimum between the sides.

Regaining their composure it was Eire Óg who finished the half stronger and with points from Niamh Lehané and Ellen O'Herlihy led 1-4 to 0-4 at the break.

Within three minutes of the re-start Milford showed their determination with a Deirdre O'Reilly point.

However it was Eire Óg, aided by the strong wind and with good play from Mary Howard, Helen Walsh and Alana McKenna, who continued to dominate.

With five minutes remaining O'Herlihy who sealed her side's victory with a superbly struck point from far out on the wing.

After the game O'Herlihy was justifiably named player of the match after a tremendous performance.

SCORERS for Eire Óg: E. O'Herlihy 0-4 (0-1 free), D. Healy 1-0, N. Lehané 0-1.

Milford: C. O'Gorman 0-3 (0-2 free), M. Watson and D. O'Reilly 0-1 each.

EIRE ÓG: M. McCarthy, L. O'Leary, N. Lehané, D. O'Sullivan, Y. O'Leary, A. McKenna, S. O'Driscoll, D. Healy, Y. Corkery, H. Walsh (Capt.), C. Crowley, E. O'Herlihy, C. McKenna, M. Howard, N. O'Leary, Sub: Y. Malone for Y. Corkery.

MILFORD: E. Linehan, A. Dillon, S. O'Reilly, N. O'Riordan, C. O'Gorman, L. Long, A. Geary, D. Hayes, D. O'Reilly, M. Watson, E. O'Riordan, E. O'Friel (Capt.), I. Sexton, L. Healy, E. Watson. Sub: A. Healy for A. Dillon.

Referee: C. O'Mahony (St. Finbarr's).

Eire Óg ladies are on top of the world

Eire Óg	1-5
Milford	0-5

THE smile on the face of Eire Óg club vice-chairman Rose Malone said it all yesterday, after her side won the Senior B camogie championship crown for the first time and in the process regained the status of participation in the Senior County championship next season.

It was back to Pairc Uí Rinn yesterday for two teams who had already endured a long season after a late Lisa Healy goal threw Milford a life-line three weeks ago.

Determined to ensure lightning would not strike twice, Eire Óg took the game to Milford from the throw in and a Deirdre Healy goal eight minutes into the game, helped her side to an interval lead of 1-4 to 0-4.

"We were reasonably pleased at half-time turning to play with the strong wind but we knew that Milford would fight to the finish as they did three weeks ago" said Eire Óg captain Helen Walsh after the game.

"We had to battle through every round where we drew every game winning them in replays.

By MARY NEWMAN

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"We knew that we were not going to slip up, but the last three minutes were the longest.

"I just prayed Milford were not going to give us a repeat performance," said Walsh, who in leading her side to victory ensures a personal run of captaining winning sides continues.

Last year she led glorious Cork to All-Ireland junior glory and three years ago led Eire Óg to intermediate honours.

Milford did make the champions fight hard and a point from Deirdre O'Reilly within three minutes of the restart put just two between the sides.

With their backs to the wall, Eire Óg defended solidly with Mary Howard, Helen Walsh and Yvonne O'Leary superb.

A point from player of the match, Ellen O'Herlihy - who finished with a personal tally of four points - five minutes from full time was enough to see the title on its way to mid-Cork.

Rose Malone could hardly contain her delight.

"We began training back in February and it's been tough but today we reaped the reward," said Rose.

"I'm delighted that we will be back in the Senior A grade. We worked hard and were looking forward to playing in the Senior County championship where in previous years we enjoyed huge success. It's an honour to be back where we belong."

While Milford's Ann Watson conceded that her side's shooting wide of three close-in frees did not help their cause, she did pay tribute to the winners and commended her team for their efforts.

Back door system is good for camogie

NAME the four counties who will qualify for the 2001 All Ireland senior camogie semi-finals.

The enthusiastic among us would like to ensure that the four best teams in the country would reach the penultimate stage. Quite possible.

The Camogie Association, in line with the GAA, has fitted back doors to next year's championship.

All-Ireland champions Tipperary face Kilkenny while Cork will meet Galway in round one.

So, we can correctly interpret

that last season's finalists Cork and Tipperary have been drawn apart in the opening round.

But, with the losers of both games coming again into contention, they could well meet in the closing stages, but whatever the outcome, it ensures more quality matches for all involved.

While the new system does not guarantee that Cork, Tipperary, Galway and Kilkenny will get to the last four, it is most probable that these four top camogie counties would have a greater chance of get-

THERESE O'CALLAGHAN VIEW FROM THE GROUND



ting through to the semi-final stages.

Hindsight is a great thing, but looking back on this summer's activities, Cork's farcical clash with Wexford at the penultimate stage could be blamed for their

downfall in the final. A landslide victory for the Cork ladies - in fact they walked all over Wexford that day - surely did not help their preparations for the big day in Croke Park.

Under the new format the

weaker counties should thrive too, which is primarily what this back door system is all about. Unquestionably, the likes of Wexford would improve dramatically if another chance were presented.

In the 2000 championship Limerick battled gamely against Galway in the first-half of their clash, but luck ran out on them in the end as they struggled to compete with the Westerners.

However, it would have been an altogether different proposition had they got a second bite of the cherry.

It is inevitable, though, that some people will fear that the basic fabric of the knock-out championship will be lost under the new system.

Maybe so, but it is hardly good enough reason to avoid experimentation.

New sponsorship is also on the horizon for the Senior championship. Bord na Gaíle (more recently known as Foras na Gaíle) will not be coming on board for the 2001 campaign. It is likely that a new deal will be announced early in the New Year.

Camogie convention to elect officers

CAMOGIE delegates gather this evening in the Doughcloyne Hotel for the annual county convention.

Delegates will look back on a year where Cork made history by recording a senior and junior national league success.

Concern will be expressed at the failure in Croke Park on the first Sunday in September losing both the Senior and Junior All-Ireland finals. However the winning of the county's first All-Ireland Intermediate title will be the highlight.

A lengthy agenda has 20 motions down for discussion, among which are some interesting ones which will invoke lively discussion, while there are several contests for positions also to be decided.

One officer faces opposition with outgoing PRO Mary Newman being opposed for her position by Paul Murray of Bishopstown, a brother of present county secretary Pat Murray.

Selection committees for all the inter county teams will be selected.

Outgoing senior selectors Angela Sheehan, Rose Mackey and outgoing coach Tom Nott, throwing their hats back into the ring, face opposition from St. Finbarr's' Pa Finn, Eire Og's Sile O'Brien and Bishopstown's Pat Murray.

Two will be selected from the above being joined by a representative from county champions Bishopstown.

Outgoing intermediate selectors Sile Golden, Kay Dunne and Pat Murray, who led the county to All-Ireland honours, are to be returned to their positions unopposed by any other candidates.

The junior selection committee has the outgoing selectors Kay Dunne and Kathleen Healy seeking to hold off the challenge of Dave Daly, Pat Murray, Tracy Sheehan and Lillian Zincent.

Those selected will be joined by one from county champions Ballygarvan.

The minor selection committee is an important one and always hotly contested. Outgoing selector and coach John Cronin is again seeking re-election along with fellow outgoing selector John Quinn, while Kathleen Healy of Cloughduv and Inniscarra's Con Hayes are also in the race, to be joined by a representative from county champions Milford.

Two under-18 selectors will be chosen from John Cronin, Ann Marie Healy, Kathleen Healy, Cloughduv's Joe McCarthy and Joan O'Leary of Inniscarra, Sheila O'Brien of Eire Og, Finbarr O'Callaghan of Newcestown, Mary Newman of Glen Rovers and John Quinn of Courcy Rovers.

Because of a motion passed last year, the convention will for the first time select a general purpose committee from the floor with no fewer than 20 nominees for the six positions, among them former officers Marie Kearney of Sars, Christine O'Regan and Mary O'Sullivan.



Eire Og, the County Senior B champions, who defeated Milford last Sunday.

Going gets tough so Og get going

Eire Og
Milford

1-5
0-5

“Despite the heavy conditions underfoot both sides continued the pace in the second half and Deirdre O'Reilly cut the Eire Og lead to two points

By MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY
Camogie correspondent

Weathering the storm, Eire Og rallied and finished the half in a commanding position with points from Niamh Lehane and Ellen O'Herlihy to leave them 1-4 to 0-4 ahead at the break.

Despite the heavy conditions underfoot both sides continued the pace in the second half.

Deirdre O'Reilly cut the Eire Og lead to two points and with Milford putting the Eire Og defence under pressure, it was captain Helen Walsh, Mary Howard and Ciara McKenna who steadied the Og side.

Having absorbed the Milford pressure, Eire Og came forward

and again it was O'Herlihy who struck a superb point with five minutes remaining.

Now three points ahead Eire Og were in no mood for a repeat performance of the first day.

Defending solidly they quashed attack after attack and gave the Milford girls no quarter and were crowned champions.

Ellen O'Herlihy was named player of the match after chairperson Sheila Golden gave Eire Og captain Helen Walsh her trophy.

Special mention has to go to Eire Og's long serving goal keeper Marion McCarthy who added a new medal to her large collection.

Having won senior county medals in the 1970s with South Pres Past Pupils, Marion continued her

career with Eire Og, winning four Senior county medals.

Eire Og's vice-chairperson Rose Malone said: "We began training in February. It's been tough but we reaped the reward," said Rose.

"I want to pay tribute to the teams we met along the line.

"We drew every round of the championship and it could have been Kilbrittan, Valley Rovers or Milford who were crowned champions here today. I'm delighted it's us and am looking forward to being back playing in the senior grade where we have enjoyed success."

While Milford's Ann Watson conceded that her side had failed to master the heavy underfoot conditions and the shooting of three close-in frees did not help, she paid tribute to the winners and praised her own side for their efforts.

Eire Og: M McCarthy, L O'Leary, N Lehane, D O'Sullivan, Y O'Leary, A McKenna, S O'Griscoll, D Healy, Y Corkery, H Walsh (c), M Howard, C Crowley, E O'Herlihy, N O'Leary, C McKenna, Sub Y Malone.

Milford: E Linehan, A Dillon, N O'Riordan, S O'Reilly, A Geary, L Long, C O'Gorman, D Hayes, I Healy, D O'Reilly, M Watson, E O'Riordan, E O'Friel (c), I Sexton, E Watson.

Convention motions sure to spark lively debates

AT the County Camogie Convention, which is being held this evening at Cork's Doughcloyne Hotel, ten motions from the Bishopstown club are on the agenda.

Amongst them is one motion calling for a Juvenile County Board to be established under the auspices of the

Cork County Board. Another motion calling for a development committee to cater for the clubs and schools of the city is also proposed by the city club.

Newtownshandrum are calling for a date deadline to be placed on transfers and an interesting motion sure

to evoke lively debate among the delegates is the Newtownshandrum motion seeking to change the rule regarding registration where the Newtown club are calling for a player not to be eligible to play camogie for their new club until one month after her registration with the county

board.

Sarsfields are seeking to give the county board the go-ahead to organise competition at 12-a-side level for the weaker under age clubs in under 12, 14 and 16 grades.

Fr O'Neill's motions are seeking to have a finishing date on all league

competitions.

Bishopstown are seeking to put a closing date of July 31st on the senior A and B championships.

All in all a lively and debate-filled convention is promised with the proceedings getting started 7.15pm sharp.

Camogie selectors elected to fill void for next year

DELEGATES to Cork Camogie Convention, held at the Doughcloyne Hotel, have elected two new selectors to guide the senior team for the year ahead.

Elected to fill the vacancies created by the retirement of long-serving selectors Rose Mackey and Angela Sheehan are well known GAA personalities and former St Finbarr's

hurling supremo Pa Finn and Eire Og's Sheila O'Brien a former selector with the County Junior and under-18 teams, they will be joined by a representative from county champions, Bishopstown.

On an agenda that had 20 motions down for decision, the one which evoked major discussion was the proposal from the Bishopstown Club that a

Juvenile board be established in Cork to cater for the needs of under age players up to and including under-16's.

After much deliberations the motion was carried for a trial period of two years.

Another motion from the same club proposed by Rose Desmond called on the county to set up a development committee to promote and develop

the game at under-age level met with the unanimous support of the delegates.

Newtownshandrum delegate Muireann Harrington in proposing a motion from her club regarding the transfer where the North Cork club sought to include a closing date on transfers. After lengthy discussion the feeling was that the motion did not do enough

to stop the players moving from county to county in mid season as is now the case.

Convention decided to send a motion to Congress to tighten the situation where players are free to move from county to county in the same year and play in both championships. On that understanding Newtownshandrum withdrew their motion.

In accordance with a motion passed last year, convention for the first time in the history of Cork camogie elected a GPC at its annual convention.

The GPC is: Ballygarvan's Noreen Daly, Claire Donegan (Milford), Margaret Hyde (Fr O'Neills), Ann Marie Nolan (Courcey Rovers), Finbarr O'Callaghan (Newcestown), and Tom Kiely (Carrigaline).

Finn and O'Brien elected as camogie selectors

A well-attended Cork County camogie convention, which was held at the Doughcloyne Hotel on Wednesday last, saw new selectors elected for the Cork senior camogie team for the coming season.

Former St. Finbarr's hurling coach Pa Finn and Sheila O'Brien (Eire Og) were elected to the positions.

In a convention where there was 20 motions on the agenda for discussion, several new proposals gained favour with the delegates.

Amongst them was a motion from the Bishopstown club that Cork set up a juvenile board to organise and administer the affairs of underage players up to an including under 16 level.

Another motion which brought lively discussion and was passed overwhelmingly by the delegates was also a Bishopstown motion, to establish a development committee to promote and develop camogie and structured coaching programmes within in the county.

A motion from the Newtownshandrum club wishing to tighten up on the transfer rule was discussed in detail by the floor and it was decided whilst the Newtownshandrum motion was not passed on the night, Cork would be putting a motion forward to national congress regarding the inter county transfer rule.

Proposals by the Sarsfield club that the county board would organise competitions for the smaller clubs on a 12 aside basis was also greeted with enthusiasm by the delegates.

There was one contest for positions on the county board. Outgoing PRO, Mary Newman, Glen Rovers easily holding off the challenge of Paul Murray, Bishopstown, whilst all other officers were returned unopposed.

In a change of format from previous years, convention also elected a six person GPC from the floor.

Officers elected for the coming year: President Lilly O'Sullivan, Chairperson, Sheila Golden (Innisearra); Vice Chairperson Marian McCarthy (St. Finbarr's); Secretary Pat Murray (Bishopstown); Treasurer Mary McSweeney (Bandon); Registrar Kay Dunne (Ballincollig); PRO Mary Newman; Fixture Secretary Mary Bugler (Valley Rovers); Selection Committees: Senior Pat Finn (St. Finbarr's), Sheila O'Brien (Eire Og), plus one to be elected from county champions Bishopstown, Intermediate Kay Dunne (Ballincollig), Sheila Golden (Innisearra); Pat Murray (Bishopstown), Junior Tracey Sheehan (Mayfield), Lillian Zinkant (Sarsfields), plus Oliver Hallihan from county champions Ballygarvan, Minor: John Cronin (Cloughduv), John Quinn (Courcey Rovers) plus one from county champions Milford, U18 Annemarie Healy (Cloughduv), Finbarr O'Callaghan (Newcestown) plus one from county champions, General purposes committee: Noreen Daly (Ballygarvan), Claire Donegan (Milford), Margaret Hyde (Fr. O'Neills), Annemarie Nolan (Courcey Rovers), Finbarr O'Callaghan (Newcestown), Tom Kiely (Carrigaline).



DUE RECOGNITION: Tipperary camogie captain Jovita Delaney who is pictured here when she was presented with the EIRCELL Player of The Month award for October, was also a winner at the Tipperary Sports Awards ceremony.

Picture: Brendan Moran/SPORTSFILE

ALL IRELAND CAMOGIE CHAMPS



Cork's Helen Walsh in action against Pauline McCarthy of Limerick in the All-Ireland intermediate camogie final at Bishopstown. Victory for the Cork girls was some compensation for the All-Ireland final defeats of both their senior and junior sides.

A Rising Young Star on the Camogie Horizon

BY MARY NEWMAN-MCCARTHY

On an afternoon when Cork camogie lost two All-Ireland titles to Tipperary and Derry a light shone at the end of what for many was a dark tunnel, that light shone throughout the Junior final in the person of Barryroe's Jennifer O'Leary who's contribution of eleven points in her first All-Ireland appearance at headquarters represented a marvellous feat.

"I have played in Croke Park in the mini-sevens as a curtain raiser to the 1995 All-Ireland hurling final so I'm really not too nervous about the Junior final", were her words to me as we sat chatting on the journey to Dublin the day before the final.

Jennifer, the holder of two All-Ireland minor and one All-Ireland Intermediate medals first caught my eye in 1997 at the Feile na nGael semi-final in Innishannon. On that evening the little corner forward with the jersey almost tipping her toes produced a dazzling display which was to be the difference between our clubs and sent Barryroe into the Cork Feile final. In the final her goal poaching and burst of speed set her apart from teammates and opponents as Barryroe took their first Cork Feile title at the expense of Aghabullogue.

Barryroe National school is where eight year old Jennifer first took a hurley in her hand under the guidance of Mary Kearney, she had to wait until sixth class before a trip to Páirc Uí Chaoimh yielded a Roinn C Sciath na Scoil winners medal and by that time she had become a regular with the Barryroe under age teams where sisters Paula and Carol were also involved.

Under the guidance of Kilbrittans Annette O'Leary and Liam Nash, young Miss O'Leary quickly settled in to the Sacred Heart Clonakilty school team winning a first year championship when Clon recorded a great win over colleges supre-



Jennifer O'Leary

mos St. Mary's Charleville. On the St. Mary's team were Niamh Bowles and Aine Kelleher whom Jennifer would go on to win All-Ireland medals with two years later. "That win was a huge one for us in Clonakilty simply because we all knew so much about the great Charleville teams and to defeat them meant we had really arrived".

More success was to quickly follow for a Sacred Heart side that won the hearts of many and brightened up the wet miserable afternoons for us with their great no nonsense first time camogie. Amid huge excitement on the home territory they qualified for their first All-Ireland Colleges final and in anticipation we all headed off to witness a game of the highest standard

against Kilcormac, before Ger Collins held aloft the All-Ireland Colleges Senior B county championship medal when Barryroe defeated St. Finbarr's in the 1998 final ensured participation at Senior County championship level for Barryroe.

In the Junior National league campaign a noticeably stronger Jennifer helped Cork take their first Junior National League title defeating Kildare in the final. Her ability to win possession and turn half a chance into scores again was the turning point when Cork retained the Munster Junior championship title defeating Tipperary in the final with Jennie contributing 2-7 of Cork's tally.

An avid sportswoman, the players most admired by Cork's young rising star are Barryroe team mate Cora Keohane and Glen Rovers Linda Mellerick. "I have always looked up to both these players and admired their skills and contribution to the game".

The game, Jennifer thinks, has improved for the better with the introduction of fifteen a side which gives a lot more room on the pitch, however one improvement which has to come is the introduction of the advantage rule, "it's annoying to be called back having being fouled when you are away with a scoring chance, in the end the player fouled ends up at the disadvantage, the advantage rule has to come into the game".

"Camogie needs more genuine media interest throughout the entire season and not just for big games, however thankfully it seems to be getting better and with more radio coverage now being given to the game people are beginning to take more notice, we also need more sponsorship and more television exposure".

The second youngest in the family of Joe and Kathleen O'Leary, she has an ambition to win a Senior County championship with Barryroe, having suffered defeat in this year's final the experience gained will stand to Jennie and young team mates who put in a credible performance against a strong Bishopstown side.

Given the performances and scoring exploits of the Barryroe youngster it may not be long before she fulfils that ambition. Watch out for Jennifer O'Leary as I have done since Feile 1995.

DEC

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Sciath na Scol

CAMOGAIOCHT

Sciath	48	8	90
Carraig Donn	12	2	26
Mini Sevens	29	6	57
Indoor	74	10	148
Iomlán	161	26	321
Mor Iomlán	1036	168	2381

CORK CO. SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL Played at Cloughdubh

Bishopstown 2-13 Barryroe 1-04

Bishopstown: Rose Desmond, Derbhla Quigley, Ruth Cahalan, Aine Buckley, Ciara Enright (capt), Etna Duggan, Jean O'Sullivan, Vivian Harris, Sheenagh Morley, Sinead O'Callaghan, Aine White, Brid Sheehan, Caroline Kenny, Ciara Healy, Niamh Bonar.

Barryroe: Ciara Keohane, Ann Sheehy, Mary Sheehy, Eileen Carroll, Ann Marie Fleming, Rosalie Holland, Ellis O'Regan, Karen McCarthy, Isla Dineen, Eimear O'Donovan, Elaine McCarthy, Geraldine Collins, Jennifer O'Leary, Josephine Cahalan, Marie Moloney.

Referee: Betty Joyce, Killeagh.

Millennium year dawned brightly for camogie in the Rebel County, the game continued to grow as fifty-three clubs registered with the County Board amongst them Blackrock and Passage who made a welcome return to camogie.

With competitions from under 12 to senior grade it was once again a busy agenda for the hard working officers.

In Seandun, Carrigdhoun and Imokilly, Divisional Committees continue to organise competition for players as young as Under 12 whilst the colleges, schools and third level institutes also play a major role in camogie's growth.

INTER-COUNTY TEAMS

The early months of the season were successful ones with the senior and junior teams winning through to National League finals. On what proved to be an historic occasion, Cork became the first county to take both titles at the same venue on the same day.

The juniors backboned by several of the 1999 All-Ireland winning team gave a superb display to open the day's proceedings totally outclassing a Kildare side who had no answers to the fitter more skilful Cork who in taking the title ensures a unique achievement for themselves and coach Pat Murray.

In sharp contrast the senior final was a tough encounter with All-Ireland champions Tipperary getting off to a blistering start carving out an early lead. Fighting hard to retain their crown Cork staged a marvellous second half revival grabbing the lead in the closing stages.

If the league's showed Cork to be to the fore, championship proved to be somewhat of a disappointment to a county that thrives on winning All-Irelands.

The minor team lost their provincial and All-Ireland titles with a disappointing display to a Tipperary side that failed to make any impres-



Cork, All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Champions: Back (from left) Aine O'Regan, Sinead Buckley, Aine Kelleher, Amanda O'Regan, Helen Walsh, Linda O'Connell, Rosarie Holland, Emer Dillon, Jill Hannon, Rachel Moloney, Caroline Giltinane, Pat Murray, coach. Front (from left) Ellen O'Herlihy, Louise Murphy, Orla O'Sullivan, Catherine Corkery, Joanne O'Callaghan, Aoife Murray, Sheenagh Morley, Marie Corkery, Ruth Cahalan, Jennifer O'Leary

CAMOGIE REVIEW

BY MARY NEWMAN-MCCARTHY

sion outside of Munster.

Fielding a complete new Junior side for 2000 the young Cork team upset the form book to record a famous Munster final victory over a fancied Tipperary side in a game that went to extra time to find a winner. Amongst the names to catch the eye were Jenny O'Leary, Catherine Corkery, Joanne O'Callaghan and Amanda O'Regan.

A trip to London followed, and recording an All-Ireland quarter-final victory set up a meeting with Laois where again the young Cork side proved more than able for the task, and qualified for a Croke Park meeting with last year's defeated finalists, Derry.

Going in as complete underdogs, the Cork girls showed tremendous fighting spirit before going down narrowly, but not before giving a

more experienced Derry side a severe test. Indeed, the media reaction in the aftermath was not so much about the Derry win but focused more on the young Cork side who played some class camogie in their first outing to Croke Park.

From the moment the championship draws were made the most talked about clash was the meeting of Cork and Kilkenny in the opening game in Nolan Park.

Few in the large crowd were disappointed as Cork once again with a late rally came from behind to snatch victory in extra time and as the large Cork contingent sang "the Banks" at the final whistle it looked like happy days were here again but how wrong it was to be.

Easily brushing aside the challenge of Wexford in the semi-final an All-Ireland final meeting loomed with holders Tipperary who had overcome a strong Galway challenge.

Preparation went well and Cork headed off with confidence in a somewhat new role as challengers. On a day when we never recovered

from conceding two early goals, Cork's dream ended in defeat to give Tipperary their second title.

Tipperary selector Biddy McPhillip summed it up in the Cork dressing room when in paying tribute to Cork said: "For years we in Tipperary have admired Cork and looked up to you, today you are defeated but not for long". I have a feeling that with 19 senior titles behind you, you will come out stronger than ever to add another next year".

Sentiments endorsed by many, for a team and management who have given the county such glory and who with a few changes will not be far off the mark come next September.

INTERMEDIATE

After the gloom of Croke Park the intermediate team brought a breath of fresh air to the county. The long trip to Down for a tough opening game saw it end all square and so back to Cork where we got it right second time round to face Dublin in a cracking semi-final where Cork's ability to knock over points once again was a vital factor in victory.

Cork faced Limerick's first choice fifteen in their quest for ultimate honours.

As in the senior final, two early first half goals again had a huge bearing on the result but this time it was to be Cork's day and a historic first as Sheenagh Morley held aloft the trophy.

Coach Pat Murray carved out another first but once again plaudits to the team who, right through the campaign, put in tremendous displays. To round off the day, Emer Dillon was named 'Player of the Match' an honour also won by the Ballygarvan player in last year's minor final.

With the grit and determination shown by the side it will not be long before a senior title is back Leaside again.

CLUB ROUND-UP

Senior county championship threw up few surprises with Bishopstown making it four in a row defeating a young Barryroe side in a one sided final. Ciara Healy was selected 'Player of the Match' after a superb performance and was presented with her award sponsored by Gerald McCarthy trophies.

In the Munster club championship Bishopstown defeated Cashel in the first round by 1-12 to 1-5, and encountered little difficulty in defeating Waterford representatives

Dunhill-Fenor in the semi-final. The Cork champions looked set to take their first Munster title.

All-Ireland champions Grenagh-Ballingarry turned in an awesome display to retain their title on a day when Bishopstown could have little complaints such as the skill and fitness level of the holders who in retaining their title made it five in a row.

At the time of writing championship competitions within the county are drawing to their conclusion. Milford has qualified for the senior B final and they are awaiting the winners of Eire Og/Valley Rovers replay.

The Junior A and B championships are at semi-finals stage as are the under 16's.

Once again the under age competitions provided tremendous excitement.

Douglas took the under 12 league with a victory over Ballygarvan, in the under 14 A, Milford recorded a league and Cork Feile na nGael double and went to Antrim as Cork representatives but had to give way in the early stages of the competitions. The Under 14B title went to Ballyhea who continued to show good progress.

Kilbrittain - Timoleague's Marion Murphy took the Cork Feile na nGael skills title and went on to represent the county in Antrim.

SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

Sciath na Scoil was again the highlight of the primary schools year with games being played the length and breadth of the county organised, as ever by the hard working teachers.

Final week dawned and once again the thrills and excitement had to be experienced first hand to understand the enjoyment gained by our youngest camogie players.

Eight camogie finals took place at Paire Uí Rinn and Paire Uí Chaoimh. In the C 1 final, Scoil Oilibeir, Dublin Hill captained by Jemma O'Regan and coached by Caroline Woods and Miriam Murphy retained their title after Trojan work by Emer Mulcahy, Rachel Donovan and Charlotte Duke gave them a victory over St. Columba's, Douglas. The Camogie 2 decider saw Ovens with Erin Corkery, Sinead Murphy and captain Emer O'Driscoll take the spoils over Watergrasshill.

Coached by John Rath, Mairead O'Donovan and Maureen McGrath, Scoil Mhuire Ballincollig took their first Sciath na Scoil Camogie 3 trophy when Laura Cotter, Sarah O'Donovan and Clare O'Donovan all

contributed to a marvellous win over St. Catherine's, Model Farm Road.

It was then to the DC1 final where Bun Scoil Mhuire Youghal led by Una Foley, Amanda Flaherty and Shauna Coyle defeated Coachford.

In the DC2 decider, Scoil Eoin Innishannon defeated neighbours Ballinaspsittle whilst the DC3 title went to Goggins Hill who had a victory over Ballygarvan N.S.

Dungourney coached by John Boylan took the DC4 amid tremendous excitement defeating Clonpriest.

Dunderrow coached by Newtownshandrum player Helen Kelleher gave a great performance to secure DC5 honours over Rennies.

Third level camogie within Cork again had a successful year with UCC recording a double of Ashbourne Cup and Higher Education league titles under the guidance of former inter-county and Sarsfields hurler John Considine, whilst the Freshers title also came to UCC.

CIT made huge strides under the guidance of inter-county senior player Miriam Deasy. They reached the division two league final losing out narrowly to Carlow in the final.

Cork and Munster colleges continue to play an enormous part in camogie. Sacred Heart Clonakilty competing for the first year in senior A lost out narrowly to St. Mary's Nenagh, Coachford College suffered a similar fate at the hands of Shannon in the B final.

There was some consolation for Charleville when they took the All-Ireland sevens and Munster Junior A title defeating Shannon in the final. Not so lucky were Presentation Ballyphehane coached by Kilkenny star Sinead Millea when they had to give way to Borrisoleigh in the Junior B decider.

A Munster double was recorded in the Junior Plate when Presentation Carrigaline took the A and Kinsale the B title.

In Cork colleges competition Coachford, Charleville, Colaiste Eoin Youghal, St. Als, Cobb, Blarney and Glanmire all had successes.

As the year draws to a close a special Congress is about to be held where amongst the items on the agenda is the review of the fifteen-a-side, which has reached the end of its two experimental runs. The feed-back is positive so it looks here to stay as new challenges continue to present themselves we look forward to continued participation and success.

Lavey GAA club has a history of prominent playing families – the Downey brothers, Henry and Seamus, have been key to Derry's footballing success, while Mickey and Ollie Collins play a crucial role in the county's hurling exploits. **John Flack** finds out that when it comes to camogie the **McCloy** cousins, **Paula** and **Clare**, are also scaling the heights...



■ **DERRY DUO:** Lavey players Paula McCloy and her cousin Clare have proved themselves to be two of Ulster's top young camogs for both club and county

DEC

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Paula and Clare are classy camog cousins

OUR previously unfulfilled meeting for a bite to eat was at last realised recently after a year of talking about it as far as Derry camogie player Siobhan Convery and I was concerned.

Our earlier discussions had punctuated many a post mortem in the nightspots of south Belfast when the memory was sometimes dulled the next morning.

However, when our rendezvous eventually did take place, it was the aroma of Cappuccino and garlic bread which pervaded the air in a Botanic Avenue coffee shop which had been the scene of many a quiet moment of solitary contemplation during the recent past.

Siobhan was not alone and instead she brought along two of her younger Lavey club-mates in the shape of schoolgirl cousins Clare and Paula McCloy.

Siobhan had an eye for a story and the girls' sporting credentials speak for themselves as they bid to follow in one of their role models' footsteps.

Unlike men's Gaelic games, camogie and, to a lesser extent, ladies football, do not always enjoy such a high profile.

However, on this occasion, the mountain came to Muhammed, so to speak, and Siobhan went out of her way to be accommodating, driving the girls down to Belfast after a day's school at St Patrick's, Maghera.

Speaking to journalists could, of course, be a potentially intimidating experience in the circumstances so Siobhan was there to lend her moral support.

She needn't have been concerned as the youngsters quickly overcame any trace of shyness to talk openly, yet modestly, about their achievements for school, club and county.

Indeed, Paula would give Logie a run for his money in holding the metaphorical microphone as she frequently urged her cousin to: "tell him this, tell him that!"

A male footballer I met at the Guinness

"The men have been great but, unfortunately, we don't have a manager just now. We would love to see Damien O'Boyle or Martin Convery coming back to help us out"

Clare McCloy

UUJ Bursary Awards Presentation recently, interestingly, but predictably, told me that he and his county colleagues were advised to tell the media next to nothing during any dealings with them – an indication of the atmosphere of distrust which sometimes exists.

However, camogie players are refreshingly different, as our conversation quickly proved, as the topic moved to the menu in front of us.

"How about this for starters?" "Yes, we train a lot but we also like to keep fit by running to the shops to buy sweets and hamburgers!"

Paula's admission came after it had emerged that she had met up with an overtly more finely tuned group of athletes during the Feile na Gael in which her cousin participated.

"Lavey hosted the team from Wexford, Oulart-la-Ballagh, and, you'd never believe it, they were all on diets during the course of the competition."

Such a policy clearly paid dividends as the girls from Co Wexford took the honours a few months ago.

However, despite Paula's confession, she is no mean camogie player herself. Although just 17, she was a member of

the Derry panel which won the junior All-Ireland title at Croke Park on the first Sunday of September when Cork were put to the sword.

