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# CAMOGIE *world*

by Maire Ui Scolai

## A NEW BEGINNING

**W**ith Centenary year now in the background, teams and managers are firmly thinking of the forthcoming National League beginning on the 27th of this month. A new year always brings hope and in some cases many changes writes Maire Ui Scolai.

If last year's senior All-Ireland finalists Cork and Tipperary make it to Croke Park on September 18th this year, they will both do so with new managers. Double All-Ireland winning camogie manager Raymie Ryan of Tipperary stepped down having guided his team to the top, winning back to back Munster championships, completing a hat-trick in Centenary year of the Munster, National League and the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland titles. It might sound daunting to take



John Considine (pictured) has been succeeded as Cork manager by John Cronin

on such a task as defending all three titles, especially when one recalls the two narrow escapes the Premier County had last season at the hands of Wexford, in both the League Final and the All-Ireland semi-final. However, the man who stepped into Raymie's shoes, Paddy McCormack, is no stranger to Croke Park.

Paddy, who works as Games Development Officer in Thurles IT, has previously managed the Premier U21 hurlers as well as the minor hurlers. He also wore the Blue and Gold for a short time, but never made it to Croke Park, but come next September it is his hope to be standing on the sideline and not sitting as a spectator in either the Cusack or Hogan Stands.

"When asked by the County Board I was both delighted and honoured to be asked to take charge of the Tipperary team, they are a fine bunch of girls and I am looking forward to the challenge," commented Paddy, who has star forward and 2004 All Star Claire Grogan in his college. Like his predecessors, Paddy has not been involved with camogie teams before; however, he has seen the girls in action. The fact that he has not been involved previously with camogie teams may be a good omen for the Premier side. However, he knows one or two things about camogie and very much feels that Wexford will be putting it up to most counties this year.

It will be a big source of encouragement to the new manager that there is no talk of retirements so far in the Tipperary camp, although perhaps a few of their opponents might wish for a few! February 27th will be a test for the defending League champions when they travel to Kilkenny to take on the Cats in their opening match. Whenever these two sides meet it is always close and indeed their last encounter was in the third round of the Foras na Gaeilge championship last season when the



Will it be Tipp and Cork again in the 2005 final?

Cats almost defeated the Blue and Gold. Given that they are meeting so early in the League it may prove not to be as close as other occasions, but Tipperary will not be allowed to forget that championship encounter last summer. After all, Tipperary will be the team that most counties will want to defeat; the new manager will be aware of this and may well have a couple of new players in mind. Certainly the girls have been back training, so it is a matter of wait and see, but Paddy would love to record his first day out with a victory.

Tipperary's opponents last September, Cork, have also gone the route of a new manager. In the place of the former Cork hurler John Considine, comes five times All-Ireland winning minor manager John Cronin. In contrast to Raymie Ryan, John will have the task of turning defeat to victory and while we all know the very talented players that are by Leeside, he will be anxious to get back on the

winning rostrum very quick, which is probably why he has taken on the former six times All-Ireland senior winner Fíona O'Driscoll as physical trainer. The fact that Fíona is included in the back room team alongside Lillian Zinkant, who was with the successful Cork juniors last year will give the girls a great incentive to do well. Indeed the talented forward who won many awards over a long and distinguished career played with some of the present players such as Stephanie Dunlea who lead the Rebels to the field of dreams last September.

However, for Cork to make it all the way this coming season they will need to pick up a couple of other forwards, and to this end John will be very anxious to look at some of the successful minors, particularly those of the three in a row team of 2002, 2001 and 2000. John stepped down early last year following the minor defeat by Clare in the Munster Minor championship semi-final. Like Tipperary, they will taste the green sward on February 27th when they travel to the big smoke to take on the Dubs. Like the Tipperary versus Kilkenny outing, this encounter will not be an easy one as Dublin in contrast to the 2004 finalists have retained their manager Peter Lucey. The Dubs, who did not contest the senior championship last season, have again opted not to compete in the senior grade except for the National League. Like other counties they are well back in training now.

With much talk these days of professionalism in Gaelic Games it is interesting to see the professionalism coming into the training and management side of things in camogie. More counties are now looking at Supporters Clubs for instance and this may well be one way in which much needed funds might be raised and thus assist the county Board Officers in this way.

Other counties who are likely to shine are possibly Galway who impressed many last season when they took two All-Ireland titles across the Shannon. The first championship title of 2004, the minor All-Ireland headed to Galway and then they came back in October to win their first Intermediate title at the expense of Tipperary. While they suffered defeat at the hands of Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final it was a much more polished performance than the previous season. They may be the surprise package of



Aine Codd and Wexford have great promise for this season

2005, but may not reach Croke Park just yet. Hot on most peoples lips will be the Model County who ended the year on a very good note with three All Stars, Aine Codd, Kate Kelly and Mary Leacy. Wexford know where they need the extra players on the field and given the continued success of Coláiste Bride in Enniscorthy they will chase everything this year.

It is difficult to see Limerick making huge strides this season as they seemed in many people's eyes to have slipped back last year. However, should they be able to pick up a number of young talented players in the county they may have a good League run which would give them much needed experience. Antrim unfortunately failed miserably

last season and it would be a real shock if they were to make an impact on the League this season.

While much talk often centres on the big guns, spare a thought for Westmeath. The maroon and white girls did not compete in the Division two League for over ten years, but that is now all in the past. Since last year, Offaly man Camillus King is in charge and while they lost in the opening round of the National League the defeat was not as heavy as previous years. It is most welcome to see counties coming back into the League as it is a great preparation for the championship and should open up the Provincial championship a lot more. Time will tell, here's to a good second century of camogie.



# CAMOGIE *world*

by Maire Ui Scolai

## OFFALY PAY TRIBUTE TO MIRIAM UI CHEALLACHAIN

**T**he Faithful County recently paid a fine tribute to Uachtarán Cumann Camógaiocht na nGael Miriam Ui Cheallacháin when the Offaly Association honoured her with Offaly person of the year.

This progressive Association are intending to bring out a history of the Association next year which no doubt will feature a lot of Offaly people and they will welcome any information they can get from people on this.

When the Tullamore Lady was elected to the highest position in Cumann Camógaiocht na nGael in 2003 in the Arklow Bay Hotel in County Wicklow she became the first lady from the County to hold the position. Miriam, who was accompanied by her husband Liam and daughters Áine and Orla, was overcome on the night.

"I was not sure what to expect, but it is a truly great honour and I am delighted to accept this great award," was how the former player and Offaly administrator put it.

As well as holding all positions in the Offaly County Board, she also held positions in Leinster Council. A former Uachtarán of the Second Level

Colleges, she was in charge of All-Ireland finals at all levels. Although her county reached the All-Ireland Final in 2000, they just failed to bring back the New Ireland Assurance Cup to the midlands. The same year Miriam was county PRO. No doubt, it would be a moment of great delight for the former player if she was given the opportunity of presenting an All-Ireland Cup to her own county.

Miriam holds the unique position alongside the former GAA President, the late John Dowling, as the only officials from the midlands county to grace the highest office in their respective associations.

Sponsored by the Celt Lodge & Bar of Talbot St., Dublin the Dinner Dance



Miriam O'Callaghan (left), was honoured with the Offaly Person of the Year Award for her service to the Camogie Association as President. She is pictured here with Sinead O'Connor, Camogie Sponsorship and Finance Manager



Miriam O'Callaghan alongside Stephanie Gannon of Galway, who won the Camogie Poc Fada title. Tipperary's Brendan Cummins won the men's event

was held in the Regency Hotel in Dublin. In fact John Dowling became the first winner of the award in 1988. Miriam faced tough opposition from such well known Offaly people as the singer Johnny McEvoy, Michael Grogan, Ricey Scully, and many others. However, in the end there was no dispute as to who should receive the beautiful award made of Bog Oak.

On the night, Miriam was described as a founder member of the Tullamore club in 1973, and it is reckoned that she is one of the few players to hold medals with two different counties. This came about when there was no camogie club in Tullamore and she persuaded her parents to play in near by Laois where she won an underage championship medal! Since the Tullamore Lady donned the office of Uachtarán she has travelled the length and breadth of Ireland and has received invitations abroad as well.

On the night many former winners were present including the great Matt Connor, Brian Cowan, Tom Parlon and Fr. Tom Scully. A large number of camogie personnel were also in attendance including three former

presidents, Mary Moran, Lily Spence and Bridin Ui Mhaolagáin.

Also in attendance were members of the Offaly Board, runai Molly Guinan, and newly elected Cathaoirleach Gráinne McIntyre, formerly Mc Gabhann, who played for the famed Kilmacud Crokes in Dublin and Coláiste Íosagáin. Gráinne spoke in both languages and wished Miriam all the best for the remainder of her term. Miriam's fellow Ardchomhairle members Sheila Wallace, Ardstiúrthóir, Sinead O'Connor, Finance and Sponsorship Manager and Máire Ui Scolai, National Camogie PRO were also present on the night. A four course meal was enjoyed by all with the speeches all kept sharp and to the point.

With the speeches over it was time for people to boogie the night away and that is what people did until the late hours. Earlier in the year the former Offaly player was invited to London by the Offaly Association there to receive a similar award and no doubt before her term is over many other awards will filter her way.

Miriam has also a keen interest in

politics which she said she received from her Mother while the Sports side came from her father. Both her daughters play camogie and her youngest daughter Orla was involved in the centenary celebrations on All-Ireland final day last year. An employee of the Midland Health Board, she leads a busy life between work and camogie. She even commented on the night that one of her daughters asked her once "when are you going to become a normal person, making beds and the like?" Miriam just laughed as did the attendance of over 200.

During her term in office some major changes have taken place. The first ever International competition, the first ever Shinty/Camogie Tournament were successfully held while Sinead O'Connor was appointed as the first ever Finance and Sponsorship Manager.

Should Offaly take a National title during her term it would be the real icing on the cake for the lady who hails from the Tullamore, where the first recipient of the Offaly Person of the Year, John Dowling, also came from.

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# Una is Tipperary Person of the Year

## Jenny has a bright future ahead of her

JENNIFER O'LEARY was last week named the 96 and 103rd, Rochestown Park Hotel, 'Player of the month' award for February in recognition of her outstanding performances in the Ashbourne Cup which her college, University of Limerick, retained for the second year in a row.

At just 21 years of age Jenny, from Barryroe in West Cork, has already made a name for herself as one of camogie's brightest stars with a great future ahead.

Currently studying PE and English in UL, Jenny captained the side last month to their historic Ashbourne win and played a major role.

UL defeated UCD in the final on a score line of 0-12 to 1-4 and Jenny scored 10 of those 12 points, nine coming from placed balls. Her calm, cool, left over right style of play rarely lets her down.

Jenny, as she is affectionately known to her team-mates, began playing camogie when she was just eight years of age.

Her older sisters, Paula and Carol played it and wanting to be like them she picked up a hurley and 'tagged along'.

"It was Mrs Kearney in my National school in Barryroe who really brought me along. She started it in the school and from there I have not stopped," she said. The competitive streak in Jenny came to the fore very early on. "I used to be very competitive with Paula. We were always playing matches one on one. She always won though."

Winning wasn't long coming Jenny's way. Her first taste of success was in 1998 when Barryroe won the Féile na nGael Championship. She won an All-Ireland B title with her school, Sacred Heart, Clonakilty and progressed to win the Senior B County championship with Barryroe.

It wasn't long before Jenny's talent was spotted by inter-county selectors. She received the call-up to the minor squad in 1998 and won back-to-back All-Ireland titles. An All-Ireland intermediate medal followed in 2000 and by then Jenny was destined for senior status.

2001 saw her win her first senior medal when Cork won the National League. It was 12 months later that Jenny experienced her first taste of what it was like to win an All-Ireland senior title. The memory is still very fresh today. "My greatest victory had to be the 2002 senior victory over Tipp. Having lost the year before and not having tasted victory at this level before, it was an unreal moment."

"I didn't realise how brilliant this achievement was until we reached Kent station the night after and the welcome we received was spectacular."

"The support and congratulations I



Linda Mellerick

received when I got home to Barryroe was unforgettable." As with most victories, the fall from the top is hard to take. When Cork lost their title 12 months later, Jenny felt both sides of the coin and it hurt.

"It was very hard to come to terms with our defeat in 2003. Not only do you feel disappointed for the team but you also feel disappointed for all the people that had traveled miles to see you play."

"The loss by only two points was particularly devastating." Jenny felt very welcome the moment she became part of the senior set up.

"I admire all the players who went before me. Those players made me very welcome when I first came on the senior panel and they showed me the ropes."

"One of the many I admire is Fiona O'Driscoll, her use of the ball was so clever."

Barryroe is very close to Jenny's heart, but not close enough for training.

She finds it tough at times to get the necessary lift to training, an hour away.

"I try to stay around Cork City as much as possible during the summer, doing summer camps, etc. That keeps me close to training, but it is tough to organise a spin at times."

But organise it she does and she never misses a session.

Is there anything she'd like to see change in the game?

"I would like to see shouldering brought into the game. Many people have said that in last years All-Ireland there were too many stoppages, it allows for no flow at all and it is extremely frustrating for both players and spectators."

"The game is getting more physical anyway. Bringing in a fair shoulder would not cause any problems."

One of three Cork players to be named on camogie's first All-Star selection in 2004, Jenny was also selected on the Ashbourne All star team for 2005.

The West Cork girl would love to win an All-Ireland again with Cork as well as a senior A county title with Barryroe.

"We have great talent at home."

"We were unlucky last year to be defeated by just a point in the quarter final. You are always trying to improve your own personal performance each year so I hope to try and do just that."

"The Ashbourne three in a row with UL would not go astray."

This young star wants it all but why wouldn't she? She can certainly achieve it. The future does indeed look very bright.

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THE winners of the Tipperary Person of the Year Award and the Hall of Fame Award were announced at a Press Conference, hosted by the Tipperary Association in the Palace Bar, Fleet St Dublin at 6.00pm this evening (21st March, 2005). The event was sponsored by Guinness Ireland.

Announcing the winners, the Association President, Michael Fenton, said that each of the winners had brought honour to Tipperary in their own individual ways and were worthy to join the long list of winners honoured by the Association over the last 30 years.

Una O'Dwyer from Cashel is this year's Tipperary Person of the Year.

Una is 23 years of age and is the youngest ever winner of the Award. A member of the Tipperary senior camogie team since 1998, Una has represented Tipperary at every level from under-14. She was a member of the team that won Tipperary its first All

Ireland in 1999 and has



Una O'Dwyer

been a commanding presence in the Tipperary back line since then. She captained the team in 2002 and 2003 and is now the holder of 5 All-Ireland, 2 Munster Championship and 1 National League medals.

Last year, 2004 has been a remarkable year for Una. Among the various honours she received were: RTE Player of the Game in the All Ireland Final

The Star/Waterford Crystal Player of the Game

Texaco Award

Cidona Award

The Irish Times / Mitsubishi Sports Woman of the Year Award for September

Vodafone Player of the month September.

Having completed her degree in UCC, Una is now back working in Cashel and is looking forward to the new Camogie season and continuing her exploits with the Tipperary team.

"Una is a great role model for the young people of Tipperary," said Michael Fenton, "and is typical of a new breed of confident, articulate and talented young people who can serve Tipperary well, not only on the playing field but also in community and civic life. In honouring Una, we are also playing tribute to that amazing Camogie team that has contested every All Ireland final in the last six years."

## Camogie star O'Dwyer is honoured by Tipp

CAMOGIE sensation Una O'Dwyer has been named Tipperary Person of the Year. The 23-year-old, has represented Tipp at every level from U14 and has five All-Irelands amongst a host of other titles.

"Una is a great role model for the young people of Tipperary" said Association President Michael Fenton.

"In honouring Una, we are also playing tribute to that amazing team that has contested every All Ireland final in the last six years, winning five."

Michael Babs Keating, who represented Tipp in hurling and football and managed them to a 1989 All-Ireland SHC title, won the Hall of Fame Award.

"Babs was and remains a man of many talents, a fig-

ure who is larger than life and no short commentary like this can do justice to his achievements and contribution to Tipperary," said Fenton.

The Dinner and Awards Ceremony takes place in Morans Red Cow Hotel on April 22.

Colm O'Connor



Una O'Dwyer: youngest ever recipient.

## Veronica wins battle of sisters for slick Galway

by Máire Uí Scolai

LIMERICK lost to Galway at the Gaelic Grounds, 2-10 to 0-8, in a Division One camogie encounter which featured sisters on opposing sides. Veronica Curtin was Galway's top scorer with 1-3 while her sister Orla wore the green and white, having recently transferred to Limerick.

Galway were only ahead by a solitary point at the break, 1-5 to 0-7. An opening point after four minutes from Limerick's Marie Keating gave the underdogs some hope and despite Lourda Kavanagh replying four minutes later with Galway's opening point, that too was answered immediately with an Aoife Sheehan point.

However, Galway got to grips with the game following an Emma Kilkelly goal after 23 minutes. They made the second half their own, with Orla's sister Veronica scoring the crucial Galway goal to make sure of Galway's second league victory.

The other Division One game saw Wexford hammer Antrim 7-17 to 0-1 in Russell Park, Blanchardstown. There were two hat-trick goal-scorers on the Wexford side, Ursula Jacob and full-forward Michelle Hearne, who finished the day with 3-3. The other Wexford goalscorer was Una Leacy, who was on the Coláiste Bride team in the All-Ireland Colleges Senior A semi-final the previous day, a game she also won. Antrim's sole point came from Naomhí McCurry, who also played in the Division two game, scoring the two frees in that game as well.

Aoife Kelly, daughter of former Ofaly hurler Joachim, was the hat-trick

goal scorer as the Faithful county recorded their first victory in Division two of the National League when they won comfortably against Dublin, 5-11 to 2-4.

Like Offaly, Westmeath also recorded their first win in the League with a 3-7 to 1-5 victory over Waterford, a goal in the opening half from top scorer Annette Heffernan left the sides level 1-4 each at the break, but a further two goals from Mary Henry and a deflection from Decies defender Carol Sheehy meant victory for the Westmeath. Wexford made it a double victory against Antrim when they trounced the Division Two side with a hat trick of goals from Josie Dwyer, together with a further two goals from Mary Henrick.

Mercy College of Woodford Galway defeated first-time finalists Ursulines of Thurles to take their first ever Senior B Colleges All-Ireland final, 2-7 to 0-4 in McDonagh Pk. Nenagh on Saturday.

Mercy full-forward Aisling Tuohy was the Galway hero with two goals in the opening half. While Ursulines chased every ball they never really recovered from those opening goals, and on the day the Connacht champions were worthy winners.

Elsewhere, All-Ireland senior A Colleges champions of 2003 and 2004 Coláiste Bride of Enniscorthy took a step closer to a three in a row following their 1-14 to 2-4 victory over Portumna CS in Enniscorthy on Saturday. Next month's Senior A All-Ireland final will be a repeat of last year's final between Coláiste Bride and St. Mary's Charleville.

### CAMOGIE

#### National League Division 1

Galway 2-10 (V. Curtin 1-3, E. Kilkelly 1-1, L. Kavanagh 0-4 (0-10), S. Keane, B. Hanney 0-1 each) Limerick 0-8 (M. Keating 0-6 (0-5), N. Collins, A. Sheehan 0-1 each).

Wexford 7-17 (M. Hearne 3-3, U. Jacob 3-2, U. Leacy 1-1, K. Kelly 0-4, L. Codd, C. O'Connor 0-2 each, E. Quigley, L. Houshan, A. Nolan, E. Quigley 0-1 each) Antrim 0-1 (N. McCurry 0-1).

Division 2: Offaly 5-11 (A. Kelly 3-1, M. Davis 2-6, M. Wyer 0-2, E. Corcoran, S. Carroll 0-1 each) Dublin 2-8 (A. Jordan 2-0, J. Draper 0-2, E. O'Meara, S. Ryan, M. Cotter 0-1 each).

Westmeath 3-7 (A. Heffernan 1-3, M. Henry 1-1, 1-0 (0-3), C. Sheehy, D. Coughlan, J. Walsh, S. Wyer 0-1 each) Wexford 1-5 (A. Lyng 1-1, P. Cunningham, B. Daniels 0-2 each).

Meath 5-8 (E. Oakes 3-3, K. Ward 1-2, C. Fagan 1-1, L. Winters, S. Horan 0-1 each) Wicklow 1-1 (N. Keady 1-0, G. Norton 0-1).

Wexford 5-10 (J. O'Dwyer 3-1, M. Henrick 2-2, G. Heffernan 0-5 (0-3), E. Moran, E. Houshan 0-1 each) Antrim 0-2 (N. McCurry 0-2).

Galway 3-12 (K. Ryan 2-5, M. Kelly 1-1, M. Dunne 0-3, C. Glynn, E. Tannin, E. Haverly 0-1 each) Limerick 0-3 (N. Muckahy 0-2, S. Hourigan 0-1).

Colleges Senior A All-Ireland semi-final: Coláiste Bride, Enniscorthy 1-14 (U. Leacy 1-4, C. Storey 0-4, A. Murphy 0-2, C. Geraghty, M. Freaney, S. Nolan, S. Carr 0-1 each) Portumna Community Sch. Galway 2-4 (M. Conroy 1-2 (1-0, pen 0-2), S. Rutledge 1-0, Y. Donnelly, M. Rooney 0-1 each).





**WINNING FEELING:** The Douglas U-14 camogie team who won the All-Ireland Féile competition as well as the Cork County Championship.



Amanda O'Regan, captain of the Douglas junior camogie side and who was the Player of the Game for Cork in the All-Ireland junior camogie final success this season.

## Douglas Camogie Club rules the roost

**DOUGLAS Camogie Club** celebrated its successes with an annual victory dinner dance on Friday night at Douglas GAA Club.

It was yet another historic year for this vibrant club, which now has a membership in excess of 250.

The magnificent achievement of capturing the Community Games All-Ireland title in 2003 was surpassed in June 2004 when their U14 girls brought the coveted All-Ireland Féile na nGael trophy to Douglas in camogie's centenary year.

The Féile na nGael competition is the most prestigious national com-

petition at underage level and despite a few scares along the way, Douglas came through the Cork and Munster section, and finally the All-Ireland section, with aplomb.

It was a tough act to achieve this and it will be even tougher to retain this esteemed title, but it has to be said that this panel of experienced, well-travelled and hardy players won't relinquish their title easily.

Other major successes achieved during the year were their U16 panel winning the Pan-Celtic Inter-County Tournament in Tralee.

This team also held on to the league title, but were unlucky to

lose out in the final of the championship.

Their U14 girls retained the County League title to make it a historic three-in-a-row for the club, while the U13 panels proved themselves to be the best in the city, taking both the A and B titles.

The club's U12 panel got to the county final only to be pipped at the post by a fine Inniscarra side in the dying minutes of the game.

Both of Douglas' U11 teams (A and B) reached the finals of the Seandun competition, which is a marvellous accomplishment in itself, particularly as many of these young players will be eligible to play in this

city-division competition again this year.

Meanwhile, for the juniors it was another year of continued progress as they competed in the latter stages of the championship and league.

On the inter-county front, Douglas' profile was further enhanced with a Player of the Match performance in the guise of the gifted Amanda O'Regan.

It was also gratifying to see a number of the younger players on this panel deservedly being selected for the Cork Minor and Cork Colleges sides.

They were: Leanne O'Shea, Niamh and Moira O'Donovan (Cork

Colleges) and Deirdre Murphy and Jenny O'Donovan (Cork Minors).

Needless to say, little of the above could be achieved without the hard work, tireless commitment and amazing dedication of the mentors and back-up crew associated with this club.

They are a bunch of people who leave nothing to chance and to whom the players are deeply indebted.

It would appear that Douglas Camogie Club will continue to be the yardstick against which other clubs measure their success.

Well done to all involved in this excellent club.



The Douglas camogie U-16 team who won the league and Pan-Celtic tournament.



**TROPHIES GALORE:** Captains of the successful Douglas camogie teams last season. Included are: Amanda O'Regan, Jessica Jackson, Clare Kavanagh, Moira O'Donovan, Jill Kelleher, Máire O'Mahony, Zoe Dunlea, Sinead Duggan, Ashling Fitton, Claire Shine and Deirdre Cotter.



Athenry Camogie Girls go to the dogs: pictured above with Cira Cunliffe and her dog 'Cira's Nikita' are PJ Molloy, Martina Molloy, Theresa Maher, Alice Ponlard and club chairman Mixie Donohue at the launch of Athenry Camogie Club's fundraising night at the Dogs at Galway Greyhound Stadium on Friday, April 29th.



## CHAMPIONSHIP TIME FOR MINORS

**T**HE first Championship action of 2005 begins on Saturday as the county minor's travel to Lismore for a meeting with Waterford.

It's a repeat of last seasons opening round when Cork recorded a comprehensive victory and indications were that once again the title could be won, however at the semi final stage Cork crashed out to a determined Clare side.

There have been changes this year with successful coach of the last five seasons John Cronin retired from the minor scene to take up a role as selector with the seniors while selectors John Quinn and Ann Watson also retired following tremendous success.

The new backroom team is headed up by former All Ireland hurler Denis Burns who is coach and he is joined as a selector by Rose White and Paddy Corkery.

Denis Burns needs no introduction to followers of Gaelic games and his appointment is one which is a huge boost as Cork set about taking a title last won in 2003.

The holder of senior county championship honours with St Finbarrs Denis went on to become a Cork hurler of note and also coached the county minor hurlers to All Ireland honours.

The selectors have not as yet announced a full panel of twenty five players however for Saturday's game sixteen

clubs are represented on a panel that includes Erin Corkery, Aine Moynihan, Ashling Thompson, Lisa Marie O Mahony, Mairead Foley, Caroline Motherway, Brid Twomey, Niamh O Donovan, Niamh Dilworth and Lea Weste.

On previous form Cork will be expected to advance and book a semi-final meeting with Limerick and Denise Burns is confident that his side are ready "We have prepared well and I would be confident of making it through, we have assembled a strong squad but we are still in the process of casting an eye over several players so therefore our full panel is not named yet. We will be very cautious approaching

Saturday's game but hopefully we will have enough done to book a semi-final spot against Limerick."

An enormous amount of work is being done in Waterford both at club and schools level in the promotion of the game and steady progress is continuing, but on the balance Cork should advance to an April 9th semi-final meeting with Limerick.

### COUNTY BOARD MEETING

A REMINDER to clubs that the fortnightly county board meeting to be held on Tuesday next April 29 will now be held in Pairc Ui Chaoimh.

## 2005 Under age action set to begin

ANOTHER busy season is about to begin for the thousands of under age camogie players through the city and county.

Recently the juvenile board announced the various sections in all age groups and now all that is awaited is the long evenings and good weather.

This year it's the under 12's who open proceedings with the first round games beginning on the first weekend in April.

A total of fifty-one clubs have entered the various levels of under 12 and they have been divided into their respective groups.

