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# Rebels bid to make it lucky 13

by Therese O'Callaghan

CORK and Galway in the National Camogie league final. Who would have forecast this pairing at the beginning of the year? Cork maybe. But, great credit to Galway after internal strife threatened to end their season before it began. Are they about to join the major players once again? Their only All-Ireland senior success came in 1996, and they have won only three Division One league titles.

Tomorrow's pairing in Semple Stadium will only be the second ever, and Galway have never beaten Cork in a decider. But, whatever the outcome, the Tribeswomen are certainly moving in the right direction. In the semi-final — albeit against a poor Kilkenny team — they showed much promise.

Defensively, they are very strong, with a free-flowing attack that loves to run at goal.

But they are without some key players — Lourda Kavanagh is their top scorer but is unavailable with a hand injury. Aine Hillary is another notable absentee at midfield, joining Kavanagh in sickbay.

Fiona Healy has dropped to the bench, while substitute Ann Marie

Cork's Joanne O'Callaghan, Aoife Murray, Rachel Moloney, Stephanie Dunlea and Ciara Healy ready for big Galway test.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Hayes was injured in a club game last weekend. Nevertheless, there are some great head-to-heads in prospect.

Full-forward Veronica Curtin returns to the team after a three-year absence and is looking forward to her duel with Stephanie Dunlea.

"I don't expect anything easy. Stephanie's experience counts for a lot and I am still coming to terms with the intensity of the game. But I am delighted to be back," said the teacher in Portumna.

Curtin — her fiancé Damien Coleman is a member of the backroom team, with PJ Molloy and Sharon Glynn — believes they could yet turn their injury crisis into an advantage.

"We will all have to step up a gear or two. Lourda is a huge loss but it gives Aoife Lynskey a chance to impress.

That is why teams need a strong panel. Even though we are rebuilding, we have 30 players and all are battling for starting positions."

The Kinvara club player agrees that playing in Semple Stadium, after the Munster SFC tie involving All-Ireland champions Kerry and Tipperary, is a plus.

Could it be lucky 13 for the Rebel army? With 12 titles under the belt, the red and white line-up is somewhat experimental — although some omissions are obligatory due to exams.

Sarah O'Donovan is on holidays, while captain Elaine Burke is on the bench. Ciara Healy and Colette Desmond come into the full-forward line. Cork parade nine of the 2004 losing All-Ireland team.

However, one girl who has been

busy recently is Angela Walsh.

The Killeagh player won national football league honours (against Galway) three weeks ago, and tomorrow, along with Cloughduv's Briege Corkery, is attempting to win her first national league medal in camogie.

"Co-operation between the football and camogie management is great, and this is the only reason I can play both codes. The communication lines are open at all times and I find both camps very understanding to my needs."

"Thankfully, so far, major games have not clashed. It can be quite demanding fitness-wise, but you have just got to mind yourself and not over-train. It would be amazing to win another medal tomorrow," said the East Cork girl, who plays her football with Inch Rovers.

Cork and Galway also contest the Division Two final, which will be staged at Templemore at 3pm.

In the Ulster junior championship semi-final, Down and Derry act as curtain-raiser to the Ulster SHC replay between the same counties at Casement Park.

**CORK DIV 1:** A. Murray; J. Browne, S. Dunlea, J. O'Callaghan; A. O'Regan, M. O'Connor, N. Ahern; R. Moloney, B. Corkery; A. Walsh, E. Dillon, J. O'Leary; C. Desmond, U. O'Donoghue, C. Healy.

**GALWAY DIV 1:** S. Gannon, R. Glynn, S. Cahalan, N. Gavin, L. Lally, T. Maher (capt), A. Kelly; S. Murphy, C. Gleeson; A. Lynskey, B. Hanney, O. Kilkenny; B. Kerins, V. Curtin, E. Kilkenny.

**CORK DIV 2:** F. Killeen; D. Hayes, R. Holland, A. Kelleher; E. O'Sullivan, L. O'Connell (capt), N. Bowles; D. Cooney, O. Cotter; H. O'Regan, D. O'Reilly, O. Coughlan; M. Coleman, E. O'Herrity, C. Deasy.

**GALWAY DIV 2:** S. Dervan; C. Gill, E. Burke, A. Kilkenny; P. Hayes, L. Gohery, M. Geoghan; T. Manton, E. Tannahill; R. O'Brien, C. Glynn, C. Kelly; Y. Donnelly, M. Dunne, M. Kelly.

## U-14 teams vie for success at Inniscarra inter-county blitz

SCHOOL holiday thoughts are to be put on the back burner for the weekend as under 14 teams from Cork, Tipperary, Wexford, Kilkenny, Waterford, Limerick Colleges, Clare, Dublin, Galway and Cork colleges meet in the James Hurley memorial inter-county blitz in Inniscarra on Saturday next.

The competition is organised and hosted by the Cork Colleges camogie committee, and is in memory of one of the greatest workers, the late James Hurley, who passed away three years ago at a very young age. James was a teacher in St. Aloysius and was very prominent in the Cork Colleges board, having been a selector with the Cork Colleges under 14 side and an officer. After his untimely

death the committee decided to dedicate the Cork competition to his memory and his family presented a beautiful trophy which is played for each year.

The competition will be played on a round robin format with the top two teams contesting the final on what promises to be a great day of camogie. The Cork side is coached by Ger Donovan from St. Mary's, Charleville. The side is chosen from players whose school participated in Cork colleges competitions, and they have prepared well for the challenge ahead. Recently they participated in and won the Limerick Colleges U14 blitz and have in preparation also played games against Limerick, Dublin, Waterford and

Kilkenny. The Cork side is captained by Michelle Healy from Coachford College while Catriona Collins Bandon, Jennifer Lynch Crosshaven, Cliona Galvin Charleville, Grainne O'Keeffe Carrigaline, Claire Keohane Carrigrohilly, and Denise Luby Carrigrohilly.

Kilkenny and Dublin have beaten Wexford in the Leinster under 14 championship and will contest the provincial final in June. Galway won the Clare blitz by virtue of a four point win over Limerick Colleges in the final and the stage is certainly set for a thrilling Cork event.

The Cork Colleges backroom team have left no stones unturned in their search for talent and have picked the panel of 29 players from

17 schools who represent 19 clubs. They have been busy preparing since last September with the assistance of fellow selectors Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers), Mairead Ni Mhaoldoin (Col Daibheid), Prionsias Creedon (Carrigrohilly) and Rob Lott (Coachford).

Proceedings get under way with the first game scheduled for 11.30am

Cork Colleges panel: C. Collins, M. Hawkes, S. McCarthy Bandon, E. Murphy Butternut, C. O'Callaghan, N. O'Keefe Col. An Phiarasigh, D. Luby Carrigrohilly, G. O'Keefe Carrigaline, C. Keohane, E. O'Neill Carrigrohilly, R. Finn, C. Galvin, D. O'Callaghan, O. O'Mahony Charleville, M. O'Donovan, J. White Christ King, M. Healy, C. O'Brien, C. O'Keefe, C. O'Connor Coachford, C. Smith Cobh, B. O'Callaghan Col. Cholim, J. Lynch, D. Smythe Crosshaven, C. Hayes Kinsale, O. Johnson Nagle Rice, C. Mackay Passage, E. Crowley.

## Rebels warm up for Galway clash

CORK seniors will have to pick themselves up from their defeat at the hands of Galway in last Sunday's National League final as they face Limerick on Wednesday night in the semi-final of the Munster championship in Ballyhea at 7.30pm.

While the game has no bearing on the All Ireland series, which is played on an open draw basis, Cork will be anxious to get good games under

their belt and get back on the winning trail as they prepare for their championship outings against Galway and Wexford on July 2 and 17.

In last Sunday's league decider, Cork failed to ignite against a Galway side that were hungry for success and they face into tomorrow's clash badly in need of a boost.

The counties are on opposite side of the championship and were also

in opposite league groups. In their section Limerick had games against Cork's championship opponents Wexford and Galway.

Limerick failed to make it to the play-off stages of the league, suffering a comprehensive defeat at the hands of Wexford, but they picked themselves up sufficiently to come within five points of the newly crowned league champions. They are

paired in a tough championship section with holders Tipperary, Kilkenny and Antrim.

Cork continue to be without several players who are exam-tied or out of the country and certainly they felt the loss of these players on Sunday last.

However, they will be hoping for an improved performance to book a place in the provincial decider.

MARY MORAN  
LISNEACH  
16 FINGROVE GWS  
BISHOPSTOWN  
CORK

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# Rebels up for Galway final test

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie

"WE'LL be giving it our best shot," was how Cork manager John Cronin described tomorrow's senior National League final game against Galway.

Having taken over from John Considine this year, it would be a great start for the Cloughduv man should Cork take the title.

Fairly depleted in training these past months with many of the squad doing exams, Cork have managed to keep the momentum going with former Cork player Fiona O'Driscoll coaching the side.

"Fiona is doing an excellent job for us. Her coaching is excellent. She is very meticulous and most importantly the players respond very well to her," he said.

Fiona feels if Cork play as well as we do during training on Sunday then she'd be confident of a victory.

Galway manager Sharon Glynn and Fiona are no strangers to each other having faced each other numerous times on the playing field.

Galway beat Cork in the All-Ireland final of 1996 in what was a shock defeat for the Rebels but the sweetest of victories for Galway, who claimed their one and only title to date.

Cork gained revenge in 1997 and 98. Now both players face each other as mentors passing their expertise and advice on to their charges.

Galway named their team early in the week and it shows a number of personnel and positional switches due to the non availability of right-half forward Lourda Kavanagh and centre-field player Aine Hilary.

Nicola Gavin comes in at left full-back. Lorraine Kelly moves to right half-back which sees Fiona Healy demoted to the subs bench. Shauna Murphy starts at centre-field for Hilary and Aoife Lynskey moves to right half-forward.

Galway have a running team. One of their weaknesses in the semi-final was their over elaboration of the ball. They hand pass continuously, particularly around the middle of the field and up front and don't play enough direct hurling. They are very young and will have no fear of Cork.

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Cork named their team only last night due to the fact that Friday was the only night the entire squad could get together this week because of exams.

As expected Aoife Murray takes the number one shirt. Murray is undoubtedly the top goalkeeper in the country at the moment. The full-backline stands at Jennifer Browne, Stephanie Dunlea and Joanne O'Callaghan. Shaky enough in the semi-final this line of defence is usually dependable. Amanda O'Regan wins the right half-back slot from Paula O'Connor with Mary O'Connor and Nora Ahern completing the trio. Rachel Moloney begins at centre-field alongside the tireless Breige Corkery. Angela Walsh who had an excellent debut against Wexford retains her position at right half-forward. Emer Dillon reverts back to her more natural position of centre-forward and flanking her on the left is free taker Jennifer O'Leary.

Captain Elaine Burke is carrying an injury. She may well be sprung from the bench but Cork have named Colette Desmond to start. Clara Healy, who hasn't put a foot wrong with the juniors this year takes over from Sarah O'Donovan at full-forward.

All-Ireland winning captain Una O'Donoghue is in-side at left half-forward.

Cork have a strong squad. When one looks at the fact that Vivienne Harris, Rena Buckley, Gemma O'Connor and Anna Geary have still to come on to the panel, it gives an indication of the strength in depth available to Cork.

The All-Ireland is Cork's priority, but for the moment they aren't thinking beyond Sunday. A league title will start the year off very nicely indeed.

## Cork should make in lucky 13 league titles

By LINDA MELLERICK

Cork v Galway camogie preview

IT'S Cork on the double yet not at the same venue this Sunday as Cork take on Galway in the senior and junior National League finals.

The junior final goes ahead in Templemore at 3pm while the senior game takes place in Thurles at 5.30pm after the Munster Football quarter final between Kerry and Tipperary.

The seniors, league champions in 2003, will be favourites to beat the 2002 Galway champions. On route they accounted for Dublin, Kilkenny and Tipperary to emerge top of their group and face Wexford in the semi-final. A two-point victory here saw them through to this weekend's final showdown.

Rena Buckley and Anna Geary are still unavailable until after their leaving cert. Vivienne Harris has yet to settle back into the team having missed training again due to exams.

Sarah O'Donovan is out of the country and will miss the final and Gemma O'Connor, last year's All-Star is currently serving in Liberia. She is due home on June 2 after a six month stint and there is no doubt that she will command a place in the starting 15 for the championship.

Angela Walsh made her debut in style for Cork three weeks ago in the semi-final scoring 1-2 and will be pushing for her place again. Clara Healy has been in dynamic form for the junior team all season and will surely replace Sarah O'Donovan at full forward.

The Cork defence was shaky in the semi and will need to tighten up against a running Galway forward line.

Galway have a number of injuries and will be missing two of their key players. Aoife Lynskey comes in at right half forward in place of Lourda Kavanagh. Kavanagh is Galway's top forward and her loss is a big blow.

Aine Hilary is also out and she is replaced at centre-field by Shauna Murphy. It is hard to see Galway beating Cork without these two players.

The move of Breige Corkery to right half forward and Emer Dillon to centre

# Galway shock Cork to win third league title

Galway 1-6

Cork 0-6

Therese O'Callaghan, Semple Stadium

THERE was a big shock in Thurles yesterday as Galway upset the form-book to claim their third Division One national camogie league title at Semple Stadium.

And how they greeted that final whistle as the celebrations launched the maroon and white back on the success trail.

It wasn't just winning that made their fans ecstatic it was the fresh resolve shown by this new-look Galway team. Boss Sharon Glynn was overjoyed.

"This must rank as the best-ever. We are a long time down and badly needed to get something out of today."

"We were short two of our top players (Aine Hilary and Lourda Kavanagh) and as a result, and rightly so, a lot of people had written us off. To be honest, I had my own doubts during the week."

"But we asked the 15 girls that took the field to work hard and to be proud of themselves. They were brilliant and to not concede a goal against a forward line like Cork's is just beyond belief." But, if truth is told, this will

rank as one of Cork's poorer performances. Already drained in midfield and attack by the loss of injured duo Hilary and Kavanagh, the Connacht defence soaked any pressure Cork threw at them.

Captain Therese Maher was tremendous at centre-back, while Ailbhe Kelly was powerful at wing-back. Their full line also battered down the hatches and keeper Stephanie Gannon, who earlier this year received the Irish Examiner Junior Sports Star Award, was superb.

Her acrobatics in the opening five minutes denied Cork a perfect start.

Cork manager John Cronin had no complaints, admitting: "we were not good enough. What more can one say? We were short of scoring power and you need scores to win matches."

Even if the scoring was low, this was a very competitive encounter, with Cork opening smartly courtesy of two fine points from Una O'Donoghue and Jennifer O'Leary. But Galway began to settle and suffocated the Cork attack. Two minutes into injury-time, Galway's Veronica Curtin broke through for a brilliant goal, which helped them to a four-point interval lead, 1-4 to 0-3.

A battling second-half display ensued, with Galway's inside-forward line (Brenda Kerins, Curtin and Emma Kilkelly) impressing, while at the other end, a pair of misses from placed balls by the usually reliable Jennifer



Galway captain Therese Maher brings the ball out of defence chased by Cork's Una O'Donoghue in the National League Division 1 final. Picture: Des Barry

O'Leary proved costly.

The Rebels pegged the deficit back to two by the three-quarter stage, but the large Galway following were already sensing victory. Cork failed to score again.

Scorers Galway: V Curtin 1-5 (0-3 frees), B Han-

ney 0-1.

Cork: J O'Leary 0-3 (0-2 frees, 0-1 45m), E Dillon 0-2, U O'Donoghue 0-1.

GALWAY: S Gannon, R Glynn, S Cahalan, N Gavin, L Lally, T Maher (capt), A Kelly, S Murphy, C Gleenon, A Lynskey, B Hanney, O Kilkenny, B Kerins, V Curtin, E Kilkelly.

Subs: K Glynn for C Gleenon (45 mins), A Connolly for B Hanney (49 mins), J Gill for A Lynskey (55 mins), F Healy for S Murphy (59 mins).

CORK: A Murray, J Browne, S Dunlea, J

O'Callaghan, A O'Regan, M O'Connor, N Ahern, R Moloney, B Corkery, A Walsh, E Dillon, J O'Leary, C Desmond, U O'Donoghue, C Healy.

Subs: V Harris for B Corkery (45), E Burke for C Desmond (43 mins), R Holland J O'Callaghan (54 mins), P O'Connor for C Healy (57 mins).

Referee: A Lawlor (Westmeath).

Elsewhere, in the Division Two final, Cork clinched the silverware with a hard-fought victory over Galway at Templemore, 2-10 to 2-7.

A blistering start by the maroon and white that yielded a brace of goals from Molly Dunne and Rachel O'Brien gave the early initiative to the westerners. However, a 14th-minute green flag from Cork's Ellen O'Herlihy saw the sides level at the break (2-1 to 1-4).

A Catriona Kelly goal 10 minutes from time put the Rebels in front for the first time. They then pulled away with points from Emer O'Friel, Niamh Bowles and Kelly.

Scorers Cork: C Kelly 1-6, E O'Herlihy 1-0, E O'Friel 0-2, O Coughlan and N Bowles 0-1 each. Galway: M Dunne 1-5, R O'Brien 1-1, E Tannion 0-1.

CORK: F Killeen, D Hayes, R Holland, A Kelleher, E O'Sullivan, L O'Connell (capt), N Bowles, D Cooney, O Cotter, H O'Regan, C Kelly, O Coughlan, E O'Friel, E O'Herlihy, C Deasy.

Subs: M Browne for H O'Regan, E Waters for E O'Herlihy (both 44 mins).

GALWAY: S Dervan, C Gill, E Burke, A Kilkenny, P Hayes, L Gohery, M Geoghan, T Manton, E Tannion, R O'Brien, C Glynn, C Kelly, Y Donnelly, M Dunne, M Kelly.

Subs: T Byrne for L Gohery (21 mins), C Cormican for Y Donnelly (41), A Hardy for M Kelly (44 mins).

Referee: J Pender (Kildare).



# Rebels turn it around to claim some consolation for loss of titles

Cork 2-10  
Galway 2-7

By LINDA MELLERICK  
National Junior League

SEVEN days after losing their Munster and All-Ireland crowns a spirited Cork performance saw them take the National Junior League title yesterday in sun-drenched Templemore.

From the throw in Cork were on the attack. In the first four minutes they hit the post twice and had three wides. Totally against the run of play Galway's Mary Kelly broke through the Cork defence and passed to Molly Dunne who hand passed the ball over the head of Francis Kileen in the Cork goal.

Two further attacks from Galway in the 11th and 12th minutes had the westerners leading by seven. A point by Rachelle O'Brien in the 11th came just seconds before the same player won possession 45 yards out. Soloing through she flicked the ball over the head of the out-rushing Cork defence and whipped to the back of the net from 20 yards.

But Cork replied in the best possible way. From the puck out Catriona Kelly hit over. She pointed a free a minute later and on the 14th Cork were back in the game when Ellen O'Herlihy capitalised on a goalkeeping blunder to pull into the near corner leaving just two between the sides.

Galway failed to score for the remainder of the half while the excellent Kelly hit over a further two points to leave it level at the break 1-4 to 2-1.

It was Galway who came back out the strongest. Their star player on the day Dunne hit a '45 in the

5th minute and following it up seconds later with a magnificent score from fifty yards out on the left wing. Another point on the 11th and Cork found themselves three behind.

Orla Coughlan and Dunne again swapped points and it stayed that way for another six minutes as the game swung from end to end. Kelly pointed and Cork then took the lead for the first time with 10 minutes remaining when an excellent ball from substitute Michelle Browne into the square was connected with by Kelly into the net and Cork led by one.

Dunne levelled it with a free with seven minutes remaining and then Emer O'Friel swung into action scoring two great points in the 24th and 27th. Again Dunne replied and a minute into injury time Bowles pushed it to two again.

Kelly pointed a free to make it three but it wasn't over yet.

The game was played at a frantic pace as four-and-a-half minutes of 'phantom' overtime was played but Cork hung on in what was a thoroughly deserved, hard-fought victory.

**Scorers Cork:** C Kelly 1-6 (0-3f), E O'Herlihy 1-0, E O'Friel 0-2, N Bowles and O Coughlan 0-1 each.

**Galway:** M Dunne 1-5 (0-3f, 0-1 '45), R O'Brien 1-1, C Kelly 0-1.

**CORK:** F Kileen, D Hayes, R Holland, A Kelleher, E O'Sullivan, L O'Connell, N Bowles, D Coomey, O Cotter, H O'Regan, C Kelly, O Coughlan, E O'Friel, E O'Herlihy, C Deasy.

**Subs:** E Waters for H O'Regan, M Brown for C Deasy, M Coleman for E O'Herlihy.

**GALWAY:** S Dervan, C Gill, E Burke, A Kilkenny, P Hayes, L Gohery, M Geoghegan, T Manton, E Tannion, R O'Brien, C Glynn, C Kelly, Y Donnelly, M Dunne, M Kelly.

**Subs:** T Byrne for L Gohery, V Flanagan for M Kelly.

## WHAT THEY SAID

AFTER the game manager Brendan Coleman said that the victory made up a little bit for last weekend's defeat.

"Well after last week we knew we had a hard job to try and lift them again. It was a good result and a good start for next year hopefully. This panel is well capable of winning an All-Ireland. I think we showed great character after being seven points down. The forwards really stood up and were counted today after the criticism they took last week and Catriona Kelly's introduction really helped."

Cork captain Lynda O'Connell was overjoyed with the title. "This is brilliant. Last week when we lost the championship, we said we didn't care about the league but it meant an awful lot to us today."

"We came back this week and it shows what heart we have. It was a hard game and we're thrilled with it."

# Cork fail



Cork's Eimer Dillon tackles Galway's Therese Maher in the National League final in Thurles yesterday. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

## WHAT THEY SAID

Despite being without at least four of their regular 15 due to exams and other commitments, Cork should have had the strength in depth to cope with Galway.

Manager John Cronin readily admits this. "Very disappointed", was how he put it.

"We panicked a bit when we went down the goal. We lost our way a lot around the field and Galway were hungrier for it on the day. Six points won't win matches."

"We were well on top but weren't taking our chances. But I always said that Galway were very good, especially with my experiences over the years with the minors, they always had great under age players. But look, we'll bring it together again for the championship," the Cork manager stated.

Sharon Glynn, on the other hand, was justifiably very proud of her team. Having taken over as manager a short five months ago she has turned Galway's fortunes around and injected life into a former dormant squad. "I suppose

all I gave them was a bit of belief," the former player offered.

"That's what was needed. The last three-or-four years have been so bad...the players were always there, we just never got the best out of them. And at times the best weren't always picked either," she said hinting at the unrest which existed for a time in the county.

"We've won so much at minor, junior and club level, so much except at this level but you know maybe its coming right for us now," Sharon added. "I said to the team before the game that we're here because we deserve to be."

"We won all our league games and so topped the group and its nice to do it that way. If Cork had got a goal I think we might have been in trouble but our defence held out."

"Therese Maher was excellent for us in the last 15 minutes. We needed to at least come close to Cork today as we're out against them again in four or five weeks' time. That game against Cork will be a hell of a battle."



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# final league test



Linda  
Mellerick

Galway 1-6  
Cork 0-6

**CORK** were favourites to take their 13th National Senior League title when they faced Galway in Thurles last evening but it didn't quite turn out like that.

The script was re-written by the girls from the West and they had something to say about Cork's fairytale ending.

Despite Cork's dominance at times throughout the game Galway are deserving winners if for no other reason but that they seemed to want it more. Their first touch was a joy to watch and when they took Cork on they had the legs to split them apart.

The first half was flat for the most part until the last 10 minutes which yielded the majority of the 31 minute scoring.

The teams seemed nervous and tense and one kept waiting for the game to explode.

Cork certainly had the upper hand in the opening exchanges but this wasn't being converted into scores. Despite having 65 percent of possession in the opening 20 minutes they found themselves only two points to the good and with four wides on the board.

As the game wore on Galway began to open up their play and take Cork on. Mary O'Connor was dominating centre-back and on her left Amanda O'Regan was steady. Rachel Moloney fell back and won a lot of ball but other than that Cork struggled.

It was noticeable that once the ball passed Cork's half-back line Galway were in control.

Galway's jewel in the crown, Veronica Curtin wasn't to put a foot wrong at full forward, finishing with a personal tally of 1-5, and together with team-mate Brenda Kerins at right corner forward ran Cork ragged.

Curtin opened her side's scoring on 23 minutes with a free. Kerins added another two minutes later and Dillon replied for Cork on the 27th. The remaining minutes of the half was all Galway as the pendulum began to swing. Curtin pointed again on the 28th.

Curtin pointed a free entering injury time and just when one thought that was it the unthinkable happened from a Cork point of view. O'Callaghan was tackled as she broke out of defence, the ball was caught by Kerins who this time found her intended and Curtin blasted from her left hand side to the top corner giving Aoife Murray no chance.

In nine minutes Galway had scored 1-4 and the half-time whistle couldn't come fast enough for the Rebels.

Again Cork dominated play in the first 15 minutes but once again lacked any leadership or penetration up front. Six points in total over the sixty four minutes with only three coming from play is a despairing statistic. The game was scrappy and this wasn't helped by indecisive refereeing which saw the ball being 'thrown in' nearly a dozen times throughout.

Yet at times it produced moments of magic. One such moment came in the 13th minute. Dillon won a ball out on the right corner, she swung it back out to the waiting Vivienne Harris on the '40. Harris flicked inside to Healy who connected first time to hit a bullet of a shot at keeper Stephanie Gannon who in turn dived and saved brilliantly. Had Cork goaled one felt the floodgates would open but it wasn't to be.

The save inspired Galway even further. They were awarded a penalty on the 25th minute which would have wrapped the game up. Gannon ran from her goal line and struck but it was saved well by Murray and eventually ran out wide.



Galway's Therese Maher wins the ball from Cork's Ciara Healy in the National League final in Thurles yesterday.

Picture: Ed

A life-line for Cork but would they make the most of it? They tried to walk the ball into the Galway net and seek the elusive goal far too early and came up against a brick wall. Therese Maher, in particular, at centerback was like a leader on the front line as she drove Cork back and her charges forward.

By the time the final whistle blew Cork had long since raised the white flag and surrendered to a team who on the day showed better teamwork, skill, hunger and speed.

**Scorers:** Cork: J. O'Leary 0-3 (0-2f, 0-1 '45), E. Dillon 0-2, U. O'Donoghue 0-1.

**Galway:** V. Curtin 1-5 (0-3f), B. Kerins 0-1.

**CORK:** A. Murray; J. Browne, S. Dunlea, J. O'Callaghan; A. O'Regan, M. O'Connor, N. Ahern; R. Moloney, B. Corkery; A. Walsh, E. Dillon, J. O'Leary; C. Desmond, U. O'Donoghue, C. Healy.

**Subs:** V. Harris for B. Corkery, E. Burke for C. Desmond, R. Holland for J. O'Callaghan, P. O'Connor for C. Healy.

**GALWAY:** S. Gannon; R. Glynn, S. Cahalan, N. Gavin; L. Lally, T. Maher, A. Kelly; S. Murphy, C. Glennon; A. Lynskey, B. Hanney, O. Kilkenny; B. Kerins, V. Curtin, E. Kilkelly.

**Subs:** K. Glynn for C. Glennon, A. Connolly B. Hanney, J. Gill for A. Lynskey, S. Keane for S. Murphy.



Galway captain Therese Maher brings the ball out of defence chased by Cork's Una O'Donoghue.





By Séamas I Fhinnéin

**Back in February Eilis O'Doherty created an Ulster Colleges' record in becoming the only player to win four successive Ulster Senior schools' medals. The Slaughtneil goalie played in goals in each final.**

Yesterday that outstanding feat was recognised when Eilis was selected on the Begley - O'Neills' Ulster Schools' Camogie All-stars announced by the provincial Schools' camogie Council in Begley Sports Dunagannon yesterday.

It is the second successive award for the St. Patrick's Maghera A-Level student as she was included in the inaugural team selected to mark the game's Centenary Year.

However unlike last year there will be no inter-provincial tournament nor are there plans for an All-Ireland Schools' All-stars. Eilis made that team last year and

played against Scotland in the Shinty International.

Also in the frame for all those events last year - as well as picking up a full All-star nomination at the end of the year - was St. Mary's Magherafelt captain Katie McAuley, who also managed to take her second successive award yesterday.

And seven others in the panel of 20 announced also were included in the inaugural selection.

These include Katie's St. Mary's team mate Kate Lavery, Claire Kinsella (St. Patrick's Keady), and three Antrim Junior inter-county players Stephanie O'Kane (Cross & Passion College, Ballycastle), Rhona Torney (St. Genevieve's, Belfast) and Máiréad Rainey (St. Louise's, Belfast).

St. Mary's Clady have Bellaghy's Aisling Diamond back in the frame, while Michelle McGuigan was initially a winner with St. Patrick's Keady, but has now moved on to Armagh College of Further Education.

Eilis O'Doherty is one of five players

from St. Patrick's Maghera to gain awards. These include the captain Michelle McManus and Claire Quinn from Swatragh, the latter making an interesting family double as her brother Conor was on the Ulster Colleges' hurling All-star team of 2002.

She is a first-time recipient as is St. Malachy's Castlewellan player Kelly O'Higgins who in November featured on the Liatroim Fontenoys team that eclipsed the All-Ireland club title. Two years ago Kelly scored 7-1 in the Ulster Minor final for her county - and still finished on the losing team. She is currently in the Down forward line.

Another to recently join her county forward line also received a call-up - 16 year-old scoring sensation Collette McSorley and she is one of four players from Armagh selected.

Eglis's Shauna Jordan is the only Tyrone player in a team dominated by Derry and Antrim players.

## Begley - O'Neills' Ulster Colleges Camogie All Stars 2005

MICHELLE MCGUIGAN  
AOIBHEANN MCKENNA  
CLAIRE KINSELLA  
STEPHANIE O'KANE  
CLAIRE DALLAT  
KELLY O'HIGGINS  
ORLAGH MCCAUL  
RHONA TORNEY  
MAIREAD RAINEY  
KATIE MCAULEY  
KATE LAVERTY  
SHAUNA JORDAN  
EILIS O DOHERTY  
MICHELLE MCMANUS  
PATRICIA MURRAY  
IRENE CUSHNAHAN  
CLAIRE QUINN  
AISLING DIAMOND  
COLLETTE MCSORLEY  
SINEAD CASSIDY

Armagh College of Further Education  
St Patrick's High School, Keady  
St Patrick's High School, Keady  
Cross and Passion College, Ballycastle  
Cross and Passion College, Ballycastle  
St Malachy's, Castlewellan  
St Genevieve's High School, Belfast  
St Genevieve's High School, Belfast  
St Louise's Comprehensive College, Belfast  
St Mary's Grammar School, Magherafelt  
St Mary's Grammar School, Magherafelt  
St Patrick's Girl's Academy, Dungannon  
St Patrick's College, Maghera  
St Patrick's College, Maghera  
St Patrick's College, Maghera  
St Patrick's College, Maghera  
St Mary's College, Clady  
St Catherine Armagh  
Loretto College, Coleraine





# WEXFORD

## The Model County



The Wexford senior camogie team is hoping to build on the success of 2004 as they enter into the 2005 championship.

The centenary year of the Camogie Association was a good one for Wexford. They made it back to back Leinster titles and reached the National League final where they were narrowly defeated by reigning All Ireland champions Tipperary. Wexford almost caused a huge upset in the championship last year in the Foras na Gaeilge All Ireland Semi-final when they lost again to Tipperary by only one point. A fine performance that day saw Mary Leacy receive the RTE Player of the Match award. However, this great honour did little for the disappointment felt by the Wexford girls who really wanted to make it to Croke Park last year.

The team is a relatively young team with lots of talent. Wexford are lucky to have among them three All Stars from 2004: Mary Leacy, Aine Codd and Kate Kelly. But Wexford have talent throughout their side. Michelle Hearne in the full-forward line causes great difficulty for any back and will certainly be a force to be reckoned with in the 2005 championship.

Wexford will have a tough start to their All Ireland Senior campaign when they meet Cork who are showing great form this year. However, they will be no pushover. Powered by the Leacy sisters, Una and



Wexford Camogie Captain  
Mary Leacy

Mary they also have Ursula Jacob back in the side. She was exam tied for last year's league final. Wexford camogie is on a high; Coláiste Bride captured the senior All Ireland Colleges title for the third year in a row last weekend. They defeated St. Mary's Charleville in a superb game.

This is Willie Carley's first year in charge of the Wexford senior camogie team: "It is very difficult to predict the championship in any year and certainly this year is no

different. The championship is wide open. Sacrifices are made by all teams competing and every county will be putting in the same commitment. I would like to compliment my own panel on their commitment to their sport. The demands made on county players with heavy schedules, is accepted by everyone and I thank the girls for bearing up to the pressures." Willie is joined on the sideline by Peggy Kelly of St. Ibars. Willie and Peggy were also joined by Tommy Kirwan of Oulart the Balagh until his untimely death on April 27th. Tommy was an integral part of the senior management team and is sadly missed by Willie, Peggy and all of the girls on the panel.

No doubt the Wexford team will be hoping to go one better than last year and according to captain, Mary Leacy, they have the ability to do so: "In my opinion, it is very hard to predict the championship this year. It's very open as you can see from the way the league turned out with the All-Ireland champions knocked out before the semi-finals. It just shows the effort the other counties are putting in. But hopefully Wexford will go all the way this year...."

Wexford Camogie Team



# CORK

## The Rebels



Cork is eager to win back its place as the premier camogie county.

With more camogie clubs than any other county the pool of skilful players available for selection on county teams is huge. With three All Stars last year, a junior All Ireland title and an appearance in the Foras na Gaeilge All Ireland final Cork performed well last year. However, the girls will be anxious to bring back some silverware to the Capital of Culture this year.

John Cronin, team manager is looking ahead to the championship with confidence and is looking forward to his side's participation: "I think it will be a very even championship. Tipperary are the champions and they will be very determined to retain their title. Kilkenny and Galway have made great progress and looked good throughout the national league. Wexford are strong and last seasons good performance will stand to them. I

look on every team as a danger and would not write off anyone. I will be hoping that we remain focused and achieve our aim which is to win the championship." John is joined by selectors Lillian Zinkant and Ollie Hallihane and former inter-county player Fiona O'Driscoll who has come on board this year as the team's coach.

Cork have a good combination of new and experienced players. With last year's All Star winning goal-keeper between the posts teams will find it hard to get anything past Aoife Murray. The defence will be rock solid with the expertise of reliable defenders Stephanie Dunlea and Mary O'Connor to call on and Emer Dillon and Jennifer O'Leary will be hoping to make life difficult for back-lines across the country. These players combined with some new faces such as Denise Twomey and Jennifer Browne, Amanda O'Regan and

Sarah O'Donovan who won Junior All Ireland medals with Cork last year, will provide tough opposition for any team.

This year's captain, Elaine Burke of the Valley Rovers club, would like to bring the O'Duffy Cup back Lee-side this year: "We are really looking forward to the championship this year. Tipperary as champions will be looking to retain the title. Wexford will be pushing hard after their narrow defeat in the semi-final last year. As a team we will just be concentrating on our own preparation and performance."

Cork will also be hoping to make their mark in the junior and minor ranks this year. The wealth of talent coming through Cork and underage and schools level should ensure that they will be strong contenders throughout.



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# CLARE

## The Banner County



Camogie in Clare is as strong as it ever has been. With great work being put in by many at under-age level it is only a matter of time before the Banner county begins to reap rewards on the inter-county scene. With a strong U14 squad and with some success coming their way at colleges level Clare are sure to have some new and exciting players on the scene over the next couple of years.

However, for now Francis McNamara, manager of the Clare junior team is focussed on the 2005 championship. Clare had a disappointing year in 2004 after being beaten in their opening game. This came as a bit of a shock to most after Clare's impressive form in 2003. In that year they made it to the All Ireland Junior final where they lost out to Galway in a replay following a thrilling match in Croke Park. However, things look set to change for 2005 and hopes are high that Clare will make it to Croke Park again on September 18th of this year. The team enjoyed a good run in Division two of the National League this year, just missing out on the knock out stages. For Francis McNamara the first obstacle is to get out of Munster: "I am



hoping for Clare to have a good run in this year's championship, but getting out of Munster for us will not be easy. If we conquer Tipperary in the opening round we still have to think of Cork, Waterford, Limerick or London. If we get out of Munster who knows we just might visit Croke Park on September 18th. Regarding the senior championship I think it might be Cork, but I also see Galway in the wings and I don't think Wexford are too far behind."

Clare will be calling on the experience of players such as Catherine O'Loughlin who captained the side to their last All-Ireland title in 1986. Catherine was the only Clare player to receive an All Star nomination last year. Deirdre Corcoran is another fine player, while the energetic Moira McMahon is always impressive around midfield. Captain Deirdre Murphy is a forward of note who finds her name on most score boards. Clare welcome back Erica Minogue to the panel this year. A very young and promising player Erica was unavailable due to studies for a while. Clare also have the talented Jane Scanlon this season at corner back.

Captain Deirdre Murphy, who received the Player of the Match in the drawn All

Ireland Final in Croke Park against Galway in 2003, will be hoping to lead the side out onto Croke Park in September this year: "I would love to think we would get out of Munster this year, but it is a difficult province to get out of, but I feel if we got out of the province we might make it to Croke Park in September, but I still know we would have stiff opposition from counties like Down, Dublin and Wexford, but we will be hopeful."



# DUBLIN

## The Jackians



Dublin played well in the National League and have registered progress since last year. A decision was taken in 2004 to target success in the Junior Championship and preparations have gone very well for 2005.

Hopes are high among players, management and officials of doing well in the Junior Championship and of getting to Croke Park for All-Ireland Day. It's over 20 years since Dublin last contested an All-Ireland in Croke Park. But serious hurdles remain to be surmounted. In Leinster Dublin face Offaly in first round, Wexford in quarter-final and eventually Kilkenny in the final. Kilkenny are expected to come through the other side of the draw. A tall order but the Dubs feel that this year could be the breakthrough!

Peter Lucey, Dublin manager is very aware of the challenges that lie ahead: "Our priority this year is to win a provincial title. We begin our championship campaign against Offaly on May 21st and this will be a tough opening fixture. Wexford, Kildare and Kilkenny will also provide stiff opposition along the line. Our preparations so far have gone well and the blend of such experienced players as Louise O'Hara, Eimear Brannigan (All Star nominees last year) and Sylvia Hanks along with new players - Ciara Durkan, Andrea Fitzpatrick and Elaine Ryan - hopefully will see us achieve our goal. Who knows what might happen after that!"

This year's captain, Eimear Brannigan, is also hopeful of success in 2005. Eimear though still only in her twenties starts her twelfth year with the Dublin Senior panel. Her ambition is to lead Dublin to Croke Park in September: "With the 2005 championship fast approaching we are eagerly looking forward with a new strengthened sense of belief, confidence and determination. The team this year is unified and resolute in the main objective to win a Leinster and an All-Ireland title. We have both the desire and the ability to overcome any obstacles along our journey towards Croke Park."

The team shows several changes from last year. Sinead Cunnane from Skerries Harps

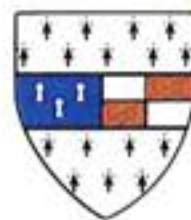


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# KILKENNY

## The Cats



Kilkenny Camogie team will be hoping that the hurlers are not the only ones to make it to Croke Park this year.

With teams participating in the minor, junior and senior All Ireland Championships they are hoping to bring some silverware back to Kilkenny to put next to the Liam McCarthy Cup!

Kilkenny had a strong league campaign. They got a dream start when they beat Tipperary in their opening match. With good matches against Tipperary, Cork and Galway behind them in the national league Kilkenny manager Seán Warren is hopeful of a good championship campaign: "there may well be a dark horse in the championship this season, while Cork and Tipperary are fancied by many to reach at least the final, I feel we will be there or thereabouts this season. Galway, if they hit form, are likely to be in the reckoning too, so it

leaves it that we could have a very exciting championship this year".