"It was an incredible experience just running out onto the pitch and the atmosphere was unbelievable so I'll never forget it."

Paula has represented Derry at every underage level as well, having won an Ulster championship at each grade and reached an All-Ireland semi-final at U16 level.

She also captained St Pat's senior team to an Ulster championship title and played for the U16s in an All-Ireland decider although Holy Rosary, from Galway, came out on top.

It emerges later in the conversation as the plates begin to empty that both girls' sporting careers have run along parallel lines as each is also an accomplished athlete.

The older of the two cousins competed for Northern Ireland in the UK Community Games in 1996 when she described her trip to Birmingham as "an amazing experience".

Clare, meanwhile, missed Derry's All-Ireland sortie to Croke Park as she was representing her county at the Games in Mosney, Co Meath on the same day.

"I like the athletics as it's a good way of keeping fit and, obviously, it's more of an individual challenge" Clare explained.

In camogie, she pulled off a remarkable achievement this year when a member of the successful Lavey team at three different age groups, U14 through to U18.

She was top scorer in the Derry Feile final and was named player of the tournament after notching 1-3 in her club's 3-4 to 1-1 win over Castledawson.

At county level, the girls have many a role model to live up to and one who is not too far removed in terms of age, namely, Paula McAtamney.

"If we could achieve half what she has achieved at such a young age then we would be doing well. She's a great inspi-

ration" Clare added.

At school, it is an Antrim woman who provides the stimulus as Catriona Higgins, who collected an All-Ireland junior winners medal in 1998, is the St Pat's coach.

At club level both girls look up to Eileen Downey, the former Derry player, and a member of the famous dynasty.

Clare and Paula say that the menfolk in the parish are generous in their support and Lavey have, of course, facilities second to none with floodlights now part and parcel of the complex.

"The men have been great but, unfortunately, we don't have a manager just now. We would love to see either Damien O'Boyle or Martin Convery coming back to help us out" Clare continued.

Meantime, though, the plates have been emptied and the girls reveal that they're still hungry and they're heading home for tea even though it's almost dark outside.

Hungry for success, as well, but for me when the company disperses, it's back to those solitary moments of contemplation, having met two of the stars of the future, despite their voracious appetite!

"It (Derry's All-Ireland Junior Camogie win) was an incredible experience just running out onto the pitch and the atmosphere was unbelievable so I'll never forget it"

Paula McCloy

Changes Coming In New Year

The year 2000 was one many people and organisations intended to mark in some significant way and to this end Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael certainly made their mark.

Starting in January, a major step was taken when a forum for the greater participation of women in Gaelic Games was held in Dublin. For some time now there has been much discussion on Cumann Camogiochat na nGael joining with its sister organisation, Cumann Luthchleas Gael, this was the theme that day and one the majority of delegates want.

The Uachtaran of the day, Joe McDonagh, expressed his wish that both organisations, Cumann Camogiochat na nGael and Cumann Peil Gael na mBan, would come under Cumann Luthchleas Gael and still hold their own autonomy and thus the word "Alliance" became the fashionable word after that day.

Congress 2000 saw the election of a new Uachtaran, Padraichín Ní Raifeartaigh, of Dublin, who held many previous positions prior to her election to the highest office.

It saw Fíleas Ní Bhreasláin vacating the seat after a very successful three years reign which saw the introduction of live television coverage of the senior All-Ireland final for the first time.

The same Congress also saw the election of Maire Uí Scolai, of Dublin, as National P.R.O., taking over from P. J. Fulham, of Westmeath, who had given eight years to the position.

The National League finals senior and junior gave us a new junior winners, with Cork taking their first title, and Cork seniors made it a remarkable six in a row, defeating Tipperary in the decider.

The same day saw young Ciara Healy, of Cork, winning senior and junior medals as she went in as a substitute in the senior match and scored the winning goal.

It was also a day that saw Cork's Eithne Duggan and Linda Mellerick collect their sixth National League medal apiece in succession.

The Gael-Linn interprovincial championship always provides players with an opportunity to play for their province and in the past year Connacht took the senior title after a lapse of 26 years. It also saw the Schwarzkopf senior award go to Galway and Connacht player Treacy Laheen.

LAOIS EMERGE

With talk of championship and long evenings, many peoples thoughts turn to the senior championship, but for one county the past year the minor and junior ranks were their sources of delight.

For Laois, who had been struggling for years but working away quietly at the primary school level, and also winning at secondary level in Leinster, the Millennium was a very historic one.

The county won the Leinster junior final and went on to contest their first ever All-Ireland junior semi-final against Cork.

While they were beaten in that game, their Minor "B" team won the inaugural All-Ireland

Championship when they defeated Tyrone. To top a great Laois year the Harps club took the Division II honours in Feile na nGael.

The All-Ireland junior final brought Cork, who had won in '99 but had to come up with a new team for championship 2000 (junior medal winners move up to senior), against Derry.

This was a repeat of the 1999 final, in which the Oak Leaf girls put up a fine performance when finishing runners-up. However, Derry made up for the disappointment of the previous year by winning the championship.

TIPPERARY'S HISTORIC YEAR

The senior Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior final brought together two fine modern day teams.

Tipperary, under manager Michael Cleary, aiming to win back-to-back All-Irelands, and Cork, under Tom Nott, hoping to win back the coveted O'Duffy Cup which they have not seen since 1998.

However, Tipperary, superbly captained by brilliant goalkeeper Jovita Delaney, got off to a fine start and one Cork found hard to overcome. In the end the Premier County retained their title and with it a first-ever championship win over Cork.

The season did not end there as there still was the Whirlpool Rest of Ireland v the All-Ireland champions challenge game and what a challenge it was!

Played on the hallowed turf of Semple Stadium, the match ended in a draw after some real championship camogie with Tipperary's Una O'Dwyer at full back taking the Whirlpool Player of the Match award.

FEILE NA nGAEL

Feile na nGael held in Ulster for the very first time was an historical one for the Oulart-the-Ballagh club, of Wexford, when they became the first camogie club to win the Division I title for a third year in a row. A truly remarkable achievement for under-14 players.

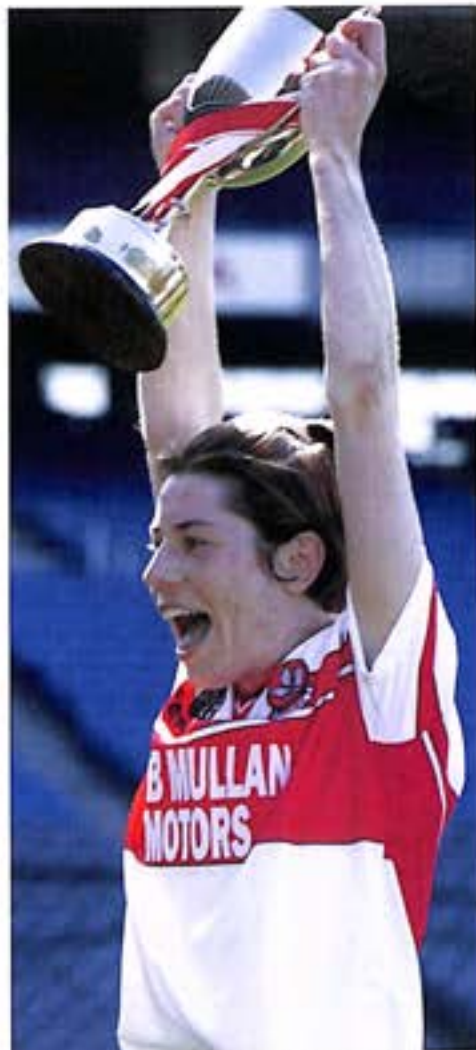
EXTRA GAMES AHEAD

The drawing board side of things brought a Special Congress in October to discuss the 15-a-side game, plus many more aspects of the game.

Held in Croke Park, it was a very historic day when the majority of delegates voted in favour of going with the 15-a-side but still giving the smaller counties permission to organise competitions on a twelve-a-side basis or whatever suits them, the exception being the All-Ireland club championship, which must be played on a fifteen-a-side basis.

Other major changes that day were the introduction of five substitutes, a penalty with three in goal, a red card system, which will be shown by the referee when a player is sent off entirely (as against for the duration of the match only).

The coming year will also see the introduction of the advantage rule.



Aileen Tobill — holds aloft the Cup after Derry's victory in the junior Camogie final over Cork.

Players will now be able to take four steps with the sliothar.

All matches will now be 30 minutes a half with the exception of juveniles. Up to now only inter-county matches were 30 minutes a half.

The coming season's senior and intermediate championships will see extra games, with a losers group being introduced. The senior and junior National Leagues will be revamped.

All in all, a lot to look forward to for 2001.

The camogie year will end with the publication of the Association's own annual, "Camogie Abu", a publication which sees a wide and varying aspect of the game both in this country and abroad.

With the many forward thinking changes coming on stream next season, everyone can expect a lot of exciting League and Championship games and who knows will Tipperary take a historical three-in-a-row title?

Be there and find out how your team is going.



The Year That Was - CAMOGIE

Review

Words: Therese O'Callaghan

When Michael Cleary bowed out of the Tipperary intercounty hurling scene, few could have envisaged at the time that their loss was to be camogie's gain. To be more precise, the Tipperary camogie team's gain, which resulted in a superb success story few would have believed two years ago.

The nature of this month's article is to look back and reflect on the year gone by. Hence, the Blue and Gold hit the spotlight instantly, and without a shadow of a doubt this team is the greatest example of hard work and one big collective heart. For a county who had never won an All Ireland senior camogie championship title before September '99, these girls suddenly find themselves edging slowly up from the bottom of the title list.

Two championships and two titles! But, while the first is always very sweet, the new Millennium will hold special memories, as the Premier County defeated a Cork team steeped in camogie tradition. The Rebels, who fancied their chances, were rocked on their heels as Tipperary ran riot in Croke Park. It was also the day that captain, Jovita Delaney became the leading goalkeeper in the country, earning herself the RTE Player of the Match award.

This same Cork team did, however take some consolation from the year when they retained their national league title on a May afternoon. It was a close call, with Tipperary leading by six points at half time, but two

late goals from Cork saw the Cup remain Leaside. As part of an attractive double-header, Cork had further success that day in Tullamore, when they defeated Kildare to take the national junior league, with a comprehensive victory over a disappointing Kildare team.

In the All Ireland intermediate championship, Cork were surprise winners over Limerick at the former's venue. With the Shannonsiders' early departure from the senior competition, hopes were high of a breakthrough, but an extremely fit Cork team took the honours on home turf. From the winning side Emer Dillon was presented with the Beleck Player of the Match award.

Back to Croke Park again to All Ireland final day, when Cork had to endure two defeats on that first Sunday in September. Their junior side were pitted against Derry, in a repeat of the '99 final, and after a very exciting hour of camogie, the Oak Leaf County reversed the previous year's result and took the New Ireland cup back North, alongside the Beleck Player of the Match award which went to Derry's Paula McAtamney.

As part of a new innovation by Central Council, last year saw the introduction of a Minor B All Ireland championship, which was played side-by-side with the A competition. On the August Bank Holiday Saturday in Tullamore, Galway had four goals to spare over Wexford, while in the curtain-raiser Laois had a resounding victory over Tyrone in the B decider. The Beleck sponsored Player of the Match awards went respectively to Galway's Aislinn Connolly and Louise McMahon of Laois.

Earlier in the year, in St Anne's GAA grounds in Bohernabreena, Connaught, fielding the entire Galway team, claimed the Gael Linn interprovincial senior trophy, while in the junior game Ulster took the silverware. The Schwarzkopf Player of the Match in the senior decider was Tracy Laheen of Galway, with Siobhan Convery of Derry the recipient in the junior final.

In Colleges camogie, St Mary's of Nenagh finally overcame their bogey team St Mary's of Charleville and went on to take the Senior A title, while St Patrick's Shannon were the B winners. In the junior grade Colaiste Brid of Ennisclorthy recorded their first ever win at this level, while Presentation Kilkenny completed a Leinster double by receiving the B trophy.

Third level colleges saw the Ashbourne Cup head to UCC. In the Purcell Cup Jordanstown (UUJ) were the champions, while in the Purcell Shield Limerick IT had an exciting win over St Patrick's Drumcondra.

New ground was also broken in the year 2000. At Camogie Special Congress on October 21st, delegates voted to retain the new 15-a-side format, which had been on a two-year trial basis. With this came the introduction of the advantage rule, which can only serve to enhance the attractiveness of the game to both the player and spectator. Other notable changes made were the number of substitutes, which has been increased from three to five, a penalty which will be taken from the 21m line with only three players in the goal, and a red carding system.

Tipp-Top!

As defending champions, Tipp's senior camogie players could have been expected to suffer somewhat from the weight of expectation coming into the 2000 knock-out campaign. But did it weight them down? Not a bit of it!

Prior to this year's Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie decider, an all-Munster affair was about as common as the cornerake.

Not since 1980 - when Cork beat Limerick - had two teams from the deep south met in the championship final. As things worked out, the 2000 decider between traditional kingpins Cork and the new Queens of the sport, Tipperary, was well worth waiting for, as ace attacker Deirdre Hughes is only too pleased to report:

"It was just brilliant. I'm not so sure whether this year's success or last year's victory was the sweetest. Both of them were great but this year's was probably all the more special because it was Cork."

"We were hammered by them (Cork) earlier in the National League final so it was good to get revenge on them and to prove to ourselves and everyone else that we were a better team than we showed that day."

In addition, Deirdre concedes that the Tipp ladies were a bit miffed at suggestions that last year's All-Ireland triumph had a bit of the beginners' luck tag about it. That somehow they were a tad lucky to beat Kilkenny - their one point win reflecting, as their detractors saw it, how 'lucky' they were in '99.

"Tipp had never beaten Cork in a championship encounter and that was a great incentive for us going into this year's final."

"Also, some people felt that we had something of an easy ride to the title last year. It was great to be able to come back this year and prove just how good a team we have," the Toomevara and county star adds.

Interestingly, Deirdre - joined on this year's county panel by clubmates, Noelle Kennedy, Suzanne Kelly and Grainne Shanahan - suggests that the coolness and maturity of the panel had to be seen to be believed. "There was a bit more pressure on us this year because of the fact we were defending our title but we took it on board fairly well and I don't think it affected our game at all," Deirdre opines.

Certainly, the introduction of some new faces and fresh blood to this year's panel strengthened Tipp's resolve, seemed to



A beaming Tipperary captain Jovita Delaney displays the silverware



Tipperary - All-Ireland senior camogie champions 2000

heighten their ambition and embellish the county's armour for their campaign in 2000.

As things transpired, workmanlike rather than hugely impressive victories over Down and Clare paved the way for the team for the team's head-to-head battle with Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final.

Tipperary's 2-11 to 1-8 victory over Galway at Parnell Park was hard-fought but well-deserved.

Noelle Kennedy's goal midway through the second half proved to be the decisive score in Tipp's victory. The teams were level at 1-8 apiece when Kennedy's 55-yard free was misjudged by the Galway goalkeeper and the ball ended up in the net.

The goal proved to be a turning point and helped Tipp lead by 1-7 to 0-6 lead by the end of the second quarter. Thereafter, Tipp never looked back and actually finished the strongest of the two sides. For her part, Deirdre - as is her wont - once again got on the scoresheet with a fine point.

"The Galway game was by far our biggest game of the year at that point. We had heard a lot about them and that they were up for it. There was probably more pressure on us against Galway than there was in the final itself," Deirdre comments.

And so to the final - the first ever meeting between Tipperary and Cork in an All-Ireland final. Nearly 13,000 people were there to see the two evenly-matched sides do battle and what entertainment they produced!

Up until this year's final, Tipp had never beaten Cork before and the defeat suffered by the Premier County at the hands of the Rebel County in the National League final earlier in the year must have been preying on the minds of the Tipp players as the countdown to the match gathered momentum.

In careering to a well-merited 2-11 to 1-9 win, the Premier County put on an exhibition of camogie skills, the likes of which had seldom been seen at Croke Park.

Slick and sharp in all sectors of the field, utterly focussed and fiercely competitive, the Michael Cleary-managed Tipp ladies were full value for their eventual five point winning margin.

And it was left to Deirdre to engineer the platform which was to catapult the defending champions all the way to an

absorbing victory. Team-manager Cleary was quick to acknowledge the importance of the Toomevara player's brace of goals, her opening one in particular:

"It gave the girls confidence, and having never beaten Cork before, it injected the belief that we could do it. And the fact we beat Cork means as much as winning the All-Ireland itself," Cleary declared after the final whistle.

But was Deirdre satisfied that Tipp's 2-5 to 0-4 lead was good enough to allow the Premier County go on and win it?

"No, not at all. It wasn't until very near the end of the game that I felt we had our hands on the cup. We had a great first 20 minutes but it was even-steven after that and after half-time, it was a totally different ball game with Cork trying their best to get through for goals."

"Thankfully, our couple of goals helped give us enough of a cushion of a lead to stay ahead to the very end," adds Deirdre who also won a Junior All-Ireland medal with Tipp in 1992 (having beaten Galway) and an All-Ireland Intermediate medal in 1997 - Clare, their victims.

Indeed. And when Caitriona Hennessy converted a free and another point from Emer McDonnell flew over shortly after the restart, the writing was on the wall for the Leesiders. There was to be no stopping the Tipp ladies. Their 2-11 to 1-9 win adequately reflected their superiority on the day.

And so can we expect the champions to make it three-in-a row next year?

"It's difficult to know how next year will go. The enthusiasm and hunger will be there anyway and I think the motivation will be there too but Cork, Galway, Kilkenny, and Clare will probably have a big say in how things go. We'll hope for the best," Deirdre concludes.

For the record, the following is the Tipp team, and scorers, which triumphed over Cork to win the 2000 Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Championship final:

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

Camogie - Sweeping Changes

LE IRENE NÍ CHIARDUBHÁIN.



Ballyboden St. Endas Winners of Senior A Championship. Back row (l to r): Tomas Ó Reachtabhla, Maureen Uí Reachtabhla, Niamh Regan, Fiona Hughes, Joanne O'Sullivan, Dorelle Dolan, Roisin Keane (vice-capt), Niamh Smith, Grainne McNeela, Sarah Crosbie, Ciara Blair, Siobhán O'Dwyer, Adele Campbell, Ann McNamara, P.J. Donoghue (coach). Front row (l to r): Síle Nic Coitir, Orla Smith, Mairead Crouin, Sorcha Farrelly, Ciara Conway, Fiona Corcoran, Irene Kirwan (capt), Eimear Ring, Triona Ní Reachtabhla, Sínead McNeela, Gemma Browne, Grainne Corcoran. Mascots: Cúbharr Cotter, Andrew Hughes.

After almost a hundred years, the Camogie Association now has a membership of 80,000 with 500 clubs in Ireland, units in Britain, the United States, and Canada, and hundreds of school and colleges involved in competition. It is the largest sports organisation in the country for girls and women. If you look back at the camogie article in last year's edition of this yearbook you will find that it is entitled A Year of Many Changes. Little did followers of our national game realise how much more change was to come.

As we entered the new millennium, and indeed as the Camogie Association moves towards its centenary celebrations, supporters of the game of camogie in the capital have again witnessed some monumental changes over the last twelve months. New County Board Officials, new successes for clubs, new fundraising, new travels, and even new playing rules. It all makes for exciting times for those involved in the game, whether on or off the field.

The following is a synopsis of some of the main events of the year.

FORUM REGARDING THE INCREASED PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN GAELIC GAMES

The year got off to an innovative start with 300 delegates, from all over the country, attending a Forum, regarding the increased participation of women in Gaelic Games.

The main objectives of the Forum were:

- To examine particular advantages of the knowledge,



Young Dublin stars who helped out at All-Ireland semi-final day in Parnell Park.

skills and values that women can bring to all areas of operation within Gaelic Games

- To explore options for a strategic approach to increase the involvement of women in Gaelic Games at all levels and in all functions and roles
- To encourage women to become involved in all aspects and at all levels of Gaelic Games
- To gather information from participants in relation to concerns, difficulties, opportunities and ideas for the greater involvement of women.

The Forum, which was organized by the G.A.A., gave positive indication that movement towards an alliance between the G.A.A. and Cumann Camúgaíochta na nGael is being seriously considered.

THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES

On the third level colleges front, UCD were beaten by a point in the final of the oldest camogie competition, the Ashbourne Cup. Senior Inter-County player Síle Nic Coitir represented Dublin, while former Senior Inter-County player Grace O'Neill managed the team. All involved with camogie in the college would like to express their appreciation to G.A.A. Development Officer, Dave Billings for his tireless work and support throughout the year.



Sarah Jordan from St. Oliver Plunketts, chased by Beverly Casserly of Naomh Thosombarra

We are delighted to see that two of our Senior Inter-county stars were successful in being awarded camogie scholarships for the 1999/2000 academic year. Eimear Brannigan was honoured in D.C.U., while her St. Vincentis team-mate Aoife Cullen, was one of the N.U.I. Maynooth recipients.

CLUB DEVELOPMENTS

The Dublin County Board received a registration for a new camogie club as St. Finians fielded an U12 team representing the Swords area. The Celtic Camogie Club has amalgamated with the Faughs G.A.A. club in Templeogue. We wish both St. Finians and Celtic/Faughs every success in their attempts to promote camogie in their respective areas.

INTER-COUNTY LEAGUES

The National League began in ideal fashion for both the Senior and Junior teams as they defeated Antrim. The Seniors were managed by Tom Monaghan the former Armagh manager, who was assisted by Na Fianna's Mary McKeon, while the Junior management team consisted of Pat Duncan, Gerry McMahon and Marie O'Brien. For the first time ever games were held in Innisfaills G.A.A. grounds, highlighting one of the advantages of camogie being played on a 15-a-side basis. Both teams went on to produce some great performances, with the Seniors topping their group only to be denied advancing to the semi-final stage by Kilkenny.

There are moves afoot to radically overhaul the League system to create a divisional structure, with provision for promotion and relegation. More on this later.

NATIONAL CONGRESS

The National Congress of the Camogie Association was held in Derry and Dublin figured prominently. Outgoing President Phyllis Breslin handed over the reins to another Dublin stalwart - Patricia Rafferty. Also taking her place on Ard Chomhairle for the first time ever was Maire Uí Scoláí who after years of dedicated service to the Dublin County Board as P.R.O., was elected as National P.R.O.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Evidence of Maire Uí Scoláí's great work is to be found everyday of the week, be it in the print media, on the Internet, Aertel and indeed television. During the summer Dublin Senior player Louise O'Hara starred on the TV3's Sportsnight in a preview of the All-Ireland Championship. We have also seen camogie featured on several occasions on the Breaking Ball programme on RTE. The facility to post all of our club fixtures and results on the Official GAA website, and Aertel is now available and very important. Facilities such as these should be taken full advantage of if we are to attempt to bring our sport to a wider audience, and develop opportunities for sponsorship. Although we can still argue that the coverage camogie receives is by no means adequate, it is up to those involved in all aspects of the game to ensure that they provide news, match reports etc. to their County Board P.R.O. who will then be in a position to approach the relevant media.

RACE NIGHT

In January the Senior County Panel, in association with the Olympia Theatre, carried out some fundraising by selling tickets for the annual pantomime. The Dublin County Board would like to thank Karen and Mary McKeon from Na Fianna for organizing this important event. This was followed on the 28th of April when an important endeavour finally came to fruition. A Race Night in aid of all of the Dublin Camogie teams was held in the Na Fianna clubhouse. Originally the brainchild of the Dublin Senior Panel, the opportunity to raise money and equip all Inter-County teams was enthusiastically supported by the players, Mentors and County Board. All of those who supported, sponsored and worked so hard to make the night a great success, should be commended.



Senior B Champions, St. Jude's.



Na Fianna Junior B Championship Winners.



Raheny Star of the Future (Players of the Year 1999) (l to r): Roisin Gillen, Ciara Burgess, Jimmy Keogh (trainer), Aoife Brazil, Catherine Finnegan.



Members of the Camogie Association's Ard Chomhairle. (l to r): Jo Golden (Cisteoir), Maura Uí Scoláí (PRO), Patricia Rafferty (President), Síle De Bhailis (An Runaí)



Naomh Padraig U11 South League Winners 2000.



St. Vincent's U-14 Championship winners celebrating with mentors Brendan McGrath (Club Chairman) and Pat White.



St. Vincent's U-14 Championship winners.



Erin's Isle Senior A Panel



Dublin Camogie Players - Fiona Hughes, Roisin Keane, Irene Kirwan, the Mars Sports store.



Members of Good Counsel enjoying themselves in Scotland. (l to r): Ciara Moulds, Linda Byrne, Marie Byrne, Eve Talbot, Miriam Carthy, Deirdre Conway, Nancy Barr, Sandra Martin, Orla Connolly, Miriam Murphy, Karen Rlood

of twelve players. Handling or kicking of the ball was not allowed. Both teams departed early Friday morning for what promised to be a great weekend. The president of the Camogie Association, Patricia Rafferty, was also in attendance, along with the Clonduff Camogie club from Down.

An appalling weekend, in terms of weather only, meant that the competition was cut short and all games played on the Sunday on a knock-out basis. Despite the conditions, Ballyboden managed to reach the semi-final only to be beaten by the narrowest of margins, while St. Marks went one better - reaching the final where Clonduff from Co. Down beat them by two points. Congratulations are due to both the Ballyboden St. Endas and St. Marks clubs on representing their county with pride in the tournament.

CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES DECIDED IN OCTOBER

St. Marks returned home from Scotland in time to recover from their weekend and to win the Junior A championship against Naomh Mearnóg.

October also saw St. Jude take their first Senior title ever, beating St. Vincent's in the Senior B championship.

Success was also achieved by Na Fianna in the Junior B Championship when they beat St. Vincent's on a remarkable scoreline of one point to no score in a replay.

Naomh Peregrine, who only graduated from the Junior A grade last year, continued their run of success when they defeated Naomh Padraig in the Intermediate Championship.

The County Board will be hoping that some of those who figured prominently in their clubs successes will progress to representing their county in the near future.

CAMOGIE MOVES INTO NEW ERA

Saturday 21st of October saw one of the most important days in the history of the Camogie Association as the Special Rules Congress, held at Croke Park, heralded a new era for camogie players everywhere. Dublin's delegates to this ground-breaking Congress were County Board Chairman Seamus Massey, County Secretary Marie O'Brien, Leinster Council Delegate and referee Aine Derham, and Acting P.R.O and player Irene Kirwan.

Ardchomhairle (Central Council) submitted proposals, which were accepted by delegates, in relation to the playing of camogie on a 15-a-side basis, taking into account the concerns some counties/clubs have regarding the affect this change may have on the game in their area. To allay the fears of such counties, county boards and colleges have been left with the right to organize their own competitions on the old 12-a-side basis, with the exception of the qualifying competition for the All-Ireland Club Championship.

Commencing in January 2000, all camogie matches will be played on a 15-a-side basis on a pitch with the same dimensions as a hurling pitch. As mentioned previously, one of the advantages this adoption of the 15-a-side game has is the ability to play camogie at any G.A.A. ground, without the necessity to re-line the pitch and erect the smaller posts. Here in Dublin we are indebted to the generosity of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Baile Átha Cliath for providing their pitches/grounds to us throughout the year. The provision, in particular, of O'Toole Park and Parnell Park for Championship matches is much appreciated.

For many years a common complaint regarding camogie has been the lack of an "advantage rule" and the resulting plethora of stoppages which occurred. Players and supporters alike will now welcome the introduction of the "advantage rule". To aid the free-flowing nature of the game referees will allow advantage where they think it will benefit a team more than a free, but will not then be able to call play back if the advantage does not arise (as in rugby). The introduction of a "penalty" (taken from 20 yard line straight in front of goal, with only three defending players in the goal) for a foul in the large parallelogram will also be welcomed by most players and supporters as many felt it was long overdue. Congress also voted to introduce the provision for five substitutes as opposed to three.

All camogie matches will now be sixty minutes long. This rule was brought in to standardize the time of matches across the board, rather than the old system of inter-county matches being ten minutes longer than club matches. Players will now be able to take four steps while holding the sliotar, and permitted to take the ball into the hand a total of three times before playing it away.

Other important innovations include the allowing of a point, even if an attacking player is in the small parallelogram before the ball, as long as that player is not interfering with the play i.e. the same as in hurling, and the showing of a red card to a player who is being sent off for more than the duration of the game.

Delegates at the Congress were addressed by Pat Daly from the G.A.A. regarding their Anti-Doping Code. The adoption of an Anti-Doping Code is imperative to receive funding from the Irish Sports Council, and more importantly, to protect the integrity of the sport. It was accepted unanimously that the Camogie Association would adopt the same Code as the G.A.A. This will lead to the random testing of Senior inter-county players, over the age of sixteen, when finally implemented.

In planning strategically for the future, Ard Chomhairle appointed a Development Committee in 1997. A presentation was made by this Committee which informed delegates of the steps being taken to achieve one of the Association's most important short-term goals - i.e. forming an alliance with the G.A.A.

The Competitions Committee presented a synopsis of the recommendations they have put to Ard Chomhairle in relation to the inter-county structures. They are suggesting an overhaul of the present system of Senior and Junior leagues, recommending instead one National League with three divisions, with the provision for promotion and relegation. They also suggest the raising of the Minor age limit from U16 to U18 and the introduction of seeding for the open draw All-Ireland Championship.

From Dublin's point of view, due to the fact that we field teams at both Senior and Junior level, an important decision was taken to allow Junior players to retain their Junior status for the duration of the season, regardless of their participation in the Senior open-draw Championship.

President of the Camogie Association, Patricia Rafferty was complimented on the "positive and inclusive manner" in which the day progressed, a day when the prevailing spirit was one of change, and more importantly - PROGRESS.



Dublin Junior Panel 2000



Dublin Senior Panel 2000

Back row (l to r): Aileen Mulcahy, Eve Talbot, Joyce Donnelly, Ruth Lyons, Michelle Coleman, Sandra Martin, Aoife Cullen, Eimear Brannigan, Louise O'Hara, Veronica Trehy, Ann McCluskey. Front row: Carmel Grey, Sonya Byrne, Anne-Marie Grey, Sile Nic Coitir, Sarah Crosbie, Collette Murphy, Elizabeth McGuinness, Irene Kirwan, Germaine Noonan (capt), Catherine Boyle.



One of Dublin's emerging Secondary Schools: Coldiste Inisagáin.



St Vincent's U-11 Championship winners.



St Vincent's U-12 Championship winners.

2000

Dec



St Finians U-12 panel - the only camogie team in the St. Finians Club. Back row (l to r): Sarah Greene (selector), Katie O'Connor, Caoimhe Uí Bradaigh, Orla Curran, Aileen Drumm, Aisling Farrell, Louise Green, Pat Farrell (manager), Zoe Travaskis, Emma Keely, Jacqui Dignan, Monica Willis, Ami Uí Bradaigh (selector). Front row: Grace Black, Emer Hughes, Sultana Ordic, Traci Daniels, Edel Murphy, Miriam Kelly, Aine Curran, Michelle Forde.



Ballyboden St Endas celebrate winning the U-13 Championship final against St Johns, May 2000.



Ballyboden St Endas Junior A League Winners. Back row (l to r): Dermot Hughes, Elaine Hickey, Miriam Doyle, Ciara Scallan, Jane O'Neill, Aoife Hughes, Ann McCormack, Cora Mullins, Jenny Murray, John McCormack. Front row: Aine Carroll, Aisling Farrelly, Niamh O'Leary, Caroline Kavanagh, Mary Halpin, Una Mulkeerrin, Ann Hogan, Andrew Hughes (mascot). Missing from photo: Caoimhe Mullins, Helen McNamara, Anya Cummins, Elaine Doody, Elaine Ryan, Rita Wall, Edel McAuliffe, Niamh Brady, Myra McNamara.



Good Counsel Senior A Panel

MAURA BRADY R.I.P.

At the end of April those involved in Dublin Camogie and beyond were saddened to hear of the death of Maura Brady after a long illness. Maura was a well-known stalwart of the game in the capital and was involved for many years playing, coaching and at County Board Level. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anam.

SUMMER KICKS IN

In May the competitions launched into full swing. Ballyboden St. Endas took home the first championship of the season when they won the U13 Championship. St. Vincents got their year off to a great start winning both the U11 and U15 championships. They were later to add to this tally when they also won the U12 and U14 championships. Naomh Fionnbarra won the Dublin Féile na nGael and went on to represent Dublin in the national competition in which they succeeded in reaching the semi-final. Loreto Beaufort Rathfarnham won the Dublin Senior A Colleges Championship to add to the Junior A and Minor A titles.