Section A is a big group with ten teams Inniscarra, Milford, Ballincollig, Ballinhassig, Clonakilty, Douglas, Glen Rovers, Blackrock, Eire Og and Valley Rovers, each team will play nine games with the top four emerging to contest the semi finals.

Nine teams will contest the Under 12 B league and joining last years defeated finalists Ballygarvan are St Finbarrs, Blarney, FR O Neills, Rockban, Aghbullogue, Carrigaline, Courcy Rovers, and Bishopstown.

There was a huge entry for the 12 C

grade and it's divided into three sections.

Nine teams contest section 1 Castlemagner, Charleville, Buttrvant, Kildorrey, Ballyhea, St Catherines, Mallow, St Fanahan's and Newtownshandrum.

Section 2 has eight teams Killeagh, Barryroe, Cobh, Bride Rovers, Youghal, Watergrasshill, Newcestown, Watergrasshill, and Kilbrittan. Nine clubs also make up section 3 including Ballincollig's second string, Sliabh Rua, Na Piarasigh, Ballinora, Passage, Brian Dillon's, the Douglas second team, Sarsfields and St Vincent's.

For clubs who experience difficulty with numbers the board have organised a twelve a side competition and eight clubs are participating Erins Own, Ballinascarty, Castleyons, Millstreet, Cloughduv, Grenagh, Enniskeane and Dungourney.

This year several teams have been upgraded to A in the under 14 league in an effort to make the sections more interesting and eleven teams will contest the A league which is divided into two sections. Section 1 has under 12 B league winners from the last two years

Valley Rovers making the step up to join Inniscarra, last year B league winners Milford, Clonakilty and Glen Rovers.

Holders Douglas are joined by Blackrock, Ballincollig, Ballinhassig, Eire Og and Carrigaline in section 2.

The Under 14 B league is divided into two sections with seven teams in section 1 including Mallow, Blarney, Fr O Neills, Erins Own, Rockban, Cobh and Buttrvant.

In Section 2 six teams will vie for honours and here joining last years defeated finalists Ballygarvan are by St Finbarrs, Aghbullogue, Douglas B, Courcy Rovers, and Bishopstown.

Again as in the under 12 competitions many clubs have opted to participate in the C grade with twenty four clubs divided into four sections of six, section 1 has Brian Dillon's, St Vincent's, Passage, Na Piarasigh Sarsfields and the third under fourteen team from the Douglas club.

Six teams contest the twelve a side Barryroe, Grenagh, Castleyons, Cloughduv, Sliabh Rua and Ballinora.

Certainly plenty to ponder on as the count down begins

Camogie

by Mary Newman

## Juvenile section has plenty on offer to hold the interest

THE county juvenile board recently held its first meeting of the season where they announced the various sections in all age groups.

First into the action will be the under 12s with the opening games set for the first weekend in April.

In all, 51 clubs will contest four competitions which are divided into their respective groups.

In Section A there are 10 teams: last year's league winners Inniscarra are joined by Milford Ballincollig, Ballinhassig, Clonakilty, Douglas, Glen Rovers, Blackrock Eire Og and under 12 B winners of the last two years Valley Rovers.

Nine teams will contest the Under 12 B competition and joining last year's defeated finalists Ballygarvan are St Finbarrs, Blarney, FR O Neills, Rockban, Aghbullogue, Carrigaline, Courcy Rovers, and Bishopstown.

Such is the entry for the under 12 C grade that it has been divided into three sections.

Nine teams contest section 1 Castlemagner, Charleville, Buttrvant, Kildorrey, Ballyhea, St Catherines, Mallow, St Fanahan's and Newtownshandrum. Section 2 has eight teams: Killeagh, Barryroe, Cobh, Bride Rovers, Youghal, Wa-

tergrasshill, Newcestown, Watergrasshill and Kilbrittan. Another nine clubs make up section 3 including Ballincollig's second string, Sliabh Rua, Na Piarasigh, Ballinora, Passage, Brian Dillon's, the Douglas second side, Sarsfields and St Vincent's.

Again this year, there is huge emphasis in getting the very young players involved and for clubs who many be experiencing difficulty with numbers, the board has organised a 12-a-side competition and eight clubs are participating: Erins Own, Ballinascarty, Castleyons, Millstreet, Cloughduv, Grenagh, Enniskeane and Dungourney.

With the All Ireland Feile Na Gael competition being hosted this year in Cork, the under 14 leagues will be used as a guide to what's to come later in the season. This year the county board has upgraded several teams and 11 teams will contest the A league, which is divided into two sections.

Section 1 has under 12 B league winners from the last two years Valley Rovers making the step up to join Inniscarra, last year's B league winners Milford, Clonakilty and Glen Rovers. Holders Douglas are joined by Blackrock, Ballincollig, Ballinhassig, Eire Og and Carriga-

line in section 2.

The Under 14 B league is divided into two sections with seven teams in section 1 including Mallow, Blarney, Fr O Neills, Erins Own, Rockban, Cobh and Buttrvant. In Section 2 six teams will vie for honours, and here joining last year's defeated finalists Ballygarvan are by St Finbarrs, Aghbullogue, Douglas B, Courcy Rovers, and Bishopstown.

Again as in the under 12 competitions many clubs have opted to participate in the C grade with 24 clubs divided into four sections of six. Section 1 has Brian Dillon's, St Vincent's, Passage, Na Piarasigh Sarsfields and the third under 14 team from the Douglas club. Six teams contest the 12-a-side: Barryroe, Grenagh, Castleyons, Cloughduv, Sliabh Rua and Ballinora.

## New backroom team hopeful of spurring Cork to great things

CHAMPIONSHIP action begins on Saturday next as the county minor side travel to Lismore for a meeting at 2.30pm with Waterford. Last season the sides met at the same stage with Cork recording a big victory but subsequently it was disappointment as Cork crashed out at semi final stage.

This year Cork have a completely new backroom team with former All-Ireland hurler Denis Burns taking over the coaching duties and he is joined as a selector by Rose White and Paddy Corkery.

Denis needs no introduction to followers of gaelic games, the holder of senior county championship honours with St Finbarr's, Denis went on to become a Cork hurler of note. When his inter-county career came to an end Denis took over as coach to the county minor hurlers whom he guided to an All-Ireland title and his appointment is a huge boost to camogie in the county. No doubt he will leave no stone unturned in the quest for the ultimate prize.

The selectors have not as yet announced a full panel of 25 players

but for Saturday's clash 16 clubs are represented. Included on the panel are Erin Corkery, Aine Moynihan, Ashling Thompson, Lisa Marie O Mahony, Mairead Foley, Caroline Motherway, Brid Twomey, Niamh O Donovan, Niamh Dilworth and Lea Weste.

On previous form Cork will be expected to advance and book a semi-final meeting with Limerick but they would want to be aware of the enormous amount of work being done in Waterford as the game continues to make steady progress.



## Mercy College, Woodford

Mercy College is a Catholic co-educational voluntary school, under the Trusteeship of the Sisters of Mercy, Western Province, Ireland. The college is located in a scenic, rural area of south Galway, bordering the catchment areas of Loughrea, Portumna, Scariff and Gort.

Mercy College has along sporting tradition. Coaching is available in a variety of sports and all students are encouraged to take part in at least one sporting activity. Games offered include: Camogie, Hurling, Soccer, Basketball, Athletics and Tennis.

The college has won numerous Connacht titles in Camogie and Hurling. In 2001, it contested three All-Ireland finals, winning Senior B Hurling and Junior B Camogie titles and narrowly losing the Senior B Camogie final. The two clubs from which the school draws its members are Tommy Larkins and Davitts. Many former students have gone on to represent Galway at all levels in Camogie and Hurling.

Volleyball is also very popular and a number of major titles have been captured over the years.

Sport is seen in Mercy College as a major character-building vehicle for the students.

## Ursuline Secondary School, Thurles

The Ursuline Secondary School, Thurles, is an all-girls Catholic Secondary School, founded in 1787 in the Voluntary sector. At present there is a student population of approximately 700 students.

Whilst academic excellence is the first priority, the school is dedicated to the holistic development of all its students and so there is a strong emphasis on extra-curricular activities — drama, debating, public speaking and competitions of all kinds.

The School has a very strong tradition in Music. A large number of students take instrumental tuition and many play in either of the two school Orchestras. Each year, a Musical is staged in October and in 2002 that was the Irish premiere of *Les Misérables* — School Edition.

There is a huge emphasis on sport, both competitive and non-competitive: Athletics, Basketball, Camogie, Gaelic football, Hockey and Rounders. The Hockey players have won many Munster titles, and an All-Ireland title in 1996. The Cadette team won an All-Ireland Basketball title in 2003. The Athletics Senior team won gold in the All-Ireland Cross-Country Championships.

Camogie is a relatively new sport in the School and this is the first time that a team has reached an All-Ireland final. We look forward to adding a Camogie title to our All-Ireland collection.

## Cluichí Ceannais na n-Iarbhunscoileanna sa Chamógaíocht



An tAonach  
19 Márta 2005  
Sinsear B: 1.00 p.m.

Réiteoir:  
Fiontán Mac Conmara

*Ar Máiread Ní Fhearáin*

Luach: 30c

Rúnaí

### COLÁISTE NA TRÓCAIRE, AN GHRÁIG Mercy College, Woodford

1 Labhaoise Ní Dhonechú Louise Donohoe	2 Eilís Ní Dhoirbheain Lisa Dervan	3 Linda Ní Ghothraidh Linda Gohery	4 Léan Ní Bhruadair Elaine Broderick
5 Lára Ní Dhonechú Laura Donohoe	6 Fílis Ní Aodha Phylis Hayes	7 Jemma Starr Jemma Starr	8 Cearúilín Ní Cheallaigh Caroline Kelly
9 Cearúilín Ní an Bhreithiúnaigh Caroline Brehony	10 Clára Ní Dhonechú Claire Donnelly	11 Fiona Hahnefeld Fiona Hahnefeld	12 Lára Ní Fhlannagáin Laura Flanagan
13 Ceallaigh Ní Laighin Kelly Lyons	14 Aisling Ní Thuathaigh Aisling Touhy	15 Ainín Ní Ghiollamáth Anita Forde	Subs: Karen Brogan Julie McDonagh Emma Quigley Niamh Coughlan
Danielle Coen Niamh Donohoe Niamh Burke Emer Touhy			



### CLOCHAR NA NURSULACH, DÚRLAS ÉILE Ursuline Secondary School, Thurles

1 Siobhan McGrath Siobhán Nic Craith	2 Laura Medley Lára Ní Mhedley	3 Patricia McGrath Pádraigín Nic Craith	4 Maire O'Regan Máire Ní Riagáin
5 Sarah Ryan Sorcha Ní Riain	6 Ciara Johnston Ciara Nic Eoin	7 Sinead Shelley Sinéad Ní Shealbhaigh	8 Therese Shortt Treasa Nic Ghearr
9 Linda Fanning Linda Ní Fhainín	10 Antoinette Kennedy Antoinette Ní Chinnéide	11 Kiera Callinan (Capt) Ciara Ní Challanáin	12 Grace Clendennen Gráinne Ní Ghleandannáin
13 Elaine Ryan Elaine Ní Riain	14 Laura Kavanagh Lára Ní Chaomhánaigh	15 Siobhan Butler Siobhán de Buitléir	Subs: Niamh O'Connell Elaine Sweeney Eimear Sheehan Amy O'Gorman Rachel Clegg Teresa Burke
Mary Rose Flanagan Katie O'Gorman Elaine Crosse Ceire Deevey Olivia Flynn Georgina Kennedy			Laura English Ashley Ryan Therese Heam Nichola O'Brien Danielle Campion Kate O'Dwyer







Ursuline Secondary School, Thurles - All Ireland Camogie Colleges 'B' finalists. Picture: Bridget Delaney.

## Coláiste Phobal progress to Munster camogie semi-final

**Coláiste Phobal**  
*Ros Cré*.....1-3  
*Our Lady's*.....0-4  
**ON** Wednesday last, Coláiste Phobal took on near neighbours Templemore in the Junior B Plate Munster Quarter-Final in Castleiney. A great turn out at training and many practice matches against St. Brendan's of Birr meant Coláiste Phobal were fighting fit and ready for this tough game. Coláiste Phobal played against the strong wind in the first-half and thus had a huge mountain to climb. Templemore were first to open the scoring with a point, followed ten minutes later by a 45 free, pointed superbly over the bar. At half-time the score-line read Templemore 0:2, Roscrea 0:0.

A very low scoring first half and a strong wind meant Coláiste Phobal went back on the pitch with a determined attitude. Our middle of the field duo, Amie Dooley and Marcella Maloney had their work cut out for them, but played superbly. Both girls fought for every ball and their

never-say-die attitude worked. Coláiste Phobal finally scored with a great point from Annette Maher, who had a mighty game. Marcella Maloney followed with a second to level the sides. Templemore scored again from a free, however, our half-forward line worked tirelessly to break down the half-back line and Sarah Kirwan reaped their hard work by blasting home a superb goal. Roscrea took the lead with ten minutes to go. Templemore pointed another over the bar from a free.

Trailing by one point, Templemore had it all to play for. Roscrea were not finished and Aisling Carey scored a beautiful point from the half-forward line. The final whistle went and Roscrea were the victorious team.

Great credit must go to a fantastic Templemore Junior Panel who have some great players. Congratulations to all the Roscrea Junior Panel who put in a huge team effort and a mighty performance. Well done to all the girls on a fine victory. We look forward to our next game.

### Camogie Notes—

# Ursuline foiled in All-Ireland final

BY GERALDINE KINANE

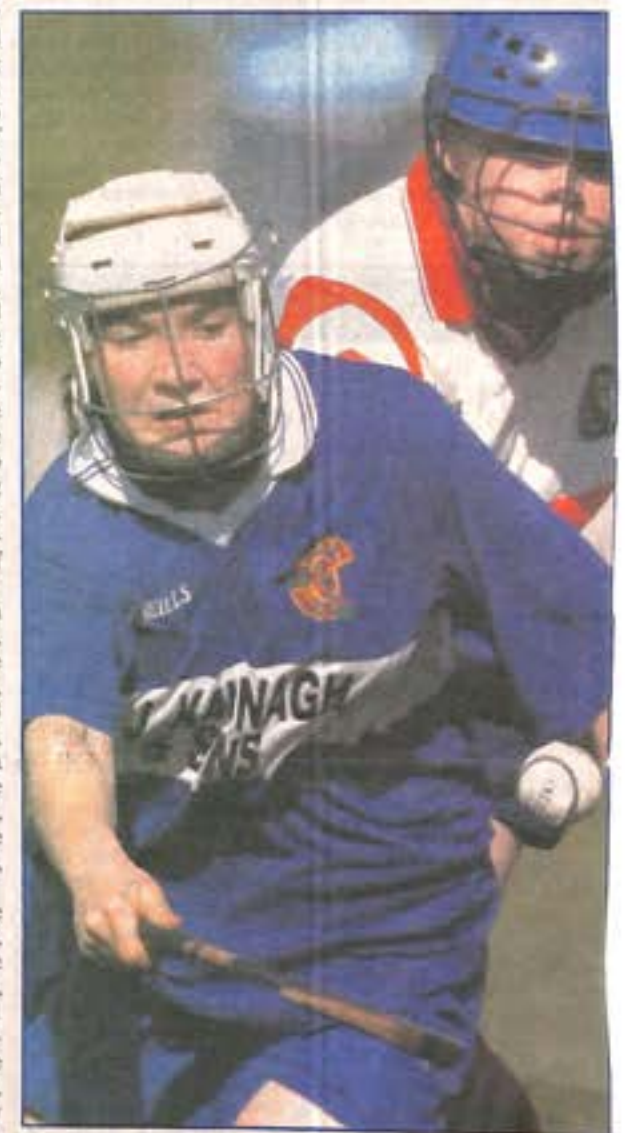
**Ursuline** .....0-4  
**Woodford** .....2-7  
**URSULINE** Convent Thurles's dream of All-Ireland glory came to an end on Saturday afternoon last in Nenagh when they were defeated by Mercy College Woodford in the Senior All-Ireland B Colleges camogie final. Woodford were the more physically stronger of the two teams and their full-forward Aisling Tuohy's two first half goals meant that the cup was traveling back to Galway after an entertaining contest. Thurles got off to a great start when they took an early lead with a fantastic point from midfielder Therese Shortt. However unfortunately for the Tipperary side their lead was short lived and they never fully got to grips with the game. A point minutes later from Woodford's Laura Flanagan leveled the sides while in the 10th minute Aisling Tuohy gathered the ball on the edge of the square and blasted her shot to the back of the net. Credit to the Ursuline girls they never dropped the heads but instead went up the field and some good play by Keira Callahan resulted in a free which Ciara Johnson pointed. Therese Shortt was working endlessly at midfield for Ursuline and made a number of fine clearances. However Woodford's half backline led in the center by the

impressive Phylis Hayes were also on top preventing any scores. Then in the 21st minutes Aisling Tuohy extended Woodford's lead when she found her way past the defence to raise a second green flag. Ursuline needed scores and Ciara Johnson once again obliged with a pointed free. However just before the break a point from Woodford meant they went in at half time leading 2-2 to 3 points. Thurles came out fighting in the second half eager to put scores on the board. Linda Fanning was working hard on the wing and her shot was deflected for a 45m which Ciara Johnson slotted over the bar to narrow the gap. Within 10 minutes of the restart Caroline Kelly who was playing well at midfield for Woodford scored the first of her two second half points. Before Phylis Hayes showed her accuracy from frees with 2 points after another. Ursuline had most of the possession in the second half with Therese Shortt and Ciara Johnson producing great displays but unfortunately despite their forwards best efforts especially Keira Callahan and Grace Clendennen they were unable to take their scores. Woodford's fullback Linda Goheny and Phylis Hayes although under constant pressure stood up well to the challenge and showed some great defending.

While a further point by Caroline Kelly increased their lead. In the dying minutes a raspier of a shot by Ciara Johnson looked to be heading for the back of the net but came anguished off the crossbar which seemed to typify Ursuline's day. So Woodford ran out winners despite a brave effort from Ursuline. The Tipperary girls did extremely well to reach the All-Ireland final having to beat some very note-worthy opposition along the way. Many of the girls are still very young and no doubt they will in strong contention again next year. Credit also to their followers who gave plenty of support on the day.

**Thurles** — Siobhan McGrath, Laura Medley, Patricia McGrath, Marie O'Regan, Sarah Ryan, Ciara Johnson (0-3, 3 frees), Sinead Shelley, Therese Shortt (0-1), Linda Fanning, Antoinette Kennedy, Keira Callahan, Grace Clendennen, Elaine Ryan, Laura Kevenagh, Siobhan Butler.

**Woodford** — Louise Donohoe, Lisa Dervan, Linda Goheny, Elaine Broderick, Laura Donohoe, Phylis Hayes (0-3, 2 45s 1 free) Jemma Starr, Caroline Kelly (0-2), Claire Donnelly, Fiona Hanfield, Laura Flanagan (0-1), Kelly Lyons, Aisling Tuohy (2-1), Anita Forde.



Ursuline's midfielder Therese Shortt keeps her eye on the ball against Mercy College, Woodford.

Picture: Bridget Delaney.

### CAMOGIE

**ALL-IRELAND A COLLEGES**  
 Semi-final: Col. Bride Enniscorthy 1-14 (U. Leacy 1-4, C. Storey 0-4, A. Murphy 0-2, C. Geraghty, M. Freaney, S. Nolan, S. Carr 0-1 each) Portlanna Comm. Sch. Galway 2-4 (M. Conroy 1-2 (pen, 2fs), S. Rutledge 1-0, Y. Donnelly, M. Rooney 0-1 each).  
**B Final: Mercy Woodford 2-7** (A. Tuohy 2-1, P. Hayes 0-3 (0-2 45, 0-1), C. Kelly 0-2, L. Flanagan 0-1) Ursuline Thurles 0-4 (C. Johnson 0-3 (0-3F), T. Shortt 0-1).



Some of the members of Loreto Secondary School, Fermoy, camogie team, with Munster Senior Colleges League Cup, and the Senior Cork County Colleges Championship Cup.  
Picture: Cillian Kelly



# Loreto turn on the style to lift trophy

**LORETO Secondary School in Fermoy have established quite a reputation in camogie circles this year.**

Following their All-Ireland Junior Camogie Championship success three years ago the school cemented their standing as one of the best camogie nurseries this week.

In a thrilling Munster Senior A League final last weekend the girls showed tremendous skill and determination to see off the challenge of

By CONOR GEORGE  
Camogie champs

Clonakilty, emerging 2-13 to 2-4 victors.

After turning over just one point to the good, Loreto dug deep and turned in a superb second half performance to add the title to the Cork County B Championship won earlier in the season.

"The girls were excellent in the final. They really dug deep, especially

when the game was in the melting pot coming up to half-time," explained team coach Ger Holland.

"Until we hit a penalty about ten minutes into the second half it really was anybody's game but from there we really showed our determination and there was always only going to be one winner.

"The girls have put in an awful lot of effort in recent years and this was just reward for them," Holland added.

The Loreto girls weren't resting on

their laurels this week as they competed in a Munster seven-a-side competition on Wednesday.

The school's junior side will be in action in the junior county final after the Easter break.

"The school has a rich tradition in sport and play hockey, football, basketball and a couple of other sports as well.

"We are also a school that devotes a lot of time to music.

The girls are multi-talented," Holland added.

## Kilkenny tipped to move alongside Cork at top

THE play-offs picture is becoming clearer, with the final matches in Division One of the National Camogie League reaching their concluding stages.

In section one leaders Galway and Wexford are set to qualify for the semi-finals and as a result their remaining game on April 10 merely determines who finishes first and second.

In section two Tipperary and Kilkenny are tied in second place,

with Cork top on maximum points. The Cats should overcome Dublin tomorrow, to move alongside Cork. Tipperary would then have to beat

Cork on April 17 to force a three-way play-off.

Division Two sees Cork and Tipperary winning in 2A, while Galway and Wexford top 2B. Clare and Laois have full points in 2C, while Westmeath reign supreme in 2D.

Therese O'Callaghan

### National Camogie League Division 1

**Kilkenny 1-11** (A Neary 1-0, S Milles 0-4 (0-2)), I Kennedy 0-4 (0-4), C Doherty 0-2 (0-1), B Mulally 0-1 **Dublin 1-8** (L O'Hara 1-2, C Lucey 0-4), J Murphy, E Reid (0-1) 0-1 each.

**Division 2: Kilkenny 4-14** (M Phelan 3-0, A Dalton 1-3, D Delaney 0-7, L Murphy 0-2, J A Woodcock, K A Cottrell 0-1 each) **Dublin 2-6** (E Lucey 1-1, N McKennedy 1-0, P Malcomson 0-2, J Donnelly, S Curran, E O'Meara 0-1 each).

**Kildare 4-8** (M Treacy 3-0, C Reilly 1-0, B Farrelly 0-5 (0-5)), O Mulally 0-2).

**Limerick 2-2** (N Mulcahy 1-1, P McCarthy 1-0, R Collins 0-1).

**Armagh 4-17** (C McSorley 1-7, T McAvoy 1-4, M Black 1-3, B Murray 1-2, A Murphy 0-1) **Carlow 3-2** (O Maye, F Byrne 1-1 each, K Byrne 1-0).

**Clare 2-5** (L Linnane 2-1, M McMahon 0-3 (0-2), D Lynch 0-1) **Laois 0-10** (T Keenan 0-8).

### CAMOGIE

35th Annual Pan Celtic International Festival, Tralee

**Senior 'A' final: Milford, Cork 3-6** (E O'Friel 2-0, L Long 1-0, E Watson 0-3, (0-1), 0-1-4), A Geary 0-2 (0-2), M Watson 0-1) **Cloughduv, Cork 0-2** (C Corkery, J O'Callaghan 0-1 each).

**Senior 'B' final: Ballygarvan, Cork 4-2** (M Murphy, S Lynch 1-1 each, S O'Donovan, N Hallihan 1-0 each) **St Catherine's, Cork 0-4** (D Cotter 0-3 (0-3), D Twomey 0-1).

**U16 A final: Douglas, Cork 3-2** (A Donovan 2-1, S O'Leary 1-0, R O'Sullivan 0-1) **Eire Og, Cork 2-1** (C Purcell, C O'Keefe 1-0 each, M O'Herlihy 0-1 (45)).

**U16 B final: Camross, Laois 4-3** (D Mortimer, K Wallace 2-0 each, S A Fitzgerald 0-2, L Bhan 0-1) **Ballygarvan, Cork 0-2** (A Moynihan 0-2 (0-2)).

● **CATS WIN:** Kilkenny were made fight all the way by a gallant Dublin side in the only game in Division one of the National Camogie League. Both sides desperately needed a win, but it was the Cats who got the cream as they defeated the Dubs 1-11 to 1-8 in Clara yesterday.  
Tipperary play Cork on April 17 in their final game in the group.



APRIL

2005

## Rebel girls take first step on road to reclaim title

**SATURDAY MARCH 26**  
Munster Minor  
Championship first round,  
Cork V Waterford,  
Lismore Park, Waterford,  
2.30pm

FOR the first time in eight years Cork are not defending their Munster Minor Championship crown, writes **MARY WHITE**. Instead, they find themselves seeking to regain it after a shock defeat to Clare at the semi-final stage last year.

Cork have been the kingpins of Munster and Ireland over the past decade when it comes to the Minor Championship. Five All-Ireland titles in seven years — nothing further need be said. Cloughduv man John Cronin was at the helm during those glorious years and despite the turnaround of players, time and again he combined the talent at his disposal into a formidable force.

Unfortunately, when at the top, there's only one way to go and Cork lost their Munster and All-Ireland titles in 2004. A cold, wet, windy night saw them possibly take their opponents for granted and they paid the price.

It's a new year, new management and a new team for 2005. On Saturday, Cork face Waterford in Lismore Park as the Championship gets underway.

Out of a panel of 24 players only five remain from last season and so as such it's a whole new era of minors who will wear the red jersey.

Former Cork hurler Denis Burns manages the side. He is assisted by former Cork camogie star Colette O'Mahony and co-selectors Paddy Corkery and Rose White.

With having to select a new panel of players almost in its entirety, Denis and his team 'scoured' the clubs looking for players. Numerous trials and challenge games have resulted in 24 players representing 16 clubs.

Cork know little about Waterford. At the same stage 12 months ago Cork decisively defeated the same opponents but with both counties fielding a fresh group of talent Cork are facing the unknown.

Denis is happy with his own charges.

"We have a very well balanced side. We haven't gone overly heavy on the training just yet but what we have done has been good quality and I'm delighted with our progress," he said.

Aine Moynihan of Ballygarvan and Leah Weste of Ballincollig are two players who remain from last year and their experience is sure to be a bonus. Niamh Dilworth of Inniscarra, winner of the Cork Felle Skills competition in 2003, Brid Twomey and captain Margaret O'Herlihy are others selected.