The Kilkenny side is a mixed one with experienced players such as Sinéad Millea,



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the only Kilkenny player to win an All Star in 2004, Caitriona Ryan, Marie O'Connor and 2004's All Ireland club winning captain, Imelda Kennedy combining well with some of the newer players that are gradually being introduced to the senior panel. Caitriona Carey, sister of DJ Carey, will also be concentrating on camogie now that her commitments for the hockey season are over.

Kilkenny will hope that they can progress further in this year's senior championship. Last year they almost caused an upset when they came very close to beating reigning All Ireland champions Tipperary. The Kilkenny girls came within one point of Tipperary and may well feel that if they had shown this form earlier in the championship they might well have progressed further in 2004. Kilkenny will meet Limerick in their opening championship game on July 2nd. Imelda Kennedy will be eager to lead her side to an another All Ireland title and add a senior inter-county All Ireland medal to the senior All Ireland club medal she won last November with St. Lachtains.

Meanwhile, the junior and minor teams will also be hoping to make it to their All Ireland Finals. The minor team were very much the fancied side in the 2004 championship. However, they lost out to a stronger Galway side in the final played in Navan last year. The juniors will be hoping to account for Carlow in their opening game on June 11th.





# GALWAY



## The Tribesmen

Galway camogie teams are busy preparing for the championship season at senior, intermediate, junior and minor levels.

The senior team, following an impressive league campaign, are looking forward to a good run in the All Ireland Senior Championship this year. Under the management of former senior camogie player Sharon Glynn, the side has shown great improvement over last year. Sharon is joined by former Galway hurler PJ Molloy and Damien Coleman.

Glynn is looking forward to the championship: "This year is a building process on the back of recent success at other levels. Nevertheless Galway will be going all out to win and while it is expected that Tipperary or Cork will be likely title



# TIPPERARY



## The Premier County

Tipperary will be up against it this year when looking to win their sixth All Ireland Senior Championship in seven years.

Since 1999 Tipperary have lost only once, in 2002 when Cork won the O'Duffy Cup in the Foras na Gaeilge All Ireland Final. According to this year's captain, Deirdre Hughes, counties will be looking to put a stop to Tipperary's dominance of the senior championship: "This year the championship is very open. With Tipperary after winning a lot recently everyone will be out to beat us but we will certainly give it our best shot again." Hughes was last year announced on the Team of the Century at the Centenary Banquet held in CityWest. She was the only person on that team still playing camogie. She took her place among some of the greats of the game including Angela Downey, Bridie McGarry, Kathleen Mills and Linda Mellerick. But just because she was announced on the Team of the Century did not mean that her career had come to an end! Deirdre went on to win an All



Ireland senior medal, her sixth in total, with Tipperary and was also a recipient of an All Star last December.

The list of honours held by the current Tipperary panel is endless. Last year it was the turn of Una O'Dwyer to sweep the boards with a Texaco Award, the Tipperary Person of the year, a Vodafone Player of the Year Award, RTE Player of the Match in the All Ireland Final and an All Star. In total the Tipperary girls received 6 of the 15 All Stars.

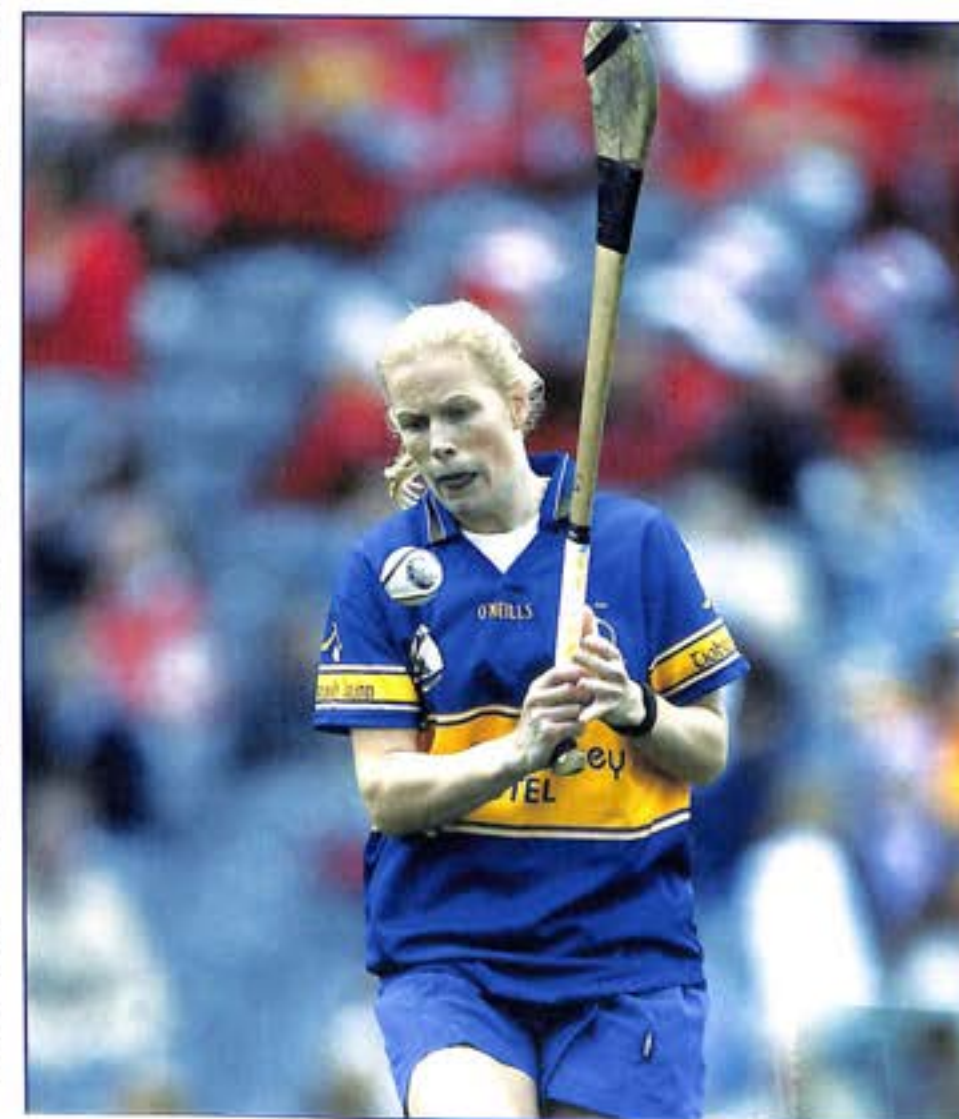
Paddy McCormack who has in charge of the Tipperary minor hurlers last year has taken over from Raymie Ryan who spent two years as manager of the Tipperary Senior Camogie team. Paddy will be anxious that his side maintain their form of the past six years and keep the O'Duffy Cup in Tipperary for another year. Paddy has a strong panel of players to choose from but continues to introduce some new players to the side to keep it fresh. Two players that have been introduced this year are young Lorraine Davis, a speedy forward from Shannon Rovers and Mary Ryan, an up and coming star forward from Moneygall. Tipperary will obviously be relying on many of their established players such as the Eimear McDonnell and Claire Grogan in the forwards and Suzanne Kelly, Therese Brophy and Ciara Gaynor in the backs.

Paddy McCormack sees this year's championship as a very open one: "2005 championship promises to be a very competitive and exciting one. Galway continues to lead the way in Connacht and

likewise Antrim in Ulster. The Leinster duo of Kilkenny and Wexford are sure to play a major part in the business end of the championship while in Munster Cork will always be difficult to overcome and

Limerick are also sure to impact before the year is out'.

Meanwhile, Tipperary minor, junior and intermediate teams will also be hoping to bring All Ireland glory to Tipperary.





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# thrillers

By PJ AHERN

At Páirc Uí Rinn

Innishannon	2-3
Cloghroe	2-0
(aet)	

**THE Innishannon girls performed a Lazarus-like recovery to defeat Cloghroe to win the Rionn C1 Sciath na Scoil title in Páirc Uí Rinn yesterday.**

Innishannon fell two goals behind early on and looked set to be on the receiving end of a heavy defeat.

Cloghroe's Jessica Neville set up Beibhinn Hinds for the opening goal of the game inside a minute.

Then after five minutes, Neville hooked the sliothar to the net after Innishannon failed to clear a free.

Innishannon's Niamh Cowhig and Tessa Crowley galvanised their leaking defence, as Innishannon clawed their way back into the match.

Innishannon duo Rebecca and Eimear O'Regan supplied the forwards with useful balls from midfield.

Grace O'Sullivan, who had found a bit of space, flashed her shot wide and soon afterwards Cloghroe keeper Hayleigh Corcoran pulled off a superb double save.

Innishannon finally scored thanks to Maedbh Lynch who pointed 18 minutes into the game and then scored a goal from close range (2-0 to 1-1 at the break).

Cloghroe's Laura McCarthy was in inspired form and rallied her team to kill off the game during the second half.

Jessica Neville put the minimum between the sides before ice-cool Ena Coughlan levelled the contest a minute into injury time (2-0 to 1-3).

With the sides deadlocked after 40 minutes of camogie, extra-time was needed to separate them.

Extra time was keenly contested but it was Jessica Neville who scored a remarkable goal to put Innishannon ahead.

Cloghroe fought to the bitter end but lost out for the second year in succession.

**Scorers Innishannon:** M Lynch 2-2, E Coughlan 0-1.

**Cloghroe:** B Hinds 1-0, J Neville 1-0.

**INNISHANNON:** C Hawkes, N Cowhig, L Kelleher, A Looney, T Crowley, F O'Sullivan, M Hayes, E O'Regan, R Regan, M Kelleher, J Hawkes, E Coughlan, M Lynch, K Richardson, G O'Sullivan.

**Subs:** P McCarthy for C Hawkes.

**CLOGHROE:** H Corcoran, C Neville, A Twohig, A Twohig, O Worth, A Ni Riain, O Kelly, C Sheehan, A O'Connor, T Nelligan, L McCarthy, B Hinds, C Hallissey, O Coleman, J Neville.

**Subs:** B McCusker for D Barrett, N Barrett for C Hallissey.

**Referee:** D Nolan (St. Columbus BNS Douglas).



Innishannon celebrate beating Cloghroe in the Sciath na Scol camogie finals at Páirc Uí Rinn on Tuesday. Picture: Cillian Kelly

**See Friday's Echo for all the team pictures**

## Gaelscoil Gort Alainn v Scoil Ursula

Gaelscoil Gort Alainn	6-0
Scoil Ursula Blackrock	1-0

THERE was no fairytale ending for Scoil Ursula Blackrock as they lost out to Gaelscoil Ghort Alainn in the Rionn C5 Scoil Na Scoil decider in Páirc Uí Rinn yesterday writes PJ Ahern.

Ghort Alainn were quick out of the blocks and a goal from Jane ni Dhulaioch inside a minute set the tone.

Two minutes later Jessica ni Chionnaith squared the ball for Clar ni Dhulaioch to goal again. Ni Dhulaioch repeated the

trick less than a minute later.

There was little Blackrock could do when Clar ni Dhulaioch completed her hat-trick with half-time approaching.

In the second half, Tracey Fleming was switched from full back to full-forward and this has a positive impact on Blackrock.

But Ghort Alainn goaled again with ni Chionnaith continuing to do damage.

This was soon followed up by Sorchu ni Dhonnabhain strike.

Shannon O'Callaghan, Sarah Hennessy and Ellen Dineen all got stuck in and made a huge effort for Blackrock and they contributed to Tracey Fleming's goal.

Ghort Alainn's experience of the big occasion was the major factor with Jane ni Dhulaioch and Niamh ni Mhathuna having the ability to play their roles without influence of nerves.

**Scorers Ghort Alainn:** C ni Dhulaioch 3-0, J ni Dhulaioch 1-0, J ni Chionnaith 1-0, N ni Mhathuna 1-0.

**Scoil Ursula, Blackrock:** T Fleming 1-0.

**GAELSCOIL GHORT ALAINN:** A ni Mhathuna, M ni She, O ni Shuilleabhain, A ni Chealligh, J ni Dhulaioch, S ni Bhrosnachain, C ni Dhulaioch, N ni Mhathuna, J NicChionnaith.

**Scoil Ursula Blackrock:** M Milner, C O'Keefe, T Fleming, C Waldrew, C Thorpey, S White, S Hennessy, J Sari, S White.

**Referee:** D Nolan (St. Columbus BNS Douglas).

## Kilcredan v St Patrick's NS

Kilcredan Girls	2-2
St Patrick's NS, Whitechurch	3-0

As this game drew a close, Kilcredan had one hand on the trophy, but a late comeback from St Patrick's secured the victory for the Whitechurch girls writes James O'Sullivan.

Yesterday's opening exchanges at Páirc Uí Chaoimh saw the Pat's goal bombarded but while Kilcredan looked determined to get a score, they could not find a way past Katie Grace and Samantha Scanlon.

But those in yellow couldn't last the siege forever, and in the eighth minute Sarah Harrington drove the ball in the back of the St Patrick's net.

Harrington was soon in full flight, and in the 11th minute, she furthered her tally, pointing from a good distance out to make it 1-1 to no score.

Kilcredan kept up the good run and they had added 1-1 by the time the half-time whistle was blown.

The second half was a very different affair to the first, and this time around it was St Patrick's who drew first blood, a remarkable goal from Sinéad Dilworth giving them a glimmer of hope.

Dilworth had shown the way, and in the space of three minutes, St Patrick's had somehow managed to take the lead. A brace of goals put the Whitechurch girls in front, the first coming from Sinéad Dilworth, and the second from Michelle Holland.

While few could believe it, St Patrick's were now in front and Kilcredan trailed by a point.

When the game finally came to a close, the scenes of jubilation were a fitting tribute to what was the greatest ever comeback in this competition.

**KILCREDAN:** Linda Hayes, Eiam Colbert, Yvonne Murphy, Seána Ni Loinsigh, Amanda O'Shea, Sarah Harrington, Rachel Ahern, Kate Harrington, Niamh O'Sullivan, Emma Swayne, Aisling McMahon, Elaine Hegarty, Michelle Holland, Catriona Beausang, Clara Beausang.

**ST PATRICK'S:** Katie Grace, Katie Murphy, Samantha Scanlon, Kate Daly, Grainne Forde, Eve O'Mahony, Clara Horgan, Anne-Marie O'Sullivan, Aisling Furlong, Clara Forde, Sinéad Dilworth, Riona Coleman, Shauna Brickley, Megan Brickley, Siobhán Keane.

**Referee:** Conor Callaghan (Summerville).

## Ballygarvan v Belgooly

Ballygarvan	5-3
Belgooly	1-0

ALTHOUGH a slightly one-sided affair the DC2 Sciath na Scoil final, played at Páirc Uí Chaoimh yesterday, was a highly entertaining contest writes James O'Sullivan.

The victors demonstrated their strength right from the offing, Ballygarvan scoring three goals without reply in the opening stages.

A brace of goals from Rachel Keohane got Ballygarvan off to a dream start, before Alice Flynn found the net in the 10th minute.

To their credit, Belgooly kept their heads up, and their determination was rewarded when Lucy McSweeney found the net 13 minutes in.

But McSweeney's goal would prove to be the last of the day for the Belgooly stars, and a goal couple of goals and three unanswered points secured the title for Ballygarvan.

The score in this one was somewhat deceiving, and while Ballygarvan were well worth their win, it was a close run affair.

Mary Ellen O'Donovan, Rachel Keohane, Laura McCarthy and Áine Walsh were best for Ballygarvan, while Rebecca Murphy, Chloe O'Callaghan and Rachel Crowley excelled in the Belgooly shirt.

The encounter can only be described as a top class finish to a memorable day at Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

**BALLYGARVAN:** Louise McCarthy, Lauren Kennefick, Laura McCarthy, Ann Keohane, Mary Ellen O'Donovan, Holly Clarke, Aisling O'Brien, Maeve Moynihan, Sarah Quilligan, Aisling Byrne, Mary Quilligan, Rachel Keohane, Alice Flynn, Áine Walsh, Eimear Shortt.

**BELGOOLY:** Stephanie Kiely, Chloe Butler, Aisling Coleman, Chloe O'Callaghan, Chloe Sheehan, Kym Corridan, Christina Murphy, Aisling McCarthy, Emily Murphy, Lucy McSweeney, Rebecca Murphy, Kate O'Callaghan, Alanna Allen, Stephanie Kearney, Rachel Crowley.

**Referee:** Mary Byrne (Scoil Mhuire, Carrigrohane).





Ovens NS Roisin Murray is chased by Scoil an Spioraid Naomh's Pamela Finn and Nicole Butler at Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Picture: Cillian Kelly

## Hutchinson wins the day for Ovens at the end of epic tie

### Ovens v Spioraid Naomh

Ovens NS	1-4
Spioraid Naomh	1-1

A LAST-GASP flick of the ash decided one of the greatest ever Sciath na Scoil finals, writes **JAMES O'SULLIVAN**.

Ovens were that bit faster out of the traps at Páirc Uí Chaoimh yesterday and when Laurie McCarthy placed them into a two-point lead in the sixth minute, it was clear that they held the upper hand.

Those in white soon settled, and as the game developed into an extremely close-knit affair, it was clear that it could well go either way.

Pamela Finn was on hand to provide the Bishopstown school with their first score of the day in the 12th minute, the long range point proving to be the last of the half.

Spioraid Naomh got the second half off to a blistering start, a goal from Nicole

Butler putting them two points in front.

But Ovens never gave in, and two unanswered points gave put them right back in the tie with only five minutes to go.

This hard-fought encounter looked destined for a draw, but in the dying seconds Siobhán Hutchinson flicked the ball into the back of the net to raise the green flag, securing the win for Ovens.

The only losers in this game were those who weren't lucky enough to be at Páirc Uí Chaoimh to witness it.

**OVEN'S:** Michelle Deasy, Roisin O'Dwyer, Isult Harding, Siobhán Hutchinson, Alanna Murphy, Claire Meaney, Orla Meaney, Roisin Murray, Orla Boyle, Laurie McCarthy, Ashling Gleeson, Fionnuala O'Toole, Aine Barry, Sarah Daly-Butz, Elaine Scally.

**SPIORAID NAOMH:** Gillian O'Riordan, Alexandra McMahon, Maeva Scannell, Aimee Corcoran, Clara Mansfield, Ashling Corcoran, Pamela Finn, Louise O'Riordan, Sarah Kelly, Liana Ertz, Clodagh O'Callaghan, Jessica Lynch, Carla Gleeson, Nicole Butler, Ruth Hayes.

**Referee:** Michael Kelly (Blarney).

## lutes the schools who took



Kilcredan Girls who took on Whitechurch in the DC 1 decider at the Sciath na Scoil finals at Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Picture: Paul Reidy



Belgooly Girls who took on Ballygarvan N.S in the DC2 decider at Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Picture: Paul Reidy

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## Rampant O'Mahony inspires St Patrick's C3 decider win

St. Patrick's GNS	5-1
Glenville	2-1

### Glenville v St Patrick's

FIVE-GOAL hero Rebecca O'Mahony denied Glenville a sixth-successive Sciath Na Scoil C3 title in Páirc Uí Rinn yesterday, writes **PJ AHERNE**.

For long periods of this 11-a-side clash St. Patrick's pressurised Glenville and with Lorna Crowley supplying high balls into the box, they always looked liked scoring once they got sight of goal.

It was a Crowley delivery that allowed Rebecca O'Mahony to strike home with a minute on the clock.

Michelle Ring provided O'Mahony with more ammunition to score goal number two. Ring was troublesome

throughout the game but was temporarily silenced when Helen Dinan was switched on her to limit her movements.

Glenville's big game player, Diana Kelleher proved a handful and she scored her side's opening point with an individual effort.

Kelleher, a future Cork camogie star, caused St. Patrick's all sorts of problems and preventing her from gaining possession was the key to victory.

St. Patrick's enjoyed a five point lead at the break (2-0 to 0-1).

In the second half, Lorna Crowley pointed from a 45 to continue her sides charge to victory.

St. Patrick's Rebecca O'Mahony continued to poach goals and had earned her hat-trick before Glenville's Diana Kelleher goaled from a free she earned.

Crowley provided O'Mahony with her fourth and fifth goals.

Glenville's Kelleher scored a brilliant goal after a solo run but she couldn't prevent St. Patrick's claiming the victory.

**Scorers for St. Patrick's GNS:** R O'Mahony 5-0, L Crowley 0-1.

**Glenville:** D Kelleher 2-1.

**St. Patrick's GNS:** N Navey, K Barry, Y Power, R Myers, S Ring, M Ring, K O'Sullivan, D Carroll, L Crowley, R O'Mahony, S Cotter, K Lynch, G O'Mahony.

**Glenville:** M Sheehan, M Kennedy, Kathy O'Donnell, A Barry, H Dinan, D Kelleher, L Meehan, M Tobin, C Sheehan, S Tobin, S Dinan.



Glenville's Mairead Kennedy breaks away from St. Patrick's Michelle Ring in the C3 final in Páirc Uí Rinn. Picture: Paul Reidy

### Picture of the Week

## Paul Reidy captures magic of Sciath na Scol

THE fun and excitement of the annual Sciath na Scol finals are perfectly captured in this week's Picture of the Week.

And it's celebrations all round for the pupils of Whitechurch, who were at Páirc Uí Chaoimh during the week.

The Sciath na Scol annual competition incorporates many sporting events, including Gaelic football, hurling and camogie, and

is supported by the GAA.

All this week, games have been taking place, with the competition due to finish on June 2.

This competition, which caters for primary school pupils, is an enormously popular and successful one and provides great enjoyment for the participants, trainers, parents and spectators.

See *Evening Echo Sports* next week for more.

Whitechurch captain Sinéad Dilworth and her team mates celebrate their win in the Sciath na Scol DC1 final at Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

Picture: Paul Reidy





# part in this week's Sciath na Scoil finals

More team pictures  
next Friday



Innishannon, who won the Roinn C1 final in the Sciath na Scol camogie finals at Páirc Uí Rinn. Picture: Cillian Kelly



Gaelscoil Ghoirt Álainn who played in the Roinn C5 final in the Sciath na Scol camogie Finals at Páirc Uí Rinn. Picture: Cillian Kelly



The Cloghroe side who played in the Roinn C1 final in the Sciath na Scol camogie finals at Páirc Uí Rinn. Picture: Cillian Kelly



Scoil Ursula Blackrock who played in the Roinn C5 final in the Sciath na Scol camogie finals at Páirc Uí Rinn. Picture: Cillian Kelly

## O'Mahony on target as St Pat's take the honours

St Patrick's Girls NS  
Glenville Girls NS

5-1  
2-1

by Brendan Larkin

REBECCA O'MAHONY was St Patrick's goal-scoring star as the Gardiner Hill school took the Sciath na Scol Roinn C3 camogie title at Páirc Uí Rinn yesterday.

Glenville put up strong resistance, with Diane Kelleher and Stephanie Tobin prominent, but they lacked a forward of O'Mahony's calibre.

Rebecca gave her school an early lead with the first of five goals, as her side went on to lead two goals to a point at half-time.

St Pat's continued to hold the upper-hand on the changeover, with Rebecca completing her hat-trick. Glenville to their credit battled strongly and a Diane Kelleher goal gave them some hope. But O'Mahony continued to threaten and two further goals by the St Pat's full-forward gave her side a deserved victory.

Scorers for St. Pat's: R. O'Mahony 5-0; L. Crowley 0-1 (45)

Glenville: D. Kelleher 2-1.

ST. PATRICK'S: N. Navey, K. Barry, Y. Power, R. Myers, S. Ring, M. Ring, K. O'Sullivan, D. Carroll, L. Crowley, R. O'Mahony, S. Cotter.

GLENVILLE: M. Sheehan, M. Kennedy, K. O'Donnell, A. Barry, H. Dinan, D. Kelleher, L. Meehan, M. Tobin, C. Sheehan, S. Tobin, S. Dinan.

A jubilant Roisin O'Dwyer, Ovens NS, after her team beat Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh, Bishopstown, in the C1 final of the Allianz Sciath na Scol at Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

Picture Denis



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St Patrick's Girls NS Gardiner Hill celebrate their win over Glenville in the C3 final in Páirc Uí Rinn. Picture: David Butler

Ovens NS  
Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh

1-4  
1-1

Siobhan Hutchinson's dramatic injury-time goal gave Ovens the H10 camogie title at Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

Ovens dominated the opening half, with the excellent Claire Meaney notching two splendid points. Maeve Scannell pulled a point back for Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh and after the break, and against the run of play, Ruth Hayes goaled to put SSN in front.

Ovens refused to yield though and points from Roisin Murray and Meaney followed by the last gasp strike from Hutchinson gave the Mid-Cork school a deserved victory.

Scorers for Ovens: S Hutchinson 1-0; C Meaney 0-3 (0-1 65'); R Murray 0-1.

SSN: R Hayes 1-0; M Scannell 0-1.

OVENS: E Scally, F O'Toole, L McSweeney, A Hayes, E O'Shaughnessy, A Gleeson, O Boyle, R Murray, A Murphy, C Meaney, O Meaney, M Deasy, A Barry, R O'Dwyer, S Daly-Butz, I Harding, L McCarthy, S Hutchinson.

SSN: L O'Riordan, P Finn, T Horgan, A Corcoran, L Ertz, C Gleeson, M Scannell, N Butler, G O'Riordan, J Lynch, R Hayes, C Mansfield, A Corcoran, A McMahon, S Kelly, C O'Callaghan, A O'Hea, R O'Riordan, D Sheehan, L Kelly.

● A minute's silence was observed in memory of those killed in the Navan school bus crash.



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# Heady times for GAA in Grenagh village

2004 was probably the most heartbreaking year ever for the sports-mad village of Grenagh.

Three county finals in gaelic games were lost in the space of a few weeks and all by the narrowest of margins, a single point.

The Junior A hurlers lost to Ballygarvan while the Junior A footballers lost to fellow Mid Cork rivals Aghabullogue in what, effectively, was a county final. However, the defeat of the junior camogie team after a replay was probably the hardest of all to take.

Grenagh had overcome a nine-point deficit at half-time in their semi-final against Bandon to win by two points and hopes were high that the club would win their first ever county title at junior level when facing Castlemagner.

The final in Mallow saw Grenagh lead by seven points midway through the second half, but Castlemagner fought back to level late in the game.

The replay in Ballynaly saw Grenagh up by five points with just minutes to go, but two late Castlemagner goals, including the winner in the last minute, meant heartbreak for Grenagh. This was the closest a Grenagh camogie team had come to winning a junior title.

*MISSED chances last year have made Grenagh camogie club all the more focussed as they continue to build for a bright future*

"It was disappointing but we will learn from the experience and we are growing as a club all the time," said Grenagh chairman Ken O'Callaghan.

A camogie club was formed in Grenagh in 1934 within a year of the GAA club being founded. The club was not, however, affiliated and only took part in practice games.

Mary B. Buckley was the club's first captain. The club only lasted a couple of years but was reformed again in 1944 with Ted Mullane as president and Kathleen Kenny as secretary, a position she also held with the newly-formed Muskerry Camogie Board. The club disbanded again in 1947 as several members left the area.

However, the following year, the camogie craze was transferred to the neighbouring parish of Courtbrack.



The Grenagh Junior B panel with members of the U16 team pictured with their coaches.



Club chairman Ken O'Callaghan and his hard-working committee get down to work.

This club was in existence from 1948 to the early 1950s when the ladies of both parishes came together to form one club, Grenagh.

The club reached the 1955 County Junior Final which was played at Church Road, Blackrock, only to lose to Mayfield, 3-1 to 2-1.

In the late 1950s, the team was discontinued again and for some years, the sport of camogie was continued under the Courtbrack banner, who

made every effort to revive interest in the game, but to no avail.

The present camogie club was formed in the summer of 1984 by Breda Kenny and Breda McDonnell. They held their first AGM on February 7, 1985 with Breda Kenny becoming chairperson and Noreen Mannix both secretary and treasurer.

The committee consisted of Breda McDonnell, Maura Walsh and Tom

Kenny.

As a result, the club was affiliated to the County Board.

The club organised an annual tournament every August, inviting fellow Muskerry clubs to these, with Grenagh winning across several age groups. Also in the early years, many tournaments were won at under-age level in places such as Ballincollig, Mounseabbey and Dromahane.

The club went into decline again in



**If you want your club to be featured on club focus, contact Echo Sports at [esport@eecho.ie](mailto:esport@eecho.ie)**

The Grenagh Junior B team pictured prior to last year's county final.





The Grenagh U12 side with their coaches celebrate their success. They have been one of the many success stories at the club.

the late 1990s and only for the trojan efforts of Linda Corkery and the involvement of Donal Hurley at under-age level, amongst others, the club might not have survived.

The renaissance began in 2002 when the U13 team won the Muskerry League, defeating Ballinora in the final.

This was the first trophy won by the club. The same year saw the U14 team reach the county semi-final and the Junior B team lose a league final to Killeagh.

The following year, 2003, saw the

club win its first county title, beating Tracton in the 12-a-side Championship.

The U14s also reached the county final only to lose by a goal to Dungourney. Last year, the Muskerry U15 B Blitz was won. That came just a week after losing the Junior B final replay, so it provided some consolation for the club.

"We are putting a huge emphasis into the under age set up. We cater for girls from eight years of age up and our numbers are swelling all the time.

"They are the future of the club and we are definitely moving in the right direction," added O'Callaghan.

The club has provided many players to Muskerry teams in recent years.

Last year alone saw Elaine Vaughan and Norma Hurley play a major role in Muskerry's U16 triumph in the inter-divisional blitz.

This sealed a three-in-a-row for Muskerry and both girls were part of all three panels. Jenny Vaughan and Linda Dorgan starred for the victorious U21s.

Jenny actually captained the Muskerry team. Linda is also a senior player with Muskerry and honoured the club by becoming the first player to win an All-Ireland medal with Cork's intermediates.

Another player to wear the red and white of Cork was Elaine Vaughan, who played for the Cork Colleges U14 team in 2003.

Last December, a new committee was elected as the whole club was re-structured.

Ken O'Callaghan was elected chairman with Ann Donovan as his vice chairperson.

Donal Hurley became secretary with Mary O'Keefe-Jones as his assistant.

Linda Corkery was elected treasurer and Margaret Vaughan is PRO.

Tom O'Donovan, a life president of the club is still working away in the back ground as the club continues to grow and develop.

There is now a total of 20 officers and committee members to oversee the running of the club and each one is working very hard to make the club a successful one.

Fundraising was the first objective and already this year over €7,500 has been raised through a race night, sponsorship and donations.

The club has also, for the first time, two major sponsors — S.O.S. Heating + Plumbing at junior level and the Scally Foundation in Blarney has contributed to the purchase of gear for the under-age.

The GAA club has also donated money and The Village Inn, through Don McEvoy, has always been good to the club. All the money raised so far has been ploughed back into the club with the purchase of new gear, gear bags, jackets, hurleys, sliothars etc.

"There is tremendous goodwill in the area to the girls and the club.

"Recently we attracted 36 sponsors to our cause and that can only augur well for the future," added O'Callaghan.

There are now over 90 members of the club and this figure is rising every year. Two of the junior hurling team, Martin Barry and Dean Dalton, have taken over the coaching duties of the junior team as they try to atone for last year's final defeat. Ken O'Callaghan, Tom O'Donovan and Donal Hurley are in charge at under-age level while Linda Dorgan trains the U16s.

Also Breda Kenny and Noreen Mannix have both been made Life-Presidents of the club for their Trojan work.

The club is celebrating 21 years in existence this year and hopes that over the next few years, it can become one of the most progressive clubs in Cork. The work is being done off the pitch, now it is up to the players on it.

●The club would like to publicly thank Dave Edmunds for always being on call to take pictures for the club.



The Grenagh U15 team who won the Muskerry blitz last year.



Cork to pay tribute to some of its high achievers at civic awards ceremony

# Cork Lord Mayor awards recognise city's stalwarts



Con Murphy, former president of the GAA, with Marie McCarthy, chairperson of the civic award winning Cork County Camogie Board. Picture: Gerard Bonus

By MARK BARRY

mark.barry@echo.ie

**CORK** will pay tribute to some of its highest achievers at the Lord Mayor's Civic Awards ceremony next week.

The awards ceremony, which will take place at City Hall next Friday, will recognise six groups and individuals who have enhanced the city's standing and worked hard within it over a period of years.

This year's recipients, as selected by the Lord Mayor, Cllr Seán Martin, are Father John O'Donovan, O'Callaghan Properties, Cork County Camogie Board, Brother Ben Cusack, Howard Holdings and Billy Morgan.

Founded by Ballydehob native Greg Coughlan, Howard Holdings are the developers behind the spectacular €110 million City Quarter development which opened at the Docklands earlier this year.

O'Callaghan Properties MD Owen O'Callaghan is the reigning *Evening Echo* Business Person of the Year, and can look back on a year when the opening of the €230 million MahonPoint centre revolutionised shopping in Cork.

Billy Morgan is a living legend in Cork GAA circles. The current Cork coach has won county, Munster and All-Ireland football honours through a decades-long career, and is currently plotting the county footballers' latest attempt to bring Sam Maguire back to Leaside.

The Cork County Camogie Board is receiving an award to acknowledge the tremendous commitment which has charac-



Cork camogie junior All-Ireland champions 2004 Sarah O'Donovan, Ellen Clifford and Kim Hickey. Lord Mayor Cllr Seán Martin has decided that now is the time to honour the camogie county board.

## Cork camogie board

CAMOGIE has been prominent in Cork for a century, and to mark the occasion, Lord Mayor Cllr Seán Martin has decided that now is the time to honour the county board. Camogie has been growing consistently in the city for many years now, and

currently the board oversees 57 clubs and five inter-county teams. Cork has always been successful at national level, with 42 All-Ireland titles claimed to date — 20 senior, two intermediate, seven junior and 13 minor titles.

## Cork City Council Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí

### Lord Mayor's Civic Awards 2005



Lord Mayor  
Councillor Seán Martin

#### RECIPIENTS:

Fr. John O'Donovan

O'Callaghan Properties

Cork County Camogie Board

Br. Ben Cusack

Howard Holdings

Billy Morgan

27<sup>th</sup> May 2005, Concert Hall, City Hall, Cork.



#### Cork County Camogie Board

Within months of the founding of the Camogie Association by the Keating Branch of the Gaelic League in Dublin in 1904, the game had spread to Cork. The first Cork club was formed in the Blarney Street area of the City and was called Fainne an Lae. Cork's second club, Clan na nGael came into being in the Blackpool area. Clan Eimear, in the Lough area and Clan Eanna also affiliated.

Punch & Company presented the Science Cup for the Cork Senior Championship in 1932. Cork entered the inter-county arena in 1934 and won six All-Ireland Senior Championships in the following eight years and produced some of the finest players that the game had seen. Kitty Buckley, Peggy Hogg, Joan Cotter, Lil Kirby, Kathleen Coughlan, Josie McGrath, Eileen Casey and Renee Fitzgerald became household names.

In a dispute over male officials, Cork did not affiliate to Munster Council in 1944. For the following eight years, Cork were absent from the inter-county playing fields. They returned in 1952 but had to wait until 1970 to bring the O' Duffy Cup to Leaside. Ann Comerford, Marie Costine, Pat Moloney, Liz Garvan, Hannah Dineen, Betty Sugrue and Rosie Hennessy were the stars of the side that brought a four-in-a-row to Cork.

Forty-two All-Ireland titles (20 senior, 2 intermediate, 7 junior and 13 minor) have been won by Cork. No other county can match this record. In addition, Glen Rovers and Killeagh have lifted the All-Ireland Club Championship title. St. Aloysius School, North Presentation, St. Patrick's, St. Mary's, Charleville, Sacred Heart, Clonakilty and Coachford College have captured All-Ireland Colleges titles.

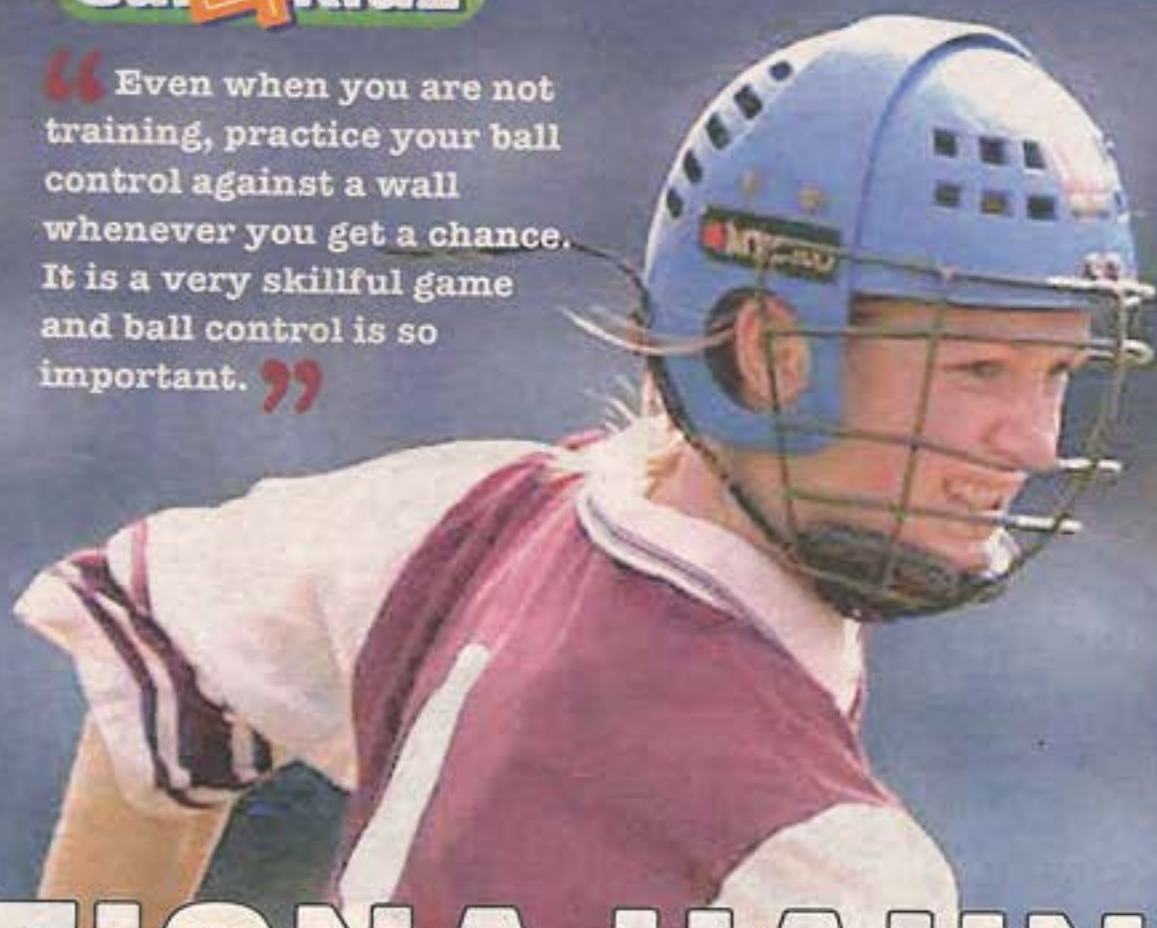
The Cork Camogie Board organises competition for 57 clubs and fields five teams in inter-county competition. An energetic Juvenile Board caters for underage camogie. The county has produced many outstanding administrators over the years, five of whom were honoured with the position of President of the Camogie Association. Cork camogie looks forward to the second century with confidence.

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“Even when you are not training, practice your ball control against a wall whenever you get a chance. It is a very skillful game and ball control is so important.”