THE INTER-COUNTY SCENE

Here, in Dublin, our inter-county teams have experienced a drought in terms of success over the last number of years. The year 2000 saw no improvement. The U18's, Minors and U14 squads, all experienced mixed fortunes while the Dublin Junior team suffered a shock defeat at the hands of Laois in the Leinster Championship. Further misfortune was to come when Wexford beat the Senior team on July 22nd.

After twelve months of hard work, training sessions Friday evenings and Saturday mornings, this defeat was a bitter pill to swallow for players and officials alike. When such disappointment occurs it is generally accepted that it is time to take stock and examine the possible reasons for our failure to succeed. While we are spoilt for choice when it comes to the amount of people who have their own expert opinions on how to improve the situation, the experts are often nowhere to be found when it comes to nominations for managers, coaches and County Board Officials.

It has often been remarked that the top three/four players from each Dublin club team, playing for our Senior county team should be a match for Cork, Tipperary etc. Unfortunately, some of the top players in clubs are either unwilling or unable to give their commitment to their county team. Perhaps some are unaware that they would be welcome to join an inter-county panel, or perhaps some lack the confidence to take that step.

It is widely recognized that those who are willing and able to commit also endure the pressure of a massive commitment to their club teams, not to mention exam pressures etc. The Senior A grade, in particular, has become very competitive over the last number of years. What is required is a balance, - a co-operation between club and county to produce the best players. In fact, ideally the players must feel part of "Club Dublin", leaving their respective club rivalries and conflicts behind and feeling able to commit to Dublin without undue pressure from their clubs. Nobody denies the utmost importance of clubs. We must realize however that the success of our county teams will have a positive knock-on effect on the club scene to bring new players into the game, prevent others from defecting to other sports, and improve those players involved in the county teams.

It can also be said with some certainty that such is the range of skill and ability, not to mention the commitment, of players such as Denise O'Leary, Germaine Noonan, Ruth Lyons and Catherine Boyle (to name just a few), that if Dublin had been successful over the last ten years, their names would be as well known as the Downys, Mellericks, Milleas etc. of this camogie world. Younger players such as Joyce Donnelly, Elizabeth McGuinness, Sarah Crosbie, Sile Nic Coitir, Anne McCluskey and Aoife Cullen, (to again name just a few), have recently emerged on the Senior stage and displayed their ability against the best in the country and will continue to improve with experience.

Players have a responsibility to play with pride and develop team spirit. Perhaps it is time to recognize that the glass is not half empty, but half full. The right commitment and positive attitude from all our clubs, players and officials could soon rectify the fact that it is fifteen years since we have graced the turf of Croke Park. It is the collective effort which will make all the difference.

INTERPROVINCIAL COMPETITION

The Gael-Linn interprovincial competition received a timely boost last year when Schwarzkopf Professional Irl came on board with a sponsorship package which includes the presentation of £1000 to the club of the Player of the Tournament in both the Junior and Senior Grade. Despite being beaten by Ulster there was some joy for a number of our Senior inter-county players when they were selected to play on the Leinster team, including the Leinster captain Irene Kirwan.

ALL-IRELAND SEMIS IN PARNELL PARK

August saw the All-Ireland semi-finals being held in Parnell Park. Well done to all who assisted Ard Chomhairle in the organisation of the day. We look forward to a time when Dublin's involvement is not limited to the provision of "water girls", programme sellers, and officials.

SENIOR A CHAMPIONSHIP

Ballyboden St. Endas retained the Senior A Championship following a victory over Crumlin at Parnell Park on the 27th of August on a scoreline of 2.7 to 0.2. Managed by Tomás and Maureen Ó Reachtabhra along with Anne McNamara, and coached by P.J. Donohoe, a powerful second half performance, and solid defence in particular sent the O'Duffy Cup back to the Firhouse Rd.

The efforts of Crumlin were highly commended and after the disappointment of the final, the year ended on a high note when they continued their great form to win the League.

CLANE SEVEN-A-SIDE

Erin's Isle did the county proud by winning the Clane Seven-A-Side tournament, overcoming some formidable sides on the way including Leitrim Fontenoy's, St. Brigids Ballycallan, and St. Munnas. Congratulations are due to the entire squad and management and to Senior Dublin player Louise O'Hara on being voted Player of the Tournament.

ÁINE DERHAM

Dublin referee Áine Derham made history when she took charge of the first All-Ireland final of the millennium, which was contested between Tipperary and Cork. Aine also refereed the 1999 final, the last All-Ireland final of the last Millennium.

KILMACUD CROKES SEVENS AND POC FADA

St. Vincents Senior A squad reached the semi-final of the Kilmacud Crokes All-Ireland Sevens. Crumlin goalkeeper, Sinead Caulfield was the winner of the inaugural Poc-Fada competition while Gillian McCluskey from Erin's Isle finished runner-up.

TRAVEL TO SCOTLAND

Early in the year, the Good Counsel Senior A squad made the trip across to Scotland for a very enjoyable weekend. They were followed in October by two clubs when Dublin camogie was represented in the Linn Gu Linn (Scots Gaelic for "Century to Century"), Shinty/Hurling/Camogie Festival in Dunoon, Scotland. St. Mark's and Ballyboden St. Endas Junior Camogie team's took part in this compromise series to mark what has been a successful start to this century for both teams, Ballyboden having won the league and prior to going to Scotland, St. Marks having qualified to contest the Junior A championship final.

Women's shinty is an emerging sport in Scotland. The games were played fifteen minutes each way, between teams



Under 12 Stars of the Future



Members of the St. Oliver Plunketts Junior A panel who won the Junior A competition held to celebrate the club's 40th anniversary.



St. Vincents U-15 Championship Winners.



Naomh Fionnbarra winners of the Dublin Féile na nGael and All-Ireland semi-finals. Back row (l to r): Rachel McArthur, Aoife O'Connell, Sorcha Connolly, Nat Daddery, Christine O'Donnell, Ailish Phibbs, Lorraine Rooney, Jackie White, Amy O'Neill, Jenna Ennis. Front row: Amy O'Connell, Val Kearns, Danielle Ennis, Donna Saunders, Michelle Amien, Danielle Glosan, S. Keogh, Tara Pajet, Elin Stuchfart.



Young Stars who provided an exhibition of Camogie at the Marx Sports Show October 2000

Maura Brady

OBITUARY

DEC.
2000

On a Sunday morning in April 2000, Maura Brady passed away quietly and peacefully at the Mater Hospital, thus bringing to an end, all too prematurely, the life of a unique and wonderful personality. Maura was a Bohernabreena woman who had a great love for her family, life, and for Dublin Camogie and GAA alike.

Maura Lee, as she was back then, and her sisters were members of the team that revived St. Anne's Camogie Club back in the early sixties, winning the Junior League in 1962, but it was as a County Board Officer that Maura demonstrated her special qualities as an organizer, administrator and leader. She became Secretary of the Junior Board in 1964, a position she held until 1968 when she married Frank Brady, a dedicated Dublin Football official. Twelve years passed before Maura took up office again. During that period she had continued running her club as well as raising a family. In October 1980 she was elected Leas-Cathaoirleach of the Junior Board, a position she held until September 1984, when she was elected Cathaoirleach, a position she held continuously until November 1992, when she became Cathaoirleach of the Dublin County Board.

Everyone who knew Maura has their own memories of her. She was always approachable and ready to listen to your problems, and help where



possible. She gave of herself to others constantly. It was nothing for Maura to referee two or three matches in a day, as well as look after her own team training, as well as run a home, cook meals, do the shopping etc. If you want something done ask a busy person, so goes the saying. Well in Maura's case that was certainly true. And to finish off the day, when some of us would be looking forward to putting our feet up, nothing gave Maura more pleasure than to accompany Frank to the many GAA Club Dinners and Functions around the County, to which they were invited. In her spare time she was also involved in many other activities in her beloved Bohernabreena. She organized a play school, summer camps for countless youngsters down the years,

went on holiday trips with the old folks, and cared for her neighbours and friends as well.

In writing this appreciation many memories come flooding back of trips down the country when the Dublin teams were playing away, the simple crate on the bus or train, the fun we had organizing an Under 14 Blitz, and of course the smashing cup of tea you were always sure of when you were at St. Anne's.

Maura was a gentlewoman of many special qualities, not least her total humility, which came from her solid Christian faith. She would be genuinely embarrassed to hear herself spoken of in such praise, but indeed she rightly deserves it all.

Maura's death has created a huge gap in all our lives. All of us privileged to know her are the poorer for her passing. Many friends and colleagues throughout Camogie in Dublin, and indeed far beyond, shared the sense of loss that her family experienced. I have known Maura for a long time and feel privileged to be able to say that she was my friend, and strange as it may seem to say, it was a wonderful sight to behold her coffin carried shoulder high by so many of her friends and relations, when they took her from the Church and laid her to rest in her beloved hills overlooking the county she loved so well.

Truly, ní bheadh a léitheáil ann arís.

Ar dhéirí D'go riabh a anam dílis.

Patricia Rafferty

WHIRLPOOL REST OF IRELAND SELECTION

Ballyboden St. Endas and Senior inter-county player Fiona Corcoran capped an incredible year in which she won both Senior camogie and football club titles, when she was selected to play for the Whirlpool Rest of Ireland Selection against Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland champions Tipperary in Semple Stadium on the 11th of November.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

There are many people who have assisted with the organization and administration of Dublin Camogie for the last twelve months. It would be impossible to mention all of you who give of your time so willingly and selflessly, be it in the coaching of a team, your membership of a committee, or your attendance at matches. The list of ways in which you can take a part in helping Dublin camogie is almost as exhaustive as the list of people who do so. However, certain people, do deserve special mention: Seamus Massey County Board Chairman, Marie O'Brien Secretary, Sean Flynn Treasurer, Maura Uí Scoláí National PRO, Germaine Noonan who acted as PRO for the summer, and Carmel Grey for all of her work with the Colleges.

We must also take this opportunity to thank the following people who have helped promote the game in the capital through their respective media: Mick Hanly on Anna Livia radio, Gerry O'Sullivan with Independent News Network, Niall Scully in the Evening Herald, Peter Sweeney and David Coughlan in The Star, Stephen Leonard and William O'Connor in The Echo, and Aidan Kelly in the Dublin People. Dublin Camogie is also indebted to Cyril Duggan and Kevin Nolan for their work on the Hill 16 website (www.hill16.ie) and the provision of web pages for all our Camogie news, fixtures and results.

CONCLUSION

As we approach the year-end it is time to examine where we have come from and decide where we are going. It is probably a safe bet that the year 2001 will continue the "changing" trend of the last few years. In terms of the success of the Dublin teams - we must all strive for a change for the better, and in terms of the coverage camogie receives - we again all have a part to play, and sure if you have any constructive ideas which you are willing to implement we'll see you in Parnell Park at the County Board meetings!

Ní neart go chur le chéile.



A family affair. (l to r): Orna Lucey, Eimear Lucey captain of St Colmcilles, Knocklyon, Peter Lucey.



Sinéad O'Toole, Naomh Pádraig, Dublin Féile skills winner 2000.



Sinéad Caulfield from Crumlin receiving her presentation having won the inaugural Poc Fada at the Kilmacud Crokes Sevens.



Anxious captains Rachel Donovan of Glen Rovers and Dara Banks of St. Finbarr's await the outcome of the toss with referee Dave Daly in the Seandún U13 League final.

Pa teams up with Cork senior ladies

CORK COUNTY BOARD held its convention at the Doughcloyne Hotel last Wednesday.

A lively evening's discussion took place with selectors elected to all the inter-county committees.

Both the senior and junior selection committees will have new faces on board.

Elected to fill the vacancies created by the retirement of long-serving senior selectors Rose Mackey and Angela Sheehan are former St Finbarr's hurling supremo Pa Finn and Eire Og's Sheila O'Brien, a former selector with the county junior and under-18 teams.

They will be joined by a representative from county champions Bishopstown.

Former county secretary Tracy Sheehan will be a junior selector for the first time and is joined by Lillian Zincant who brings a wealth of experience to the job having been a selector with the victorious junior All-Ireland winning side of 1999.

They will be joined by Oliver Hallihan, the representative of county champions Ballygarvan.

The minor committee remains the same with John Quinn and John Cronin again returned to be joined by the Milford representative.

Ann Marie Healy and Finbarr O'Callaghan will guide the under-18 side to be joined by a representative from the county champions.

On an agenda that had 20



Rival captains Teresa Byrne of Youghal and Elaine Harper of St. Catherine's with referee Jack McGrath prior to the Junior B County final.

By MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY

Camogie correspondent

Motions, the one which prompted major discussion was the proposal from Bishopstown that a juvenile board be established to cater for the needs of underage players up to and including under-16s.

After much deliberation the motion was carried and will be implemented for a two-year trial period.

Another motion from the same club called on the board to set up a committee to promote and develop the game at underage level which had unanimous support.

Newtownshandrum, in proposing a motion regarding the transfer rule, sought to include a closing date on transfers.

After lengthy discussion the feeling was that the motion did not do enough to stop the movement of players from county to county in mid season as is the case now.

Convention decided to send a motion to congress in a bid to tighten up the situation where, presently, players are free to move from county to county in the same year and participate in championship in each counties.

On that understanding Newtownshandrum withdrew their motion. Sarsfields' motion to organise

special competitions at underage level for clubs not in a position to field at 15-a-side was met with approval as was one from Watergrasshill calling for an under-12 B competition.

In accordance with a motion passed last year convention, for the first time, elected a GPC.

Among the six chosen are Ballygarvan's Noreen Daly, Claire Donegan, Milford, Margaret Hyde, Fr O'Neills, Ann Marie Nolan, Courcy Rovers, Finbarr O'Callaghan, Newcestown and Tom Kiely, Carrigaline.

In the only contest for positions on the county board, outgoing PRO Mary Newman was returned with a large majority over Bishopstown's Paul Murray.

In his report secretary Pat Murray expressed satisfaction that the number of clubs registered with the board has continued to increase with Passage and Blackrock having registered in 2000.

Also in attendance were delegates from the Ballyphehane club who will bring the number up to 54 clubs for the year ahead.

Convention passed a huge thanks to outgoing sponsors ACC Bank for the six years sponsorship which the board has had.

Appreciation was expressed to Liam Harte for his wonderful assistance.

Officers elected: President, Lillie O'Sullivan (Ballycollig); Sheila Golden (Innisearra); Secretary, Pat Murray (Bishopstown); Treasurer, Mary McSweeney (Bandon); Registrar, Kay Dunne (Ballycollig); Fixtures Secretary, Mary Bulger; PRO, Mary Newman (Glen Rovers).

Coachford girls prove too strong for Bandon

Coachford
Bandon

4-5
2-2

COACHFORD girls defeated Bandon in the Cork Colleges First-Year League recently.

With captain Louise Roche and defender Marion Twomey playing major roles, Coachford started well with Roche opening their account with a fine point.

Emma Healy and Louise Roche added to Coachford's tally and they held a comfortable lead before Bandon responded with a well-struck goal from Deirdre Coomey.

Bandon's goalkeeper Janice O'Neill was in impressive form, denying Coachford on numerous occasions before Aisling O'Riordan struck for a goal to stretch Coachford's advantage.

However Bandon refused to panic and came out for the second half in a determined mood.

Deirdre Coomey was moved to midfield which helped curb the threat Emma Healy was posing.

Coomey reduced the deficit to a point and it was followed by a goal from the lively Danielle O'Sullivan.

At this stage Bandon were growing in stature but Coachford kept their composure and were rewarded with a Louise Roche goal.

Marie Barrett, Ellen Long and Stephanie O'Halloran were making a big impact for Coachford and the pressure told when Kate O'Leary struck a great goal.

Emma Healy added two points as Coachford opened up a lead that they held until the finish.

Caroline Looney, Jillian O'Mahony Niamh Dineen and Elaine Cullinane impressed for the winners while Bandon had good performers in Deirdre Coomey, Danielle O'Sullivan and Janice O'Neill who battled to the end.

COACHFORD: N Dineen, M Barrett, E Long, C Buckley, M Twomey, D Murohy, E Healy, K O'Leary, L Roche, J O'Mahony, A Scully, A O'Riordan.
BANDON: J O'Neill, M O'Callaghan, A O'Mahony, G Coakley, S Finn, M Nyhan, O O'Regan, D O'Sullivan, D Coomey, C Long, D Hegarty, J O'Donovan.

Sweet win for Bandon

Bandon
Coachford

2-2
0-1

BANDON'S second years made up for the disappointment of their first years' defeat when they reversed the result against Coachford in their league game.

Coachford's Margaret Cosgrave pointed to open the scoring but despite seeing lots of ball they didn't take their chances.

Bandon worked hard and goals from Susan Hurley and Maria Caniffe put the pressure on Coachford.

With Louise Murphy-Lyons and the Cosgrave sisters, Margaret and Christine impressive, Coachford pressed but failed to breach a strong Bandon defence.

Margaret Murphy and Trisha Donovan added further points for Bandon and they continued to dictate matters with Myra Nolan and Aine O'Sullivan in top form.

Bandon ran out winners despite the best efforts of Coachford's Catriona O'Connell, Ann O'Mahony and Orla McSweeney.

Killeagh honour 1980 camogie stars

It was a trip down memory lane last weekend for the Killeagh camogie club who honoured the girls who brought the All Ireland senior camogie club title to the club 20 years ago.

The Park hotel in Middleton was the venue as memories of bygone clashes were discussed with the clarity that only the passing of time brings.

Twenty years ago Killeagh won the All Ireland club title for the first and only time defeating the holders Buffers Alley from Wexford in the final by 4-2 to 1-7. Though Killeagh were to win four more county titles ('81, '82, '84 and '88) and four more Munster titles that All Ireland title stands as their greatest achievement- and one that hasn't dimmed with the passage of time. For one of the selectors on that team and a woman who has given the largest part of her life to the promotion of camogie in Killeagh - Shiela Spillane- it was a chance to catch up with some old friends- one of whom Catherine Griffin had flown in from Australia to attend.

"Obviously you remember the bigger games in the eighties" says Shiela, "but it's hard to remember all the games we played in that era because we played so many in all corners of the country. My abiding memory of those times is the enormous crowds that we used to carry to all our games

Damien Irwin on a night to remember for club's only camogie All Ireland winners

either home or away. Busloads of people transported to all sorts of destinations and the fact is that even though it's only 20 years ago a lot of those supporters have passed away in the meantime. For anybody from the parish who is under 30 that All Ireland win is outside of their experience."

"The great thing about 1980 was that the club achieved the ultimate that a club can achieve even though we were only in our infancy."

The club was founded just seven years previously in 1973 the brainchild of Tony O' Neill with Shiela as Chairperson (A position she held for the next 25 years).

The following was the elected committee. President: Fr. O' Brien, Vice President: Mrs. P. Joyce, Chairperson: Mrs. Shiela Spillane, Vice Chairperson: Mrs. Bridie Landers, Secretary Mr Tony O' Neill, Treasurer: Carmel Barry, Committee Mrs. M. Fitzgibbon, E. Fogarty, B. Griffin, C. Landers, B. Joyce and M. Walsh. Club colours were adopted as black and

white. "We were lucky when we started out that both Marion Sweeney and Pat Moloney were already 'made' camogie players having played with Youghal before our club started off. In that sense we had a head start."

At the beginning we instructed some of our younger players just to pass the ball to Pat or Marion. Pat and Marion had achieved All Ireland medals with Cork (with Pat having by '73 racked up four) and they were soon joined by other promising players such as Cathy Landers and Betty Joyce and a host of youngsters keen to make an impression.

"We were also very fortunate to acquire the services of a very fine trainer Eamonn Lenihan who worked the girls extremely hard and never accepted anything other than their best. He never had any favourites and treated his own wife Pat just the same as everybody else. Players knew that very few excuses would suffice for missing training. They were a little bit

afraid of him I'd say. I worked with him as a selector and he wasn't afraid to try out some new tactic. Once for a Munster final he played one of our defenders Betty Joyce in the forwards and she ended up scoring 3-3."

But this night, indeed this team was not about singling out anybody but rather about recognising the collective effort. Each of the seventeen panel members received a framed photograph of the panel from that All Ireland final day.

For the record the lineup that day was Patricia Fitzgibbon, Marie O' Donovan, Mary Spillane, Betty Joyce, Breeda Landers (capt.), Barbra Kirby, Cathy Landers, Ann Marie Landers, Patsy Keniry, Pat Moloney, Marion Sweeney, Fidelma O' Connor, Subs: Ann Leahy, Catherine Griffin, Marie Kelly, Shelley Spillane, Vera Motherway.

"The homecoming on that November day was memorable. There were tyres and tar barrels burning as we approached the village and we celebrated

in style. We brought the cup, as is customary, to all the pubs in the parish and I well remember a night we went up to Mount Uniacke with the cup and Pa Foley (who was a great supporter of the club and was our groundsman) playing the bagpipes up there. Thankfully all the people in the photograph are still hale and hearty and some of them are active in the club still." Mary Spillane is the Treasurer and Vera Motherway is still heavily involved while Mary Collins is the Chairperson with Shiela herself having stepped aside from the Chair to become Club Secretary. The mission at the moment is to reinvigorate the club which has in recent years regarded to Junior status.

"We have some good young players coming through but it was easier twenty years ago. Then there weren't so many distractions. Now all the young girls of thirteen or fourteen have part time jobs. That's the problem with the Celtic Tiger! It's getting harder and harder to get commitment from players."

But all we really need, I think, is somebody to knit it all together in the same way that Eamonn knitted it together in the past. But Sunday week last in the Park Hotel was not so much about looking forward as about engaging the past with friends and comrades from a glorious era.



Captain of the Portroe Intermediate team, Josephine Fennessy, accepts the cup from the vice-chairperson of the camogie board, Patsy Carroll, after Portroe beat Moycarkey in the county final recently. Photo: Rose Mannion.



Jovita Delaney ... All-Ireland title winning captain and a Eircell G.A.A. personality of the Month Award winner



Cork's junior camogie side which reached the All-Ireland final



Cork got narrowly beaten by Tipperary in the All-Ireland senior camogie final

CAMOGIE CONVENTION:-

Long Serving Officers Retire

By Noel Dundon

Tipperary Camogie Board have been rocked by the decision of two top officials to call it a day after fifteen years service each at the top table.

Secretary Marian Graham and Treasurer Biddy Phillips announced at the Camogie Convention on Monday evening that they were not seeking re-election despite being nominated by a number of clubs for the positions. The news came as a big surprise but both officials who have been on hand to see Tipperary camogie rise to the top of the scale from humble beginnings, said that the time was right to hand on the reins.

"It's great to be going out on a high note", Biddy Phillips proclaimed. Both she and Marian thanked the Board and players for their courtesy. Joan Harkin of Drom-Inch takes over as Secretary and Rose Mannion (Lorrha) comes in as Treasurer.

An eventful convention, Chairman Noel Hennessy (Drom-Inch) had a narrow victory to hold onto his seat after he defeated Patsy Carroll (St. Cronin's) for the position. The voting was tight with Hennessy coming out on top by 24 votes to 22.

Earlier the Chairman had paid tribute to senior Coach Michael Cleary who addressed Convention. He told the Nenagh man that as well as helping to deliver the O'Duffy Cup on two occasions, he had managed to raise the profile of camogie considerably and had also raised the standard in the county. "Young players in the county now have someone to look up to rather than pop stars and that is in no small way down to what you have done for us", he told the former All-Star. He also included selectors Biddy Phillips and Jim Madden in those comments.

The Chairman in his address to convention described the year as being "a very eventful one which was topped off by winning the senior All-Ireland again. People's eyes and minds have been opened as they watched the wonderful Tipperary team in action", he said.

Mr Hennessy warned that the county should not become complacent and urged all delegates to seek further glory on the playing fields in junior / intermediate / minor and u-18 grade as well. He paid tribute to the clubs who supplied the players on county teams and said that without those clubs, the county could not progress.

"Sport is very important in the development of

young people - anyone will tell you that. You are all doing great jobs and because of what you are doing, there are intelligent, independent girls leaving our county all the better for having been involved with you", said the Chairman.

With regard to the camogie facilities at the Ragg, the Chairman lamented the fact that no more lotto funding was forthcoming for them. He wondered if the powers that be realised what the camogie people of the county are doing for the girls who play the game.

He also expressed disappointment that politicians "who are very plentiful when it comes to getting on the back of a truck in Cashel when we win All-Irelands", are not in a position to help out when it comes to securing funding. "We appreciate all their nice words and it is nice to be told how good you are. But, words will not buy anything. We have a hard working committee with small resources and they need support. There is great credit due to Tipperary for having our own field - the only county in Ireland to have that facility", he said.

The Chairman looked forward to 2001 and said, "We are top of the pile and the Corks, Galways and Kilkennys of this world are out there with nothing else in their heads only to bring us down. We all have to put our shoulders to the wheel again now", he said.

Officers elected:-

Chairperson: Noel Hennessy (Drom-Inch).

Vice-Chairpersons: Patsy Carroll (St. Cronin's), Martin Browne (Cashel).

Secretary: Joan Harkin (Drom-Inch).

Treasurer: Rose Mannion (Lorrha).

Registrar: Biddy Phillips (Thurles).

P.R.O.: Marian Graham (Moycarkey).

Rep. to Munster Council: Timmy Moloney (Cashel).

Development Committee: Rose Mannion (Lorrha), Bernie O'Dowd (Thurles), John O'Connor (Drom-Inch), Liam Mannion (Lorrha), Patsy Carroll (St. Cronin's), Noel Hennessy (Drom-Inch), John Harkin (Drom-Inch), Martin Browne (Cashel).

Fixtures Committee: Patsy Carroll, Sally Duggan, Michelle Kennedy, John Harkin, Fr Peter Brennan, John Langton, Noel Hennessy.

Senior Coach: Michael Cleary - **Selectors:** Biddy Phillips, Jim Madden.

Junior Coach: Martin Browne - **Selectors:** Bernie O'Dowd, Paddy

Ivors.

U-18 Coach: Bill Coffey - **Selectors:** Patsy Carroll, Paddy Ivors.

Minor Coach: John Harkin - **Selectors:** Marion Graham, Jack Devaney.

FOOTNOTE: While camogie in Tipperary may well be on the up, Marian Graham and Noel Hennessy will head into freefall on Sunday next when they undertake the sponsored parachute jump in Co. Offaly - weather permitting.

DEC. 2000

In a tribute to Una O'Dwyer, he told the gathering that she is a great, great grand-daughter of the legendary Johnny Walshe of Tubberadora who won All-Irelands with Tipperary in 1895, 1896, 1897, 1899 and 1900.

"It's in her be able to swing a caman," he concluded.



Una O'Dwyer with her father, Martin

Win for Coachford in Colleges' first year league

Coachford/Aghabullogue/Rylane

Details of three important camogie games played by Coachford Community College are included in this week's notes. Staying with camogie, a very active camogie and ladies football player, Louise Murphy of Coachford, has been awarded a GAA bursary at the Cork Institute of Technology. She has also been a member of Cork junior and intermediate teams.

COACHFORD COLLEGE 4-5 BANDON 2-2

In the Cork Colleges' first year camogie league, Coachford College defeated Presentation Bandon, where inspirational captain Louise Roche and defender Marion Twomey were central figures. Coachford started well with Roche opening her account with point.

Cork u14 star Emma Healy finished a good move, involving Aislin O'Riordan and Ann Scully. Louise Roche added another point before Bandon responded with their first goal of the afternoon, executed by Deirdre Coomey. Goalie Janice O'Neill was impressive and denied Mary O'Sullivan, Christina Buckley and Kate O'Leary but was unable to prevent Aislin O'Riordan from burying the sliotar after a good delivery from Deirdre Murphy.

On the resumption, Bandon began to gain confidence and with Deirdre Coomey moving to midfield to curb the influential Healy, Orla O'Regan and M Nyhan

gained more possession, which resulted in a point from Coomey, followed by a goal from the lively Danielle O'Sullivan.

Indeed, Sullivan caused trouble but the shrewd move of Marion Twomey to mark the craft forward stopped the Bandon revival. Roche thundered into the game with a goal and with Marie Barrett, Ellen Long and Stephanie O'Halloran battling well, Coachford scored a fourth goal, a well taken effort from Kate O'Leary.

Emma Healy added two points and had the luxury of a nine point gap for the remaining five minutes of the game. Jillian O'Mahony, Caroline Looney, Niamh Dineen and Elaine Cullinane were impressive for the Muskerry school, whilst Deirdre Coomey, Danielle O'Sullivan and Janice O'Neill tried hardest for the losers.

COACHFORD: N Dineen, M Barrett, E Long, C Buckley, E Twomey, D Murphy, E Healy 1-2, K O'Leary 1-0, L Roche C 1-3, J O'Mahony, A Scully, A O'Riordan, 1-0. Subs S O'Halloran, E Cullinane, M Foley, M Cronin, M O'Connor, C Looney, T Lynch.

Bandon: J O'Neill, M O'Callaghan, A O'Mahony, G Coakley, S Finn, M Nyhan, 0 O'Regan, D O'Sullivan 1-0, D Coomey 1-2, C Long, D Hegarty, J O'Donovan. Subs A Breen, C Walsh.

BANDON 2-2 COACHFORD 0-1

The Muskerry girls suffered mixed fortunes in the Cork Colleges' second year league tie after the earlier victory in the first game. The Cosgrave sisters, Christine and Margaret, were impressive with Christine scoring the opening point, but the forward division were unable to convert the huge amount of possession over the 50 minutes.

Louise Murphy Lyons was easily the best player on view with future star Orla Coughlan from Bandon also shining. Susan Hurley and Maria Caniffe scored the Bandon goals with Cork u14 players Margaret Murphy and Trish O'Donovan getting the points.

Catriona O'Connell, Ann O'Mahony, Captain Orla McSweeney and Kate Murphy tried hardest for Coachford, whilst Aine O'Sullivan, Myra Nolan and Coughlan were impressive for Bandon.

COACHFORD: C Healy, C Barrett, A O'Mahony, K Murphy, O McSweeney, C A McCarthy, C O'Connell, C Cosgrave 0-1, L Murphy Lyons, M Cosgrave, L O'Mahony, G O'Sullivan, H Browne, J Cotter, J Crowley, L Griffin, M Madden, L Tibbs, M Murray.

CAMOGIE ROUNDUP: The Senior squad have qualified for the Co A final v Charleville or Clonakilty, but the big

game is the eagerly awaited Munster semi-final clash against Scariff or favourites Borrisoleigh. The seniors beat Hospital convincingly, but required a late goal from Maura O'Leary and a last gasp point from Katie Crowley to beat Tuila.

Coach Rob Lott and trainer Con Spillane will no doubt be training the team through the holidays, whilst the Intermediates, under the guidance of Cork junior star Aidan Keane, have qualified for the Co and Munster semi finals and meet Blarney and Lismore respectively.

Ollie Troy's junior panel similarly are at the semi-final stages and meet champions Charleville in the Co whilst Clonakilty, Ennis or Nenagh will be the opponents in Munster.

The second year panel lost to Bandon but Ollie Troy's policy of ensuring all players get playing time on this team is admirable and should be encouraged in other schools. Indeed, most games to date have involved every sub with multiple substitution commonplace when teachers are agreeable.

The first year panel are at the top of the county league, beating Bandon and Loreto, Fermoy, but must play Glanmire, Clonakilty and Charleville in the new year. Ballyvourney man Paudie Dineen has been coaching the girls regularly each Friday and states that Emma Healy, Louise Roche and Mary O'Sullivan are prospects for the future.



The All-Ireland intermediate camogie champions, Cork, who beat Limerick in the final.

Extra teams give game a big boost

THE game continued to grow in 2000, with 53 clubs registering with the board and Blackrock and Passage returning to the fold.

Next season Ballyphehane will be rejoining camogie's ranks.

League and championship competitions from u-12 to senior made it a busy agenda while the Seandún, Carrigdhoun and Imokilly divisions organised competitions for players as young as 10.

Schools and colleges also played a role in the game's growth.

Cork's senior and junior teams qualified from their respective groups to get through to the National League finals.

On what proved to be an historic occasion Cork became the first county to take both titles at the same venue on the same day, defeating Kildare in the junior and beating Tipp in the senior final.

Looking back many felt that while providing a welcome boost, victory over the All-Ireland champions in May was to be the downfall on the first Sunday in September.

On league final day the juniors,

Cork girls take first title at intermediate level

AFTER the disappointment of the senior defeat in the All-Ireland final the intermediate team gave the county a boost.

A tough opener in Down saw it end in a draw with

Cork winning the replay to earn a semi-final date with Dublin.

It was a cracker with Cork's ability to knock over points the key to victory.