## Little learned as Cork stroll past outclassed Waterford side

By **LINDA MELLERICK**  
Munster Minor Camogie C'ship

**Cork** 8-24  
**Waterford** 1-1

A WALK in the park. Saturday's First round Munster Minor Championship game was nothing more as Cork demolished a very poor Waterford team in Lismore Park. Realistically this encounter did neither team any good. Cork could not possibly have learnt anything from the game and Waterford can only be embarrassed.

To be fair Waterford are a Minor B team. They are graded B but find themselves alone in Munster and so end up playing A.

The minor B championship is played on an open draw basis and maybe Waterford should stick with that for the time being. Young girls suffering huge defeats like this cannot be good.

From a Cork perspective they were dominant in all sectors. The defence had little to do as the entire game was played in the Waterford end of the pitch. Cork led at half time by 4-11 to 1-0.

Despite the poor opposition talent can still be spotted and Denise Cronin, Leah Weste, Erin Corkery and Niamh Dilworth are certainly calibre players.

All the Cork forwards showed flair and indeed the winning margin could have been even greater but for the excellent goalkeeping of Waterford's Patricia Jackman. Waterford, by their own admission, had little preparation done for the game with the Minor B championship their main priority. Cork manager, Denis Burns knows it will be a different ball game from here on in. His team now face Limerick on April 9.

"We still had to beat what was put in front of us but we learnt little from the game. Our team is nicely balanced, though, and they all played well. The next job is to bring the girls back down to earth and not give them a false idea of how good we are. Limerick will be a tough one."

**Scorers Cork:** N Dilworth 3-4, D Cronin 1-6 (0-3f), E Corkery 2-1, M Herlihy 1-3, A Thompson and S Coleman 0-3 each, S Whelton 1-0, D Twomey 0-2, U Quinn and L Weste 0-1 each.

**Waterford:** S O'Brien 1-0, K Heneghan 0-1  
**CORK:** L M O'Mahony (Eire Og); N O'Donovan (Douglas); A Moynihan (Ballygarvan); R DeFaoite (Blackrock); M Foley (Rockban); C McCarthy (Eire Og); C Motherway (Dungourney); A Thompson (Milford); B Twomey (Aghabullogue); D Cronin (Ballincollig); M Herlihy (Eire Og/Capt); D Twomey (St. Catherine's); E Corkery (Eire Og); N Dilworth (Inniscarra); L Weste (Ballincollig).

**Subs:** K Hickey (Bishopstown) for R DeFaoite, S Coleman (Rockban) for E Corkery, S Whelton (Clonakilty) for L Weste, L Ryan (Dungourney) for B Twomey, U Quinn (Couragey Rovers) for D Twomey.

**WATERFORD:** P Jackman (Gaultier); E Hutchinson (Idol); S Moloney (Lismore); S Smyth (Gaultier); V Gaffney (Ardkeen); P Broderick (Lismore); J Houlihan (Idol); K Heneghan (Idol); A O'Sullivan (Gaultier); C McNeill (Tramore); A Breathnach (Idol); S O'Brien (An Rinn); S Keane (Lismore); S O'Gorman (Idol); D Keane (Tramore).

**Cork** 8-24  
**Waterford** 1-1

AS predicted, Cork proved much too strong for Waterford when the sides met in the opening round of the Munster Minor Championship in Lismore on Saturday last. Always in command, Cork proceeded to pick off their scores with ease over a Waterford side that showed little resistance.

Cork led at the break 4-11 to 1-0 with Niamh Dilworth, Ashling Thompson, Leah Weste, Denise Cronin, Erin Corkery and Margaret O'Herlihy all getting on the score sheet and, but for the excellent goal-keeping of Wa-

terford's Patricia Jackman, the score board would have looked much worse for the home side.

Sinead O'Brien breached the Cork defence to get the home side on the score sheet in the opening half.

From the restart it continued much the same as the first with Cork totally in command in all sectors. Deirdre Twomey, Ursula Quinn, Ashling Thompson and Sarah Coleman all adding their

## Camogie Mary Newman

names to the list of scorers.

To be fair Waterford had little preparation done for the game, as they are focusing all their efforts on the Minor B All Ireland championship. They are graded Minor B but as they find themselves the only county so graded in Munster they have no choice but to play in the A championship. There is a minor B All Ireland championship which is played on an open

draw basis and they will certainly look ahead to that as a chance to regroup and contest for honours in a grade where they are in with a chance.

Cork coach Denis Burns will be under no illusions about the task which faces his side against Limerick on April 9 in the Munster semi-final.

**Cork:** N Dilworth 3-4, D Cronin 1-6 (0-3f), E Corkery 2-1, M Herlihy 1-3, A Thompson and S Coleman 0-3 each, S Whelton 1-0, D Twomey 0-2, U Quinn and L Weste 0-1 each.

**CORK:** L M O'Mahony; N O'Donovan; A Moynihan; R DeFaoite; M Foley; C McCarthy; C Motherway; A Thompson; B Twomey; D Cronin; M Herlihy (Capt); D Twomey; E Corkery; N Dilworth; L Weste.

**Subs:** K Hickey for R DeFaoite, S Coleman for E Corkery, S Whelton for L Weste, L Ryan for B Twomey, U Quinn for D Twomey.

## Corcaigh (Cork)

(1)  
Lisa Marie O'Mahoney  
Eire Og

(2)  
Nianh O'Donovan  
Douglas

(3)  
Aine Moynihan  
Ballygarvan

(4)  
Roisin de Faoite  
Blackrock

(5)  
Mairiad Foley  
Rockban

(6)  
Cliona McCarthy  
Eire Og

(7)  
Carolyn Motherway  
Dungourney

(8)  
Aisling Thompson  
Milford

(9)  
Brid Twomey  
Aghabullogue

(10)  
Denise Cronin  
Ballincollig

(11)  
Margaret Herlihy  
Eire Og

(12)  
Deirdre Twomey  
St. Catherine's

(13)  
Erin Corkery  
Eire Og

(14)  
Niamh Dilworth  
Innis Cartha

(15)  
Leah West  
Ballincollig

### Fir Ionaid:

(16) Cliona Conway (Douglas)

(17) Siobhain Gleeson (Eire Og)

(18) Katie Hickey (Bishopstown)

(19) Ella Ryan (Dungourney)

(20) Ursula Quinn (Couragey Rovers)

(21) Sarah Coleman (Rockban)

(22) Sharon Whelton (Clonakilty)

(23) Ellen Helaey (Enniskeane)

(24) Sinead O'Callaghan (Ballinhassig)



## CamogieChat

With Mary Newman

## Winning start for minors

A GOOD start to the inter county season as the minor team proved to strong for Waterford the opening round of the Munster Minor Championship in Lismore on Saturday last.

From the throw in Cork dominated and as they picked off scores with ease Waterford were to provide little resistance.

It was a game that served as no more than a training run with Cork leading at the break 4-11 to 1-0 as Niamh Dilworth, Ashling Thompson Leah Weste, Denise Cronin, Erin Corkery and Margaret O'Herlihy all getting on the score sheet.

Waterford goalkeeper Patricia Jackman was superb and were it not for some outstanding saves the score would have been much higher.

Despite Corks dominance

Sinead O'Brien did manage to breach the defence to grab Waterford's opening score.

Throughout the second half Cork continued their dominance, Deirdre Twomey, Ursula Quinn, Ashling Thompson and Sarah Coleman all adding their names to the score sheet.

Waterford did manage to add a point to their tally but in truth it was simply a case of going through the motions for the better balanced and more skilful Cork girls.

While the score line tells its own story in fairness to Waterford they had little preparation done for the game, as they are focusing all their efforts on the Minor 'B' All Ireland championship.

They are graded Minor 'B' but as they find themselves the only 'B' county in Munster they have no choice but to play in the 'A' champi-

onship.

There is a minor 'B' All-Ireland championship which is played on an open draw basis and they will certainly look ahead to that as a chance to regroup and contest for honours in a grade where they are in with a chance.

Cork now focus on their semi-final meeting with Limerick on Saturday, April 9 which will take place in Ovens and certainly they will be under no illusions as to the task ahead.

## ALL SYSTEMS GO FOR YOUNGER GENERATION

THE weekend ahead is a busy one as the under 12 leagues swings into action. Clubs have been preparing for their opening games so no doubt the playing fields will be busy from this week and onwards.

## CORK SET UP SUPPORTERS CLUB

ON Monday next the Cork Camogie Supporters club will hold an annual general meeting to formally elect a committee for the year ahead.

The club has been set up to work in conjunction with the county board to organise fund raising which will be used to help fund the inter teams. Tipperary set up a similar committee several years ago and it had proved very successful.

The Cork club will be chaired by former inter county player Linda Mellerick, Juvenile Board Treasurer Bina O'Callaghan will be the Secretary while County Board Treasurer Mary Mc Sweeney will also act as the clubs Treasurer.

The meeting takes place at Puir Uí Chaoimh at 8p.m and is open to all interested parties to attend.

## Rebel City is in for a busy year with Féile and Congress

2005. Our year as Capital of Culture and it's fitting that Cork should host many important events.

It's a busy year for Cork camogie both on and off the field.

On April 8 and 9, we host the Annual Congress in the Blarney Park Hotel. Delegates from the 32 counties will attend with many submitting motions.

Six weeks later Cork host the Féile na nGael All-Ireland Championship.

Teams from the other 31 counties will pour into Cork for three days of competition.

Champions Douglas will defend their crown and there can be no better place to retain or win the title than in your home county.

But first, Congress. Some motions up for discussion are purely terminology. There is a motion to call the present Minor Championship the U16 Championship. Thereafter the term minor shall refer to a player/member who is U18 years of age on January 1 of a competition year.

It never fails to amaze me the number of rules affected by certain motions. By this one change the terminology of seven rules must be amended.

Offaly have submitted a proposal that the junior championship be run on the same format as the senior championship i.e. open draw league basis. I can understand why counties would want this, particularly Galway who have little or no Connaught opposition. It has certainly improved the senior championship with teams guaranteed three or four games in their group. Without doubt though, it does take the sting out of a provincial victory. Winning the Munster title is definitely not the buzz it used to be. The importance of the competition has faded with many teams not even fielding their full strength squad. The All-Ireland remains the number one priority.

London have requested that they be allowed participate in the Junior National League in 2006. No disrespect to London but there is little worse than a camogie board having to fork out the best part of €10,000 to bring a panel across the water to annihilate a side. I can see most counties shuddering at the thought of being drawn in the same group.

One of the most topical motions presented is the re-grading of players. I mentioned a couple of weeks

Linda Mellerick

ago the crazy situation which currently exists whereby a player unless they possess an All-Ireland senior or intermediate medal can play at a grade lower than their defined status or grade. The motion is submitted by Offaly whereby participation in a higher grade in any season's championship shall designate a player's grade and define their status to that level for the future unless a regrading is granted.

A player would not be eligible to compete in any inter-county or provincial competition thereafter at a grade lower than this unless a period of two years has elapsed from the date of her last championship match.

Most of the other items up for discussion are the usual, e.g., the duties and powers of refs, advertising on jerseys etc.

There is a fairly large section dedicated to the Camogie Supporters Club Constitution. Tipperary introduced this club a few years ago and it has been a resounding success.

Not ones to be left behind, Cork are now in the process of forming the same. It will be up and running within the next couple of weeks and I will keep you fully updated.

The goal of the club is to operate a fundraising body for the purpose of providing equipment, services for the county camogie panels as are deemed appropriate and necessary with the team management and county board.

That's the legal wording of the club. In layman's terms the objective of the club will be to raise funds and to the best of its ability ensure these funds are readily available to all inter-county teams to assist them in their quest for All-Ireland honours.

Thursday May 19 is the beginning of the Féile Na nGael weekend. A huge amount of preparation work is needed and the camogie board have elected a sub committee for that purpose. In 2001 Cork again were the hosts and with the foot and mouth epidemic that existed at the time they were unsure up to practically the last minute as to whether the competition would go ahead or not.

It did and Cork had just six weeks to prepare. It was a great success and no doubt it will be this time round as well.

## Congress comes to Cork venue

by Mary Newman

A BUSY weekend ahead as delegates from 32 counties gather at the Blarney Park hotel as Cork plays host to National Congress. It's been over 15 years since the last Congress was held in Cork and this year it's to honour Cork as the European Capital of Culture.

Congress will open on Friday evening at 8pm and will be addressed by President of the Camogie Association Miriam O'Callaghan. Congress will be in session until 10pm when delegates will be addressed by the President of the GAA, Sean Kelly.

Saturday is a busy day with a full agenda getting under way at 10 am and continuing until close. Amongst the many motions on the card is one from Monaghan seeking to change the age structure of the championships. Under

the present format the under 16 championship is the minor championship, but a motion from Monaghan is now seeking to have the age limit for the minor championship increased to age 18. At present the under 18 championships are only contested at provincial level and if the motion is successful it will mean a new All Ireland will come into being. The motion is not seeking to delete the under 16 championship and is calling for its retention. The motion is sure to evoke lively debate and will be seen as another step in the right direction of providing more game for players over the age of sixteen.

Another motion sure to get the attention of delegates is one calling for a change in the grading format. At present a player is not graded senior until she wins a senior All Ireland medal and it follows on down the line with the intermediate and junior grades. A call is now being made for a player to be

grades senior when she plays in a senior championship match irrespective of winning an All Ireland medal, and if this motion is successful it could deny a junior player who may just come on the pitch as a substitute a chance of finishing out the championship with the junior team.

The motion is sure to receive huge support in counties that only field one team as their seems to be a train of thought that the present format seems to suit the bigger counties who have plenty of players and as a result weaker counties are losing out.

Delegates will also get a chance to sample some of the hospitality of the city and county, and on Saturday evening will attend a function where they will be entertained by local musicians. Before this a special mass will be said for delegates.

Certainly a busy weekend, but one which will be a huge success.

## Minors set to challenge Limerick

by Mary Newman

LIMERICK stand in the way of the Cork minors and a place in the Munster championship final as Eire Og in Ovens host the Munster Minor Championship semi-final on Saturday at 2.30pm.

Limerick lost out by just one goal to Clare in last year's Munster final after defeating a strong Tipperary side, and with nine of that

side still available for selection coach John Lacey will be confident of progressing to this season's final. Cork coach Denis Burns has taken over the reigns at minor level this year following two seasons with the county senior side and he is joined by selectors Peter Brosnan, Jack Dillon and Margaret Caulfield.

A glance through the Limerick line-out shows many familiar names with

Finola Dore, Ashling Collins, Aine Gearey and Lisa Fitzgerald all members of the St Marys, Charleville, junior side

Cork showed plenty of talent as they coasted to victory over Waterford, ably led by Captain Margaret O'Herlihy, while Niamh Dilworth, Denise Cronin, Erin Corkery, Ashling Thompson and Sarah Coleman all showed their strength in front of goal.



Denise Cronin: hoping to inspire Cork side.



APRIL 2005

Camogie Association are delighted with funding from Sports Council

# Camogie announce council funding

By CONOR GEORGE  
Camogie Congress

**CAMOGIE** received a timely boost last night with the announcement of a €250,000 grant from the Irish Sports Council.

The good news was relayed to delegates attending the annual convention in the Blarney Park Hotel, Cork last night.

Miriam O'Callaghan, president of the National Camogie Board, said that the money would be used to further the development of the game at all levels and that this would include the recruitment of personnel in the area of coaching and games development at national and regional level.

The Irish Sports Council chief executive, John Treacy, delivered the good news to the Camogie Association and said:

"We are delighted to be in a position to allocate €250,000 of the special budget measure announced last

December to camogie to further development of the game.

"The Camogie Association submitted impressive and extensive plans in respect of this allocation and I am confident they will continue to develop excellent participation initiatives for women and girls all across the country, while working to advance the quality of playing, coaching and refereeing in the sport."

Also in attendance at the congress last night was President of the GAA, Seán Kelly who said: "The year just past was a very special one in the annals of camogie."

"The centenary celebrations reminded one and all of the significant contribution that camogie has made to the shaping of Irish society over the last 100 years and demonstrated the huge amount of goodwill that exists towards the association."

Further good news was delivered with the announcement that RTE will televise the All-Ireland semi-finals this year as a result of the success of last year's broadcast.



Miriam O'Callaghan, president, Joanne O'Callaghan, Aoife Murray, Rachel Moloney, Stephanie Dunlea and Ciara Healy, Cork senior camogie players at the Camogie National Conference in the Blarney Park Hotel. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Mary Newman, Pat Murray and Mary MacSweeney at the Camogie National Conference in the Blarney Park Hotel. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Claire Donegan and Kay Dunne, Cork delegates at the Camogie National Conference in the Blarney Park Hotel. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Mary Buglen, Marian McCarthy and Sheila Golden, of the Cork County Camogie Board at the Camogie National Conference in the Blarney Park Hotel. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Sean Kelly GAA president at the Camogie National Conference in the Blarney Park Hotel



APRIL 2005

## CamogieChat

With Mary Newman

# National Congress at the Blarney Park Hotel

THE camogie fraternity will focus on Leaside next weekend as Cork hosts National Congress at the Blarney Park Hotel. Delegates will gather on Friday evening when National President Miriam O'Callaghan opens congress at 8pm and business will continue until 10pm with President of the GAA Sean Kelly addressing the gathering. It's a busy agenda and work begins on Saturday at 10am and will continue until close and certainly there will be no shortage of lively debate as some very interesting motions are on the agenda. From Monaghan comes a proposal to

## CAMOGIE LOSE TWO STALWORTHS

CAMOGIE lost two good friends in the last fortnight with the passing of Phillip O'Doherty and Marguerite Healy. Phillip was a tremendous worker in the Carrigaline club and was chairman up to last year, having previously held the position of vice chairman and secretary. One of the founding members of the club he was also a selector and county board delegate and always represented the club with great flair getting his opinions across in the gentle voice yet always managing to win the battle. Sadly his short illness saw him lose his final battle but I am sure he will continue to inspire those left behind.

Marguerite Healy was a true Delaney's woman and loved the club dearly, steeped in the gaelic games tradition with brothers Dan and Finbarr and her sons and daughters having represented the club, she was one of the people who started camogie in the club. In its early days she was actively involved but over the last number of years had taken a back seat but never the less still maintained an interest as club president. I am sure that she will be fondly remembered by all in her beloved club in Dublin Hill.

change the age of the All Ireland minor championship from sixteen to eighteen and this will be seen as a move to come into line with GAA competitions. At present the minor All Ireland is an under sixteen competition but he move to extend the age limit to eighteen will be seen as a means to include more players in inter county All Ireland activities at present under eighteen championships only go to provincial level.

Delegates will also listen attentively to a motion calling for change in the grading format, at present a player is not graded senior until she wins a senior All Ireland medal and it follows on down the line with the Intermediate and Junior players graded in a similar fashion. The proposed motion is calling for a player to be graded senior when she plays in a senior championship match irrespective of winning an All Ireland medal. This motion is sure to receive support in counties only fielding one team as the present format seems to suit the bigger counties who have a bigger selection of players to pick from. Congress will conclude with delegates attending a function on Saturday evening where they will be entertained by local musicians and before this a special mass will be celebrated to mark the occasion.

## CORK TEAMS DO WELL AT PAN CELTIC

THREE Cork teams recorded victories at the Pan Celtic tournament. Milford took their first title at senior level defeating Cloughduv while Douglas gained the upper hand on Erie Og to take the Under 16 A title. Ballygarvan lost out to Camross in their under 16 B final but had better luck in the Senior B final as they defeated St Catherine's, well done to all.

## MINORS FACE LIMERICK IN MUNSTER CHAMPIONSHIP

CORK and Limerick meet in the Munster championship semi final in Ovens on Saturday next at 2.30pm. Its Corks second game having recorded a comprehensive victory over Waterford but in truth that game served as little more than a training session as cork totally overwhelmed their opponents. Limerick lost out by just one goal to Clare in last year Munster final after defeating a strong Tipperary side and with nine of that side still available for selection coach John Lacey will be confident of progressing to this season's final. John has taken over the reign at minor level this year following two seasons with the county senior side and he is joined by selectors Peter Brosnan, Jack Dillon and Margaret Caulfield. Limerick are a strong outfit Finola Dore, Ashling Collins, Aine Gearey and Lisa Fitzgerald are all members of the St Marys Charleville junior side while Sarah Collins and Niamh Mulcahy are quality players.

Cork will be under no illusions as to the task facing them but in captain Margaret o Herlihy, Niamh Dilworth, Denise Cronin, Erin Corkery, Ashling Thompson and Sarah Coleman they have players capable of making it to the final, they will go in as favourites but will be very mindful of falling at the same stage in last year championship to Clare.

It will be a special occasion for Margaret o Herlihy from the host club Eire Og as she leads the county side to what she hopes will be a place in the Munster Championship final.



Miriam O'Callaghan President, Joanne O'Callaghan, Aolfe Murray, Rachel Moloney, Stephanie Dunlea and Clara Healy Cork Senior Camogie Players at the Camogie National Conference in the Blarney Park Hotel, Cork.  
Pictures: Gerard McCarthy/GMC Photography 087 8537228



Sean Kelly GAA president speaking at the Camogie National Conference in the Blarney Park Hotel



Claire Donegan and Kay Dunne Cork delegates at the Camogie National Conference in the Blarney Park Hotel



Mary Buglen, Marian McCarthy and Sheila Golden Cork County Camogie Board at the Camogie National Conference in the Blarney Park Hotel, Cork.

## Camogie

by Mary Newman

# €250,000 grant sweet music to Congress ears

by Mary Newman

THE camogie association held a very productive national congress at Blarney Park Hotel over the weekend and in reviewing very busy centenary year's activities they also laid the foundations for the next millennium.

Chairperson of the Cork Camogie Board Marion McCarthy welcomed delegates to Cork and made special mention of Cork's role as European Capital of Culture. Marion had special mention for all delegates especially those who travelled from overseas to attend the congress.

President Miriam O'Callaghan had good news for delegates when she announced that following on the association's recently submitted strategic plan the Irish sports Council has granted the game to the tune of a grant for €250,000 and this announcement certainly got proceedings off on the right foot on Friday evening.

Ms O'Callaghan in her address had huge praise for all units of the

association who helped make centenary year a huge success.

She also made reference to the largest attendance ever at the All-Ireland final and the success of the first international rules series and the shinty/camogie competition exhibition games played last year. Ms O'Callaghan urged members to build on the ground-swell of support from the year gone by and said that with the goodwill the game is continuing to enjoy it can only go from strength to strength but it needs everybody to continue the good work.

Ms O'Callaghan made reference to the healthy aspects of children being involved.

GAA President Sean Kelly also attended and addressed the delegates made reference to the continued progress being made towards integration of camogie and ladies football as did Cork GAA representative Mick Dolan.

Mr Kelly also made reference to the associations celebrations of its

centenary year and the manner in which clubs and county boards celebrated the event.

Both gentlemen expressed their support for closer liaison between the GAA, camogie association and ladies football and looked forward with confidence to further positive developments from the integration revive committee.

Lord Mayor Sean Martin addressed congress on Saturday morning complemented the camogie association for choosing Cork as their congress venue in this appropriate year for the city and he also spoke of his own strong gaelic games background while he wished delegates all the best for a good congress.

All eyes were on the motions down for debate and certainly they evoked lively discussion. Without doubt the motions from Offaly seeking to change the grading status at inter county level was the one which drew most attention. The format as it stood only grades players if they have won an All-Ireland

medal but the motions was seeking to automatically define a player as senior/intermediate/junior if she participated in these grades irrespective of winning a medal.

The motion received huge support from the weaker counties many of who feel at a numerical disadvantage and many cases were pointed out where counties have fielded strong junior team and later went on with the same players to play in the senior championship and in some cases progress.

After much deliberation the motion failed narrowly failed to get the required two thirds majority by just two votes much to the disappointment of many of the delegates.

It was a very historic congress for the London delegation as they succeeded in getting a motion seeking to participate in the junior national league for 2006 passed.

A lot of interest had been shown in a motion from Mayo seeking to change the age status of the under 16 championship to under 18 but this motion was withdrawn and the

competition committee will now look at the overall picture with a view to bringing the age limit into line with other codes of gaelic games.

Ardeomhairle succeeded in tightening up on their sponsorship directives getting a motion passed ensuring that brand names will only be displayed on jerseys, goalkeepers track suit, non playing gear/equipment.

There was a very positive feed back to the statement presented from the integration task force which consisted of representatives of the camogie association, Cumann Luthchleas Gael and Cumann Peil Gael na mBan and with continued progress reported from many counties who have already implemented many of the principles of the committee things are moving ahead smoothly towards the full integration deadline 2008.

Proceedings were closed with a mass celebrated by former St Finbarr's player Fr Damien O Mahony.



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Flower power: Cork senior camogie players Joanne O'Callaghan, Aoife Murray, Rachel Moloney, Stephanie Dunlea and Ciara Healy at the Camogie National Conference in the Blarney Park Hotel, Blarney, Co Cork on Saturday.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy/GMC Photography

## Exciting times for camogie

by Therese O'Callaghan

PRESIDENT of the Camogie Association Miriam O'Callaghan is expected to make a number of key announcements in her address to the annual congress at Cork's Blarney Park Hotel tonight.

The messages will pertain to funding and live television coverage of the All-Ireland senior championships for the coming year.

"At this stage I cannot reveal any more," said Ms O'Callaghan. "But this is a significant step forward."

Also in attendance will be GAA President Sean Kelly, who will also speak to the national delegates.

"We are very happy that Sean Kelly has accepted our invitation and we are delighted to be visiting Cork who are major contributors to camogie, and in its year as capital of Culture."

Another topic up for discussion is the Task Force Report on the pilot scheme aimed at integrating all three bodies — the GAA, ladies football and camogie. The report covers the findings of a special committee comprising of Kelly, Liam Mulvihill (GAA), Sile Wallace and Jo Golden (camogie), and Geraldine Giles and Helen O'Rourke (ladies football).

Already adopted at the ladies football congress, this report is being presented to all three bodies. The step-by-step framework aimed at a possible 2008 amalgamation is also expected to get the green light.

Another topic that should generate some debate comes from O'Callaghan's home county of Offaly, which is seeking changes to the structure of the All-Ireland junior championship. Currently run on a provincial championship basis, the Faithful County is looking for the introduction of an open draw competition.

Meanwhile, on the playing field Galway will be without Aine Hillary as they face Wexford at home in Division One of the National League. Although both have qualified for the semi-finals, finishing top of the group is the incentive. Antrim and Limerick meet in Dublin with the winners moving off the bottom of the table.

## Congress boosted by sports council grant

A GIFT is something which is always welcome and certainly the announcement of a quarter of a million euro grant aid from the Irish Sports Council to camogie certainly got national congress off to a great start at the Blarney Park Hotel last weekend.