## STAR FILE!

Name	Fiona Hahnefeld
Age	17
Team	Galway
Debut	Galway U-14s, 2001
Position	Midfield
Honours	1 All-Ireland Minor title, 1 All-Ireland Schools Senior B title, 1 All-Ireland Schools Junior B title.
Club	Davitt's
Fav Food	Fruit
Fav Book	The Da Vinci Code
Fav Music	Destiny's Child
Fav Film	Gladiator
Fav TV	Desperate Housewives
Hobbies	Swimming & Yoga
Occupation	Student



# FIONA HAHNEFELD

## GALWAY

**F**iona Hahnefeld is a model camogie player. Yep! That's right, not only is she one of Galway's rising stars but she is also a top fashion model. When she is not strutting her stuff on the camogie field, she models for the Morgan Agency, travelling to photo shoots all over the country. Fiona started playing for the local Davitt's club when she was only 8 and in her first year she won an U-10 Galway Championship medal. Last year, she was an influential member of the victorious Galway Minor All-Ireland winning team when they beat Kilkenny. Earlier this year, she won a Senior B All-Ireland colleges medal with Woodford Secondary School to add to her Junior B All-Ireland medal, which she won back in 2001.

The Davitt's star is not going to stop there and is looking forward to a big future with the Galway camogie team. First off, she has the small matter of the leaving cert to deal with. She wants to concentrate fully on this, but one gets the impression, that this girl with the winning attitude is going to go far.

### What has been your greatest moment in sport?

Winning the All-Ireland Minor title with Galway last year was simply the best. It was an honour to be part of the team and wear the Galway jersey.

### Who are the toughest team you have faced?

Cork in the All-Ireland Minor final in 2003 were very strong.

### Who was your toughest marker?

Cork's Anna Geary.

### How do you balance study and camogie?

We normally train 3 times a week which sometimes can be tough, but if you remain focused and disciplined, it makes it a lot easier.

### Which player do you admire the most?

Galway and Davitt's star Lourda Kavanagh is my hero. She is one of the best inter-county players around.

### What club do you play for and who are your biggest rivals?

Davitt's is my club and our biggest rivals are Athenry and Pearse's. We always seem to meet either one of them in the Championship.



Picture courtesy of The Morgan Agency



Picture courtesy of The Morgan Agency

### Is there any part of your game that you can improve on?

I think I could work more on the skills side of things. It is such a fast game that you don't have a second to lose in competitive matches. By becoming more skillful you can give yourself more time and room on the ball.

### What are your hopes for the future?

I would love to win a County Championship with my club Davitt's and further down the line, I would love some success with the Galway Senior team.

### What advice would you give to young players?

Even when you are not training, practice your ball control against a wall whenever you get a chance. It is a very skillful game and ball control is so important. Other than that, listen to your coaches at all times.

### Cul Fact!

Fiona has won All-Ireland Indoor gold medals in both the 60m hurdles and the long jump. A true all-rounder.



LEFT: Kilbrittain's Lisa O'Neill and Niamh Duloher of Scoil Iosagain, Blarney, do battle. RIGHT: Captain of Kilbrittain, Róisín O'Brien and her teammates celebrate their win over Blarney in the C4 decider at the Sciath na Scol finals in Páirc Uí Rinn.  
Picture: Paul Reidy



## Natasha best for Star of the Sea

Star of the Sea 4-1  
Watergrasshill 0-0

INSPIRED by the excellent Natasha O'Sullivan, Star of the Sea, Passage, clinched the Camogie C8 title at the Sciath na Scol finals at Páirc Uí Chaoimh yesterday.

Passage just had too much for a brave Hill side, who could not match the fire-power of Passage.

O'Sullivan waltzed through the 'Hill defence as early as the third minute to boot the ball to the net for the opening goal of the game and after that Passage always look the more likely winners.

Despite the best efforts of Noelle Leahy and Aisling Murray for the 'Hill, Passage kept coming and a second goal arrived just before half-time, when Muireann Doyle found the net from close range.

Leading by 2-0 to 0-0 at half-time, Passage wrapped the game up in the opening minutes of the second half when Doyle struck for her second goal and within a minute O'Sullivan had pounced for her side's fourth goal.

Fittingly, O'Sullivan wrapped up the scoring with a brilliantly taken point to secure the victory for her side.

**PASSAGE:** T. Marzaki, M. Doyle (2-0), K.A. Lynn, S. O'Reilly, N. O'Sullivan (2-1), N. Cahill, A. Ajoa, N. Coakley, J. Buttner.

**Sub used:** L. Corcoran, S. Wentzel.

**WATERGRASSHILL:** H. Mulcahy, K. O'Riordan, N. Leahy, A. Fitzgerald, A. Costello, S. O'Farrell, A. Murray, L. Murphy, S. O'Brien.

# Hickey proves star of show

Kilbrittain NS 1-2  
Scoil Iosagain, Blarney 1-0

**KILBRITTAIN National School scooped an excellent double at Páirc Uí Rinn yesterday when their girls captured the C4 Camogie title from Scoil Iosagain, Blarney, writes CONOR GEORGE.**

After the boys won the first final of day it was the turn of the girls to step up to the plate and they did so in style.

With Hope Hickey dictating matters from her midfield berth, Kilbrittain were awesome at times as their powerful play gave the large

contingent present plenty to admire, but the spectacle was also enhanced by the efforts of Blarney.

Even though they were trailing from early on in the game, Blarney, to their credit, never threw in the towel and kept battling right to the very end of the exciting contest.

Indeed, the win for Kilbrittain did not come without a sting in the tail for in the second-half Blarney were absolutely magnificent as they fought and hurled their way to the fore and very nearly snatched the victory.

Kilbrittain started the game in splendid fashion when a '65 from Hickey was batted into the path of Jennifer Cashman and the impressive forward showed no hesitation when driving the ball to the back of

the net.

It was just the tonic Kilbrittain needed and spurred Hickey into decisive action as she took the game by the scruff of the neck and piled the pressure on Blarney.

Fittingly the next score of the game came courtesy of Hickey as she shot off her right from all of 35 yards while on the run.

It was the type of score to light up any venue and was thoroughly deserving of the stand-out player of that first half.

Blarney were far from done however and on the resumption they were full of fire as they took the game to Kilbrittain.

Eve O'Brien at full-forward was to the fore in this regard and when she found the back of the net after 20

minutes it was definitely a case of 'Game On'.

Kilbrittain weathered the storm however and came to the fore again as they stuck doggedly to the task to finish the game strongly.

They found the range again with two minutes of the contest left as Karena Twohig pointed to ensure that Kilbrittain completed the double.

**Scorers for Kilbrittain:** J. Cashman 1-0, H. Hickey 0-1, K. Twohig 0-1.

**Blarney:** E. O'Brien 1-0.

**KILBRITTAIN:** D. O'Mahony, C. Collins, M. C. O'Mahony, S. O'Connell, R. O'Brien, H. Hickey, K. Twohig, L. O'Neill, J. Cashman.

**SCOIL IOSAGAIN:** A. Murphy, K. O'Shea, L. Walsh, J. Mitchell, L. Madden, C. Manley, N. Duloher, E. O'Brien, M. Dawkins.

**Sub:** C. Coleman for K. O'Shea.



Ballincollig Camogie Team who won the Cork County Under 16 B League 2004. Included are Finbarr Bradley (Chairman), John Rath (Coach) and team captain, Jenny Cotter. Picture Mike English.

**SARAH O'DONOVAN CORK**

**POSITION FULL-FORWARD**

Promoted to the senior panel after helping Cork win the All-Ireland Junior title in 2004. Her no nonsense style of play will be an asset to 'The Rebels' as they try to get back to the top.



(Front row) Billy Morgan, Cork Co football Manager; Marie McCarthy Chairperson Cork County Camogie; Frank Boland, Howard Holdings; Lord Mayor, Cllr. Seán Martin, Br Ben Cusack, Principal of Sullivans Quay and Fr John O'Donovan, from Turners Cross, recipients of a Civic Awards with their friends and relations in the Lord Mayor's Chambers for pre-reception. Picture: Gerard Bonus

May 2005



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## Echo Sport profiles local sporting heroes

If you want your club or school profiled please email us at [esport@eecho.ie](mailto:esport@eecho.ie)



Back Row: L to R Niamh Dilworth, Cork hurler Ronan Curran, commentator Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh, Jerry Linehan, chairman Inniscarra GAA Pádraig Ó Conaill, Principal, Cloghroe N.S.

Middle: L to R Catherine O'Brien, Sheila Golden, President of Cork Cumann Camogaíochta na nGael, Mary Moran former president of the camogie association, Emma Dineen, teacher Cloghroe N.S. Front: L to R Claire Sheehan Captain Cloghroe NS Sciath na Scol camogie team 2005, Gavin McCarthy Captain Cloghroe N.S. Sciath na Scol Hurling Team 2005. Picture: Mike English

# Special treat for Cloghroe

**CLOGHROE** National School was delighted to welcome a delegation from the GAA and Camogie Associations, in connection with Cork's hosting of Féile na nGael on June 17, 18 and 19.

Delighted children listened to Ronan Curran, Cork's wonderful centre-back, Mary

Moran, former president of the Camogie Association, and Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh, sports commentator, who reminded the very disappointed Sciath na Scol camogie and hurling teams, (having lost the finals the previous day) that one has to lose many a game before success can come.

Accompanying the delegation were Inniscarra GAA chairman Jerry Linehan,

Inniscarra woman Sheila Golden, current Cork President of Cumann Camogaíochta na nGael, Inniscarra camogie players, Niamh Dilworth and Catherine O'Brien, Cork Féile Skills winners 2003 and 2005 respectively.

The school gratefully accepted a bag of sports gear, and the children were suitably impressed with the promise of no homework.



The Ballincollig camogie team who won the Cork County U16 B League 2004. Included are Finbarr Bradley, chairman, John Rath, coach and team captain Jenny Cotter. Picture: Mike English



The Owens National School camogie team front row: (L to R) Michelle Deasy, Róisín O'Dwyer, Iseult Harding, Siobhán Hutchinson, Alanna Murphy, Claire Meaney, Orla Meaney, Róisín Murray, Orla Boyle, Laurie McCarthy.

back row: (L to R) Ashling Gleeson, Fionnuala O'Toole, Áine Barry, Sarah Daly-Bütz, Elaine Scally, Ali Hayes, Eimear O'Shaughnessy, Lisa McSweeney.

Picture: Mike English



Ballygarvan N.S. celebrate their win over Belgooly in the DC2 final at Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Picture: Paul Reidy



## JUNIORS CROWNED CHAMPIONS

Showing tremendous spirit the county junior team bounced back from the disappointment of losing their provincial and All Ireland crowns to take the division two national league title. A close opening half saw the sides turn over level at the break Cork having fought back from falling behind as Galway availed of every opportunity in the opening half. As Galway again applying the pressure it was nip and tuck through the second half, with nine minutes remaining it was level and now when the need was greatest Cork needed to respond and they

did it in style. Two Emer O Friel points edged them ahead before Molly Dunne had one back for Galway; in a storming finish Cork maintained the momentum finishing with points from Niamh Bowles and Catriona Kelly to claim the title. It was just reward for a side who must have found it hard to pick themselves up following on the disappointment of losing out so narrowly to Clare a week previous. Well done to all concerned and in particular to their selectors Brendan Coleman Willie O'Regan and Liz o Mahony and their coach and trainer Miriam Deasy and Mag's Finn.

### SENIORS LOSE OUT TO GALWAY

Not such good news for the senior team who having enjoyed plenty of possession failed to a more determined Galway side in the senior decider. Delicately balanced all through the first half Cork failed to avail of the many chances that presented themselves and inside a minute they suddenly found themselves four points in arrears on the stroke of half time. Again through the second half as in the first Cork enjoyed plenty of opportunities but the hard working and tenacious Galway defence gave them little room closing down the Cork attack continuously. A tremendous save from Galway keeper Stephanie Gannon from Ciara Healy was without doubt the turning point of the game as the goal Cork so desperately needed failed to come as Galway held out for a memorable victory on a day when without the better team were crowned champions. With the sides due to meet in the first round of the championship on July 2nd there is a lot of work to

be done if the aspirations of reaching Croke Park are to be attained.

### CORK COLLEGES TOURNAMENT

On Saturday next teams from Tipperary, Wexford, Kilkenny, Waterford, Limerick Colleges, Clare, Dublin, Galway and Cork colleges meet in the James Hurley memorial inter county blitz in Inniscarra. The tournament is organised and hosted by the Cork Colleges camogie committee and is in memory of the late James Hurley who passed away three years ago at a very young age. James was

A teacher in St. Aloysius and was very prominent in the Cork Colleges board having been a selector with the Cork Colleges under 14 side and an officer. After his untimely death the committee decided to dedicate the Cork competition to his memory and his family presented a beautiful trophy which is played for each year. Played on a round robin format with the top two teams contesting the final the tournament has gone

from strength to strength. The cork side is coached by Ger Donovan from St. Mary's, Charleville and was chosen from players who's school participated in Cork colleges competitions. Recently they participated in and won the Limerick Colleges U14 blitz and have in preparations also played games against Limerick, Dublin, Waterford and Kilkenny. Michelle Healy from Coachford College captains the Cork team who will be hoping to retain the title the won last year.

The Cork Colleges backroom team have left no stones unturned in their search for talent and have picked the panel of 29 players from 17 schools who represent 19 clubs they have been busy preparing since last Proceedings get under way with the first game scheduled for 11.30am.

### SENIOR LEAGUE SEMI FINAL

Tomorrow evening in Coachford at 7.45pm Barryroe and Milford meet in the semi final of the 2004 senior league. Several attempts had been made to get this game played as Kilbrittan await the winners, now both clubs are finally going ahead with the game though they will both be minus several players who are exam tied but never the less it should be an interesting clash.

### FEILE NA NGAEIL

The countdown has begun to Feile na nGael 2005 which takes place on then weekend of June 17/18/19 with hurling and camogie team from all over the country and overseas visit Cork for a feast of under age action, next week we will have a full list of the venues and games that are going to be on offer with a full calendar of activities on and off the playing fields.

## Deadly Dunlea stuns Limerick

Cork 5-14  
Limerick 1-5

by Máire Uí Scolai

STEPHANIE DUNLEA was the star at Ballyhea last night as her hat-trick of goals helped her Cork side to a convincing 5-14 to 1-5 victory over Limerick to advance to the Munster championship final, where they will meet Tipperary next Wednesday.

Two first half opening goals from captain Elaine Burke after eight minutes and a second six minutes later from Stephanie Dunlea gave the Rebels a half time lead of 2-4 to 0-2, the Limerick points having come from two Sharon O'Shaughnessey frees.

Stephanie Dunlea scored her second goal six minutes into the second half but two minutes later Limerick's Marie Keating goaled to leave it, 3-4 to 1-2. However, some fine free taking by Jennifer O'Leary kept Cork in front. Dunlea then grabbed her third goal before Colette Desmond grabbed another on the stroke of full-time.

**Scorers:** Cork: S. Dunlea 3-1, E. Burke 1-1, C. Desmond 1-0, J. O'Leary 0-8 (0-5F), A. Walsh 0-3, V. Harris 0-1.

Limerick: M. Keating 1-0, S. Shaughnessey 0-3 (0-3F), O. Curtin 0-2.

### National camogie league semi-finals At Nenagh

Cork .....1-11  
Wexford .....2-6

**Cork** - A. Murray, J. Browne, S. Dunlea, J. O'Callaghan, A. O'Regan, M. O'Connor, N. Ahern, B. Corkery, E. Dillon, R. Moloney, A. Walsh 1-2, J. O'Leary 0-6, A. O'Donoghue, S. O'Donoghue 0-2, E. Burke.

**Wexford** - M. Darcy, A. Moran, C. O'Loughlin, C. O'Connor, A. Codd 0-1, M. Leacy 1-0, B. Holohan, K. Kelly 0-3, D. Codd, A. O'Connor, E. Quigley, L. Holohan, M. Hearn, U. Jacob 1-1. Subs: O. Hearn for Hearn, C. Murphy for D. Codd, S. Carr 0-1 for A. O'Connor.

Galway .....1-14  
Kilkenny .....1-4

**Galway** - S. Gannon, R. Glynn, S. Cahalan, L. Lally, F. Healy, T. Maher, A. Kelly, A. Hilary, C. Glennon, E. Kilkelly, B. Hanney, L. Kavanagh 0-8, B. Kerins 1-3, V. Curtin 0-2, O. Kilkenny 0-1. Subs: J. Gill for F. Healy, N. Gavin for A. Kelly, A.M. Hayes for E. Kilkelly, A. Connolly for B. Hanney.

**Kilkenny** - C. Ryan, K. Kinahan, J. Dillon, D. Minogue, B. Grennan, M. Costello, E. Aylward, E. Maher, L. Lyng, I. Kennedy, S. Milica 0-3, B. Mulally, C. Doherty 1-0, A. Neary 0-1, M. O'Connor. Subs: P. Comerford for Doherty, J. Frisby for O'Connor.

Referee - J. Pender (Kildare)

## Cork look to bounce back for semi

### TOMORROW Munster Senior Camogie Championship semi final: Cork v Limerick Ballyhea 7.30pm

CORK will want to put the dismay of losing the National League final to Galway behind them when they face Limerick this evening in the Munster Championship semi-final in Ballyhea (7.30pm).

As the All-Ireland series is an open draw, this game will not affect either sides' championship aspirations, but no doubt Cork will be anxious to get back on the winning trail as they prepared for champi-

onship outings against Galway and Wexford on July 2 and 17.

Looking back on last Sunday's league decider, Cork will be wondering how they failed to make better use of the huge amount of possession they had. They now face into their clash with Limerick badly in need of a boost.

The counties are on opposite side of the championship and were also in opposite league groups. In their section, Limerick had games against Cork's championship opponents Wexford and Galway and no doubt Cork will be anxious to

measure themselves against the results from these clashes.

Limerick failed to make it to the play-off stages of the league, suffering a comprehensive defeat at the hands of Wexford, but they rallied and came within five points of the newly crowned league champions.

Over the years they have promised much and they certainly possess players capable of making the breakthrough.

Eileen O'Brien, Aoife and Vera Sheehan, Mairéad Kelly and Moira Dooley are all class players and

coach Ger Hegarty, himself a former inter-county hurler, will be hoping for a continued improvement on their league form.

Cork will again be without several players who are exam tied and out of the country and certainly these players were hugely missed last Sunday.

Cork manager John Cronin and his backroom team will be hoping for a much improved return from a forward division that only managed three points from play on Sunday last as they strive to book their place in the provincial decider.



Gaelscoil Uí Riada's Roisin NicCharthaigh gets in her clearance despite the attentions of Castlelyons' Megann McNulty during the Allianz-Sciath na Scol Chorcaí, DC3 Camogie Final, at Páirc Uí Rinn yesterday.



# CAMOGIE *world*

by Maire  
Ui Scolai



with  
**Olhausen**

Galway captain Theresa  
Maher raises the  
Division 1 trophy

## GALWAY CLAIM LEAGUE CROWN

The girls from the west have not gone away if their recent national league success is anything to go by. Maire Ui Scolai reports from the league final.

"We came determined to compete and win," was how Galway selector Damian Coleman put it after Galway's first National League, Division 1 victory against Cork, 1-6 to 0-6 in Semple Stadium on Sunday 29th May. He further went on to say just how delighted he was. "Those girls did everything that was asked of them, I am so proud of them."

Galway's victory was almost a rags to riches tale as last year they failed to win one League match, but under the new management team of former player Sharon Glynn, Damian Coleman the former U21 hurler together with PJ Molloy, the former All-Ireland winner they have turned defeat into victory for Galway.

Galway may have started off rather slow and nervous. And it showed as they had to wait twenty three minutes before their opening score, a point from full-forward Veronica Curtin, who is engaged to be married to selector Damian Coleman. However, once Curtin found the posts she continued as just before the break the all important goal came for Galway in a great move that saw Brenda Kerins find the waiting Curtin who smashed the ball to the Cork net two minutes into injury time. It was the turning point of the game as it left the 2002 League champions ahead 1-4 to Cork's 0-3 at the break, the Cork points having come from Una O'Donoghue, Jennifer O'Leary and Emer Dillon.

Galway, who had to line out without top players Lourda Kavanagh and Aine Hilary due to injury, showed real fight and determination in the second half, but just like the opening half it was the Rebels who were first on the score-board with an Emer Dillon point in the opening minute. However, if Galway showed fire so too did the Rebels and they left nothing to chance as they brought on Vivienne Harris at the break and later on introduced Paula O'Connor, but on the day the Galway half backline of captain Therese Maher along side Ailbhe Kelly and Lorraine Lally were in top form.

Immediately after Emer Dillon's point Veronica Curtin sent over a vital Galway free to leave it, Galway 1-5 to

Cork's 0-4 with just four minutes gone. Amazingly, Galway failed to score again until the twentieth minute when Curtin knocked over her fifth point of the day. In between Cork sent over two Jennifer O'Leary frees, the second coming twelve minutes into the half and that remained the Rebel's last score of the day.

It appeared to the crowd that Galway might have wrapped it up with seven minutes to go when the Maroon and White girls were awarded a penalty following a square infringement. However, it was the Galway goalkeeper, Stephanie Gannon the 2004 Young player of the year who ran the whole pitch to take the penalty, but it was saved on the line by the Cork defence.

The final few minutes were tense and close as Galway tried hard to hold on to their lead, while the Rebels desperately looked for the equalising goal, but on the day it was the real Galway spirit that shone in the end.

Galway, looked for a long time in the Division 2 Final as if they might make it a double on the day. Despite getting off to a great start with two goals inside the opening twelve minutes from Molly Dunne and Rachelle O'Brien, it was Cork who stepped up the pace once full-forward Ellen O'Herlihy got their first half goal midway through the half to level the game at the break, Cork 1-4 Galway 2-1.

Two further points from Molly Dunne in the fourth and fifth minute put them ahead 2-2 to Cork's 1-4. However, the Rebels put in a fine finish with a second goal from top scorer Caitriona Kelly with ten minutes to go. While both sides exchanged further scores before the full time whistle it was Cork who finished the stronger on the day with some fine closing points from substitute Emer O'Friel 0-2 and Caitriona Kelly 0-1.

## DIVISION 1 TEAMS

**Galway** - S Gannon; R Glynn, S Cahalan, N Gavin; L Lally, T Maher (capt), A Kelly; S Murphy, C Glennon; A Lynskey, B Hanney, O Kilkenny; B Kerins 0-1, V Curtin 1-5, E Kilkenny. Subs - K Glynn for C Glennon, A Connolly for B Hanney, J Gill for A Lynskey, F Healy for S Murphy.

**Cork** - A Murray; J Browne, S Dunlea, J O'Callaghan; A O'Regan, M O'Connor, N Ahern; R Moloney, B Corkery; A Walsh, E Dillon 0-2, J O'Leary 0-3; C Desmond, U O'Donoghue 0-1, C Healy. Subs - V Harris for B Corkery, E Burke for C Desmond, R Holland for J O'Callaghan, P O'Connor for C Healy.

## DIVISION 2 TEAMS

**Galway** - S Dervan; C Gill, E Burke, A Kilkenny; P Hayes, L Gohery, M Geoghegan; T Manton, E Tannion 0-1; R O'Brien 1-1, C Glynn, C Kelly; Y Donnelly, M Dunne 1-5, M Kelly. Subs - T Byrne for L Gohery, C Cormican for Y Donnelly, A Hardy for M Kelly, M Ward for M Geoghegan.

**Cork** - F Killeen; D Hayes, R Holland, A Kelliher; E O'Sullivan, L O'Connell, N Bowles; D Cooney, O Cotter; H O'Regan, D O'Reilly, O Coughlan; M Coleman, E O'Herlihy, C Deasy.

Veronica Curtin  
in action

Sinead Cahalan clears her  
lines against Cork





# GAA PRESIDENT'S AWARDS 2005

Gradam an Uachtarán



Sponsored by  
**Irish Examiner**



THE GAA isn't just about the roar of the crowd on All-Ireland final day. Around Ireland, and beyond, the Association's lifeblood is the volunteers who neither receive, nor seek, recognition for their tireless work. Administrators, referees, teachers and coaches, those who cut the grass and open the gates – all go above and beyond what is reasonably expected. On Sunday, GAA president Sean Kelly will honour 21 men and women who have given a lifetime's commitment to the GAA – it is their day in the sun.

## BREDA BREEN (Limerick)



THE development of underage GAA in West Limerick is in safe hands. Six years ago Breda Breen was appointed secretary of Club na nÓg in Monagea and word of her enthusiasm and work ethic quickly spread. By 2002 she was elected assistant secretary and PRO of the West Limerick Bord na nÓg, and was appointed secretary 12 months later. Breda is involved with all West Limerick underage teams from primary to U16 as liaison officer. And if that isn't enough she is also prominently involved in the Comhairle Programme in Limerick.

## TONY COEN (Galway)



AFTER spells hurling with Woodford (Galway) and Kinnity (Offaly), Tony Coen combined his duties as a Garda with membership of Lorrha GAA club. Over the last 22 years has helped transform the club into the envy of many in the Premier County: under his stewardship the club purchased and developed three playing pitches, constructed a stand, built a club house with four dressing rooms along with a function room.

was appointed custodian of Sam Maguire; he accompanied the cup to over 16 counties, to hospitals, schools, homes, clubs, weddings and funerals, and to Scotland, England, American and Canada.

## DERMOT EARLEY (Roscommon)



A LEGENDARY name in Roscommon, Connacht and indeed Gaelic Games. From his county debut at 15 years of age in 1963, to his final senior game in 1985, Earley won nationwide recognition as an incredible athlete and footballer. Along with provincial medals at minor, U21 and senior, he also collected a National League medal, two Railway Cup medals and two Allstar Awards (1974 & 1979). Though his playing days are over his commitment to the GAA remains. He is chairman of the Sarsfield's club in Kildare and has overseen a €2.2 million redevelopment of the facilities.

## JP MCMANUS (Limerick)



CHAIRMAN of the South Liberties GAA Club from 1973 to 1975, and a keen Limerick hurling and football fan, JP rarely misses the All Ireland Finals and is sponsor of Limerick GAA teams for the next three years. JP donated €5m to the Limerick County Board for the redevelopment of the Limerick Gaelic Grounds and has named some of his racehorses after former well known Limerick hurlers Grimes, Joe Mac and Hartigan.

## JIM McNAMARA (Down)



AN ACTIVE member of St. Josephs Ballycran since his minor days of 1949, the club is Jim's life. When he retired from playing in 1964 he became treasurer – for 41 consecutive years. Invariably he opens the grounds and club house every day, and looks after the pitch with pride. His motivation and reward is to see the club alive with men, women, boys and girls playing, training and socialising in the club.

## BERNIE O'CONNOR (Kerry)



A CENTRAL member of the Legion club and a respected figure in Killarney, Bernie O'Connor has been involved in the GAA for over 50 years. Bernie was Legion's delegate to Co Board na nÓg on a number of occasions and was also involved in the promotion of Scór. He was also a member of the Fitzgerald Stadium Committee for 30 years, working on a variety of projects.

## WILLIAM PRICE (Dublin)



CHAIRMAN supreme William Price spent 44 years leading his club, St Maurs in Lusk, Co Dublin, and now holds the presidency of the club. During his tenure at the helm he acted as secretary, vice chairman and chairman of the Fingal League. His contribution to the GAA extended all the way to Croke Park, where he worked as a steward on big match days.

2005

JUNE



**PADDY COLLINS** (Westmeath)

**U**NIVERSALLY respected as a referee, Paddy started whistling in 1967 and handled his last game in 1995. He took charge of four All-Ireland senior football finals, six Leinster finals, including the 1990 Final between Dublin and Meath though he played hurling and football with Meath. He also refereed Munster finals, eight All Ireland Football semi-finals, and ten International Test games, as well as All Star games in New York, Chicago, San Francisco.

**THERESE CROWE** (New York)

**T**HERESE CROWE of Thurles has lived in New York since 1962 and isn't just a staunch supporter of the GAA. A nurse by profession, she's the first aid expert in Gaelic Park and was the first woman elected auditor of the New York GAA. She's President of the Tipperary Hurling Club, a dedicated member of the Tipperary N & B Association and the United Irish Counties Association.

**JOHNNY CULLEN** (Galway)

**J**OHNNY CULLEN'S love affair with the GAA began in 1955 when he started playing with the newly formed Killanerin Ballyfad club. Two years later, at 17, he was appointed district representative, a role he has held for the last 48 years. In the interim he has acted as secretary, treasurer, chairman and county board delegate. But his talents aren't confined to the clubhouse: he continued playing until 1984 winning junior, intermediate and senior titles.

**CUTHBERT DONNELLY** (Tyrone)

**T**HE GUARDIAN. A founder member of Aghaloo O'Neills of Aughnacloy, has been club chairman for over 25 years. A former Tyrone county chairman and vice-chairman, he was a member of the county's GAC and referees committee. An accomplished referee, he took charge of the 1988 Tyrone county final. In September 2003 Cuthbert

**SEAMUS GRANT** (Waterford)

**A**NAME synonymous with the GAA in Waterford, Grant played hurling and football for Erin's Own and Mount Sion and is considered one of the great officials of the GAA. Seamus is one of the longest serving county secretaries in the business, enjoyed a spell with the Munster Council and is a member of Social and Recreational Games Committee in Croke Park. He was awarded a Munster Council Distinguished Service Award 2003.

**DENIS KELLEHER** (Cork)

**D**ENIS KELLEHER has been involved with the Glanmire and Sarsfields Clubs for over 40 years — as secretary, vice-chairman, executive committee member, fundraiser, organiser of the club lotto and PRO. On rare nights off he is involved with Scor, the East Cork Board as PRO and the Cultural Committee of Cork County Board. Denis is also kit man for all the club teams, which means washing an average of 16 sets of jerseys per week — 320 jerseys per week, 1,280 per month and over 12,000 in a 10 month period.

**PATSY KIERNAN** (Dublin)

**A**FTER Patsy's playing and refereeing career with Parnells ended he became the administrative cornerstone of his club. Club chairman for over 20 years, he trained juvenile teams and represented the club at county board level while helping with the construction of the club facilities. He was also involved in the 1982 purchase of 20 acres of land at Collinstown, land now valued at around €50 million. Since retiring he has worked voluntarily for the Dublin County Board in Parnell Park.

**TOMMY LYNCH** (Cork)

**T**OMMY LYNCH has been an integral part of Cork GAA for close on quarter of a century, looking after the playing gear for all Cork teams — and their stadia, Pairc Ui Chaoimh and Pairc Ui Rinn. Tommy's expertise isn't confined to the GAA world either. He has overseen other events also, having given aid and advice to world famous acts such as Michael Jackson, Joan Baez, Don McLean, U2, Prince and Oasis. Returning to the world of sport, he also gave boxer Steve Collins a hand when the boxer fought in Cork.

**BR. DENIS MINIHANE** (Cork)

**A**N OFFALY hero from Cork. He coached Coláiste Chríost Rí from 1957-1961, when seven members of Cork's first All-Ireland minor football winners of 1961 attended the school. While principal of Presentation College and St. Brendan's Community School in Birr he trained the county minors for many years; St. Brendan's had many past pupils on the four Offaly teams to win All-Ireland senior hurling titles, including 15 of the panel on the 1998 team.

**MARY MORAN** (Cork)

**A**CAMOGIE heroine, Mary won Cork and Dublin senior camogie championship medals with Old Aloysians and Celtic respectively, as well as an All-Ireland Senior medal with Cork. She chaired the Cork Camogie Board, coached Cork teams to All-Ireland titles, served as treasurer, chairperson and president of the Munster Council, was Secretary of the Munster and All-Ireland Colleges Councils for 32 years, President of the All Ireland Colleges Council and President of the Camogie Association.

**PHELIM MURPHY** (Galway)

**M**R GALWAY hurling, Phelim became chairman of Galway club Turloughmore in 1961, and in his 22 years as chair the club won six county senior hurling championship titles in a row, a feat which has yet to be equalled. Elected secretary of the Galway Hurling Board in 1982, he held that position for 23 years; during that period Galway won 18 All-Ireland Hurling titles, nine Railway Cup Finals, eight Oireachtas titles and five National Leagues.

**JOHN NEVIN** (Carlow)

**E**VERGREEN Johnny Nevin, now in his eighteenth year at intercounty football and hurling, has the unique distinction in the county of holding 'B' All Irelands in hurling and football. He's won three senior county championship medals, one football and two hurling, and an O'Byrne Cup medal. Vodafone Footballer of the Month in May, 2004, he is also the games promotion officer in Carlow.

**MARY QUINN** (Leitrim)

**M**ARY QUINN has given a lifetime to Ladies Football — in the county of Leitrim, in the province of Connacht and at national level. After an impressive playing career which included two Allstars, she has also held the position of County Board Chairperson and Connacht Council President. The mother of two continues to play an important role in the development of Ladies Football not just in Leitrim but nationwide.

**PETER QUINN** (Fermanagh)

**T**HE VISIONARY. Fermanagh's Ulster Council representative for 11 years, he took over as Chairman of the Ulster Council from 1986-1989. Peter went on to become President of the GAA in 1991. He was chairman of the Croke Park re-development committee, and his business and leadership skills were instrumental in the development of the new Croke Park. He took particular enjoyment in his beloved Fermanagh's great run in last year's championship and hopes they'll do even better this season.

“The GAA is comprised of special people from every type of background who all make a real difference voluntarily, they are the lifeblood of the Association. There is a cross-section of recipients this year who have one thing in common — they have made an invaluable contribution without seeking any recognition at any stage. There is an unsung GAA hero in every town and village in this country and the awards were introduced to recognise their unstinting and often unseen work at local, provincial and national level.”  
— GAA President Séan Kelly

## GAA President recognises 'the lifeblood of the Association'

by Tony Leen  
Sports Editor

THE man credited with overseeing the acclaimed redevelopment of Croke Park will be honoured on Sunday by GAA President Séan Kelly.

Former president Peter Quinn from Fermanagh is one of 21 recipients of GAA President's awards, introduced last year by Mr Kelly, and sponsored by The Irish Examiner.

Mr Quinn will be joined on the roll of honour by well-known businessman JP McManus and footballers Dermot Earley (Roscommon) and Johnny Nevin (Carlow).

But the majority of the recipients will be unrecognisable to most sports fans — outstanding volunteers receiving overdue recognition for a lifetime of service to the GAA.

Dublin's Patsy Kiernan, Kerry's



Peter Quinn: former president from Fermanagh is one of 21 recipients of the awards.

Bernie O'Connor and Cork's Tommy Lynch have seen more of Parnell Park, Fitzgerald Stadium and Pairc Ui

Chaoimh than any All-Ireland winner — because they are the ones who open and lock up after every match and training session.

“The GAA is comprised of special people from every type of background who all make a real difference voluntarily,” Mr Kelly said yesterday.

“They are the lifeblood of the Association.”

“There is a cross-section of recipients this year who have one thing in common — they have made an invaluable contribution without seeking any recognition at any stage.”

“There is an unsung GAA hero in every town and village in this country and the awards were introduced to recognise their unstinting and often unseen work at local, provincial and national level.”

Westmeath's Paddy Collins has been a well-known referee and administra-



Paddy Collins: well-known referee and administrator will be formally recognised by Sean Kelly.

tor for almost 40 years, and will be formally recognised by Mr Kelly, along with Tipperary woman Therese

Crowe, the first-aid expert at New York's Gaelic Park for over 30 years.

“It is especially important to recognise the efforts of our overseas members,” the president explained.

“I've found that abroad, the one thing that links emigrants with their home place is the GAA. It gives them that extra feeling of 'Irishness',” he declared.

“However, these recipients are representative of the thousands of volunteers around the world who have given their time and effort to the GAA. Whether on the field of play or through the involvement of our members at Club, County or Provincial Council level, the GAA has always been fortunate to possess outstanding individuals who have served the Association with distinction.”

\* President's Awards in full: Page 27.

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Recipients of GAA President's Awards, sponsored by the Irish Examiner, at the Rochestown Park Hotel, Cork, last night. Back row, from left: Peter Quinn, Fermanagh; Cuthbert Donnelly, Tyrone; Dermot Earley, Roscommon; Brother Denis Minihane, Offaly; Bernie O'Connor, Kerry; Tony Coen, Tipperary; Seamus Grant, Waterford; Denis Kelleher, Cork; Tommy Lynch, Cork; JP McManus, Limerick; Jim Forbes Chairman Cork County Board. Front row, from left: Phelim Murphy, Galway; John Cullen, Wexford; Marian McCarthy, who accepted the award for Mary Moran, Cork; William Price, Dublin; GAA President Sean Kelly, Teresa Crowe, New York; Patsy Kiernan, Dublin; Irish Examiner Sports Editor Tony Leen, Mary Quinn, Leitrim and Breda Breen, Limerick.

Picture: Des Barry

# Due recognition for Kelly's heroes

by Colm O'Connor

GAA PRESIDENT Sean Kelly last night paid tribute to the "wonderful commitment of the grassroots members of the Association".

Mr Kelly made his remarks at the Irish Examiner-sponsored GAA Presidents Awards presentation at the Rochestown Park Hotel, Cork.

The awards, in their second year, were initiated by Mr Kelly to acknowledge the achievements and commitment of individuals throughout the Association by providing formal recognition of their work for and dedication to the GAA.

Among the winners are former players, coaches, benefactors and officials from across the country as well as recipients recognised for their contributions to handball, ladies football and camogie.

"It is fabulous," Mr Kelly said last night. "Speaking to many of the recipients, they are absolutely delighted to



GAA President Sean Kelly, left, presents an award to JP McManus. Included are Irish Examiner Sports Editor Tony Leen, left, and Cork County Board Chairman Jim Forbes. Right: Mary Quinn receives her award from Sean Kelly. Included is Jim Forbes.

Pictures: Des Barry



be getting this award and people made a special effort to get to the event.

"You could give it to another thousand people who do so much week in

and week out. This marks another ceremony which puts the wonderful commitment of the grassroots members of the Association in the spot-

light.

"This is the second year of the awards and it building up huge interest across the country. It reflects the true

importance of such people in making the GAA what it is — and keeping it there."

"A lot of other sporting organisa-

tions are struggling to get the volunteers. Thankfully we have deep roots in every community in the country. But we must continue to work and encourage that."

Irish Examiner sports editor, Tony Leen said: "Each and every recipient is an example of the unique nature of GAA volunteerism. Hopefully next year, there will be another twenty recipients, because these awards are only the tip of the iceberg. However, they're an important innovation, one we're proud to sponsor, and one which we applaud the GAA president for."

**Award Winners:** Dermot Earley (Roscommon), Teresa Crowe (New York), Tom Lynch (Cork), Patsy Kiernan (Dublin), Breda Breen (Limerick), Denis Kelleher (Cork), Willie Price (Dublin), Tony Coen (Tipperary), Mary Moran (Cork), Mary Quinn (Leitrim), Seamus Grant (Waterford), Bernie O'Connor (Kerry), Phelim Murphy (Galway), John Cullen (Wexford), Dr Denis Minihane (Offaly), Peter Quinn (Fermanagh), Paddy Collins (Westmeath), JP McManus (Limerick), Cuthbert Donnelly (Tyrone), Johnny Nevin (Carlow), Jim McNamara (Down).

June 2005



## Winning formula

□ THE GAA and the Irish Examiner are to be congratulated for their recent initiative in launching the President's Awards scheme.

The GAA is probably the greatest amateur sporting association in the world thanks largely to the efforts of its voluntary workers.

Week after week they give of their time voluntarily to coach young people in the skills of the games.

Special praise is due to the parents who transport their children to training sessions.

The GAA is also deeply indebted to teachers, primary and secondary, for their dedication to the games.

What a contrast between the efforts of all those dedicated voluntary workers and the attitude of the Gaelic Players Association.

**Michael O'Connor**  
Kilvoultra  
Macroom  
Co. Cork



Peter Quinn, Cuthbert Donnelly, Dermot Earley, Brother Denis Minihane, Bernie O'Connor, Tony Coen, Seamas Grant, Dennis Kelleher, Tommy Lynch, J P McManus, Prellin Murphy, John Cullen, Marian McCarthy, Sean Kelly, President of the GAA; Theresa Crowe, Patsy Kiernan, Tony Leen, Mary Quinn and Breda Breen, Recipients of the GAA president's award, pictured at the GAA President's award banquet for the Social Awards work Group at Rochestown Park Hotel, Cork.