Facing Limerick's first 15 in

their quest for ultimate honours, the Cork girls showed little respect for the form books and, as in the senior final, two early first-half goals again had a huge bearing on the result.

This time, though, it was in Cork's favour.

It was an historic occasion as captain Sheenagh Morley held aloft the trophy, the first time Cork have won in this grade.

By MARY NEWMAN-McCARTHY

Camogie Correspondent

backboned by several of the 1999 All-Ireland winning team, gave a first class display and totally outplayed Kildare.

The senior final was always going to be a tough encounter with Tipperary carving out an early lead.

Digging deep, Cork showed tremendous determination to retain their crown by staging a marvellous second-half revival.

League form had Cork installed as one of the favourites for the All-Ireland.

The minors lost their provincial and All-Ireland titles with a disappointing display in their opening game against a Tipperary side that failed to make an impression outside Munster.

Fielding a new junior side for 2000, the young Cork team upset the form book with an extra-time win in the Munster final over a fancied Tipperary side.

A trip to London followed, and an All-Ireland quarter-final victory over the home side set up a meeting with Laois where, again, the young Cork side proved more than able for the task, qualifying for final date with Derry.

Going in as underdogs the Cork

girls showed tremendous spirit before losing narrowly.

From the moment the championship draws had been made the most talked about clash was the meeting of Cork and Kilkenny in the opening game of the senior championship in Nolan Park.

Few in the large crowd were disappointed with the game as Cork again came from behind with a late rally to snatch victory in injury time and qualify to meet a Wexford side whose challenge they easily disposed of.

Tipperary's win over Galway in their semi-final set up a repeat of the league final, with Tipperary coming out on top this time round.

Bishopstown record a fab four victory

IN the senior county championship Bishopstown, making it four in a row, defeating a young Barryroe side in the final.

Clara Healy was named player of the match.

In the Munster club championship, Bishopstown defeated Cashel in the first round by 1-12 to 1-5, and beat Waterford's Dun-

hill-Fenor in the semi-final, and the Cork champions looked set to take their first Munster title.

However, All-Ireland champions Grenagh/Ballygarra retained their Munster crown.

In doing so, Grenagh made it five in a row. However they later lost to Derry's Swatragh who in

turn later lost to Galway's Pearse's in the final.

Eire Óg took the Senior B title at the hands of Milford but it took a replay to separate the sides.

Credit to the Owens side and in particular Con Malone who kept the club going through lean times.

Four Senior county titles came Eire Óg's way in the

70s and now back in the senior grade they will challenge for honours again.

Ballygarvan took the Junior A title. Catriona Kelly, Emer Dillon, and Deirdre Daly were to the fore as Ballygarvan turned a an awesome display to which Douglas had no answer.

St Catherine's took the Junior B championship

crown. Credit must go to club secretary and guiding light Rena O'Leary.

Junior A now beckons for St Catherine's this year.

Milford retained their U-16 A county title. Douglas took the U-12 league with a victory over Ballygarvan.

In the U-14 A Milford recorded a league and Cork Felle na Gael double.

Chalk up another great year in Sciath na Scol

SCIATH na Scol was again the highlight of the primary schools' year with game being played weeks in advance before the last week when eight finals took place at Páirc Uí Rinn and Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

In the C1 final Scoil Oilibéir Dublin Hill, captained by Jemma O'Regan, retained their title with a win over St Columba's Douglas.

The C2 decider saw Owens take the spoils over Watergrasshill.

Scoil Mhuire Ballincollig took their first Sciath na Scol C3 trophy with a marvellous win over St Catherine's Model Farm Road.

The DC1 final also had plenty of excitement as Bun Scoil Mhuire Youghal defeated Coachford.

The DC2 decider had neighbours in action with Scoil Eoin Innishannon defeating Ballinaspittle, while the DC3 title went to Goggins Hill who had beat Ballygarvan NS.

Dungourney coached by former hurler John Boylan took the DC4 amid tremendous excitement, defeating Clonpriest. Dunderrow gave a great performance to secure DC5 honours over Rennies.

Third level camogie continued to be successful.

UCC, captained by Lisa Kelleher, won Ashbourne Cup and Higher Education league titles under the guidance of former Inter county and Sarsfields hurler John Considine while the Freshers title also came to UCC.

CIT made huge strides and reached the division two league final losing out narrowly to Carlow.

Cork and Munster colleges continue to play an enormous part in camogie.

Sacred Heart Clonakilty lost narrowly to St Mary's Nenagh who went on to take All-Ireland honours. Coachford College suffered a similar fate at the hands of Shannon in the B final.

There was some consolation for Charleville when they took the All-Ireland Sevens and Munster Junior A title defeating Shannon in the final.

Not so lucky were Presentation Ballyphehane, coached by Kilkenny star Sinead Millea, who lost to Borrisoleigh in the Junior B decider after taking the Cork title.

A Munster double was recorded in the Junior Plate when Presentation Bandon took the A and Carrigaline the B titles.

In Cork Colleges competition Coachford, Charleville, Coláiste Eoin Youghal, St Als, Cobh, Blarney and Glanmire were all successful.

Off the field several camogie players were honoured with awards. Among the most prestigious was the Millennium Award to one of Cork's greatest camogie players, Sandie Fitzgibbon.

Sandie received her award from then Lord Mayor Damien Wallace for her contributions to sport in the city.

Helen Walsh was the recipient of the Bandon Opinion First Active award, whilst Emer Dillon took the Player of the Match in the Intermediate All-Ireland final.

UCC make bold bid for Ashbourne Cup

THE Ashbourne Cup is the highlight of the college camogie year.

Soon after Christmas, UCC will throw down the gauntlet to all other players.

And, over the next few weeks, the competition for a place on the UCC team will be fierce.

Such is the wealth of talent, UCC have three camogie teams and, when it comes down to picking their first choice team, it surely will pose some headaches for their backroom team.

The team comprises this year

of Eamon Ryan (UCC GAA development officer), John Considine and Rose Desmond.

Never before has there been such a volume of players so willing to don the college jersey.

UCC's last Ashbourne Cup win was in '99/00, when they defeated UCD.

In a few weeks' time in Belfield, they will again cross camáns in the preliminary round, but there have been many changes to both teams in the intervening months.

Deirdre Coughlan from Kilkenny is captain of UCC. Vice-

THERESE O'CALLAGHAN View from the ground



captain is Cork inter-county player Sinead O'Callaghan from the Bishopstown club.

Una O'Dwyer, Tipperary's outstanding fullback in this year's championship has moved to study at UCC.

When UCC and UCD last met, Una lined out with the Dublin girls.

Another star from the Premier County, Emer McDonnell will be playing against her twin sister who is studying at Belfield.

UCC's Muireann Harrington will come up against her sister Caoimhe who plays for UCD.

UCC have not won back-to-back Ashbournes since the mid '70s. But with this year's talent, this must be their greatest chance ever. Almost all of their selection has donned a county jersey at some level.

Names like Ger Casey, Dervala Quigley, Muireann Harrington, Linda O'Connell, Sinead Buckley, Caroline Giltinan, Rosalie Holland, Deirdre Coughlan, Elaine Burke, Sinead O'Callaghan, Rachel

Moloney, Sarah Hayes, Una O'Donoghue and Criona Harte have all been involved with Cork outfits in the past.

The experience of Una O'Dwyer, Emer McDonnell, Sandra Ricken, Anne Hardiman, Maeve Nash and Catherine Leslie who have played with their own counties will strengthen their hand. Plus, many great club players who will strive for a place on this year's team.

While the Ashbourne Cup is the main focus, the teams are also taking part in the CCIA A and B leagues.

Jan. 2001

Most successful year for Ballygarvan Camogie Club

Over two hundred people attended the end of season Ballygarvan Camogie Club victory dinner in the newly-extended Bawnleigh House Hotel and celebrated in what was one of the most successful years in the club's history.

Earlier on in the season Ballygarvan captured their very first junior 'A' Camogie county title by defeating Douglas in the final which was played in Ballygarvan, and also become only the third club from the division to capture the title in recent years, joining neighbours Ballinhassig and Coursey Rovers on the roll of honour.

For team captain Eimer Dillon it proved to be a very eventful year, being not only the captain of the victorious junior 'A' team, but was a member of the Cork senior camogie team and also won an All-Ireland medal with the Cork intermediate team this year. Two other team mates, Caitriona Kelly and Aileen O'Neill, were also members of the Cork minor team this year, with the club having a strong representation at all grades at the Cork camogie scene.

During the evening, many tributes were made to the girls on a wonderful year for the club, their trainers, parents and friends who never gave up hope of bringing the county trophy to Ballygarvan



Eimear Dillon, captain, and Aileen O'Neill, pictured with the Cork County Junior A camogie trophy which was won by Ballygarvan this year, pictured at the victory dinner celebrations in the Bawnleigh House Hotel recently.

for the first time. The county medals were later presented to the girls, while the boys were not left out as their medals for the junior 'A' footballers were also presented after they defeated Kinsale in the South East league final recently.

Also a number of small presentations were made to Sean O'Halloran, who was chairman of the club for three years, and to Bernadette Murphy, who was secretary of the club

for a total of 14 years, and present chairman Oliver Hallihan was also honoured for his continued work and commitment to the club over many years.

Special guests also included Sheila Golden, Chairperson, Cork County Camogie Board; Tom Nott, County Board selector; Pat Sweeney, Chairperson, Ballygarvan G.A.A.; Donal Twomey, President, and Fr. Buckley, P.P., Ballygarvan.



Committee members of the Ballygarvan Camogie Club, pictured at their victory dinner celebrations in the Bawnleigh House recently. Also included are Sheila Golden, chairperson, Cork County Camogie Board, Tom Nott, county selector, Oliver Hallihan, chairman, and Donal Twomey, president, Ballygarvan G.A.A.



Patsy Carroll presenting the county under-18 camogie trophy to Anna Woods, captain of the Toomevara team who beat Templemore in the final.



PALS: Marie Kearney and Toby. Marie believes that access to wide open spaces is one big advantage of life in Lansdowne Close.

Camogie club celebrates its best year in history

A dinner was held in honour of the girls and Ballygarvan's first ever Junior A County title

OVER 200 people attended the Ballygarvan Camogie Club victory dinner in Bawnleigh House Hotel recently, and celebrated what was the most successful year in the club's history. Only recently, the club captured their very first Junior A Camogie County title by defeating Douglas on home soil, in Ballygarvan. As a result, they also became only the third club from the South East division to capture the title in recent years, joining neighbours Ballinhassig and Courcy Rovers on the roll of honour.

For Eimear Dillon, it proved to be a very eventful year. Not only was she the captain of the victorious Junior A team, but was a member of the Cork Senior Camogie team who contested the All-Ireland final too, and also won an All-Ireland medal with the Cork Intermediate team this year.

Two other team mates, Caitriona Kelly and Aileen O'Neill were also members of the Cork Minor squad this year, making a strong representation at all grades at the Cork Camogie scene for the Ballygarvan Club.

During the course of the evening, many tributes were made to the girls (for a wonderful year for the club), their trainers, parents and friends — who never gave up hope of bringing the County trophy to Ballygarvan for the very first time. The County Junior A medals were later presented to the girls, while the boys were not left out as their medals for the Junior A Footballer South East League were also presented, after they defeated Kinsale in the final recently.

Also, a number of small presentations were made to committee member, Sean O'Halloran, who was chairman of the club for three years; to Bernadette Murphy, who stepped down after 14 years as secretary this year and to present Chairman, Oliver Hallihan, who was honoured for his continued work and commitment to the club over many years.

Special guests included Sheila Golden, Chairperson of the Cork County Camogie Board; Tom Nott, County Board selector; Pat Sweeney, Chairperson of Ballygarvan GAA; Donal Twomey, President and Fr Buckley, PP of Ballygarvan.



Eimear Dillon, Captain, and Aileen O'Neill, with the Cork County Junior A camogie trophy, which was won by Ballygarvan last year.

JAN.

2000

CAMOGIE

IT Tralee 3-5 TCD 3-4
IT Tralee advanced to the knockout stages of the Purcell Cup when they defeated TCD after a close contest at the Dr Crokes Pitch Killarney.
Scorers: IT Tralee - L Byrne (1-5), T Allen (2-0). TCD: M J Wall (2-0), A O'Keeffe (1-0), T Doyle (0-3), C Gormley (0-1). IT TRALEE: M Brennan, J Murnane, C Carroll, S O'Regan, A Mc Geaney, B Atkins, L Byrne, S Coleman, A Hardiman, K Coleman, T Allen, N Keeshan. Sub F O'Connell for A Hardiman. TCD: M Murray, M Crowley, K Hickey, C Galligan, A Kerins, D O'Brien, S Reidy, T Doyle, C Rahilly, C Gormley, A O'Keeffe, M J Wall. Fixtures: Tomorrow: Munster U18 Championship final, Cork v Clare, Ballygarvan, 2pm.



The Toomevara under-18 camogie team who beat Templemore in the county final.

Back (left to right) John Kennedy (selector), Marie McCarthy, Mairead Ryan, Triona Dunne, Louise Young, Kathleen Kennedy, Nessa Devaney, Mary Rose Ryan, Denise Ryan, Louise Duff, Lizzie Woods, Suzanne Kelly (trainer).

Front (left to right) Melissa Sheppard, Jenny Ryan, Maria Tynan, Anna Woods (captain), Paula Ryan, Therese Maxwell, Helen Ryan.

Camogie celebration dinner

STAR athlete, Catherine McKiernan, will be guest of honour at a reception in Thurles on Saturday night next for All-Ireland camogie champions Tipperary.

A real gala night is in store following a glorious year for Tipperary on the camogie scene. The reception will take place at the Anner Hotel, starting at 8.30 pm. All-Ireland senior and Munster minor medals will be presented to the victorious teams on the evening.

New league format gets a thumbs up

FORMER President of the Camogie Association Mary Fennelly has come up trumps with a new-look league format which has got the thumbs up from current Cork full-back Eithne Duggan.

The proposed new structure, which will come into effect with the commencement of the 2001 campaign next month, will according to Eithne, provide better quality matches.

"Cork are in division one with Kilkenny, Tipperary, Galway and Antrim, which should guarantee us four good games. As

the top three teams go forward to contest the semi-finals, we would then be hopeful to qualify for two further competitive matches," she said.

Two categories were compiled, consisting of counties with either one or two teams. Antrim, Dublin, Kilkenny, Cork, Derry, Down, Galway, Wexford, Limerick, Tipperary and Clare will be participating with two teams, while Armagh, Cavan, Carlow, Kildare, Wicklow, Laois, Meath, Roscommon, Offaly and Tyrone have one.

From this they were se-

THERESE O'CALLAGHAN View From the Ground



tioned into different divisions. This is in contrast to the old system whereby there were separate senior and junior competitions.

The new structure splits all counties into divisions - division

1, 1A, 2, 2A, 3 and 4. Division 1 and 2 are comprised of counties graded senior and intermediate.

Divisions 1A and 2A are the second teams for the same counties, and divisions 3 and 4

are made up of the junior counties. The full listing is as follows: Division 1 and 1A - Antrim, Kilkenny, Cork, Galway and Tipperary. Division 2 and 2A - Dublin, Down, Derry, Wexford, Limerick and Clare. Division 3 - Carlow, Kildare, Laois, Roscommon and Offaly. Division 4 - Cavan, Wicklow, Meath, Armagh and Tyrone.

The proposed format then will see divisions 1 and 1A, and divisions 2 and 2A fixtures arranged as double headers. The top three teams in division 1 go through to the semi-finals, with

the top two teams in division 2 playing off for the fourth semi-final place.

The top team in each of divisions 2, 3 and 4 will be promoted to the next highest division. In division 2A, the county whose team in division 2 has been promoted to division 1 will also move up to division 1A.

The team at the bottom of division 1 will be relegated to division 2, and its corresponding team in Division 1A will move down to Division 2A. The team at the bottom of division 3 will be relegated to division 4.



St Catherine's, who were winners of the East Cork U-14 league.

Cork girls out for a win

ACTION on the playing fields resumes on Sunday next when the long awaited clash of Tipperary and Cork takes place in the Munster under 18 championship semi-final.

With the match having fallen foul of the weather conditions on no fewer than four occasions so far, both camps will be keeping their fingers crossed that the game gets the go ahead this time around.

Cork, the title holders, face a stern test from a Tipperary side who boast some fine players particularly senior inter-county stars Claire Grogan, Philly Fogarty and Niamh Harkin.

Now under the guidance of John Cronin who enjoyed tremendous success with the Cork minors of 1998 and 99, the Under 18 team from the Rebel County have an abundance of talent at their disposal with several of these successful minor winning team members playing key roles in their good run to date.

In their opening round victory over a fancied Limerick side the Cork girls showed great composure in advancing.

Rosarie Holland, Sarah Hayes, Rachel Moloney, Emer Dillon and captain Aoife Murray all played key roles for Cork against Limerick in that encounter.

With Tipperary having already defeated Cork in both the senior and minor championships so far, it is certainly all to play for as the Cork girls are determined to advance to a Munster final meeting with Clare on Sunday week.

While a venue has not yet been confirmed for this final, the game will go ahead at a Cork venue, possibly at The Mardyke, on Sunday with a 1.30pm throw in.

Keep an eye on the Echo for details.

Divisions take lead in camogie's growth

WITH interest growing in camogie, the pressure to provide games to cater for the growing number of players continues to increase.

Unlike hurling and football, where most of the players only play in their own grade or one grade older, it is not unusual for under-12 girls to be involved in all under-age teams within their club.

In some cases, they even play on the clubs' junior or senior panels.

Many players are involved non-stop while many of their club-mates are lying idle. In a bid to keep players interested, divisional committees have sprung up in three divisions. These have all proved to be outstanding success stories.

Leading the way was Carrigdhoun who began competitions in 1992 when Jim Forbes and John Twomey suggested camogie clubs expand and form a divisional committee.

The Carrigdhoun Camogie Committee was formed as a result. Competition from under-10 to the Carrigdhoun Cup, which caters for senior and junior clubs, were organised.

In 1996, clubs in Seandun under the chairmanship of St Finbarr's Marion McCarthy set about organising competitions.

Marion explains the success: "Players are being given a chance to get the feel of playing camogie in organised games. This has been very successful, helping clubs to prepare players for county board competitions when they begin to participate at U-12 level."

Senior player Denise Cronin, who has been involved with Glen Rovers U-13 team for a number of seasons agrees.

"In previous years the girls at 12 to 14 would have had little of the basic skills. Now by the time they are playing in the U-13 Seandun league they have participated in U-11 and U-12 county board competitions."

The level of the success of these competitions can be gauged by the level of



East Cork camogie chairperson Sheila Spillane presents the U-12 trophy to St Catherine's captain Laura Kearney.

By MARY NEWMAN-McCARTHY

Camogie correspondent

participation. In Seandun all but one of the clubs with under-age teams participate while in Carrigdhoun and East Cork the story is similar.

Originally organised to give youngsters more games the, competitions are fiercely contested with clubs anxious to take honours.

Since their inaugural competitions in 1996 nearly all of the city clubs participating in the Seandun competitions have taken honours and this success has kept renewed interest amongst the players and indeed mentors alive.

Many of the players who began in the under 11 and 13 leagues in 1996 went on to represent Cork in minor and junior All-Ireland finals and again the same is the story in Carrigdhoun.

With their inaugural year's competi-

tions report satisfaction at the year gone by.

Organised under the chairmanship of trojan camogie administrator Sheila Spillane who has given years of dedication to the game in Killeagh the East Cork division decided to organise two competitions to cater for Under 12 and Under 14 age groups on a league basis.

East Cork PRO and Fr O Neills club secretary Margaret Hyde takes up the story: "Having seen the success that the Carrigdhoun and Seandun divisions were having the clubs within East Cork got together and organised competition for the Imokilly division.

We spoke to the various organisers from Seandun and Carrigdhoun and took advice regarding the setting up and running of the competitions.

"Last season was a great success and whilst the original thoughts for the under 12 competition was to play it on a league format many of the games were not played due to holidays and other

competitions. Instead we held a blitz played on the one day at Dungourney With Castlyons, Cobh, Killeagh, Dungourney, St Catherine's and Youghal all taking part it was a great success.

In the final St Catherine's took the honours defeating the host club Dungourney in the final.

Closely contested games saw St Catherine's and Watergrasshill coming through to contest the first East Cork under 14 final.

Played in Castlyons the final was a thrilling affair with conditions not the best, however on a superb pitch both sides served up a great game.

Playing with great determination St Catherine's led in the main by Denise Twomey who proceeded to turn in a sparkling display.

She scored 3-1 of her side's tally aided by two fine points from Noreen Mulcahy to ensure a memorably victory and give the St Catherine's side a unique double.

Rebels topple Tipp

Cork
Tipperary 4-14
1-6

CORK'S Clara Healy had every reason to be cheerful after victory over Tipperary in yesterday's Munster under-18 camogie championship semi-final at the Mardyke, writes *Therese O'Callaghan*.

The red-haired centre forward has already been a victim of the Blue and Gold's All-Ireland win last September.

"It was pay back time. We have a brilliant team now which is as a result of two minor victories."

However, her thoughts were with Thady Roche, their selector who had sadly passed away since their quarter-final win over Limerick.

She said: "We were all thinking of him. He was with us the last day and today's win was especially for him."

Despite fielding three of their senior side, Clare Grogan, Niamh Harkin and Philly Fogarty, Tipperary were always in trouble and could never match the intelligent combination play of the Leesiders, which was flawless.

From goalkeeper and Captain Aoife Murray to number 15 Jennifer O'Leary, this squad was in inspirational form.

Three first half goals from Ellen Herlihy, Jennifer O'Leary and Clara Healy left the Premier County frustrated at their lack of ability to compete in a totally one-sided opening period.

A fourth goal from Healy close on full time put the finishing touches to this landslide victory.

A goal from Niamh O'Dwyer at the three-quarter stage served only to put a gloss on the Tipperary scoreline.

This win signifies the arrival of a healthy batch of young talent that will surely knock on the senior inter-county door next month.

Cork now meet Clare in the under-18 Munster final next Sunday at a Cork venue.

Cork ease into Munster final

Cork
Tipperary 4-14
1-6

by Mary Newman

CORK brushed aside a Tipperary side that contained three of their All-Ireland winning senior panel in the Munster U18 Championship semi final at the Mardyke yesterday.

Early points from Rachel Moloney and Catherine Corkery had settled Cork before alert Ellen O'Herlihy shot to the net to stretch the title holders advantage. With Emer Dillon and Aine O'Regan dictating proceedings around the mid-field area, Cork dominated and had added two further points from Gemma O'Connor and Catherine Corkery before Philly Fogarty opened the Tipperary account with a point.

Responding smartly Jennifer O'Leary had the Leesiders second goal a minute later when her lobbing shot beat Niamh O'Dwyer in the Tipperary goal. Cork had added four points before Fogarty had Tipperary second. But again, Cork answered quickly and a goal on the half time whistle from Clara Healy gave them a 3-10 to 0-2 advantage.

In an effort to curb the Cork attack, Tipperary bought captain Philly Fogarty back into defence and whilst they did perform with more determination in the second half, they never looked to be in the same class as Cork.

Louise Young and Clara Healy ex-



Tipperary's Melissa Stapleton is challenged by Cork's Aine O'Regan and Emer Dillon at The Mardyke yesterday.

Picture: News Pics

changed goals in the closing stages, but it was Cork who ran out winners to set up a Munster Final meeting with Clare.

Scorers: Cork: Clara Healy 2-1, Eleanor Herlihy 1-2, J. O'Leary 1-2, G. O'Connor 0-3, C. Corkery 0-3, R. Moloney 0-2 (1 free), E. Dillon 0-1.
Tipperary: L. Young 1-1, P. Fogarty 0-2, C. Gogan 0-2 (1 free), N. O'Dwyer 0-1.

CORK: A. Murray (Capt.), J. O'Callaghan, R.

Holland, A. O'Regan, J. O'Sullivan, S. Hayes, N. Bowles, E. Dillon, A. O'Regan, C. Corkery, J. O'Leary, R. Moloney, G. O'Connor, E. O'Herlihy, C. Healy, Subs: A. Kelleher for A. O'Regan, Z. McDonald for N. Bowles, J. Twomey for A. O'Regan.

TIPPERARY: N. O'Dwyer, MR. Ryan, T. Hanrahan, S. Doran, J. O'Halloran, N. Harkin, L. Burke, P. Fogarty, (Capt) M. Stapleton, L. Young, C. Gogan, A. Woods, L. Gogan, M. Ryan, G. Kinnane, Subs: H. Breen for L. Burke, D. Ryan for A. Woods, N. Harrington for H. Breen.

Referee: P. McCarthy (Limerick).

Cork advance to Munster final

Cork
Tipperary 4-14
1-6

by Mary Newman

CORK advance to a Munster final meeting with Clare after a well-deserved victory over Tipperary at the Mardyke, Cork, on Sunday last.

Tipperary never got to grips with Cork. Losing the service of captain and goalkeeper Louise Ryan through injury just minutes before the throw Tipperary switched Niamh Dwyer to the goal keeping duties.

Rachel Moloney and Catherine Corkery had early Cork points before Ellen O'Herlihy gave her side a timely boost four minutes into the game. Cork continued to put the Tipp defence under pressure and picked off points from Gemma O'Connor and Catherine Corkery.

Tipp captain Philly Fogarty opened her side's account 16 minutes into the game with a point but Jennifer O'Leary replied from the puck out when she lobbed a high shot over the head of Niamh Dwyer in the Tipp goal. Four points without reply had Cork comfortable before Philly Fogarty had Tipperary's second point. A goal from Clara Healy and a point from O'Herlihy left Cork ahead 3-10 to 0-2 at the break.

Tipperary moved Philly Fogarty to

defence in the second half, who with Niamh O'Dwyer put the Cork defence under pressure. However, with Jean O'Sullivan keeping a tight reign on Claire Grogan, the Tipp attack was always limited. Rachel Moloney and Louise Young exchanged points to open the second half and despite further points from Tipp's Grogan and Dwyer, Cork were always in control. Clara Healy and Louise Young swapped goals inside the closing minute before Emer Dillon had Cork's closing point.

With goalie Aoife Murray, Ellen O'Herlihy, Aine O'Regan, Emer Dillon and Catherine Corkery turning in star roles, Cork will go into next Sunday's Munster final in Cork against Clare as favourites to retain their title.

Teams: Cork: Aoife Murray (c), Joanne O'Callaghan, Rosalie Holland, Amanda O'Regan, Jean O'Sullivan, Sarah Hayes, Niamh Bowles, Emer Dillon, Aine O'Regan, Catherine Corkery, Jennifer O'Leary, Rachel Moloney, Gemma O'Connor, Ellen O'Herlihy, Clara Healy, Subs: Aine Kelleher for Aine O'Regan, Zelle McDonnell for Niamh Bowles, Joan Twomey for Amanda O'Regan.

Tipperary: Niamh Dwyer, Mary Rose Ryan, Trisha Halloran, Siobhan Doran, Jennie O'Halloran, Niamh Harkin, Lorraine Burke, Philly Fogarty (c), Melissa Stapleton, Louise Young, Claire Grogan, Anna Wood, Linda Grogan, Moira Ryan, Ger Kinnane, Subs: Helen Breen for Lorraine Burke (inj), Denise Ryan for Anna Woods, Norma Harrington for Helen Breen.

Referee: Pauline McCarthy, Limerick.

Camogie

Camogie off to great start

by Mary Newman

ACTION on the playing fields resumes next Sunday. The first game of 2001 is the under-18 Munster championship semi-final, between Cork and Tipperary. Cork, the current holders of the crown, will face a stern test from a Tipperary side boasting fine players in Senior intercounty stars Claire Grogan, Philly Fogarty and Niamh Harkin.

Cork, coached by John Cronin from Cloughduv, also have talented players in Amanda O'Regan, Rachel Moloney, Clara Healy, Emer Dillon and captain Aoife Murray.

A very successful county convention was held at the Doughcloyne Hotel before Christmas. Filling the vacancies arising following the retirement of Angela Sheehan and Rose Mackey from the senior selection committee are former St Finbarr's senior hurling supremo Pa Finn and Eire Og and former Junior camogie selector Sheila O'Brien.

Former county secretary Tracy Sheehan and Sarsfields' Lillian Zincent join the Junior selection committee, as does Ballygarvan representative Oliver Hallahan.

The All-Ireland winning Intermediate selectors, Sheila Golden, Pat Murray and Kay Dunne, resume their roles. John Cronin and John Quinn continue as minor selectors.

Bishopstown's motion to set up a Juvenile county board was passed. Another motion from the same club to set up a committee to promote and develop the game at underage level met with unanimous support. Noreen Daly, Claire Donegan, Margaret Hyde, Ann Marie Nolan, Finbarr O'Callaghan and Tom Kiely were elected to the newly formed GPC.

Chairperson Sheila Golden thanked the ACC Bank and in particular Liam Harte, sponsors of the intercounty teams for the last six years, for all their help.

New year and fresh start for Rebels

THE arrival of a new year is traditionally a chance to turn over a new leaf and start afresh, and in keeping with the season, plenty of change is imminent in the coming months.

The Cork senior camogie set-up has been revamped for the year 2001.

Pa Finn of the Barrs and Sheila O'Brien from the Eire Og club have come on board, with the third selector yet to be announced by the county champions Bishopstown.

This trio will then appoint a trainer at the end of January.

But, before moving forward, Linda Mellerick, one of the leading lights on the present Cork outfit looks back with much admiration on the contribution of the out-going backroom team, who last month severed their involvement with the current inter-county action.

"Rose (Keane), Angela (Sheehan) and Tom (Nott) have given tremendous service to Cork camogie over the past number of years," she said.

The record under them is phenomenal by any standards. We won six National Leagues

THERESE O'CALLAGHAN View from the Ground



in-a-row ('95-2000), and since Tom got involved in 1995, we have contested five out of the six All Irelands - winning three.

"Collectively they can be very proud of their achievements and what they have done for

the game in the county. Despite losing out on three All Irelands, Cork are still the team of the decade," she added.

"But, at the end of the day, there comes a time when a person has to move on, no matter

how difficult it is - be it a player, selector or trainer. There is only so much they can give to any team. Also, when you are as successful as Cork have been over the last six or seven years, it is difficult to motivate yourself. You have to try hard to get that bite and feel the want that is needed to win an All Ireland.

"Sadly we had lost that hunger in the last year or two. This year's (2000) final told a big story. Tipperary needed no incentive playing against Cork and going for their second successive title. It was not easy for

us. We looked stale and lack lustre, and that comes with familiarity. We have all been together for so long. We knew after last September's final that a change was needed. Something had to be done to revive the team and make it more exciting to play again.

"Rose, Angela and Tom knew that themselves too, and some did not go forward for re-election," added the Cork star.

The players appreciate and understand their decision and want to thank them for all they have given over the years.



Cork's Gemma O'Connor in possession with Tipperary's Siobhán Doran closing in during Sunday's clash at the Mardyke.

Picture: News Pics

Tipp's trip sets up Cork's Clare clash

MUNSTER champions Cork turned in a tremendous display against Tipperary to advance to a Munster final meeting with Clare.

On a scoreline of 4-14, 1-6, Cork had too much strength for Tipperary at the Mardyke on Sunday last.

The holders always looked the stronger side in a contest that failed to live up to pre-match expectations.

Fielding three of their All-Ireland winning senior panel, Tipp went into Sunday's contest confident but lost injured captain and goalkeeper Louise Ryan just minutes before the throw-in.

Two points from Rachel Moloney and Catherine Corkery had the home side settled inside the opening minutes.

Ellen O'Herlihy gave them the boost they needed four minutes into the game when she finished

By **MARY NEWMAN-McCARTHY**

Camogie correspondent

well past Niamh Dwyer. With the Cork defence keeping a tight reign on the Tipp attack and Emer Dillon and Aine O'Regan winning the mid-field battle, Cork enjoyed maximum possession.

The Cork girls picked off delightful points with Gemma O'Connor and Catherine Corkery stretching the lead.

Tipp captain Philly Fogarty opened her side's account 16 minutes into the game with a point. But any hopes of a Tipp challenge raising its head were quickly squashed.

Jennifer O'Leary lobbed a high shot over the head of Niamh Dwyer in the Tipp goal.

Four points without reply had the Leesiders dictating matters before Tipp had their second point

from Philly Fogarty.

Tipperary moved Fogarty to defence for the second half and with Niamh O'Dwyer now joining the attack, the visitors came more into the game.

The Cork defence, although coming under more pressure in the second half, coped well and with Jean O'Sullivan superbly marshalling Claire Grogan, the Tipp attack was always limited.