Amongst the visitors to congress were the President of the GAA Sean Kelly, Mick Dolan Vice-Chairman of the Cork GAA Board, Lord Mayor Sean Martin. All addressed congress and were loud in their praise for the wonderful efforts being put in at all levels of the association. Cork Camogie chairperson Marion McCarthy and Michael Dolan Vice-Chairman Cork County GAA board welcomed delegates to Cork as the formalities got underway on Friday evening. National President Miriam O'Callaghan in her opening address on Friday had huge praise for all units of the association for their involvement in a tremendous celebration of centenary year, she also made reference to the largest attendance ever at the All Ireland final and the success of the first international rules series and the Shinty/camogie competition exhibition games played last year. Mrs O'Callaghan also emphasised that "winning and losing must be kept in perspective" she also reminded delegates not to neglect the indoor game something which camogie first developed.

GAA President Sean Kelly made reference to the positive attitude and continued progress being made towards integration of camogie and ladies football and this was something delegated again heard in detail when they reviewed the working groups report on Saturday. Mr Kelly also made reference to the associations celebrations of its centenary year and the manner in which



Mary Newman, Pat Murray and Mary MacSweeney Cork at the Camogie National Conference in the Blarney Park Hotel, Cork. Pictures: GMC Photography

clubs and county boards celebrated the event.

All eyes were on the motions down for debate on Saturday and certainly they evoked lively discussion.

Offaly were seeking to change the grading status at inter county level, the format as it stood only grades players if they have won an All Ireland medal but the motions was seeking to automatically define a player as senior/intermediate/junior if she participated in these grades irrespective of winning a medal.

The motion received huge support from the weaker counties many of who feel at a numerical disadvantage and many cases were pointed out where counties have fielded a strong junior team and later went on with the same players to play in the senior championship and in some cases progress.

After much deliberation the motion failed narrowly to get the required two thirds majority by just two votes.

## CamogieChat

With Mary Newman

London succeeded in getting a motion seeking to participate in the junior national league for 2006 passed and this is a very positive step for the progressive London board.

A lot of interest had been shown in a motion from Mayo seeking to change the age status of the under 16 championship to under 18 but this motion was withdrawn and the competition committee will now look at the overall picture with a view to bringing the age limit into line with other codes of gaelic games.

Ardchomhairle succeeded in tightening up on their sponsorship directives getting a motion passed ensuring that brand names will only be displayed on jerseys, goalkeepers track suit, non playing gear/equipment.

There was a very positive feed back to the statement presented from the integration task force which consisted of representatives of the camogie association, Cumann Luthchleas Gael and Cumann Peil Gael na mBan and with continued progress reported from many counties who have already implemented many of the principles of the committee things are moving ahead smoothly towards the full integration deadline 2008.

Proceedings were closed with a mass celebrated by former St Finbarrs player Fr Damien O'Mahony and while later guests including county GAA board Chairman Jim Forbes and his wife Maura attended a banquet and enjoyed entertainment provided by the O'Mahony school of dancing and a group of musicians led by Inniscarra player Margaret McCarthy.

All in all a hugely successful congress and the Cork Board are to be applauded on their organising of the event.

### CAMOGIE

**Division 1: Galway 2-11** (O Kilkenny 1-3, B Hannehy 1-1, L Kavanagh 0-4, V Cusin 0-2, S Murphy 0-1) **Wexford 1-5** (A Codd 1-0, K Kelly 0-2, U Jacob, L Codd, A O'Connor 0-1 each)

**Division 2: Galway 1-7** (M Dunne 1-5, Y Donnelly 0-2); **Wexford 0-6** (M Henrick, C O'Connor, J Dwyer 0-2 each)

**Offaly 0-10** (M Davis 0-6, E Concoran 0-2, S Daly, M Wyer 0-1 each) **Tipperary 1-4** (K Kennedy 1-1, S Ryan 0-3)

**Waterford 0-7** (A Lyng 4-3, K Kelly 1-3, B Kennedy 1-0, P Cunningham, L Curry, A Cummins 0-1 each) **Roscommon 2-7** (L Glennon 2-0, A Heffernan 0-5, C Kenny 0-2)

**Westmeath 17-20** (A Heffernan 5-5, M Henry 5-3, S Weil 3-8, L Reilly 2-6, D Loughlin 1-1, S Carroll, J Walsh 0-1 each) **Wicklow 2-0** (N Keedy, G Naughton 1-0 each)

**Munster Minor championship semi-finals:** Cork 1-9 Limerick 0-6; Tipperary 3-2 Clare 0-6



# Cork turn on the style to progress

Cork 1-9  
Limerick 0-6

A SECOND-HALF scoring blitz was enough to secure Cork a place in this year's Munster Final, as the pre-match favourites put Limerick to the sword in Ovens on Saturday.

Having hammered Waterford in their last outing, Cork were highly fancied going into this home tie, but it was the visitors who made the better start in the game.

Cork keeper, Lisa Marie O'Mahoney was called into action early on as Limerick laid siege on the Cork defence and their persistence was rewarded when Niamh Mulcahy converted a point from the 45-metre line.

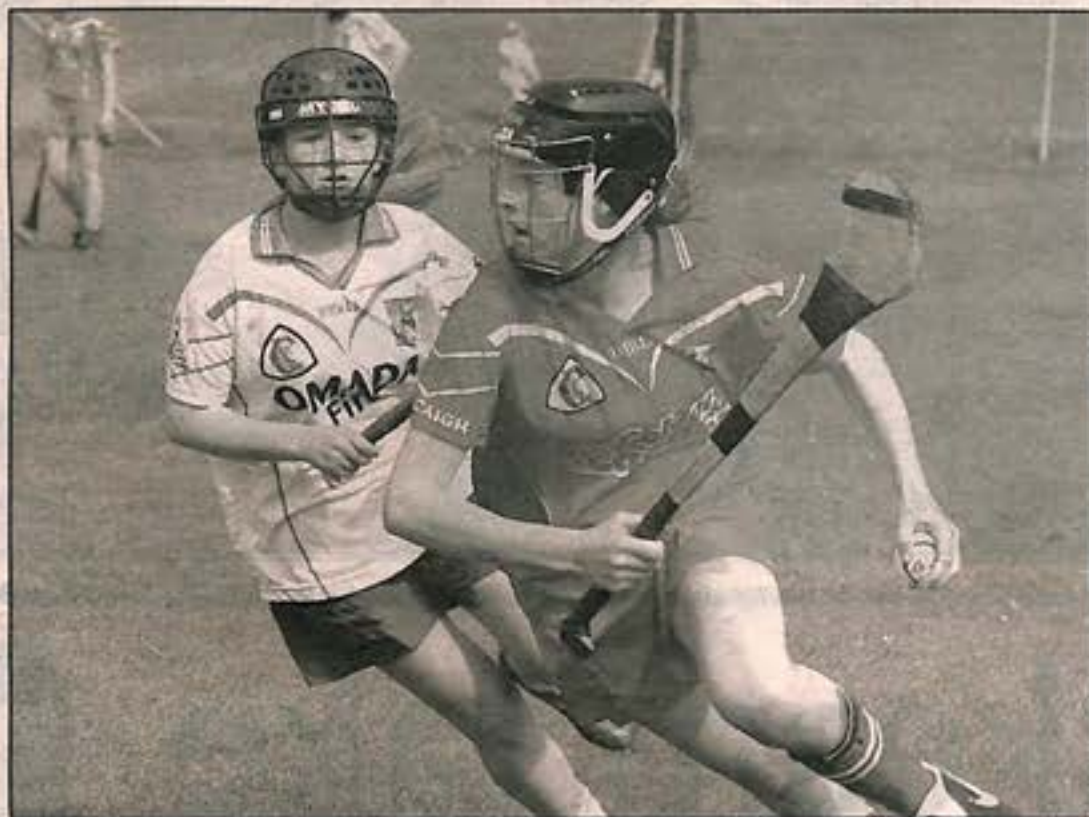
Playing against a stiff breeze, Cork were unable to convert any of their possession into points in the opening quarter but they finally got off the mark after fifteen minutes as Denise Cronin knocked over a free.

Cronin was already showing as one of Cork's best players and her running and all-round play would cause huge headaches for the Limerick defence.

She added to her tally with another free as Cork took the lead but Limerick restored their advantage with two quick points, one a free from Niamh Mulcahy and the other the product of some fine running from mid-fielder Judith Mulcahy.

Cork turned around two points down but their superb start to the second half meant there was only going to be one winner in this match as the hosts finally began to take their scoring chances and picked off points at ease.

They were level after only two minutes of the second-half with half-forward partners Deirdre Twomey and Denise Cronin scoring from play, as Cork put some excellent passages of play together.



Cork's Aisling Thompson (Milford) looks for a way past Limerick's Julie O'Connor (Newcastlewest) in the U16 A Munster Championship Camogie semi-final at Ovens on Saturday. Picture: Larry Cummins

By ALISON DONNELLY

U16 'A' Munster Camogie Championship Semi-Final

Erin Corkery, playing on her home pitch, edged her side ahead with a well-struck goal minutes later, with the score the result of some fine linking play down the left-hand side involving Aisling Thompson, Cronin and Deirdre Twomey.

Twomey, one of Cork's best forwards, had two more points to her name after that as Limerick looked dead and buried by their opponents scoring rally. Full-forward Niamh Dilworth, who was being handed plenty of scoring chances, put a point over and Limerick got their first point of the half when Siobhan Casey finished her chance very well.

ished her chance very well.

Aisling Thompson had an immediate response however for Cork as her long-range effort sailed between the sticks and although Niamh Mulcahy converted a free, it was too little too late for the away team.

Fittingly, Cork's stand-out player, Cronin, had the last say as Thompson set her up for the final score.

Cork will play either Tipperary or Clare in the final in three weeks' time and selector Paddy Corkery said that they would be working the squad hard ahead of the Munster decider.

"Our aim all year has been to get to the Munster Final and we've been taking it step by step up to now. We have a great squad of about 25 girls and we'll be working with them all over

the next three weeks to have them ready for the game."

**Scorers for Cork:** N Dilworth (0-2), D Cronin (0-3), D Twomey (0-3), E Corkery (1-0), A Thompson (0-1)

**Scorers Limerick:** N Mulcahy (0-4), S Casey (0-1), J Mulcahy

**CORK:** L M O'Mahoney, R de Faoite, A Moynihan, N O'Donovan, C Motherrway, C MacCarthy, M Foley, B Twomey, A Thompson, D Cronin, M Herlihy, D Twomey, E Corkery, N Dilworth, L West

**Subs:** S Whelton (for D Twomey 42 mins), E Healy (for M Herlihy 59 mins), S Gleeson (for C MacCarthy 59 mins)

**LIMERICK:** S Moynihan, A McNamara, S Collins, A Horgan, L Herbert, F Dore, M Barry, N Mulcahy, J Mulcahy, L Fitzgerald, A Culhane, A McAuliffe, J O'Connor, S Casey, A McAuliffe

**Subs:** S Enright (for A McAuliffe 24 mins), S Carey (for J O'Connor 43 mins), C Nolan (for L Herbert 52 mins), N Carroll (for A McAuliffe 55 mins)

## Camogie can now build for next 100 years

CONGRESS 2005 got off to the best possible start when boosted by the announcements of €250,000 grant aid from the Irish Sports Council.

In an uplifting address, Uachtarán Miriam O'Callaghan also praised all units of the association for their involvement in a tremendous celebration of centenary year.

She also made reference to the largest attendance ever at the All-Ireland final and the success of the first international rules series and the shinty/camogie competition exhibition games.

"Camogie must now build on the groundswell of support from 2004 but I have no doubt that given the increased media coverage we are receiving and the continued support and goodwill of sponsors you will face that challenge with enthusiasm."

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie Congress

The main business got under way on Saturday morning. All eyes were on the motions down for debate and certainly they evoked lively discussion. Without doubt the motions from Offaly seeking to change the grading status at inter-county level was the one which drew most attention.

The format as it stood only grades players if they have won an All-Ireland medal but the motions was seeking to automatically define a player as senior/intermediate/junior if she participated in these grades irrespective of winning a medal. The motion received huge support from the weaker counties many of who feel at a numerical disadvantage and many cases were pointed

out where counties have fielded strong junior team and later went on with the same players to play in the senior championship and in some cases progress. The motion failed narrowly to get the required two-thirds majority by just two votes.

It was a very historic congress for the London delegation as they succeeded in getting a motion seeking to participate in the Junior National League for 2006 passed, with the game continuing to grow steadily abroad this is a positive step for the progressive London board.

A lot of interest had been shown in a motion from Mayo seeking to change the age status of the U16 championship to U18 but this motion was withdrawn and the competition committee will now look at the overall picture with a view to bringing the age limit into line

with other codes of gaelic games.

Ardchomhairle succeeded in tightening up on their sponsorship directives getting a motion passed ensuring that brand names will only be displayed on jerseys, goalkeepers tracksuit, non playing gear/equipment.

There was positive feedback to the statement presented from the integration task force which consisted of representatives of the camogie association, Cumann Luthchleas Gael and Cumann Peil Gael na mBan and with continued progress reported from many counties who have already implemented many of the principles of the committee. Things are moving ahead smoothly towards the integration deadline of 2008.

All in all a successful congress helped in no small way by the meticulous planning at local level Cork board



# Loreto girls honoured with awards

MORE than 100 pupils from Loreto Secondary School in Fermoy have been honoured for their contributions to school life.

The pupils were presented with awards in 23 categories at the school's annual commitment awards.

Principal Mary Ryan, herself a former pupil, said the awards were a fitting recognition of the school's achievements during the past 12 months.

"It was tremendous to see so many young people being honoured for their outstanding contribution to life at the school and, indeed, in the wider community," said Ms Ryan.

One of the evening's most popular award winners was 18-year-old Leaving Certificate student Denise Twomey from Conna, who won the Senior Sports Shield for her outstanding dedication on the playing pitch.

Despite having to study for her exams, Denise found the time to captain the school's senior camogie team to both the Cork and Munster schools titles.

By BILL BROWNE

bill.browne@echo.ie

She and her team-mates were also presented with their championship medals during the awards ceremony.

The Junior Sports Shield went to 15-year old Aisling Hutchings.

Orla Carroll from Mitchelstown and Sarah Barry from Castlelyons were jointly honoured for their contribution to music. Both girls are members of the school choir which performed on last year's *Late Late Christmas Toy Show*.



Above, Denise Twomey from Conna, who was presented with the Overall Senior Sports Star award at the Loreto Secondary School, Fermoy, awards night where Aisling Hutchings from Grange, Fermoy, right, received the Junior Sports Star award.

Picture: Paul Reidy

## Woodford girls sweep to camogie schools glory

MERCY College Woodford captured their first Senior All-Ireland Camogie title recently when defeating the Ursuline Convent Thurles in the "B" final. Nenagh was the venue for this outstanding success.

In a game where both schools fought to the bitter end Woodford's greater experience proved vital on the day. The final scoreline of 2-7 to 0-4, was somewhat flattering to the Woodford girls but showed their ability to take their scoring chances when they came.

In an exciting opening few minutes Thurles started the stronger team and laid siege to the Woodford goal. They failed however to pierce a resolute Woodford defence in which Elaine Broderick, Linda Gohery and Phyllis Hayes were outstanding and after ten minutes only led by one point to nil.

Woodford began to come

into the game at this stage and two well taken goals in the 11th and 18th minutes, from Aisling Tuohy, split by a Laura Flanagan point, left the Galway College in a commanding position as half-time approached. After a further point from each side the score read 2-2 to 0-2 at the interval.

Woodford seemed to be on the road to victory when Captain Phyllis Hayes pointed a 30 after five minutes but Thurles took the initiative again and peppered the Woodford defence. They Mercy girls answered the call for Woodford and fought valiantly to restrict Thurles to just two more points.

Meanwhile Woodford made the most of the chances that came their way and points from Phyllis Hayes 0-2, Aisling Tuohy and Caroline Kelly saw the South-East Galway school emerge as worthy champions by a nine points winning margin.



Hourihan

FIRST ANNIVERSARY  
In loving memory of the late  
SHEILA, Ballyshannon,  
Waterfall,  
Those who think of her  
today.  
A little prayer to Jesus say,  
(Sadly missed by Michael,  
Anne and family.)

## Galway see off Model challenge

WITH Antrim's bottom-of-the-table clash with Limerick called off, there were no National League games involving Ulster counties at the weekend.

With Galway and Wexford sorting out the qualifiers for the semi-finals, it looks very unlikely that the Antrim/Limerick game will now be re-fixed.

Galway made better use of the strong wind in Ballinasloe to beat Wexford by 2-11 to 1-5. The home side used the breeze during the first half and led by 1-7 to 1-2 at the turn-over. A Brenda Hanry goal midway through the second half nailed Wexford's efforts of a fight-back.

Galway scorers: Orla Kilkeny 1-3, Brenda Hanry 1-1, Lourda Kavanagh 0-4, Veronica Curtin 0-2, Shona Murphy 0-1. Wexford scorers: Aine Codd 1-0, Niall Kelly 0-2, Aoife O'Connor 0-1, Ursula Jacob 0-1, Louise Codd 0-1.

IN Division Two, Westmeath ran up an emphatic 17-20 to 2-0 victory over visiting Wicklow with Annette Hefferan scoring 6-5.



CAMOGIE pitch

By Seamus McAleenan

Aine Lyng was also in high-scoring form, bagging 4-3 for Waterford in their 6-7 to 2-7 victory over Roscommon. Elsewhere, Offaly worked hard to pick up a three-point win over visiting Tipperary, with Michelle Davis top-scoring on six points, and Galway completed the double over Wexford, winning 1-7 to 0-6.

Results  
National League Division One  
Galway 2-11 Wexford 1-5  
National League Division Two

Galway 1-7 Wexford 0-6, Offaly 0-10 Tipperary 1-4, Waterford 6-7 Roscommon 2-7, Westmeath 17-20 Wicklow 2-0

CAMOGIE Association Sponsorship and Finance Manager, Sinead O'Connor, warned in her report to Congress at the weekend that spiralling costs and low attendances may force the All-Ireland finals to be played at a venue other than Croke Park.

The cost of hosting the Centenary finals last September came to approximately €130,000, with gate receipts of just over €90,000. However Congress was very much against bringing the showpiece games to another venue. Motions on restructuring the Junior championship and also raising the minor age limit from 16 to 18 were referred to the Competitions Review Committee, while London were given the green light to play in next year's Junior National League.

ROSSA overwhelmed Ballinderry

In Saturday evening's Ulster Premier League game postponed from last Wednesday. The league champions ran out winners on a 7-20 to 0-2 scoreline with two goals each for Kerrie O'Neill and Fiona Kennedy and one each for Jenny Flynn, Grainne Connolly and Jane Adams. Jane finished top-scorer with 1-11. Rossa's next game on Wednesday night is also in Derry against Swatragh, while Ballinderry will look to raise their morale again with the visit of Loughgiel.

North Antrim Feile na nGael fixtures

First round (tomorrow): 1. Ballycastle v Loughgiel, 2. Brinini Oga v Cushendall, 3. Creggan v Dunloy; Quarter-finals (Thursday): Rasharkin v 1, 2 v Ahoghill, 3 v Armoyle, Randalstown v Portlerrone.

If you have any news or views on camogie please contact CAMOGIE PITCH by e-mail to camogie@gortnag.fsnet.co.uk.

APRIL 2005

## Funds from the Council must be spent wisely



Linda Mellerick

A QUARTER of a Million euro! It sounds an awful lot of money. It is an awful lot of money. How far will it go?

Last Friday evening, April 8 at the opening of the Annual Camogie Congress at the Blarney Park Hotel, President Miriam O'Callaghan was overjoyed to announce that the association is to receive a grant of €250,000 from the Irish Sports Council.

Council chief executive John Treacy delivered the good news to the large attendance and said: "We are delighted to be in a position to allocate €250,000 of the special budget measure announced last December to Cumann Camogaich na nGael."

"The Camogie Association submitted impressive and extensive plans in respect of this allocation and I am confident they will continue to develop participation initiatives for women and girls across the country."

"While working to advance the quality of playing, coaching and refereeing in the sport the grant will also help to employ specialist development staff who will bring Camogie to more schools in each county and work to increase the number of clubs on the ground which are key thrusts of Cumann Camogaich na nGael's strategic plan as endorsed and supported by the Irish Sports Council."

Mr Treacy hit on a number of key points.

Number one: Great credit and praise must go to Central Council and the excellent plan they presented to the Sports Council. The Council is inundated with requests and each submission is thoroughly scrutinised and analysed before funds are granted. Make no mistake but the association has moved greatly in times upon the realisation that they had to act quickly or be left behind. Numerous committees have been established, over the past couple of years in particular, to introduce and develop initiatives to drive our game forward. For the amount of work and effort give, this allocation and 'reward' is thoroughly deserved. Over the years the GAA have received their fair share of 'grants' from the Government and no one has ever looked upon them as handouts. They weren't. And neither is this!

Number two: The grant will enable implementation of the strategic plan to increase and develop the number of clubs and schools participating in the sport. This is a huge must. I have said many times before that the one fear I have about the future of camogie is that the 'gap' between top counties (of which there are only about four) and the rest is too wide with no sign of it narrowing.

I ask the question 'Is it enough?' because while it is indeed very welcome, the grant is only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the finance needed to run an association and it won't last very long. We need to build on it and turn it into a multi-million euro success. (Not in monetary value but in what we achieve with it.)

The cost of hiring out Croke Park last September for All-Ireland camogie day to the Camogie association was in the region of €70,000. If only half the expected crowd attend the game, well then a lot of the money is wasted. But you have to allow for it.

The respect and goodwill is out there for camogie. We have more media coverage than ever before.

Player's names are becoming familiar. 1998 saw RTE cover the All-Ireland Final live for the first time ever. Over a quarter of a million viewers tune in to watch year after year.

This year RTE are to televise the semis live. We've come a long way.

I remember playing All-Ireland and getting ten minutes coverage at the end of the Sunday Game (and that wasn't too long ago let me remind you!)

It's no more than the association as a whole and its members deserve. Just as much as they deserve every cent of the quarter of a million euro granted to them last Friday night.



# CAMOGIE *world* with Olhausen

by Maire Ui Scolai



**FIÓNA,  
A MODEL PLAYER ...**

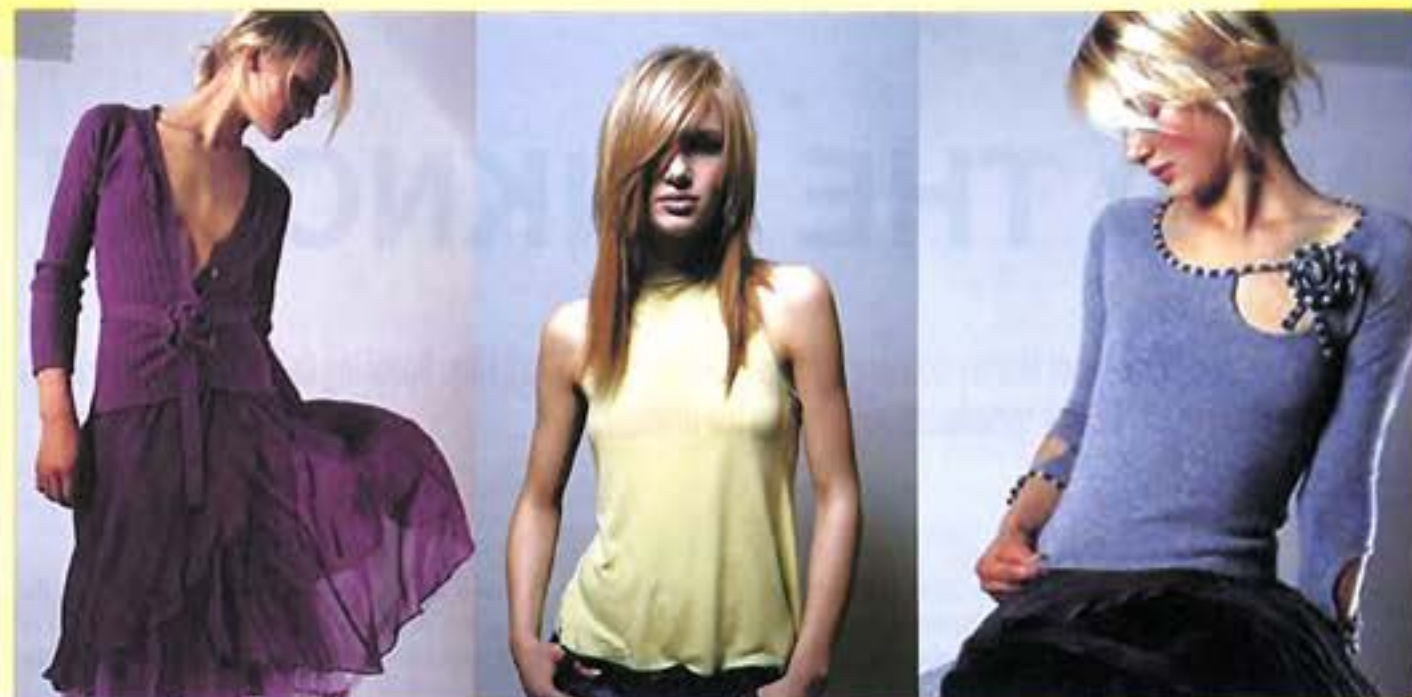
When you are only seventeen years of age, the world offers young people so much today and right now Galway born Fióna Hahnefeld is on cloud nine. Last year, she was an influential member of the Galway victorious Minor All-Ireland winning team and a

year later she wins her first senior 'B' All-Ireland colleges medal last month. It was a very fortunate move for both Galway camogie and her local secondary school, Mercy, Woodford that both her German born parents, Pia and Andy decided to leave their native country and settle in the West of Ireland twenty years ago.

According to Fióna, both parents love it here. "I have been given great support from both Mum and Dad, Mum had a big interest in athletics, but gradually got involved with our local camogie team, Davitts and our school as well," said Fiona.

"I maintained a big interest in athletics until last year winning several All-Ireland titles, but then I decided to concentrate wholeheartedly on winning a senior 'B' All-Ireland with Mercy Woodford.

"I was only about eight years of age when I heard of the Davitts club and I was very lucky as in my first year I was on the winning U10 Championship side. Since then I have added many underage titles, thanks to a lot of work done by coaches in the club." Not surprisingly, she has many club idols, with Galway player Lourda Kavanagh very high on her list while she also mentions Olivia Forde as having given her great coaching especially when she was on the Féile na nGael teams. While Davitts were fortunate to reach three Féile na nGael finals and one semi-final, alas they never tasted victory and that ranks as a big disappointment with young Fióna. She did however, captain the Galway U14 team to Connacht victory some years ago and winning that All-Ireland Minor medal last year in



centenary year made up for the loss of Féile na nGael somewhat. Fióna has one brother, nineteen year old Fintan, who is in college in UCC but has also played hurling with the Galway club Tommy Larkins.