Picture: Oisín Bonus / B Photo 096 8130353

# President's Awards 2005

THESE awards were presented at the Rochestown Park Hotel on Sunday night last at a most enjoyable function superbly organised by Jim Forbes and his Social Awards Work Group.

The idea of making these awards to honour some of the unsung heroes and heroines of the GAA was the idea of present Uachtarán Sean Kelly and only came into being last year. That it is a most desirable and greatly appreciated development could be clearly seen from the reactions of those who were honoured. The recipients represented every strata of the GAA world and came from all corners of the country and, indeed, far beyond and really showed the true nature of the GAA and what it makes it unique. There is a place in it for everybody. All can have their say. Cork provided three recipients - Denis Kelleher of Glanmire, Tommy Lynch, our groundsman, and bagman, and Mary Moran who has given a lifetime of service to the game of camogie. Denis Kelleher was richly deserving of

his award as he is the driving force behind football in Glanmire where no task is too big or too menial for him. He is actively involved in Scor and one of the most respected members of the Cork County Board where he represents his club. Another Corkman honoured was Bro. Denis who played a huge role in the big breakthrough by Offaly hurling. It was in his academy in Birr that many of the great players who brought such glory to the Faithful County honed their skills. Bro. Denis comes from Ballylickey, outside Bantry and his brother Br. Bede was well known in Cork when he guided the fortunes of Colaiste an Spioraí Naoimh. He was telling me that he never lost his affection for the place and was in Carrigrohoid to see his former school make the historic breakthrough when capturing the Corn Uí Mhuiri.

Phelim Murphy, who has been secretary of the Galway Hurling Board and Seamas Grant who does the same job in Waterford were honoured for long, loyal

and efficient service to the promotion of the games in their respective counties. Former Uachtarán, Peter Quinn, who more than any other person, was responsible for developing Croke Park into the magnificent stadium which it is today was a most worthy of being honoured as was the Limerick multi-millionaire J.P. McManus who has so often shown his generosity to many good causes and most recently to the Limerick County Board. He was a very popular choice. Former Roscommon stalwart, Dermot Earley, enlivened the occasion with a very witty speech when he spoke on behalf of all his fellow recipients. The great midfielder is often spoken of as the greatest player never to win the coveted All-Ireland medal. When all the formalities were over Sean O'Se entertained the attendance with his own brand of native wit.

All associated with organising the occasion can feel justifiably proud and well done to Sean Kelly for introducing the scheme.

JUNE 2005

## CamogieChat

With Mary Newman

### UNDER AGE ACTION CONTINUES

AS exams occupy the minds of our players over the coming three weeks the younger players continue their league campaigns from under 12 to 14 levels.

At last weeks juvenile board meeting a big results sheet showed that progress is continuing in all competitions.

In the under 14 A league a glance at some results show Milford having recorded impressive victories in all their games to date while Inniscarra have also impressed with wins over Glen Rovers and Valley Rovers.

Glen Rovers must still face Milford and Clonakilty having defeated the Innishannon side while Inniscarra also have a meeting with Clonakilty to look forward to.

In section 2 Ballinhassig have recorded a win over Carrigaline who defeated a Ballincollig side that have a win over Blackrock recorded so it all to play for there with Ballinhassig and Douglas the fancied side.

In the Under 14 B league the Douglas second team have had wins over Bishopstown and Courcy Rovers but had to give way to St Finbarrs. Ballygarvan with wins over St Finbarrs and Bishopstown are a team to keep an eye on.

Fr O Neills have a win over Blarney while Mallow could be another to emerge following on from an impressive outing against

Blarney.

The Under 12 leagues continue to be competitive and as the games in the various sections draw to the concluding stages in the A grade there is little between Ballinhassig, Milford, Inniscarra, Valley Rovers and Glen Rovers with only four teams to qualify its down to the last games to decide the semi-finalists in what has been a superbly contested league to date.

Under 12 B results to hand show Blarney having enjoyed an impressive campaign with good victories over Fr O'Neill's and St Finbarrs, however O'Neill's will be happy having themselves defeated Bishopstown and St Finbarrs. Bishopstown had a good win over Aghabullogue while Courcy Rovers held off the challenge of the Barrs as did Carrigaline.

In Under 12 C Killeagh look to be the form team with wins over Bride Rovers, while Newcestown, Valley Rovers second team and Barryroe Newtownshandrum, Sarsfields Douglas third team and Sliabh Rua have all had victories in what is another very competitive league.

The juvenile board hope at their next meeting to have the under 12 and 14 leagues up to quarter and semi final stages and then put dates on these play off stages.

Certainly the work being put in by the committee with the co-operation of the clubs has seen the games continuing on schedule.

### FEILE NA GAEL

From Thursday next young under 14 camogie players and hurlers will be converging on Cork for what promises to be the feast of action that is Feile Na Gael.

Feile holds a special magic and for the young participants it is something they never forget as new friends are made and friendships that in some cases have stood for a life time often begin on 'Feile' weekend.

Next week with just twenty four hours to the first ball being struck in Feile 2005 I will have a detailed look at the venues, times of games and parade arrangements.

## County board honoured

FOLLOWING on the success that was centenary year the Cork county board were recently named by Lord Mayor of Cork Cllr Seán Martin as recipients of a Lord Mayor's civic award and attended a presentation ceremony where Chairperson Marian McCarthy accepted on behalf of the board.

In making the presentation Lord Mayor Martin paid tribute to the many outstanding administrators who have made Cork camogie the success story it is, he spoke about the huge amount of voluntary work that a legion of mentors have done and continue to do week in week

out, he paid tribute to the county board for the manner in which they celebrated the centenary year of the camogie association and congratulated the Cork board on its own marvellous achievement of reaching one hundred year this year.

In accepting the award county board chairperson thanked all who have worked and continue to work for the promotion of the game in the city and county, she thanked the Lord Mayor for choosing Cork camogie board for such a prestigious award and said she was honoured to be chairperson on such a momentous occasion in the board's history.

## MARY MORAN HONoured

ON Sunday evening last Cork's Mary Moran was honoured with one of the GAA President's Award in the Rochestown Park Hotel, Cork.

The award scheme in its second year pays tribute to some of Gaelic games unsung heroes and heroines in many cases some people who work tirelessly behind the scenes.

This year President Sean Kelly and his committee honoured camogie by choosing Mary Moran and certainly there could not have been a more worthy winner.

The holder of County senior championship medals with Old Aloysius, Mary also won Dublin Senior championship honours with Celtic when employed in Dublin. On returning to Cork she became actively involved both on an off the playing field.

The holder of an All Ireland senior medal, Mary

also coached Cork teams to All Ireland success, amongst the many positions held include Chairperson of the Cork county board, national President, colleges secretary, Munster chairperson and colleges secretary, Cork president and central council member.

Without doubt Mary is well known for her meticulous recording of camogie happenings and her wonderful publications include 'The Cork Camogie Story', and 'The history of Munster Camogie', two separate publications recording thirty years of Munster and All-Ireland Colleges camogie while another big hit was 'Camogie Champions' a detailed look back at title holders in all grades and completions.

Without doubt Mary Moran is a worthy recipient of such a prestigious award and congratulations go to her on a wonderful achievement.



# FEILE COMES TO LEESIDE

**CamogieChat**  
With Mary Newman

JUST twenty four hours to the throw in to Feile Na nGael 2005 the excitement is beginning in clubs through the city and county. It's been twenty nine years since Cork hosted Feile and no doubt much has changed in the interim but without doubt it is still the associations most prestigious under age competition. Ninety six hurling and forty eight camogie clubs gather together for what is going to be a wonderful event. Winning clubs representing their county will travel to Cork where they will be hosted by the various clubs in the city and county with the young camogie and hurlers staying in the home of their opponents.

Visiting teams have or will arrive in Cork today and tomorrow and will play their host club tomorrow afternoon before all participants make their way to the city centre where a parade of clubs will take place assembling in Copley Place before parading through the streets of the city, starting at 7.30pm.

On Saturday the teams in each section will play off on a round robin basis with one team emerging from each to participate in the semi finals on Saturday evening. Finals are down for decision in Pairc Uí Rinn and Pairc Uí Chaoimh on the Sunday. The clubs and counties were graded according to their strengths and with the emphasis very much on the younger players there is a section to suit all participants with the weaker counties and club afforded a chance to in their own grade.

Certainly all the focus will be on Division 1 where big names such as Inniscarra, Ballinhassig, Milford who have enjoyed so much under age success in Cork competitions will be determined to stamp their name on Feile na nGael roll of honour for the first time while Douglas will be anxious to retain the crown won in splendid fashion last season.

On Saturday the Camogie Skills competition takes place at St. Finbarr's with a 2pm start. With plenty of action taking place through the city and county no excuse not to go along and lend your support to the

next generation of camogie stars.

## DIVISION 1 - 4 SECTIONS

### SECTION A

Ballinhassig, Rathnure, Valley Rovers & Thomastown

**Friday, June 17 2005**

Ballinhassig V Rathnure

Ballinhassig - 2pm

Valley Rovers V Thomastown

Brinney - 3pm

**Saturday, June 18 2005**

ALL MATCHES AT BRINNEY

Ballinhassig V Thomastown

10.30 am

Valley Rovers V Rathnure

11.30am

Valley Rovers V Ballinhassig

12.45 pm

Thomastown V Rathnure - 1.45 pm

### SECTION B

Inniscarra, St. Vincent's, Ballincollig & Toomevara

**Friday, June 17 2005**

Inniscarra V St. Vincent's

Inniscarra - 2pm

Ballincollig V Toomevara

Ballincollig - 2pm

**Saturday, June 18 2005**

MATCHES AT BALLINCOLLIG

Ballincollig V St. Vincent's

10.30am

Inniscarra V Toomevara

11.30am

Ballincollig V Inniscarra

12.45pm

St. Vincent's V Toomevara - 1.45pm

### SECTION C

Milford, Clare, Glen Rovers & Turloughmore

**Friday, June 17 2005**

Milford V Clare

Milford - 2pm

Glen Rovers V Turloughmore

Glen Rovers - 2pm

**Saturday, June 18 2005**

ALL MATCHES AT GLEN FIELD

Glen Rovers V Newmarket on

Fergus 10.30 am

Milford V Turloughmore - 11.30am

Glen Rovers V Milford - 12.45pm

Turloughmore V Newmarket on

Fergus - 1.45 pm

### SECTION D

Douglas, Camross, Eire OG & Ballyagran

**Friday, June 17 2005**

Douglas V Camross

Douglas - 2 pm

Eire OG V Ballyagran

Ovens - 2 pm

**Saturday, June 18 2005**

ALL MATCHES AT OVENS

Eire OG V Camross - 10.30 am

Douglas V Ballyagran - 11.30 am

Eire OG V Douglas - 12.45 pm

Camross V Ballyagran - 1.45

## DIVISION 1

### SEMI-FINAL IN BALLINCOLLIG

Winners B V Winners A - 6.30pm

Winners D V Winners C - 7.30pm

## DIVISION 2 - 4 SECTIONS

### SECTION (A)

Buttervant, Ballinscreen, Aghabullogue & Lough Lane Gaels

**Friday, June 17 2005**

Buttervant V Ballinscreen

Buttervant - 2 pm

Aghabullogue V Lough Lane Gaels

Coachford - 2 pm

**Saturday, June 18**

ALL MATCHES AT COACHFORD

Aghabullogue V Ballinscreen

10.30am

Buttervant V Lough Lane Gaels

11.30am

Aghabullogue V Buttervant

12.45pm

Lough Lane Gaels V Ballinscreen

1.45pm

### SECTION B

Blackrock, Ballycastle, Erins Own & Ballycran

**Friday, June 17 2005**

Blackrock V Ballycastle

Blackrock - 2 pm

Erins Own V Ballycran

Caherlag - 2 pm

**Saturday, June 18 2005**

ALL MATCHES AT CAHERLAG

Erins Own V Ballycastle - 10.30am

Ballycran V Blackrock - 11.30am

Erins Own V Blackrock - 12.45pm

Ballycastle V Ballycran - 1.45pm

### SECTION C

Ballygarvan, St. Patrick's-Keady, Courcy Rovers & Johnstown Bridge

**Friday, June 17 2005**

Ballygarvan V St. Patrick's - Keady

Ballygarvan - 2pm

Courcy Rovers V Johnstown

Bridge

Courcy Rov - 2pm

**Saturday, June 18 2005**

MATCHES AT BALLINSPITTLE

Courcy Rovers V St. Patrick's -

Keady - 10.30am

Johnstown Bridge V Ballygarvan

11.30am

Ballygarvan V Courcy Rovers

12.45pm

St. Patrick's - Keady V Johnstown

Bridge - 1.45pm

### SECTION D

Carrigaline, Kilcormac Killoughey, Rockban & St. Dominic's

**Friday, June 17 2005**

Carrigaline V Kilcormac Killoughey

Carrigaline - 2pm

Rockban V St. Dominic's

Carrigaline - 2pm

**Saturday, June 18 2005**

MATCHES AT CARRIGALINE

Carrigaline V St. Dominic's

10.30am

Kilcormac Killoughey V Rockban

11.30am

Carrigaline V Rockban - 12.45pm

St. Dominic's V Kilcormac

Killoughey - 1.45pm

## DIVISION 2

### SEMI FINALS AT RIVERSTICK

Winners D V Winners B - 6.30pm

Winners A V Winners C - 7.30pm

## DIVISION 3 - 4 SECTIONS

### SECTION A

St. Finbarr's, Erin go Bragh, Brian Dillon's & Castleblaney

**Friday, June 17 2005**

St. Finbarr's V Erin go Bragh

(Birmingham) - Togher - 3pm

Brian Dillon's V Castleblaney

Brian Dillon's - 2pm

**Saturday, June 18 2005**

ALL MATCHES AT TOGHER

St. Finbarr's V Castleblaney

10.30 am

Brian Dillon's V Erin Go Bragh

11.30

Brian Dillon's V St. Finbarr's

12.45 pm

Castleblaney V Erin go Bragh

1.45 pm

### SECTION B

Bishopstown, Fr. O'Neills, Newcestown & Lismore

**Friday, June 17 2005**

Bishopstown V Fr. O'Neills

Bishopstown - 2pm

Newcestown V Lismore

Newcestown @ 2pm

**Saturday, June 18 2005**

MATCHES AT BISHOPSTOWN

Fr. O'Neills V Lismore - 10.30 am

Newcestown V Bishopstown

11.30am

Bishopstown V Lismore - 12.45pm

Fr. O'Neills V Newcestown - 1.45pm

### SECTION C

Sarsfields, Myshall, Killeagh & Kiltegan

**Friday, June 17 2005**

Sarsfields V Myshall

Riversfield - 2pm

Killeagh V Kiltegan

Killeagh - 2pm

**Saturday, June 18 2005**

MATCHES AT RIVERSTOWN

Sarsfields V Kiltegan - 10.30am

Killeagh V Myshall - 11.30am

Killeagh V Sarsfields - 12.45pm

Kiltegan V Myshall - 1.45pm

### SECTION D

Watergrasshill, Kiltane, Newtownshandrum & Na Piarasigh

**Friday, June 17 2005**

Watergrasshill V Kiltane

Watergrasshill - 2pm

Na Piarasigh

Newtownshandrum

Na Piarasigh - 2pm

**Saturday, June 18 2005**

MATCHES AT WATERGRASSHILL

OR GLENVILLE

Watergrasshill V Na Piarasigh -

10.30am

Newtownshandrum V Kiltane -

11.30am

Newtownshandrum

Watergrasshill - 12.45pm

Kiltane V Na Piarasigh - 1.45pm

## DIVISION 3

### SEMI FINALS @ BALLINLOUGH

Winners D V Winners B - 6.30pm

Winners C V Winners A - 7.30pm

## FINALS ON SUNDAY

Div 1 Pairc Uí Chaoimh 11.00am

Div 3 Pairc Uí Rinn 12.30pm

Div 2 Pairc Uí Rinn

By MARY NEWMAN

Feile news

FOR many this weekend's Feile competition will simply mean a little walk down the road to the local pitch.

Some will even get a drive to the venue, but for the girls from the Erin go Bragh Camogie Club it will mean a trip overseas and one which they will surely treasure.

Erin go Bragh are based at Pairc na hEireann and Holly Lane, host teams from London and the Southern region of the UK, and travel to those parts for their away fixtures.

The teams they come up against are generally older and more experienced, however they relish the challenge and have gained valuable experience and have grown stronger as a result.

For the second year running they will be the only UK team to be participating in the Feile Na nGael 2005 and are looking forward to their visit to host club St. Finbarr's where a huge Barrs' welcome is guaranteed for them.

A party of 17 girls leave Birmingham on Thursday evening and will arrive in Cork on Friday afternoon and will have a couple of hours to wind down and get settled before



Pictured are Aston Villa's Peter Whittingham, Ciara Egan, Cher Byrne, Collette Parcell, Laura Dowd, Sue (Save the Children), and Paul Dickenson (social secretary Erin go Bragh).

their first game against the Barrs' on Friday at 2pm.

On Saturday they will meet Brian Dillon's and Monaghan representatives Castleblaney.

The team held discos to help

raise funds towards their trip which is organised and funded solely by Erin go Bragh.

The team raised the fantastic amount of £3,000.00, not only are they helping to put

Camogie well and truly on the map in the Midlands, but they are also helping others along the way.

They will be led by chief club organiser Denis

Neenan ironically heading for Neenan Park, Togher surely a coincidence or maybe an omen.

See Inside for more Feile news.



## Camogie Féile will give players first taste of glory

By LINDA MELLERICK

Féile na nGael

WITH the Féile na nGael kicking off in a matter of days it is interesting to look back to when camogie first entered this prestigious competition and the many great players whose first taste of camogie and success came with Féile na nGael.

The hurling Féile began in 1971. Camogie followed in 1974 and the first title was won by Ahane of Limerick. The competition was held in Cork in its second year, 1975, despite the fact that the host county were not involved. Four visiting counties participated, Croke Kilfinney from Limerick, Mervue of Galway, Killeel of Down and Knockanna from Wicklow.

After hosting Féile, Cork decided to introduce an U14 competition and convention passed a motion to begin an U14 League.

By the following year the interest was widespread and within a short period of time Cork had nine clubs taking part, — Éire Óg, Nemo Rangers, Blackrock, Douglas, Na Piarsaigh, Ballyphehane, Old Als, Ballinlough and Glen Rovers. The competition was won by Na Piarsaigh.

In 1977 another Cork club, Killeagh, claimed the title, winning the final by just one point.

In 1986 Bishopstown represented Cork and met Mullagh of Galway in the final in Cusack Park, Ennis where they had the honour of playing in front of the then President of Ireland Paddy Hilyar.

It took extra-time before the title was decided when a late point from Emer Hardiman gave Mullagh their second title. The following year Bishopstown got their hands on the trophy when in a thrilling final in front of a crowd of 12,000, they defeated St Monica's of Dublin.

Indeed, when one looks at the history of Féile it is interesting to note that many of the All-Ireland Féile winning clubs, who had only recently taken up the game of camogie, went on to become major forces and continue to be so today, ie Grenagh Ballingarry of Limerick and Pearse's of Galway. Thus enhancing the age old belief that the grassroots is where we need to build from.

The roll of honour is as listed:-

1974 - Ahane, Limerick  
1975 - Knockanna, Wicklow  
1976 - Na Piarsaigh, Cork  
1977 - Killeagh, Cork  
1978 - Croke Kilfinney, Limerick  
1979 - Woodville, Dublin  
1980 - Woodville, Dublin  
1981 - Marino, Dublin  
1982 - Marino, Dublin  
1983 - Sarsfield's, Galway  
1984 - An Caisleán, Dublin  
1985 - Mullagh, Galway  
1986 - Mullagh, Galway  
1987 - Bishopstown, Cork  
1988 - Pearse's, Galway  
1989 - St Lachtain's, Kilkenny  
1990 - St Lachtain's, Kilkenny  
1991 - Grenagh Ballingarry - Limerick  
1992 - Clara, Kilkenny  
1993 - St. Coleman's, Ardara, Galway  
1994 - Pearse's, Galway  
1995 - Pearse's, Galway  
1996 - Templemore, Tipperary  
1997 - Athenry - Galway  
1998 - 2002 - Oulart the Ballagh, Wexford  
2003 - St Vincent's, Dublin  
2004 - Douglas, Cork.

Established players who won Féile medals and went on to win All-Ireland senior medals with their County include Sinéad Costello, Kilkenny, Sharon Glynn and Pamela Nevin of Galway and Martha Kearney, Paula Goggins and Clare McCarthy of Cork.

How many future stars will this weekend's championship uncover?



The Douglas Féile 2005 squad, who will be attempting to retain their All-Ireland title in Cork this weekend.

# Douglas to defend title

**TWELVE months ago Douglas Camogie Club was the toast of Cork as they brought the All-Ireland Féile na nGael trophy back to Leeside.**

By LINDA MELLERICK

All-Ireland Féile na nGael

Coach extraordinaire Jimmy O'Mahony, who in his fourth year at the helm, is happy with the way his team have prepared.

"We've put in a huge amount of work. The girls have been great and if we don't win it won't be for the want of effort," he said.

Ten of last year's squad remain available and with the five new recruits, Jimmy is confident that this present side are as good as what has gone before.

One aspect of this year's competition has really disappointed him however.

Because Cork host this year's National Féile, all clubs received automatic entry and there was no local county competition, a decision Jimmy feels is crazy.

"I think it is an awful loss to all Cork teams that they didn't get to play in a Cork Féile competition. There is a cup there now which hasn't been played for.

"To win the Cork Féile is a very prestigious honour and one which we ourselves were delighted to win. I'm very disappointed as I'm sure most clubs are," he said.

The competition could have been run off in a very short period of time and it would also have helped in the fair grading of teams.

But it wasn't to be and Douglas cannot dwell on that now.

They are defending champions and in Jimmy's own words "won't give up the title without a fight."

They play Camross of Laois in their first outing on Friday and this is a big opener for them. Camross won the Division B title last year

and also defeated Douglas in the Community Games final. On Saturday they play Ballyagran of Limerick and they also face locals Éire Óg.

The club are excited to be involved again and Jimmy hopes that last years success will be fresh in the girl's minds and that they'll want a taste of that again.

Finbarr O'Donovan is again with the squad as is Breda Heffernan.

Three Cork titles and one All-Ireland title to their credit, can Douglas win back to back titles and in their own backyard?

"It would be absolutely marvellous to win the All-Ireland again and to do it here in Cork, well it doesn't get any better than that," Jimmy stated.

No it certainly doesn't!

See pages 50-51 & 57 for more.

## Feile na nGael

by Mary Newman

MONTHS of training and preparation are about to come to fruition for 144 camogie and hurling teams as Feile na nGael 2005 has finally arrived for thousands of young camogie and hurling players.

Winning clubs representing their county will travel to Cork this coming weekend where they will be hosted by the various clubs in the city and county with the young camogie and hurlers staying in the home of their opponents.

On the Saturday the teams

in each section will play off on a round-robin basis with one team emerging from each to participate in the semi-finals, with the finals down for decision in Pairc Uí Rinn and Pairc Uí Chaoimh on the Sunday.

On Saturday we will also have the Feile skills competition where participants will compete to find the most skilful under age camogie and hurling player. Here, one player will represent each county. The camogie competition takes place in St Finbarr's, starting at 2pm, with the hurling skills in Pairc Uí Rinn at 1pm.



Chairperson Marie McCarthy, for Cork County Camogie Board.

### CAMOGIE

James Hurley; All-Ireland U14 Blitz; Inniscarra

Group A: Tipperary 3-0 Kilkenny 0-1; Limerick 4-6 Clare 1-0; Tipperary 1-1 Limerick 0-2; Limerick 2-4 Kilkenny 0-0; Clare 3-0 Kilkenny 0-1; Tipperary 2-5 Clare 1-2.

Group B: Cork 5-8 Waterford 0-2; Galway 4-1 Dublin 2-4; Cork 3-3 Dublin 1-1; Galway 4-7 Waterford 1-1; Cork 1-5 Galway 2-6; Dublin 2-5 Waterford 0-3.

Semi Finals: Cork 5-7 Tipperary 1-2; Galway 3-4 Limerick 1-2.

Plate Final: Clare 5-4 Waterford 1-3

All Ireland final: Cork Colleges 3-4 Galway 2-0.



JUNE 2005

## Echo Sports

profiles the Feile camogie teams hoping to do Cork proud this weekend

### AGHBULLOGUE

#### LYNN O'LEARY

LYNN is a first year student in Coachford Community College, and comes from a Gaelic games background. Her father Pat was a selector with Cork minor hurling side that took All-Ireland honours. Lynn's brother Denis was also a member of the Cork minor panel.



### BALLINHASSIG

#### KATIE MCCARTHY

A PUPIL in Colaiste Na Toibhirte, Bandon Katie is the holder of an U12 A County medal with her club and is a member of the clubs' senior panel. A member of the Cork primary games team in 2003. She is niece of Marion McCarthy, holder of eight Senior All-Ireland camogie medals.



### BRIAN DILLON'S

#### LYM HOLLIE

Lim started playing camogie in St Patrick's and played in the Sciath na Scoil finals in Pairc uí Chaoimh. She has won Seandun medals at U12 and 14 levels. Currently playing at U14, 16 and 18 and on her clubs' junior panel, represented her club at skills competition.



### BALLYGARVAN

#### KATE O'SULLIVAN

Kate is the only 14 year old on the Ballygarvan team and the only girl who will not be able to participate in next year's Feile competition. She is a second year pupil at Christ King girls secondary school in Turner's Cross where she is a leading player on the school team.



# Meet the



Douglas captain Jessica Jackson arrives back at Douglas GAA Club after their Purcell Cup win.

THE focus of the GAA world will firmly be on Leaside this weekend as camogie, hurling, handball and skills players begin their journeys for the eagerly awaited All-Ireland Feile na n-Gael competition.

Since the details and draws for this year's competitions were unveiled clubs through the country and indeed abroad have been busy participating in their own competitions for the right to represent their counties in what is without doubt the associations' most prestigious under age competition.

This year's event brings 96 hurling and 48 camogie clubs together for what is hoped will be a feast of under age activities.

Winning clubs representing their county will travel to Cork where they will be hosted by the various clubs in the city and county with the young camogie and hurlers staying in the homes of their opponents.

The first camogie club to take Feile honours were Ahane from Limerick in 1974 and since then down through the years many famous names have emerged from Feile.

In camogie Jennifer O'Leary, Vivienne Harris, current Galway coach Sharon Glynn, Sinead Costello, Niamh Harkin and Una Lacey.

Tony O'Sullivan, Sean Óg Ó hAilpín, Brian Corcoran, Joe Deane and Tom Cashman all participated with their clubs on the hurling Feile fields.

It been 29 years since Cork hosted Feile. Four years ago during the foot and mouth scare the county did step in at the last minute and host a scaled down Feile but this time out it's all systems go.

Last year Cork side Douglas emerged as winners of the division 1 camogie to take the Purcell Cup for the first time.

Camross from Laois are holders of the division 2 Timmons' Shield. Interestingly they are back this year this time promoted to division one where they are grouped with and hosted by Douglas and this should be an interesting clash.



Vivienne Harris: One of the stars who have emerged from Feile.

Mary Newman McCarthy introduces the Cork camogie captains.



The division three title is held by Ballycastle of Antrim and they are also in contention this year playing in division two where they are hosted by and meeting Blackrock in their first game.

Many famous club names will be travelling to Cork amongst them Toomevara from Tipperary, Lough Lenn Gaels, Keady Armagh, Rathnure Wexford, 2003 winners St Vincent's are

### BALLINCOLLIG

#### BREA O'CALLAGHAN

Brea captains Ballincollig at the age of 14. She is a pupil of Colaiste Chaoimh Ballincollig. Was a member of the club team that won the U16 A County League title last season and is also a member of the Cork Colleges U14 team.



### BISHOPSTOWN

#### ORLA O'CONNOR

A second year student at Mount Mercy Bishopstown, Orla was previously a pupil at St Catherine's where she participated in Sciath na Scoil. She is a member of the clubs under 16 panel. Sister Roisin is a member of the under 12 team.



### COURCEY ROVERS

#### KAREN CROWLEY

KAREN is a pupil in Ballinspittle where she plays with the school team. She plays in her clubs' defence where she captains the team from her wing back position. She is a great motivator and skilful player with great enthusiasm.



### DOUGLAS

#### MAIRE O'MAHONY

At Christ King secondary, captained primary St Columbus, to Sciath Na Scoil honours 2004. Has U12a county medals, two U14a county medals, All-Ireland community games medals, two Cork Feile medals, an All-Ireland, a runners-up Feile medal.



### EIRE ÓG



#### CIARA O'KEEFFE

Ciara has been playing camogie with Eire Óg since she was eight years old, a member of Cork Colleges team and won U14B, U16 A and U18 B county championship medals as well as Muskerry divisional honours. Comes from a sporting background, especially from her grandmother Maire Barry. Murphy-O'Keeffe, while mum Jacinta is camogie club secretary.

### BLACKROCK

#### CIARA BARRY

A first year student at Ursuline's Convent, Blackrock, and played camogie with Blackrock since very young, attended primary school in Beaumont. She is totally committed; interests are hurling and camogie and she has won an U13 Seandun medal with the club.



### BUTTEVANT

#### ELAINE MURPHY

Elaine has won several county camogie medals with Buttevant including an U12B medal; U18 and Junior C medals and U15 North Cork. In her second year on the Cork Colleges team. Elaine also has county, Munster and All-Ireland athletics medals.



### CARRIGALINE

#### JENNIFER FOSTER

Jennifer, aged 14, attends Carrigaline Community. Camogie and hurling are definitely in the genes. Her father and grandfather both played their hurling with Carrigaline while her mother played with Ballyphehane and St. Finbarr's. Her grandmother (88) played for Lough Rovers.



### ERIN'S OWN

#### CAOIMHE O'CALLAGHAN

CAOIMHE attends Colaiste an Phiarsaigh in Glanmire and is a member of this year's Cork colleges U14 Team. She is a former pupil of Glounthaune NS and captain of their winning Sciath Na Scoil team. Her father Martin played with St. Finbarr's and was an All-Ireland Feile Na n-Gael medal winner in 1978.





JUNE 2005

# Echo Sports

profiles the Feile camogie teams hoping to do Cork proud this weekend

# captains



representing Dublin while out in Togh-  
er in division three St Finbarr's host  
Erin Go Braith from Birmingham.

The hurling competition has five di-  
visions and will also be eagerly con-  
tested with names such as Durlas Og,  
Kilmacud Crokes, Na Piarsaigh Limer-  
ick and Navan O'Mahoney's all vying  
for honours.

Visiting teams having arrived in  
Cork will have played their host club  
this afternoon before all participants  
make their way to the city centre  
where a parade of clubs will take place  
assembling in Copley Place before  
parading through the streets of the

city, starting at 7.30pm.

Tomorrow the teams in each section  
will play off on a round robin basis  
with one team emerging to participate  
in the semi-finals. Finals are fixed for  
Páirc Uí Rinn and Páirc Uí Chaoimh on  
the Sunday.

The clubs and counties were graded  
according to their strengths and with  
the emphasis very much on the young-  
er players there is a section to suit all  
participants with the weaker counties  
and club afforded a chance to win their  
own grade.

Certainly all the focus will be on divi-  
sion 1 where big names such as Innis-

carra, Ballinhassig and Milford, who  
have enjoyed so much under age suc-  
cess in Cork competitions, will be de-  
termined to stamp their name on Feile  
roll of honour while Douglas will be  
anxious to retain the crown won in  
splendid fashion last season.

Tomorrow the camogie skills compet-  
ition takes place at St Finbarr's with a  
2pm start while the hurling skill are in  
Páirc Uí Rinn starting at 1pm.

With plenty of action taking place in  
the city and county on and off the play-  
ing fields it's something not to be  
missed so get along and lend your sup-  
port.

The Douglas team who  
beat Thomastown in the  
Purcell Cup final.

## WATERGRASSHILL

### FIONA O'KEEFE

Fourteen year old  
Fiona is a pupil in  
Loroto Fermoy where  
she has just completed  
second year. She has  
been a member of the Watergrasshill  
club for six years and is a follower of  
the county teams and she has great  
admiration for Cork defender Mary  
O'Connor.



## VALLEY ROVERS

### NORA MURPHY

Fourteen-year-old  
Nora is a pupil at Col-  
áiste Na Toibhirte,  
Bandon.  
Previously attended  
primary school at Scoil Eoin, Innishan-  
non where she captained the school  
to victory in the Camogie Scith Na  
Scoil final in 2004.



## ST FINBARR'S

### ELLEN CROWLEY

Ellen has been a  
member of the club for  
several years.  
She is an all round  
sports person and also  
has a keen interest in soccer. She is a  
member of the Cork College U14  
camogie panel and also plays camo-  
gie in St Aloysius School.



## SARSFIELD'S

### AISLING WHOOLEY

Both of her parents  
played with SAR-  
SFIELD'S. Dad John  
while mum Kay (nee  
Kenneally) won two  
county medals, brother  
Eoin plays with Sars U16's and was on  
Cork and Imokilly U16 teams in 2004.  
She is at Glanmire Community College  
and has won Camogie Sciath na Scoil  
medals in 2004 with St Michael's.



## FR O'NEILLS

### JOY DUNNE

SCIATH Na Scol  
medal winner with Kil-  
credan NS 2002 she  
was on the Feile Na  
nGael Cork Centenary  
team in the same year.

Was a member of the St Mary's  
High School Middleton team that con-  
tested the Cork Colleges County  
Junior final recently.



## INNISCARRA

### CATHERINE O'BRIEN

Catherine recently  
won the Féile skills and  
will represent the  
county in the national  
finals. She is a member  
of her club's U14 and U16 teams and  
is also in the Cork colleges team.  
Won a Sciath Na Scol medal with  
Cloghroe NS in 2003.



## MILFORD

### CLIONA GALVIN

Aged 14, took up  
camogie in Milford Na-  
tional School. Now  
with St Mary's Sec-  
ondary in Charleville.  
Honours: U16A league and champi-  
onship, U13A Avondhu divisional,  
U14B league, U18 championship,  
Munster Colleges championship, Cork  
Colleges, All-Ireland seven-a-side.



## NEWCESTOWN



### AOIBHINNE KEANE

Has been playing camo-  
gie with Newcestown since  
she was nine years old. She  
is also with her school's  
Coláiste Na Toibhirte  
Bandon on the Junior A  
team and is a member of  
her club's minor and U18  
sides. Comes from a very  
sporting family and is a  
sister of dual Cork minor  
player of 2004, Carthach  
Keane, who won All-Ireland  
vocational school medals in  
both codes in 2004.

## ROCKBAN

### LAURA RYAN

Laura (13) has been  
a member of Rockban  
for the past five years  
and is a first year pupil  
in Coláiste an Chroí  
Naofa Carrig Na  
Bhfear. Laura won an indoor camogie  
medal in 2003 and in 2004 won an  
U16 League medal with Rockban. She  
was on the Carrignavar junior team  
which won the Munster Colleges' final.



## GLEN ROVERS

### DENISE LUBY

This is her second  
year on the Cork Col-  
leges team. Denise is a  
pupil at Carrig Na  
Bhfear College where  
she recently took college honours. She  
was third in the Cork Skills Competition  
for the second time this year, as in  
2002. Played on the primary games  
team in 2003. On club's senior panel.



## KILLEAGH

### EANNA O'NEILL

Former pupil at Clon-  
priest NS, Eanna goes  
to St. A's Carrigwohill.  
Currently a member of  
the Cork Colleges U14  
team and won a Sciath na Scoil medal  
in 2004 with Clonpriest. She was also  
a member of Cork Primary camogie  
team 2004 and won U16' and U18 hon-  
ours with Killeagh in 2004.



## NEWTOWNSHANDRUM

### MARIAH REIDY

Mariah moved to  
Ireland from New York  
in 1994. She started  
playing camogie with  
Newtownshandrum  
shortly after. This year  
Mariah has won the county and Mun-  
ster championship with St Mary's Sec-  
ondary School, Charleville, with whom  
she played wing forward.



## NA PIARSAIGH

### CIARA ALLEN

A PUPIL at North  
Presentation Second-  
ary School Ciara is a  
member of the Na Piar-  
saigh Junior B Camogie  
team. Ciara's mother  
Catherine Martin won a division 2 féile  
medal with Na Piarsaigh in 1981.  
Ciara's cousin Orla Burke is also on the  
panel.





JUNE 2005

# Echo Sports

profiles the Féile camogie teams hoping to do Cork proud this weekend

## Let the fun

### Cork will welcome 22 clubs for camogie fest

IT'S going to be a great weekend of camogie!

**Linda Mellerick**

Starting Friday afternoon, for 48 hours, we are going to be treated to all that is good about children in sport. There'll be laughter and joy, tears and disappointment, a little bruise here and there and great friendships created.

Its Féile na nGael weekend and the buzz is already in the air for the 26 hosting clubs. Accommodation, food and entertainment has all been lined up by many hard-working individuals and undoubtedly the weekend will be a great success.

Twenty-two clubs travel to Cork, some from as far a field as Birmingham. With them they will bring parents, friends and supporters. The influx of people into the city, all GAA-orientated suggests rivalry, camaraderie and good 'craic'.

The weekend will begin Friday afternoon with all teams in action. That evening at 7.30pm the 'Féile Parade' will take place through the streets of Cork. Colourful and

light-hearted, displaying club colours and banners; it would be great if the weather held out. Most visiting clubs will then return to their host club for a meal/finger food before returning to their host home.

The action kicks off early again on Saturday morning and depending on a team's success they could find themselves playing in the semi-finals late Saturday evening. That's the situation most clubs would like to find themselves in.

Saturday night again sees a meal and entertainment in what will be the weekend 'wrap-up' for most clubs.

For the lucky six it will be early to bed for the finals on Sunday.

The Division One final takes place in Páirc Uí Chaoimh at 11am. The throw-in for the Division Three final is 12.30pm at Páirc Uí Rinn.

And the final game of the



The Newtownshandrum team who are taking part in Féile.



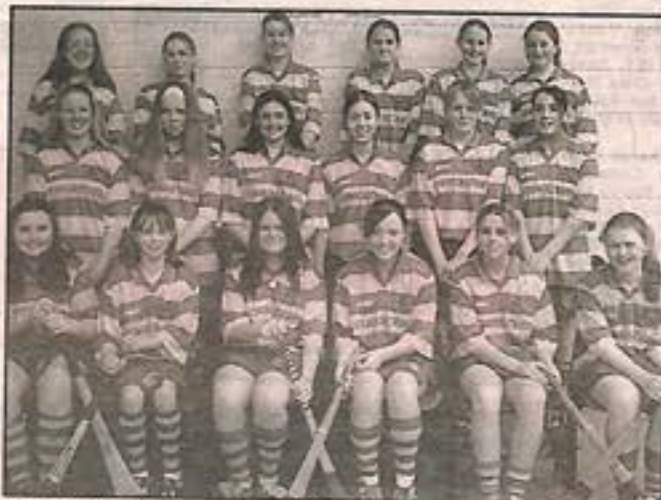
Bishopstown are looking forward to their Féile games.



The Fr O'Neill's team who will take part in Féile.



Courcey Rovers can't wait for the games to start.



The Blackrock team who will be hoping to land a trophy.



The Glen Rovers team who will play in Féile.



The girls from Brian Dillon's who will be chasing Féile glory.



The girls from Sarsfields.



The Rockbawn team are confident of putting on a good show.



Watergrasshill who have high hopes of doing well.



Ballincollig are all set for Féile action.



Inniscarra will fancy their chances of glory this week.



# Parents pass on the Féile tradition

By MARY NEWMAN

Féile families

**FÉILE NA nGAEL** is a competition with a magic all of its own and it's something special in every young camogie or hurlers sporting career to participate in such a prestigious event.