Rachel Moloney and Louise Young exchanged points to open the half and swapped points on three occasions but with Cork always in control.

Tipperary found the going tough. Clara Healy and Louise Young swapped goals inside the closing minute but the game was over as a contest long before Emer Dillon's closing point for Cork.

Goalie Aoife Murray, Joanne O'Callaghan, Emer Dillon and Catherine Corkery were all in su-

perb form for Cork. Their performance makes them firm favourites to retain their title against Clare on Sunday next.

Before the game a minute's silence was observed in memory of the late Thady Roche who was a selector with the Cork side and who passed away before Christmas.

CORK: Aoife Murray (c), Joanne O'Callaghan, Rosalee Holland, Amanda O'Regan, Jean O'Sullivan, Sarah Hayes, Niamh Bowles, Emer Dillon, Aine O'Regan, Catherine Corkery, Jennifer O'Leary, Rachel Moloney, Gemma O'Connor, Ellen O'Herlihy, Clara Healy. Subs: Aine Kelleher for Aine O'Regan, Zelle McDonnell for Niamh Bowles, Joan Twomey for Amanda O'Regan.

TIPPERARY: Niamh Dwyer, Mary Rose Ryan, Trisha Halloran, Siobhán Doran, Jennie O'Halloran, Niamh Harkin, Lorraine Burke, Philly Fogarty (c), Melissa Stapleton, Louise Young, Claire Grogan, Anna Wood's Linda Grogan, Moira Ryan, Ger Kinnane. Subs: Helen Breen for Lorraine Burke (inj), Denise Ryan for Anna Wood's, Norma Harrington for Helen Breen.

SCORERS: **CORK:** Clara Healy 2-1, Ellen O'Herlihy 1-2, Jennifer O'Leary 1-2, Catherine Corkery 0-3, Gemma O'Connor 0-3, Rachel Moloney 0-2, Emer Dillon 0-1.

TIPPERARY: Louise Young 1-1, Claire Grogan 0-2, Philly Fogarty 0-2, Niamh Dwyer 0-1.

REFEREE: Pauline McCarthy, Limerick.

New format for the National League

THE format for the National League in February will be different to previous years.

The home and away system will be replaced by a neutral venue where the distance is greater than 100 miles for teams to travel.

This will have the advantage of teams not having to make long trips.

However it will mean extra travelling for some teams who will lose out on home games, instead having to travel to these neutral venues.

The organising of these venues will fall to hard-pressed county board officials and it remains to be seen if the new arrangements will work.

There is a new format to the zones for the leagues.

Divisions one and two are comprised of counties graded at senior and intermediate level.

Divisions 1A and 2A are the second teams for the same counties, while divisions three and four are comprised of counties graded junior.

Cork will participate in division one and division one A.

The top three teams in division one go through to a semi-final, with the top two teams in division two playing for a place in the semi-finals, with the winners meeting in the final.

In divisions 1A, 2A, 3 and 4, the top teams in these di-

visions go through to the semi-finals with the winners meeting in the final.

Interesting times ahead with Cork opening their campaign against All-Ireland champions Tipperary away from home.

Fixtures: Munster U-18 final, Sunday, January 21, Cork v Clare, Ballygarvan at 2pm.

Underage event is getting bigger by the year

THE young camogie players from the Na Piarsaigh club recently participated in an inter-club tournament that has gone from strength to strength since its inception.

The tournament honours one of the club's founding members - the late Josie McDonnell.

Rose Twohig, a mentor with the club, explained the success of the McDonnell tournament.

"The competition is organised for the under 12 players and in the season gone by we were unlucky with the weather and had to postpone on a few occasions."

For the first time the competition was held as an indoor one and again it was a resounding success.

Six teams participated for the trophy which was donated to the club by the ladies committee in the competition's inaugural year.

Run off over a six week period under the guidance of mentors Ann Marie Cooke, Rose Twohig, Christine Mullins, Brenda Mc Donnell, Catherine Hickey and Catherine Martin, the two top teams contested the final with the third, fourth, fifth and sixth placed teams also enjoying an extra game with a play-off for places.

Overall victory went to the team captained by Charlotte Kearney, who put in a great performance to take the honours.

Former club secretary Catherine Allen also paid tribute to the late Josie McDonnell: "The McDonnell family have given great service to the Na Piarsaigh club and the tournament is a fitting tribute to Josie's memory. It now plays an important role in the camogie club and commemorates one of their late founders of our club," added the former club secretary.

Many of the club's players have represented Cork at inter-county level - Paula Goggins, Marie Coughlan, Jean Paula Kent and Deirdre O'Shea to mention just a few. Indeed Deirdre O'Shea and Jean Kent had the distinction of winning the All-Ireland Féile na Gael skills titles in 1978, 79 and 83, with the club taking the Féile title in 1976.

For many years the club fielded a senior side but they regraded to junior in 1998 and decided last year not to field adult teams but to just concentrate on under age. Presently huge numbers are turning out regularly, with the club fielding teams from under 11 to under 16 in both the county board and Seandún competitions.

Last season the under 13 team took the Seandún league title - something that was very pleasing to the club as Catherine Allen explained: "It's important that the girls have a little bit of success as it helps to keep them interested in the game."

"The under 13 title in 1999 was the result of a lot of hard work by the club officials who coach the girls from under eight upwards and it was a reward for all the efforts put in by both the players and mentors."

JAN. 2000



CIT camogie bursary and scholarship winners pictured with John Tracy: Val O'Keeffe, Louise Murphy, Orla O'Sullivan and Paula O'Connor.

CIT aim to rewrite last year's score

UNDER the guidance of Miriam Deasy, camogie in Cork Institute of Technology continues to enjoy boundless success.

Losing the All-Ireland League final by one point in extra time to IT Carlow last season and reaching the semi-final of the Purcell Cup, the CIT girls are determined to make amends this time out.

With four games under their belts in the Southern Division League having defeated UCC, Waterford IT, Cork College of Further Education and Institute of Technology Tralee, the Cork ladies are top of the pile and looking good.

The winning margins in all four games suggest the CIT side was never troubled.

More pressing is the forthcoming preliminary round of the Purcell competition on Monday next where CIT meet Queens University Belfast. Victory will see the winners go into the semi-final of the Purcell cup. The winners will participate

By MARY NEWMAN-McCARTHY
Camogie correspondent

in the Purcell Shield. The prestigious Purcell competition is being hosted this year by CIT over the weekend of February 10 and 11.

It's all systems go as CIT set out on the first step of what they hope will lead to their first major trophy.

With the experience of Cloughduv's Sinéad Buckley, Paula O'Connor, Emer O'Farrell (Sars) and Emer O'Sullivan (Kilbrittan) in the side, Miriam Deasy is confident.

"The girls are determined to make amends for last year's defeat and have learned a lot from it. The team are very committed and motivated but we know Queens will be tough. They are a strong side who have performed well to date so we know it will be a fight to the finish," she said.

● Prior to the Christmas break, sports bursaries and Munster Council GAA scholarships were

awarded to the students at a function at the Imperial Hotel. Guest speaker on the night was John Treacy who spoke of a life time interest in sport and the enjoyment to be gained in the main by participation.

In all, 36 sports were honoured. Among the best was camogie, where no fewer than four players were recognised. The CIT Munster Council GAA Scholarship went to Cork Senior player Paula O'Connor from the Newtownshandrum club.

From a family steeped in hurling tradition, it was not surprising to see Paula the recipient of one of the night's most prestigious awards. A student of recreation and leisure since 1999 on a course led by former Cork inter-county footballer Kevin Kehilly, Paula plays a huge role in camogie at CIT.

Holder of an All-Ireland senior medal won in 1998, she has also represented the county at minor, junior and intermediate level as well as being a member of the Munster Gael Linn team.

Sports bursaries were awarded to three players who played big roles in Cork taking their first title in both the Junior National league and All-Ireland intermediate championship.

Valerie O'Keeffe won her first Junior National league medal when Cork defeated Kildare to record the county's first Junior League win. She has also won honours with the county at Munster U-18 and intermediate levels.

Orla O'Sullivan is a member of the St Finbarr's club and in the year gone again continued to impress, having in the previous year made a huge contribution to the Cork Junior All-Ireland success. Hers is a name to watch out for.

Louise Murphy was one of two players honoured in a dual capacity for her contributions to both camogie and Gaelic football. Louise was a member of the All-Ireland winning intermediate camogie squad. She won Munster and National league medals the same year.

Clon are tipped to go all the way to the final

CHAMPIONSHIP competitions at Munster post primary level are reaching their concluding stages.

Bad weather delayed matters but college secretary Mary Moran is hopeful that the backlog will be cleared in the near future and competitions will be at final stages on schedule.

Following on their defeat of St Mary's Nenagh, the Munster and All-Ireland Post Primary champions Our Lady's Templemore are now looking forward to a semi-final meeting with Sacred Heart Clonakilty in the Senior A competition.

Followers will remember that last season Clonakilty made wonderful strides in their first year in the A grade, losing out to St Mary's Nenagh.

Under the watchful eye of Liam Nash they recorded a victory over St Patrick's Shannon to make it to the semi-final.

Scorer in chief Jennifer O'Leary will again be the danger player that Templemore will need to keep a firm eye on, while Karen McCarthy, Isla Dineen and Marie Maloney are all match winners.

Templemore, with the title holders' scalp under their belts, are preparing hard for what is ahead under the guidance of coach Treasa Brennan.

On their side they have the impressive Claire Grogan who starred for Tipperary in the All-Ireland senior final while they also have Helena Costigan, Caroline Greed and Catherine Scanlon.

Already safely through to the Munster final are St Mary's Charleville whose record in All-Ireland colleges is awesome.

They won the senior colleges title in 1996, '97 '98 and '99, but fell at the hands of Nenagh last season.

However, the determination to succeed again is as great as ever.

Coach Vincent Harrington feels that the teams remaining in the competition are evenly matched.

"There is only a puck of a ball between Templemore, Clonakilty and ourselves," he said.

"I feel that Clon will have too much strength for Templemore and will come through to the final."

In their game with Colaiste Mhuire, Charleville notched up an impressive 6-7 to 1-1 winning scoreline and with former All-Ireland winning captain Niamh Bowles leading a side that reads impressively with Aine Kelleher, Anna Geary, Alison White and Marie Watson, it will take a good team to contain the North Cork college.

In the Senior B championship Newcastlewest and Christ the King Turner's Cross must meet in the quarter-final with the winners meeting Bandon.

Coachford College are busy preparing under the guidance of Rob Lott as they await the winners of the Borrisoleigh/S-carriff quarter-final.

Junior A semi-finals will see Shannon or Scarriff meet Charleville, while Coachford await the winners of the Ennis v Clonakilty clash. The Junior B championship still includes Bandon, Waterford, Newcastle West, Carrigaline, Tulla and Ballypheehane.

Gathering of camogie chiefs

MUNSTER amogie chiefs will gather in Ennis this weekend to review the year's activities.

Secretary Rose Malone looks back at a year when teams from the Munster counties took All-Ireland titles at senior and intermediate grades.

Rose also reports that Cork is leading the way with the number of clubs affiliated for the year having

increased. Other counties held their numbers with the exception of Tipperary, who are down from 28 to 24 clubs.

More good news is that the Munster Post Primary schools recorded three All-Ireland championship successes with St Mary's Nenagh taking the Senior A, St Patrick's Shannon the Senior B and St Mary's Charleville winning a record

10th All-Ireland sevens title.

The season ahead will see all Munster and All-Ireland colleges games being played as 15-a-side matches on full pitches.

A referees seminar will be held in Croke Park on February 3. The Munster council is being urged to set up a referees committee, something which delegates are sure to address as an important issue.

With the two All-Ireland titles coming to Munster, Rose pays tribute to Cork for completing the National League double for the first time in the county's history.

While congratulating existing officials, it would be great to see new faces getting involved.

Encouraging more members to take part in administration courses is important to the growth of the game.

With this in mind, Rose's report calls on the Munster council to establish a sub-committee to promote the game.

There will be a change of officers for the coming season with Cork's Maire Kearney taking over as vice-chairperson.

As Maire is the outgoing PRO there will be an election to fill this role.

Donohue calls for full turn out at training sessions

NEW Dublin camogie boss, PJ Donohue, doesn't believe in bold predictions.

Therefore, it's easy to understand why the first item on his agenda is to see a full turn-out at the Dublin training sessions.

For the next two months, on Mondays and Fridays, beginning next Friday, the Dubs will train under lights at St. Peregrine's.

And PJ insists that the players will want for nothing in terms of equipment and gear.

"I would appeal to the clubs to co-operate with us by releasing their players for training, etc. We all need to be singing from the same hymn sheet.

"I have taken on a huge job, and I fully realise what a big undertaking it is, but Dublin camogie needs a lift.

"I wasn't going to take over at all, but Seamus Massey and Marie O'Brien of the Co. Board convinced me. They are fantastic.

"Dublin haven't won the All-Ireland since 1984, and it's a long time since they won their last championship match.

"The players have become disillusioned

CAMOGIE BY NIAL SCULLY

with the situation that saw the county get trouncing after trouncing.

PJ replaces Tom Monaghan as the Dublin supremo, and the Ballyboden man is joined on the management team by club colleague, Paul Crosbie, and Na Fianna's Mary McKeon.

"We need to get pride back in the Dublin jersey. A county the size of Dublin should be up there competing at the top.

"Aside from camogie, Dublin seems to be different from the rest of the country. In a country place, you are a hero if you are on the county team, but that doesn't go for Dublin.

"That's what we are up against, but as Liam Griffin says, give me the player with heart and I will do something with him."

PJ's training programme will see the Blues put in the hard work over the next two months, then, come April, he will begin sharpening the speed and ball work.

"To get one of the two qualifying places from the League would be nice, but, considering I'm just starting in the job, that's not going to be easy.

"The target I will set is a win over Wexford in the All-Ireland Championship. Now that would be something.

"And by that stage in the summer I will know the players, and they will know me. I would love to turn things around for the county, because Dublin needs success badly," states PJ.

►The Dublin County Board will meet at Parnell Park next Monday, January 29, (7.30). A discussion will take place regarding transfer and regrading requests.

►Training for the Dublin Junior squad under Pat Duncan, Gerry McMahon and Marie O'Brien continues at the Phoenix Park on Saturday mornings (9.0).

►The new Dublin U-16 managers are Peter Lucey, Nuala Pope and Tom Hayes.

►Fiona Ni Chorcair has been selected as captain of the University of Limerick's Ashbourne team.

All too easy as classy Cork retain U-18 title

Cork
Clare

6-18
0-2

THE scoreline tells its own story as champions Cork had little difficulty in retaining their Munster U18 camogie crown at Ballygarvan.

From the moment Ellen O'Herlihy opened with a Cork point, her side were in control.

Two goals inside seven minutes from Jennifer O'Leary and O'Herlihy had the champions firing on all cylinders. Points from Rachel Moloney and Jennifer O'Leary extended their lead before Cork effectively killed off any chance of a Clare revival with goals from Gemma O'Connor and Ellen O'Herlihy.

Clare closed the half with points from Aoife Ryan and Clare McMahon but Cork's half time lead of 4-7 to 0-2 gave the visitors a mountain to climb.

The trend was much the same throughout the second half with Cork again in control.

Opening goals from Emer Dillon and Ciara Healy ensured long before the final whistle that the champions retained their title.

Scorers, Cork: R. Moloney 0-10, C. Healy 1-4, E. O'Herlihy 2-1, E. Dillon 1-1, J. O'Leary 1-1, G. O'Connor 1-0, N. Goulding 0-1.
Clare: A. Ryan, C. McMahon 0-1 each.
CORK: A. Murray, R. Holland, J. O'Callaghan, Amanda O'Regan, J. O'Sullivan, S. Hayes, N. Bowles, E. Dillon, A. O'Regan, C. Corkery, J. O'Leary, R. Moloney, G. O'Connor, E. O'Herlihy, C. Healy. Subs: C. O'Gorman for J. O'Sullivan, N. Goulding for G. O'Connor, M. Holland for J. O'Leary.
CLARE: R. Lynch, E. Keating, D. Lynch, M. Keane, S. Tierney, J. Scanlon, S. Fitzgerald, A. O'Regan, A. Ryan, N. Murphy, S. O'Loughlin, M. O'Halloran, G. Commene, C. McMahon, M. Hayes.

Cork are on track for back-to-back titles in final against Clare

IN A competition that only goes to provincial level Cork make their bid for back-to-back titles in a Munster final meeting with Clare in the Under 18 Camogie Championship at Ballygarvan tomorrow.

Following on four postponements Cork finally got to meet Tipperary in the semi-final on Sunday last and certainly on the evidence of that display they will be hard to beat. Sharper, fitter and more determined in all sectors the Cork girls never allowed Tipperary settle, impressive forwards Ellen O'Herlihy, Ciara Healy, and Jennifer O'Leary are a class combination, whilst the hard working Aine O'Regan and Emer Dillon at centre field ensured a steady supply.

An indication of the strength of the Cork defence is that they held a much vaunted Tipperary attack which included two of their All-Ireland senior winning team to 1-6.

Clare travel to Cork knowing they face a tough task. Selector Maura Sheedy is under no illusions as to the job ahead "Cork will be at an advantage with the game under their belt against Tipperary on Sunday last. We were going well before the Christmas break but we found it hard to get the team motivated since. However they have put in the work and we will be confident of giving Cork a good run."

Coached by Sixmilebridge's Flan McInerney who is a keen observer of camogie, the Clare side includes senior players Marie O'Halloran and Sharon O'Loughlin, whilst minor Denise Lynch, Claire Commene, and goalie Rachel Lynch, all impressed in Clare's opening game where they recorded a comprehensive victory over Waterford.

The form books looked tipped for Cork to make back-to-back titles.



Pictured at the Courcy Rovers GAA dinner in the Munster Arms Hotel in Bandon were Joanne Hayes, Aine and Maura O'Regan, Sarah Hayes and Rachel Maloney who all played for Cork during the past year.

Rebels steamroll Banner to take title

Cork
Clare

6-18
0-2

THERE is no doubt that this Cork U-18 camogie outfit have pushed all the right buttons in their quest for honours in the 2000 Munster championship.

Yesterday's final at Ballygarvan was no different. The scoreline says it all. The Rebel County steam-

rolled Clare into oblivion, and but for outstanding keeper Rachel Lynch, the story could have been a lot worse for the Banner County.

So why are Cork so far ahead? According to Munster Council secretary Rose Malone, it is up to the other counties to raise their standard to Cork's level.

"Counties will have to start coaching players and

prepare properly for this competition. It is in their own hands to try and compete with the higher standard."

"We must also remember that Cork have the biggest pick in Munster with 53 clubs. Clare, Limerick and Tipperary have between 20 and 25 each."

It would therefore appear that there is simply not enough depth of talent outside of Leaside. But the

question now to be answered is: Can Cork transfer their winning streak to the senior side?

"It is up to the new selectors and the players to get the right combination. I feel there is need for a lot of change. These young players here today have to get their chance," added Rose.

Yesterday's performance was once again flawless. Jennifer O'Leary and

Ellen O'Herlihy equally shared 4-2; 11 points came from free-taker Rachel Moloney; Ciara Healy hit 1-3, and midfielder Emer Dillon bagged 1-1. Sub Niamh Goulding completed the tally.

Power and pace, added to a solid defensive display was always going to ensure captain Aoife Murray to collect the silverware for the Rebel County for a second year in-a-row.



St Mary's Charleville will be looking to forward Marie Watson for vital scores against Sacred Heart Clonakilty.

Ashbourne holders UCC face tough cup tie repeat

THE Ashbourne Cup holds a special place in the hearts of third level students and is a competition that has a magic all of its own.

An Ashbourne medal is a treasured possession and anybody who has played in the competition carries memories of a very special weekend.

Qualification for the competition, hosted by Athlone Institute on the weekend of February 23, begins this weekend.

Holders UCC travel to Belfield to cross swords with UCD in a repeat of last year's decider.

It's a tough opener for the Cork students who have performed well in their league games this season, recording five wins out of six to make it through to the semi-final stages.

The UCC line up reads somewhat like an inter-county selection with Cork, Tipperary and Galway all well represented.

And the Cork side has been boosted this season by the inclusion of Sarah Hayes, Rachel Moloney, Una O'Dwyer, Ann Hardiman and Emer Mc Donnell, all inter-county players.

The side is littered with inter-county stars, namely Una O'Donoghue, Sinead O'Callaghan, Elaine Burke, Ger Casey, Caroline Giltinane and Linda O'Connell.

UCD, beaten by the minimum margin in last year's final, will be confident that on home ground they can reverse the result.

The Dublin side also boast a strong contingent of inter-county players and have prepared well.

Alva Kelly, Michelle O'Leary and Aine Codd have lined out in the Wexford colours whilst Elma Walsh, Deirdre McDonnell and Caoimhe Harrington have lined out in the Kilkenny, Tipperary and Cork colours respectively.

An interesting twist to the clash is that sisters will line out on both sides and could possibly end up marking each other.

Tipperary's Emer and Deirdre McDonnell line out at right corner forward and left corner back respectively.

Likewise it will be intriguing day for the Harrington sisters, Caoimhe and Muireann, who look set to be at full forward and full back.

Another player who will be in an interesting position is Tipperary's Una O'Dwyer who last year wore the UCD colours but this year is lining out in the Cork University jersey.

Coached by former Cork and Sarsfields hurler John Considine, who is joined by Rose Desmond and Eamonn Ryan on the selection committee, the UCC girls, captained by Kilbrittain's Deirdre Coughlan, should have enough to advance to the closing stages of the Ashbourne.

In other games next weekend, UCG take on a WIT side that will have Courcey Rovers' Joanne Hayes in goal.

University of Limerick take on Maynooth while Athlone entertain University of Ulster Jordanstown.

All-Cork clash in the Munster final

AN indication of the strength of camogie in Cork colleges is that two teams from the county contest the Munster Post Primary Senior A final next Saturday.

St Mary's Charleville seek their eighth Senior A title when they come face to face with Sacred Heart Clonakilty, seeking their first.

Two years ago on a great day for Cork camogie, St Mary's and Sacred Heart made it a Cork double taking the A and B All-Ireland titles.

Since that evening, Sacred Heart have made the step up to A grade with ease. Having knocked out holders Nenagh, Templemore were confident of advancing to the closing stages but were brought crashing down to earth by a superb Clonakilty side who recorded a 3-10 to 0-1 winning margin to set up Saturday's clash.

The meeting is all the more interesting given that coaches to the sides Liam Harte of Clonakilty and Vincent Harrington of St Mary's are near neighbours and long-time friends. Both plot to bring about the

Fixtures

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3
Munster Post Primary Senior A final: St Mary's Charleville v Sacred Heart Clonakilty, Charleville 2pm.
Ashbourne Cup qualifier: UCC v UCD, Belfield, 3pm.

By MARY NEWMAN-McCARTHY
Camogie correspondent

other's downfall and take the title. Defeating Colaiste Mhuire in their semi-final outing, St Mary's looked to have regained the fire that was missing last year. With a renewed hunger for victory they will be hard to stop.

Last year's loss of Eileen O'Brien and Catherine Lesley is a big one; however, such is the talent at their disposal that the newcomers have fitted in well.

While a team line-out is not as yet available, the side will be captained by Niamh Bowles, joined by Christine O'Gorman, Aine Kelleher, Emer and Marie Watson. They're all players who have worn the Cork



Clonakilty count on Isla Dineen in the Munster Post Primary final.

jersey; Limerick's Aoife Sheehan, Edwina Boyce and Alison White are no strangers to big time action either.

Clonakilty will be under no illusions as about the task ahead but know they are capable of taking the title. Last year they came close to knocking out Nenagh who went on

to take the All-Ireland title.

As with their opponents, the Clon side contains several players with inter-county experience. Their trump card is Jennifer O'Leary who continues to be a huge influence in all her games. Isla Dineen, Marie Moloney and Karen McCarthy have the experience and Clon will be hoping it will show.

The first 15-a-side Munster Post Primary Senior A final promises to be a cracker. The form books point to Charleville but write off Clonakilty at your peril.

The Senior B championship continues to make progress. Bandon recorded a victory over Christ the King Turner's Cross to qualify for their first Munster final. They now await the winners of the Coachford-Borrisoleigh clash.

In the Junior A, either Clonakilty or Coachford have a semi-final appointment with Charleville, who recorded a fine win over Scariff.

Cork colleges feature strongly in the Junior B semi-finals with Carrigaline and Newcastlewest battling it out for a final spot.

The second semi-final features Bandon against Mercy Waterford.

Cork still wearing the Munster crown

NEVER troubled, Cork coasted to victory to retain their Munster U-18 title against a Clare side who never looked to have the measure of their opponents.

Stronger in all sectors, Cork opened with a good point from Ellen O'Herlihy who this season has been consistent with both club and county.

From here on, Cork dictated the pace following a Jennifer O'Leary goal after five minutes. Two goals from O'Herlihy plus one from Gemma O'Connor showed the Cork dominance.

Clare, to their credit, fought hard and points from Aoife Ryan and Clare McMahon lifted their

spirits before the break. But by then, they faced a huge task with Cork having knocked over points from Rachel Moloney and Jennifer O'Leary to leave the holders comfortably ahead at the break 4-7 to 0-2.

Any hopes of a Clare revival were quashed inside the opening minutes of the second half with goals from

Emer Dillon and Ciara Healy. The Cork girls continued to dominate to run out winners and make it back to back Munster titles.

Captain Aoife Murray received the trophy and paid tribute to players and selectors John Cronin and Sheila O'Brien and the late Thady Roche, in whose memory they dedicated their win.

TEAMS

CORK: A Murray, R Holland, J O'Callaghan, Amanda O'Regan, J O'Sullivan, S Hayes, N Bowles, E Dillon, Aine O'Regan, C Corkery, J O'Leary, R Moloney, G O'Connor, E O'Herlihy and C Healy.

Subs: C O'Gorman for J O'Sullivan, N Goulding for G O'Connor, M Holland for J O'Leary.

CLARE: R Lynch, E Keating, D Lynch, M Keane, S Tierney, J Scanlon, S Fitzgerald, A O'Regan, A Ryan, N Murphy, S McLoughlin, M O'Halloran, C Commans, C McMahon and M Hayes.

Sub: M Whelton for A Ryan.

FEB

2000

MUNSTER POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS

SENIOR A

CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

ST. MARY'S, CHARLEVILLE

V

SACRED HEART, CLONAKILTY

3rd February, 2001.

Charleville @ 2 p.m.

REFEREE: Betty Joyce, Killeagh

Tough call for Clon v St Mary's match

SACRED HEART Clonakilty and St Mary's Charleville will meet in the first all-Cork Munster A Colleges camogie final since 1992. Back then, St Patrick's defeated St Mary's Midleton.

But this weekend's final takes on a new twist as the two managers are good friends.

Liam Nash is boss in the west Cork school and Vincent Harrington is the man at the helm in north Cork. And both, according to Munster Council Colleges secretary Mary Moran, have done a great deal to promote the game.

"Liam has brought Clonakilty on a lot. They won the All-Ireland senior B title two years ago and lost out narrowly to Nenagh last season in the Munster A final. They are back in another provincial final to look for their first title," she said.

"Vincent has been involved with Charleville since about 1985. Their record speaks for itself; on Saturday they will be looking for their eighth Munster Senior A title," she added.

The north Cork side received a bye into this season's championship semi-final, which is run

THERESE O'CALLAGHAN View from the Ground



on an open draw basis. But there was no sign of complacency, shooting six goals and seven points while conceding only one goal and three points. Clonakilty, on the other hand have had a much tougher as-

signment.

This year's showcase event has attracted much interest at a local level: Can Clonakilty become the new Charleville? The west Cork school comes from the heart of football country, but

six of the line-out played with Barryroe in the 2000 Cork county senior final.

Their goalkeeper, Marian Murphy, was runner-up in the All-Ireland Féile skills competition last year. Cora Keohane and Jennifer O'Leary have been instrumental in their success.

Charleville, on the other hand, are old hands at this game. They have a very impressive record since camogie was introduced to the school in 1984.

In addition to many Cork Colleges titles, they have 33

Munster Colleges honours to their credit.

Among their selection is Aoife Sheehan, an All Ireland club winner with Limerick county champions Granagh/Ballingarry.

Ten of their outfit won All Ireland sevens medals last season and many have worn the red and white of Cork. Despite losing Eileen O'Brien, they still have a very talented side including Christine O'Gorman, Aine Kelleher, Niamh Bowles and the Watson sisters Emer and Marie.

ST. MARY'S, CHARLEVILLE SACRED HEART, CLONAKILTY

Navy and Blue

- 1 Elizabeth Lenihan
- 2 Edwina Boyce
- 3 Noelle O'Riordan
- 4 Aoife Dillon
- 5 Anna Geary
- 6 Aine Kelleher
- 7 Christine O'Gorman
- 8 Niamh Bowles
- 9 Deirdre Hayes
- 10 Aoife Sheehan
- 11 Eimear O'Friel
- 12 Maria Watson
- 13 Emer Watson
- 14 Alison White
- 15 Sinead McAuliffe

Subs:

- 16 Una Harrington
- 17 Aisling O'Brien
- 18 Elaine O'Riordan
- 19 Aimee McCarthy
- 20 Imelda Sexton
- 21 Lisa Healy
- 22 Caitriona Noonan

COACHES: Mr. Vincent Harrington
Ms. Anna Marie O'Keeffe

Red and Green

- 1 Marian Murphy
- 2 Eileen Carroll
- 3 Mary Sheehy
- 4 Aileen McCarthy
- 5 Anne-Marie Fleming
- 6 Karen McCarthy
- 7 Eimear McCarthy
- 8 Isla Dineen (Capt)
- 9 Louise Gannon
- 10 Carol Dineen
- 11 Vicki Hennessy
- 12 Jennifer O'Leary
- 13 Rosemary Dineen
- 14 Eimear O'Regan
- 15 Marie Moloney

- 16 Nicola O'Donovan
- 17 Louise O'Flynn
- 18 Susan Forristal
- 19 Laura Guest
- 20 Grace O'Regan
- 21 Louise Daly

Mr. Liam Nash

CIT camogie team hungry for victory

IT IS probably safe to say that in 1999, Cork Institute of Technology could not have foreseen that they would be so much in the news in 2001.

This weekend they compete in the last four of the Purcell Cup at Limerick IT.

Two years ago CIT were not a force to be reckoned with in college camogie. But all that changed when sports officer Miriam Deasy decided enough was enough. The college entered a team in last season's Purcell Cup.

"With quality players avail-

able, we felt it was time to move up and it has paid off," said Miriam. "We won our way to the semi-final only to lose out to St Mary's Belfast. We got to the league final too but we were defeated by Carlow IT.

"I think we have justified moving up the ranks. This year we are top of the league and are through to the semi-final.

"We beat WIT's and UCC's second teams, Tralee IT and Cork College of Further Education," added Miriam.

CIT camogie received a boost last November when

THERESE O'CALLAGHAN View from the Ground

Paula O'Connor of Newtownshandrum got one of four Munster Council GAA scholarships for £750. Also among the recipients of 40 bursaries were Aghabullogue's Louise Murphy, Valerie O'Keeffe from Kilbrittain

and Orla O'Sullivan of the St Finbarr's club.

This recognition has helped the game flourish. The talent is there and it is beginning to gel. Training, according to Miriam, is going well and the team has put

in a lot of hard work over the past few months. While failing to take honours last year, the feeling is that the hunger is there for this season's decider.

"This year we want to go a step further," explained Miriam.

"We want to get to the final. We are capable of beating St Pat's Drumcondra (semi-final draw), and I expect Carlow IT to beat Jordanstown in the other game."

CIT are fortunate to have retained almost all of the side from last year's competition, with the exception of Paula

Goggins, Karen O'Sullivan and Denise Manton.

Goalkeeper Gillian Coleman of Ballygran and corner forward Mairead Kelly play club camogie with Ballygran and Galbally respectively. The remaining 10 play with Cork clubs. Captain Nora Ahern is joined in defence by Sinead Buckley, Eimear O'Sullivan and Amanda Murphy. At centrefield are Valerie O'Keeffe, Louise Murphy and Emer Farrell. Paula O'Connor leads the attack with Orla O'Sullivan and Mary Brigid Enneguesse.



FEB.

2001

Coachford bow out fighting

St Joseph's Borrisoleigh
Coachford College

2-6
1-2

THE senior B post primary semi-final saw Coachford knocked out at the hands of St Joseph's Borrisoleigh in Mitchelstown. The Tipperary school, which took the Junior B* title last season, fielded no fewer than five of last season's Tipperary minor panel.