Tall, bubbly Fióna gives it her all on the playing field as I saw recently myself, where she played a major part in securing the first senior 'B' title for the school. Victory came early for Fióna in her school when in 2001 she was part of the Mercy Woodford team that took the very first ever camogie title to the school winning the Colleges All-Ireland Junior 'B' title. The manner in which Fióna speaks of her teacher and coach is not surprising. "Donal always gives great encouragement, and pays great attention to detail, he will support you

all the way and so it was nice that we were able to pay him back this year with a senior 'B' All-Ireland title," said the Galway girl.

## BRIGHT LIGHTS ...

While camogie is very important to this young teenager she has other interests in life and one of those is modelling! The stunningly beautiful girl is well able to combine both. However, this all came about by chance, it so happened that a photographer accidentally met with Fióna's parents and mentioned to them that perhaps their daughter could do well at modelling. From there it just took off.

"I had never dreamt of anything in this line, but since taking it up in transition year I have really liked it, but this year I have decided to give it a break to concentrate fully on the forthcoming Leaving certificate. I am very anxious to get a good leaving cert and then see what possibilities are open to me," commented Fióna. She intends to resume the modelling after her exams, but one gets the impression that

this is a young lady who knows what she is looking for in life. So, how does a transition year student in the West of Ireland combine travelling to Dublin for photo shoots? "The school have been very supportive to me and especially Donal Burks who is also my camogie coach, it is unfortunate that most fashion shoots tend to take place in Dublin, but with the support of both my parents and school I have been able to manage so far. "I linked up with Morgan The Agency and through them I have appeared in such magazines as 'U', Tatler, Social and Personnel as well as having worked with various designers." Television as we as know is where we all long to be seen some time in our lives and this has not escaped Fióna either as she has featured on such popular programmes as RTE's 'Off the Rails' and TV3's 'Ireland AM'. These photographs clearly illustrate the camogie players' good looks, but while she may have modelling as part of her chosen career, she is not turning her back on camogie either. "I hope to be able to play for as long as possible and maybe wear the maroon and white of Galway yet." One senses that this teenager will manage it all and with Galway intercounty camogie going so well this year who knows Fióna might well be in the Hogan Stand on September 18th cheering on Lourda Kavanagh. A forward on the camogie team she can look forward to a fine career in no matter what she chooses.



APRIL 2005



# Cluichí Ceannais na n-Iarbhunscoileanna sa Chamógaíocht



16ú Aibreán 2005  
Sóisear B: 1.30 p.m.  
Sóisear A: 3.15 p.m.  
Ráth Tó

*Dr Máiréad Ní Fhearáin*

Luach: €1

Rúnaí

## TODAY'S FINALISTS

### ST. MARY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL, MAGHERAFELT

St Mary's is a co-ed Grammar School in South Derry with over eleven hundred pupils on roll. The pupils are drawn from Antrim and Tyrone as well as Derry.

Camogie has been played in the school since the late sixties. The school was officially affiliated to the Ulster Schools Camogie League in 1968. The first Ulster trophy was won by a seven-a-side team. In 1989 St. Mary's won the Ulster First Year Competition. Since then the school has enjoyed great success and this year have collected their eleventh Junior Ulster Colleges title in the last thirteen years.

St. Mary's hour of glory came in 1996 when a well-drilled and talented side won the All-Ireland Junior Championship. Having last competed in the Final in 2001, today St. Mary's make their seventh appearance in an All-Ireland Junior Final. The present squad hopes to emulate the feat of the 1996 side.

### PRESENTATION COLLEGE, ATHENRY

Presentation College, Athenry is a mixed school of almost 570 pupils. There is a long history of camogie in the College, going back to the late 1960's. The school's glory days in this respect must surely belong to the teams of the mid-seventies when three Junior 'A' titles were brought back to Athenry in 1974, '76 and '77. Two Senior 'A' titles were also won during these years. The Connacht senior 'B' title was won in 1986, 1987, 1998 and 2003.

Presentation College Athenry defeated the all Ireland Junior 'A' reigning Champions Coláiste Bríde, Enniscorthy in the semi-final to reach their second All Ireland final two years running.

We wish to thank the school for all its support and to the local clubs on whose successes the team builds. Many Thanks to Caroline Carr and Eoin McGillicuddy for their dedication and their encouragement.

### BORRIS VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

Borris Vocational School is a mixed school, situated at the foot of Mount Leinster, in County Carlow. The school has 8 feeder primary schools in its catchment area, an enrolment of 463 pupils and a staff of 34 teachers. All sports are played, with major successes in hurling, football, camogie, basketball and athletics over the years.

This year has seen one of the school's finest sporting achievements, with the capture of the Senior All-Ireland Vocational B Hurling Final.

Camogie was introduced to the school in the early 1980s by Mary Smyth, who still remains at the helm. Under her, there have been many successes over the years, most recently the Senior Leinster Camogie title of 2003. This is the first time the school has reached this level of a Camogie Competition.

Many thanks to the school and our supporters for all their support. A special word of thanks to Mary Smyth for her dedication and ongoing commitment to Camogie in the school.

### COLÁISTE MUIRE, ENNIS

Coláiste Muire is an all-girls Secondary school nestled in the heart of Ennis. All sports are played by the girls, with great success on the Badminton, Tennis, Basketball, Gaelic football, Soccer and Athletics fields over the years.

The tradition of Camogie in Coláiste dates back to the 1950s. Glory was first achieved in 1982, when the school won a First year Munster title. This was quickly followed up with a Munster Junior A title in 1984. In 1986 and 1987, the school was unlucky to lose in two Munster Junior A finals. In 1999, the school won its very first Junior B All-Ireland title, overcoming a fancied Mullingar side. Many of the stars of that team are now on the County Clare Senior Camogie team of today. Indeed, many of the players who will line out today for Coláiste Muire also represent the county at U 16 level - a fact of which the school is very proud, as the girls are great ambassadors for both school and their clubs.

## CLÁR AN LAE

### SÓISEAR B

1.30 p.m.

### COLÁISTE MUIRE, INIS

Ennis

V

### GAIRMSCOIL NA BUIRÍSE, AN BHUIRÍOS

Vocational School, Borris

Réiteoir: Síle Ní Néill

### SÓISEAR A

3.15 p.m.

### SCOIL MHUIRE, MACHAIRE FÍOLTA

St Mary's Grammar School, Magherafelt

V

### MEÁNSCOIL NA TOIRBIRTE, BAILE ÁTHA AN RÍ

Presentation Secondary School, Athenry

Réiteoir: Seán Ó Piondair

## FOCAL ÓN UACHTARÁN

Fáilte romhaibh go léir chuig Cluichí Ceannais na gColáistí sa Chamógaíocht. Táim cinnte de go mbainfidh sibh taitheamh as imeachtaí an lae inniu. Is lá an -mhór é dár foirne mar is acusan an onóir bheith amuigh ansin ar an bpáirc ar thóir na glóire.

I am delighted to welcome you all to our Junior Finals Day. Most of all, I greet the stars of the day — the players who have won the right to challenge for the highest prize. I welcome also families and school friends who have travelled to support.



Today we have the prospect of two very exciting finals. We can look forward to a demonstration of the highest level of skills from these young teams. The players from Athenry and Magherafelt have a strong camogie tradition behind them and both have been proud holders of the All-Ireland Junior Cup in the past.

Coláiste Muire, Ennis, won the inaugural All-Ireland Junior B Championship in 1999. A new squad returns in the school colours to attempt to regain the title. A special welcome awaits the girls from Borris who are making their debut in an All-Ireland Post Primary Schools Final.

The Post Primary Finals mark a special day on the camogie calendar. The games are played in a wonderful sporting manner and the high level of skill and fitness is a tribute to the coaches who give so freely of their time to organise and train the teams throughout the busy school year.

I commend those who foster camogie in our schools. They are passing on a wonderful pastime to the young players.

Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil leis na hoifigigh, na réiteoirí, na múinteoirí agus le achan duine ar son a gcabhrach.

Guím gach ráth ar na himreoirí uile atá ar pháirc na himeartha inniu agus oraibh go léir.

**Máire Ní Mhóráin**  
Uachtarán.



APRIL

2005

## JUNIOR A

## MEÁNSCOIL NA TOIRBIRTE, BAILE ÁTHA AN RÍ

Presentation Secondary School, Athenry

Maroon and White

	1 Deirdre Nic an Bhairst Deirdre Ward	
2 Cáit Ní Dhuibhí <b>Katie O'Dwyer</b>	3 Rachel Ní Cheallaigh <b>Rachel Kelly</b>	4 Deirdre Ní Fhathaigh <b>Deirdre Fahy</b>
5 Rachel Ní Chinnéide <b>Rachel Kennedy</b>	6 Jessica Nic an Ghoill <b>Jessica Gill</b>	7 Ciara Ní Chinnéide <b>Ciara Kennedy</b>
8 Lorraine Ní Riain <b>Lorraine Ryan</b>	9 Labhaoise Ní Challanáin <b>Louise Callanan</b>	
10 Meadhbh Ní Cheara <b>Meadhbh Carr</b>	11 Darina Ní Riain <b>Darina Ryan</b>	12 Nóirín Ní Chadhain <b>Noreen Coen</b>
13 Lára Ní Lachtnáin <b>Laura Loughnane</b>	14 Stephanie Ní Dhuibhí <b>Stephanie O'Dwyer</b>	15 Lára Bhreatnach <b>Laura Walsh</b>

Subs : Kayla Hallissey  
Marie Carroll  
Alison Healy  
Audrey Slevin  
Jacqueline Greene  
Jacqueline Caulfield  
Deirdre Ryan  
Aisling Melia  
Sara Coen  
Rachel Kenny

Kayla Ní Áileasa  
Máire Ní Chearbhaill  
Alison Ní Éilí  
Audrey Ní Shléibhín  
Jacqueline Ní Uaithne  
Jacqueline Ní Chathmhaoil  
Deirdre Ní Riain  
Aisling Ní Mháille  
Sorcha Ní Chadhain  
Rachel Ní Chionaoith

## JUNIOR A

## SCOIL MHUIRE, MACHAIRE FÍOLTA

St Mary's Grammar School, Magherafelt

Sky Blue and Navy

	1 Ciara Ní Chatháin <b>Ciara O'Kane</b>	
2 Róisín Ní Chatháin <b>Roisin O'Kane</b>	3 Ailín Nic O'scair <b>Aileen McCusker</b>	4 Eimear Ní Dhonnachaidh <b>Eimear Donaghy</b>
5 Críostiona Ní Chionnaith <b>Christine McKenna</b>	6 Róisín Ní Bhaoill <b>Roisin O'Boyle</b>	7 Caoilín Ní Bhrolcháin <b>Keelin Bradley</b>
	8 Athracht Ní Phéice <b>Attracta McPeake</b>	9 Cáit Ní Chiara <b>Cathy Carey</b>
10 Léan Ní Mhealláin <b>Eleanor Mallon</b>	11 Micéala Nic Ainmhíre <b>Michaela Convery</b>	12 Eimear Ní Chionnaith <b>Eimear McKenna</b>
13 Ailín Ní Chearnaigh <b>Aileen Kearney</b>	14 Sinéad Nic Lochlainn <b>Sinead McLaughlin</b>	15 Clár Ní Laibheartaigh <b>Clare Lavery</b>

Subs : Catriona Mulligan  
Louise Breen  
Caoimhe Toner  
Niamh Mullan  
Eimear Murphy  
Clare Madden  
Amy Kieft  
Janine McNeill

Caitríona Ní Mhaolagáin  
Laoiseach Ní Bhraoin  
Caoimhe Ní Thomhnair  
Niamh Ní Mhaoláin  
Eimear Ní Mhurchú  
Clár Ní Mhadáin  
Amy Ní Chaoilte  
Sinéad Ní Néill

## Pen Pictures: PRESENTATION COLLEGE ATHENRY

**DEIRDRE WARD** (Athenry) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2500, U - 10 B final, Mosney, Mini Sevens in Croke Park U - 16, 18 county final.

**MARIE CARROLL** (Athenry) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. First year 9-a-side. 2 All-Ireland Community Games and 1 Féile U - 16, 18 county finals.

**RACHEL KELLY** (Craughwell) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. U - 13 county final.

**KATIE O DWYER** (Athenry) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. U - 10,12,14 county finals. 2 All-Ireland Community Games, 1 Féile and a schools county medal. U 16, 18 county finals.

**RACHEL KENNEDY** (Craughwell) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. U-12 county finalists and runners up in mini Sevens. First year 9-a-side.

**JESSICA GILL** (Athenry) - Connacht colleges Junior A 2004, 2005, Senior B 2003. First year 9-a-side U12, 13,14,16 runners up. U-18 and Senior county finals, Mosney. Mini Sevens in Croke Park. 2 Community Games. Played U-14 for Galway in 2001,2002 and was captain in 2003. Galway minor 2003, 2004. U-16, 18 county final.

**CLARA KENNEDY** (Killmordaly) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. First year 9-a-side. U-12, 13,14 county final.

**LOUISE CALLANAN** (Clarebridge) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. First year 9-a-side. U-12 county finalists, U-18 county final.

**LORRAINE RYAN** (Killmordaly) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2005. Galway minor 2004

**MEADHBH CARR** (Athenry) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. First year 9-a-side. 2 All-Ireland Community Games and Féile. U - 16, 18 county final.

**DARINA RYAN** (Killmordaly) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. First year 9-a-side. Senior B. U-10, 12, 13 county finals. Played for Galway U-14 in 2001, 2002 and 2003. Galway minor 2004

**LAURA LOUGHNANE** (Athenry) - Connacht colleges Junior A 2004, 2005. First year 9-a-side. U-12,14,16,18 county finals. All-Ireland Community Games and Féile. U - 16, 18 county finals.

**NOREEN COEN** (Athenry) - Connacht colleges - Senior B 2003 and Junior A 2004, 2005. First year 9-a-side. U-12, 14,16,18 county finals. 2 All-Ireland Community Games and Féile. Played U - 14 for Galway. U - 16, 18 county finals. Galway minor 2004

**LAURA WALSH** (Turloughmore) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. First year 9-a-side. U-13, 14,16 runners up and U-12 county final.

**STEPHANIE O' DWYER** (Athenry) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005 and Senior B 2003. First year 9-a-side. U-10,12,14,16,18 county finals. All Ireland Community Games. Féile and played for Galway's U - 14. U - 16, 18 county final

**ALISON HEALY** (Athenry) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. U-10, 12,14 county finals. All-Ireland Community Games, county schools medal and 1 Féile. U - 16, 18 county final.

**JACQUELINE GREENE** (Craughwell) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. School Shield County Final.

**AUDREY SLEVIN** (Craughwell) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. 2 County Final medals. U-18 county finalists

**DEIRDRE FAHY** (Turloughmore) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. U-12 county finalist. Galway U-14s

**DEIRDRE RYAN** (Craughwell) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. U - 13 county final.

**KAYLA HALLISEY** (Athenry) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. First year 9-a-side. 2 All-Ireland Community Games, Féile, schools and county medals. U - 16, 18 county final.

**AIKLING MELIA** (Athenry) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2004, 2005. U-1 0,12,14 county medals. All Ireland Community Games, county schools medal and 1 Féile.

**JACQUELINE CAUFIELD** (Athenry) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2005.

**SARAH COEN** (Killmordaly) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2005.

**RACHEL KENNY** (Craughwell) - Connacht colleges - Junior A 2005, U - 13 county final

## Pen Pictures: ST MARY'S, MAGHERAFELT

**CIARA O'KANE** (Ballinascreen) 2 Ulster Colleges Medals, 1 All-Ireland Féile Medal, U-14 County League and Championship Medals

**ROISIN O'KANE** (Ballinascreen) 2 Ulster Colleges Medals, 1 All Ireland Féile Medal, 2 U-12 and U-14 County Championship and League Medals, 3 U-14 County Football Championship Medals

**AILEEN MCCUSKER** (Ballinderry) 3 Ulster Colleges Medals, Ulster U-14 Championship, U- 14, 16, 18 County League and Championship Medals

**EIMEAR DONAGHY** (Portlengone) 4 Ulster Colleges Medals

**CHRISTINE MCKENNA** (Ballinascreen) 3 Ulster Colleges Medals, 1 All Ireland Féile Medal, 3 U-14 Championship and League Medals, 2 Derry Féile Medals, 3 U-14 County Football Championship Medals

**ROISIN O'BOYLE** (Creggan) 4 Ulster Colleges Medals, U-16 All-Ireland Minor 'B' Championship Medal, U- 16 Ulster Championship Medal, 3 Ulster Football Championship Medals

**KEELIN BRADLEY** (Greenlough) 2 Ulster Colleges Medals

**ATTRACTA MCPEAKE** (Lavey) 2 Ulster Colleges Medals, U-16 and Senior County Championship and League Medals.

**CATHY CAREY** (Creggan) 2 Ulster Colleges Medals, 3 Ulster Football Championship Medals

**ELEANOR MALLON** (Creggan) 2 Ulster Colleges Medals, 2 County Football Championship Medals

**MICHAELA CONVERY** (Randalstown) 5 Ulster Colleges Medals, Ulster Colleges All Star '04, 1 U-16 All Ireland Minor 'B' Championship Medal, U-16, 18 County League and Championship Medals

**EIMEAR MCKENNA** (Ballinascreen) 3 Ulster Colleges Medals, 1 All Ireland Féile medal, 2 U 14 Championship and League Medals, 2 Derry Féile Medals

**AILEEN KEARNEY** (Portlengone) 1 Ulster Colleges Medal

**SINEAD MCLAUGHLIN** (Magherafelt) 4 Ulster Colleges Medals, 2 Junior County Championship and 1 League Medal.

**CLAIRE LAVERTY** (Creggan) 2 Ulster Colleges Medals, 1 U-16 All Ireland Minor 'B' Championship Medal, 1 U-16 Ulster Championship Medal

**CAITRIONA MULLIGAN** (Ballinascreen) 2 Ulster Colleges Medals, 1 All Ireland Féile Medal, 2 U-14 Championship and League Medals, 2 Derry Féile Medals

**LOUISE BREEN** (Ballinascreen) 2 Ulster Colleges Medals

**CAOIMHE TONER** (Magherafelt) 3 Ulster Colleges Medals, 1 Junior County Championship and 1 League Medal.

**NIAMH MULLAN** (Cookstown) 4 Ulster Colleges Medals

**EIMEAR MURPHY** (Lavey) 2 Ulster Colleges Medals

**CLARE MADDEN** (Newbridge) 2 Ulster Colleges Medals, U- 12 County League Medal

**AMY KIELT** (Kilrea) 2 Ulster Colleges Medals, U-14 County Football Championship and League Medals

**JANINE MCNEILL** (Newbridge) 2 Ulster Colleges Medals, 1 U- 12 County League Medal



## JUNIOR A FINALISTS



JUNIOR A FINALISTS – St. Mary's Grammar School, Magherafelt



JUNIOR A FINALISTS – Presentation Secondary School, Athenry

## JUNIOR B FINALISTS



JUNIOR B FINALISTS – Borris Vocational School



JUNIOR B FINALISTS – Coláiste Muiре, Ennis

### JUNIOR B

#### GAIRMSCOIL NA BUIRISE, AN BHUIRIOS

Vocational School, Borris

Maroon and White

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1<br>Áine Máire Ní Linnáin<br><b>Ann Marie Lennon</b> |   |   |
| 2<br>Gráinne Ní Nualláin<br><b>Grainne Nolan</b>      | 3<br>Caroline Ní Bhriain<br><b>Caroline O'Brien</b> | 4<br>Emma Ní Fhortúin<br><b>Emma Fortune</b>      |
| 5<br>Gillian Ní Nualláin<br><b>Gillian Nolan</b>      | 6<br>Colette Ní Dhormáir<br><b>Colette Dorme</b>    | 7<br>Máire Ní Dhaltúin<br><b>Mary Dalton</b>      |
| 8<br>Cáit Ní Bhreatnach<br><b>Catherine Walsh</b>     | 9<br>Celia Ní Chuallatáin<br><b>Celia Culleton</b>  |   |
| 10<br>Treasa Ní Ralph<br><b>Theresa Ralph</b>         | 11<br>Eibhlín Ní Mhurchú<br><b>Eileen Murphy</b>    | 12<br>Sinéad Ní Cheallaigh<br><b>Sinead Kelly</b> |
| 13<br>Emma Ní Chearbhaill<br><b>Emma Carroll</b>      | 14<br>Treasa Ní Mhaonaigh<br><b>Theresa Meaney</b>  | 15<br>Niamh Ní Chuirce<br><b>Niamh Quirke</b>     |

Subs:

Deborah Foley  
Jennifer Skelton  
Annie Treacy  
Caitriona Geoghan  
Margaret Simpson  
Eleanor Brennan  
Áine Doran  
Ann Murphy  
Yvonne Slye  
Aoife Jordan  
Valerie Coady

Deborah Ní Fhoghlú  
Jennifer Ní Scealtúin  
Áine Ní Threasaigh  
Caitriona Ní Gheogháin  
Máiréad Ní Shiompáin  
Eleanor Ní Bhraonáin  
Áine Ní Dheoráin  
Áine Ní Mhurchú  
Yvonne Ní Shlighe  
Aoife Ní Shiúrtáin  
Valerie Nic Oda

### JUNIOR B

#### COLÁISTE MUIRE, INIS

Ennis

Red and Black

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 1<br>Máire Ní Reachtair<br><b>Mary Rafferty</b>          |  |   |
| 2<br>Sinéad Ní Shuaird<br><b>Jane Seward</b>             | 3<br>Eirinn Ní Aonghusa<br><b>Erinn Hennessy</b>     | 4<br>Rút Ní Laighléis<br><b>Ruth Lillis</b>               |
| 5<br>Aislinn Ní Dhiolúin<br><b>Aislinn Dillon</b>        | 6<br>Máire Ní Roseingrave<br><b>Mary Roseingrave</b> | 7<br>Muireann Ní Chéileachair<br><b>Muireann Kelleher</b> |
| 8<br>Máire Ní Thiarnaigh<br><b>Mary Tierney</b>          |  | 9<br>Siobhán Ní Laoi<br><b>Siobhan Lee</b>                |
| 10<br>Carina Ní Roseingrave<br><b>Carina Roseingrave</b> | 11<br>Fiona Ní Laifeartaigh<br><b>Fiona Lafferty</b> | 12<br>Rochelle Ní Bhruadair<br><b>Rochelle Broderick</b>  |
| 13<br>Sinéad Ní Allúráin<br><b>Sinead O'Halloran</b>     | 14<br>Róisín Ní Chinnéide<br><b>Roisin Kennedy</b>   | 15<br>Eimear Ní Phathaigh<br><b>Emer Fahy</b>             |

Subs:

Colette Nic an tSaoir  
Gina Ní Dhálaigh  
Clara Ní Phiondar  
Siobhán Ní Fhearghail  
Treasa Ní Roseingrave  
Seachlín Ní Chonchille  
Clár Ní Ghráda  
Cáit Ní Thiarnaigh  
Máire Nic Giolla Mhaoil  
Lisa Ní Chinnéide

Colette Freeman  
Gina Daly  
Ciara Pender  
Hannah O'Farrell  
Teresa Roseingrave  
Jacqueline Woods  
Claire O'Grady  
Kate Tierney  
Marie Bell  
Lisa Kennedy



APRIL 2005

## Pen Pictures: BORRIS VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

**CAROLINE O'BRIEN** (Captain (Blacks and Whites) Age: 15 Cumann Luthchleas Gael finalists 2002. Several club underage medals. Pancheltic 2001 finalists. U21 County league finalists 2004.

**GILLIAN NOLAN** (Myshall) Age: 16. Leinster finalists U 16. Leinster Senior B camogie medal 2003. 4 club senior medals. Numerous underage medals for club.

**THERESA RALPH** (Mount Leinster Rangers) Age: 14. U10, 12 and 14 County finalists. U18 and 21 County Championship medals. 3 Leinster Final medals and 1 All-Ireland Medal in community games.

**CELIA CULLETON** (Mount Leinster Rangers) Age: 13. U 10, 12 and 14 County finalists. U18 and 21 County Championship medals. 4 Leinster Final medals and 1 All-Ireland medal in community games.

**EMMA CARROLL** (Blacks and Whites) Age: 14. U14 Leinster medal with Kilkenny 2004. U21 County league finalists 2004. Pancheltic U14 finalists 2001.

**ANNE-MARIE LENNON** (Blacks and Whites) Age: 14. U14 Leinster County medal 2004. Finalists in Cumann Luthchleas Gael 2002. U16 football league medal, Pancheltic U14 finalists 2001. U 21 county league finalists 2004.

**EILEEN MURPHY** (St. Mullins) Age: 14. Féile medal. Junior camogie medals. Minor "B" football medals. U14 and U16 Leinster "B" medal.

**GRAINNE NOLAN** (Mount Leinster Rangers) Age: 14. U14 club "B" medal. Leinster Community Games medals. U16, 18 and 21 club medals.

**COLLETTE DORMER** (Paulstown) Age: 15. 2 primary school county medals. All-Ireland football Féile na nGael. 1314 and 18 County medals 2004. U14, 16 and 18 Leinster medals with Kilkenny. Kilkenny Minor 2004 and 2005.

**CATHERINE WALSH** (Thomastown) Age: 15. Leinster colleges Minor and Junior C medals. Junior school Player of the Year 2004. Numerous underage medals with St. Mullins. U 14 Carlow Leinster finalists.

**DEBORAH FOLEY** (Ballinkillen) Age: 15. U14 County Camogie and Football. Leinster finalists. U16 and 18 County Football medals. U 18 County Camogie medal.

**MARY DALTON** (Ballinkillen) Age: 15. Carlow U14 Leinster finalists. Leinster Colleges Senior "B" medal 2003. U 14, 16 and 18 County medals 2003.

**JENNIFER SKELTON** (Mount Leinster Rangers) Age: 14. U 14 "B" club medals. Leinster Community Games medals. U 16 club medal. Numerous underage medals.

**EMMA FORTUNE** (St Mullins) Age: 15. U 14 and 16 Leinster "B" finalists. Junior County medal 2004. Numerous underage medals. U 18 football medal 2002.

**TERESA MEANEY** (Ballinkillen) Age: 15. Club Minor "A" Camogie medal. Leinster U 14 and 16 finalists. School Senior "B" Leinster medal 2003.

**SINEAD KELLY** (Blacks and Whites) Age: 15. Leinster Minor Schools Camogie finalists 2003. Cumann Luthchleas Gael and primary school finalists. U14 Pancheltic finalists 2001. Several club underage medals.

**NIAMH QUIRKE** (Myshall) Age: 14. Senior County Championship and League medals 2004. U 14 Féile na nGael County medals. U 10, 12, 14 and 16 medals. U14 County Community Games medals.

**ANN MURPHY** (Mount Leinster Rangers) Age: 13. U 11, 12 and 14 County titles. U12 and 16 Ladies Football title. 3 Leinster Community Games medals.

**ANNIE TRACEY** (Myshall) Age: 14. U 13 and 14 Carlow Championship medals 2003. U14 and 16 County champions 2004. Féile finalists 2003 and 2004.