With Cork hosting Féile in 2005 and again in 2006 it gives that extra opportunity to many local clubs to participate.

In several Cork clubs there will surely be nostalgia as parents watch siblings hoping to achieve what they themselves achieved way back in the 1970 and '80s, to bring home one of the game's most prestigious prizes: an All-Ireland Féile na nGael medal.

The year 1976 is remembered as the year Páirc Uí Chaoimh opened but for one Na Piarasaigh camogie player the year has special significance as the day she scored the winning goal as her club were crowned division one Féile champions.

Jackie Twomey recalls: "We played Thomstown of Kilkenny and it was a really tough game. Martha Kearney scores a point and Thomstown replied. I was lucky enough to get the winning goal and we won 1-1 to 0-1."

Jackie points out that it was the first goal to be scored in the new stadium.

"The division one camogie final was played first with the hurling game afterwards so my goal was the first in Páirc Uí Chaoimh," says a proud Jackie.

Now she will watch next weekend as daughter Clara O'Keeffe lines out with Glen

Rovers in the Féile.

"I enjoy watching my three daughters — Clara, Ashling and Eadoine — play with the Glen even though I am a Na Piarasaigh woman."

"They are the local club in the parish and all their friends play so it was a natural progression as they all went to school in Scoil Oilibheir and progressed to the club."

Jackie will be keeping an eye to the hurling side of things as Glen and Na Piarasaigh do battle in the same group. Another reason to keep an eye on Na Piarasaigh is that niece Laura Ahern lines out in goal with their Féile team. Laura's mother Sandra Twomey was also a member of the panel on that great day in 1976 when Joan Guest, Ann Barry and Brenda Newman guided the Na Piarasaigh girls to Féile glory.

In 1977 Féile moved to Waterford and again a Cork team took the honours as Killeagh captured the title. Stars of the Killeagh team that day were Shelly Spillane and Ann Marie Landers who would go on to win senior county championship and All-Ireland club honours with the club as well as minor and junior All-Ireland medals.

Next weekend another chapter will be written for the former team mates as daughters Danielle Keniry and Clare Fennelly don the famous green jerseys. Club stalwart Sile Spillane will watch proudly as granddaughter Clare strives to emulate Shelly's achievement. Sile Spillane is without doubt the heart and soul of Killeagh camogie and herself and her late husband John were tremendously supportive of the club when it was first formed providing a pitch where the club

Jackie O'Keeffe with her daughter Clara, who plays with Glen Rovers.

played all their camogie in the early 1970s.

In 1978, a youngster named Martin O'Callaghan scored a combined total 3-15 for the Féile weekend as he helped St Finbarr's to record a victory in division one and carry the trophy back to Cork for the first time in the club's illustrious history.

They defeated St Patrick's Kilkenny 2-7 to 2-1 in the final and the victory was all the sweeter as the competition was held in Kilkenny.

Now very much involved with the Erin's Own club where he and wife Bernie reside, Martin will watch as daughter Caoimhe strives to reach the ultimate goal when Erin's Own compete for the division two crown.

1981 saw Na Piarasaigh in division two and Bishopstown representing the county in division one.

Catherine Martin of Piarasaigh explained to me how lucky they were to take part: "A team from the north withdrew and we were asked to fill in. Having not qualified for the division one final it was great to get the boost of still travelling to Galway."

This week Catherine and sister Paula will watch their daughters Clara Allen and Orla Burke play in division three of Féile Na nGael, while grandmother Kathleen, another club stalwart, will be hoping that history repeats itself.

No doubt there will be excitement in every household come the weekend but for the parents there will be a little nostalgia as well.

To every girl taking part in Féile, enjoy yourselves and win, lose or draw, long may the memories remain.



Ann Marie Keniry with daughter Danielle and Shelly Fennelly with daughter Clare.



Sisters Paula Burke and Catherine Allen with their daughters Orla Burke and Clara Allen.



Martin O'Callaghan with daughter Caoimhe.



# Féile is a big step for girls



Linda Mellerick

WITH all the team activity over the weekend, the National Féile Na nGael individual skills competition will also take place at 2pm on Saturday in St Finbarr's ground.

Champions within their own counties, these girls will now test their skills against the might of the country in a competition to include ground striking, free-taking, jab-lift and striking, ground cut and long puck.

Most former winners of this competition have gone on to represent their county and win All-Ireland medals.

Na Piarasigh's Deirdre O'Shea was the first Cork person to win the All-Ireland Féile Na nGael title in 1978. She retained the title a year later — a feat never equalled — with an exceptionally high score of 92 out of 100.

Deirdre lined out for a junior B game with her club last season, 25 years after winning her 1979 title and her two daughters, Ciara and Niamh currently play with Glen Rovers.

The very skilful Jean Paula Kent took national honours in 1983. A top-class ball player, Jean won the skills competition with seven points to spare.

That same year she won her first All-Ireland minor medal and added two more in 1984 and '85 to complete a hat-trick of titles.

St Catherine's Nora O'Connell took the All-Ireland Féile title in 1989 and came third in 1990. She represented Cork at minor level before concentrating on hockey.

Vivienne Harris was the last Cork player to win Féile and she did so in Thurles in 1991.

That same year she captained St Mary's on the Hill to win Section One of the Sciath na Scol Camogie final in what was a sign of things to come from this talented youngster.

Light and deceiving, Vivienne was as tough as nails. She had great balance, helped no doubt by her international kickboxing career.

Vivienne played minor for Cork but unfortunately they were during a barren few years and she never won an All-Ireland.

Her real success came when as a young 16-year-old she came on as a sub in the 1995 senior final against Kilkenny and had an immediate impact, making a vital block as Angela Downey struck towards goal. Cork won the final by four points in a magnificent second-half display.

Viv has been a regular member of the team since that day and to date has four

All-Ireland medals — 1995, '97, '98 and 2002.

This weekend Cork does not have a county champion representing us in the national finals. Catriona O'Brien of Inniscarra won the Cork championship and, as is customary, has chosen to play with her club over the weekend. As Cork is hosting the championship all clubs are involved and so Cork will not go forward in the individual competition.

There are many young players coming to Cork with famous parents. Eimear O'Connor, whose father Teddy played senior hurling with Wexford and won an All-Ireland in 1968 travels with Rathnure. Jimmy Holohan, another Wexford hurler, has a daughter playing with the club.

The Offaly Féile skills star, Shauna Flaherty, is the daughter of Johnny Flaherty.

After the hype of this weekend dies down, thoughts will return to the Cork championship and the intercounty scene.

On that note it is important to mention that the Cork Camogie Supporters' Committee will launch the newly formed club at Beamish and Crawford on Friday, June 24 at 8pm.

The club formed approximately three months ago and is slowly bringing in the funds necessary to aid the team in their preparations for the All-Ireland.

Once again we rely on the generosity of local businesses and supporters of camogie to donate. To form such a club while already into the Camogie season is not the ideal way to begin but rather than wait until the winter with another year gone it was decided to get the club up and running and do the best we can for 2005. It is our intention, during the winter and spring of 2005/06, to hold fund raising events and begin next season fully prepared.

The Junior National League winning team will be in attendance with their trophy, along with members of the senior and minor squads, members of the camogie board and the media.

Cork have less than three months left and at that stage they will either be All-Ireland senior champions or not.

The supporters' club is there for the sole reason of giving teams every chance. We thank those who have contributed for their support.

# 4,000 will compete in GAA féile

THOUSANDS of young hurling and camogie players will descend on Cork next weekend for the 29th annual under-14, Féile Na nGael as part of the Cork 2005 celebrations.

Almost 4,000 girls and boys from all over the country — and two from the UK — will take part in the competition, with matches being held all over Cork during the three-day event.

The tournament will be officially opened by President of the GAA, Séan Kelly on Friday evening following a parade through the city.

The parade will leave from Union Quay at 6.15pm and will proceed to Emmett Place, where Mr Kelly will address the teams and their mentors.

The secretary of this year's Féile committee, Micheál MacSuihbne, said that organising the tournament has been a mammoth task.

"We have 48 visiting hurling teams and 24 camogie teams travelling to take part in the competition. They are being hosted by 48 hurling clubs and 26 camogie clubs throughout the city and county," said Mr MacSuihbne.

"Members of the host clubs will be putting up two players in their homes, with the costs being borne by the visiting clubs," he added.

The teams will take part in a total of 170 games over the weekend in venues as far apart as Clonakilty, Mallow,

By BILL BROWNE

bill.browne@echo.ie

Midleton and Newtownshandrum.

Teams are seeded according to ability, with the two top sides in the five hurling and two camogie divisions playing off for a spot in the finals which will be held at Páirc Uí Chaoimh and Páirc Uí Rinn on Sunday.

The winning team from each division will be presented with a trophy and medals.

"Each team will play at least four matches over the weekend and we expect the standard to be exceptionally high," said Mr MacSuihbne.

"This is the first time that many of these young people have ever been away from home to take part in a sports tournament."

"We want to make sure that they all have a good time and that they have a weekend to remember," he added.

Mr MacSuihbne paid tribute to all of the members of the committee who helped organise the competition and the host clubs.

"A lot of credit must go to the people who have helped bring this together," he said.

"The GAA is one big club and we are looking forward to members coming together in a spirit of friendship and competition," added Mr MacSuihbne.

See more on Féile Na nGael later this week in the *Evening Echo*.



Douglas' Ciara Clarke on the break against St Vincent's in the Division One final at Féile na nGael at Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

## Camogie Féile fixtures

### FÉILE NA NGAEL, CORCAIGH

#### DIVISION 1 - 4 SECTIONS

SECTION (A) - Ballinhassig, Rathnure (Wexford), Valley Rrs, Thomastown (Kilkenny)

#### TODAY

Ballinhassig v Rathnure, Ballinhassig, 2pm, Barry Gray; Valley Rrs v Thomastown, Brinny, 3pm, John Desmond

#### TOMORROW

Brinny Féile Official - Nancy O'Donovan; Ballinhassig v Thomastown, 10.30am, John Desmond; Valley Rovers v Rathnure, 11.30am, John Desmond; Valley Rovers v Ballinhassig, 12.45pm, John Desmond; Thomastown v Rathnure, 1.45pm, John Desmond

SECTION (B) - Inniscarra, St Vincent's (Dublin), Ballincollig, Toomevara (Tipperary)

#### TODAY

Inniscarra v St Vincent's, Inniscarra, 2pm, Donal Forde; Ballincollig v Toomevara, Ballincollig, 2pm, Denis Dineen

#### TOMORROW

Ballincollig Féile Official - Siobhain O'Callaghan; Ballincollig v St Vincent's (Pitch 1), 10.30am, Irene O'Keefe; Inniscarra v Toomevara (Pitch 2), 11.30am, Donal Forde; Ballincollig v Inniscarra (Pitch 1), 12.45pm, Donal Forde; St Vincent's v Tipperary (Pitch 2), 1.45pm, Irene O'Keefe

SECTION (C) - Milford, Newmarket on Fergus (Clare), Glen Rovers, Turloughmore (Galway)

#### TODAY

Milford v Newmarket on Fergus, Milford, 2pm, Mike Sheehan; Glen Rovers v Turloughmore, Glen Rovers, 2pm, Peter Downey

#### TOMORROW

Glen Field Féile Official - Claire Donegan; Glen v Newmarket on Fergus, 10.30am, David Nolan; Milford v Turloughmore, 11.30am, Cathal Egan; Glen v Milford, 12.45pm, David Nolan; Turloughmore v Newmarket on Fergus, 1.45pm, Cathal Egan

SECTION (D) - Douglas, Carrross (Laois), Eire Og, Ballyragan (Limerick)

#### TODAY

Douglas v Carrross, Douglas, 2pm, Colette O'Mahony; Eire Og v Ballyragan, Overs, 2pm, Cathal Egan

#### TOMORROW

Overs Féile Official - Tina Sheehan; Eire Og v Carrross, 10.30am, Ger Sheehan; Douglas v Ballyragan, 11.30am, Peter Downey; Eire Og v Douglas, 12.45pm, Peter Downey; Carrross v Ballyragan, 1.45pm, Ger Sheehan

All match results will be reported to the relevant co-ordinator

DIVISION 1 semi-final: In Ballincollig, Winners Section B v Winners Section C, 6.30pm, Winners Section D v Winners Section A, 7.30pm. Ref to be appointed

DIVISION 2 - 4 SECTIONS

SECTION (A) - Buttevant, Ballinscreen (Derry), Aghabullogue, Lough Lane Gaels (Westmeath)

#### TODAY

Buttevant v Ballinscreen, Buttevant, 2pm, John Barry; Aghabullogue v Lough Lane Gaels, Coachford, 2pm, Marie Corkery

#### TOMORROW

Coachford Féile Official Josephine Healy; Aghabullogue v Ballinscreen, 10.30am, Don O'Leary; Buttevant v Lough Lane Gaels, 11.30am, Willie Barrett; Aghabullogue v Buttevant, 12.45pm, Don O'Leary; Lough Lane Gaels v Ballinscreen, 1.45pm, Willie Barrett

SECTION B - Blackrock, Ballycastle (Antrim), Erins Own, Ballycran (Down)

#### TODAY

Blackrock v Ballycastle, Blackrock, 2pm, David Nolan; Erins Own v Ballycran, Caherlag, 2pm, Dave Daly

#### TOMORROW

ALL MATCHES AT CAHERLAG: Caherlag Féile Official Hilda Keohane; Erins Own v Ballycastle, 10.30am, Betty Joyce; Ballycran v Blackrock, 11.30am, Hilda Keohane; Erins Own v Blackrock, 12.45pm, Betty Joyce; Ballycastle v Ballycran, 1.45pm, Betty Joyce

SECTION (C) - Ballygarvan, St. Patrick's - Keady (Armagh), Courcy Rovers, Johnstown Bridge (Kildare)

#### TODAY

Ballygarvan v St Patrick's-Keady, Ballygarvan, 2pm; ack McGrath; Courcy Rovers v Johnstown Bridge, Courcy-Rovers, 2pm, Barry O'Sullivan

#### TOMORROW

ALL MATCHES AT BALLINSPITTLE: Ballinspittle Féile official, Sarah Hayes; Courcy Rovers v St Patrick's, Keady, 10.30am, Barry Gray; Johnstown Bridge v Ballygarvan, 11.30am, Barry O'Sullivan; Ballygarvan v Courcy Rovers, 12.45pm, Barry Gray; St Patrick's-Keady v Johnstown Bridge, 1.45pm, Barry O'Sullivan

SECTION (D) - Carrigaline, Kilcormac Killoughy (Offaly), Rockbawn, St Dominic's (Roscommon)

#### TODAY

Carrigaline v Kilcormac Killoughy, Carrigaline, 2pm, Gar Sheehan; Rockbawn v St Dominic's, Carrigaline, 2pm, Betty Joyce

#### TOMORROW

Carrigaline Féile Official - Terri O'Keefe; Carrigaline v St Dominic's, 10.30am, Billy Dillon; Kilcormac Killoughy v Rockbawn, 11.30 am, Dave Daly; Carrigaline v Rockbawn, 12.45pm, Billy Dillon; St Dominic's v Kilcormac Killoughy, 1.45pm, Dave Daly

All Match results will be given to venue co-ordinator

### TOMORROW

#### ALL MATCHES AT BALLINSPITTLE

Ballinspittle Féile official, Sarah Hayes; Courcy Rovers v St Patrick's, Keady, 10.30am, Barry Gray; Johnstown Bridge v Ballygarvan, 11.30am, Barry O'Sullivan; Ballygarvan v Courcy Rovers, 12.45pm, Barry Gray; St Patrick's-Keady v Johnstown Bridge, 1.45pm, Barry O'Sullivan

SECTION (D) - Carrigaline, Kilcormac Killoughy (Offaly), Rockbawn, St Dominic's (Roscommon)

TODAY Carrigaline v Kilcormac Killoughy, Carrigaline, 2pm, Gar Sheehan; Rockbawn v St Dominic's, Carrigaline, 2pm, Betty Joyce

TOMORROW SALL MATCHES AT CARRIGALINE

Carrigaline Féile Official - Terri O'Keefe; Carrigaline v St Dominic's, 10.30am, Billy Dillon; Kilcormac Killoughy v Rockbawn, 11.30 am, Dave Daly; Carrigaline v Rockbawn, 12.45pm, Billy Dillon; St Dominic's v Kilcormac Killoughy, 1.45pm, Dave Daly

All Match results will be given to venue co-ordinator

DIVISION 2 semi-finals: At Riverstick, Winners section D v Winners Section B, 6.30pm; Winners Section A v Winners Section C, 7.30pm. Referees to be arranged

DIVISION 3 - 4 SECTIONS

SECTION (A) - St. Finbarr's, Erin go Bragh (Birmingham), Brian Dillons, Castletanney (Monaghan)

TODAY St Finbarr's v Erin go Bragh, Toghier, 3pm, Mary Byrne; Brian Dillons v Castletanney, Brian Dillons, 2pm, John Kingsley

TOMORROW ALL MATCHES AT TOGHER

Togher Féile Official - Catherine O'Brien; St Finbarr's v Castletanney, 10.30am, Rose Desmond; Brian Dillons v Erin go Bragh, 11.30am, Colette O'Mahony; Brian Dillons v St Finbarr's, 12.45 pm, Rose Desmond; Castletanney v Erin go Bragh, 1.45pm, Colette O'Mahony

SECTION (B) - Bishopstown, Fr. O'Neill's, Newcestown, Lismore (Waterford)

TODAY Bishopstown v Fr. O'Neill's, Bishopstown, 2pm, Billy Dillon; Newcestown v Lismore, Newcestown, 2pm, Sean Ryan

TOMORROW ALL MATCHES AT BISHOPSTOWN

Bishopstown Féile official - Phil Duggan; Fr. O'Neill's v Lismore, 10.30am, Sean Ryan; Newcestown v Bishopstown, 11.30am, Mary McSweeney; Bishopstown v Lismore, 12.45pm, Sean Ryan; Fr. O'Neill's v Newcestown, 1.45pm, Mary McSweeney

SECTION (C) - Sarsfield's, Myshall (Carlow), Killeagh, Kiltegan (Wicklow)

TODAY Sarsfield's v Myshall, Riverstown, 2pm, Mary O'Connor; Killeagh v Kiltegan, Killeagh, 2pm, Mags Finn

TOMORROW ALL MATCHES AT RIVERSTOWN

Riverstown Féile official - Eithne Allen; Sarsfield's v Kiltegan, 10.30am, Mary Byrne; Killeagh v Myshall, 11.30am, Mary Byrne; Killeagh v Sarsfield's, 12.45pm, Mary Byrne; Kiltegan v Myshall, 1.45pm, Mary Byrne

SECTION (D) - Watergrasshill, Kiltane (Meath), Newtownshandrum, Na Piarasigh

TODAY Watergrasshill v Kiltane, Watergrasshill, 2pm, Billy Neville; Na Piarasigh v Newtownshandrum, Na Piarasigh, 2pm, James Kavanagh

TOMORROW ALL MATCHES AT WATERGRASSHILL OR GLENVILLE

Watergrasshill Féile official - Mary O'Leary; Watergrasshill v Na Piarasigh, 10.30am, Mary O'Connor; Newtownshandrum v Kiltane, 11.30am, Denis O'Leary; Newtownshandrum v Watergrasshill, 12.45pm, Mary O'Connor; Kiltane v Na Piarasigh, 1.45pm, Denis O'Leary

All results to be notified to venue co-ordinator

DIVISION 3 semi-finals at Ballinlough: Winners Section D v Winners Section B, 6.30pm; Winners Section C v Winners Section A, 7.30pm.

FINALS, SUNDAY

Division 1, 11am, Páirc Uí Chaoimh, Colette O'Mahony

Division 3, 12.30pm, Páirc Uí Rinn, Cathal Egan

Division 2, 1.30pm, Páirc Uí Rinn, Peter Downey



## Féile na nGael 2005 finals

# Vincent's are overwhelmed by a classy Douglas side

Douglas  
St Vincent's (Dublin)

6-08  
0-0



PJ  
Aherne

AN EMPHATIC first-half performance allowed Douglas cruise comfortably to the Coca-Cola Féile na nGael Division One Camogie title in Páirc Uí Chaoimh yesterday.

Douglas were simply awesome and had way too much firepower and experience for St Vincent's to handle.

Many of the players playing for Douglas were participating in their third Féile final in succession and that experience stood to them.

Captain Maire O'Mahony and Emma Jordan are just two of these. It was feared that with the loss of some big players from last year's triumph the side might be at disadvantage — but if anything, they were better balanced.

By half-time the game was over as a contest as the Cork side led by 3-7 to 0-0.

They were in cruise control with Kathrina Mackey and O'Mahony dictating play.

Meanwhile, Cork colleges star Julie White poached scores as well as assisting her team-mates.

In truth, Douglas were always in control of this match.

A quick-fire start which saw Douglas ahead by three points inside five minutes set the tone for the rest of the game.

Vincent's were never allowed to settle on the ball and any chances they had on goal were from considerable distance.

Douglas keeper Jessica Kavanagh had plenty of time to work on her suntan and admire her side's work rate as she became more or less a spectator.

Kathrina Mackey was deservedly named player of the match after the game as she put in a complete performance at wing-forward.

Douglas's class was evident throughout as they had superior skill, they were physically built better and they had the determination to play until the final whistle even though the match was not close.

While many a team with such a substantial lead at the break might ease up, Douglas never once took their foot off the pedal.

Julia White capped a fine performance with a hat-trick and she scored the goal of the game in the with a solo run past a number of defenders before unleashing an unstoppable drive past the keeper.

She wasn't the only one who performed well in the Douglas jersey. The whole team played their part but others who stood out were Clodhna Murphy, Emma Jordan, Ailín O'Donovan and Ciara Clarke.

It is perhaps a surprise that the game finished so one-sided, especially after St Vincent's showed so much promise over the weekend and looked to be solid contenders after defeating Glen Rovers in the semi-final on Saturday.

But on their performance yesterday, Douglas would've beaten any



Douglas's Ciara Clarke on the break against St Vincent's in the camogie Div. 1 final of Féile na nGael at Páirc Uí Chaoimh yesterday. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

side in the country and they will be back again next year to complete a hat-trick of titles.

It is possible now that Douglas have the talent in the ranks coming through to match and perhaps better the historic five-in-a-row by Oulart-the-Ballagh (Wexford) from 1998 to 2002.

**Scorers for Douglas:** J White 3-2, A O'Donovan 1-2, K Horgan 1-2, K Mackey 1-2.

**DOUGLAS:** J Kavanagh, P Mackey, J Dempsey, E McCarthy, D Connolly, C Driscoll, E Jordan, M O'Mahony, J White, C Murphy, M O'Donovan, K Mackey, K Horgan, J Kelleher, A O'Donovan.

**ST VINCENT'S:** C MacDonnell, S O'Halloran, C Hannigan, M Humphries, E Maloney, J Russell, A Fagan, C O'Leary, K Purcell, O McKinney, N McNally, G Smith, E Dempsey, R Doran.

Referee: C O'Mahony.



Douglas captain Maire O'Mahony and her father Jim, a team selector, celebrate the win over St Vincent's. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

## Douglas triumph keeps it in the family

By PJ AHERNE

Match reaction

DOUGLAS'S success in the Division One camogie will be celebrated for some time to come in one household. Maire O'Mahony was the inspirational leader on the field as she captained the side to success, while he dad Jimmy was the master tactician, mapping out their way to victory.

Jimmy O'Mahony,  
Douglas selector

Jimmy feels his side were in the right

frame of mind and that aided them to land their second title in succession.

"We were fantastic and well-focused, very determined and we had a big support in Páirc Uí Chaoimh today.

"We weren't going to leave that cup very easily after winning last year, that was the main motivating factor."

Douglas have become a force to be reckoned with at underage level, winning many titles and winning their second Féile in a row.

This victory perhaps illustrates the strength of underage camogie in

### What they said

Douglas.

Jimmy says: "At underage, we have put a big effort into it over the last four or five years.

"We worked very hard on our teams, spent hours on the training pitch and developing a strong structure which will hopefully bear fruit in years to come."

Mr O'Mahony is in no doubt what the key factors are in the club's success.

"Hard work. We have been with this

team for the past five years and training with them twice a week. Pure hard work, great team spirit and plenty of matches."

Maire O'Mahony,  
Douglas captain

Maire couldn't hide her delight as she lifted the Coca-Cola Féile na nGael Division One camogie cup high above her head.

And soon afterwards she told the Evening Echo of her happiness of leading Douglas to victory.

"It's brilliant. It's an amazing feeling

and I'm really honoured to accept the cup on behalf of my team-mates."

And she feels her side deserved the honours after their commitments.

"We worked really hard and we know how it feels to win. And we just want to keep on winning."

Maire paid special tribute to the team's selectors for putting the team together.

"They have stuck by us all year.

"They have been brilliant in training us and getting us ready for matches."





Féile na nGael winners, Douglas and mentors with Lord Mayor Cllr Sean Martin at the City Hall yesterday.

Picture: Larry Cummins

# Douglas delight

DOUGLAS's double winning Féile camogie champions were feted in style last night when they were paraded through the village in an open-top bus.

The Douglas girls' achievement in retaining the much coveted Division One camogie title is not to be underestimated and fitting homage was paid to their success.

Douglas brushed aside Dublin side St Vincent's in the final last Sunday and the girls were all smiles last night as they again took centre stage.

First up was a visit to City Hall and from there the team travelled to Douglas where a large crowd turned out to pay them tribute.

It was no more than the girls deserved after their tremendous performance in last weekend's final.



Above: Young fans follow the open top bus. Right: Douglas captain Maire O'Mahony with Douglas camogie team mentors Finbarr O'Donovan, Jimmy O'Mahony and Breda Heffernan. Picture: Larry Cummins



The Douglas team enjoy their welcome.



## Féile round-up

### FEILE HURLING

Division 1 Section A: Midleton v St Anne's / Wexford, 0-7, 2-1; Ennis Own v Kilmacud Crokes/Dublin, 1-0 3-7  
Section B: St Finbarr's v St Rynagh's/Offaly, 2-5, 1-6; Blackrock v Eire Og/Clare, 3-7, 2-0  
Section C: Carrigaline v Dicksboro/Kilkenny, 1-2, 2-8  
Douglas v Ballygunner/Waterford, 1-1, 0-5  
Section D: Na Piarsaigh v Na Piarsaigh/Limerick, 1-15, 2-3; Glen Rovers v Dúrlas Og/Tipperary, 2-5, 2-3  
Section E: Mallow v Ballyboden St Enda's/Dublin, 6-5, 1-4; Newtownshandrum v Turloughmore/Galway, 0-3, 3-9  
Division 2 Section A: Aghada v Kilmessan/Meath, 1-7, 1-2; Carrigrohilly v Ballygalles/Down, 1-5, 1-1  
Section B: St. Vincent's v Castlebar Mitchels/Mayo, 5-7, 0-1; Killeagh/Tas v Naas/Kildare, 2-4, 2-7  
Section C: Eire Og v Glenealy Wicklow; Cloghduv v Rathdowney/Laois Cloghduv 5 4 10  
Section D: Blarney v Muinebhag/Carlow, Seán Clárachs v Raharney/Westmeath, 4 5 3 5  
Section E: Sarsfields v Four Roads/Roscommon 3 8 0 2; Inniscarra v Loughgiel Shamrocks/Antrim, 2 4 1 4  
Section F: St. Broghans v Kilmoyley/Kerry 5 5 0 5; Bishopstown v Ballinascreen/Derry 0 13 2 4  
Division 3: Section A: Brian Dillons v Eoghan Ruadh Dungannon/Tyrone, 1 3 0 1; Youghal v Eire Og Corra Cholli/Kildare, 4 5 0 1  
Section B: Fermoy v Glenariffe/Antrim, 3 11 0 3; St. Catherine's v Ballinkillen/Carlow, 0 7 1 7  
Section C: 3.00 Kilthas Og v Navan O Mahony's/Meath, 2 7 3 1; Fr. O'Neills v Athleague/Tremarne/Roscommon, 0 2 1 6  
Section D: Newcestown v Middleton/Armagh, 0 14 11; Courcy Rovers v Causeway/Kerry, 1 8 4 6  
Section E: Aghabullogue v Crookedwood/Westmeath, 1 3 1 3; Croke Rovers v Eire Og, Greystones/Wicklow, 7 10 0 1  
Division 4 Section A: Russell Rovers v Burt/Donegal, 3 17 0 1; Mayfield v Bredagh/Down, 2 5 1 0  
Section B: Kilbrittain v Tooreen/Mayo Kilbrittain, 5 9 1 4  
Sam Maguires v Carrickmore/Tyrone Sam Maguires, 2 31 0 2  
Section C: Valley Rovers v Knockbridge/Louth, 4 13 1 3; Ballinhassig v Cuchulainn/Armagh, 3 8 2 3  
Section D: St. Marks v Lurgan/Cavan St. Marks, 6 9 1 1; Milford v Lavey/Derry, 1 4 2 10  
Division 5 Section A: Carrig na bhFear v Warickshire, 10 5 0 6; Kanturk v Castleblaney/Monaghan, 1 4 3 5  
Section B: Watergrasshill v Coolera/Strandhill/Sligo, 4 14 1 1; Castlelyons v Ballinamore/Letrim Castlelyons, 2 16 1 1  
Section C: Glanworth v Kenmare/Kerry, 6 4 0 4; Ballygiblin v Lisbellaw/Fermanagh, 7 11 1 1  
Section D: Kinsale v London, 2 6 0 4; Kilrim/Kilbree v Southern Gaels/Longford, 1 7 0 2

### FEILE CAMOGIE

Division 1 Section A: Ballinhassig v Rathnure/Wexford, 2 3 0 1; Valley Rovers v Thomastown/Kilkenny, 0 1 6 2  
Section B: Inniscarra v St. Vincents (Dublin), 3 3 2 6; Ballincollig v Toomevara (Tipperary), 1 1 4 3 1  
Section C: Milford v Clare, 2 4 3 1; Glen Rovers v Turloughmore (Galway), 2 6 3 1  
Section D: Douglas v Camross (Laois), 5 4 2 1; Eire Og v Ballyagran (Limerick), 1 0 2 9  
Division 2 Section A: Buttevant v Ballinscreen (Derry), 5 6 4 2; Aghabullogue v Lough Lane Gaels (Westmeath), 5 5 1 2  
Section B: Blackrock v Ballycastle (Antrim), Ennis Own v Ballycran (Down), 2 4 2 3  
Section C: Ballygarvan v St. Patrick's - Keady (Armagh), 10 3 0; Courcy Rovers v Johnstown Bridge (Kildare), 1 0 6 3  
Section D: Carrigaline v Kilcormac Killoughy (Offaly), 4 3 1 3; Rockbawn v Roscommon Carrigahave, 1 1 0 1  
Division 3 Section A: St. Finbarr's v Erin go Bragh (Birmingham) Together, 15 3 0 0; Brian Dillons v Castleblaney (Monaghan), 4 3 2 3  
Section B: Bishopstown v Fr. O'Neills, 2 0 1 0; Newcestown v Lismore (Waterford), 0 0 15 4  
Section C: Sarsfields v Myshall (Carlow), 2 0 4 6; Killeagh v Kiltegan (Wicklow), 10 8 1 2  
Section D: Watergrasshill v Kiltane (Meath), 2 1 0 0; Na Piarsaigh v Newtownshandrum 2 1 3 4

### CAMOGIE

Féile na nGael finals:  
Division 1 St Vincents (Dublin) 0-00 Douglas (Cork) 6-09, Division 2 Ballycastle (Antrim) 6-08 Buttevant (Cork) 1-03, Division 3 Lismore (Waterford) 4-02 Killeagh (Cork) 6-08  
Ulster Junior Championship final: Down 3-05 Armagh 3-09



Glen Rovers players Sinead O'Halloran, Denise Luby and Aoibheann Murphy who took part in the traditional Féile na Gael Parade.



JUNE 2005



A packed Emmet Place where Féile na nGael competitors and supporters gathered after last night's parade.

Picture: Liam Cummins

## Cork rocks as Gael force hits town

By MARY SMITHWICK

mary.smithwick@echo.ie

PRIDE in sport, club and county brought thousands of GAA-mad kids to the streets of Cork last night. An estimated 4,000 hurling, camogie and handball players paraded through the city to mark the opening of the 35th U14 Féile na nGael tournament.

The atmosphere was as electric as on an All-Ireland Sunday and all the ingredients were there. The Artane Boys Band, along with nine other bands, piped the youngsters through the streets while legendary GAA broadcaster Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh provided commentary from the reviewing stand on Patrick Street. The presidents of the GAA and the Camogie Association, Seán Kelly and Miriam O'Callaghan, presented medals and pennants to the captains of all 144 participating clubs who have come from all over the country and overseas to take part in this weekend's event.

Competitions, which got under way yesterday, continued from 10am this morning. The finals will take place at Pairc Uí Chaoimh and Pairc Uí Rinn tomorrow.

## Feile glory for Douglas and Killeagh

CORK clubs Douglas and Killeagh did the county proud taking All Ireland Féile na nGael honours after what was truly a magnificent weekend for thousands of young camogie players and hurlers. Douglas made it title number two in Division one defeating Dublin representatives St. Vincent's in a one sided contest while for Killeagh it was a victory in division three crown as they overcame Waterford side Lismore. Despite the hectic weekend of games neither team show signs of tiredness as they took the field in Pairc Uí Chaoimh for the division one final, on Saturday night Douglas had knocked out Tipperary side Toomevara while St Vincent's had to hold off a late challenge from another Cork side Glen Rovers to ensure their place in the final.

Aileen O Donovan had two points

on the board inside three minutes of the start to settle Douglas and the same player struck for her sides opening goal six minutes later St Vincent's were in trouble. Douglas were first to every ball and their overall strength was very evident as they looked the more evenly balanced side, with eleven of last year victorious team experience of the big occasion was also very evident. Further goal from Karen Horgan and Julia White had them ahead 3-7 to no score at the interval and in all honesty it was simply a case of playing down the clock from here in such was their superiority.

St Vincent's tried everything to get back into the game through the second half but again it was Douglas who dictated matters, the excellent Julia White had grabbed two further goals before Catriona Mackey pointed and it was left to White to have the final say with the

champions sixth goal.

St Vincent's battled gamely through the game but they never got any leeway from a tight marking Douglas defence who gave nothing away. Well done to all concerned and to coach Jimmy O Mahony goes congratulations.

### SUPPORTERS CLUB

FRIDAY night in Beamish and Crawford the Cork Camogie Supporters Club will be officially launched at 8 pm, it is hoped this venture will be of assistance to the Cork team in their bid for ALL-Ireland glory in the coming weeks.

## CamogieChat

With Mary Newman



Douglas camogie team - Division one All Ireland Féile na nGael Champions.

## JOY FOR KILLEAGH

CELEBRATIONS in Killeagh as defeated their near neighbours from over the border Lismore to be crowned Division three champions. Killeagh got the better start with a Sandra Smiddy point but Lismore proceeded to dictated the opening ten minutes thanks to goals from Ann Rohan and Jennifer Meade to opening up a six point advantage. Killeagh worked hard the impressive Eanna O'Neill playing a captains part driving them on with great deliveries to her inside line and in return they responded with three goals without reply from Samantha Swaine, Clare Keohane and Sandra Smiddy to regain the lead. Two points from the hard working Clare Keohane had stretched it further before Lismore hit back with an Aoife Hannon goal but it was Killeagh who had the final say of the half with a Lisa O'Sullivan point.

Clare Keohane and Marie Russell exchanged points inside three minutes of the restart but with Smiddy and Clare Kelleher picking off points Killeagh remained in control and when Kelleher struck for Killeagh fifth goal there was going to be one winner. Lismore battled on but could not match the stronger Killeagh side who had superb displays from captain Eanna O'Neill, Claire Keohane and Sandra Smiddy it was fitting that the final say should be left to

captain Eanna O'Neill who grabbed goal number six minutes from the final whistle to see her side crowned division three winners. For Shelly Spillane and Ann Marie Landers the occasion was certainly special as they were part of the Killeagh team who took division one Féile honours in 197 now daughters Danielle Keniry and Clare Fennelly have added division three medals to the collection. Well done to all concerned but especially Sheila Spillane who continues to be the driving force behind the club.

there was no joy for Buttevant who had to give way to a strong Ballycastle side whom last year were division three winners. For long spells the result hung in the balance as both sides enjoyed periods of superiority, Ballycastle got the dream start with a Leah Armstrong goal from the throw in but Buttevant rallied and points from Emer Healy and Elaine Murphy looked to have settled their nerves. Laura Dallas grabbed Ballycastle second goal and again they Buttevant had to try and regain their composure and working hard they added two points before the break and it was all to play for in the second half as they turned to play aided by the stiff breeze. Buttevant gave it their all and inside eight minutes were level and they regained the lead with Elaine

Murphy showing her accuracy Ballycastle fought back and when Samantha McKillen had them level they regained their composure and minutes later the same players shot for goal finished in the net they were back in front. Emma Connor pointed and from the resulting puck out Clare McNeill grabbed the goal that clinched the title. Elaine Murphy did get a point back for Buttevant but Natasha McGinn replied to ensure the Timonn shield was heading north. Well done to Buttevant who put in a tremendous effort to gain ultimate honours.

A big congratulations to all the clubs who participated in what was a wonderful event, the parade on Friday evening was a wonderful spectacle and the enjoyment had by all will be remembered for years to come. The organising of any such event is a huge undertaking and the camogie side of things was handled by a committee headed up by county chairperson Marian McCarthy and they must be complimented for the huge amount of work they put in organising venues, referees, games and ensuring the competition ran smoothly. Féile returns to Cork again next year and no doubt already the clubs and young players are eagerly looking forward to it. Well done to everyone on a wonderful weekend role on 2006.

### Intermediates book place in Munster final

THIS evening the Cork Intermediates travel to Clare in quest of championship honours and its thanks to a superb display on Sunday last that they make the journey. Turning a six point interval deficit into a five point victory is a hard to achieve but this is what they did. Tipp had opened up an eight point lead before Cork got their first score from a Ciara Healy free ten minutes from the interval as Cork struggled to come to grips with their livelier opponents. The introduction of Angela Walsh helped Cork but it was Tipp who led 1-6 to 0-3 at the

break.

the second half was a different story as Cork tore into action Walsh and Siobhan Ryan swapped points inside three minutes of the restart but from here on it was all Cork as Amanda O'Regan, Rosalie Holland and Linda O'Connell began to gain the upper hand in defence and now Cork were first to every ball as they began to tear into Tipperary's lead. Five points without reply in as many minutes had them within one of the leaders and when Emer O'Friel they were in the driving seat as they picked off points from all angles Lorraine Davis had one back for Tipp but with Catherine Corkery, Ger Collins, Amanda O'Regan hitting five between them there was only going to be one team facing Clare this evening. Mairead Luttrell had a late point for the Tipperary side who shocked by the sheer volume and determination of Cork second half display. Tonight is chance to gain revenge for the defeat of the junior side by Clare recently in the Munster Championship and more importantly the last chance of a Munster crown for Cork, best of luck to the side who are captained by Rosalie Holland.

### SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

THE Mercury lounge and bar senior B championship which is being played on a round robin basis begins of Tuesday next when Ballinhassig and Glen Rovers meet in the first game in a series of three for each club, timed for 7.45pm we are awaiting confirmation of a venue for same.





Buttevant's Eimear Healy battles with Ballycastle's Shauna Lavery in yesterday's final.

Picture: Cillian Kelly

## Buttevant girls go down fighting in thrilling decider

Buttevant 1-8  
Ballycastle 5-3

BUTTEVANT'S young female stars did their club and county proud, and it wasn't until a stroke of bad luck in the dying minutes that the Leesiders lost this Division Two final writes James O'Sullivan.

The first half was an extremely close-knit affair, the score standing at 3-0 to 0-5 at the break. Ballycastle were given a dream start courtesy of an opportunist goal from Clare McGowan.