Coachford, with a point from Kate Crowley, took an early lead but Borrisoleigh hit back with points from the impressive Melissa Stapleton and Louise Young. Coachford were lucky not to be further in arrears when Borrisoleigh missed a golden opportunity from ten yards with a goal at their mercy.

With Maura O'Leary and Niamh O'Connell performing well, Coachford came more into the game. Mary Buckley, with a long delivery, found Michelle Cooney who finished to the net. Margaret McCarthy and Cork minor Joan Twomey were also playing well.

However, the strong Borrisoleigh side retained the initiative with a superb goal from Geraldine Kinnane. Now in the driving seat, the Tipperary girls stretched their advantage with points from Louise Young and Triona Dunne.

Ger Kinnane struck for her side's second goal but Coachford battled back and were unlucky to have a late Michelle Cooney goal disallowed. With it, their chance of making it to the final disappeared.

For Borrisoleigh, full forward Ger Kinnane and centre back Maria Tynan were vital. Niamh O'Connell and Mary Buckley performed well for Coachford.

Borrisoleigh now meet Bandon in the senior B final on this Wednesday afternoon in Borrisoleigh at 1 pm. In the Junior A championship, Clonakilty and Coachford battle it out in the semi-final, with the winners meeting Charleville.

Three Harte goals send UCC into semi-final

UCC
UCD

3-7
1-5

HOLDERS UCC set up an Ashbourne Cup semi-final meeting with WIT after they recorded an eight-point victory over last year's defeated finalists UCD in Belfield on Saturday last.

Three goals from the impressive Caoimhe Harte helped UCC to victory. Leading 1-2 to 0-3 at the interval, UCC began to dominate the second half, with two Harte goals and points from Emer McDonnell and Sinead O'Callaghan.

In the second Ashbourne quarter-final played at the weekend, WIT recorded a 3-6 to 2-4 victory over UCG. Level going into the final minutes, WIT secured victory with four points without reply to set up a semi-final meeting with UCC.

In a local clash, UL defeated Mary Immaculate training college, 3-16 to 3-4, to set up a semi-final meeting with Athlone IT, which hosts the Ashbourne Cup on February 17/18.

Sister act in cup

THE Ashbourne Cup gathers momentum this weekend and the meeting of arch rivals UCC and UCD is generating a lot of interest **writes JOHN HORGAN.**

For one family it's a particularly noteworthy occasion. Tipperary twin sisters, Deirdre and Eimear McDonnell from Nenagh will be two central figures on the big stage but they will be on opposite sides.

And the sisters, nieces of former Cork legend Billy Morgan, could even end up marking each other.

Deirdre will be wearing the colours of the Dublin college while Eimear will be in the skull and cross bones of UCC.

Still very much in their teens, both girls have already made their mark further up the scale.

Eimear is the holder of two All

Ireland senior medals with Tipperary and Deirdre has won the Premier County colours at junior level.

Their mother Mary is a sister of Billy Morgan and their dad Brian has lined out with Tipp at intermediate level.

Eimear has made her mark as a forward of immense quality while Deirdre has defended her lines with aplomb when the occasion demanded.

Word has it that they will square up to each other tomorrow and if they do it will add another extra dimension to a potentially cracking encounter.

One way or the other the McDonnell family can't lose this one but there will be heartbreak for Deirdre or Eimear.

But the one certainty is that at the end of it all they'll be the first to congratulate and commiserate with each other whatever way the game goes tomorrow.

Clon's advantage

ST MARY'S Charleville will approach tomorrow's Munster Senior camogie colleges A final with a certain degree of caution, despite the fact that they will be favourites to take the title on home ground. Coach, Vincent Harrington is also slightly concerned with the fact that they have not had a championship outing in 11 weeks.

"It is mid November since we played our opening game against Colaiste Mhuire, Ennis. We've had several challenge matches since in the hope of keeping ourselves fresh. It will be 50/50. We met in last year's Cork colleges final and we had only two points to spare in a brilliant match," he said.

The North Cork school who received a bye into this season's semi-final are at a disadvantage to

their opponents who had an opening game against St Patrick's Shan-non, and just eight days ago qualified for the ultimate stage with a confidence-boosting win over Our Lady's Templemore. Charleville too have lost the services, from last year, of Eileen O'Brien and Catherine Leslie - both of whom have progressed to third level education.

Sacred Heart Clonakilty are a changed side too from last season. Rosalie Holland is their most notable absentee and is now a first year student at UCC. However, the West Cork side are a force to be reckoned with, evidence of which can be seen from their big semi-final win over Templemore, which was quite pleasing to manager, Throw-in at the Charleville GAA grounds is at 2pm.

Clonakilty-Charleville final promises to be a cracker

Camogie

ST MARY'S of Charleville, seeking their eighth title, meet Sacred Heart of Clonakilty in an all-Cork Munster Post Primary Senior A Colleges final on Saturday next, in Charleville. Holders Nenagh were knocked out by Templemore, who were crushed by a superb Clonakilty in the semi-final.

In their semi-final victory over Colaiste Mhuire, St Mary's showed a great hunger for victory and let it be known that they mean business this year. They have a great record in Munster and All-Ireland colleges, having four All-Ireland Senior titles to their credit. With 11 players who have represented either Cork or Limerick at inter-county level in their side, they will be quietly confident of advancing on Saturday next.

Captained by Niamh Bowles, who led the Cork minors to All-Ireland honours in 1999, they also field All-Ireland winners Aine Kelleher, Marie Watson and Christine O'Gorman, whilst Limerick's Alison White and Aoife Sheehan are experienced campaigners.

Promoted last season to A grade,

having won the Senior B title, Clonakilty came close to knocking out Nenagh - who went on to take the All-Ireland title. The Clon side also contains several players with inter-county experience. Six of the side lined out with Barryroe in the Cork Senior county championship final and will not be nervous about the task ahead.

It promises to be a cracker.

Crucial

UCC play a crucial qualifier for the Ashbourne cup on Saturday next, when they meet UCD in Belfield. It's a tough opener for the Cork University, who met UCD in last year's final - where they recorded a narrow, one-point winning margin.

With their league campaign having gone well to date, recording five wins out of six, they are now through to the semi-final. Mindful of last year's one-point defeat, UCD be confident that, on home ground, they will reverse that result.

St. Mary's run riot to claim Munster title

St. Mary's (Charleville)
Sacred Heart (Clonakilty)

8-13
1-1

by Tom Higgins

ST. MARY'S, Charleville captured their ninth Munster Post Primary College's Senior "A" camogie title at Dromcollogher, Co Limerick on Saturday with a facile win over Sacred Heart (Clonakilty).

Superior in all departments, they gave an excellent display of top class camogie and had the game sewn up by half time when they led by 4-8 to 0-0, thanks to the scoring power of 14-year-old Emer Watson.

Once Emer scored her side's first goal in the 5th minute, her side never looked back and, showing tremendous skill and determination they gave the Sacred Heart defence a torrid time.

A feature of St. Mary's play was the way they were able to pick the ball on the run and race past the Sacred Heart defence to set up their colleagues.

Sacred Heart are not a bad team but they were never in the same class as their opponents and, although they tried very hard, a solid St. Mary's defence gave them little scope, with star forward Jennifer O'Leary a peripheral figure.

Sacred Heart, on the other hand, gave Emer Watson and her colleagues too much room and, when one of them was tackled, a team-mate was always on hand to receive a pass.

One must pay tribute to the losers, who, though they were always fighting a losing battle, never gave up trying.

If St. Mary's can reproduce this form in the semi-final against the Connacht champions they will be hard to beat.

Scorers - St Mary's: E. Watson 6-5; S. McAuliffe 1-1, M. Watson 1-0, A. Sheehan 0-4 (0-1 45, 0-1 free), A. White, L. O'Freil and U. Harrington 0-1 each. Sacred Heart: R. Dineen 1-0, J. O'Leary 0-1 (free). ST. MARY'S (CHARLEVILLE): E. Lennihan; E. Boyce, N. O'Riordan, A. Dillon; A. Geary, A. Kelleher, C. O'Gorman; N. Bowles (capt), D. Hayes, A. Sheehan, E. O'Freil, M. Watson; E. Watson, A. White, S. McAuliffe. Subs: U. Harrington for S. McAuliffe (49th minute); A. O'Brien and E. O'Riordan for E. Boyce and A. Dillon (53rd minute); A. McCarthy for C. O'Gorman and E. Watson (55th minute). SACRED HEART (CLONAKILTY): M. Murphy; E. Carroll, L. Daly, A. McCarthy; A. M. Fleming, K. McCarthy; E. McCarthy; J. Dineen (capt); L. Gannon; C. Dineen, V. Hennessy; J. O'Leary; R. Dineen; E. O'Regan, M. Moloney. Sub: N. O'Donovan for E. McCarthy (40th minute). Referee: Ms. B. Joyce (Killeagh).

CAMOGIE

Purcell Cup: Cork IT 2-8 (M. Kelly, M. B. Enneaguess 1-0 each, O. O'Sullivan 0-4, P. O'Connor 0-2, V. O'Keefe, L. Murphy 0-1 each); Carlow IT 0-8 (S. Tannin 0-5, E. Hayden 0-3). Purcell Shield Final: GMT 4-6 (C. Conroy 2-3, C. Nevin 2-2, V. Sweeney 0-1). Limerick IT 1-7 (A. O'Sullivan 1-1, E. O'Brien 0-5, M. Keating 0-1). Ulster Schls PP JC A: St Patrick's Keady 3-4 (N. McKee, L. Loughran, U. O'Farrell 1-0 each, C. Kinsella 0-2, M. McGuigan, E. Hughes 0-1 each). St Louis Ballymena 3-1 (B. Clarke 1-1, C. Graham 1-0, S. Madden 1-0). Leitrim Fontenoy's Cup Final: St Mary's Magherafelt 9-5 (K. McAuley 3-1, C. McCann 2-4, C. McAtee 2-0, A. Lavery, C. O'Boyle 1-0 each). St Joseph's Crossmaglen 0-1 (A. McEntee 0-1). Ulster Colleges Junior Final: St Patrick's Keady 3-4; St Louis Ballymena 3-1.

CAMOGIE

Ashbourne Cup quarter-finals: WIT 3-7, UCG 2-6. UL 3-16, Mary 1-3-4. Munster PP Schs SC A final: St Mary's Charleville 8-13 (E. Watson 6-4, S. McAuliffe 1-1, M. Watson 1-0, A. Sheehan 0-4, A. White 0-2, U. Harrington, E. O'Freil 0-1 each). Sacred Heart Clonakilty 2-1 (J. O'Leary 1-1, A. M. Dineen 1-0).

Ulster PP Schls SC A final: St Mary's Magherafelt 2-4 (K. McAuley, T. McCann 1-0 each, P. Bell 0-3, P. Bateson 0-1). St Patrick's Maghera 1-3 (O. Mullin 1-1, D. McMaster, P. McCloy 0-1 each). Ulster Senior B Fr Davies Cup final: St Louis Ballymena 3-3 (A. Graham 2-1, U. Hamill 1-0, M. O'Connell 0-2). St Patrick's Keady 0-2 (U. O'Farrell, P. Murray 0-1 each).

CIT too strong for Queens

CIT
Queens University

11-14
0-1

CORK Institute of Technology advanced comfortably to the semi-final of the Purcell Cup - to be played next weekend in Limerick - after a big victory over Queens.

CIT led from the throw-in, when Eimear O'Farrell beat the Queens defence to score a blistering goal. CIT piled on the pressure and commanded the opening half. With captain Nora Ahern dominant at centre back, Queens found it hard to break down the CIT defence and, with the

Cork side's forward line winning possession, they piled on the scores to lead 5-7 to no score at the break.

Queens started the second half with more determination, but they failed to get the vital scores needed.

The physically fitter and more skilful CIT continued to dictate matters with Mairéad Kelly, Paula O'Connor and Eimear O'Farrell performing well.

Team coach, Miriam Deasy, expressed satisfaction at the result. CIT now meet St Patrick's Drumcondra on Saturday next in Limerick.

● CAMOGIE ●

Saturday: Ashbourne Cup Semi-Finals at St. Brigid's Kilbarnock - University of Limerick v Athlone IT, 1.00; UCC v Waterford IT, 3.00. Ashbourne Shield Semi-Finals at Pairc Chiarán, Athlone. Mary Immaculate (Limerick) v St. Mary's, 12.00; UCD v National University of Galway, 2.00. Sunday Feb 18 at Athlone College - Ashbourne Shield Final, 1.00; Ashbourne Cup Final, 3.00. Combined Purcell Colleges team: M. Dowds (Queens); S. Buckley (Cork IT), J. Murnane (Tralee IT), G. Corcoran (St Patrick's, Drumcondra); M. Heaney (St Patrick's, Drumcondra), C. Doherty (University of Ulster, Jordanstown), N. Ahearn, Capt (Cork IT); E. Hayden (Carlow IT), V. Sheehan (Limerick IT); E. O'Brien (Limerick IT), P. McAtamney (University of Ulster, Jordanstown), P. O'Connor (Cork IT); C. Nevin (Galway-Mayo IT), Claire Conway (Galway-Mayo IT), S. Tannin (Carlow).

Cork IT record fine win

Cork IT 2-8
Carlow IT 0-8

IT was carnival time yesterday for the camogie team of CIT as they won their first Purcell Cup in St Patrick's GAA grounds in Limerick, writes **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**.

In only their second year of participation in this competition, it was a colossal performance from them.

These two passionate sides are well-acquainted, having drawn in last season's league decider and then after extra time, a one-point advantage decided the issue in Carlow's favour.

And yesterday, another titanic struggle ensued in very heavy conditions. After qualifying for the final 24 hours earlier against St Pat's Drumcondra (3-11 to 4-3), CIT showed one enforced change when goalkeeper Gillian Coleman was forced off with a knee injury.

Her deputy Ann Marie Rafferty from Mullinavat performed heroically.

But yesterday's victory was about no one person. It was really a story of pride and hunger with centre-back Nora Ahern, midfielders Valerie O'Keeffe and Paula O'Connor, and Orla O'Sullivan all in brilliant form. And with yet another honour heading for the O'Connor household in Newtownshandrum, Paula was over the moon with her latest addition.

Meanwhile, in the Shield final Limerick IT had to give way to Galway/Mayo IT who claimed their first title on a scoreline of 4-6 to 1-7.

Camogie

St Mary's Charleville
Sacred Heart Clonakilty

8-13
1-1

TAKING their eighth Munster Senior A Post Primary Championship title, St Mary's Charleville gave a display of excellent camogie when they defeated Sacred Heart Clonakilty in Drumcollagher on Saturday last.

Sinead McAuliffe pointed the way to victory a minute into the game. Continuing to dominate, the Charleville girls led 1-4 to no score ten minutes into the game after right corner forward Emer Watson had the opening goal.

With Aoife Sheehan, Alison White and Emer Watson picking off points, the Clonakilty girls were under tremendous pressure and were in further trouble when Emer Watson struck for another goal in the 12th and 17th minutes.

Struggling to get upfield, Clon found the going tough against a solid defence where Noelle O'Riordan,

Aoife Dillon and Aine Kelleher were in command. After the impressive Emer Watson added a fourth goal, St Mary's held a 4-8 to no score half-time advantage.

Clonakilty were under pressure from the resumption and any chance of a revival was quashed when Sinead McAuliffe and Marie Watson struck four goals inside seven minutes.

Reshuffling their line-out, Clonakilty worked hard and were rewarded when Jennifer O'Leary pointed a free from the puck-out. Clonakilty again came upfield and pressing hard had a Rosemary Dineen goal.

Despite the scoreline the Clonakilty girls never gave up and con-

tested every ball with determination, but failed to get the vital scores. Emer Watson scored two more goals. Her side ran out deserving winners with an impressive 6-4 tally.

After the game the coaches of the Charleville side, Vincent Harrington and Ann Marie O'Keeffe, expressed satisfaction at the result: "We expected a much closer game today," said Vincent Harrington.

"Our girls played great today and we will look forward to the All-Ireland semi-final on the second Saturday in March."

Ann Marie O'Keeffe said: "The spirit in the team is superb — it makes our job an easy one."

Mary Newman

"I must acknowledge the tremendous help we in St Mary's receive from all the clubs who are represented on the team."

The Munster champions now go on to meet the Connacht champions and after their display on Saturday they will be strong favourites.

Scorers — St Mary's Charleville: Emer Watson (6-4), Aoife Sheehan (0-5), Sinead McAuliffe (1-1), Marie Watson (1-2), Alison White (0-2), Una Harrington (0-1). Sacred Heart Clonakilty: Rosemary Dineen (1-0), Jennifer O'Leary (0-1).

St Mary's Charleville: Elizabeth Linehan, Edwina Boyce, Noelle O'Riordan, Aoife Dillon, Anna Geary, Aine Kelleher, Christine O'Gorman, Niamh Bowles (C), Deirdre Hayes, Aoife Sheehan, Eimear O'Friel, Marie Watson, Alison White, Sinead McAuliffe; subs: Una Harrington for Sinead McAuliffe, Elaine O'Riordan for Edwina Boyce, Amy McCarthy for Emer Watson, Imelda Sexton for Christine O'Gorman, Aisling O'Brien for Aoife Dillon.

CLONAKILTY: Marie Murphy, Eileen Carroll, Louise Daly, Aileen McCarthy, Ann-Marie Fleming, Karen McCarthy, Isla Dineen (C), Louise Gannon, Carol Dineen, Vickie Hennessey, Rosemary Dineen, Jennifer O'Leary, Eimear O'Regan, Marie Moloney. Referee: Betty Joyce Killeagh.

FEB 2001

UCC through to cup semi-final

UCC
UCD

3-7
1-5

By **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**
at Belfield

A PLACE in the semi-final of the Ashbourne Cup was the reward for University College Cork on Saturday when they overcame UCD in the preliminary round, played at Belfield.

Not surprisingly, both teams had a nervy start and early on it looked as if the home side might create an up-

set with Wexford's midfield player, Aine Codd, creating havoc.

However, once the crafty Criona Harte got the first of her hat-trick on the 17th minute, UCC began to put meaningful daylight between themselves and their Dublin counterparts.

While pleased with their win, selector Rose Desmond did not need reminding of their shaky start:

"We did not score for the opening quarter and only went in two points up at half-time (1-2 to 0-3).

"But it was our fitness that told in the end. We were well over them in the second-half."

"Our forward line played very well. Criona Harte proved what a

great player she is and in defence Ger Casey, Una O'Dwyer and Sarah Hayes played themselves to a standstill."

The Cork college will meet with Waterford Institute of Technology in the semi-final of the Ashbourne Cup on February 17.

The other pairing in the semi-final stage is University of Limerick versus Athlone Institute of Technology.

New competition to give players extra early edge

THE Dublin County Board are to launch a new competition, to begin at the end of this month, designed for clubs who don't have players involved with the county teams.

It will start on February 25, the date when Dublin will play Down in the National Senior and Junior Leagues.

"This tournament is geared

for keeping the club players playing because we can't have League or Championship matches at the top level when the county teams are in action," explains Dublin supremo, Seamus Massey.

"It's main aim is to give the players fixtures on a consistent basis," adds Seamus.

Meanwhile, new county boss, PJ Donohue, was happy

CAMOGIE
BY **NIALL SCULLY**

with the efforts of the Dubs in a challenge outing against UCD at Belfield last Saturday.

"UCD won by a couple of points, but it was an excellent display from the Dublin girls, who had a heavy training ses-

sion on the Friday night," reports Seamus.

And Donohue has been cheered by the arrival of Denise Blower Smith into the county panel.

Smith has been for a long-time being one of the most talented players in the capital and she was a vital part of the St. Vincent's team that reached the All-Ireland Club

final three seasons ago.

► Last Saturday a Referees Seminar was held in Croke Park which was organised to educate the referees regarding the implementation of the new rules which were adapted at the Special Congress.

And Dublin have now four referees on the inter-county panel, Aoife Maguire, Damian

Noble, Christine Priest and Aine Derham.

► Elsewhere, the Dublin Co. Board are sending out an urgent appeal for the return of all tickets from their successful House Draw.

And clubs who have not done so are asked to return them to the County Board or contact Sean Flynn on 4923187.

Coachford College 5-6
Sacred Heart Clonakilty 3-5

by **Mary Newman**

Coachford College reached their first Munster Junior A colleges final with a victory over Sacred Heart Clonakilty on Wednesday last.

Points from Margaret McCarthy and Michelle O'Regan helped Coachford open up an early lead. Clonakilty's Louise Gannon responded with a forty five metres free to open their account. Minutes later Jane Lowney had them on level terms.

The opening goal came from Coachford to give them the lead after goalkeeper Marion Murphy had made an impressive save from Emma Healy, only to be beaten by Margaret Cosgrove's follow up. A second goal from Emma Healy minutes later saw them in a comfortable position.

Clonakilty hit back with determination, and with Sharon O'Donovan finding Clare Hogan on the edge of the square, the latter made no mistake

to finish to the net.

Coachford started the second-half in impressive fashion with three points without reply from Margaret McCarthy. Coachford extended their lead further with a well-struck goal from Mary Healy.

With Louise Roche and Louise Murphy-Lyons in control, Coachford continued to hold the upper hand and struck for their fourth goal from Captain Michelle O'Regan.

Working hard Clonakilty kept the Coachford defence under pressure and were awarded a penalty which was expertly converted by Louise Gannon. Eimear O'Regan added a point but again Coachford lifted their game and a fine goal from Niamh O'Connell

put the result very much in Coachford's favour.

Anne O Mahony, Fiona Buckley, Linda Daly and Margaret McCarthy turned in a top performance for Coachford whilst Louise Gannon, Rosemary Dineen and Evelyn O'Donovan impressed for Clonakilty. Coachford now meet reigning champions St Mary's Charleville in the final on Feb 24.

► ST Aloysius and Loretto, Fermoy meet tomorrow afternoon in Watergrasshill in the Cork Colleges Senior B final.

Camogie

Coachford into first junior A colleges final

With Cork and Cloughduv senior hurler Kevin Murray, coach to the St As girls, the competition will be intense. James Hurley plays an important role in a backroom team. St. As are hoping to topple the Loretto girls.

On their way to the final, St. As recorded victories over Presentation, Ballyphehane and Christ the King Turners Cross. A look through their line-out shows a wealth of experience with several of the side already the holders of inter-county honours.

Cloughduv's Orla McCarthy holds All-Ireland and Munster championship minor medals, whilst Jennie Duffy, Liz Hayes, Treasa McCarthy and Eadoine O'Mahony have all lined

out at senior level with their clubs. Also included in the side is the impressive Mairead Holland and Aoife Walsh.

► UCC will go in as favourites to retain the Ashbourne Cup title hosted by Athlone CIT next weekend. In their preliminary round they recorded a 3-7 to 1-5 victory over a UCD side who made them fight hard.

UCC are a strong side all round, captained by Deridre Coughlan from the Kilbrittan/Tunmoleague club. In the win over UCD Catriona Harte at full-forward contributed three goals and the Inniscarra player is one who the UCC girls will again look to next weekend.

Emer McDonnell and Una O'Dwyer are two players who in 1999 and 2000 played a leading role in Tipperary's All-Ireland senior winning side and now lining out with UCC have brought a wealth of experience to the team. Sinead O'Callaghan, Rachel Moloney, Elaine Burke, Ger Casey, Linda O'Connell, Sarah Hayes and Muireann Harrington all hold All-Ireland honours with Cork whilst Galway's Ann Hardiman has done likewise.

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Mary Immaculate's Eimear Murphy battles for possession with UL's Jean Cullinane in their Ashbourne Cup match played at Mary Immaculate College. Picture: Press 22

Cork IT students cruise to semi-final stages

Cork IT
Queens University

11-14
0-1

CORK Institute of Technology advanced comfortably to the semi-final of the Purcell Cup to be played next weekend in Limerick.

CIT signified their determination from the throw in when Eimear O'Farrell broke through the Queens backline to hit a blistering shot to the net.

Having got the perfect start CIT piled on the pressure and kept the pressure on the Queens defence.

Queens found it hard to break down a resolute CIT defence where captain Nora Aherne shone for the Cork side.

The Cork side's forward line piled on the scores to lead 5-7 to no score at the break.

The physically fitter and more skilful CIT continued to dictate matters in the second half with Mairead Kelly, Paula O'Connor and Eimear O'Farrell performing well.

Team coach Miriam Deasy was pleased with the result.

"With Queens having participated in last season's Ashbourne I expected a tougher game, however we are pleased with our own performance and teamwork but are well aware that the semi-final is going to be much tougher.

"We will have to be full focused if we are to come out on top," added Miriam.

CIT now meet St Patrick's Drumcondra on Saturday next in Limerick, and having reached the semi final of the competition last year for the first time in the history of the Institute, their sights are now firmly focused on the clash.

● Holders UCC set up an Ashbourne Cup semi-final meeting with WIT after they recorded an eight-point victory over last year's defeated finalists UCD in Belfield on Saturday last, the final score reading UCC 3-7, UCD 1-5.

Toast of the UCC side was Inniscarra's Criona Harte, who scored all three of her side's goals.

UCC led 1-2 to 0-3 at the interval after Criona Harte's opening goal in the 17th minute gave them the break they needed.

In the second half the fitter UCC girls began picking off scores with points from Emer Mc Donnell and Sinead O'Callaghan giving them upper hand.

With Sarah Hayes, Criona Harte and Una O'Dwyer performing superbly, UCC showed their class despite the efforts of Caoimh Harrington and Deirdre McDonnell for UCD.

In the second Ashbourne quarter final played at the weekend Waterford Institute of Technology recorded a 3-6 to 2-4 victory over UCG.

Level going into the final minutes, WIT hit four points without reply to secure victory to set up a semi-final meeting with UCC.

In the local clash UL defeated Mary Immaculate 3-16 to 3-4 to set up a semi-final meeting with Athlone IT, who this year host the Ashbourne Cup on February 17/18.

St Mary's trounce Clonakilty rivals

ST MARY'S Charleville took their eighth Munster Senior A Post Primary Championship title with an awesome display at Drumcollogher last Saturday.

The victors got the dream start and led 1-4 to 0-0 after just 10 minutes, right corner forward Emer Watson setting the ball rolling with a fifth minute goal.

With Aoife Sheehan, Alison White and Emer Watson picking off points at will, the Clonakilty girls struggled to get into the game and were dealt a huge blow when Watson goaled again in the 12th and 17th minutes.

The Clon defence struggled to get up field and when they did manage to break through, solid defending from Noelle O'Riordan, Aoife Dillon and Aine Kelleher of St Mary's kept them at bay.

Watson added a fourth goal and St Mary's held a 4-8 to 0-0 half time advantage.

To their credit Clonakilty fought on but were dealt a further blow that in effect signalled the end of

Results/ fixtures

RESULTS
Munster Post Primary Senior 'A' final: St Mary's, Charleville 8-13, Sacred Heart, Clonakilty 1-1.
Ashbourne Cup quarter final: UCC 3-7, UCD 1-5; WIT 3-6, UCG 2-5; UL 3-16, Mary Immaculate College 3-4.
Purcell Cup preliminary round: CIT 11-14, Queens University 0-1.
Munster Senior B Post Primary semi final: St Joseph's, Borrisoleigh 2-6, Coachford Community College 1-2.

FIXTURES
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10
Purcell Cup semi final: UUJ v Carlow IT, at Limerick IT, 1.45pm; Cork IT v St Patrick's, 2.45pm.
Purcell Shield semi final: CMIT v Queens, at Limerick IT, 12.45pm; Limerick IT v IT Tralee, 1.30pm.
Referees' seminar: Croke Park, 11am.

By MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY
Camogie correspondent

any chance of a revival when Sinead McAuliffe and Marie Watson struck for goals within seven minutes of the restart.

Reshuffling their line-out, Clonakilty worked hard and were rewarded with a Jennifer O'Leary pointed free.

Clonakilty again came up field and pressing hard, claimed a Rosemary Dineen goal.

Despite the scoreline the Clon-

kilty girls never gave up and contested every ball with determination. But St Mary's upped the pace and added two further goals from Emer Watson, who finished the day with a 5-4 tally, to run out deserving winners, 8-13 to 1-1.

Coaches Vincent Harrington and Ann Marie O'Keeffe expressed satisfaction at the result.

"We expected a much closer game," Vincent said.

"Clonakilty had a big win over Templemore who knocked out the All-Ireland holders Nenagh. Our girls played well and we will look

forward to the All-Ireland semi-final."

Ann Marie O'Keeffe spoke of her team's spirit, saying: "It's easy to motivate them. They're so determined to succeed it makes our job easy."

"They are a credit to their club and today I must acknowledge the tremendous help we in St Mary's receive from all the clubs who are represented on the team."

The Munster champions now go on to meet the Connacht champions in March and after Saturday's display are favourites to advance.

St Mary's: Elizabeth Linehan, Edwina Boyce, Noelle O'Riordan, Aoife Dillon, Anna Geary, Aine Kelleher, Christine O'Gorman, Niamh Bowles (c), Deirdre Hayes, Aoife Sheehan, Eimear O'Farrell, Marie Watson, Alison White, Sinead McAuliffe, Subs: Una Harrington for S. McAuliffe, Elaine O'Riordan for E. Boyce, Amy McCarthy for E. Watson, Imelda Sexton for C. O'Gorman, Ashling O'Brien for A. Dillon.

Clonakilty: Marie Murphy, Eileen Carroll, Louise Daly, Aileen McCarthy, Ann-Marie Fleming, Karen McCarthy, Isla Dineen (c), Louise Gannon, Carol Dineen, Vickie Hennessy, Rosemary Dineen, Jennifer O'Leary, Eimear O'Regan, Marie Moloney.

Scorers: St Mary's: Emer Watson 6-4, Aoife Sheehan 0-5, Sinead McAuliffe 1-1, Marie Watson 1-0, Alison White 0-2, Una Harrington 0-1.

Clonakilty: Rosemary Dineen 1-0, Jennifer O'Leary 0-1, Referee: Betty Joyce, Killeagh.

Tipp girls end Coachford's challenge

St Joseph's Borrisoleigh 2-6
Coachford 1-2

ST Joseph's Borrisoleigh advanced to a Schools Senior B camogie final meeting with Bandon, after their 2-6 to 1-2 semi-final win over Coachford.

The Tipperary school fielded five of last season's Tipperary minor panel.

Coachford, who were fancied to go all the way, opened the scoring with a Kate Crowley point.

Borrisoleigh responded with points from Melissa Stapleton and Louise Young and Coachford were lucky not to be further behind when Borrisoleigh missed a great chance from 10 yards.

As their defence settled,

with Maura O'Leary and Niamh O'Connell doing well, Coachford came more into the game.

Mary Buckley hit a long delivery to Michelle Cooney, who found the net, and with Margaret McCarthy and Cork minor Joan Twomey playing well, Coachford were now breaking even.

Once again, though, Borrisoleigh went in front thanks to an unstoppable shot from Geraldine Kinnane.

Gaining the upper hand, the Tipp girls piled on the pressure and stretched their lead with points from Louise Young and Triona Dunne.

When Ger Kinnane

struck for her side's second goal it gave them the cushion they needed.

Coachford battled on but any chance of a revival was lost when Michelle Cooney's late goal was disallowed.

In the JAC semi-final Coachford will play Clonakilty with the winners meeting Charleville.

Enda's tough opener

DUBLIN Senior "A" champions, Ballyboden St. Enda's, will open the first defence of their crown against Crumlin.

It's a repeat of last season's final at Parnell Park where Boden swept to their second title in succession.

Since then, Crumlin secured the League title, so another meeting of the two should produce a sparkling spectacle.

CAMOGIE BY NIAL SCULLY

Kilmacud Crokes, who are back in the top grade, face a challenging assignment against St. Vincent's, who still possess a cluster of their panel that reached the All-Ireland Club Championship Final three years ago.

The full Senior "A" Championship draw reads: Preliminary Round: Na Fanna v Naomh Meamóg. A: Ballyboden St. Enda's v Crumlin. B: Winners of Preliminary round v Good Counsel. C: Erin's Isle v Raheny. D: St. Vincent's v Kilmacud Crokes. Semi-finals: A v D. B v C.

Meanwhile, despite a super show from UCD's Aine Codd, the Dubliners tumbled out of the Ashbourne Cup at Belfield on Saturday.

They met the holders, a formidable UCC side, who emerged with a 3-7 to 1-5 victory, prompting the UCD boss, Grace O'Neill, to declare: "We knew we were up against it. UCC are an exceptional side, and you'd have to say they were the superior team on the day."

Codd, the Wexford star, was named in midfield, but her energy saw her leave stud-prints in every corner of the Belfield mud.