**ELEANOR BRENNAN** (Blacks and Whites) Age: 14. Pancheltic finalists 2001. U14 finalists 2004. U21 County league finalists 2004.

**YVONNE SLYE** (Myshall) Age: 15. U14 and 16 club medals 2002, 2003 and 2004. 2 Community Games gold medals.

**VALERIE COADY** (St. Mullins) Age: 15. Féile medal. Minor "B" club football medals. U 16 "B" Leinster club medal. Numerous underage medals.

**ÁINE DORAN** (Blacks and Whites) Age: 13. Cumann Luthchleas Gael finalists 2002. Pancheltic finalists 2001. U21 County league finalists 2004.

**AOIFE JORDAN** (St. Mullins) Age: 15. Leinster "B" club finalists. U14 and 16 2003 and 2004. Numerous Cumann na mBunscoil and underage medals. U 18 and Junior football "B" medals 2004.

**CAITRÍONA GEORGHEGAN** (Ballinkillen) Age: 13. Cumann na mBunscoil champions 2004. U 14 "A" football finalists 2003.

## Pen Pictures: COLÁISTE MUIRE, ENNIS

**MARIE RAFFERTY** (Corofin) Clare U 16 Munster A Championship medal. Under 16 B County title. U 14 Community games. Poc Fada title.

**JANE SEWARD** (Clooney/Quin) Tough hard-working defender who plays football and Camogie for her club.

**ERINN HENNESSY** (Doora/Barefield) Captain. Clare U 16 Munster A Championship medal. U 12 C and U 14 C titles with club; numerous county titles with Primary school.

**RUTH LILLIS** (Éire Óg) U 12 and U 14 B. County Champions: numerous Primary school Titles and Badminton titles with school and Club.

**AILINN DILLON** (Kilnamona) U 12 and U 14 County Camogie and many Primary school titles.

**MARY ROSEINGRAVE** (Kilnamona) U 14 All-Ireland Féile na nGael. U 12, U 14, U 16 and U 16 County titles.

**MUIREANN KELLEHER** (Corofin) Clare U 16 Munster Camogie Championship and Primary school titles.

**MARY TIERNEY** (Éire Óg) u 12, u 14 b county titles. 1st year County Camogie title and Munster Soccer player.

**SIOBHAN LEE** (Clooney/Quin) Munster Camogie Championship. U 16 dual player with Club at all levels.

**CARINA ROSEINGRAVE** (Kilnamona) U 14 Féile na nGael. U 12, U 14, U 16, U 18 and Senior County Camogie title. Clare U 16 Munster Championship title.

**FIONA LAFFERTY** (Kilnamona) All the same titles as above as well as being the School's Only senior county representative.

**ROCHELLE BRODERICK** (Clarecastle) Stylish forward with school and club. Keen soccer player and holder of numerous soccer titles.

**SINEAD O'HALLORAN** (Kilmaley) Versatile player who got vital scores in Munster and All-Ireland semi-final.

**ROISIN KENNEDY** (Doora/Barefield) Clare U 16 Munster Championship. U 12 and U 14 C County titles. 1st year school title.

**EMER FAHY** U 12 and U 14C county titles; dual player for club.

**COLETTE FREEMAN** (Sixmilebridge) A capable goalkeeper who can also perform outfield.

**GINA DALY** (Clondegad/Ballynacally) Munster junior B medal. Tough hard-working defender.

**CIARA PENDER** (Doora/Barefield) Reliable defender and valued member of the panel. Renowned for badminton talent and is the school's Irish and Munster U 15 representative.

**HANNAH O'FARRELL** (Clooney/Quin) Solid defender who always gives a solid performance.

**TERESA ROSEINGRAVE** (Kilnamona) Sister of Carina and Mary who has a bright future.

**JACQUELINE WOODS** (Doora/Barefield) Féile U 14 football with Banner and U 16 camogie player with Doora/Barefield - tenacious attacker.

**CLAIRE O'GRADY** (Kilnamona) Dual player with bright future.

**KATE TIERNEY** (Doora/Barefield) Bright young player with many talents, including Badminton and Tennis.

**MARIE BELL** (Doora/Barefield) U 12 winner with club and very capable Goalkeeper with a bright future.

**LISA KENNEDY** (Kilmaley) Young, enthusiastic and hard-working defender and valued member of the panel.

## Colleges All-Star Teams

which took part in the Centenary Interprovincial Tournament, April 7th, 2004

### CONNACHT

Name	School
1 Sarah Dervan	St Brigid's, Loughrea
2 Therese Manton	St Brigid's, Loughrea
3 Phyllis Hayes	Mercy, Woodford
4 Colette Gill	Seamount, Kinvra
5 Maureen Finnerty	St Brigid's, Loughrea
6 Jessica Gill	Presentation, Athenry
7 Nicola Lawless	Portumna Community Sch
8 Caroline Kelly	Mercy, Woodford
9 Sarah Noone	Mountbellew V. Sch
10 Cathy Bowes	St Brigid's, Loughrea
11 Brenda Hanney	Portumna Community Sch
12 Susan Keane	Portumna Community Sch
13 Niamh Kilkenny	Holy Rosary, Mountbellew
14 Linda Gohery	Mercy, Woodford
15 Colette Hardiman	St Brigid's, Loughrea
16 Michelle Tynan	St Raphael's, Loughrea
17 Noreen Coen	Presentation, Athenry
18 Catriona Cormican	Mercy, Ballinasloe
19 Marion Geoghegan	St Raphael's, Loughrea
20 Ciara Kilroy	Mountbellew V. Sch.

### MUNSTER

Name	School
1 Valerie McCormac	Loreto, Fermoy
2 Julie Kewin	Col. Pobal, Roscrea
3 Elaine O'Riordan	St Mary's, Charleville
4 Pauline Cunningham	Mercy, Waterford
5 Ciara Murphy	Coachford College
6 Catriona Foley	Glanmire
7 Michelle Short	Ursulines, Thurles
8 Rena Buckley	St Aloysius, Cork
9 Anna Geary	St Mary's, Charleville
10 Marie O'Neill	Loreto, Fermoy
11 Sinead McAuliffe	St Mary's, Charleville
12 Briege Corkery	St Mary's, Macroom
13 Mary Ryan	St Mary's, Nenagh
14 Marie Watson	St Mary's, Charleville
15 Siobhan Kinty	Scariff
16 Joanne Nolan	St Mary's, Nenagh
17 Jacqui O'Keefe	Carrigaline
18 Emer Watson	St Mary's, Charleville
19 Mary Coleman	St Mary's, Charleville
20 Claire Mulcahy	Laurel Hill

### LEINSTER

Name	School
Keren Atkinson	C. Bride, Enniscorthy
Gráinne Beennan	Mercy, Callan
Deirdre Codd	C. Bride Enniscorthy
Aine Connery	Loreto, Kilkenny
Ann Dalton	Presentation, Kilkenny
Margaret Darcy	Loreto, Wexford
Aine Fahey	Loreto, Kilkenny
Eileen Fitzpatrick	Loreto, Kilkenny
Jacqui Frisby	Mercy, Callan
Brona Furlong	C. Bride, Enniscorthy
Phena Heffernan	Mercy, Callan
Aisling Hogan	C. Bride, Enniscorthy
Ursula Jacob	C. Bride, Enniscorthy
Mary Lacey	C. Bride, Enniscorthy
Danielle Minogue	Loreto, Kilkenny
Therese Muldowney	Mercy, Callan
Ciara O'Connor	C. Bride, Enniscorthy
Miriam O'Keefe	Castlecomer C. Sch
Ruth Walsh	C. Bride, Enniscorthy
Julie Anne Woodcock	Mercy, Callan

### ULSTER

Name	School
Eilis O'Doherty	St Patrick's, Maghera
Marion Toner	St Columba's, Portlarny
Stephanie O'Kane	Cross & Passion, B'castle
Bronagh McDonnell	Cross & Passion, B'castle
Michelle McGuigan	St Patrick's, Keady
Briege Convery	St Patrick's, Maghera
Gráinne McGuckin	St Pius X, Magherafelt
Katie McAuley	St Mary's, Magherafelt
Claire McCloy	St Patrick's, Maghera
Claire Kinsella	St Patrick's, Keady
Aisling Diamond	St Mary's, Clady
Niamh Gavin	St Patrick's, Dungannon
Rhona Torney	St Genevieve's, Belfast
Kate Laverty	St Mary's, Magherafelt
Aileen Laverty	St Mary's, Magherafelt
Coleen Comiskey	St Patrick's, Keady
Maitead Rainey	St Louise's, Belfast
Kelly Maybin	Cross & Passion, B'castle
Orla McDonnell	Cross & Passion, B'castle
Michaela Convery	St Mary's, Magherafelt

## Shinty International

October 16th 2004,  
Páirc Seán Eiffe, Rath Ó

Ireland V Scotland

### IRISH LADIES

1.	<b>Denise Twomey</b> Loreto Fermoy
2.	<b>Elaine O'Riordan</b> St Mary's, Charleville
3.	<b>Phyllis Hayes</b> Mercy Woodford
4.	<b>Deirdre Codd</b> Coláiste Bride, Enniscorthy
5.	<b>Mary Lacey</b> Coláiste Bride, Enniscorthy
6.	<b>Rena Buckley</b> St Aloysius, Cork
7.	<b>Caroline Kelly</b> Mercy, Woodford
8.	<b>Katie McAuley</b> St Mary's, Magherafelt
9.	<b>Anna Geary (Capt)</b> St Mary's, Charleville
10.	<b>Sinead McAuliffe</b> St Mary's, Charleville
11.	<b>Ursula Jacob</b> Coláiste Bride, Enniscorthy
12.	<b>Claire McCloy</b> St Patrick's, Maghera
13.	<b>Brenda Hanney</b> Portumna C. School
14.	<b>Briege Corkery</b> St Mary's, Macroom
15.	<b>Cathy Bowes</b> St Brigid's, Loughrea
16.	<b>Michelle Tynan</b> St Raphael's, Loughrea
17.	<b>Maureen Finnerty</b> St Brigid's, Loughrea
18.	<b>Briege Convery</b> St Patrick's, Maghera
19.	<b>Stephanie O'Kane</b> Cross & Passion, Ballycastle
20.	<b>Michelle McGuigan</b> St Patrick's, Keady
21.	<b>Jacqui Frisby</b> Mercy, Callan
22.	<b>Brona Furlong</b> Coláiste Bride, Enniscorthy
23.	<b>Ciara O'Connor</b> Coláiste Bride, Enniscorthy
24.	<b>Mary Ryan</b> St Mary's, Nenagh
25.	<b>Eilis O'Doherty</b> St Patrick's, Maghera

### SCOTTISH LADIES

1.	<b>Katie Walker</b> Glasgow Mid Drayle
2.	<b>Jenny Black</b> Tir Conaill Gaels, London
3.	<b>Elaine Cameron</b> Glencarry
4.	<b>Karen Cameron</b> Glencarry
5.	<b>Sarah Corrigan</b> Glencarry
6.	<b>Gillian Currie</b> Glasgow Mid Drayle
7.	<b>Katie Drain</b> Glasgow Mid Drayle
8.	<b>Hilda Dooley</b> Tir Conaill Harps
9.	<b>Marianne Grant</b> Edinburgh University
10.	<b>Denise Gemell</b> Oban Lorne
11.	<b>Lucy Kenworthy</b> Edinburgh University
12.	<b>Sarah Lopez</b> Oban Lorne
13.	<b>Gemma McKinnon</b> Glasgow Mid Drayle
14.	<b>Laura Mackay</b> Glengarry
15.	<b>Kirsten Munro</b> Glasgow Mid Drayle
16.	<b>Jane Nicol</b> Kinaussie
17.	<b>Lisa Norman</b>
18.	<b>Katie Smith</b> Edinburgh University
19.	<b>Cara Dallas</b> Kinaussie
20.	<b>Elaine Wink</b> Glengarry



# Cork always in control of things

Cork 0-9  
Tipperary 0-7

CORK avoided a playoff situation when they defeated Tipp by two points in the final group game of the Junior National League in Ballinlough on Saturday afternoon.

Despite scoring only one point in the second half, Cork did enough in the first period to ensure the points and, like their senior counterparts, finish top of their group.

They attacked Tipp from the throw-in and five points within five minutes was just reward for a team who played at speed giving their op-

ponents no time to settle.

Orla Cotter, Cork's star player throughout, pointed a free in the second minute. Ellen O'Herlihy, Hazel O'Regan (two) and Michelle Brown had another four between them before Tipp had even warmed up.

Cotter was excellent for Cork at centerfield. Her long strides left players in her wake as she set up attack after attack.

Lynda O'Connell and Emer O'Sullivan dominated half-back and it seemed Cork would win at ease.

Slowly however, and with the aid of some silly, often debatable frees, Tipp started to edge their way back into contention.

By LINDA MELLERICK  
Junior National Camogie League

Mary Ryan got Tipp off the ground with an excellent point from 40 yards in the 14th minute. Orla Cotter pointed a free for Cork in the 16th minute to stretch the lead again to five. Cork then had a lucky escape as twice within two minutes they denied Tipp two certain goals.

The first in the 17th minute was a scramble off the line, the second a magnificent save as Francis Killeen burst from her line to block Siobhan Ryan's chest-high double on the ball from 10 yards.

A further two points from Cork and three pointed frees from Tipp left four between the sides at the break.

Tipp were edging closer and the gap would have been narrower were it not for some wayward shooting.

Tipp dominated the first 15 minutes of the second half but excellent defending from a resolute Cork outfit pushed them back. A free, a 45 and a point from play by the 15th minute had just a point between the sides entering the final quarter.

Cork upped the level and again began to take control. An Orla Coughlan point in the 17th minute of the second half finished the scoring for the afternoon as both teams battled in

vain to escape the other. Cork finished the stronger and had chances to put distance between the sides but hit three wides on the trot.

They held out, however, to win by two points in a lively game.

**Scorers for Cork:** E O'Herlihy 0-2, H O'Regan 0-2 (0-1), O Cotter 0-2 (1), M Browne, C Deasy and O Coughlan 0-1 each.

**Tipperary:** S Ryan 0-5 (0-4), 0-1 (45), M Ryan and A Lonergan 0-1 each.

**CORK:** F Killeen; D Hayes, L Hawkes, A Kelleher; S McInerney, L O'Connell, E O'Sullivan; O Cotter, D Coomey; H O'Regan, O Coughlan, M Brown; E O'Herlihy, C Deasy. **Subs:** C Long for M Brown, E Keane for H O'Regan.

**TIPPERARY:** R Kennedy; S Maher, A Davis, L Davis; N Harkin, C Greed, M Luttrell; L Ryan, M Shortt; M Ryan, J Delaney, S Ryan; A Langton, K Kennedy, D Dunne. **Subs:** C Ryan for D Dunne.

# Vibrant Rebels see off Tipp

Cork 1-13  
Tipperary 0-5

A DETERMINED and highly competitive Cork team took to the field last Saturday evening in Páirc Uí Rinn and proceeded to outclass Tipperary in almost every section of the field to emerge top of their group and advance to the semi-finals of this year's Senior National League campaign.

Cork took the game to Tipp from the throw-in playing fast, lively and open hurling.

They led within 45 seconds when Clara Healy caught a fast ball in from Rachel Moloney and turned to shoot sweetly over the bar.

Emer Dillon, playing her best game in the red jersey for 12 months, showed that she is fast returning to form with some magnificent long-range scores.

Tipperary were a pale shadow of themselves. They seemed lack lustre and tired with no bite or direction in their play. Clara Gaynor, once again, did her best at centre back to drive her team on but at midfield and up front they were



Linda Mellerick

beaten hands down.

On the few occasions that Tipp did manage to prise open the Cork defence every opportunity was thwarted by the excellent Aoife Murray in the Cork goal.

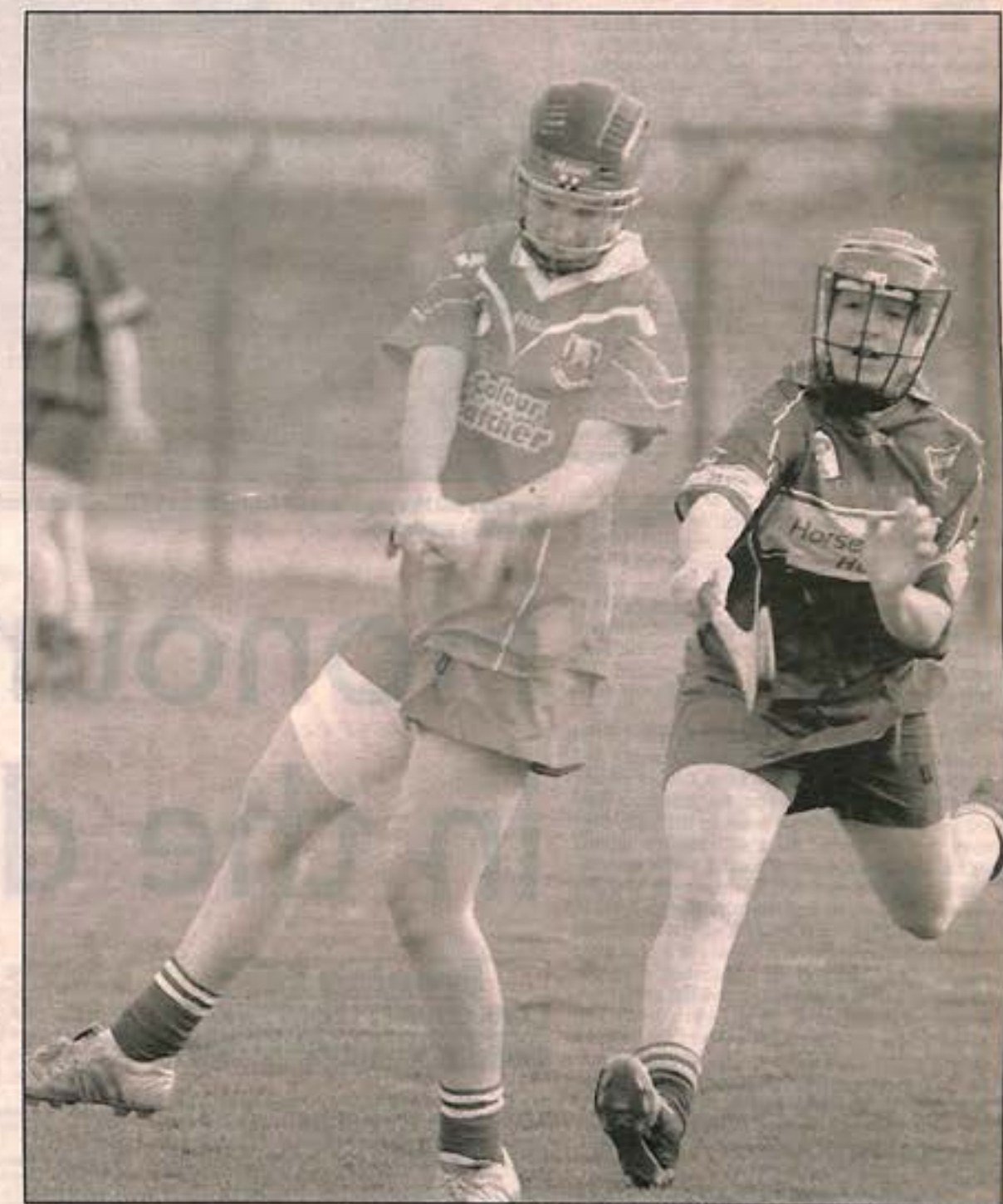
In the 14th minute Emer McDonnell put Ger Kinnane through with only the goalkeeper to beat. Murray quickly spotted the danger and darted off her line to suffocate the strike.

Nora Ahern time and again drove the ball up the field. Breige Corkery was totally dominant at midfield and with Jenny O'Leary splitting Tipp's half-back line with some excellent running Cork led at the break by 0-7 to 0-3.

Tipp emerged from the dressing room with fire in their bellies.

For the opening quarter they played with vigour but couldn't reflect it on the scoreboard as the Cork defence and Aoife Murray, in particular, repeatedly denied them.

Clare Crogan hit a free in the first minute and that was to be Tipp's



Cork's Jennifer Browne clears the ball following an unsuccessful attack by Tipperary in the senior camogie clash at Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday night.

Picture: Larry Cummins

sole score until the 27th minute when Emer McDonnell pointed.

Tipp never looked like catching Cork and when Una O'Donoghue goaled in the 19th minute after an excellent run and pass by Corkery the game was all over.

All of Cork's six attackers registered scores. As a unit the performance from the Rebels was impressive, particularly their support-

ive play. They now play Wexford or Galway in the semi final. After last September's All-Ireland defeat, Cork needed this victory over their arch-rivals and they did it in style.

**Scorers for Cork:** E Dillon 0-5, U O'Donoghue 1-1, J O'Leary 0-3 (0-1), S O'Donovan 0-2, C Healy and R Moloney 0-1 each.

**Tipperary:** C Crogan 0-3 (0-1), C Gaynor 0-1 (1), E McDonnell 0-1.

**CORK:** A Murray, J Browne, R Holland, J

O'Callaghan; P O'Connor, M O'Connor, N Ahern; B Corkery, V Harris; R Moloney, E Dillon, J O'Leary; U O'Donoghue, C Healy, S O'Donovan. **Subs:** A O'Regan for P O'Connor, D Twomey for C Healy, C Desmond for V Harris, N Bowles for J Browne, E O'Farrell for B Corkery.

**TIPPERARY:** J Nolan; M Corcoran, N Harkin, T O'Halloran; S Nealon, C Gaynor, T Brophy; A McDermott, P Biffin; C Grogan, P Fogarty, J Ryan; E McDonnell, D Hughes, G Kinnane. **Subs:** N Kennedy for P Biffin, L Davis for G Kinnane, L Young for D Hughes, E Hayden for A McDermott.



## Classy Cork book a spot in semi-finals

by Máire Uí Scolai

CLASSY Cork booked a place in this year's National League semi-final against Wexford on May 8 when they overcame arch-rivals Tipperary 1-13 to 0-5 in Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday.

The second semi-final will be between Galway and Kilkenny, both matches being covered by TG4.

Cork were hoping to avenge last year's defeat by Tipp and they did so in style. Cork last won the league title in 2003 and looked hungrier. By the break, Cork were ahead 0-7 to Tipperary's 0-3, with Ciara Healy getting the home side off to the perfect start with a fine point inside the opening minute. Tipperary had to wait until the 14th minute of the game to record an opening score, which came from Claire Grogan.

A minute later she added her second, but Tipperary's third point of the opening half did not come until two minutes into injury time, from centre-half-back Ciara Gaynor.

While Tipp got the opening point of the second half almost immediately, they had to wait until almost the end when Deirdre McDonnell sent over their second. In between, Cork impressed with some points from Emer Dillon and Jennifer O'Leary.

Cork's division two side made it a good day for the Leesiders with a 0-9 to 0-7 double victory over Tipperary. Elsewhere in division two, Kildare scored an impressive 3-10 to 2-3 win over Wexford in Bunclody. Three first-half goals from Melanie Treacy, Carol Nolan and Niamh Breen gave the Lilywhites a comfortable lead of 3-7 to 1-2 at the break. Wexford battled hard in the second half, but had



Cork's Mary O'Connor about to strike the ball during the game against Tipperary at Páirc Uí Rinn.

Picture: Larry Cummins

too much catching up to do. Clare also had a good 2-9 to 1-4 win over Armagh, with a goal in each half from Elaine Gallery and Clare McMahon. The Orchard County's only goal came from Julie O'Neill.

Laois were made fight all the way against a spirited Derry side and only had a point to spare, ending 2-2 to Derry's 1-4. Louise Mahony scored the winning point three minutes into extra time. However, it was a case of one-way traffic for Waterford, who beat Wicklow 8-13 to 0-0.

In the final game in division two yesterday, Offaly had a comprehensive 2-13 to 1-3 win over neighbours Kilkenny. The only other game in the division, between Roscommon and Meath, was called off due to flooding.

Meanwhile, this year's Colleges Junior All-Ireland titles went to Presentation Athenry, who beat St Mary's Magherafelt 3-10 to 2-3 in the 'A' final, while the 'B' final, also played in Ratoath GAA grounds, was an exciting affair which Coláiste Mhuire of Ennis won 1-9, only two points clear of Carlow's Borris VS on 1-7.

## Cork claim Tipperary scalp

BY MAIRE UÍ SCOLAI

CORK booked themselves a place in this year's National League semi-final against Wexford on May 8th when they overcame arch-rivals Tipperary 1-13 to 0-5 in Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday night.

The second semi-final will be between Galway and Kilkenny, both of which will be covered by TG4.

Cork, who last won the League title in 2003, looked the hungrier and by the break were ahead 0-07 to Tipperary's 0-03.

Ciara Healy got the home side off to the perfect start with a fine point inside the opening minute and seven minutes later Emer Dillon added a second.

Amazingly Tipperary had to wait until the fourteenth minute to record their opening point from Claire Grogan.

A minute later she added her second of the day, but Tipperary's third point of the opening half did not come until two minutes into injury time from centre half back Ciara Gaynor.

Tipperary got the opening point of the second half on the restart but failed to score again until almost the end when Deirdre McDonnell sent over the final point of the game.

Cork's Division Two side made it a good day for the Leesiders with a 0-09 to 0-07 double victory over Tipperary.

Elsewhere in Division two Kildare scored an impressive 3-10 to 2-03 victory over Wexford in Bunclody. Clare also had a good 2-09 to 1-04 win over Armagh while Laois, the 2004 League finalists, only had a point to spare, 2-02 to Derry's 1-04.

It was a case of one way traffic for Waterford who cruised to victory against Wicklow, 8-13 to 0-0.

Offaly maintained their winning ways with a comprehensive 2-13 to 1-03 over neighbours Kilkenny.

Meanwhile, this year's Colleges Junior All-Ireland titles went to Presentation Athenry who defeated St Mary's Magherafelt 3-10 to 2-03 in the 'A' Final.

The 'B' Final also, played in Ratoath GAA Grounds, was a more exciting affair with Coláiste Mhuire of Ennis edging 1-09 to 1-07 over Borris Vocational School of Carlow.

A fine scoring display from Noreen Coen with 2-05, proved decisive for Presentation Athenry in the 'A' Final.

The Ulster champions were in contention in the opening half but despite a second half goal from captain Michaela Convery it was

never enough to overcome the Galway side. Borris Vocational School who were behind 0-05 to Coláiste Mhuire's 1-08 at the break, put in a storming second half.

Fiona Lafferty was the main difference between the side's as she sent over a total of 1-09.