A couple of points followed for Buttevant, Elaine Murphy and Eimear Healy the scorers, before Ballycastle grabbed a second goal to make the score 2-0 to 0-2 with only three minutes played.

The away side upped their game but they could not break from Buttevant with Karen Burke, Jenny Buckley, Jane O'Flynn and Claire Barry refusing to allow Ballycastle to claim the title with ease.

Both sides saw further scores added to their respective tallies before the short whistle was heard, another goal for Ballycastle amongst them.

In the 17th minute, Buttevant's Elaine Murphy produced the finest point of this year's competition to make it 3-0 to 0-4.

The home side had the last say of the period, Eimear Healy's speculative effort going clean over the bar.

The Corkonians got the break they deserved on the resumption with a goal from Aoife Daly.

Judging from their efforts in the second half, one would not be mis-

taken if they claimed that Buttevant had deserved to win this game. Indeed, the north Cork stars fought with every ounce of strength within them as this game drew to a close.

Camogie can be such cruel sport, and a shock goal due to an unfortunate spin of the sliotar proved to be the turning point of this game, and after Buttevant had clawed their way back on top, they soon found themselves trailing by 4-1 to 1-7.

Try as they might, Buttevant could not dig deep enough to pull this one out of the bag a second time, and while Jenny Buckley, Amber Corbett, Nuala Crowley, Alyse Madigan, Karen Burke, Amanda Walsh, Fiona Collins and Claire Barry were relentless in their pursuit of a late comeback, a haul of late scores from the Ulster girls sealed this encounter.

It was unfortunate that Cork didn't emerge with a perfect record from Saturday's finals, but what is more important is that Buttevant managed to keep the Rebel County's good name and pride intact. They may not be champions, but on this occasion, they were anything but losers.

**Scorers for Buttevant:** A. Daly 1-0, E. Healy 0-4 (0-2 frees), E. Murphy 0-3, C. Harrington 0-1.

**Ballycastle:** C. McGowan 2-0, C. Neill 1-1, E. Cotter, L. Armstrong 1-0 each, N. McGinn, L. Dallas 0-1 each.

**BUTTEVANT:** Aisling Curtin, Claire Barry, Nuala Crowley, Fiona Collins, Amanda Walsh, Karen Burke, Jenny Buckley, Amber Corbett, Elaine Murphy, Sonia Buckley, Clara Harrington, Alyse Madigan, Eimear Healy, Jane O'Flynn, Aoife Daly.

**BALLYCASTLE:** Catriona Hill, Christina McVeigh, Clara McCarry, Ailbhin Gormley, Natasha McGinn, Shauna Lavery, Catriona McNeill, Emma Cotter, Samantha McKillen, Laura Dallas, Clare Neill, Leah Armstrong, Clare McGowan, Aoife Lavery, Aine McFadden.

**Referee:** Peter Downey (Inniscearra).

## What they said

**Pat Spratt, Buttevant's coach.** "I'M VERY proud of the girls. Buttevant is a very small town in North Cork. This year is our first Féile and we worked very hard.

"It was a tough game, a very hard game. The Antrim girls were a big strong physical team. They got the goals that won it for them. We scored 1-8 which was a good score to get. We knew that if we got a few points we'd have a chance and we did.

"Fair play to Ballycastle. They got the goals on the day and they won the game. We wish them well and congratulations to them also."

Many of those in attendance were in agreement that Buttevant deserved more from this game. One such spectator, Jerry Grogan from Antrim, was of this view: "I have to admit that the better team lost. I am of course delighted for our girls but Buttevant were very unlucky.

## Killeagh pull away to claim easy victory

Killeagh 6-8  
Lismore 4-2

WHILE it didn't look good for them throughout the opening exchanges, this clash would eventually prove to be another easy one for the Leesiders, writes JAMES O'SULLIVAN.

Killeagh cruised to victory against a gallant Lismore outfit in Saturday's Division Two camogie final at Páirc Uí Rinn, the east Cork stars impressing all those in attendance with a 40 minute blitz that will no doubt leave a lasting impression on Waterford's finest.

The girls in green drew first blood, but Lismore weren't slow coming out of the traps, and they had restored the stalemate within 30 seconds of the opening score.

Lismore soon found their footing, and inspired by the remarkable Marie Russell, Erin Beer and Aoife Barry, they turned the tide on Killeagh and put them under increased pressure with every swing of the ash.

With seven minutes on the clock, Catriona McGlone hit the net for Lismore, leaving the score at 1-1 to 0-1 in favour of the Waterford girls.

Taking advantage of Killeagh's dismay, McGlone struck again in the ninth minute, raising the green flag to raise some serious doubts about the strength of Killeagh.

But anything that Lismore could do the Leesiders could do better, and while some found it hard to believe, Killeagh banged in three quick goals in procession no more than 30 seconds after McGlone's double.

Anne Brogan struck first, be-

fore Ciara Keohane and Sandra Smiddy followed suit. Killeagh now leading by 3-1 to 2-1.

It was soon clear that this game was set to be decided in a bizarre fashion, and after Killeagh scored three points without reply, the two sides goaled within 20 seconds of each other to see the half to a close.

At the interval, there was an audible hush about the ground, few in attendance knowing exactly what had just happened.

In the second half, there was no such mimicking of scores however, and Killeagh upped the tempo to run out comfortable winners in the end.

The half saw further goals from both sides, but unlike before they were separated by more than 60 seconds.

Ciara Keohane stole the show in the run up to the finish, the Killeagh star pointing from all sections of the field to ensure the title was heading east for 2005.

This game will certainly be remembered in the Féile na nGael archives, firstly for its extraordinary run of events, and secondly for the calibre of the players involved.

**Scorers:** Killeagh: C. Keohane 2-5, A. Brogan 1-2, S. Smiddy 2-0, L. O'Connell 1-0, E. O'Neill 0-1.

**Lismore:** C. McGlone 2-0, A. Barry 1-1, S. Kiernan 0-1.

**KILLEAGH:** Aoife O'Sullivan, Catriona Scully, Claire O'Connell, Aileen Murphy, Karen Rohan, Eana O'Neill, Rachel Cronin, Ciara Keohane, Laura O'Carroll, Anne Brogan, Sandra Smiddy, Danielle Keniry, Jennifer Meads, Samantha Swayne, Anne Marie Farnley.

**LISMORE:** Helen O'Donnell, Rachel Murphy, Niamh Prendergast, Mairiad O'Grady, Clara Pendergast, Sharon Houlahan, Gemma Reany, Marie Russell, Shauna Kiernan, Emily Heneghan, Rachel Whealan, Sarah Fenton, Erin Beer, Catriona McGlone, Aoife Barry.

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



The Féile na nGael winning Douglas camogie team celebrate on board the open-top bus during the parade through Douglas last night. See page 53

Picture: Larry Cummins



# Douglas girls cruise to win

By RONAN LETTIS

Feile camogie

Douglas	5-4
Camross	2-1

FEILE NA nGAEL returned to Cork this weekend after a 30-year absence and Douglas' U14 camogie team had a superficial 12-point win over Camross from Laois in Douglas yesterday.

In a frenzied opening stage to what was to be a fiercely contested clash, Douglas' lively midfielder Moira O'Donovan opened the scoring with an accurate set-piece point.

Only moments later, the sides were level when Camross' Lauren Boyhan hit over a first-rate point, one which resembled O'Donovan's previous effort.

Full-forward Julia White was a constant nuisance for the Camross rearguard and she hit the first goal of the day on six minutes striking low into the bottom corner.

The home side now began to dominate proceedings as Ailin O'Donovan and White had good shots denied by the woodwork and a brave Linda Nevin block.

The Camross backline of Rachel Boyhan, Micheila Dooley, Leona Conroy and Nevin produced some stout defending and at times looked unbreakable but the tireless efforts of Karen Horgan, Clodhna Murphy and White yielded another goal on 17 minutes when the latter shot home from close range.

Douglas took a nine-point lead just before the interval when O'Donovan weaved past two challenges before smashing an unstoppable effort past Camross Keeper Mairead Burke.

Seconds after the interval, Dawn Mortimer raced clear from her marker before smashing a fine effort past Clara Lynch but this



Douglas camogie girls Moira O'Donovan, Maire O'Mahony, and Julia White on stage at the conclusion of the Feile na nGael parade to Emmet Place last night.

Picture: Larry Cummins

sparked Douglas into life and they went on to score two goals and three points without reply.

In 10 minutes of manic camogie, Karen Horgan struck two important points and smashed home a potent goal. Kathrina Mackey increased the lead when the left-corner back's 10-yard effort found the back of the net.

O'Donovan shot over the bar again but despite the home side's 15-point advantage, Camross

showed unparalleled determination and Sarah Anne Fitzgerald, Niamh Dollard and Mortimer combined in some well worked moves.

Indeed, Fitzgerald fired home a forceful goal in the dying minutes for the visitors.

**Scorers Douglas:** Julia White (2-0), Karen Horgan (1-2), Ailin O'Donovan (1-0), Kathrina Mackey (1-0), Moira O'Donovan (0-2).

**Camross:** Dawn Mortimer (1-0), Emma Hogan (1-0), Lauren Boyhan (0-1).

**DOUGLAS:** Clara Lynch, Pamela Mackey, Jasmine Dempsey, Emma McCarthy, Danielle Connolly, Cianna Driscoll, Emma Jordan,

Maire O'Mahony, Julia White, Clodhna Murphy, Moira O'Donovan, Kathrina Mackey, Karen Horgan, Jill Kelleher, Ailin O'Donovan, Jessica Kavanagh. **Subs:** Tracey McCarthy, Laura Nason, Nicola Leo, Semma Long, Kelly Humphrys O'Neill, Clara Clarke, Clara Kavanagh, Aileen O'Connell.

**CAMROSS:** Mairead Burke, Rachel Boyhan, Micheila Dooley, Leona Conroy, Linda Nevin, Niamh Dollard, Emma Conroy, Sarah Anne Fitzgerald, Lauren Boyhan, Noelle Boyhan, Pilar Dooley, Emma Hogan, Aimee Leahy, Dawn Mortimer, Oris Duggan. **Subs:** Gemma Byrne, Aedin Doran, Lisa Hogan, Emma Conroy, Sarah Burke, Clodhna Bennett, Emer Wallace, Amy McCartney, Gemma Mooney.



Buttevant's Eimear Healy and Ballycran's Shauna Laverty in action during the Div 2 Camogie final.



Killeagh's Karen Rohan and Lismore's Rachel Whealan involved in a clash of the ash in the Féile na nGael Div. 3 Camogie final at Páirc Uí Rinn.

Picture: Cillian Kelly / News Digital

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# Cork



Holding the cup aloft is Cork's captain Michelle Healy in the final of the James Hurley U14 Blitz hosted by the Cork Colleges Camogie Board at Ballyanley Inniscarra.

Picture: Gerard Bonus



Cork's Claire Keohane (Killa) about to strike home against Galway in the final of the James Hurley U14 Blitz

Picture: Gerard Bonus



Cork's Rebecca Finn (Milford) clears from the attention of the Galway defence Helen Campbell (Killimor) in the final of the James Hurley U14 Blitz.

Picture: Gerard Bonus

**THE James Hurley All-Ireland U14 Camogie Blitz Cup** was retained by a well-balanced Cork Colleges panel on Saturday at the Inniscarra grounds.

Eight teams competed for the title with Tipperary and Limerick qualifying from group A at the expense of Clare and Kilkenny whilst Cork and Galway qualified from group B, defeating Waterford and Dublin.

Cork coach Ger Donovan stated that the essential difference between the Rebels' team and the others was their ability to score quality goals at vital junctures whilst their full back line conceded very little throughout the day.

Their stylish half-back line cleared well, midfield was an extremely fit combination and the aggressive half forward trio had the ability to score from long range. Cork easily beat Waterford 5-8 to 0-2 in the first game with Denise Luby, Ciara O'Connor, Ciara O'Keeffe and Julia White controlling matters.

In the second round robin game, the rebels were hard pressed to overcome a physical Dublin team where Rachel Costello and Sorcha Forde proved troublesome for the Cork defence.

The failure of their full forward division to break down the Cork rear-guard of Catherine O'Brien, Rebecca Finn, Cliona Galvin and superb keeper Marie O'Donovan from Clonakilty proved to be the essential difference between the sides.

Orlaith O' Mahony, Catriona Mackey, Ciara Hayes and Ellen Crowley played well in that tussle.

Galway then turned the form book on its head by winning the final round robin game 2-6 to 1-5 to qualify for the semi-final against Limerick colleges.

In the other semi-final, Cork easily beat Tipperary 5-7 to 1-2 with Catriona Collins scoring a fabulous goal worthy of any All Ireland early in the proceedings.

A long Mary Ann Hawkes clearance found Elaine Murphy on the left wing. Murphy crossed the ball high to the edge of the square where Collins doubled on the sliotar to the net.

Galway lost their captain Tara Rutledge through injury in an earlier game and were reliant on Rachel Kelly, Ann Marie Starr and Helen Campbell to overcome a Cork side that appeared to be getting into top gear as the final game approached.

Indeed, two superb early goals from the sublime Claire Keohane and O'Donovan gave the impressive Galway 'keeper Riona Daly no chance.

Midfielders Grainne and Niamh O' Keeffe cancelled out the major Galway influence and with captain Michelle Healy in majestic form, Darina O' Callaghan and Jennifer Lynch added two more points before half time.

Galway responded well in the second half with goals from Catherine Lee and Marie Duane but Denise Luby billowed the Galway net with a fine effort.



# blitz All-Ireland



Marie Hurley, sister of James, presents the cup to Cork captain Michelle Healy in the final of the James Hurley U14 Blitz hosted by the Cork Colleges Camogie Board at Ballyanley Inniscarra. Picture: Gerard Bonus



Cork selectors Ger O'Donovan, Rob Lotty, Johnjo Breen and Prionsias Creedon hold their half time discussion at the final of the James Hurley U14 Blitz. Picture: Gerard Bonus

By ROB LOTTY

James Hurley All-Ireland U14 Camogie Blitz Cup

Collins and Murphy added two more points before the final whistle, much to the delight of selectors John Joe Breen, Cathal Egan, Prionsias Creedon and Mairead Ni Mhaoláin.

Marie Hurley presented the plate trophy to Clare captain Roisin McMahon and the All Ireland Cup to an overjoyed Cork captain

Michelle Healy.

## RESULTS

**Group A:** Tipperary 3-0 Kilkenny 0-1, Limerick 4-6 Clare 1-0, Tipperary 1-1 Limerick 0-2, Limerick 2-4 Kilkenny 0-0, Clare 3-0 Kilkenny 0-1, Tipperary 2-5 Clare 1-2.

**Group B:** Cork 5-8 Waterford 0-2, Galway 4-1 Dublin 2-4, Cork 3-3 Dublin 1-1, Galway 4-7 Waterford 1-1, Cork 1-5 Galway 2-6, Dublin 2-5 Waterford 0-3.

**Semi Finals:** Cork 5-7 Tipperary 1-2, Galway 3-4 Limerick 1-2.

**Plate Final:** Clare 5-4 Waterford 1-3  
**All Ireland final:** Cork Colleges 3-4 Galway 2-0.



Limerick's defender Rachel Carmody and Tipperary's Emma Spillane wrestle for possession in the James Hurley U14 Blitz. Picture: Gerard Bonus

## Cork turn in super show to blitz Tipperary

Cork 1-14  
Tipperary 1-9

A SUPERB second half display helped Cork turn a six point interval deficit into a five point victory as they booked their place in the Munster Intermediate championship final in Douglas yesterday.

The opening half belonged to Tipp and they had opened up an eight point lead before Cork got their first score from a Ciara Healy free.

Ciara Heffernan had the game's opening goal in the 11th minute as the gap was opened to six points with Siobhan Ryan and Alison Lornegan having been on target.

As Cork struggled to come to grips with their livelier opponents Tipp had increased their lead before Heffernan decisive strike for goal.

Deirdre Dunne replied to Healy's point before the introduction of Angela Walsh brought life to Cork. Both Healy and Walsh added points before the break as Tipp turned over 1-6 to 0-3 ahead.

If the first half belonged to the visitors the home side certainly dominated the second. Angela Walsh and Siobhan Ryan swapped points inside three minutes of the restart but from there on it was all Cork.

Amanda O'Regan, Rosarie Holland and Linda O'Connell began to gain the upper hand in defence and further outfield confidence grew.

Suddenly Cork were first to every ball as they proceeded to tear into Tipperary's lead.

Five points without reply in as many minutes had them within one of the leaders and when Emer O'Friel availed of a goal it was mission accomplished.

Cork fired over scores from all angles despite losing the services of Clara Healy with a leg injury.

Lorraine Davis had one back for Tipp but with Catherine Corkery, Ger Collins and Amanda O'Regan hitting five between them there was only going to be one team facing Clare in the Munster decider.

Despite Mairead Luttrell's late point Tipperary side were left reeling by the sheer power of Cork's second half display.

**CORK:** E Clifford, S Corkery, Holland ©, D Hayes, L O Connell, A O Regan, 0-2 (0-1p 0-1 45") A Kelleher, C Corkery, 0-3 D Coomey, E Horgan 0-1, M N O Sullivan, J O Donovan, E O Friel 1-0, C. Healy, 0-5 (0-2 p0-3f) E O Farrell.

**Subs:** A Walsh 0-2 for J O Donovan 20min, N O Donovan for E Horgan 40,G Collins 0-1 (f) for C Healy inj 45mins.

**TIPPERARY:** N Harkin, A Davis, C Greede, J Ryan, M Luttrell 0-1, L Ryan ©, T Maher, M Ryan, D Dunne, 0-2 C. Johnson, J O Connor, L Davis 0-1, A Lornegan, 0-1 C Heffernan 1-0, S. Ryan 0-4 (0-3p 0-1 45").

**Subs:** M Looby for D Dunne ht, J. Delaney for C Greede 45min

**Referee:** Mr J O'Donnell Clare



# Red hot Hughes spurs Tipp to three in-a-row

Tipperary 4-11  
Cork 2-8

by Máire Uí Scolai

A HAT-TRICK of goals from captain Deirdre Hughes powered the Premier county to their third consecutive Munster senior camogie championship title at Semple Stadium, Thurles last night.

Hughes produced an incredible performance — one which Cork simply had no answer to.

An opening point from corner forward Emer McDonnell after ten minutes gave the hosts a lead they never relinquished. At the other end, with corner back Suzanne Kelly in mean mood, it was a tough night for the Cork forwards.

Indeed the Rebels went 21 minutes without scoring before wing back Amanda O'Regan landed a point.

Tipperary, defeated by the Rebels in the League added a further six points before 2004 Allstar Hughes had her first goal seconds before the half time whistle.

Buoyed by that strike Tipperary held a commanding lead of 1-7 to 0-2 at the break.

Cork stormed out on the restart with a goal from Una O'Donoghue. Tipperary failed to panic and within a minute Emer McDonnell had the ball in the Cork net.

Cork were now enjoying supremacy at midfield and the Tipp introduced Noelle Kennedy for Michelle Shortt — a move which reaped rewards.

Hughes had her second goal to give Tipperary more breathing room but Cork continued to battle hard with Stephanie Dunlea, now at full-forward cracking home goal number two for the visitors half way through the period.

Again Tipp's response was instant with Hughes pouncing for her hat-trick.

Jennifer O'Leary sent over three Cork frees in the space of six minutes, but Tipperary had done enough to win their 17th Munster senior championship title in style.

Scorers: Tipperary: D Hughes 3-1, E Mc Donnell 1-3, C Grogan 0-4, J Horan, J Ryan, S Howard 0-1 each.  
Cork: S Dunlea, U O'Donoghue 1-0 each, J O'Leary 0-6 (0-5F), A O'Regan, E Burke 0-1 each.

TIPPERARY: J Delaney, S Kelly, N Harkin, M Corcoran, S Nealon, C Gaynor, T Brophy, A Mc Dermott, M Shortt, J Ryan, S Howard, C Grogan, E Mc Donnell, D Hughes, J Horan.



Cork's Jennifer Browne chases Tipperary's Claire Grogan during the Munster Senior Camogie Final at Semple Stadium last night. Picture: Neil Danton

Subs: N Kennedy for M Shortt, 38mins, P Bullfin for J Ryan, E Hayden for A Mc Dermott, 59mins.

CORK: A Murray, J O'Callaghan, R Holland, J Browne, A O'Regan, M O'Connor, N Ahearn, V Harris, R Moloney, A Walsh, E Dillon, J O'Leary, U O'Donoghue, S Dunlea, E Burke.

Subs: N Bowles for J Browne 44mins, G O'Connor for N Ahearn, 52mins, C Desmond for E Dillon, 56mins.

Referee: A Tubridy, Clare.

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● **CORK'S TITLE:** CORK made up for their recent Munster Junior Championship camogie defeat by Clare when they overcame the Banner 1-12 to 0-14 in the Intermediate Championship final in Newmarket on Fergus last night.

Catherine Corkery was the Rebels' hero when she scored the only goal of the match after seven minutes. However Clare drew level 0-7 to Cork's 1-4 at the break.

The second half was highly entertaining with two late points from Eimear O'Friel guaranteeing Cork their seventh Munster Intermediate Championship title.

Scorers: Cork: C Corkery 1-2; E O'Farrell, E O'Friel 0-3 each; A O'Regan 0-2; R Buckley, N Bowles 0-1 each.

Clare: C McMahon 0-5; D Murphy, L Linnane 0-4 each; C O'Loughlin 0-1.

## SUPPORTERS CLUB LAUNCHED

THE Cork Camogie Supporters club was officially launched at a function hosted by Beamish and Crawford South Main Street on Friday last. The group have got together to help raise funds for inter county teams and to take the pressure off the county board who have a huge work load financially in the continued promotion of the game.

The idea was first mooted by a group that included several mentors from club through the city and county and they were brought together by camogie supporters such as Billy Dillon, Ger O'Connor and Bina O'Callaghan with the blessing of the county board. Former All Ireland winning captain Linda Mellerick is chairperson of the committee and they intend to hold fund raise events for inter county teams from minor through to senior. Speaking at the launch Linda Mellerick explained the ideas behind the formation of the group "To often a huge burden falls on the shoulders of too few and the

county board have to absorb an enormous amount of pressure come All Ireland time, its no easy task to take a team all the way to an All Ireland final, gear, transport and accommodation has to be provided along the way and sometimes when three or even four teams reach that stage of competition the burden on resources is enormous" Linda went on to explain that the group hope to provide the finances to give the players that little bit extra in the lead up to all championship games. "We hope to be able to help the board provide refreshment and look after the players with some physio etc., Cork Camogie players have always been looked after superbly and we hope to be able to lend a hand to help the county board continue to do this."

Also present at the function was senior captain Elaine Burke who thanked the group and the county board for showing the foresight and interest in getting the idea off the ground, while Linda O'Connell spoke on behalf of the intermediate team



Pictured at the launch of the Cork County Camogie Supporters Club were Billy Dillon, Billy Burke, Lynch O'Connell, Linda Mellerick and Kevin Cleary. Picture credit: Howard Crowley

who the previous evening had been crowned provincial champions. The function was attended by officers of the county board and its G.P.C. plus representatives from the senior and intermediate teams, and selectors. Anybody interested in lending support to the venture can do so by contact Linda Mellerick, Billy Dillon, Mary Mc Sweeney or Bina O'Callaghan or indeed any county board officer who will point them in the right direction.

## Local c'ship begins

PLENTY of games as the Mercury Restaurant and lounge senior county championships in A and B begins in the coming week. This year for the first time a back door system is in operation first into action are two divisional sides who must play a preliminary round game as Avondhu meet Muskerry in Banteer at 7pm on Wednesday next, the second game in Banteer is the meeting of Milford and Cloughduv at 8-15pm while we still await the venue for the clash between Fr. O'Neill and Inniscarra on the same night at 7-30pm. The following evening Thursday 7th Aghbullogue make their return to Senior A ranks when they take on Barryroe at 7pm, and this is followed by Courcy Rovers versus Kilbrittan at 8-15pm both games in Brinney. Plenty game right through the following week and weekend and we will have all the details on next weeks column.

## Intermediates Secure Seventh Title

CENTRE stage this week without doubt goes to the intermediate team intermediate that defeated Clare in a rip roaring provincial final on Thursday last in Newmarket on Fergus.

Having relinquished their junior provincial and All-Ireland titles to the same opposition Cork were determined to gain revenge and this was evident from the throw in.

Through the opening half it was score for score as the sides remained deadlocked and so it was at the interval.

The opening five minutes of the second half saw Amanda O'Regan and Clare Mc Mahon swap points and as in the first half it continued with neither side gaining the upper hand.

Entering the final quarter it was nip and tuck with Clare hitting the front thanks to a Laura Linnane point but now the Cork defence were getting on top and with Rena Buckley and Eimear O'Farrell on target Cork held the advantage.

Again Laura Linnane restored parity with two points and when Amanda O'Regan and Clare Mc Mahon pointed extra time looked a possibility but this Cork team had other ideas and showing great resolve they gained control two Eimear O'Farrell points ensured the title was coming Leaside for the seventh time. Well done to selectors Kay Dunne, Pat Murray and Sile Golden and to a tremendously dedicated group of players.

## Championship action begins

CORK face national league champions Galway in the opening round of the Foras Na Gaeilge All-Ireland on Saturday next in Pairc Uí Rinn at 3pm.

Having lost the league decider to the same opposition it's a game Cork want badly to win with the championship played on a round robin basis they will face another tough outing against Wexford in their second game on July 17th. Galway have put in a huge effort and they are leaving no stones unturned to make their mark in this championship. Former Inter county star Sharon Glynn has made a huge difference in her first year as manager and she has won the respect of the players and brought a new confidence through the league campaign. Sharon is joined by P. J. Molloy and Damien Coleman as a selector this year the players have responded magnificently, they have a nice blend of youth and experience and on their performance last day out will prove more than a handful for Cork.

Cork used the league to introduce new faces to their team and with the return of the players who were exam tied back in action they hope to be stronger on Saturday but they may be without one of their most influential as Jennifer O'Leary is struggling to overcome a back injury and the impressive Barryroe star would if not available be huge loss. Jemma O'Connor has returned to the county following a stint of duty in Liberia, while Rena Buckley and Anna Geary and Breige Corkery have rejoined the panel following the completion of

exams. Newcomer Angela Walsh has fitted in well and she will making a strong bid for a permanent place on the starting fifteen, Nora Ahern has impressed in defence and has also fitted in well through the league campaign and could also be in line for a place on the starting fifteen, team captain Elaine Burke did not start in the league decider but is expected to return to full action.

In the provincial final played after the league final Cork lost out to Tipperary but showed tremendous fight back in the second half, Stephanie Dunlea has lined out in the unusual position of full forward position showed she was capable of grabbed the scores and she may just be the one to bring the added bite to the inside line so obviously lacking in the league decider. In the league final Cork enjoyed plenty of possession but failed to convert it to scores and with the game delicately balanced Cork failed to avail of the many chances that presented themselves and Galway capitalised on this. This time out Cork need to stamp their authority on proceedings from the throw in and show a little more aggression and determination. Fiona O'Driscoll and John Cronin have worked hard with the team since the league decider and now is the time for the players to stand up and be counted a win on Saturday would set them up nicely for the meeting with Wexford who then play Galway before the two semi finalists are known.



Cork's Catherine O'Brien (Inniscarra), Gráinne O'Keeffe (Carrigaline) and Michelle Healy (Aghabullogue) defend against Galway in the final of the James Hurley U14 Blitz. Picture: Gerard Bonus



Cork players Chloe Smith and Máire O'Donovan celebrate their victory in the final of the James Hurley U14 Blitz hosted by the Cork Colleges Camogie Board at Ballyanley Inniscarra. Picture: Gerard Bonus



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Pictured at the launch of the Cork County Camogie Supporters Club in Beamish and Crawford, were officers Billy Dillon, Billy Burke, Lynda O'Connell, (captain Cork Junior National league team), Linda Mellerick and Kevin Cleary, Beamish's.

Picture: Howard Crowdy

# Camogie receives support



Cork players Hazel O'Regan (Clon), Ciara Healy (Bishopstown), Lynda O'Connell (St Finbarr's) and Clodagh Deasy from Valley Rovers with the Junior National League trophy.

Picture: Howard Crowdy

**THE Cork County Camogie Supporters' Club was launched in the Beamish and Crawford Brewery last night.**

Beamish and Crawford representative Kevin Cleary said that the brewery is well used to hosting the Cork hurlers and footballers and he hoped this was the first of many visits by the camogie side to the venue.

He also wished the supporters' club the best for the future and wished the county teams all the best for the upcoming championship matches.

The supporters club will act as a sub-committee to the county board, raising finances for the Cork camo-

By PJ AHERN

Cork County Camogie Supporter Club

gie and will cater for all teams, from minor to senior.

The club was set up to help with the demanding needs of players.

The Cork camogie board lives season to season and gets by with a minimal budget. Club chairperson Linda Mellerick said that work began on setting up the club four months ago and she hoped the foundations laid would last a lifetime.

She also said that the aim for the coming months is to hold a number of big fundraising events.

The Cork camogie legend said: "Playing for your county shouldn't

cost money. It is an honour and a privilege but it shouldn't mean you're out of pocket. I hope in future years that players' expenses will be covered.

"The key to success is all about mental attitude and preparation. If you look professional. The players deserve to be able to have bit to eat after training, physiotherapy and even training breaks if they are needed."

Speaking on behalf of the Cork Camogie County Board, Mary Newman-McCarthy said the supporters' club is a welcome addition and it will help camogie in Cork.

"The supporters' club is something the county board defin-

itely welcomes. It will take pressure from the county board as it tries to keep the show on the road.

In Cork's case, sometimes you are sending three or four teams to an All-Ireland final every year, and it is not easy. Pressure comes on the team, the background team, the county board and the clubs. This committee is long overdue and it has the board's full backing."

So far this year Cork have won the junior national league title, while the intermediates won the Munster crown last week by beating Clare, and the senior team begin their pursuit of an All-Ireland next week when they face Galway in their first round-robin game.



Douglas' Jill Kelleher on the break against St. Vincents in the Feile camogie division one final. The girls showed their class by retaining the title.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare



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# Clare ladies denied Munster glory



Clare 0-14 Cork 1-12

Munster Intermediate Camogie Final



by  
Joe Ó Muircheartaigh

CLARE were denied Munster championship glory in the cruellest fashion in Newmarket-on-Fergus on Thursday evening when Cork claimed their eighth intermediate camogie title in ten years.

This was rough justice and grand larceny all at the same time. Clare were the better team over the hour and should have won. Worse still Clare were denied a draw by a referee who didn't declare Cork winners until fully three minutes after the final whistle.

As Joe O'Donovan studied his score card and consulted with his umpires confusion reigned.

The score board read 1-11 to 0-14 - a draw. Both Clare and Cork, in huddles, even took measures to prepare for extra time.

Extra time however never occurred since Joe O'Donovan blew his final whistle again, outstretched his arms and declared Cork Munster champions. It was a bizarre end to an entertaining night's camogie, but one which left a very sour taste indeed for Clare.

The controversy had to do with a point from Cork corner-forward Eimear O'Friel in the 58th minute. It looked wide, but the umpires raised the white flag. The score, however, was never registered on the score-

board.

It left Clare assuming they were a point adrift as they pressed forward. When a scoring chance fell to Catherine O'Loughlin in the last minute she stroked it over the bar.

Had the corner forward known that Clare were two points down she would surely have gone for goal. The chance was there - she was on the fourteen yard line - but the point meant the chance was lost.

It was a terrible way to lose, but in truth it shouldn't have come to this. Clare should have had this Munster final in the bag long before the controversy was stoked at the end of the hour.

Clare dominated for long periods, but profligacy in front of goal cost them dear. Wayward shooting marred a superb first half effort in which Clare tore into their much vaunted opponents.

They had ten wides in this period while also conceding a very soft goal in the eighth minute when Catherine Corkery's gentle lob from 40 yards sailed all the way to the net.

This gift and poor shooting meant that Clare had to be content with a level scores at half-time. They had seven points when it should have been closer to 17 - in contrast Cork's tally of 1-4 came from seven opportunities.

These statistics reflected Clare dominance, even if it wasn't reflected on the score-

board. Clare again forced the pace in the second half with a superhuman effort all over the field.

No one shone brighter than Wolfe Tones starlet Laura Linnane. She was magnificent and player of the match. Her point from 40 yards after a 40 yard run from her own half-back line was worthy of an All-Ireland senior final.

Linnane didn't deserve to be on the losing side, but that was her lot after an action packed and controversial second half. It was end-to-end stuff - the sides level six times before Cork edged ahead for the final time.

The final gap was two points, when Clare thought it was one. That difference cost Clare a possible Munster title. Catherine O'Loughlin holds firm against Sinead Corkery during the Munster Intermediate Camogie Final.

Photo by Alan Place/Press 22, 1661564



## match details

### Scorers:

Cork - Catherine Corkery (1-2), Eimear O'Friel (0-3), Eimear O'Farrell (0-3), Amanda O'Regan (0-2), Niamh Bowles (0-1), Rena Buckley (0-1).  
Clare - Laura Linnane (0-4), Clare McMahon (0-4), Deirdre Murphy (0-3), Catherine O'Loughlin (0-1).

### Clare team:

Rachel Lynch (Clooney), Marie O'Looney (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Deirdre Corcoran (Celbridge), Cathiona McMahon (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Edel Keating (Corofin), Moira McMahon (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Erica Minogue (Whitegate), Deirdre Murphy (Davitts) capt., Marie O'Halloran (Kinamona), Laura Linnane (Wolfe Tones), Aine O'Brien (Scariff), Fiona Lafferty (Kinamona), Claire McMahon (Kinsale), Catherine O'Loughlin (Kinamona), Claire Commans (Corofin). Subs - Siobhán Lafferty (Kinamona) for O'Halloran, Denise Lynch (Kinsale) for Commans, Elaine Gallery (Wolfe Tones) for O'Brien.

Referee - Joe O'Donovan (Umeirick)



## Defeat won't alter team plans

by  
Joe Ó Muircheartaigh

SPORT can be heartbreaking but what happened to Clare was surely the biggest heartbreak of all.

Defeat is one thing, but the manner of this left everyone involved in Clare camogie scratching their heads in disbelief.

Manager Mick Maher summed up the feelings of Clare camogie aficionados after the game.

"As far as I was concerned there was two points in the game. There was no doubt about that, but the players didn't know that. I indicated to Catherine O'Loughlin that we needed a goal."

"However, she had been told that there was only a point in the game and she put the ball over the bar when she could have gone for a goal."

"It should never have happened. The scoreboard has nothing to do with the referee - how he could run over to the score board people and have a discussion with them about the

final score? His book should have told him that."

Still Mick was accentuating the positive about Clare camogie. This Munster final was lost, but all was not lost.

"This was a secondary competition to us. Our stall was set out to win the Munster junior championship. The intermediate was of great benefit to us and we are improving all the time. We should have won but won't be dwelling on it too much."

Onwards and upwards is Mick's mantra.

Left: Claire McMahon gets ahead of Cork's Linda O'Connell

Right: Clare's Aine O'Brien clears despite the efforts of Amanda O'Regan during the Munster Intermediate Camogie Final in Newmarket-On-Fergus.

Photographs by Alan Place/Press 22 1661563, 1661563





JUNE

2005



At the Lord Mayor's Civic Awards in City Hall were, bottom row, from left, recipients Owen O'Callaghan, managing director of O'Callaghan Properties; Brother Ben Cusack; Marie McCarthy of the Cork County Camogie Board; the Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr Seán Martin; Lady Mayoress, Ann Martin; award recipients Fr John O'Donovan; Frank Boland, general manager, Howard Holdings, and Billy Morgan, and, top row, Cllr Jerry Buttimer, Cllr Denis Cregan, Cllr Denis O'Flynn, Cllr Michael Ahern, Cllr Terry Shannon, Cllr Donal Counihan, Cllr Tony Fitzgerald and Finbarr Allison, Corporate Affairs, Cork City Council. Picture: Gerard Bonus

# Battle on to tip Tipp from top

by Mark Gallagher

AS Croke Park underwent a facelift for the weekend festivities, the All-Ireland Camogie Championship was launched in brilliant sunshine yesterday, displaying all the attributes of a sport on the up.

Just as headquarters is being transformed into a concert venue, camogie is a sport that has re-invented itself over the past few years.

Last year's centenary championship elevated the sport to unprecedented heights, with over 100,000 members and more clubs registered than ever.

The rising standards, that has gone hand-in-hand with the game becoming 15-a-side, has resulted in some exciting matches in recent years. However, certain things never change, like a championship being launched with Tipperary as defending champions.

However, Deirdre Hughes, the Tipp captain, is expecting some serious challenges in the summer ahead.

"Things haven't been going that well for us in the league," the talented Tipp forward said. "We had a few injuries and are only really getting down to the nitty-gritty of it now."

"Given that we are All-Ireland champions, I suppose we will be favourites but there is very little between the top three or four teams."

That has been evident in recent seasons. Only the width of a crossbar saved Tipperary against Wexford last year and Galway defied the odds recently to capture the league title.

"The standard has got a lot higher in the last three or four years, the speed of the game is a lot better and 15-a-side has definitely helped," Hughes adds. "The advantage rule, when it is played right, helps the game and there is a lot of coaching being done."

Hughes believes there are a number of contenders ready to take Tipp's crown. "Cork and Kilkenny are there. Galway, after winning the league title, have proven there are force to be reckoned with. They will be tough to beat."

As for the defending champions? "We just have to re-discover our hunger and get going. We won't know



At the launch of the senior camogie championship in Croke Park yesterday were: Carla Doherty, Antrim; Niamh Cunningham, Antrim; Deirdre Hughes, Tipperary; Carol Murphy, Limerick; Elaine Burke, Cork; Ursula Jacobs, Wexford; Amanda O'Regan, Cork; Ailbhe Kelly, Galway; Mary Lacey, Wexford; Imelda Kennedy, Kilkenny; and Gillian Dillon-Maher, Kilkenny.

Picture: Sportsfile

how we are set until the first game against Antrim, so we will just take it from there."

Ailbhe Kelly, the Galway wing-back, says the league title has given the county something to build on.

"But we are not going to let the league final go to our heads. It's a tough start against Cork and they'll be out for revenge after the league final."

Cork have been Galway's bogey team in the championship in the past few years.

However, it will be a much more confident Galway taking on the Leesiders, thanks mainly to the presence of Sharon Glynn, an iconic figure in western camogie, on the line.

"It's probably unusual to see a woman manager at this level in camogie,

but in fairness, Sharon's been there, won an All-Ireland in '96 and numerous club All-Irelands. She's been a great boost to us."

"Everyone has tremendous respect for Sharon. Anyone she asked into the panel came in straight away and she brought a couple of players back. It is great to have everyone available for selection."

A sub-theme to the day was hurling fathers and camogie daughters. Tipperary great Len Gaynor joined his daughter Ciara at headquarters, while Wexford's Ursula Jacob was joined by her hurling dad Mick. Antrim's Niamh Cunningham was joined by her father Dad and former Kilkenny hurler Pa Dillion accompanied daughter Jillian.



The passion-fuelled manager of the Galway senior camogie team, Sharon Glynn, was taking a leaf from the pages of Shakespeare when she accepted the job, specifically, from the immortal words of Polonius in *Hamlet*: "To thine own self be true". Camogie was such a great part of her life that the former star with club and county could not shirk the sense of responsibility she'd felt in recent years while watching Galway teams lose big matches they could and should have won. It was a long and disappointing way from the glory days of 1996 when Galway ended a long, lonely wait by powering to their first ever O'Duffy Cup All-Ireland triumph.

"As players that year, we loved every minute of it," Sharon fondly recalls. "But we thought we'd have it again, at least two or three more titles while we were young enough to stay competing at the highest level. It wasn't to be, though. We defeated Cork in the 1996 final but they beat us in the next two finals, on both occasions by four points. After that, the team broke up and for Galway it was one disappointment after another. Eventually, it was heartbreaking."