Captaining the team, Codd's three frees were UCD's only scoring return at half time, when they trailed by 1-2 to 0-3 against a team that includes players from counties like Cork, Tipperary and Galway.

The Dublin students now meet NUIG (Galway) in the Shield competition which will take place in Athlone on February 17.

Meanwhile, Dublin's new boss PJ Donohue is delighted with the attendance at training.

On taking over the job, PJ's first concern was to get the response of the clubs, and that is now happening. The Junior panel are also attracting good numbers to training.

Both squads are in competitive action when they travel to Down on February 25.

► The County Board meet next Monday in Parnell Park (8.0). Minor Board (7.15).

► Next Saturday in Croke Park (11.0), a Referees' Seminar will take place to familiarise inter-county referees with the new playing rules.

Jovita is honoured with "Cidona Award"

Back in 1990, Jovita Delaney picked up her first "Cidona Award" as a minor on the Tipperary team who had captured the second Minor title. On the same night, Michael Cleary was also honoured with a "Cidona Award", both exchanged polite pleasantries in the little room at the back of the hall before being called upon to accept their respective awards.

Little did Jovita realise that ten years down the road, she would be accepting her second "Cidona Award", this time as captain of the All-Ireland Senior Champions and that Michael Cleary would have such an impact on her camogie career.

On Saturday, January 27th, Tipperary's United Sports panel saluted one of our greatest camogie stars of the first year of the new millennium, Jovita Delaney. Congratulations Jovita on your "Cidona Award" and on the many awards bestowed on you since last September.

Senior League: On Sunday last in Toomevara, the 2000 3rd senior League round was played between Toomevara and Drom & Inch. Both teams were without a number of their senior players. At the interval, both teams were level. However, in the final ten minutes, Toomevara came out the strongest putting away three goals in as many minutes leaving the final score, Toomevara 5-3 to Drom & Inch 1-4.

Scorers: Toomevara: Denise Ryan (1-1), Grainne Shanahan (0-1), Deirdre Hughes (2-0), Noelle Kennedy (0-1), M. McCarthy (1-0), Lena Woods (1-0). Drom & Inch: Maria Harkin (0-1), Joanne Ryan (1-2), Eileen Ryan (0-1). Referee: Martin Griffin, Silvermines.

The other league game between Cashel and Burgess was called off due to the death of a relative on the Burgess team.

Referees Seminar: On Saturday next, our four Inter County Referees will attend a Seminar for Referees in Croke Park, commencing at 11 a.m. The Inter-county referees representing Tipperary are: Biddy Phillips, John Morrissey, Sheila Delaney and Eamon Browne. We will be looking forward to a very detailed report from this worthwhile seminar. As the new rules will be implemented this season, it would be hoped that a similar seminar will be held within the county to ensure that all our referees will be "striking the right note" for the coming season.

of things to come.

Final score: Toome 5-3 Drom 1-4. Their next fixture is on Sunday next March 11th at 12 p.m. in the camogie pitch.

U/12 and U/14: All U/12 and U/14 girls take note training commences next Saturday at 11 a.m. in Toomevara. All players note that helmets are compulsory and don't forget a change of clothes knowing the usual weather conditions. All welcome, new players especially!!

Schools: Well done to St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh on qualifying for the Munster senior 'B' final, to be played this Wednesday. Good luck to all involved, especially the Toome contingent.

Victory Buffet Dance: Tickets are currently being distributed for our upcoming Buffet Dance to be held on Feb. 24th in the Western Pass, Ardcroney. Music by EBONY! No doubt it will prove to be a great night as usual.

Congrats! Congrats to Maxi and Eddie who were missing in action at the weekend. All was revealed however on Sunday when news of their engagement hit the headlines. Well done folks!

Colleges: Hard luck to Suzanne at the weekend when she lined out with U.C.G. on the Ashbourne qualifier, and they were defeated by W.I.T. by 4 points. As usual Suzanne gave another excellent display, by all accounts.

CAMOGIE

Buttevant Camogie Club held its AGM on Thursday January 25th. Outgoing Chairperson Phil Healy welcomed the large attendance. She expressed her delight at the way the Club has progressed over the past three years. She conveyed her gratitude to her fellow officers, the committee members, the parents, all the girls, the sponsors, with a special thank you to both the Michael MacCarthaigh's Juvenile Club and Buttevant Junior Club for their continuous help and support over the past three years. Outgoing Secretary Ann Coughlan gave a detailed report of the events of the year. Outgoing Treasurer Phyl Johnson gave a precise account of the Club's income and expenditure for the past 12 months. We welcome the following officers and committee for the coming year: President Mary Wallace; Chairperson Martin Murphy; Vice Chairperson Phil Healy; Secretary Deirdre Madigan; Assistant Secretary Ann Coughlan; Treasurer Dolores O'Sullivan; Assistant Treasurer Majella Herlihy and P.R.O. Phyl Johnson. Committee members are as follows: Ann Walshe, Geraldine Bowles, Ann Marie Relihan, John Joe Breen, Ann O'Connor, Margaret Lee, Mary O'Callaghan, Linda Buckley and Mary Collins. County Board delegates are Ann Coughlan, John Joe Breen, Phil Healy and Martin Murphy. Trainers and dates for commencement of training will be announced next week. So keep a watchful eye on this column for updates. Another date for your diary is the committee meeting on February 20th. A successful year is wished to all

Liatroim Fontenoy's

Cup final:

St Louis, B'mena....3-1

St Patrick's Keady...3-4

Battling Keady claim first title in last seconds

UNA O'Farrell was the toast of south Armagh after a goal in the last seconds gave St. Patrick's Keady a first ever Liatroim Fontenoy's Cup title in Craigavon yesterday.

The game seemed to be heading for a replay after Claire Kinsella's free five minutes from time had brought Keady back from a seven point deficit at the break.

But O'Farrell picked up a loose ball and slammed home the winning goal in the last attack.

Ballymena, the holders, looked the better side during the first half when they played with the assistance of the stiff breeze. Claire Graham shot an early goal but crucially Natalie McKee grabbed one for Keady after eight minutes and this kept them in the tie even though they were outplayed for most of the first-half.

Further goals from Brenda Clarke and Sinead Madden gave Ballymena a 3-1 to 1-0 interval advantage.

Within seconds of the restart Louise Loughran lifted Keady with a goal, but it was the brilliance of Colleen Comiskey who switched to centre-back that kept the opposition at bay and helped launch enough attacks to put her team through to the All-Ireland series.

St Patrick's scorers: Natalie McKee 1-0, Louise Loughran 1-0, Una O'Farrell 1-0, Claire Kinsella 0-2, Michelle McGuigan 0-1, Eleanor Hughes 0-1.
St Louis scorers: Brenda Clarke 1-0, Claire Graham 1-0, Sinead Madden 1-0.

Ulster Post Primary Schools' Junior A final:

St Mary's, M'felt.....9-5
St Joseph's, C'glen.0-1

St Mary's stroll to eight in a row record

AT A GLANCE...

St Mary's Magherafelt have equalled St Michael's Lurgan's record of eight junior titles

ST MARY'S, Magherafelt had it all too easy in the Junior A schools final yesterday, collecting a fifth Senior / Junior double in eight years, and equalling St Michael's Lurgan's record of eight Junior titles.

Crossmaglen simply had no answer as they were outplayed in most areas of the pitch and were forced into a containment exercise from early in the game.

Midfielder Katie McAuley and corner forward Colleen McCann were simply outstanding.

Magherafelt have a good solid team and it would be no surprise if they were to copy the 1996 side and win a national title.

St. Mary's led by 4-3 to Aine McEntee's single point for Cross at the break and despite changing their team somewhat during the second half the dominance continued with Katie McAuley claiming a hat trick of goals.

St. Mary's scorers: Katie McAuley 3-1, Colleen McCann 2-4, Claire McAteer 2-0, Aileen Lavery 1-0, Caltriona O'Boyle 1-0.

St. Joseph's scorer: Aine McEntee 0-10

● CAMOGIE ●

St. Aloysius School 4-5 Loreto Convent Fermoy 2-1
Inspired by the exceptional talents of Jenny Duffy and Mairéad Holland, St. Aloysius were comprehensive and deserving winners of the Cork Camogie Colleges Senior B title at St. Finbarr's grounds yesterday. Duffy played the proverbial blinder at midfield and her delivery to her forwards was first class, while inside a rampant forward division took their scores with aplomb - most notably Holland who finished with 2-3 to her name.
Scorers: St. Aloysius: M. Holland 2-2 (0-1 free); A. Walsh 1-1; T. McCarthy 1-0; J. Duffy 0-1.
Loreto: V. McCormack 1-1; M. O'Neill 1-0 (free).
ST. ALOYSIUS: R. Buckley; K. Ryan, E. O'Mahony, D. Cullinane, L. Browne, O. McCarthy, M. Brennan, J. Duffy, S. O'Driscoll, G. O'Mahony, L. Hayes, A. Walsh, T. McCarthy, M. Holland, P. Holland. Subs used: L. Buckley.

LORETO: M. Aherne, N. Barry, M. Mulcahy, F. Noonan, A. Cotter, A. Fitzgerald, M. Twomey, M. O'Neill, N. Mulcahy, E. Hegarty, D. Mangan, K. Twomey, D. Twomey, E. O'Farrell, V. McCormack. Subs used: T. Carroll, A. Mangan.

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The CIT team who won the Purcell Cup for the first time by beating Carlow IT, thus avenging their defeat in last year's final.

CIT bring Purcell Cup home to Cork

THE Cork Institute of Technology made history last weekend by bringing the Purcell Cup home for the first time.

In a close-fought final they defeated Carlow IT 2-8 to 0-8. Excellent performances from Paula O'Connor, Val O'Keeffe, Louise Murphy and Orla O'Sullivan paved the way for the victory.

Emer O'Farrell had the game's opening goal mid-way through the first half and with Emily Hayden in impressive form for Carlow, the sides were deadlocked 1-2 to 0-5 at the interval.

The CIT girls took the lead on the resumption with points from Paula O'Connor and Orla O'Sullivan to put four between the sides but again the Carlow girls responded and cut it to three.

With the title now up for grabs, CIT showed the greater hunger.

A magnificent point from way out on the side line from O'Connor was followed up by a Mary En-

St Al's out to scale the heights at senior level

ST AL'S contest their first Cork colleges senior B championship final when they meet Loretto Fermoy in Watergrasshill this afternoon.

Last year, St Al's won the junior B championship and, under the guidance of Cork and Cloughduv senior

hurler Kevin Murray, have developed into a major force with which to be reckoned.

A look through their line-out shows a wealth of experience with several of the side already holding inter-county honours. Cloughduv's Orla

McCarthy holds All-Ireland and Munster championship minor medals whilst Jennie Duffy, Liz Hayes, Treasa Mc Carthy and Eadoine O'Mahony have all lined out at senior level with their clubs.

Loretto, coached by Fr O' Neille hurler Ger Holland,

also boast an impressive side.

Three of the team have inter-county experience at under 14 level with the Cork colleges while seven of the side won county junior B championship medals last season with St Catherine's.

By MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY
camogie correspondent

neguess goal. Carlow added two further points but it was not enough to deny the CIT girls an historic first title.

An elated Miriam Deasy, coach to the Cork team, praised her side after the game. "We lost to Carlow in last year's final and we were determined to make amends. The

girls deserve all the praise for their performance," she said.

Four of the side were later named on the Combined Colleges team: Paula O'Connor, Sinead Buckley, Orla O'Sullivan and Nora Ahern who will captain the side when they meet the Tipperary junior team on March 19.

LIT's Vera Sheehan was named as player of the weekend as her side lost the Shield final to Galway-Mayo IT 4-6 to 1-7.

In the semi-finals played on Saturday CIT led St Patrick's Training College Drumcondra 2-9 to 2-0 at half-time.

Paula O'Connor contributed six points and Mary Enneguess scored two goals with Orla O'Sullivan, Louise Murphy, Emer O'Farrell and Val O'Keeffe all getting on the score sheet.

The second semi-final saw Carlow IT defeat UUJ 4-18 to 3-6 to set up a repeat of last year's final.

Confident Coachford finish off Clonakilty

Coachford College
Sacred Heart Clonakilty

5-6
3-5

AN exciting Munster Junior A Colleges' semi-final played at Ovens saw Coachford College reach their first Munster junior final after recording an impressive victory over Sacred Heart Clonakilty.

Points from Margaret McCarthy and Michelle O'Regan laid the foundation for victory and helped to settle the Coachford side.

Clonakilty's Louise Gannon popped over a 45-metre free to open their account, but minutes later Jane Lowney had them on level terms. With the Coachford half-back line of Niamh O'Connell, Ciara Murphy and Mairead Enneguess gaining the upper hand Clonakilty found it hard to get through.

The game's opening goal saw Coachford take the lead after goalkeeper Marion Murphy made an impressive save from Emma Healy, only to be beaten by Margaret Cosgrove's follow-up. A second goal followed from Emma Healy.

Refusing to wilt, Clonakilty hit back and with Sharon O'Donovan finding Clare Hogan with a lobbing shot the latter made no mistake to finish to the net.

Coachford started the second half in impressive fashion with three points without reply from Margaret McCarthy. They extended their lead further with a well-struck goal from Mary Healy.

With Louise Roche and Louise Murphy-Lyons in control Coachford hit for their fourth goal from captain Michelle O'Regan.

Working hard, Clonakilty kept the Coachford defence under pressure and were awarded a penalty which was expertly converted by Louise Gannon. Eimear O'Regan added a point but again Coachford lifted their game and a fine goal from Niamh O'Connell put the result in Coachford's favour.

Anne O'Mahony, Fiona Buckley, Linda Daly and Margaret McCarthy turned in a top performance for Coachford whilst Louise Gannon, Rosemary Dineen and Evelyn O'Donovan impressed for Clonakilty.

COACHFORD: C Hogan, A O'Mahony, O McWeeney, N O'Connell, C Murphy, I Murphy-Lyons, M Enneguess, F Buckley, M Healy, I Roche, I Daly, M O'Regan, M McCarthy, E Healy, M Cosgrove.
CLONAKILTY: M Murphy, I Guest, G Murray, N O'Driscoll, P Maloney, A McCarthy, E O'Donovan, I Gannon, S O'Donovan, J Lowney, E O'Regan, C Dineen, H O'Regan, I Whelan, R Dineen.

UCC hoping to make it lucky 13 in Ashbourne Cup

UCC head to Athlone seeking their 13th title and hoping to make it back to back titles in the Ashbourne Cup.

For many years the four universities contested the competitions. Later Maynooth, Trinity, and Coleraine came on board and with the arrival of the teacher training colleges and regional colleges the Ashbourne has expanded.

The increase in the numbers attending third level colleges and the influx of players from the successful

second level colleges has all helped to raise the standards of play.

UCC will go in as favourites to retain their title. In the preliminary round they recorded a 3-7 to 1-5 victory over a UCD side who made them fight hard.

A glance through the UCC line-up shows a strong side with inter-county experience.

The side is captained by Deirdre Coughlan from the Kilbrittain/Timoleague club. In the win over

UCD Criona Harte was the toast of the Cork college grabbing three goals.

The Inniscarra player is showing a tremendous appetite for the game this year having last year opted out of the inter-county scene having spent the summer in the US.

Emer McDonnell and Una O'Dwyer are two players who in 1999 and 2000 played a leading role in Tipperary's All-Ireland senior winning side and now lining out with UCC have

brought a wealth of experience to the team.

Sinead O'Callaghan, Rachel Moloney, Elaine Burke, Ger Casey, Linda O'Connell, Sarah Hayes and Muireann Harrington all hold All-Ireland honours with Cork whilst Galway's Ann Hardiman has done likewise.

Waterford IT recorded a 3-6 to 2-5 win over UCG in their preliminary round game in doing so put in a tremendous closing 10 minutes to se-

cure a merited victory.

In 1999 WIT took the Ashbourne cup for the first time and having seen UCC succeed them last season they will be determined to win.

Hosts Athlone have a semi-final meeting with UL and here it looks set to go to the wire. UL defeated neighbours Mary Immaculate 3-16 to 3-4 in their qualifier and with Limerick inter-county player Jean Cullinane spearheading their quest a final spot looks well within reach.

Coachford Community College in first ever Junior A decider

Coachford Community College.....5-6
Sacred Heart School, Clonakilty.....3-5

In the Munster Colleges Junior A Championship semi-final, played at Ovens, the Muskerry camogie academy defeated rivals Clonakilty to reach their first ever Junior A final. Clonakilty had defeated St. Mary's, Nenagh, and Colaiste Mhuire, Ennis, en route to the semi-final, whilst Coachford beat Borrisoleigh in their quarter final.

Coachford started well with points from the sublime Margaret McCarthy and the hard working Michelle O'Regan. Clon responded with a Louise Gannon fifty and a Jane Downey point. The half back line of Niamh O'Connell, Clara Murphy and in particular Mairead Ennequess began to gain the upper hand and were instrumental in curbing the influence of Emer O'Regan and Jane Downey.

A Fiona Buckley clearance was doubled on by Emma Healy and keeper Marian Murphy made an impressive save but was unable to prevent Margaret Cosgrave from scoring the opening goal. This ignited Coachford and when Mary Healy, now operating at full forward, dispossessed Ger Murray, the alert Emma Healy was at hand to finish the ball to the net.

Sharon O'Donovan found Rosemary Dineen free on the wing and her high, speculative lob eluded the attention of Claire Hogan and went all the way to the net.

On the resumption, Margaret McCarthy again spurred her side into action with three points before a superb Mary Healy shot billowed the Clonakilty net. Linda Daly was impressive on the wing and, along with Louise Roche and Louise Murphy Lyons, contributed to Coachford's fourth goal, expertly converted by captain Michelle O'Regan.

Clonakilty were awarded a penalty, a first for referee Dave Daly with the new rules in operation, and the resultant execution from Louise Gannon was inch perfect. Eimear O'Regan added a point but Niamh O'Connell, one of the best hurlers on view, put the icing on the cake with a final goal. Anne O'Mahony, Fiona Buckley, Linda Daly, Margaret McCarthy and Michelle O'Regan played well for Coachford whilst Louise Gannon, Rosemary Dineen and Evelyn O'Donovan impressed for Clonakilty.

Coachford now meet reigning champions, St. Mary's, Charleville, at Inniscarra or Ovens, on Saturday, February 24.

Coachford: C. Hogan, A. O'Mahony, O. McSweeney, N. O'Connell (1-0), C. Murphy, L. Murphy-Lyons, M. Ennequess, F. Buckley, M. Healy (1-0), L. Roche (1-0), L. Daly, M. O'Regan (1-2), M. McCarthy (0-4), E. Healy (1-0), M. Cosgrave (1-0). Subs, M. O'Leary, C. Cosgrave, M. Twomey, M. Crowley, L. Armstrong, C. O'Connell, A. Scully, H. Browne.

Clonakilty: M. Murphy, L. Guest, G. Murray, N. O'Driscoll, P. Moloney, A. McCarthy, E. O'Donovan, L. Gannon (2-3), S. O'Donovan, J. Lowrey, E. O'Regan (0-1), C. Dineen, H. O'Regan, L. Welton, R. Dineen (1-1). Subs, N. Lehan, L. Hennessy, A. Drake, C. O'Leary, C. McCarthy, M. Deasy, C. Deasy, L. Harte, E. Barry.

UCC favourites to retain title

by Mary Newman

UCC head to Athlone this weekend to defend their Ashbourne Cup title.

The oldest camogie competition, the title which has come to the Cork University on no fewer than 29 occasions, is eagerly contested by the Universities, teacher training colleges and regional colleges.

UCC will go in as favourites to retain their title when they meet WIT in the first of two semi-finals today.

The second semi-final will see hosts Athlone IT meet UL.

UCC and WIT met in the 1999 final with the results going in favour of the Waterford college. On this occasion, UCC will be determined to reverse that result. A powerful side this season with almost all of their line having inter-county experience, it will take a good side to stop them advancing.

Amongst the players for UCC are current Cork senior captain

Sinead O'Callaghan, Sarah Hayes, Una O'Donoghue and Croina Harte, whilst Emer McDonnell and Una O'Dwyer are two who played leading roles in Tipperary's All-Ireland senior successes.

Added to this, the side will also include Galway's Ann Hardiman, who won an All-Ireland senior medal with the county in 1997. In their quarter-final outing, WIT recorded a 3-6 to 2-5 victory over UCC and in doing so put in a tremendous closing ten minutes to secure a semi-final spot having taken the Ashbourne title for the first time in 1999, they are determined to regain control at Colleges level.

Athlone in their semi-final meeting with UL have Therese Maher and Aine Hillary, who starred at inter-county level with Galway.

Amongst the players with UL is Aoife Lane, daughter of Galway senior hurling manager Noel.

Features: Today - Ashbourne Cup semi-final in Athlone - UCC v WIT; Athlone IT v UL; Sunday: Ashbourne Cup Final, Athlone, 3pm.

UCC to take all the beating

By Therese O'Callaghan
camogie correspondent

THE Ashbourne, like the Sigerson and Fitzgibbon, is a very special weekend.

On tomorrow and Sunday many of the country's young stars will converge on Athlone IT, who will host this year's event.

And adding to the excitement of an already action-packed event is the fact that Athlone have also qualified for the semi-final on Saturday against UL.

The other pairing is between defending champions UCC and WIT.

UCC have a powerful side this year with almost their entire line-out having inter-county experience. It will take a very good team to deny them lifting the 86th Ashbourne title.

Current Cork captain, Sinead O'Callaghan will be joined by county teammates Sarah Hayes, Rachel Moloney, Elaine Burke and Una O'Donoghue.

Una O'Dwyer and Emer McDonnell will line out for the Premier County, while Galway's Anne Hardiman will bolster the forward line.

These two sides met in the '99 final resulting in a first ever title going to the Decies, but in more recent times UCC have held the upper hand.

The other semi-final between UL and Athlone IT promises to be another close call.

Prominent amongst the UL selection is Aoife Lane, daughter of Noel, the Galway senior hurling manager.

Athlone are sprinkled with some well-known names, most notably Therese Maher and Aine Hillary of Galway.

Disputed goal costs UCC Ashbourne title

WATERFORD Institute of Technology are the Ashbourne Champions of 2001, but the weekend was clouded in controversy, writes Therese O'Callaghan.

Saturday's hot-tempered clash between UCC, the holders, and WIT ended in a two-point victory for the Waterford students (1-7 to 1-5).

But UCC scored what they considered to be a perfectly legitimate goal close to full time, which was credited as a point.

UCC selector, Rose Desmond spoke after the game of their devastation having been knocked out of the competition in such bizarre circumstances: "Emer McDonnell hit a shot which we believed should have been a goal, but the officials gave a point. The ball was pucked out and soon after the game was over.

However, Rose added that UCC shouldn't have been in such a situation in the first place: "We should have scored

more in the first half, we only got one point in the opening period. But it is still very disappointing to lose in that way after six months training.

"The referee's decision is final, we have to accept that."

The game was also significant for the first penalty taken under the new rules. Brigid Mullany of WIT had the honour, to which UCC keeper Ger Casey was equal with a fine save while UCC's Ann Hardiman was the first player to be red-carded.

The University of Limerick defeated hosts Athlone IT convincingly in the other semi-final.

Yesterday's game was more exciting fare with WIT coming from behind to stun the UL with two late goals to give them a narrow one-point win in the final.

NUI Galway won the shield with a big win over St Mary's Belfast.

Kelly inspires Waterford IT to Ashbourne Cup victory

WATERFORD I.T. won the Ashbourne Cup by defeating Limerick I.T. in the final (2-6 to 1-8) at

Athlone on Sunday last, having seen off UCC by 1-7 to 1-5 in the penultimate round.

Waterford were captained by Kate Kelly (St. Ibar's) who inspired her colleagues by scoring a total of 1-2.

Other Wexford players on the team were Evelyn Quigley (Rathnure), Mary Walsh (Blackwater), Helena Jacob (Oulart-The Ballagh), Mairead Hanrick (Buncloody) and Liz Murphy (Oulart-The Ballagh), while the Limerick side featured Aoife O'Connor (Rathnure) and Eileen Hanrick (Buncloody).

Ashbourne Cup goes to Waterford

WATERFORD Institute of Technology captured their second Ashbourne Cup with a hard earned 2-6 to 1-8 win over University of Limerick in Athlone yesterday.

Limerick led by 0-5 to 0-3 at the break and looked comfortable coming into the closing stages, when they were still 1-8 to 0-5 in front. Then came the turnabout. A goal from WIT's captain and Wexford star, Kate Kelly, was quickly followed by a second goal from Anne Marie O'Regan. With the sides now deadlocked it was Kilkenny's Brigid Mullally who secured victory for her side with a well-struck point.

In the semi-finals on Saturday, WIT defeated favourites UCC by 1-7 to 1-5, while UL had a easy 3-12 to 0-7 victory over Athlone.

The Ashbourne Shield final was a very one sided affair as National University of Ireland Galway proved too good for St. Mary's (Belfast), coming out on top by 3-12 to 0-3.

NUIG had a good win over UCD on Saturday by 1-11 to 0-5, while St. Mary's disposed of Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, in a tight game by 3-0 to 0-7.

CAMOGIE WIT's Brigid Mullally created history in the Ashbourne Cup semi-final yesterday.

Mullally stepped up to take the first ever penalty in camogie, only to have it saved by UCC keeper Ger Casey.

In the second semi-final, UL overcame host college Athlone IT 3-12 to 0-7.

UL dominated the final, leading 0-5 to 0-3 at the break, and Limerick's Siobhan Ryan got her side's only goal midway through the second half.

However, with five minutes remaining WIT crashed home two goals thanks to captain Kate Kelly and Anne Marie O'Regan. Brigid Mullally pointed to take the lead, but there was heartbreak for UL, who missed out on a late equaliser.

Ashbourne Cup Final — Scorers: WIT: K. Kelly, A.M. O'Regan 1-0 each, B. Mullally 0-3, J. O'Connor 0-2, E. Quigley 0-1. UL: S. Ryan 1-0, A. O'Connor 0-3, C. Murphy, A. Lane 0-2 each, O. Barry 0-1.
Ashbourne Shield Final — NUIG 3-12 St. Mary's Belfast 0-3.
Scorers: NUIG: V. Curtin 2-3, M. Cribben 1-0, L. Kavanagh 0-4, P. Carrick 0-2, D. Murphy 0-1. St. Mary's Belfast: C. McGovern 0-2, C. Pickering 0-1.

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CO. CAMOGIE NOTES:

Horse & Jockey Hotel back champions for 3 in a row

The proprietors of the Horse and Jockey Hotel, Tom and Dorothy Egan have pledged their financial support once again to the Tipperary Senior Camogie team for the coming season.

Speaking to Tom Egan, he said, "that he was honoured for the past two years to have been part of this fantastic team in Tipperary", and "that he would once again come on board to help defray costs and keep no stone unturned in their bid to fulfil their three in a row dream".

Tipperary have been very lucky on all occasions with sponsorship involving the Horse and Jockey Hotel. In 1992, when Tipperary won their first Junior All-Ireland Championship, the Horse and Jockey Hotel were sponsors and once again in 1997, when they won the Intermediate All-Ireland. In 1999, two weeks before the All-Ireland final, Tipperary had failed to secure a sponsor, but one phone call to Tom Egan of the Horse and Jockey Hotel and the rest is history. On behalf of the team, mentors, members of our Association and supporters, I wish to thank Tom and Dorothy Egan, not alone for their financial support down through the years, but for the hospitality and courtesy shown to the players and anybody associated with them when they enter their establishment. Long may the success and union of Tipperary Camogie and the Horse and Jockey Hotel continue.

Skippy receives RCTLC Award: Michael "Skippy" Cleary was the recipient of the RCTLC Roscrea and District Guinness Sports Personality of the Year 2000 Award last Saturday night in Grant's Hotel, Roscrea.

The Sports Personality of the year was chosen by public vote. The other two nominees were John Carroll, Tipperary Senior hurler and Stephen Delahunty, Rugby.

As a member of Nenagh Eire Og GAA Club and former Senior hurler with Tipperary and his more recent achievements with Tipperary Senior Camogie side, Michael was a popular choice for the RCTLC Award. We hope that his dreams of achieving a hat-trick title for camogie in 2001 will come to fruition on September 16th in Croke Park. On behalf of Tipperary Camogie, we salute you "Skippy" - it was no more than you deserve, we wish you many more awards.

Co. Board Briefs: The monthly meeting of Tipperary Camogie Board was well attended on Tuesday night, February 6th in Young's Lounge, The Ragg.

Transfers: The following

transfers were granted: Nicola Shanahan from St. Cronan's to Bournea; Helen, Claire and Linda Grogan from Templemore to Cashel; Ailish Kennedy from Burgess to Kildangan; Brid and Niamh Hackett from Portroe to Burgess.

Re-grading: Brid Hackett regraded from Intermediate to Junior B.

Camogie Centenary: All interested individuals with ideas on celebrating our Centenary in 2004 should submit them to the County Secretary, John Harkin, Drom, Borrisoleigh, Thurles, as soon as possible. Tipperary should come up with something original and well organised - they are now at the helm of our Association and have been involved since the beginning of the Association.

Report from Munster Council: Biddy Phillips said that the motion submitted by Tipperary "To have all Munster Finals played at a neutral venue" was lost. She notified the delegates that the Minor A and B Munster final will be played together at a suitable venue.

Race Nite: A combined fundraising effort of all clubs in North Tipperary will be held in Eddie Joe's, Templemore on March 24th to help defray the costs of completing our development in the Camogie Pitch. They have decided to hold a "Race Nite" and cards are distributed to all clubs. We are earnestly requesting you to support this venture in the hope that our development in the County Grounds can be completed in the Spring and the facilities open to our members as soon as possible.

The clubs in the South of the county have decided to take a different angle to fund raise and at the moment are approaching companies for a contribution to the project.

Junior Training: The County Juniors are back in training and have had a number of challenge games. A total of 32 girls are at present attending, but the panel is not closed and anyone interested should contact the Manager, Martin Browne. Martin is very confident with this group - "they have plenty of talent and the prospects look good for the season", he said.

Purcell Cup: Many of our players were in action over the weekend, competing with their respective colleges. Congratulations to the winners and commiserations to the losers.

Purcell Cup Shield Semi-Final: GMIT 2-9 - Queens (Belfast) 0-2. Limerick IT 3-10 - Tralee 1-1.

Purcell Cup Semi-Final: Cork IT 3-11 - St. Patrick's 4-3.

UUJ 3-6 - Carlow IT 4-10.

Purcell Shield Final: Limerick IT 1-7 - GMIT 4-6.

Purcell Cup Final: Cork IT 2-8 - Carlow IT 0-8.

Combined Purcell Colleges Team: Congratulations to Emily Hayden, one of the stars of our Senior Squad who was chosen to represent the Combined Purcell Cup Colleges team over the weekend. We wish Emily the best of luck.

Ashbourne Cup & Shield: Once again, many of our players from Tipperary will be representing their respective colleges in the Ashbourne Cup and Shield next weekend in Athlone. Our best wishes go to all our representatives.

FIXTURES

Saturday Feb. 17th - Venue: Athlone.

Ashbourne Shield Semi-Final: Mary (Limerick) v St. Mary's (Belfast) at 12.00.

U.C.D. v N.U.I.G. at 2.00.

Ashbourne Cup Semi-Final: U.L. v Athlone IT at 1 p.m. UCC v WIT, at 3 p.m.

Ashbourne Shield final in Athlone Sunday Feb. 18th at 1 p.m.

Ashbourne Cup Final in Athlone Sunday Feb. 18th at 3 p.m.

Ann Fraser League: Cashel 1-4 - Toomevara 5-3. Cashel and Toomevara played in the Ann Fraser Cup in Ballycahill on Sunday last. The conditions for this game were atrocious, as the rain persisted all through the game. Cashel were first to score with a point from Libby Twoomey, soon cancelled out by a point from Noelle Kennedy. A foul on Irene Dwan resulted in a point from Helen Campion, Louise Young got a good goal for Toomevara followed by a goal and a point from Deirdre Hughes from play. Helen Campion put over another free for Cashel and almost on the stroke of half time, a miss hit free from Noelle Kennedy, went off Sandra Rickon's stock and ended up in the net to leave the half time score Toomevara 3-2 - Cashel 0-3.

The second half was a very timid affair with both teams introducing subs, Louise Young and Deirdre Hughes scored two more goals for Toomevara, their point coming from the stick of Grainne Shanahan. Libby Twoomey scored a goal for Cashel with Helen Campion, getting a point.