### RESULTS:

#### ALL-IRELAND SCHOOLS

##### JUNIOR A FINAL

Presentation Athenry 3-10

St Mary's Magherafelt 2-03

##### ALL-IRELAND SCHOOLS

##### JUNIOR B FINAL

Coláiste Mhuire Ennis 1-09

Borris Voc Sch, V Carlow 1-07

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE:

##### Division 1

Cork 1-13 Tipperary 0-05

##### Division 2

Cork 0-09 Tipperary 0-07

Kildare 3-10 Wexford 2-03

Clare 2-09 Armagh 1-04

Laois 2-02 Derry 1-04

Waterford 8-13 Wicklow 0-00

Offaly 2-13 Kilkenny 1-03

#### Leinster Senior

##### Championship semi-final

Kilkenny 1-07 Dublin 1-05

##### Leinster Minor championship

Dublin 4-10 Wexford 2-02

### CAMOGIE

#### ALL-IRELAND COLLEGES

##### Jnr Final: Presentation Athenry 3-10

(F Coen 2-5, J Gill 1-1, L Walsh 0-2, L

Loughnane, L Ryan 0-1 each) St

Mary's Magherafelt 2-3 (M Convery

1-1, C Lavery 1-0, A Mc Peake 0-2).

Coláiste Mhuire, Ennis 1-9 (L Lafferty

1-6, C Rosengrave 0-2, R Kennedy 0-1)

Borris Voc Sch Carlow 1-7 (T Mooney

1-2, E Carroll, T Ralph, N Quirk, C

Walsh, C Dorne 0-1 each).

# Cork end Tipperary leagues hopes

Cork  
Tipperary

1-13  
0-5

LOOKING much sharper and livelier, the Cork senior side ensured holders and All Ireland champions Tipperary will play no further part in this season's national league. Going into Saturday's contest it was a must win situation for the holders who had already lost to Kilkenny, while anything other than a loss was sufficient for Cork.

Ciara Healy and Emer Dillon had the Leesiders ahead inside six minutes with points, but Aoife Murray had to be at her best to deny Ger Kinnane after Emer McDonnell had put the corner forward through in a one-to-one situation with Murray.

By the midway stage Clare Grogan had Tipperary level, but this was to be the nearest they would come as five unanswered points from Jennifer O'Leary, Emer Dillon (2), Sarah O'Donovan and Rachel Moloney stretched the advantage, and with Breige Corkery and Nora Ahern superb, Tipperary found the going tough. Ciara Gaynor pointed a long range free two minutes into injury time as Cork led 0-7 to 0-3 at the interval.

Clare Grogan opened the second half with a Tipperary point, and

with her side upping the pace the Cork defence had to be at their best, and to their credit they stood the test as the holders introduced Noelle Kennedy, Louise Young and Emily Hayden to their side in an effort to save the day. With their defence on top Cork continued to grow in

stature with Una O'Donoghue, Sarah O'Donovan and Emer Dillon slotting over points to put six between the sides.

Effectively the game was over as a contest when Una O'Donoghue grabbed the games only goal with 11 minutes remaining. Jennifer

O'Leary converted a free and pointed from play and it was left to Emer McDonnell to register Tipperary's second score of the second half with three minutes on the clock.

Cork: A Murray, J Browne, R Holland, J O'Callaghan, P O'Connor, M O'Connor, N Ahern, B Corkery, V Harris, R Moloney, E Dillon, J O'Leary, U O'Donoghue, C Healy, S O'Dono-

van. Subs: A O'Regan for P O'Connor, C Desmond for V Harris, E O'Farrell for B Corkery, D Twomey for C Healy, N Bowles for J Browne

Tipperary: J Nolan, M Corcoran, N Harkin, T O'Halloran, S Nealon, C Gaynor, T Brophy, A McDermott, P Bultin, C Grogan, P Fogarty, E McDonnell, D Hughes, G Kinnane, Subs: N Kennedy for P Bultin, L Davis for G Kinnane, L Young for D Hughes, E Hayden for A McDermott.

## Close encounter likely

OVER the last number of year St Marys Charleville and Colaiste Brid, Enniscorthy, have been the kingpins of Senior Colleges Camogie, and on Saturday next in Davin Park Carrick-on-Suir at 2pm they come head-to-head once again to decide the destination of honours for 2005.

Charleville have been the team to look up to holding six senior titles, plus a host of junior and seven a side All Ireland honours, but on Saturday next it's the Wexford side who are going for three-in-a-row. Last year the sides met in the final when a late point from Charleville forced a replay but in that encounter Colaiste Brid won by 12 points.

For nine of the Charleville girls it may be a last day on the colleges stage as they

are due to sit their Leaving Certificate in June, and they will be keen to bring the curtain down on their camogie playing school days on a winning note.

On paper they look unstoppable. Fiona Chawke is solid in goal. Finola Dore and Aine Watson join Elaine O'Riordan in a solid rearguard. Anna Geary is a player who has already established herself on the inter-county stages and she is joined at midfield by Lisa Healy another name to watch out for in the future.

Up front Charleville have a match winner in Emer Watson and she will have ample support from Mary Coleman, Fiona Morrissey and Sinead McAuliffe.

It's a close one to call.

## Cork book semi place

Cork  
Tipperary

0-9  
0-7

A STRONG opening half performance ensured the Cork juniors advance to the semi-final of the division two national league.

Cork made ample use of possession and in the opening five minutes they enjoyed the freedom of the superb Ballinlough pitch as they knocked over five points without reply. Michelle Brown, Ellen O'Herlihy and Hazel O'Regan all getting on the score sheet.

Turning over four points ahead 0-8 to 0-4 Cork knew they would be under pressure.

Siobhan Ryan pointed two frees inside eight minutes as the pressure was maintained and when Alison Lornegan pointed only a point separated the sides. Orla Coughlan pointed to stretch the advantage to two and Cork held on.

Cork: F. Killeen, D Hayes, L Hawkes, A. Kelleher, S. McInerney, L O'Connell, E O'Sullivan, O'Cotter, C Cooney, H O'Regan, O'Coughlan, M Brown, E O'Friel, E O'Herlihy, C Deasy, Subs: C Long for M Brown, C Deasy for H O'Regan

Tipperary: R Kennedy, A Davis, C Graed, C Heffernan, J Delaney, M Shortt, M Luttrell, M Ryan, D Dunne, J O'Connor, A Langton, N Flanagan, K Kennedy, M Looby, A Lornegan. Subs: C Ryan for D Dunne, J O'Connor for M Looby



# Colaiste see off strong Borris side to claim All-Ireland glory

**Colaiste Muire 1-9 Borris 1-7**

Seamus Hayes reports

**U16 COLLEGES' CAMOGIE FINAL**

AFTER a lapse of six years, Colaiste Muire regained the All-Ireland under 16 B colleges camogie title when they accounted for Borris Vocational School, Rathoath in Meath on Saturday. The win sparked off great celebrations for the Ennis school and the members of the panel received a warm welcome when they were introduced to the attendance at Clare's Allianz hurling league game with Cork on Sunday. Conditions were ideal for their meeting with Borris Community School from Carlow.

The Carlow side won the toss and elected to play against the breeze in the first half and this proved to be a bad decision as the Clare side took full advantage with Fiona Lafferty giving them an early lead.

She had a second shortly afterwards before Borris opened their account. Corina Rosengrave had a Colaiste point and soon afterwards the Ennis side's big following was in full voice as Lafferty found the net following a Marie Raftery puck out. Corina Rosengrave and Roisin Kennedy added points as did Kilnamona's Lafferty and Colaiste took a six point lead to the break when the score was 1-8 to 0-5.

Borris dominated in the third quarter and they scored 1-2 to come to within a point of the winners but Fiona Lafferty steadied the Clare side with a good point from a free.

There were a number of anxious moments for Colaiste in the final five minutes as Borris threw everything at the winners in search of victory.

Strong performances from Erin Hennessy, Mary Rosengrave, Muireann Kelleher, Siobhan Lee, Corine Rosengrave, Rochelle Broderick and Roisin Hennessy together with a powerful display from Fiona Lafferty who contributed 1-6 helped the Ennis side to win this title. It was also a great occasion for the management team of Aidan Lawton, Ann Madden and Tara O'Loughlin.

**Colaiste Muire:** Marie Raftery (Corofin); Jawe Seward (Clooney-Quin); Erin Hennessy (St Joseph's); Ruth Lillis (Eire Og); Aislinn Dillon (Kilnamona); Mary Rosengrave (do); Muireann Kelleher (Corofin); Mary Tierney (Eire Og); Siobhan Lee (Clooney-Quin); Carina Rosengrave (Kilnamona); Fiona Lafferty (do); Rochelle Broderick (Clarecastle); Sinead O'Halloran (Kilnamona); Roisin Kennedy (St Joseph's); Emer Fahy (do).

**Subs:** Colette Freeman (Sixmilecross); Gina Daly (Clondegad); Ciara Pender (Eire Og); Hannah O'Farrell

(Clooney-Quin); Teresa Rosengrave (Kilnamona); Jacqueline Woods (St Joseph's); Claire O'Grady (Kilnamona); Kate Tierney (St Joseph's); Marie Bell (do); Lisa Kennedy (Kilmaley).

**Depleted Clare ease past**

<b>Clare</b>	<b>2-9</b>
<b>Armagh</b>	<b>1-4</b>

**Armagh**

Lining out without seven of their regular starting line up, Clare still proved too strong for Armagh in round four of the National junior camogie league at Mullingar on Sunday. This was Clare's fourth win from four starts but following last week's decision to deduct four points for playing an unregistered player, they are unlikely to be in the play-offs.

Claire McMahon and Elaine Gallery contributed 2-6 between them as Clare recorded a merited win.

Elaine Gallery got Clare off to a tremendous start with a goal inside the first minute and the Banner girls went on to build up a 1-7 to 0-1 lead by half time with points from Claire McMahon (3), Elaine Gallery (2), Deirdre Murphy and Moire McMahon.

Armagh had early scores in the second half but a goal from Claire McMahon saw Clare regain control.

Jane O'Leary, Erica Minogue, Marie O'Halloran and Catriona Naughton impressed for the winners.

**Clare:** Rachel Lynch; Jane O'Leary; Jane Scanlan; Marie O'Looney; Siobhan Lafferty; Erica Minogue; Cathy Hally; Moira McMahon; Marie Whelan; Marie O'Halloran; Deirdre Murphy (capt); Elaine Gallery; Claire McMahon; Catherine O'Loughlin; Catriona Naughton.

**Subs (all used):** Siobhan Whyte; Edel Keating; Louise Hayes and Marie O'Brien.

**East Clare rivals in intermediate final**

Scariff will be the venue on Saturday evening at 6.30 for the meeting of Whitegate and Bodyke in the intermediate league final. Both teams are undefeated to date having topped their respective sections.

Whitegate will look to the likes of Sinead Durack, Erica Minogue, Ciara O'Leary, Moira Burke, Aisling and Lorraine Treacy, while Bodyke will be looking to players like Ciara McDermott, Eilish Doyle, Michelle Madden, Louise Hayes, Sinead O'Brien, Orla Slattery and Pauline O'Brien.

There appears to be little between the sides and both sets of supporters are confident.



■ Top: The victorious Colaiste Muire U-16 camogie team. Above left: Colaiste Muire captain Erin Hennessy and top scorer Fiona Lafferty with the cup after their narrow victory over Borris Vocational School. Above right: Players size up their respective opponents towards the end of Saturday's U-16 colleges' camogie final.

**Inagh edge out Killanena**

<b>Inagh</b>	<b>1-8</b>
<b>Killanena</b>	<b>2-4</b>

In a game which lived up to expectations, Inagh held on for a one point win over Killanena in an exciting junior league final at Ballylone on Saturday evening.

Having played a draw three weeks ago, a close contest was expected and this turned out to be the case.

Inagh made an excellent start to each half. Patricia McCarthy, the outstanding player on view, dominated midfield and scored

three points inside the opening nine minutes.

Killanena came storming back, driven on by Niamh O'Connor, Aoife Collins and Pauline McNamara and they outscored Inagh over the next 15 minutes when they scored 1-3. Points from Pauline and Grainne McNamara and the goal from Linda Carey had the sides level with five minutes to go to the end of the half. They were still level at the break when the score was 0-6 for Inagh to 1-3 after the winners had good points from Sinead O'Loughlin and Patricia McCarthy.

Patricia McCarthy pointed for the winners on the resumption and

then added a rather fortuitous goal. Killanena hit back but the Inagh defence held firm with Claire McCarthy, Catriona Longe, Sharon Rynne and Sinead O'Loughlin kept the East Clare side to a single point from Pauline McNamara.

Sinead O'Loughlin stretched Inagh's lead to four points but a Killanena goal from Pauline McNamara ensured a nail biting final couple of minutes. Inagh held on to collect the title with Anne Hehir and Anne Leyden, in addition to those already mentioned, doing well.

Clare board chairperson Orla Hayes presented the cup to the winning captain Anne Hehir.

**Inagh:** Claire McCarthy; Ca-

triona Longe; Anne Wynne, Breda Shanahan, Aine Leyden; Sinead O'Loughlin, Michelle Callinan, Sharon Rynne; Patricia McCarthy, Emily Lafferty, Anne Leyden; Anne Hehir. **Subs:** Tara Rynne for Anne Leyden;

**Killanena:** Bernice Kelly; Deirdre Collins, Rena McMahon, Aoife Collins, Niamh O'Connor; Linda Carey, Roisin Loughnane, Amanda Flaherty; Marcella O'Neill, Pauline McNamara, Sinead Flaherty, Grainne McNamara. **Subs:** Bernice Keane for L Carey; Carey for Keane; Louise Leonard for M O'Neill.

**Referee:** Alan Tubridy.



# Coen inspires Athenry girls to junior title

Galway champions prove too strong for Ulster rivals in All-Ireland camogie showdown

Presentation Athenry 3-10  
St Mary's Maherafelt 2-3

TOM WARD  
AT RATOATH

Presentation Secondary School, Athenry added another title to their illustrious list of honours when they won the All Ireland Colleges Junior A camogie final in convincing fashion over St Mary's Maherafelt at Ratoath on Saturday.

In doing so Athenry broke the Munster stranglehold on the competition and bridged a seven-year gap for Galway sides as the last team to win the title from the county was Seamount Kinvara.

Athenry quickly established a lead thanks to an early point from the hugely impressive Noreen Coen. Minutes later the Galway side got a decisive break when a huge Jessica Gill free was added to by Laura Walsh for an Athenry goal.

Almost immediately Lorraine Ryan, from the Kil-

limordaly club, and Attracta McPeake, St Mary's, traded points. The Northern side tried desperately to establish some kind of coherent pattern but stout defence from Jessica Gill and Rachel Kelly kept them at bay.

Eventually, though, Maherafelt scored a goal courtesy of Clare Laverty. Athenry, however, used their possession wisely and a goal and a point courtesy of Noreen Coen left them in a commanding position.

The goal was expertly taken when the Athenry player turned her marker and struck to the net. Maherafelt mounted a late first half challenge and points from Attracta McPeake and Michaela Convery left the half time score, Presentation Athenry 2-3, St Mary's 1-3.

Athenry were first to score on the resumption thanks to a great strike from Laura Loughnane. However they were subsequently under pressure and Deirdre Ward in the Athenry goal made two out-

standing reaction saves.

Consequently, Athenry began to play with great confidence and self-belief and points from Laura Walsh and Noreen Coen left them leading by seven points as the final drifted into the final quarter.

Athenry, who were superior in craft and technique, sealed the game when a Noreen Coen free travelled all the way to the net. There was now no way back for St Mary's and further points from Noreen Coen and Laura Walsh put the issue beyond doubt.

Maherafelt did get a late goal thanks to Michaela Convery, but Athenry had the last say when a late Jessica Gill free sailed between the posts for an utterly deserved victory for Athenry.

This was an outstanding team performance from an excellently coached side. Deirdre Ward, in the Athenry goal, was reliable and brave. The full back line was strong throughout and was excellently marshalled by the impressive Rachel Kelly.

The half back line produced some outstanding defensive work with Jessica Gill leading the line with authority. Lorraine Ryan played with purpose from her midfield base.

Up front, Noreen Coen, produced an outstanding performance with Darina Ryan, Laura Walsh and Laura Loughnane ably assisted her.

Athenry have a great tradition in Colleges camogie - winning senior and junior titles in the seventies. This latest victory sees them back as one of the top camogie schools in Ireland

Pres Athenry: D Ward, Athenry, K O'Dwyer, Athenry, R Kelly, Craughwell, S Coen, Killmordaly, C Kennedy, Killmordaly, J Gill, Athenry, 0-1, free, L Callanan, Clarentbridge, L Ryan, Killmordaly, 0-1, M Carr, Athenry, S O'Dwyer, Athenry, D Ryan, Killmordaly, N Coen, Athenry, 2-5, L Loughnane, Athenry, 0-1, L Walsh, Turloughmore, 1-2, R Kennedy, Craughwell.

St. Mary's: C O'Kane, R O'Kane, A McCusker, E Donaghy, C McKenna, R O'Boyle, K Bradley, A McPeake, 0-2, C Carey, E Mallon, M Convery, 1-1, E McKenna, A Kearney, S McLaughlin, C Laverty, 1-0.

Referee: Sean O Plondair.

## UCC SPORTS STAR AWARDS 2004/2005

### CAMOGIE AND SOCCER

Jill Horan

Member of UCC team beaten in semi-final of Ashbourne.

Ashbourne All-Team selection.

All-Ireland senior medal winner with Tipperary - September 2004.

Member of UCC Ladies soccer team also.

Selected on Munster Colleges squad.

LFAI Intermediate medal winner with Wilton Utd in August 2004.



Presentation College, Athenry, All-Ireland Junior A camogie champions. Back row, left to right, Caroline Carr, Rachel Kennedy, Aishling Mella, Jacqueline Caulfield, Darina Ryan, Laura Loughnane, Noreen Coen, Jessica Gill, Eoin McGillicuddy. Middle row, Rachel Kenny, Audrey Slevin, Deirdre Fahy, Deirdre Ryan, Lorraine Ryan, Marie Carroll, Louise Callanan, Jacqueline Greene, Laura Walshe. Front row, Alison Healy, Sarah Coen, Katie O'Dwyer, Rachel Kelly, Deirdre Ward, Stephanie O'Dwyer, Maedbh Carr, Kayla Hallissey, Clara Kennedy.



# TIPPERARY CAMOGIE NOTES

By: Rose Mannion.

## SENIORS SURRENDER TO REBEL ATTACK

By: Rose Mannion.

**Cork:** 1.13.  
**Tipperary:** 0.5.  
In their stiffest test to date in the National Senior Camogie League, Tipperary had no answer for a sharper, faster and far hungrier Cork side in Pairc Ui Rinn on Saturday evening last.

In less than a minute of the start, Cork's full forward Ciara Healy set the score board in action when she dropped over a point and midfielder Breige Corkery was back just as fast with her point. Tipp were under heavy siege as Cork pushed hard to goal, but a good working Tipp backline spoiled their efforts in the first half. It was Claire Grogan who set the wheels in motion half way into the first half when she sent the ball over for Tipp's first point and within 60 seconds, Claire sent over her side's second score. However, Cork stepped up a gear and were boosted by a strong forward line that picked off key points on the evening that kept them out in front and able to build on their lead. With all six forwards having scored, this Cork outfit caused a major problem for Tipp as they used possession well going on to widen the gap with a further five points. Ciara Gaynor's free added a third score to the Tipp's tally just on half time.

Claire Grogan converted a free early in the second half but Tipp found themselves in serious trouble and unable to handle the momentum the Cork side set up, while on top of that, they suffered a serious blow when Therese Brophy who was having a solid game at wing back was sent to the line in the 50th minute. The Leesiders picked off their point's with ease and when corner forward Una O'Donoghue goaled, it was too late for Tipp to get back into the game. Nothing seemed to go right for them on the evening and Claire Grogan finished the game as she had started by sending over the last point for Tipp. Played at a blistering pace, the cold strong breeze had to play its own part in this game. Tipperary were missing several of their regulars who are out with injuries, so the timing was ideal to blend new blood.

Team, scorers and subs used.  
Joanne Nolan, Maebh Corcoran, Niamh Harkin, Trish O'Halloran, Sinead Nealon, Ciara Gaynor, (1 x free) Therese Brophy, Angie McDermott, Paula Bulfin, Claire Grogan, (0.4 1x free) Philly Fogarty, Joanne Ryan, Emer McDonnell, Deirdre Hughes (Capt) Ger Kinane.

Subs used: Lorraine Davis for Geraldine Kinane, Noelle Kennedy for Paula Bulfin, Louise

Younge for Deirdre Hughes, Emily Hayden for Angie McDermott. Referee: Joe O'Donnell (Limerick).

## Brave Effort Just Falls Short.

By: Rose Mannion.

**Cork:** 0.9  
**Tipperary:** 0.7  
In the National Junior League held in Ballinlough, Cork on Saturday evening last, a brave Tipperary side were beaten by old rivals Cork in what could have been a Tipp victory.

This promising looking Tipperary side were slow to settle into a game while Cork took advantage and were on the scoreboard in the opening minutes with a pointed free from midfielder Orla Cotter. Fifteen minutes into the game, Cork had tapped over a further four points before the Tipperary side registered their first score courtesy of Mary Ryan. The visitors won several frees which in the end turned out to be in their favour as Siobhan Ryan's accuracy kept the side in touch. At the interval, just four points separated the teams.

The second half looked as if Tipp could take victory as they curtailed the home side to just one point which came in the 16th minute of the game. Cork totally failed to capitalise on their lead and it was Tipp who, working hard, got the scores, but unfortunately, not enough to win. Tipp did register three further points. Two from frees and one from play, and had clawed back the lead to a mere point. Cork were worried however and scored a valuable point to leave a cushion of two points between the sides. When the final whistle sounded, there was a sigh of relief from the Cork side, but fierce disappointment from the Tipp camp as it was a game the Tipp girls could have taken. The Cork forward line always had a sharp looking edge about them and four of their forwards hit scores. Try as they did to goal, Rosanne Kenneally made some fine saves to deny the. However, Tipp did very well considering they were without the services of Louise Ryan, Niamh Harkin and Lorraine Davis.

The Tipp team, scorers and subs.

Rosanne Kenneally, Andrea Davis, Caroline Greed (Capt) Ciara Heffernan, Julie Delaney, Michelle Shortt, Mairead Luttrell, Mary Ryan, (0.1) Deirdre Dunne, Jackie O'Connor, Siobhan Ryan, (0.5 x free), Alison Loneragan, (0.1) Katie Kennedy, Mary Looby, Noreen Flanagan, Rosanne Quirke, Siobhan Maher, Ciara Callanan, Marguerite Fryday, Caroline Ryan, Ailish Langton, Siobhan Bourke, Jane Ryan.

Subs used: Caroline Ryan for Deirdre Dunne. Referee: Rose Kelleher, Limerick.

## U-14 'A' FEILE SEMI-FINALS by Ger Kinane

**MONEYGALL** 2.2  
**DROM-INCH** 1.1

When these two sides met earlier in the championship Moneygall had a convincing victory, however this wasn't the case on Saturday morning last as Moneygall only claimed victory with two fine goals in the closing stages of the match. Drom-Inch got off to a great start exerting lots of pressure on the Moneygall backline early in the game. After 7 minutes Catriona Shortt was the first to score when she pointed for Drom. Eight minutes later Catriona Shortt had her name on the scoreboard when a clearance by Claire Dooley found her 20 yards from goal and she fired her shot past the Moneygall keeper. Moneygall soon settled and some good play by Edwina King and Criona Ryan resulted in a free which Sarah Kirwan pointed. At half time Drom-Inch led by a goal. In the second half Moneygall began to step up a gear and great defending by Michelle Moten kept the opposition at bay. Catriona Shortt moved back into the defence for Drom-Inch where she gave a tremendous display catching and clearing time after time. Also in defence Mairead Barry and Sinead O'Meara worked hard under increasing pressure from Moneygall's Elizabeth Cahill and Sarah Kirwan. Ten minutes into the second half Moneygall pointed after a dropped in free was tipped over the bar. This meant Drom-Inch still led by two points and looked like they were going to hold out for a win until with less than ten minutes to go full-forward Sarah Kirwan showed her skill and blasted the ball into the back of the net. A minute later Moneygall's constant attacking paid off when Sarah Kirwan once again raised a green flag to give Moneygall victory on a scoreline of 2.2 to 1.1.

**Moneygall:** J.Tierney, S.Hogan, P.Sutton, S.Flaherty, E. Sutton, M.Moten, E.King, C.Ryan, E. Cahill, E.Bergin, N.Harkin, N.Deane, S.Kirwan, S.Kirwan, A.Spillane. Subs: C.hogan, L.Fanning, M.Nowe.

**Drom-Inch:** C.Hassett, B.Flynn, S.O'Meara, C.Hennessey, C.Doolley, M.Barry, D.Hassett, A.Butler, E.Stapleton, M.Butler, C.Shortt, A.Breteron, C.Bergin, C.Ryan, E.Connors. Subs: N.Ryan, T.Kinane, M. Hassett, P.Hassett.

**TOOMEVARA** 1.5  
**BURGESS** 1.2

The second semi-final was the meeting between Toomevara and Burgess. After a keenly contested game Toomevara emerged victorious by 3 points thanks in no

small way to Aine Brislane who got all of her sides scoring of a goal and 5 points with 1.3 coming from play. Burgess were the first off the mark when Laura Mahony pointed from a free after 5 minutes. In the ninth minute aine Brislane also showed her accuracy from frees when she slotted the ball over the bar. Throughout the first half both sides showed their skill and determination and fought for every ball. After 15 minutes Aine Brislane raised a white flag after a pass from Eithne Canning. On the stroke of half time Laura Mahony levelled proceedings with another well executed free from a difficult angle. Toomevara went back into the lead within 3 minutes of the restart when Aine Brislane gathered possession turned and tapped over her third point of the game. Minutes later Aine extended Toomevara's lead with a pointed free. However Burgess refused to lie down and some great play by Maeve O'Connell and Louise Hayes resulted in a goal by Amy Kennedy. Toomevara needed a score a Aine Brislane duly obliged with an excellent point from an awkward angle. This meant the side level with 10 minutes remaining. For Toomevara Sandra Dunne and Niamh Kelly continued to defend bravely while at the opposite end Aine Murphy was to the fore. The game looked to be heading for a replay when on the stroke of full time Aine Brislane scored a great goal to the delight of the Toomevara following.