However, what was worse for Sharon Glynn was seeing talented young players walk away from the playing fields, saying no to wearing the county jersey. It hurt to see these players, some in their early 20s, so disillusioned. "That was the single biggest factor in my decision to take this job," Sharon revealed. "I got so much out of the game when I was playing – and I stayed playing for as long as I could – that I couldn't stomach the idea of good young players packing in county camogie and being content to stay tipping away with their clubs."

"It was still a tough call for me, of course, as I had lost my first Galway manager's election by one vote. Then the new set-up for the 2005 season collapsed, for reasons that are too complex to go into, and I was approached and asked if I'd take the job. Many people took it for granted I'd turn it down in the circumstances, but I

just couldn't walk away from it. Every time I asked myself why should I bother, it hit me that I owed it to myself to see if I could put back into Galway camogie even a quarter or a third of what I had got out of it." All who know the dynamic Pearse's woman are in no doubt that it will be closer to 100% by the time her

Castleblakeney (near her home parish, Menlough); a high reputation as a county player, blessed with a powerful mix of skilful stickwork, craft and physical strength, and she's a club camogie legend. The Pearse's club, based in the Gurteen-Ballymacward area, was founded as recently as 1977 but they are on the roll

Granagh-Ballingarry from Limerick, 1-4; 1997 vs Lisdowney, Kilkenny, 1-3; 2000 vs Swatragh of Derry, 1-4; 2001 vs Cashel, Tipperary, 2-3; 2002 vs St Ibar's, Wexford, 1-9 (1-8 from frees).

She is also renowned for the force of her personality. As a player she was fiery and tough, fiercely competitive and aggressive,

coaching and promoting the game. That's why I'm still in it. Even with my club, I stayed on as chairperson but I know there are so many other good people around me in Pearse's that I can afford to double-job for this year."

She acknowledges that Tipperary has set the standard in recent years and that they

think we're good at that here, and when Tipp's era of dominance comes to its natural end, hopefully it'll be us who'll be ready to take over from them."

Going into the championship, she has a star-studded management team with her. PJ Molloy and Martin Naughton have five All-Ireland senior hurling medals between them from the 1980s, and Damien Coleman is a full-time hurling coach in his 'day job'. PJ Molloy, who coached Athenry to win the 1997 All-Ireland club hurling crown, has done great work for the game in his club. Indeed the new Galway senior goalkeeper, Stephanie Gannon, is a product of the Molloy school of encouragement.

Sharon Glynn was named Galway team manager on a Wednesday night and by the following weekend she had an away win over Antrim in the national league to reassure her that she'd done the right thing. Inside three months, her team were crowned league champions, defeating Cork in the final, 1-6 to 0-6. "It was a lovely

**Sharon Glynn was named Galway team manager on a Wednesday night and by the following weekend she had an away win over Antrim in the national league to reassure her**

feeling and I got a great kick out of standing in a happy dressing room but it was only the start for us," she says. "For the championship we are in a tough group with Cork and Wexford, either of whom could beat us if we weren't ready for them. It's very serious from here on. Okay, the number of counties which can realistically hope to win the O'Duffy Cup this year is small, but it'll be savage hard to go the whole way. We have made up our minds to fight for it. Sacrifices, blood, sweat and tears – the girls know what's in front of them, but I want it and they want it."

She started playing camogie at the age of nine, and she had 20 more years as a player. One of the greatest of her generation, she won every honour in the game and she was a crowd favourite who became a legend. Now, for Sharon Glynn and for Galway camogie, a new era dawns.

*Jim Carney is sports editor of the Tuam Herald and a broadcaster with RTE Sport.*

# NEW ERA FOR Galway Camogie

When the national league title went west of the Shannon in May, it was the first sign of something stirring in the west since the O'Duffy Cup win of 1996. Jim Carney talks to Galway senior manager Sharon Glynn.



Sharon Glynn in her playing days.

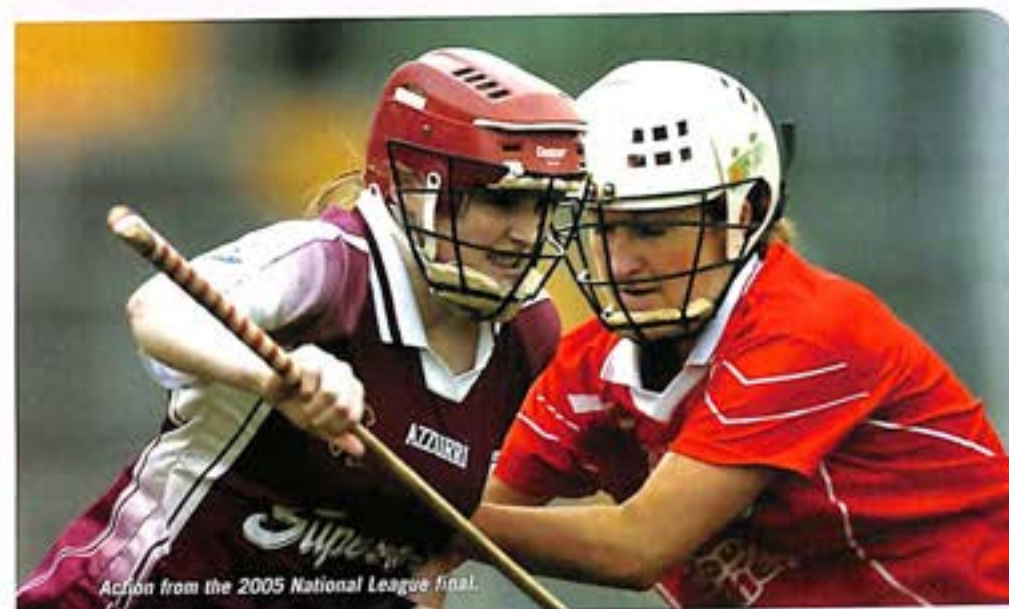


management career hits top gear.

She is an iconic figure in Galway camogie: a colleges star as a juvenile with St Cuan's,

of honour as winners of eight Galway senior titles and a remarkable five All-Ireland Camogie Club Championship titles in seven years, including a magnificent three-in-a-row which they clinched by defeating St Ibar's of Wexford in late 2002.

Sharon was hugely influential in that Famous Five, in the dressing room, all over the field and on the scoreboard: 1996 vs



Action from the 2005 National League final.



Line up for the start of the Camogie Championship.

but always fair. She had brushes with the disciplinary authorities but bore no grudges. And she has never suffered fools gladly. Above all, she's a positive person by nature.

Talking about the profile of the sport, she said: "For sure, we mightn't get as much publicity as our male hurling counterparts, but it's not a big deal. It's up to ourselves to generate it. It's in our own power, like

are to camogie what the men of Kilkenny and Cork are to hurling. "But I don't envy them or anything like that," says Sharon. "I have a two-fold mission: to improve the Galway team to the limit of their potential, so they can meaningfully compete with the Tipperarys and Corks, but also to support the great work being done in my own county to develop the under-age game. I

2005  
June



# Supersub Walsh steals it at the death as Rebels

**Cork**  
**Galway** 2-8  
0-13  
by **Therese O'Callaghan**

AN injury time point from substitute Angela Walsh secured victory for Cork in this exciting Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie championship first round tie at Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday.

Walsh and Brieghe Corkery, who were sprung from the bench added much needed potency to a flagging Rebel side that were dominated for so long by the westerners.

Last month Galway stunned the Rebels by claiming the National League trophy and went out to prove it was no fluke. For 60 minutes they did just that but in a flash, the hosts turned the tables. First Jennifer O'Leary converted before Killeagh's Walsh dramatically rifled over the winner two minutes into injury time.

Although Galway only took a three-point lead in at the break while playing with a gale-force wind, there was never more than a point between the sides thereafter with Lourda Kavanagh very reliable from placed balls. However, she received enormous

support from Brenda Hanney, and Brenda Kerins who won most of the Galway frees at corner forward. But, their defence was superb, particularly skipper Therese Maher at centre back, Lorraine Lally, Regina Glynn and Nicola Gavin. Consequently, they led 0-8 to 1-2 at the break, the Cork goal coming from opportunist midfielder Rachel Moloney.

Three minutes after the restart, converted full-forward Stephanie Dunlea whipped a brilliant ground shot to the roof of the net. Then Kavanagh (three) and Aoife Lynskey exchanged points with O'Leary (two) and Emer

Dillon, to level matters 2-6 to 0-12 with five minutes remaining. Veronica Curtin inched the Connacht side ahead but they failed to finish off the job missing a couple of straightforward opportunities. How they lived to regret them as O'Leary first equalised and then Walsh sealed a remarkable win for the Rebel team.

Scorers Cork: J O'Leary 0-6 (0-5 frees), R Moloney and S Dunlea 1-0 each, E Dillon and A Walsh 0-1 each.

Galway: L Kavanagh 0-9 (0-7 frees), V Curtin 0-2, A Lynskey and B Kerins 0-1 each.  
**CORK:** A Murray; N Bowles, R Holland, R Buckley; A O'Regan, M O'Connor, A Geary; V Harris, R Moloney; E Dillon, G O'Connor, J O'Leary; U O'Donoghue, S Dunlea, E Burke (Capt).

## CAMOGIE

**F NA GAEILGE CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**Limerick** 3-5 (M Keating 2-0, S O'Shaughnessy 1-1 (0-1), M Casey 0-3 (0-3), V Sheehan 0-1) **Kilkenny** 1-7 (A Neary 1-0, I Kennedy 0-4 (0-4F), B Mulally 0-2, J Frisby 0-1)  
**Cork** 2-8 (S Dunlea, R Moloney 1-0 each, J O'Leary 0-6 (0-5F), A Walsh, E Dillon 0-1 each) **Galway** 0-13 (L Kavanagh 0-9 (0-8F), V Curtin 0-2, B Kerins, A Lynskey 0-1 each)

## Cork leave it late do late

**Cork**  
**Galway** 2-8  
0-13

The smile on the face of Cork selector Ollie Hallihan was one of relief after his side had snatched victory from the jaws of defeat in the opening game in the Foras Na Gaeilge All Ireland Senior camogie championship, at Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

A last gasp point one minute into injury time from substitute Angela Walsh gave Cork the spoils.

Referee Fintan Mc Namara failure to apply the advantage rule did not help the flow of the game, Jennifer O'Leary and Lourda Kavanagh twice swapped points from placed balls with Veronica Curtin contributing one from play as Galway led 0-8 to 1-2.

Inside three minutes of the restart Cork had hit the front, Jennifer O'Leary pointed an early free before Stephanie Dunlea volleyed to the net after Elaine Burke saw her effort come back off the upright.

Lourda Kavanagh again showed her accuracy as the sides remained deadlocked, Cork hit the front twice but Galway quickly gained parity, and grew in confidence as the home side found scores hard to come by even with wind advantage.

Eventually the pressure told as substitute Aoife Lynskey edged the Westerners into the lead as Galway gained a grip in midfield, and Cork found it hard to make progress.

The contest was now developing into a fascinating one as Cork raised their game, Emer Dillon restored parity as both sides battled for supremacy and suddenly the game had taken on a bit of urgency, Veronica Curtin had a Galway point with four minutes remaining and it looked to be enough as they continued to repel several Cork attacks.

Cork introduced Brieghe Corkery to their midfield with two minutes remaining and she made an immediate impact, turning defence into attack with the first ball she won, before setting up Jennifer O'Leary to level on thirty minutes.

From the puckout Cork again attacked and with practically her first touch of the ball substitute Angela Walsh pointed to give Cork a victory that did not look possible at the three-quarter mark.

Certainly a huge amount of work remains to be done but with a victory under their belt Cork will be confident of advancing from the group of three where two go forward to the semi-final stages.

They now meet Wexford on July 17 while Galway and Wexford meet on July 30.

**CORK:** A. Murray; N. Bowles, R. Holland, R. Buckley; A. O'Regan, M. O'Connor, A. Geary; V. Harris, R. Moloney (1-0); E. Dillon (0-1), G. O'Connor, J. O'Leary (0-6, 0-4 from frees, 0-2 play); U. O'Donoghue, S. Dunlea (1 goal), E. Burke. **Subs:** A. Walsh (0-1) for U. O'Donoghue 48 min, B. Corkery for R. Moloney 58 min, E. Watson for E. Burke 61 min.  
**Galway:** S. Gannon; R. Glynn, S. Cahalan, N. Gavin; L. Lally, T. Maher, A. Kelly; A. Hillary, C. Glennon; A. Lynskey (0-1), B. Hanney, L. Kavanagh (0-9, 0-7 from frees, 0-2 P); B. Kerins (0-1), V. Curtin (0-2), O. Kilkenny. **Sub:** C. Kelly for A. Hillary 56 min.  
**Referee:** Fintan Mc Namara (Clare)

## It's time for these ladies to deliver

By the time this paper circulates today Cork will be warming up for their All-Ireland first round game against Galway in Páirc Uí Rinn. Cork will be up against it and it's a long time since that phrase was used when describing an encounter with the Westerners.

Galway caught Cork in the '96 All-Ireland final. We were hot favourites and despite convincing ourselves and listeners that we were taking nothing for granted we just weren't motivated or driven enough to fight back when the going got tough.

Four minutes to half-time, we led by 1-9 to 0-4. A Denise Gilligan goal left only five points between the sides at the break and it gave Galway hope. Within three minutes of the second half they were level and it's very hard to stop a runaway train.

If we could only have stopped for a moment to regroup we might have stopped them. We were defeated by two points, 4-8 to 1-15 and were devastated. Of course, badly wounded, Cork returned and gained revenge against the same opponents in 1997 and 1998.

When I watched the league final four weeks ago my mind flashed back nine years and I thought: Déjà vu. The difference this time is that it was a league final not an All-Ireland and Cork have a chance to make amends. But will they? We'll find out this afternoon.

Cork won their first All-Ireland title after nine years in 1992 and for a county like Cork it was a dreadful famine. Of course Kilkenny reigned supreme at the time winning seven titles in a row and year after year Cork were the also-rans. In fact we were known throughout the land as the second best team in the country.

That all changed in '92 and for the next seven years Cork dominated winning five titles. At that point there seemed to be nobody who could touch us. But how quickly the tide changes.

Cork strolled through the National League campaign in '99 and registered 9-19 against Tipperary in the League final. Who would have backed Tipperary to win the All-Ireland just four months later and become the force they are today?

But once again Cork slipped up and left the door wide open. That same year we went into the All-Ireland semi-final against Kilkenny as raging hot



Linda Mellerick

favourites and once again, mentally unprepared, we got caught. A misfit free 55 metres out in extra time crept into the roof of the net and we were out. We should never have found ourselves in such a vulnerable position but we were not at the races for the full hour and had no one to blame but ourselves. Tipp defeated Kilkenny by a point in the final and it was the break they needed. They became a different team after that. In fact I don't think I have ever seen such a confident transformation. They have won five titles in six years and even as I type this I find it hard to believe.

What has happened to Cork? We find ourselves once again, despite a reprieve in 2002, caught in a famine.

Whether I'm right or wrong I believe that the entire panel don't desire it as much as they used to. As individuals the players will tell you that they want it more than anything but as a unit it doesn't look that way. I have watched performances over the past number of years and I can honestly say that Cork have not done themselves justice. I can't say that they played to the best of their ability but were beaten by a better team because on each occasion there was something missing. I believe the players are there. We have 52 clubs affiliated to the county board and there is not a chance any other county in the country can boast the same. When you look at the local scene the county championship last year was the best in years. There was some tremendous games and the county final between Carrighoun and Milford was without doubt the most competitive, tough and skilful final in any code in Cork in a long time.

We just don't seem to be gelling as a unit when it comes to playing senior intercounty. This surprises me as the majority of the squad are in and around the same age. Of course an All-Ireland victory will always bond you but you've got to win it first. We need an All-Ireland senior title this year. The journey begins today. If nothing else but camogie dominates the player's thoughts from now until September we stand a chance. If not, then we will once again begin to become known as the also-rans.

## get their revenge

**Subs:** A. Walsh for U. O'Donoghue (49 mins), B. Corkery for R. Moloney (58 mins), E. Watson for E. Burke (62 mins).  
**Galway:** S. Gannon; R. Glynn, S. Cahalan, N. Gavin; L. Lally, T. Maher, A. Kelly; A. Hillary, C. Glennon; A. Lynskey, B. Hanney, L. Kavanagh; B. Kerins, V. Curtin, O. Kilkenny.  
**Subs:** C. Kelly for A. Hillary (60 mins).  
**Referee:** F. McNamara (Clare).

**Limerick**  
**Kilkenny**

3-5  
1-7

A PROMINENT force in the 1970s, the renaissance of Limerick at the Gaelic Grounds on Saturday was the cause of great celebration. This Foras na Gaeilge first round victory for manager Ger Hegarty is fair reward for

the great effort he and his charges have put in during recent times.

**Limerick:** M. Keating 2-0, S. O'Shaughnessy 1-1 (0-1), M. Casey 0-3 (frees), V. Sheehan 0-1.

**Kilkenny:** I. Kennedy 0-4 (0-3 frees), A. Neary 1-0, B. Mulally 0-2 (0-1), J. Frisby 0-1.

**LIMERICK:** S. Moynihan; C. Murphy, R. Collins, D. Fitzpatrick; M. Kelly, M. Casey, O. Curtin; J. Dolan, M. Nash; A. Sheehan, S. O'Shaughnessy, F. Morrissey; N. Collins, M. Keating, V. Sheehan.

**Subs:** L. Carroll for M. Nash (49 mins).

**KILKENNY:** C. Ryan; D. Minogue, K. Kinahan, G. Dillon-Maher; A. Neary, E. Aylward, U. Walton; I. Kennedy, L. Lyng; S. Miles, E. Maher, B. Mulally; C. Doherty, M. O'Connor, J. Frisby.

**Subs:** B. Aylward for E. Maher (39 mins).

**Referee:** J. Pender (Kildare).

## All-change as Cork bid to turn the tables on Galway

by **Therese O'Callaghan**

CORK and Galway aim to serve up the match of the day in the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie championship at Páirc Uí Rinn this afternoon (3pm).

The game, which is a repeat of last month's National League final, sees the hosts seeking a reversal of fortunes, and with a much-altered outfit they stand a good chance of achieving this aim.

John Cronin's side has a more familiar look, with six alterations since their last outing.

"We got a wake-up call in the League final, and players realise they will have to play for the full match," said Cronin. "We met Tipp a few weeks ago in the Munster final and the first quarter passed us by. That will not do for the All-Ireland series."

So into the starting line-out come Rosalie Holland, Rena Buckley, Anna Geary, Vivienne Harris, Gemma O'Connor and captain Elaine Burke.

O'Connor, regarded as one of the Rebels' most potent weapons, is selected at centre-forward, having just

returned from army duty in the Middle East.

However, Jennifer O'Leary at wing-forward is a doubtful starter due to a back injury and if she fails to make it, Angela Walsh is expected to deputise.

Meanwhile Sharon Glynn welcomes back injured duo Lourda Kavanagh and Aine Hillary as direct replace-



Rena Buckley: returns to Cork starting line-up.

ment for Emma Kilkelly and Sharon Murphy. Management have left a vacancy at wing-forward for Allstar Ann Marie Hayes.

Sinead Millea is also in a race against time as Kilkenny meet Limerick at the Gaelic Grounds. "I fell awkwardly and twisted my knee," she explained.

"But, I am hopeful of making it. We picked up the pieces following our league semi-final defeat to Galway and training has gone well since."

In spite of this, Mairead Costello has left the squad due to work commitments and Catriona Carey is ruled out due to international hockey duties.

Limerick, under the guidance of Ger Hegarty this year, could see their 2004 minor goalkeeper Sheila Moynihan make her senior debut alongside regulars Aoife and Vera Sheehan, Eileen O'Brien, Michelle Casey, Meadhbh Nash and Rose Collins.

Champions Tipperary, due to meet Antrim at Semple Stadium today, have received a walkover. The Ulster side were unable to field a team due to injuries.



## FEILE NA NGAEL, A GREAT CORK CELEBRATION

The 2005 Coca Cola Féile na nGael Tournament was a resounding success held in Cork with up to 200 young girls taking part in the event. Cork pulled off the Division 1 and 3 Coca Cola Féile na nGael titles while the Division 2 title went to Antrim's Ballycastle who defeated another Cork club Buttevant in the final.

The real Féile spirit was possibly evident in the end when all four provinces recognised in the winners rostrum, between winning finals and other awards over the weekend.

Defending champions Douglas, who were appearing in their third final in a row and also against the same opposition St. Vincent's of Dublin, dealt the Dublin side a harsh 6-8 to 0-0 defeat in the Division 1 Final which was played in Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Douglas overcame Kilkenny side Thomastown in the semi-final while St. Vincent's accounted for Glen Rovers.

However, in the final the Dublin side could not match a fine Douglas side who had nine of last year's side available to them.

The Mackey twins, Pamela and Claire, who was awarded player of the match were in fine form, but what won this second title for the Cork club was sheer team performance. Ahead by 3-7 to 0-0 at the break two second half goals in the opening ten minutes from Julie White left no doubt as to who might lift the 2005 Division 1 trophy. While Vincent's tried hard until the end, they were alas always a step behind this well drilled Douglas side.

There was further joy for Cork club Killeagh who won their first Féile na nGael title in 28 years, when they defeated Lismore of Waterford, 6-8 to 4-2 to claim the Division three title.

For the club it was almost a trip down memory lane as former Cork player Ann Marie Landers was on that team of 28 years ago and she witnessed her daughter Danielle win her first Féile title. It was a similar story for Shelley Spillane who also watched her daughter, Claire repeat the same deed as she did all those years ago.

Ballycastle of Antrim, steeped in camogie and hurling tradition, lifted the Division two title when they denied Cork a treble win defeating Cork side Buttevant 6-8 to 1-8 in the Division two final. Having won the Division three final last year they were in the higher grade this year and showed they may well be a club of the future in Antrim.

The Division three title was not the only one that went to Antrim as Loughgiel's Raequel McCarry was the 2005 Skills winner having pipped Kildare's Louise Walsh at the post by two points, while Galway's Deirdre Walsh came in third.

There was further delight for Ulster when Armagh side St. Patrick's Keady won the prize for the best dressed team in the Féile na nGael Parade which was held in Cork City on the Friday night. The best Banner award went to Kildare side Johnstown Bridge, while the two home clubs who won the county awards were Fr. O'Neill's who won the best dressed team and St. Finbarrs won the best home banner.

### Details:

### Scorers:

Division 1 Final: Douglas 6-8: J White, K Horgan 2-1 each, A O'Donovan 1-2, C Mackey 1-1, M O'Donovan 0-3. St. Vincent's, Dublin 0-0.

Division 2 Final: Ballycastle 6-8, Buttevant 1-8: E Murphy 0-7, E Healy 1-0, D O'Callaghan 0-1

Division 3 Final: Killeagh 6-8: C Keohane 3-5, S Swayne 2-0, S Shuddy 1-2, E O'Neill 0-1, Lismore 4-2: C McGlone 2-0, A Hanlon, R Whelan 1-0 each, M Russell 0-2.

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**FAMILY MATTERS:** Sister and brother, Sharon and Andrew O'Shaughnessy, who will both line out in the Gaelic Grounds tomorrow. Picture: Brian Gavin

## Limerick shock for Kilkenny

FORMER Limerick hurler Ger Hegarty could not hide his sheer delight with his side's unexpected 3-5 to 1-7 victory over hot favourites Kilkenny in the opening round of the Foras na Gaeilge Championship yesterday in the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick.

Two goals within the space of three minutes midway in the second half from centre-forward Sharon O'Shaughnessy and full-forward Marie Keating put Limerick in the driving seat, 2-5 to Kilkenny's 0-6. Limerick played with great heart, especially centre half back Michelle Casey who was brilliant throughout. Kilkenny's consolation goal came on the 30 minute from Aoife Neary, but Marie Keating was back on the spot to wrap the game up for Limerick with a third goal four minutes into injury time. Limerick now face Tipperary in the next round on July 30 as Antrim have pulled out of this year's championship.

Meanwhile, Cork got their opening round of the championship off to a winning start with a one-point victory, 2-8 to 0-13, over League champions Galway. A point after 50 seconds from Lourda Kavanagh helped Galway lead 0-8 to 1-2 at the break, the Cork goal coming from Rachel Moloney after just nine minutes.

In a highly-entertaining second half, Cork full-forward Stephanie Dunneal got their second goal with just three minutes gone. This was anybody's game right up until the final whistle, but in the end it was two late points from the 2004 All-Star Jennifer O'Leary and Angela Walsh that secured victory.

## Sibling rivalry as O'Shaughnessys take the field

by Therese O'Callaghan

THE O'Shaughnessy family will be out in force at the Gaelic Grounds tomorrow.

Andrew is a well-known Limerick hurler and now sister Sharon wants some of the limelight.

Staging the Munster junior camogie final between Limerick and Clare before the Guinness All-Ireland SHC qualifier between the Shannonsiders and Galway at the Gaelic Grounds means both will get an opportunity to excel before home fans.

The Ballygran camogie player says

it is magnificent that both games are side by side.

"Andrew gets all the limelight," she laughs.

"But people are beginning to realise there is camogie in Limerick too. There is a great buzz around the county, especially after the senior camogie team beat Kilkenny in the championship last Saturday.

"Last Friday my family travelled to Portlaoise to see the Limerick hurlers play Laois and the following day we were in the Gaelic Grounds to see the camogie. It is marvellous they can now go to the one venue and see us both."

The Shannonsiders are trying to bridge a 10-year gap and take the provincial title for the first time since 1995.

Clare, on the other hand, won the title two years ago in a competition that has been dominated in the last decade by the ladies of Tipperary and Cork.

Meanwhile, in Leinster, the tide is also about to change, with Dublin and Laois contesting the title.

Elsewhere, Roscommon will hope to upstage what has been a roller-coaster year for Galway in the Connacht championship final.



# Championship charge on

by Mary Newman

**T**HE Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Senior A and B camogie championship dominate an extremely busy schedule this week with interesting clashes to be decided. A change of format this year has all the clubs play in round one with the winners progressing to round three the losing teams playing the divisional sides in round two.

Two divisional sides will have to play a preliminary round game with the winners going to round two. First into action are Avondhu who meet Muskerry on Wednesday at 7pm in Coachford.

The second game of a double header programme here will be the meeting of last season's defeated finalists, Milford, who many feel will go one better this season, facing Cloughduv at 8.15pm. The losers will meet Imokilly.

On an extremely busy evening Inniscarra are also in action the same night when they meet Fr O Neills at 7.30pm in Ballinhassig. Last season the sides met in the quarter-final with Inniscarra dethroning the then champions. It's a game which is sure to attract lots of attention as they attempt to repeat the feat.

On Thursday in a double header in Brinney at 7pm, Aghabullogue make their return to senior "A" grade, and they have a tough baptism against a Barryroe side that will look to inter-county players Rosarie Holland and Jennifer O'Leary to lead their challenge. This is followed by the clash of

neighbours Courcy Rovers against Kilbrittan at 8.15pm.

Friday is the Senior B championship meeting of Ballygarvan and Bishopstown at 7.30pm, and while venue has to be confirmed here Shanbally is almost a definite.

Another double header on Saturday as Ballygarvan host Eire Og against Valley Rovers in senior B at 7pm and at 8.15pm UCC meet St Finbarrs in A championship. Action continues on Sunday as St Catherine's and Carrigaline come head-to-head at 7.30pm in their opening round Senior B game at a venue to be decided.

All in all a hectic week of championship action and one not to be missed. The sponsorship of the championships by Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Washington Street is a huge boost for the county board. Chairperson Marian McCarthy has thanked Bob O'Leary, who has been a huge supporter of Cork camogie. His continued sponsorship of the board championships is a huge boost to the game and the continued promotion of camogie within the county. So it's all to play for as the action gets under way.

**Barryroe's other inter-county star Rosarie Holland will give Aghabullogue plenty to think about.**



## Avondhu can foil depleted Muskerry

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie

THE Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Senior 'A' Camogie Championship swings into action tonight with three games down for decision.

This year there is a change of format. The winners of round one will progress to round three while the losers will be paired with divisional sides in round two.

Two divisional sides will meet in a preliminary game with the winners advancing to round two and the losers making their exit from the championship.

First into action is Avondhu against Muskerry in Coachford this evening (Wednesday) at 7pm and it's a hard game to call.

Muskerry will be the fancied side here, but they may be forced to field without the Eire Og players who line out with their club in the Senior B championship on next Saturday night.

This being the case, Avondhu, backboned by clubs such as Junior B champions Ballyhea, Buttevant and Mallow should have too much strength and advance to Round Two.

The meeting of last season's beaten finalists Milford and Cloughduv at the same venue at 8.15pm has the makings of a classic.

The North Cork side have been one of camogie's most successful underage clubs in recent times and just a goal separated them from Carrigdhoun in the county final last year.

The experience gained will surely stand to them. Emer and Marie Watson, Anna Geary, Regina Curtin and Elaine O'Riordan are class players and Milford will be fancied to again reach the concluding stages this year.

Cloughduv boast inter-county players in Aoife Murray, Una O'Donoghue, Stephanie Dunlea Joanne O'Callaghan and Briege Corkery but Milford may just shade it. Imokilly await the losers.

Inniscarra are also in action against Fr O'Neill's in Ballinhassig at 7.30 in what is a repeat of last season's quarter-final clash where Inniscarra dethroned the then champions.

Fr O'Neill's will be determined to get one over on Inniscarra this time out. Word is that Fiona O'Driscoll has retired from club action and she will be a huge loss to the Ballymacoda side.

They welcome back to action Clare Madden and will be hoping for top performances from Nora Ahern, Val O'Sullivan and Mags Finn, but they will be under pressure from a strong Inniscarra outfit.

Inniscarra have replaced goalkeeper Ger Casey, out of the country studying, with Orla Murphy, who transferred from Glen Rovers, while Rena Buckley, Irene O'Keeffe and Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan will have big roles to play for the mid Cork outfit who look stronger and better balanced.

Inter-county player Jennifer O'Leary ready to do battle for Barryroe.

## CORK RECORD VICTORY OVER LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

**T**HE senior team got their Foras Na Gaeilge All Ireland Senior camogie championship off to a good start with a victory over Galway in at Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday last. Galway left the venue shattered after coming so close to taking the spoils but credit to Cork and their backroom team who hung in their and grabbed the vital scores deep into injury time. Galway will no doubt feel they deserved more for their efforts over the hour but as in the league final it was anybody's game up to the final whistle and thankfully this time Cork were the ones ahead.

With the sides level on six occasions it was a last gasp point one minute into injury time from substitute Angela Walsh that ensured victory.

Galway playing with the aid of the strong wind and had a two point advantage with points from Lourda Kavanagh, it was ten minutes before Cork got on the scoreboard Rachel Moloney beating Stephanie Gannon with a ground shot to the net. Galway continued to put the Cork defence under pressure and levelled with a Breda Kearns point and with Lourda Kavanagh pointing Galway restored their advantage. Jennifer O'Leary and Lourda Kavanagh twice swapped points from placed balls with Veronica Curtin contributing one from play as Galway held the lead to the break 0-8 to 1-2.

Inside three minutes of the restart Cork led Jennifer O'Leary pointed an early free before Stephanie Dunlea volleyed to the net after Elaine Burke saw her effort come back off the upright. Lourda Kavanagh again showed her accuracy as the sides remained deadlocked, Cork hit the front twice but Galway quickly gained parity, Aoife

Lynskey edged the Westerners into the lead as Galway gained a grip in midfield, and Cork found it hard to make progress.

Emer Dillon restored parity as both sides battled for supremacy and suddenly the game had come to life, Veronica Curtin had a Galway point with four minutes remaining and it looked to be enough as they continued to repel several Cork attacks.

Cork introduced Briege Corkery to their midfield with two minutes remaining and she made an immediate impact, turning defence into attack with the first ball she won, before setting up Jennifer O'Leary to level on thirty minutes.

From the puck out Cork again attacked and showing tremendous calmness substitute Angela Walsh pointed to give Cork a victory that did not look possible at the three-quarter mark.

Selector Ollie Hallihan gave me this reaction "We definitely got out of jail and are mighty lucky to have won, we introduced Briege Corkery and she lifted the team making a huge contribution carrying the ball out of defence and the laying it off superbly, we held our heads and never left them away from us and we are delighted with the victory, we still have a huge amount of work to do but I feel today's game will stand to us, it was a good hard game. Wexford are next in two weeks time and they will be a huge obstacle, but we will work hard and face them confidently" With the victory secured Cork will be confident of advancing from the group of three where two go forward to the semi-final stages.

They now meet Wexford on July 17th while Galway and Wexford clash a week later.

## CamogieChat

With Mary Newman

## Championship action

**CHAMPIONSHIP** in senior A and B dominate the local fixture schedule this week and in a change of format this year in the senior "A" all the clubs play in round one with the winners progressing to round three the losing teams playing the divisional sides in round two. Two divisional sides will have to play a preliminary round game with the winners going to round two. The Senior B will be played on a round robin basis of two groups with the top two teams from each going forward to the semi finals.

Already last evening three games will have taken place as Cloughduv met Milford, Fr O'Neill's having taken on Inniscarra and in a preliminary round clash Avondhu met Muskerry.

This evening we have a double header in Brinney at 7pm Aghabullogue make their return to senior "A" grade and they face a Barryroe side that will look to inter county players Rosarie Holland and Jennifer O'Leary to guide them to round three this is followed by the

clash of neighbours Courcy Rovers against Kilbrittan at 8.15pm.

Already last week we have had the first game in Senior B as Ballinhassig and Glen Rovers played out an exciting contest in Shanbally. Ballinhassig's Laura Jeffers was the star of the show as she turned in a superb display between the posts to help her side record a victory. Tomorrow evening in Blackrock at 8pm it's the first game for Ballygarvan and Bishopstown when they meet at 8pm. A double header on Saturday as the Ballygarvan venue hosts Eire Og against Valley Rovers in senior B at 7pm and at 8.15pm UCC meet St Finbarrs in senior A. The action continues on Sunday as St Catherine's and Carrigaline come head to head at 11.30am in their opening round Senior B game and a venue is awaited for this game.

All in all a hectic week of championship action and its all to play for so get along enjoy the games.



July 2005

Milford 1-10  
Cloughduv 0-13

WHEN the draw was made for the first round of Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Cork Camogie Senior County Camogie Championship, this tie made the mouth because it could have so easily been the pairing for the final.

Both Milford and Cloughduv put in a wonderful display of camogie as they played out a draw in Coachford last night.

It seemed as if Milford had just done enough to secure entry to the next round when in the fifth minute of stoppage time, Stephanie Dunlea pointed from the wing to send the match to a replay.

With intercounty stars on both sides, this star-studded contest didn't disappoint especially with experienced Cork and Cloughduv's full forward, Stephanie Dunlea facing off against her county team-mate, Milford's full-back Elaine O'Riordan.

While at the other end, Milford's Emer Watson and Eimear O'Friel had to attempt to beat Cork goalkeeper Aoife Murray.

After Cloughduv established an early two point lead, Milford drew level and the sides were score for score until the half-time whistle sounded.

Milford just about deserved to be ahead by a point at the break as they hurled better and Julia Sheehy and Maria Watson scored some great points under pressure, while Cloughduv were dependent on Stephanie Dunlea to point from frees.

Dunlea levelled the game within minutes of the restart before Milford's Regina Curtin transformed a defensive situation into attack as she delivered a long ball into the square for Emer Watson to collect and she side stepped the challenges before scoring past Murray.

But Milford failed to maintain momentum and capitalise fully after the goal and Cloughduv scored four unanswered points to draw level.

Curtin was arguably the best player on the pitch. On a number of occasions she was the vital difference as she broke up Cloughduv's attacks and forced them to rely on Dunlea for scores. Cloughduv did look pretty clueless at times in attack and they struggled to create meaningful chances. They without a question of a doubt played the better camogie in the second half and dominated pos-



Regina Curtin in action during the O'Leary Builder Bros. Cork Senior Camogie Championship clash in Coachford last night.  
Picture: Larry Cummins

# Cloughduv, Milford to meet again

By PJ AHERN  
in Coachford

session but they were kept at bay by stern Milford defending.

Milford were struggling to get the ball forward but they appeared to have snatched victory with two points from Watson and O'Friel eased them into a one-point lead with time almost up.

But Cloughduv never wilted and

stuck to their task to find an equaliser and they were rewarded deep into injury-time when Dunlea sailed the ball over the bar from the right wing.

In the end it was a fair result as neither side deserved to walk through the exit door but they will have to improve next week if they are to have a future in the Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Cork Camogie Senior Championship.

**Scorers for Milford:** E Watson 1-4 (0-3 frees), M Watson 0-3, E O'Friel 0-1, J Sheehy 0-1, C O'Gorman 0-1.

**Cloughduv:** S Dunlea 0-8 (0-7 frees), U O'Donoghue 0-3, K Corkery 0-1, S Buckley 0-1.

**MILFORD:** E Lenihan, D Hayes, E O'Riordan, L Healy, C O'Gorman, R Curtin, S Sexton, A Geary, A Watson, D O'Reilly, J Sheehy, S O'Reilly, E O'Friel, E Watson, M Watson.

**Subs:** L Long for M Watson, T McLaughlin for A Watson.

**CLOUGHDUV:** A Murray, O O'Callaghan, S Corkery, S Corkery, J O'Callaghan, E Dunne, B Corkery, M Corkery, A Buckley, U O'Donoghue, S Buckley, J Lucey, K Corkery, S Dunlea, C Cronin.

## Inniscarra secure comfortable victory

Inniscarra 3-9  
Fr O'Neill's 1-4

INNISCARRA were able to afford the luxury of shooting eleven wides over the hour as they recorded a comfortable victory over Fr O'Neill's in round one of the Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Senior camogie championship in Ballinhassig last evening, writes Mary Newman.

It was Inniscarra who led by 0-5 to 0-1 at the interval thanks to the accuracy of Niamh Dilworth with four out of four from placed balls and one from Grainne O'Mahoney from play.

Fr O'Neill's point came from Nora Ahern in the 17th minute from play

as her side struggled to breach the Inniscarra defence.

On the resumption Marie O'Connell and Rena Buckley pointed to stretch the advantage but O'Neill's rallied and began to play with more confidence driven on mainly by the inspirational play of defender Anna Corcoran who performed magnificently for the hour.

Applying the pressure they missed two goal opportunities before Inniscarra's Niamh Dilworth made no mistake after an attacking run set up by Rena Buckley, substitute Aoife Kavanagh pointed and one sensed the floodgates would open.

Showing great fighting spirit Fr O'Neill's refused to die and inside ten minutes had reduced the lead to six

points.

Katie Ahern pointed a free before cutting a superb sideline ball all the way to the net past the bewildered defence and now Inniscarra were being made work hard as Marie O'Connell relieved the pressure with a point.

Showing great leadership, Mags Finn had it back to five with two O'Neill's points and seven minutes remaining.

Inniscarra now had a fight to hold their advantage but they responded in style. Two goals in the 28th and 32nd minute from corner-forward Liz Hayes finally killed the O'Neill's second half revival and on the balance of play any other result would have been an injustice.

Inniscarra now go forward to a

quarter-final meeting with Courcsey Rovers or Kilbrittain and for Fr O'Neill's it's a second chance with a back door meeting against Seandun in round two.

**INNISCARRA:** O. Murphy, R McCarthy, E Dinneen, M Buckley, T Murphy, R Buckley (0-1), K Ryan, M N O'Sullivan (captain), N Dilworth (1-4, 0-4 from frees, 1g from play), M O'Connell (0-2), L Hayes (2-0), F O'Connell, G O'Mahony (0-1), S Ni Riain, A Golden.

**Subs:** A Kavanagh (0-1 pt) for A Golden (h/t), C O'Connell for F O'Connell (53 min).

**FR O'NEILL'S:** C Coleman, A Corcoran, L Sweetnam, C Day, M O'Brien, C Madden, S Kearney, V O'Sullivan, N Ahern (0-1p), U Day, C O'Keefe, C O'Leary, K O'Sullivan, M Finn (captain), 0-2, 0-1, 0-10 F O'Keefe.