This game was played in a very sporting manner and the scoreboard did not reflect the entertainment value of the game. Both teams were short many regulars. Cashel being particularly hit with more than half the usual squad otherwise engaged.

Drom & Inch 4-4 - Burgess 0-4.

Hero of '68 takes reins of senior team

Quigley is new camogie boss

A HOUSEHOLD name in Wexford hurling is the new manager of the county senior camogie team.

CAMOGIE

Rathnure's Dan Quigley, the All-Ireland winning Senior captain of 1968, will have his first game in charge on Sunday next when the Slaneysiders take on Derry in Navan at 2.45 p.m. That tie will be preceded by a Junior league tie between the same counties at 1.30 p.m.

Quigley recently managed Rathnure's Junior and Intermediate camogie teams.

Wexford, having retained their provincial crown last November with victory over Dublin, will meet a Derry side who captured the All-Ireland Junior title last September at Croke Park against Cork.

Derry will now play in the Intermediate grade this season and will be using the national league as a stepping stone to gauge their prospects of winning the Intermediate title.

Wexford on the other hand have the potential of reaching the heights of the early nineties in which they contested three All-Ireland finals in '90, '92 and '94, losing all three. Wexford's other games in the league are: v Limerick, March 11; v Down,



■ Dan Quigley.

March 18; v. Clare, March 25, and v. Dublin on April 8.

Senior panel: Michelle Hearne (St. Ibar's); Bernie Holohan (Rathnure); Helena Jacob (Oulart-The Ballagh); Evelyn Quigley (Rathnure); Mag Kelly (St. Ibar's); Aoife O'Connor (Duffry Rovers); Kate Kelly (St. Ibar's); Edwina Roche (St. Ibar's); Gretta Heffernan (Oylegate); Lennie Holohan (Rathnure); Aine Codd (St. Martin's); Rose Marie Breen (Monageer); Aoife O'Connor, Rathnure; Sandra Carr (St. Ibar's); Tina Bergin (St. Martin's); Avis Nolan (Monageer); Fiona Dunne (Oulart-The Ballagh); Laura Corrigan (St. Ibar's); Paula Rankin (Buncloody); Michelle O'Leary (Rathnure); Orla Hernan (Monageer); Clare O'Connor (Rathnure).

The Wexford Junior

team have joint managers - Thomas Roche (Marshallstown) and Larry Dunne (Monageer-Boilavogue) - who are both distinguished mentors within their respected clubs. Wexford will go into this league campaign with high hopes of once again advancing to the play-off stages as they did for the past couple of seasons.

Their opponents, Derry, were victorious when they last met in the National league final of 1999 played at Gorey, in a game where Wexford did not play to their full potential.

Derry, having won the All-Ireland Junior title, will be fielding an almost new team in this grade, whereas Wexford will be fielding most of the players who have been present in the last couple of league campaigns.

Wexford Junior team: Linda Byrne (Buncloody); Ailish Atkinson (Oulart); Orla Gahan (Monageer); Ciara Scallan (Oulart); Joan Redmond (Buncloody); Idena Bolger (Marshallstown); Ita Kelly (Buncloody); Mairead Hanrick (Buncloody); Michelle Jordan (Oylegate); Brenda Murphy (Monageer); Fiona Cullen (St. Ibar's); Ornagh Cullen (St. Ibar's); Sinead Quigley (Rathnure); Ursula Jacob (Oulart); Catriona Kinsella (Marshallstown).

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Colaiste Bride blast ten goals in first defence of All-Ireland crown

Colaiste Bride 10-6, Loreto (Kilkenny) 1-3: The Colaiste Bride Junior camogie side made the most impressive imaginable start to the defence of their All-Ireland crown on Sunday with a comprehensive win over Loreto from Kilkenny in the Leinster final.

CAMOGIE

With five of last year's championship side at her disposal, coach Elva Moriarty was dealing from a powerful deck at the Carlow hurling club grounds. However, the holders - playing their first-ever championship match under the 15-a-side format - were given a rude awakening when the Cats found the net behind Claire Sinnott with just a couple of minutes played.

The response from the Ennisceorthy girls was awesome, with Ursula Jacob banging in the first of three goals

with an unstoppable shot after a searing solo run. This appeared to settle any nerves that may have been troubling the eventual winners who went on to dominate most of the remainder of the proceedings.

The match was into its second quarter before Colaiste Bride truly began to assert their authority on the scoreboard, inspired by the all Duffry Rovers midfield combination of Louise Codd and Deirdre Codd.

By half-time, the champs were 4-2 to 1-1 ahead and the gap grew to a massive 30 points by the end of a one-sided afternoon.

Ursula Jacob was joined on the list of goal-scorers by Sarah Murphy, Una Leacy, Ciara O'Connor and Deirdre Codd.

Captain Mary Leacy was outstanding in the half-back line as the team clinched a semi-final date with Magherafelt of Derry.

St Aloysius 4-5
Loretto Fermoy 2-1

ST ALOYSIUS defeated Loretto Fermoy at St Finbarr's to be crowned Cork Colleges Senior B champions. Jennie Duffy opened the scoring for St Als with a point. Then, after six minutes, Máiread Holland scored a goal directly from a sideline cut.

Holland then exchanged points with Loretto's Denise Twomey. Then Holland rounded her marker for her second goal, and a rout seemed on the cards. To their credit, Loretto rallied and forced a double save from goal-keeper Rena Buckley. Minutes later, Buckley could do nothing as Denise Twomey goaled to give Loretto some hope, trailing 2-2 to 1-1 at the break.

However, their hope was short-lived. St Als ran riot on the restart, with a goal by Treasa McCarthy and a point by Aoife Walsh.

Noreen Mulchay scored did score a pointed free for Loretto, but it was too little too late. St Als finished the job off with points from Máiread Holland and a goal from Aoife Walsh.

For St Aloysius, this Senior title is a well deserved feather in the school's cap, and a tribute to the work being done by coach Cork senior hurler Kevin Murray and Ger Butler.

St Aloysius' goal rush seals crown

Waterford IT
University of Limerick

2-6
1-8

WATERFORD Institute of Technology took the Ashbourne Cup for the second time in their history when they defeated University of Limerick in a close final on Sunday in Athlone.

On Saturday, WIT surprised many when they knocked out favourites UCC on a 1-7 to 1-5 scoreline, whilst U L defeated Athlone IT 3-12 to 0-7.

In the final, Limerick made all the early running, and deserved their 0-5 to 0-3 interval lead. They also dominated much of the second half.

With five minutes to go, Waterford literally snatched victory from the jaws of defeat. Their captain and Wexford

Decision not to allow Leeside enter a team in Junior League may see a Cork vs Cork play-off later this year

star Kate Kelly grabbed a vital goal. Ann Marie O'Regan levelled the game with a second, and - with tensions rising - Kilkenny native Brigdet Mullally struck the point that clinched victory.

U L did have an opportunity to level matters, but they sent a free wide and with it went the title.

National Leagues

THE National leagues begin next weekend with Cork fielding teams in Division 1 and 1A where they face Tipperary in both games. In Division 1, the more experienced players will be under the guidance of new coach Pa Finn and selectors Rose Desmond and Sheila O'Brien.

The Division 1 A team will feature several of last year's All-Ireland winning Intermediate side, plus many of the Junior side that lost out to Derry in the All-Ireland final. Central council did not allow Cork to enter a team in the Junior League, which is confined to weaker counties. Thus, if both Cork sides are successful in their respective divisions, they could meet each other in the closing stages.

The first team have been busy of late preparing for the opening game, challenge matches against UCC and CIT proved to be very successful and the new back room team is eagerly looking forward to next Sunday.

All-Cork Final

IN AN all-Cork Munster Junior A colleges final, St Mary's of Charleville meet Coachford Community College at Inniscarra GAA pitch, tomorrow (Wednesday), at 1pm.

With the Senior A title in the bag, Charleville are anxious to make it a double and for the Mid-Cork side it's a chance to atone for losing to Borrisoleigh in the Senior B final.

En route to the final, Coachford beat Borrisoleigh by 3-4 to 1-2, while Charleville overcame Templemore quite comfortably by 3-7 to 2-2.

The semi-finals followed a similar pattern. Coachford scored a 7-6 to 3-4 win over Sacred Heart Clonakilty, while Charleville waltzed past Scariff on a 4-16 to 0-0 scoreline.

The sides are coached by two mentors who have put in huge time and effort promoting the game in their respective academies.

Vincent Harrington and Ann Maire O'Keefe have brought Charleville to great heights on the camogie field, while Rob Lott's dedication and commitment is second to none.

Ballyboden St. Enda's to play hosts to Blue Peter TV camogie special

THE Ballyboden St. Enda's home on the Firhouse Road will be the focus of attention from the BBC this week.

The famous Blue Peter programme are coming to Dublin on Thursday to produce a camogie special, and the Boden HQ will be their base.

The Blue Peter show has been running for decades, and it attracts millions of viewers three times a week

on BBC 1 (Monday, Wednesday, Friday).

Last week, Blue Peter flew in to see the facilities at Boden, which were met with a very favourable reaction.

They will spend an entire day there on Thursday compiling a piece that will be broadcast on Wednesday, March 14.

The show will explain the rules and demonstrate the

CAMOGIE BY NIAL SCULLY

skills of camogie.

Many players from the second level colleges scene in Dublin will be featured.

Also on duty will be several top-class inter-county personnel.

The players will help display the skills of the sport

and they will also take part in a specially arranged match.

One of those who has worked hard to organise the event is Aoife Lane, daughter of the Galway hurling manager, Noel.

The BBC first got interested in featuring camogie when they came across the sport on the GAA Web.

Meanwhile, next Sunday,

PJ Donohue, takes charge of Dublin for the first time in a competitive fixture when they travel to Down for a National Senior League tie at Kilkeel (2.45).

Training has been going well at St. Peregrine's for Dublin, who have been showing admirable commitment in their preparations.

Pat Duncan's Dublin Juniors are also up in Down

for a National Junior League contest (1.15).

Buses for the trip will leave the St. Vincent's Club: Juniors (9.0am) and Seniors (10.0am). Supporters are welcome to travel.

► February 26: Management meeting at St. Jude's (8.0).

► March 5: Minor Board Meeting Parnell Park (7.15).

► March 12: County Board meeting, Parnell Park (7.30).

Plans to celebrate a century of camogie

CELEBRATION time is in the air as we approach the 100th birthday of the Camogie Association which came into being in 1904.

How would you like to see your club or locality celebrate such an occasion?

Any past/present members out there with any ideas can voice their opinion through a specially set up e-mail address - camogie2004@eircom.net, or alternatively contact their local club to air their views.

Plans are currently underway to remember 100 great years of camogie. A committee set up

by Central Council has started the ball rolling by contacting all club, county and provincial secretaries under the auspices of the Association.

One hundred years is a long time in any game, and thus has produced many memories that mark the progress of the game. Looking back, there are some noteworthy, amusing, and other unbelievable milestones in a century of games.

An item of interest that caught the eye in the Gaelic Athletic Annual of 1907-08 was an advertisement for Ladies'

THERESE O'CALLAGHAN View from the Ground



Camogs, 24/- per doz, or 2/6 each by post.

1912 was the year of the first inter-county match when Dublin defeated Louth at Jones' Road 2-1 to 0-0.

The following year on the July

20 a large crowd witnessed Munster's first inter-county contest, a first class game in which Cork beat their Kilkenny visitors by 2-2 to 1-0.

1914 saw Cork become the first county to organise school

competitions, and 12 months later the Ashbourne Cup was inaugurated.

In 1932 Dublin defeated Galway in another first, the All Ireland senior championship final.

Two years later the four Provincial councils were set up and in 1942 a big breakthrough came as the first All-Ireland final was broadcast on radio.

Changes to the playing rules were made in 1967 with opposing wings and centre-fields to meet on the halfway line for the throw-in.

Previously the four forwards from each side lined up to face the throw-in.

Two years later Presentation Kilkenny got the better of St Al's, Cork to become the first All-Ireland Colleges champions.

1972 saw a big breakthrough for the game of camogie, when Kilkenny took the field wearing the modern day uniform which replaced the gym frock and black stockings (thankfully!)

Camogie has gone full circle in its 100 years. We aim to make it a year to remember.

Brigid's breeze into semi-finals

St. Brigid's college.....6-8

Presentation convent.....0-1

ST. BRIGID'S college (Callan) dished out something of a lesson when they breezed past the Presentation convent (Wexford) and into the All-Ireland semi-final of the junior camogie (Roinn B) championship.

The losers were never in the hunt as the Kilkenny girls booked a meeting with St. Patrick's college (Keady) at the Co. Antrim venue on March 3.

Team skipper, Aoife Neary set Brigid's on their merry scoring way with a goal after three minutes. She added a hat-trick of goals afterwards

to help her side into a commanding interval lead of 6-1 to no score.

Jackie Frisby was the main provider of defence splitting passes for Neary's scores. The other goals were bagged by Aileen Cunningham and Mary Claire Murphy.

The Presentation couldn't hold back the tide during the closing half. The points flowed from the Callan girls, with Phena Heffernan (4), Jackie Frisby (2) and Therese Muldowney sending the white flying.

First year student, M. Lutterell made some fine saves in the Brigid's goal. She received great cover from a tight full-back line made up by Amy

Woodcock, Leandra Pollard and Liza Cahill.

Half-backs Julie Ann Woodcock, Grainne Brennan and Phena Heffernan kept a good supply of ball going into the forwards. Theresa Muldowney, Jackie Frisby and Aoife Neary ran the opposition ragged.

Aileen Cunningham, Mary Claire Murphy, Lorraine Fennelly, Lorraine Hartley and Michelle Maloney worked tirelessly for the good of the team.

Subs were Maria Barry, Danielle Coonan, Aoife Millea, Fiona Power, Sarah Butler, Anita Meaher, Breda Phelan and Ruth Maher.

Schools: Congrats. to Borrisoleigh last Wednesday on their fine victory over Bandon in the Munster Senior colleges final. Toome were well represented on the team and by all accounts there were great performances all round. Well done especially to captain Therese Maxwell and the following girls; Kathleen Kennedy, Mairead Ryan, Helen Ryan, Louise Ryan, Maria Tynan, Triona Dunne, Michelle Coffey, Nicola Cuddihy and Sharon Young.

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Cork's Jill Hannon is looking forward to meeting Tipperary next Sunday.



Tipperary's Emer McDonnell will line out against Cork.

Charleville chase the double in colleges decider

IN an All-Cork Munster Junior A Colleges final St Mary's Charleville meet Coachford Community College at Inniscarra this afternoon.

With the senior A title already secured, Charleville are anxious to make it a double for the mid-Cork side and it's a chance to atone for losing out to Borrisoleigh in the senior B final.

In their paths to the final Coachford recorded a 3-4 to 1-2 victory over Borrisoleigh while Charleville recorded a comfortable victory on a 3-7 to 2-2 scoreline when they defeated Templemore.

The semi-finals followed a similar pattern where both sides were comfortable and in control throughout, Coachford with a 7-6 to 3-4 win over Sacred Heart Clonakilty and Charleville recording a huge 4-16 to 0-0 win over Scarriff.

The sides are coached by two mentors who have put in huge time and effort promoting the game in their respective academies.

Vincent Harrington and Ann Marie O'Keeffe have brought Charleville to great heights on the camogie field while Rob Lott's dedication and commitment is second to none.

Both sides have players who have already worn the Cork colours at minor and under 14 Cork colleges level.

Marie and Emer Watson and Anna Geary are three such players on the Charleville side and their team-mate Sinead McAuliffe has lined out with the Limerick minors.

Members of the Cork colleges under 14 side on the Coachford team are Margaret McCarthy, Louise Murphy-Lyons and Mairead Eneguess.

Captain Michelle O'Regan, Niamh O'Connell and Ciara Murphy are amongst the players who will play vital roles in Coachford's quest for honours.

Aghabullogue's Emma Healy and Inniscarra's Margaret McCarthy have been getting the scores up front with the defence well marshalled by reliable Inniscarra goalkeeper Claire Hogan.

The Coachford girls are under no illusions as to the task ahead. Charleville's record speaks for itself and with several of the side already having played key roles in the school's senior Munster title success confidence will be high.

Captained by last year's Cork minor captain Marie Watson, the experience of Elaine O'Riordan, Anna Geary and Edwina Waters will be crucial to the Charleville side but coach Vincent Harrington will tread cautiously against a Coachford side determined to succeed.

Friday will see Carrigaline and Mercy Waterford contest the Junior B final.

Carrigaline defeated a strong Newcastlewest side to reach the final where they face a Mercy side from Waterford which contains several Kilkenny minor players.

UCC failed in their quest to make it back-to-back Ashbourne Cup titles when they lost out at the semi-final stages to WIT in a close contest where a disputed score decided the outcome.

Camogie big guns take aim in opener

THE national leagues begin next weekend with the Cork division one side facing a trip to Tipperary and a meeting with the All-Ireland champions.

For the division one game it is expected that the more experienced players will be fielded under the guidance of new coach Pa Finn and selectors Rose Desmond and Sheila O'Brien.

The division one A team will feature several of last year's All-Ireland winning intermediate side plus many of the junior side that lost out to Derry in the All-Ireland final.

The central council did not allow Cork to enter a team in the junior league as this was confined to weaker counties.

Consequently, it is conceivable that if both teams were to be successful in their respective divisions they could end up meeting each other in the closing stages of the senior national league.

Fixtures

TODAY
Munster Junior A Colleges final: Coachford v St. Mary's Charleville, Inniscarra, 1pm.
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 23
Munster Junior B Colleges final: Carrigaline v Mercy Waterford, Carrigaline 12.30pm.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 24
Cork Minor trials: Courcey Rovers GAA ground, 11am. Players from Seandún, Carrigdhoun and Carbery divisions to attend.
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25
Divisions 1 and 1A Senior National Leagues: Cork v Tipperary, Tipperary, 1.15 and 2.45pm.

By MARY NEWMAN-McCARTHY
Camogie correspondent

The fortunes of the county's second string will be guided by the intermediate and junior selectors.

The first team have been busy in recent weeks preparing for the opening game. Challenge matches against UCC and CIT have proved to be very successful and the new backroom team are looking forward to next Sunday.

Selector Rose Desmond said: "We will be trying new players in our league campaign and such has been the success of the minor and junior

teams, that we will have plenty of experience to choose from."

Sheila O'Brien, reiterating Rose Desmond's words said: "We are looking forward to the challenge ahead and are determined to do well," she said.

Whilst a panel is yet to be finalised, several of the national league winning side will feature prominently with Bishopstown's Sinead O'Callaghan captaining the side.

Linda Mellerick, Eithne Duggan and Cora Keohane are sure to figure whilst a huge welcome is sure to await the Dunlea sisters Lynn and Stephanie, who have returned after 18 months in Australia.

The inclusion of the Dunlea is sure to strengthen the league champions and in particular the selectors will look to Lynn Dunlea, whose scoring prowess will be a big boost to a Cork forward line which last season lacked a lead in attack.

Newcomers to the panel include Emer Dillon, Jemma O'Connor and Linda O'Connell.

Tipperary, with back-to-back All-Ireland titles to their credit would dearly love to add a league title to their tally.

They will see Sunday's game as another chance to keep the upper hand on the Leesiders.

Emer McDonnell and Una O'Dwyer, who have played prominent roles with UCC in the last few weeks, will now line out opposite several of their college team mates.

Claire Grogan, who made such an impact in last season's final, will probably line out in the full forward line whilst the hard-working Ciara Gaynor, Noelle Kennedy and Emily Hayden will all feature for Tipperary.

St Als bridge 20 year gap to triumph

St Aloysius 4-5
Loretto Fermoy 2-1

St ALOYSIUS bridged a gap of almost 20 years since last taking a Cork Colleges Senior camogie title when they defeated Loretto Fermoy at St Finbarr's on Wednesday last.

St Als captain Jennie Duffy opened the scoring with a second minute point after she intercepted a Loretto clearance.

With overhead conditions

ideal for camogie, both sides showed great determination from the throw in.

Six minutes into the game Maireaid Holland extended the St Als lead when she smartly finished a Jenny Duffy side line cut to the net. Denise Twomey opened the Loretto account two minutes later with a well struck point and her side were now playing with confidence.

However, with Maireaid Holland operating effi-

ciently at full forward, St Als stretched their lead with an 18th minute point.

Four minutes later the same player was again the tormentor when she rounded her marker and goaled.

To their credit Loretto dug deep and putting the St Als defence under pressure, forced a double save from goalkeeper Rena Buckley.

However, three minutes later Denise Twomey had Loretto right back in con-

tention when she expertly finished a ground stroke to the net to leave it 2-2 to 1-1 at the interval.

St Als got the perfect start to the second half when Treasa McCarthy's shot for goal was deflected into the net and a minute later Aoife Walsh pointed to give St Als breathing space.

Loretto, with Denise Twomey and Elaine Farrell working tirelessly, continued to win possession and Noreen Mulchay con-

verted a free following a good move involving Elaine Farrell.

Showing tremendous hunger for victory the St Als girls hung on to their lead and with Eadoine O'Mahony, Rena Buckley and Orla McCarthy all in superb form they hung on for a win.

Two points from Maireaid Holland and a goal from Aoife Walsh killed off any chance of a Loretto revival.

Ulster pins hopes on St Mary's

Maire Scully

HISTORY is being made this season, as the All-Ireland Post Primary Schools' competition becomes a 15 a-side game for the first time ever.

Can Charleville specialists, St Mary's, be the first side to win under the new structure, or could junior team Coláiste Bride, Enniscorthy have the distinction of winning the last ever 12-a-side and the first ever 15-a-side?

Already, trends have begun to emerge, with bigger camogie schools better placed to find good players.

The Post Primary Schools are in a healthy state, with Derry side St Mary's, Magherafelt capturing double Ulster titles at both senior and junior grades.

They both now face Leinster opposition at the semi-final stage.

With Derry winning the All-Ireland junior title last September, Magherafelt will be very hopeful of overcoming the Leinster Champions at both grades.

The Derry school will be hoping their senior team, with Kelly McCoy, sister of champion jockey Tony, can enter the winners' enclosure, while leader of attack, Marie Therese McCann, has just been called into Jim Nelson's Antrim squad.

They play the Leinster winners, either Loreto, Kilkenny or Coláiste Bride, Enniscorthy.

This progressive Ulster school, coached by Patricia Cooney and former Antrim camogie star Rita Moran, saw their junior side sweep Ulster to claim their eighth provincial title, but they face a tough battle with the Leinster champions, Coláiste Bride, Enniscorthy.

While Wexford's senior team may not be grabbing the headlines these days, Coláiste Bride, under the guidance of Elva Moriarty, won last year's junior A All-Ireland, and having only lost two of that side, will certainly take beating.

Enniscorthy seniors boast players like Mary Leacy. Her mother Margaret won three All-Ireland titles with Wexford.

St Mary's, Charleville holders of four in-a-row senior All-Irelands between 1996-'99, are back into an All-Ireland semi-final.

They include several players who have played for Cork at minor level, Niamh Bowles, Aine Kelleher, Christine O'Gorman and the Watson sisters, Emer and Maria.

They will certainly not get it all their own way against the Connacht representatives, Portumna CC or Holy Rosary Mountbellew.

The decision of the Schools' Council to introduce a Senior B All-Ireland competition has brought a lot of new names onto the scene, such as Tipperary's St Joseph's, Borrisoleigh.

Ulster will be represented by St Louis Ballymena, while Mercy, Woodford will fly the western flag for the very first time.

It looks as if St Brigid's, Callan will make it to the All-Ireland semi-final stage.

St Aloysius too strong for Loreto Convent

St. Aloysius School 4-5
Loreto Convent, Fermoy 2-1

INSPIRED by the exceptional talents of Jenny Duffy and Mairead Holland, St. Aloysius were comprehensive and deserving winners of the Cork Camogie Colleges Senior B title at St. Finbarr's grounds.

Duffy played the proverbial blinder at midfield and her delivery to her forwards was first class, while inside a rampant forward division took their scores with aplomb - most notably Holland who finished with 2-3 to her name.

It was 2-2 to 1-1 at the break and never did St Al's look in danger of surrendering this lead. Six minutes into the second half the city school extended its advantage with Treasa McCarthy bagging a goal and the skilful Aoife Walsh adding a point. Loreto, with Noreen Mulcahy and Valerie McCormack particularly prominent, tried valiantly to peg back this lead and though Máire O'Neill goaled from a free in the 46th minute, St Als finished with a flourish with points from Holland and an Aoife Walsh goal.

Scorers: St. Aloysius: M. Holland 2-2 (0-1 free); A. Walsh 1-1; T. McCarthy 1-0; J. Duffy 0-1.
Loreto: V. McCormack 1-1; M. O'Neill 1-0 (free).
ST. ALOYSIUS: R. Buckley; K. Ryan, E. O'Mahony, D. Cullinane, L. Browne, D. McCarthy, M. Brennan, J. Duffy, S. O'Driscoll, G. O'Mahony, L. Hayes, A. Walsh, T. McCarthy, M. Holland, P. Holland. Subs used: L. Buckley.
LORETO: M. Ahern, N. Barry, M. Mulcahy, F. Noonan, A. Cotter, A. Fitzgerald, M. Twomey, M. O'Neill, N. Mulcahy, E. Hegarty, D. Mangan, K. Twomey, D. Twomey, E. O'Farrell, V. McCormack. Subs used: T. Carroll, A. Mangan.
Referee: B. Joyce (Killeagh).

Trip to Tipp

Cork Camogie teams begin their respective League campaigns on Sunday with a double header against Tipperary in The Ragg Thurlies.

For the Seniors it's an opportunity to gain some measure of revenge for the defeat in last season's All-Ireland Final, and it is also a first outing for the new

management team, under Coach Pa Finn.

It will be interesting to see how Cork approach this League, and while they look well capable of beating most teams, they will also be conscious of their failure in the last two C'ships, and they may use the League to unearth some new talent.

The County has enjoyed great success at all levels in the last few years, so the talent is there, and in Pa Finn they have a man with an excellent track record which should bring the best out of what is still a very competent group of players.

The panel have been busy in the last few weeks with outings against both C.I.T. and U.C.C. and with players like Linda Mellerick, Fiona O'Driscoll, Viv Harris and Mary O'Connor in the side the All-Ireland Champions will get a severe test.

The format for this years League is, like the C'ship, changed, with the Counties second team participating in Division 1A and in this game Cork should register a win.

There was a big shock in the Ashbourne Cup last Saturday when a star studded U.C.C. lost in somewhat controversial circumstances to eventual winners W.I.T. a late goal, that was disputed ended the reign of the defending Champions.

Powerful St Mary's clinch double

St. Mary's, Charleville 7-14
Coachford College 0-2

by Tom Higgins

FIELDING four of the side which won the Munster Post Primary Senior Schools camogie title recently, St. Mary's Charleville made it a Munster double at Ballyanley, Co. Cork yesterday when their Juniors had a comprehensive win over Coachford College in the final.

This is the fifth time in a row that they have proved successful in this grade and their eighth win in nine years.

From the moment that Emer Watson put her side in front with a goal after only 20 seconds it was all one-way traffic, apart from five minutes before the break when they lost concentration to allow Coachford get their only two scores of the game from a "45" and a free by Margaret McCarthy.

A feature of the game was the way the winners were able to pick the ball on the run and find a loose player when they were about to be closed down.

Their forwards, led by the Watson sisters, Emer and captain Marie, gave the Coachford defence a torrid time and when they led 4-8 to 0-2 at the break the game was truly over.

Coachford refused to lie down and although Mairead Enneguess at centre back and Ciara Murphy, at left back, tried hard to get their forwards moving the St. Mary's defence was solid.

Although Coachford played better in the second half they still could not break down the St. Mary's defence and although they shot a few narrow wides they failed to add to their first half tally.

St. Mary's on the other hand were able to take over where they left off in the second half and with Elaine O'Riordan and Anna Geary controlling the middle of the field their forwards were able to pick off some excellent scores.

The winners now meet the Connacht champions in the semi-final and on yesterday's form will take some stopping.

Scorers: St. Mary's: M. Watson 4-2 (0-1 "45"), E. Watson 2-3, S. McAuliffe 0-3 (0-1 free), A. O'Brien 1-1, P. O'Riordan 0-2, A. Geary 0-2, E. O'Riordan 0-1.
Coachford: M. McCarthy 0-2 (0-1 "45"), 0-1 free.
ST. MARY'S (CHARLEVILLE): N. Murphy; A. Morrissey, A. Potter, J. O'Connor; K. O'Leary, E. Waters, L. Healy; A. Geary, E. O'Riordan; L. Boyce, M. Watson (capt), S. McAuliffe; E. Watson, A. O'Brien, P. O'Riordan.
COACHFORD COLLEGE: C. Hogan; O. McSweeney, L. Murphy-Lyons, A. O'Mahony, N. O'Connell, M. Enneguess, C. Murphy; M. Healy, F. Buckley; L. Roche, L. Daly, M. O'Regan (Capt), M. McCarthy, M. Cosgrave, E. Healy.
Referee: Ms. B. Joyce (Killeagh).

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Old rivals Cork v Tipperary get the new National League campaign underway on Sunday

CORK COLLEGES FIRST YEAR A CHAMPIONS 2000



MUNSTER COLLEGES JUNIOR A FINAL

WED 21/2/01

@ INNISCARRA
1pm

REF: BETTY JOYCE

MUNSTER JUNIOR A CHAMPIONSHIP 2001

7/10/00 FIRST ROUND

CLONAKILTY 2-8 ST. MARY'S, NENAGH 1-3

28/10/00 QUARTER-FINAL

CLONAKILTY	4-6	COL. MHUIRE, ENNIS	1-1
ST. PAT'S, SHANNON	1-2	SCARIFF COMMUNITY	4-1
BORRISOLEIGH	1-2	COACHFORD COLLEGE	3-4
CHARLEVILLE	3-7	TEMPLEMORE	2-2

29/01/01 SEMI-FINAL

SCARIFF	0-0	CHARLEVILLE	4-16
COACHFORD	7-6	SACRED HEART, CLON	3-4

St. Mary's, Charleville

V

Coachford College



COACHFORD COLLEGE

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Claire Hogan | Inniscarra |
| 2. Orla McSweeney | Aghabullogue |
| 3. Louise Murphy Lyons | Aghabullogue |
| 4. Ann O' Mahony | Inniscarra |
| 5. Niamh O' Connell (Vc) | Aghabullogue |
| 6. Mairead Ennenguess | Aghabullogue |
| 7. Ciara Murphy | Aghabullogue |
| 8. Mary Healy | Inniscarra |
| 9. Fiona Buckley | Aghabullogue |
| 10. Louise Roche | Aghabullogue |
| 11. Linda Daly | Inniscarra |
| 12. Michelle O' Regan (C) | Inniscarra |
| 13. Margaret McCarthy | Inniscarra |
| 14. Margaret Cosgrave | Inniscarra |
| 15. Emma Healy | Aghabullogue |

SUBS:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 16. Christine Cosgrave | Inniscarra |
| 17. Catriona O' Connell | Donoughmore |
| 18. Harriet Browne | Aghabullogue |
| 19. Ann Scully | Aghabullogue |
| 20. Margaret O' Leary | Inniscarra |
| 21. Michelle Crowley | Aghabullogue |
| 22. Linda Armstrong | Aghabullogue |
| 23. Marion Twomey | Aghabullogue |

COACH: Ollie Troy Sars

SELECTORS: Aidan Keane Freemount
Riobárd Lotty Sars

ST. MARY'S, CHARLEVILLE

- | |
|---------------------------|
| 1. Natasha Murphy |
| 2. Amy Morrissey |
| 3. Elaine O' Riordan |
| 4. Jacqui O' Connor |
| 5. Karen O' Leary |
| 6. Anna Geary |
| 7. Karen Potter |
| 8. Marie Watson (C) |
| 9. Sinead McAuliffe |
| 10. Leonie Joyce |
| 11. Eimer Watson |
| 12. Edwina Waters |
| 13. Lisa Healy |
| 14. Patricia O' Riordan |
| 15. Aisling O' Brien (Vc) |

SUBS:

- | |
|-----------------------|
| 16. Christine O' Shea |
| 17. Fiona Geary |
| 18. Janice White |
| 19. Tina Shanahan |
| 20. Mary Coleman |
| 21. Michelle Walsh |
| 22. Sinead Carroll |
| 23. Aisling Dillon |
| 24. Fiona Chawke |
| 25. Sarah O' Mahony |
| 26. Riona Garvey |
| 27. Eibhlín Curtin |
| 28. Marie Broderick |
| 29. Sinead Roche |
| 30. Shannon Brosnan |

COACH: Vincent Harrington

SELECTORS: Ann-Marie O' Keeffe