**Subs:** K Ahern (1-1, 0-1 from free, 1g side-line) for F O'Keefe (35min) D O'Leary for C O'Keefe (44min).

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

## Barryroe may just have too much

AN INTERESTING double header in Brinney this evening as the Mercury Lounge and Restaurant senior county camogie championship continues, writes Mary Newman.

Aghbullogue make a welcome return to Senior "A" grade following their victory in the B competition last year and they face a tough opener against a Barryroe side who have promised much over the last few seasons.

Barryroe are very focused on progressing and are backboned by their inter-county senior players Jennifer O'Leary and Rosalie Holland while experienced keeper Cora Keohane commands a firm grip on their defence. Louise Gannon, Karen McCarthy and Carol Hannon are amongst their stars and they may have too much experience for the Mid Cork girls, who are coached by former Cork minor hurling selector Mort Murphy.

Included in the Aghbullogue line up are several players who have lined out with successful Coachford College sides and certainly they will not fear the challenge posed by Barryroe. Joan Twomey and Mary Buckley, both students, are out of the county working but Brid Twomey, Marion Twomey and Sile Marie Crowley will give it their all to record a victory for the Mid Cork girls.

Near neighbours Courcsey Rovers and Kilbrittain meet in the second game and here pride will be very much at stake as much as a place in round three. For the losers the prize is a meeting with county championship outfit Camidghoun and certainly both will be anxious to avoid this.

Kilbrittain, in their second year in Senior A, have been acquitting themselves well in recent league and challenge games and they will push Courcsey to the limits.

They are a solid all round team and have match winners in last year all Ireland winning Captain Val O'Keefe, the tenacious Miriam Deasy and Claire Deasy.

The year's experience will have stood to them and they will be determined to make it to a third round meeting with the winners of the Inniscarra / Fr O'Neill's clash.

Courcsey's had a good first round victory last season but went out to Imokilly in round two.

They have had some excellent under age players amongst them senior Cork seniors Rachel Moloney and Sarah Hayes.

Hayes, who has been out of the country since earlier this year, is nonetheless expected to make an appearance.

Joanne Hayes, Claire Murphy and Samantha Quinn will also be to the fore as they strive to hold off the challenge of a Kilbrittain / Timoleague side who are full of spirit and determination.

Predicting winners is a tricky business but head on the block time it must be and I go for Kilbrittain and Barryroe to advance with the back door option not a bad one for the losers to muse over.



July 2005

# Avondhu in total control

Avondhu 1-7  
Muskerry 0-4

**PERSISTENCE** and real gutsy determination saw Avondhu through to the next round of the Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Cork Camogie Senior County Championship, after they got the better of Muskerry in Coachford last night.

Erratic shooting and poor decision making almost cost the North Cork girls on a night when they hit 15 wides and were denied on a number of occasions by Muskerry goalkeeper, Tina O'Donnell.

Both sides were level after eight minutes Paula O'Connor and Elaine Vaughan exchanged points.

There wasn't a further score for a full ten minutes and while Avondhu dominated possession they failed to put it to particularly good use.

When in possession throughout the game, Avondhu players were over-carrying the sliothar instead of using or looking for available players to progress the attack.

Two points from Muskerry's Linda Dorgan and a point Denise Cronin eased Muskerry into a three-point advantage.

At both ends the full backs were strong and in control of the game while Avondhu's Paula O'Connor was influential in leading her side's charge as on more than one occasion she soloed the ball clear from danger.

Time and again goalkeeper O'Donnell was equal to the long range efforts which dropped short and prevented Avondhu narrowing the gap at the break with as



Muskerry's Adel Kiely and Avondhu's Michelle O'Connor clash in the O'Leary Builder Bros. Cork Senior Camogie Championship clash against Avondhu in Coachford last night.

Picture: Larry Cummins

By PJ AHERN

In Coachford

she denied Karen O'Leary with a point blank save.

In the second half, Avondhu finally made an impression on the scoreboard as O'Connor glided two frees between the posts.

Muskerry continued to defend bravely as Avondhu's shooting failed to improve but the North Cork side was boosted when Mary Coleman's long-range shot was not dealt with and it ended up in the net.

Muskerry rarely troubled the Avondhu defence in the second half but they did have a late chance of goal, which was cleared by O'Connor.

Players such as Muskerry's Dorgan, Elaine Casey, Elaine Vaughan and Adel Kiely all fought hard to haul their side back into contention but to no avail.

A Coleman point and one from Kathleen O'Brien sealed the victory for Avondhu and with the final whistle came relief because despite some awful shooting they progressed to the next round.

**Scorers for Avondhu:** M Coleman 1-2, P O'Connor 0-3 (0-3 free), F Killeen 0-1, K O'Brien 0-1.

**Muskerry:** L Dorgan 0-2 (0-1 free), D Cronin 0-1 (0-1 free), E Vaughan 0-1.

**AVONDHU:** V McCormack, M Sheedy, N Bowles, E Waters, S McEniry, P O'Connor, A Kelleher, M Coleman, M O'Keefe, M O'Connor, M T Foley, F Killeen, E Murphy, K McAuliffe, M Walsh.

**Subs:** S Sheehan for A Kelleher, K O'Leary for M O'Keefe, M Walsh for S Sheehan. **MUSKERRY:** T O'Donnell, L Buckley, C Foley, A Kiely, M Foley, J Vaughan, M O'Donoghue, L Dorgan, E Casey, A Collins, L West, C Hourihan, D Cronin, C Waldoock, D Hourihan.

**Subs:** C Ryan for D Hourihan, G Hourihan for C Waldoock.

**Referee:** T Sheehan (Mayfield).

**CLARE CHAMPIONS:** Clare proved far too good for Limerick in the Munster junior camogie championship final, winning 5-18 to 0-6.

Three fine first-half goals from Catherine O'Loughlin, captain Deirdre Murphy and Claire Commane put them in control and they led 3-10 to 0-3 at the break. Commane, Elaine Gallery and Claire McMahon heaped further misery on the hosts after the break.

Dublin are back in the limelight for the first time in 14 years following their 4-11 to 0-6 victory over Laois in the Leinster Junior championship final in St Peregrine on Saturday. Goals from corner forward Niamh Taylor and 2004 All-Star nominee Louise O'Hara had the Dubs 2-5 to 0-3 ahead at the break.

Further goals from full-forward, Eve Talbot and Gillian McCluskey secured victory for the young Dubs who will meet Armagh in the semi-final on August 13.



Bob O'Leary and Mark O'Regan of the Mercury Restaurant and Lounge, Washington Street, Cork, sponsors of the Cork County Senior Camogie A and B Championships, join representatives of all the participating teams in this year's championships.

Picture: Howard Crowdy



July 2005

# Barryroe never in any danger

Barryroe 4-16  
Aghabullogue 2-04

**BARRYROE** condemned last year's Senior B champs Aghabullogue to the backdoor in the Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Senior Camogie Championship in Brinny last night.

In truth, Barryroe were always in control and despite conceding two poor first-half goals, they never looked to be in danger.

Barryroe turned in an astonishing second-half performance, which saw them outscore Aghabullogue by 4-09 to 0-2.

The contribution of Jennifer O'Leary is highly significant as she scored 2-09 and Barryroe may find themselves in trouble should she have an off day or suffer an injury as they over rely on her for scores and to hurl them out of danger.

The game began frantically with both sides showing fine touches, but it was Barryroe who enjoyed the majority of possession and it took them six minutes to register a score through Jennifer O'Leary.

Aghabullogue's Fiona Buckley equalised before O'Leary repeated the trick.

Poor defending allowed Niamh O'Connell to feed the ball to Ciara Murphy who capitalised by kicking the ball to the net.

Barryroe drew level, but once again their good work was undone as Sheila Marie Crowley floated the sliotar into the box but it wasn't dealt with and Mary O'Sullivan punished with a goal.

Aghabullogue lead at the



Aghabullogue's Mary Twomey clears from Barryroe's Jo Cahalane during their Cork Senior Camogie Championship clash in Brinny last night.

Picture: Neil Danton



PJ Aherne

break by 2-2 to 0-7, but Barryroe kicked up a gear in the second half as the pace of the game dropped.

And within a minute, Mary Sheehy had netted and put her side in front for the first time since the thirteenth minute.

Barryroe began to run riot and the reigning B champions had no answer.

Once the threats of Ciara Murphy, Sheila Marie Crowley and Fiona Buckley had been neutralised, Aghabullogue were toothless and could only contribute two points to the scoreboard in the second-half.

The highlight of Barryroe's goals in the second-half was a wonderful ground strike by Mary Sheehy, which whizzed past the keeper and to the corner of the net.

Despite missing seven of their squad Barryroe advanced, but it is hard to judge how far they will go in this championship,

while Aghabullogue have a chance to redeem themselves against Avondhu.

**Scorers for Barryroe:** J O'Leary 2-9 (1-3 frees, 0-1 45s), M Sheehy 2-2, G Collins 1-4, I Dineen 0-1.

**Aghabullogue:** C Murphy 1-1, M O'Sullivan 1-0, B Twomey 0-1, S Crowley, L Murphy 0-1 free each.

**BARRYROE:** E White, P Moloney, A Fleming, L McCarthy, N O'Driscoll, R Holland, M O'Brien, K McCarthy, I Dineen, C Dineen, G Collins, J Cahalane, L Whelton, J O'Leary, M Sheehy.

**AGHABULLOGUE:** N Moynihan, L Ronan, T Roche, M Twomey, M Twomey, S Buckley, P Trainer, F Buckley, B Twomey, S Crowley, C Murphy, N O'Connell, C Kiely, M O'Sullivan, L Murphy.

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

## Moloney runs the show for Courceys

Courcey Rovers 4-9  
Kilbrittain/Timoleague 1-10

RACHEL MOLONEY ran the show for Courcey Rovers as they defeated Kilbrittain/Timoleague in the Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Senior Camogie Championship in Brinny last night, writes PJ AHERNE.

Moloney scored 0-9 and was influential in the goals which her side scored as Kilbrittain/Timoleague suffered a collapse which saw them fail to score between the 15th minute when they led by three points and 14 minutes into the second half.

After eight minutes, Kilbrittain/Timoleague led by four points to one but their defence contributed to their ultimate downfall.

Noelle Collins found Rose Mary Moloney in acres of space as and with the Kilbrittain/Timoleague full-back line nowhere to be found, Moloney duly punished with a goal.

The move was repeated moments later but this time the keeper denied her.

Kilbrittain/Timoleague's Eilish O'Sullivan goaled to extend her side's lead to three points.

Inadequate defending led to Courcey being awarded a penalty but Rachel Moloney's strike was saved by the outstretched camán of Marion Murphy.

By now Courcey Rovers were in total control and with Val O'Keeffe silenced her Kilbrittain/Timoleague team-mates were struggling to supply meaningful ball to the forwards.

Courcey's Rachel Moloney continued to point from frees and play while Rose Mary Moloney popped up with a second goal on the half-time whistle.

Courcey Rovers led by 2-07 to 1-05 at the break.

Rachel Moloney pointed twice with frees from considerable distance before from nothing she started a move, which set up Samanta Rosie Claire to goal.

Kilbrittain/Timoleague finally awoke and scored four unanswered points; hopes were rising of a miracle recovery. Kilbrittain/Timoleague's short revival was soon shattered when Rose Mary Moloney scored her third goal of the game.

Just like Barryroe, Courcey Rovers need to find another scoring outlet other than Rachel Moloney if they are to have any future in the championship, while Kilbrittain/Timoleague need to find a spark, which will help them to sustain their challenge.

**Scorers for Courcey Rovers:** R M Moloney 3-0, R Moloney 0-9 (0-6 frees 0-2 45s), S Claire 1-0.

**Kilbrittain/Timoleague:** V O'Keeffe 0-5 (0-4 frees), E O'Sullivan 1-0, D O'Sullivan, M Deasy, C Deasy, C Cotter, M Murphy 0-1 each.

**COURCEY ROVERS:** J Hayes, S Allen, S Hayes, J Murphy, K Keohane, M O'Donovan, S O'Regan, M O'Regan, R Moloney, N Collins, S Claire, R Moloney, C Murphy, A Twomey, C O'Neill. Subs: U Quinn for A Twomey, S Downing for K Keohane.

**KILBRITTAIN/TIMOLEAGUE:** E O'Regan, S O'Donovan, D Coughlan, E O'Donovan, A O'Sullivan, E O'Sullivan, C Deasy, V O'Keeffe, L Kavanagh, M Murphy, E O'Sullivan, D O'Sullivan, A Desmond, M Deasy, C Deasy. Subs: C Cotter for L Kavanagh.

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

## Ballygarvan looking to make up for loss

LAST season's defeated finalists Ballygarvan will go into this evening's Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Senior B camogie champions clash with Bishopstown in Blackrock as favourites (8pm).

This season the B championship is being played on a round robin basis of two groups with the top two in reach advancing to the semi-final.

Ballygarvan, backboned by senior inter county players Emer Dillon and Jennifer Browne, supplied twelve players to the Carrigrohoun side who were crowned Senior A champions in 2004.

Last season they were favoured to make it a double and take the B title with ease but lost out to a determ-

By MARY NEWMAN  
Camogie Previews

ined Aghabullogue in the final and they make no secret of their desire to go one better this season.

Bishopstown have this season regraded to senior B and are in the process of team building following on some wonderful success in the 1990s.

Their team will be a mixture of youth and experience and will be built around the experienced Eithne Duggan, senior panellist Ciara Healy, Jean O'Sullivan and Ciara Enright and they have prepared well under the watchful eye of Seamus O'Sullivan but for their first game in a series of three it may

be a bridge just too far for them to get over.

Valley Rovers face Éire Óg tomorrow evening in Ballygarvan at 7pm. Erin Corkery, Lisa Marie O'Mahony and Margaret O'Herlihy are youngsters who have already enjoyed plenty of championship success and if they can blend in with the more experienced players such as Ellen O'Herlihy and Avril Desmond they could upset Valley Rovers' aspirations.

Carrigaline come up against St Catherine's on Sunday in Watergrasshill at 11.30am and the Conna side, who have been recording good results in the league to date, will be expected to have the edge over the Carrigaline side in

this round one clash, a verdict based on form shown to date but something which can go out the window at any time.

● The Senior A championship game between UCC and St Finbarrs, scheduled to take place on Saturday evening as part of a double header in Ballygarvan, will not now go ahead.

This comes about after UCC informed the county board last evening they would be unable to field a team as they do not have players available.

The decision not to field will to some extent upset the new format of the championship as the losers were to meet Carbery in round two with the winners going on to meet the

winners of Cloughdun / Milford or Imokilly in round three.

St Finbarrs will now go straight to round three and Carbery will also progress likewise and go to the quarter finals and meet the winners of the Fr O'Neills/Seandun tie.

Certainly not a very satisfactory outcome from the teams who are effected by UCC decision not to take part as it denies them extra games in the championship one of the reasons for the introduction of the back door system this season.

No doubt the county board will take a dim view of the college's decision not to field a team for the 2005 running of the competition when they meet on Monday week next for their fortnightly meeting.





The introduction of Brieg Corkery (left), and Angela Walsh to the Cork side paid huge dividends in the game against Galway two weeks ago.

## Wexford a big hurdle

IT'S a return to senior championship action this week as the Foras Na Gaeilge championship continues with Cork and Wexford in action in Wexford on Saturday.

With a first round victory over Galway already under their belts Cork will be hoping to make it a second win and ensure a semi-final spot, thus leaving Galway and Wexford to battle it out for the second semi-final place.

Already Cork have recorded a league semi-final victory over Wexford when the sides met on May 6, but this was by the narrowest of margins and no doubt with both side

minus key players on that occasion this time out it will be a different story.

While not having taken any major honours at minor or junior level the success of Oulart the Ballagh in Feile na nGael and Colaiste Brid at colleges level in recent year has set the foundations and surely it is only a matter of time before the Wexford breakthrough is finally achieved.

While several of their players are young they do not lack experience and Kate Kelly, Aine Codd, Una and Mary Lacey, and Clare O'Connor will be very much

to the fore as they go in search of a victory.

Cork, under the new management team this season of John Cronin, Fiona O'Driscoll, Lillian Zinkant and Ollie Hallihan have made steady progress, and despite losing the league final to Galway they bounced back to record a vital championship victory over the same opposition two weeks ago.

Again for long spells Cork were out of this game, but they didn't panic and the introduction of substitutes Brieg Corkery and Angela Walsh paid huge dividends with Walsh calmly slotting

over the winning point deep in injury time. Certainly the reaction from Galway after this game told its own story as they felt they should have got a little more for their endeavours but all credit to Cork.

The selectors are waiting until later in the week to announce a starting 15, and it will be interesting to see if they decide to make changes to an attack that against Galway lacked bite, while in defence Joanne O'Callaghan, who did not start last day due to injury, will be expected to make a return, but to whose exclusion is anybody's guess.

## Top class fare in Senior A, B c'ships

THE Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Senior A and B championships continued through a busy camogie week with no fewer than eight games played. In all but one game there were results while Milford and Cloughduv will have to do it all again following an exciting draw.

There was just one preliminary round game in the Senior A championship and this was an all divisional meeting of Avondhu and Muskerry, as it was an all divisional affair there was no way back for the losers. Muskerry were forced to field without the Eire Og players as they were involved later in the week with their club but this did not detract from their effort and in a close contest which was level at the interval Muskerry had to give way to an Avondhu side who notched up a 1-7 to 0-4 victory.

The introduction of the new back door format did not upset the enthusiasm of the clubs who battled it out in round one of the Senior A championship.

The trend for the week was set by Milford and Cloughduv on Wednesday evening. It took a point four minutes into injury from Inter county senior player Stephanie Dun-

lea to earn Cloughduv a draw. With the Cork seniors in championship action next weekend a replay date will most likely be the following week.

On the same evening, Inniscarra and Fr O Neills played out a lively contest with the Mid Cork girls finally wearing down the hard working Ballymacoda side.

In round three, Inniscarra will meet Courcey Rovers while Fr O Neills face into round two against city representatives Seandun.

Next port of call was Brinney on Thursday night and here Barryroe had to weather a tough opening half before shaking off the challenge posed by last year's Senior B winners Aghabullogue.

Kilbrittan now play Carrigdhoun with the winners meeting the winners from the Milford or Cloughduv replay, and the winners from this meeting Barryroe in the quarter final.

The second game in Brinney was the local derby meeting of Courcey Rovers and Kilbrittan/Timoleague and it was Courcey's who booked a quarter final place against Inniscarra.

The remainder of the week belonged to the Senior B

championship. Bishopstown took on Ballygarvan. Ciara Healy kept Bishopstown in touch with excellent free taking after Ballygarvan had grabbed a goal by Margaret Murphy. Sarah Donovan, with a midway goal, extended the advantage and with the Ballygarvan holding a firm grip on the Bishopstown attack, the gap widened. Two goals three minutes from half-time from Miriam Crowley and Trish Doyle had edged Bishopstown in front before Healy again pointed a free.

On the turn over it was Bishopstown who extended their advantage but Ballygarvan gradually got on top and points from Catriona Kelly (2) and Emer Dillon had the teams level. Healy again edged her side into control but the pressure finally told with last year's defeated finalists pulling away with points from Catriona Kelly, and Sarah Donovan.

Eire Og met last year's Junior A county champions Valley Rovers on Saturday. The Mid Cork side did not have huge expectations but, on their display, they have plenty to look forward to. At the break they trailed by two points, Liz Bugler and Mari-

on Cottrell's points in the 25 and 30th minute separating the teams. Valley Rovers had stretched the advantage to three points by the mid way stage but a goal from Ciara McKenna levelled matters with 10 minutes remaining. The cheering had hardly died down when Majella McCarthy grabbed one at the other end and Valley Rovers were back in control. Margaret O Herlihy had the gap back to four as Eire Og continued to press but they were struck a killer blow six minutes from full time when Marion Cottrell's shot for goal was deflected to the net. Ellen O Herlihy had a point back but it was Valley Rovers who finished stronger with points from Cottrell and Liz Bugler to seal victory.

St Catherine's proved too strong for Carrigaline on a 1-20 to 1-3 score line on Sunday with Denise Twomey, Orla Cotter, Deirdre Twomey and Lisa Higgins all contributing to the scoresheet.

Just one game this week as the Senior B second rounds get under way and it's a meeting between Ballinhassig, who two weeks ago beat Glen Rovers, meeting Bishopstown — venue still to be announced.

## 'Garvan hold their composure

By PJ AHERN

Senior B Camogie Championship

Ballygarvan  
Bishopstown

2-10  
2-8

BALLYGARVAN emerged victorious when they defeated Bishopstown in an absorbing Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Senior B Camogie Championship contest in Blackrock last night.

Despite a superb opening few minutes which saw Ballygarvan side lead by six points, it wasn't until the final ten minutes that they got on top and scored the vital scores.

Bishopstown can count themselves unlucky having competed well and showed great heart in their club colours.

But just like so many camogie games this week, they relied on one player, Ciara Healy, to pick off points and it cost them dearly in the end.

Ballygarvan were dominating midfield and they ran at the Bishopstown backs.

While the Bishopstown puck-out was strong it was the Ballygarvan girls that utilised it to their advantage.

Ballygarvan scored a goal through Margaret Murphy, which bordered on a square ball.

The second Ballygarvan goal came from a poor clearance by the Bishopstown back-line and it was duly dispatched to the net by Sarah O'Donovan.

Throughout the match Ballygarvan were not comfortable at the back and they were forced into conceding a high number of frees when Bishopstown attacked.

It was the switch of Ciara Healy from full-forward to half-forward that worked a treat and brought Bishopstown back into the game after their slow start.

The move contributed to Bishopstown going in at the break ahead by 2-6 to 2-4. The two Bishopstown goals came through Miriam Crowley who soloed good distance before unleashing a powerful drive to the net and Trish Doyle followed up with a goal in first half injury time.

The second half was a much more tense affair with a number of wild pulls by both sides.

A Ciara Healy point four minutes into the second half extended Bishopstown's lead to three points.

Ballygarvan, however, were undeterred and quickly drew level as they were rewarded with points for the pressure they laid on their opponents' defence.

After Healy added another point and Bishopstown missed vital opportunities to increase the lead, Ballygarvan took full advantage in the final ten minutes and scored three unanswered points to win by two points.

Ballygarvan were relieved at the final whistle and will now be confident of progressing from the round robin stages of the championship.

Meanwhile Bishopstown can take heart from the performances of full back Eithne Duggan, Miriam Crowley and Trish Doyle.

**Scorers for Ballygarvan:** C Kelly 0-6 (0-4 frees), S O'Donovan 1-1, M Murphy 1-0, E Dillon 0-2 (0-1 free), S Lynch 0-1.

**Bishopstown:** C Healy 0-8 (0-7 frees), M Crowley 1-0, T Doyle 1-0.

**BALLYGARVAN:** A Moynihan, B Browne, J Browne, D Crowley, M Hallihane, E Dillon, S O'Halloran, S O'Donovan, V Browne, M Murphy, C Kelly, C Dillon, S Lynch, N Hallihane, M Ryan.

**Subs:** A Browne for M Ryan, M Dunne for M Murphy, D O'Mahony for N Hallihane.

**BISHOPSTOWN:** C Fogarty, E Foyle, E Duggan, S O'Donoghue, S Kelly, J O'Sullivan, C Enright, J Browne, M Crowley, F Shanahan, T Doyle, O Ni Dhomhnaill, D Coughlan, C Healy, C Kenny.

**Subs:** O Gleeson for F Shanahan, O Crowley for D Coughlan.

**Referee:** C Egan (Glen Rovers)



Mark O'Regan, Manager Mercury Restaurant and Lounge, Washington Street, Cork, seen presenting Marion McCarthy, Chairperson Cork County Camogie Board with a sponsorship cheque for this years Cork County Senior A and B Camogie Championships in Cork. Also pictured are officers of the Cork County Camogie Board, Bob O'Leary (Mercury Restaurant and Lounge) and representatives of all of the senior teams. Picture: Howard Crowley



Pictured at the launch of the Mercury Restaurant and Lounge sponsorship of the Cork Senior Camogie Championships were Aine O'Regan (Courcey Rovers), Sarah O'Donovan (Carrigdhoun), Elaine Burke (Valley Rovers) and Noelle O'Riordan, Milford



July 2005

# Rovers squeeze past Éire Óg

Valley Rovers 2-13  
Éire Óg 1-9

VALLEY ROVERS were given the fright of their lives by Éire Óg in the Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Senior B Camogie Championship in Ballygarvan on Saturday.

Containing nine players U16, one player U14 and only three players over the age of 19, Éire Óg were expected to be hurled off the pitch due to the inexperience and age of the side but they put it up to Valley Rovers for 53 minutes of the game.

With the game balanced, Éire Óg's Alanna McKenna suffered an injury in the first-half and was not replaced until seventeen minutes into the second-half.

While McKenna was superb in the first half as she added an extra dimension to the 'Óg back-line. She broke up play and prevents Valley Rovers from developing fluency in attack with her gone so was the protection and Rovers capitalised by scoring 2-6 in the second half.

But when she suffered an injury she remained on the pitch and was switched to full-forward before eventually being replaced. The switch to full-forward hampered the 'Óg attack.

Éire Óg were impressive in defence and didn't allow Valley Rovers any easy efforts.

Éire Óg were bunching in the forwards when they should have been spread out looking to create gaps and they also lacked confidence to strike at goal.

Last year's junior A champions, Valley Rovers hurled brilliantly and stuck to their task and they eventually made their experience and possession count in the final sprint for the line.

They led at the break by 0-7 to 0-5 thanks to the reliable free taking of



Elaine Burke (left) a reliable free-taker for Valley Rovers.

Picture: Inpho



Elaine Burke and they scored good points from play too after working openings in the solid Éire Óg back-line.

Mary Anne Hawkes and Liz Bugler were influential throughout the contest and kept their team-mates plugging away until they got the break, which eventually allowed them to win.

Éire Óg's Erin Corkery was a brilliant addition at corner forward and while she showed tremendous heart and courage she was tightly marked, also introduced to the fray was the Owens-based side's Feile Captain

Ciara O'Keeffe who showed great skill and bravery when operating on the wing and on the edge of the square.

Valley Rovers took total control of the game in the second half and pressured Éire Óg and they deservedly opened up a three-point advantage.

It appeared the balance of the game would swing in their opponents favour when Valley Rovers conceded a soft goal after Ciara McKenna stroked the ball to the net from considerable distance.

But Valley Rovers responded within a minute with a goal of their own, Majella McCarthy punishing indecisiveness in the Éire Óg defence. The game was ended as a contest with Marion Cottrell's shot being deflected to the net by

an Éire Óg player.

In the end the Valley Rovers' victory was deserved but the final score-line doesn't reflect the fine performance of the young Éire Óg side.

**Scorers for Valley Rovers:** E Burke 0-5 (0-3 frees, 0-1 45s); M Cottrell 1-2, L Bugler 0-3, M McCarthy 1-0, M Hawkes 0-1, C Deasy 0-1.

**Éire Óg:** M O'Herlihy 0-5 (0-5 frees), C McKenna 1-0, E Corkery 0-1, C O'Leary 0-1, M Corkery 0-1, E O'Herlihy 0-1.

**VALLEY ROVERS:** G Harrington, E Cottrell, L Davis, S Deasy, A Murphy, M Hurley, C McSweeney, L Hawkes, M Hawkes, M McCarthy, M Cottrell, L Bugler, O Deasy, E Burke, C Deasy.

**ÉIRE ÓG:** L O'Mahony, C McKenna, S Gleeson, A McCarthy, E O'Herlihy, A McKenna, E Kelleher, M Corkery, C McKenna, L Murphy, M O'Herlihy, C O'Leary, E Corkery, A Desmond, C Purcell.

**Subs:** S Desmond for A McKenna, C O'Keeffe for A Desmond.

**Referee:** C O'Neill (St. Finbarrs).

## Milford aim to turn the tables on Carrigdhoun

HAVING holidayed abroad these past couple of weeks I missed out on many senior A and B local championship clashes.

By LINDA MELLERICK  
Camogie

game.

Updated regularly it was interesting to learn who had advanced straight to round three and who had to avail of the new back-door system introduced this year for the first time into the senior A championship.

Out of all the ties the one I regretted missing was the Cloughduv and Milford game which went to a replay and in turn the replay went to extra time before Milford pulled away with two goals.

It was a typical Milford victory. How many times last year did we watch them fight to the bitter end and steal victory or, at the very least, scare the living day-lights out of the opposition?

The saying, 'it isn't over until the final whistle' epitomises Milford and they are strong contenders for this year's title.

Cloughduv lined out two days later against Imokilly in round two and, tired as they must have been, won by four points. They now advance to round three and so are still at the same stage of the competition as Milford.

Ironically, Milford's reward for their first round triumph is a meeting with County Champions Carrigdhoun — a repeat of last year's final.

Who can forget last year's final and the classic that it was? A game that produced 11 goals and 22 points.

Milford finished on the losing side but one wonders if they'll reverse that this year.

Carrigdhoun had their first outing during the week against Kilbrittain/Timo-league and had a comfortable victory.

They could well do with a couple of more competitive matches before facing such opposition as Milford.

The North Cork side at this stage are in their stride after two tough encounters with Cloughduv and could gain revenge.

Cloughduv now play St Finbarr's who advanced directly to round three after receiving a walkover from UCC.

I think its appalling when clubs/counties enter competitions and then don't field. Any side that does this should be omitted from the championship the following year. The walkover doesn't do the Barrs any favours.

They are the only senior A club at this stage not to have played a championship

A lot was expected of the Barrs over the past couple of seasons but it didn't materialise. I haven't seen them play this year so I can't comment on how well they are going but Cloughduv will be hard to beat.

The two sides met in an enthralling encounter 12 months ago with the Barrs coming out on top: 0-13 to 1-7. Milford, Carrigdhoun, Cloughduv and St Finbarr's are the top four teams at the moment. Putting my neck on the line, my bet is Milford.

Fr O'Neill's are out of the competition having lost to Inniscarra and Seandún respectively.

Aghabullogue advanced having defeated Avondhu last Thursday evening and will now play the winners of the Barrs v Cloughduv.

Barryroe are also through and meet the winners of Carrigdhoun and Milford in the quarter-final. Carbery, Inniscarra, Courcey Rovers and Seandún are all through to the quarter final. Carbery play Seandún next Thursday 28 and Courcey meet Inniscarra on Saturday.

The decision to introduce the back-door system is proving a major success. The first round enthusiasm has not waned and it is great to see teams advancing to round three having originally lost round one.

Aghabullogue is one such team and in their first year up Senior A the volume of games will prove invaluable to them.

Meanwhile, the Senior B championship is well under way.

Ballygarvan defeated Bishopstown and Glen Rovers while Bishopstown defeated Ballinhassig.

Glen Rovers lost to Ballinhassig which means that should Ballygarvan beat Ballinhassig and top the group, the meeting of Bishopstown and the Glen could result in a three-way play-off should the Glen emerge victorious.

If Bishopstown win they go through.

The second group holds Valley Rovers, Carrigaline, Newcestown and St Catherine's. Valley Rovers and St Catherine's made it two wins out of two to go on level points.

Next week the excitement continues with two mouth-watering encounters — Milford versus Carrigdhoun and Cloughduv v St Finbarr's.

## Catherine's rack up the scores

St Catherine's 1-20  
Carrigaline 1-3

STRONGER in all sectors and possessing an ability to pick off points was vital as St Catherine's recorded an impressive victory in the first of their three games in the Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Senior B camogie Championship at a sweltering Watergrasshill yesterday. Four points separated the sides at the interval, five from the stick

of Orla Cotter with sisters Denise and Deirdre Twomey also contributing to ensuring the Conna girls were on eight by the mid way stage. Carrigaline's Laura Thompson hit a point while Emma Green's goal kept them within striking distance. From the start of the second half St Catherine's made their intentions known with Orla

Cotter, Lisa Higgins and the Twomey's striking five points between them without reply. Any chance of a Carrigaline revival was quashed when senior intercounty panellist Denise Twomey struck a Saints goal with 15 minutes remaining. Carrigaline fought back bravely with Laura Thompson adding two points but the St Catherine's forwards were in scoring form. They ran out convincing winners and certainly they will be a force to be reckoned with as this

championship progresses.

**ST CATHERINE'S:** Y O'Neill, S Noonan, A Galvin, H Lane, M Twomey, O Neville, A Hogan, F Noonan, E O'Keeffe, Deirdre Twomey (0-4), O Cotter (0-8), A M Hayes, L Higgins (0-2), T Leahy, Denise Twomey (1-5) **Subs:** M Mulcahy for A M Hayes, M Daly for T Leahy, A Fitzgerald for S Noonan (imp)

**CARRIGALINE:** A Kiely, C O Mahony, J O Keefe, L Kelleher, S O Keefe, C O Keefe, R O Herlihy, T O Keefe, L Thompson (0-3 points), G Morrissey, G Harrington, E Greene (1goal), M Conlon, C Fitzgerald **Subs:** U O Farrell for C Fitzgerald, E Power for S O Keefe, J Kiernan for J O Keefe, S Moran for C O Mahony

**Referee:** D O Leary Watergrasshill





Seandún  
Fr O'Neill's

PJ  
Ahern  
6-11  
1-05

# Seandún make a great return

SEANDÚN made a winning return to the Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Senior A Championship when they defeated Fr O'Neill's in Carrigtwohill last night.

Playing in the championship for the first time since 2003, Seandún powered their way to victory with an awesome show of strength from full-forward Ciara Healy, who scored a hat-trick of goals in the first 12 minutes and went on to register 4-6 in total.

Fr O'Neill's never recovered from the shock and awe tactics and struggled to overcome a nightmare first-half performance.

Fr O'Neill's opened the scoring with a Nora Ahern point after four minutes. Ahern showed a great turn of pace to race into space before slotting over.

Seandún's Charlotte Kearney equalised soon after. Kearney enjoyed a superb start to the game and she was in the mix of Seandún's powerful start as she troubled the Fr O'Neill's half-back line.

Ciara Healy scored her first goal after seven minutes, her long-range shot sailing to the net as the ball became lost in the strong evening sunshine by the Fr O'Neill's keeper. Thirty seconds later Healy grabbed another goal with a low drive to the net. The hat-trick was complete four minutes later as she pounced on incompetent defending by the East Cork side.

Seandún were in control and the influence of Fr O'Neill's midfield duo Nora Ahern, who added a second point and Val O'Sullivan began to fade.

Fr O'Neill's were given a glimmer of hope at the end of the first half with a Katie Ahern goal leaving the Ballymacoda/Ladysbridge side trailing by 3-5 to 1-2.

O'Neill's made a positive start to the second half with a point from substitute Denise O'Leary after



Muskerry's Linda Dorgan chases Avondhu's Paula O'Connor in the Cork Senior Camogie Championship game against at Coachford. Picture: Larry Cummins

Claire Madden forced a good stop from Seandún keeper Michelle Gould.

It was all in vain as Seandún's Jenny O'Donovan floated a high ball from the wing and Grace Mulqueen jumped highest to claim the ball and slammed it to the net.

Fr O'Neill's began a period of pressure as they looked to narrow the gap and they were awarded four 45s in succession but their only reward was a solitary point by Karen O'Sullivan.

Captain Ciara Enright was strong in defence throughout for Seandún while Michelle Hegarty

was playing well at wing back.

With ten minutes remaining, Seandún powered home with goals coming from Ciara Healy and Doireann Murphy sealing the victory.

One could only feel sympathy for the demise of the 2003 champions, Fr O'Neill's, who struggled to find form in this year's championship, while Seandún progress to the next round.

It is difficult to gauge how they will perform but the side gelled together well last night and they should still be there at the semi-final stage.

**Scorers for Seandún:** C Healy 4-6 (0-2 frees), D Ni Mhuiri 1-1, M Crowley 0-2, C Kearney and R de Faite 0-1 each.

**Fr O'Neill's:** K Ahern 1-0, N Ahern 0-2, U Day, M Finn and K O'Sullivan 0-1 each.

**SEANDÚN:** M Gould, C Enright, C Meaney, N O'Donovan, N Goulding, J O'Sullivan, M Hegarty, G Mulqueen, D Murphy, M Crowley, E Keane, C Kearney, J O'Donovan, C Healy, D Ni Mhuiri.

**Subs:** R de Faite for D Murphy, O O'Riordan for D Ni Mhuiri, K O'Driscoll for C Enright, S Kelly for N O'Donovan, S O'Leary for J O'Donovan.

**FR O'NEILL'S:** C Coleman, S Kearney, L Sweetman, C Day, M O'Brien, C Madden, C O'Leary, N Ahern, V O'Sullivan, C O'Sullivan, K O'Sullivan, C O'Keefe, M Finn, K Ahern.

**Subs:** F O'Keefe for K O'Sullivan, A Griffin for C Day, D O'Leary for C O'Keefe, C O'Sullivan for M O'Brien.

**Referee:** D O'Leary

## Aghabullogue hold out for a sterling win

Aghabullogue  
Avondhu  
2-10  
1-11

AGHABULLOGUE held out for a two-point victory in this highly entertaining second round county senior A championship game in Donoughmore last evening.

Aghabullogue, having won the B title last year, gave a masterful performance to advance to round three after taking at least 15 minutes to get into their stride.

Avondhu started stronger and, showing superior teamwork, took some great scores. Paula O'Connor lauded it at

centerfield displaying some impressive stick work while Mary Coleman at left corner-forward gave the Aghabullogue defence a torrid time.

Aghabullogue, though struggling, were matching Avondhu for scores and found themselves only a point adrift after 16 minutes.

A magnificent individual goal after 19 minutes by Mary Coleman stretched the North Cork side's advantage to four. Gathering the ball 45 yards out she turned her marker, soloed and doubled first time to the net giving goalkeeper Nicole Moynihan no chance.

Niamh O'Connell replied

By LINDA MELLERICK  
Senior camogie

with a point which was matched again by Coleman.

Suddenly Aghabullogue were transformed. The goal seemed to spur new life into them. They completely dominated the last 10 minutes of the half and scoring 1-4 in 4 minutes knocked Avondhu for six. The half time whistle came too soon as they ended the half three points ahead: 1-9 to 1-6.

Mary O'Sullivan netted again two minutes into the second half and it looked as if Aghabullogue might now pull

away. However they were to score only once more for the remainder of the half, a free after 21 minutes.

Two frees by Michelle Brown and a magnificent score by Paula O'Connor from 60 yards reduced the deficit to three again. Niamh O'Connell pointed an important free with nine minutes remained to increase it to four.

With less than 10 minutes remaining, Avondhu threw everything at Aghabullogue.

Twice they bore down on goal only to be denied by two brilliant saves from Sinéad Buckley and goalkeeper Nicola Moynihan.

Aghabullogue defended well against the onslaught and eventually time ran out for Avondhu.

**Scorers Aghabullogue:** M O'Sullivan 2-1, N O'Connell 0-6 (0-5), L Murphy 0-2, C Murphy 0-1.

**Avondhu:** M Coleman 1-3, M Browne 0-4 (frees), P O'Connor 0-2 (0-1), K O'Brien 0-2.

**AGHABULLOGUE:** N Moynihan; L Rohan, T Roche, M Twomey; M Twomey, S Buckley, P Trainer; A Twomey, M O'Leary; S M Crowley, C Murphy, N O'Connell; C Kieley, M O'Sullivan, L Murphy. **Subs:** O McSweeney for A Twomey.

**AVONDHU:** V McCormick; K McAuliffe, N Bowles, M Sheedy; E Waters, S McInerney, E Murphy; P O'Connor, M P Foley, F Killeen, K O'Brien, M Coleman; M O'Keefe, M Browne, S O'Brien. **Subs:** K O'Leary for M P Foley, D Farrell for S McInerney, C Giltinane for M Sheedy.