**Toomevara:** A.Ryan, S.Ryan, A.Ryan, N.Stapleton, N.Gleeson, S.Dunne, N.Kelly, A.Quigley, A.Murphy, A. Brislane, C. Kenny, E. Canning, H.harty, L. McCormack, N. Whelan. Subs: M.Ryan, C.Murphy, A.Grace, N.Fogarty, E.O'Brien

**Burgess:** A.Lucey, A. O'Carroll, A. Murphy, H.O'Brien, E.Ryan, E.Ryan, C.Conlin, L. Mahony, H.Kelly, M.O'Connell, R.Darcy, E.Hickey, A.Kennedy, B.Scroope, L.Hayes. Subs: A.Halloran, E.Keller, S.Ryan, S.Delaney, L.Campbell, R.Hardy, C.Bugher, N.Fahey, C.Cleary

## UPCOMING FIXTURES JUNIOR B LEAGUE SEMI FINAL

**FRIDAY 22ND APRIL**  
**SLIEVENAMON** V  
**ANNACARTHY COUNTY**  
**CAMOGIE GROUNDS, THE**  
**RAGG @ 7PM**

**SENIOR LEAGUE FINAL**  
**SATURDAY 23RD APRIL**

**TOOMEVARA** V **DROM-INCH**  
**COUNTY CAMOGIE**  
**GROUNDS, THE RAGG @ 7PM**

**U-14 A, FEILE FINAL**  
**SUNDAY 24TH APRIL**  
**MONEYGALL** V  
**TOOMEVARA**  
**COUNTY CAMOGIE**  
**GROUNDS, THE RAGG @**  
**1.30PM**

# TV coverage is great news for camogie



Linda Mellerick

THERE is further good news for the progression of camogie in the fact that this year's Division One National League semis will be televised live by TG4 for the first time ever.

The pairings for this year's semi-finals, which go ahead on May 8th are, Cork v Wexford and Galway v Kilkenny.

Cork booked themselves a place in this year's semi-final when they overcame arch rivals Tipperary last Saturday.

Ever since last year's All-Ireland final defeat by Tipp Cork were looking for revenge and they did it in style seven days ago.

Yes, Tipp were poor but Cork were good and you can't take from that. Cork can do little about how other teams perform. What they can do is look after their own house and concentrate on performing to the best of their ability.

While I've seen nothing of Wexford this year they really impressed me in last year's All-Ireland semi-final against Tipp and indeed, were it not for lady luck shining on Tipp, could well have found themselves pitted against Cork in the All-Ireland final.

It all ended very differently as we all know.

Wexford haven't had a great league campaign. They finished second in their group but Antrim and Limerick offered little. Galway top group B and so face Kilkenny, who will be happy with their performances in the campaign to date. Wexford have a very young side. Many of the Coláiste Bride, players are already playing at senior inter-county level and show no fear. They, as like all Wexford teams, are physically tough.

However in addition to brawn the squad also has plenty skill and this is where they differ from their predecessors of the past 20 years. The fact that they have had a poor enough campaign may be due to the fact that practically the entire squad are facing into exam time and their focus may not be all it should be. Now that they've reached the semi-final against Cork, they may well give it that extra push. Either way, the county will be a force to be reckoned with come championship time.

Galway, like their hurlers, continue to offer so much on paper but it rarely comes to fruition. They have been their own worst enemy over the past eight years. They defeated Cork in the All-Ireland final of 1996 (as total underdogs). They lost out to Cork in 1997 and 1998 and from there on in have, at times, put in embarrassing displays.

They seem to have re-grouped and have put in a huge effort in the past 12 months or so. Shar-

on Glynn, 10 years ago, was one of the most talented players in the country. Without doubt she would have been in the top five.

Unfortunately the commitment wasn't there and her career plummeted. She is one of the mentors involved with the senior squad this year. By right she should still be playing and causing endless problems for opposing teams but the next best thing is that she is now coaching the senior side and if she can bring as a mentor what she, at first, brought as a player, then the future looks good for the Westerners.

Elsewhere counties are finding themselves in all spots of bother regarding registration of players.

Central Council deducted four league points from Clare recently over the non registration of a player who was playing her club camogie outside the Banner County. She proceeded to play for the county against the rules. Following a specially convened meeting of Central Council at the Camogie Associations recent Annual Congress, the Clare player, who plays her club camogie with Davitts in Galway wasn't suspended as she was unaware of the ruling. However Clare lost their points as the onus was on the county board to have the form, CC3, with Croke Park by the specified date.

Now Down find themselves in the same situation. It has transpired that goalkeeper Teresa McGowan, who plays for O'Donovan Rossa in Belfast had not been registered by the Down board by January 31st, as required under Rule 12.4. At it stands, McGowan cannot play for Down as she is currently unregistered to play county camogie outside of Antrim where her club is registered. Now Down, who have written to the Association, must wait for Central Council to decide the Mourne County's fate. But really the rules are in black and white and I can't see Central Council doing anything but penalising the county. Worse than that is the fact that Teresa cannot play for Down in 2005.

Many players now work and study in adopted counties. They tend to sign for other clubs as it is impossible to travel home and realistically continue to play for your home club.

The dangerous part is forgetting to ensure you are still registered in your home county and denying yourself the opportunity of representing your county for 12 months.





The St Killians Camogie team which won the Connacht Junior B Final, back row: Ciara McHugh, Maire Mulkerrins, Catherine Kelly, Gaolmhe Staunton, Shauna Byrnes, Nicola Glynn, Ruth Kelly, Kristin Murray, Stacey Burke, Maire Corcoran, Linda McCullin. Front row: Patricia Callanan, Ciara Ward, Bernadette Kelly, Sarah Staunton, Fiona Glynn, Christina Ward, Maureen Tierney, Michelle Laffey, Claire Glynn.



Wexford captain Mary Leacy accepts the trophy

## All-Ireland Schools Junior B Camogie final...

# Searching for goals and glory ends in a narrow loss

Col. Muire, Ennis 1-9  
Borris VS 1-7

BY BRENDAN COFFEY

BORRIS went in search of goals all through Saturday's final and when they found one three quarter ways through this Junior B final in Ratoath, the search continued for a second wave of the green flag.

The same resources were deployed but the Ennis girls kept their Carlow counterparts at bay even if goal-keeper Mary Rafferty was called into action on more occasions than is healthy when protecting a dangerous lead of three points.

The gap was reduced to two points in the final minute when Colette Dorme pointed a free. She probably didn't know time was against her making the capture of a goal a far more pressing matter. From 25 metres the possibilities were debatable.

A point she took and with five minutes of injury time to play it made for a nerve-racking finish. Dorme it was who kept up the Borris challenge, just as she had done throughout the game with a fabulous display from centre back despite marking the most skilful player on the pitch in the shape of Fiona Lafferty who scored 1-6. Dorme swept through the Ennis defence deep into injury time and although blatantly fouled, the ref allowed the advantage to accrue but Dorme had already blasted the sliotar wide in frustration. A free should have been given but...

Ennis took possession up field and hustled the sliotar into the corner. Time slowly and painfully evaporated before the dreadful whistle came. It was tough on the Carlow girls who had put up a sterling second half fight back having trailed by six points at half time.

Ennis had players endowed with sliotar skills and from the off that skill shone through.

Lafferty was terrifically poised when in possession and danced her way around the Carlow defence to score a goal and five points in the opening half. Two points from Lafferty helped Ennis into a three one lead after ten minutes and she struck her goal on the quarter hour mark.

Another weaving solo run took her clear of the challenges and while she might admit to shooting for a point, her effort flew into the top corner.

Borris fell further behind when Lafferty raised another white flag and speed merchant Carina Roseingrave scored a fine point but the scoreline of 1-5 to 0-2 reflected more on Borris' wastefulness in front of goal, shooting five wides by the 20th minute.

Accuracy improved before the break-Theresa Ralph, Theresa Meaney and Niamh Quirke scoring a point each-but Ennis' radar remained in good nick too, and they added three more

points to lead by 1-8 to 0-5 at the interval.

The second half was devoid of scores for long periods, with the Borris defence hurling superbly all through the half, limiting their opponents to just a pointed free. Caroline O'Brien and Dorme at centre being the pick of their defenders.

Too many chances went a begging at the other end and try as they might Borris found the target far too elusive.

They put themselves in with a great shout when Theresa Meaney pulled the sliotar to the net in the 47th minute but the near misses mounted, Mary Rafferty kept her cool between the posts and Borris came agonisingly short of victory.

Colaiste Muire: Mary Rafferty, Jane Steward, Erin Hennessy, Ruth Lillis, Aislinn Dillon, Mary Roseingrave, Muireann Kelleher, Mary Tierney, Siobhan Lee, Carina Roseingrave (0-2), Fiona Lafferty (1-6, 0-3 frees), Rochelle Broderick, Sinead O'Halloran, Roisin Kennedy (0-1), Emer Fahy

Borris: Ann Marie Lennon, Grainne Nolan, Caroline O'Brien, Emma Fortune, Gillian Nolan, Colette Dorme (0-1, free), Mary Dalton, Catherine Walsh, Celia Culleton (0-1), Theresa Ralph (0-2, 1 free), Eileen Murphy, Sinead Kelly, Emma Carroll (1-1, 0-1 free), Niamh Quirke (0-1) Ref: Sile Ni Neill

APRIL

2005

## Good weekend for Cork teams CamogieChat

With Mary Newman

IT was a good weekend for camogie in the county as both adult teams booked their places in their respective national league semi-finals. League holders and All Ireland champions Tipperary came to Paire Uí Rinn in the knowledge that nothing other than a victory was needed if they had any hope of retaining their crown won for the first time last season.

Looking the livelier of the sides Cork made all the running and indeed such was their dominance that Tipperary found the going very tough.

Inside six minutes Cork led by two points but not before Aoife Murray had to deny Ger Kinnane after Emer Mc Donnell had put the corner forward through with only the keeper to beat.

Claire Grogan had Tipperary on level terms by the mid way stage but

### MINORS BOOK MUNSTER FINAL PLACE

CONGRATULATIONS to the Cork minor side who recorded a great victory in the Munster semi-final. A tremendous second half performance helped the side book their place in the provincial decider. Aided by the strong wind Limerick set the pace in the opening half and turned over leading four points to two.

Within three minutes of the restart Cork were back on level terms thanks to points from Deirdre Twomey and Denise Cronin.

With the elements in their favour Cork enjoyed maximum possession and a superb goal from the lively Erin Corkery broke the Limerick girls grip.

The lead was extended thanks to good play from Erin Corkery, Deirdre Twomey and Niamh Dilworth which yielded points and now Cork were in total control.

Limerick rallied with Niamh Mulcahy adding two but it was Cork who finished stronger to secure their place in the final where they will meet Tipperary who recorded a 3-5 to 0-6 victory over holders Clare.

this was to be the nearest they would come as five unanswered points restored the Cork lead, indeed it was two minutes into injury time before Tipperary had their next score as Ciara Gaynor pointed a long range free.

Clare Grogan opened the second half with a Tipperary point and now they were began to show a little more hunger, however the Cork defence stood the test as the holders introduced Noelle Kennedy, Louise Young and Emily Hayden in an effort to save the day.

Cork kept the pressure on and with Una O'Donoghue, Sarah O'Donovan and Emer Dillon adding points there was now six between the sides.

The game was over as a contest when Una O'Donoghue grabbed the games only goal with eleven minutes remaining. Jennifer O'Leary converted a free and pointed from play and it was left to Emer Mc Donnell to register Tipperary's second score of the second half with three minutes on the clock.

No doubt Cork will be pleased with the result but they will be mature enough to realise that come championship time Tipperary will be sharper and fitter but for now all that matters is that Cork join Kilkenny, Galway and Wexford in the national league semi-final and with another quality test ahead this can only help championship preparations.

Earlier in the afternoon the Junior side were in action and here again it was a must win situation for Tipp however showing tremendous character Cork held on for a great victory that sees them safely through to the semi-final stages.

Playing with the aid of the strong wind Cork led 0-8 to 0-4 at the break and certainly the signs were worrying as Tipperary threw everything into their quest for victory.

Credit to Cork despite only managing two points in the closing thirty minutes they worked tirelessly and contained their opponents to three and in the process rightly booked their semi-final place.

## CHARLEVILLE AIM FOR ALL-IRELAND GLORY

ST Marys Charleville and Colaiste Brid Enniscorthy have dominated the headlines in Colleges Camogie in recent times and on Saturday next in Davin Park Carrick-on-Suir at 2pm, they come head to head once again to decide the destination of honours for 2005.

Charleville are the holders of six senior titles plus a host of junior and seven-a-side All-Ireland honours but on Saturday its Colaiste Brid who are going for three in a row. A late Charleville point forced last year's final to a replay where Colaiste Brid went on to record a twelve point victory.

Since last season seven of the Wexford side have left school but they still have big names from that successful side including Una Lacey Stacey Redmond, Siobhan Cullen, Ciara Storey, captain Brona Furlong and Siona Nolan, while they have successfully introduced several members of the schools junior side that lifted All Ireland in 2004.

They had to call on all their resources to defeat Loreto Kilkenny by two points in the Leinster final but they recorded a good victory over Portumna Community School in the All-Ireland semi-final.

Nine of the Charleville will bid farewell to college's camogie on Saturday as they are due to sit their leaving certificate in June and knowing the determination of these girls they will be keen to end their camogie playing school days on a winning note.

Since last season three players have left school but Ashling Thompson, Finola Dore and Sarah Sexton have successfully made the step up to the senior side.

In the Munster final they had little difficulty advancing at the expense of Mercy Waterford and it's was the same story as they defeated St Patrick's Maghera in their semi-final assignment.

Colaiste Brid have the incentive to make it three in a row, Charleville are very determined to restore their name to the roll of honour.

The Wexford side have already been tested and that will stand to them.

Charleville have been there before also and the hunger is as strong as ever, this time out they look to have the strength in dept, lets hope they bring the title back to Cork



# Anna prepares to lead Mary's into final battle

WHEN team management sits down to elect their captain they look for a number of traits.

Leadership, consistency, drive, someone the team look up to and someone who is willing to give it their all.

When St Mary's of Charleville sat down to consider who would have the honour of captaining their senior camogie team for 2005 one player in particular stood out as having all the above: Anna Geary.

With the school through to the All-Ireland Senior Colleges final for the second year in a row it will be Anna's crowning glory if she ended her school career with another title in the bag, especially after the heart-break of the last two years.

St Mary's face their arch rivals Coláiste Bride of Enniscorthy next Saturday in a repeat of last year's final. The game is set for Davin Park, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary at 2pm and it's a game Anna says they have to win.

"All year long this is the team we wanted to meet, this is the game we've been waiting for. For nine of us, this is our last crack at it and we just to win it," Anna said.

Two years ago Enniscorthy caught Charleville at the semi-final stage. Twelve months ago in the final both teams served up a thriller to end all square at eight points apiece.

The replay saw the Wexford side hit Charleville for six as they blasted in two goals within five minutes and ran out winners on a scoreline of 4-7 to 1-4.

"The first day out maybe we could have won it, it was nip and tuck the whole way. In the replay they hit us so hard and fast we just weren't ready for it and before we knew it were five or six points down."

Anna describes the defeat along with her club Milford's county final loss last July as her worst experiences to date on the pitch.

A sixth-year student with so many club All-Ireland Colleges and Inter



Linda Mellerick

county minor medals to her credit (3) it's hard to believe that she is still only 17.

Anna began her career at seven years of age under the guidance of Ann Watson, the pulse of camogie in the area.

Anna states that Ann, along with her father, is her greatest influence and credits both with her success so far.

"My dad is great for giving me constructive criticism and, well, Ann Watson is the one who brought us together and, along with Sheila Thompson in the national school, kept us going. The interest was always there after that. The first time we ever won anything was with the Community Games in Mosney and that made us think, 'Hey maybe we have something here'."

Last year was a special year for Anna as she was named on the first Colleges All-Star team ever announced. She was also elected captain in the first Irish International shinty team which was a resounding success.

Anna treasures the memory and honour of these and says it was nice to play with the enemy for a change. "Playing with the Irish team was amazing. It was great to meet the players on a different level after playing against them for so long. You learn not to like them. The very sound of their name and you tend to go 'Oh God'. Then you spend a weekend away with them, you play for each other and you realise that these people are actually very nice."

Some of those players will be lined up against her next Saturday eager and determined to rob her of another All-Ireland.

She will do everything in her power to stop them.

On Saturday they will be the 'enemy' again.



Anna Geary, captain of the St Mary's secondary school camogie team.

Picture: Press 22

## St. Mary's and Coláiste Bride to do battle

THE two top teams of the past decade meet in this year's All-Ireland Senior A Championship decider, tomorrow (2.00) at Carrick-on-Suir.

St. Mary's of Charleville and Coláiste Bride of Enniscorthy battle it out in a repeat of last year's final.

These two teams have produced thrillers in recent times with Enniscorthy having the edge over the past two years.

The Wexford side won the title in 2003 and 2004 and also took the JAC title in 2001 and 2004.

Charleville however, hold the overall record with 6 Senior titles, 8 Junior titles and 14 All-Ireland Sevens titles to their credit.

By LINDA MELLERICK

All-Ireland preview

2003 saw Enniscorthy take Charleville at the semi-final stage by 6 points, 3-10 to 3-4.

Last year both teams produced a classic to end all square in the final, 0-8 apiece. The tight-marking Coláiste defence put the shackles on the Charleville forwards in the replay and Wexford retained the cup by 4-7 to 1-4.

This year sees many changes in the Enniscorthy line-out. Mary Leacy, Ursula Jacob, Ciara O'Connor, Karen Atkinson, Aisling Hogan, Deirdre Codd and Ruth

Walsh, all of whom were named on the Leinster Colleges Interprovincial panel, have left school.

They still have key players in Una Leacy, Ciara Storey, Brona Furlong and Siona Nolan. Six of their winning junior side of 2004 have been promoted to the side. Coláiste received a close call from Loreto, Kilkenny in the Leinster Final, 4-4 to 2-8. They were at home to Portumna Community in the All-Ireland semi final and won by 1-17 to 2-4.

This year is a vital year for St. Mary's. Nine of their senior team will be sitting their leaving cert in June. It will be the last chance for these girls and they will be eager to

finish on a winning note.

They lost three players, Natasha Murphy, Amy Morrissey and Marie Watson, since their last meeting with Enniscorthy. Cork Minor Aisling Thompson, Sarah Sexton and Fionnuala Dore, the current captain of the Limerick minor team, have filled the shoes of those girls and they are more than up to the task.

St. Mary's have not been tested this year and this is a worry for the team mentors.

In the Munster Final, Charleville overcame Mercy, Waterford by 5-12 to 0-1. In the All-Ireland semi-final, Charleville were in a different class to opponents St. Patrick's Maghera

and won by 4-15 to 0-0.

St. Mary's are strong in all departments. Fiona Chawke has settled well in goal, the excellent Elaine O'Riordan protects her at full-back.

The half-back line of Dore, Aine Watson and Edwina Waters are a formidable force with Anna Geary, who captains the side, partnering Lisa Healy in midfield.

Up front Charleville have match winners in Emer Watson, Mary Coleman, Sinead McAuliffe, Fiona Morrissey and Christine O'Shea.

The question is, has the loss of key players by Coláiste Bride allowed the pendulum to swing back in favour of St. Mary's? Time will tell!



# St Mary's aiming to chalk up more glory



Three first cousins Christine O'Shea (18), Fiona Chawke (17) and Mary Coleman (17) who play with St Mary's secondary school camogie team Charleville. Picture: Press 22

WHEN Ann Doherty became principal of St Mary's school in Charleville two years ago even she was in awe of the magnificent facilities that are available to the school and the huge participation by staff in ensuring that the school is, and remains, the best that it can be.

St Mary's are famously known for their sporting achievements, most notably their camogie achievements. One does not even have to check the history books to know that no other school in the 100 years of camogie comes close to achieving what the north Cork college has.

Twenty-eight All-Ireland titles in 21 years of participation, it begs disbelief.

Six senior, eight junior and 14 seven-a-side titles and you begin to imagine that the school must do little else. Not so!

If All-Ireland medals were handed out for academic achievements St Mary's would without doubt add to

By LINDA MELLERICK  
Camogie latest

that existing haul of 28. Over 20% of last year's leaving cert students obtained over 500 points. What is most pleasing, however, to Ann is the fact that all of her pupils reached their potential.

"Students of all abilities achieved their maximum potential and we were overjoyed by that."

"We were very proud of all our junior and leaving cert students last year."

"We have a very broad curriculum which provides for that," she said.

The school caters for the varied needs of all students. Science labs, social study rooms, a music room, a library, a computer room, technology room, economics room, an art room, a gymnasium, their own playing pitch and training facilities. The list goes on.

The school also teaches woodwork up to junior cert, a very rare subject in an all girls school.

After junior cert, students have the option of entering transition year.

This provides opportunities for students to participate in debating, public speaking, drama, work experience, away trips, deportment, etc.

Throw in the fact that St Mary's also teach Japanese during this period and you see a school determined to ensure there is something for everyone.

Ms Doherty says that as a school they really encourage not just sport but all extra curricular activities.

"We have high academic standards in the school and these are complemented by the pupils' involvement in activities outside the classroom."

"It gives them balance and develops their characters," she says.



St Mary's principal Ann Doherty.

Basketball became part of the set-up in 1996 and ladies football was introduced just last year.

Modern and trad dance classes are also available for the light of feet.

St Mary's is presently buzzing with the anticipation of Saturday's All-Ireland senior camogie final against Enniscorthy of Wexford.

Buses have been organised to travel to the game and the school is decorated with banners and flags. Ann is thoroughly enjoying the atmosphere in the school which she says is electric.

"The buzz is fantastic and we can't wait for Saturday. Full credit must go to the mentors involved and the effort they've put in."

She is referring of course to Ger O'Donovan, Anne Marie O'Keefe and Vincent Harrington who Ann refers to as a legend in the school.

St Mary's of Charleville is thriving with both teachers and students working together as a unit.

Their only wish for Saturday is that as a unit they return with their 29th All-Ireland title.

## CAMOGIE

National League Div 2: Waterford 4-8 (K. Kelly 2-2, A. Lyng 1-4, L. Garahy 1-0, B. Daniels, B. Kennedy 0-1 each) Meath 1-1 (C. Egan 1-0, A.M. Denehy 0-1).

Armagh 3-9 (C. Hayes 2-1, C. Keenan 1-1, T. McAuley 0-5, 0-2), L. Lavery, C. McSorley 0-1 each) Derry 4-4 (S. Cassidy 2-0, G. McGoldrick 1-3, K. Lavery 1-0, K. McAuley 0-1).

Roscommon 2-16 (L. Glennon 1-6, N. Coyle 1-5, C. Kenny 0-3, A. McGeeney 0-2) Westmeath 2-11 (A. Heffernan 1-5, M. Henry 1-1, D. Loughlin 0-3, P. Greville, S. Weir 0-1 each).

Laos 2-4 (K. Cuddy 1-1, L. Mahony 1-0, T. Keenan 0-2, 0-1), E. Delaney 0-1 (0) Down 0-8 (C. McGourty, C. McCrickard 0-3 each, C. McGovern, K. Higgins 0-1 each).

Carlow v. Clare walkover.

Leinster SC final: Kilkenny 3-7 (A. Neary 2-0, I. Kennedy 1-0, S. Miles 0-5, E. Maher, E. Aylward 0-1 each) Wexford 2-9 (M. Heasne 1-0, og by Kilkenny 'keeper C. Ryan, K. Kelly 0-7, U. Leacy, E. Guilley 0-1 each).

Leinster MC: Westmeath 12-16 Wicklow 0-0; Kildare 2-13 Offaly 5-2.

# Charleville girls' late effort is all in vain

Coláiste Brí, Enniscorthy 1-8  
St Mary's, Charleville 2-3

by Therese O'Callaghan

COLÁISTE BRÍD held off St Mary's late rally to retain the All-Ireland Senior A Colleges title in Carrick-On-Suir on Saturday.

The pity for Charleville was they didn't show the same composure for the entire 60 minutes. However, had they grabbed an equaliser, it would have been rough justice, as the Enniscorthy girls were terrific over the hour and are worthy champions for the third year in-a-row.

When the plaudits are being dished out it would be remiss not to begin

with the Coláiste Brí defence. To a player they were rock-solid and as a unit they never flinched against such experienced performers as Emer Watson, Mary Coleman and Sinead McAuliffe. Although Watson got in for a crucial 45th minute goal, the Cork attack was given no latitude by the likes of Sharon Kehoe, Johanna Breen, Siobhan Cullen and Stacey Redmond.

In heavy conditions, Enniscorthy picked off their points from the start, and led 0-5 to 0-2 at the break. Captain Brona Furlong and Siona Nolan were superb at midfield for the Wexford girls but it was Cork's inability to score from placed balls that proved to be their downfall.

Charleville tried frantically to get into the game after the resumption but were rocked when Ciara Storey buried a marvellous goal in the third quarter to make it 1-8 to 0-2.

However, Charleville goaled twice in a storming finish — the second coming 10 minutes after Watson's strike from an Anna Geary 45m free. In the dying moments, Geary again lobbed another 45m only to see it tipped over the bar.

Scorers for Coláiste Brí: U. Leacy 0-6 (0-2 frees), C. Storey 1-0, A. Murphy and S. Nolan 0-1 each.

St Mary's: E. Watson and A. Geary 1-0 (45m free) each, S. McAuliffe, S. Brosnan and M. Coleman 0-1 each.

COLÁISTE BRÍ: V. Murphy; Sara Nolan, S. Kehoe, J. Breen; S. Cullen, S. Redmond, O. Murphy; Siona Nolan, B. Furlong (capt); A.



Colaiste Brí's Siobhan Cullen (right) and St Mary's Shannon Brosnan battle for possession. Picture: Dylan Vaughan

Murphy, U. Leacy, C. Storey; L. O'Connor, C. Garahy, M. Frayne.

Sub: A. Doyle for A. Murphy (56 mins).  
ST. MARY'S: F. Chawke; S. O'Mahony, E. O'Riordan, L. Healy; S. Sexton, A. Watson, E.

Waters; F. Dore, A. Geary (capt); A. Thompson, S. McAuliffe, S. Brosnan; M. Coleman, E. Watson, F. Morrissey.

Referee: J. Morrissey (Tipperary).



# Late push not enough for brave St Mary's

Coláiste Bride, Enniscorthy  
St Mary's Charleville

1-8  
2-3



Linda  
**Mellerick**

IT TAKES a great team to win back to back All-Ireland titles. But it takes a remarkable team to win 3-in-a-row.

That's just what Coláiste Bride of Enniscorthy became last Saturday in Davin Park, Co Tipperary — a remarkable team!

In appalling conditions Enniscorthy hung on against a late Charleville onslaught to retain the title for the third successive year and on the overall run of play deserved to emerge as All-Ireland Champions.

Charleville will rue many missed chances particularly from placed balls in a game where they never really got going.

From the throw in it was obvious this was going to be a low scoring game. Heavy, mucky, energy sapping underfoot conditions ensured the game became a battle.

Una Leacy, Coláiste's star player, opened her teams scoring in the fifth minute. A '45 and a free by the same player within the next three minutes gave the noresiders the start they wanted. Coláiste were the physically stronger outfit and in such conditions it meant a lot. In 50/50 clashes they were the ones who stood firm.

But Charleville did have their chances. On top of shooting a number of wides they came up against a Coláiste Bride defence which was absolutely superb. Sharon Kehoe at full back, Siobhan Cullen at right half back and Stacey Redmond at half back had it all — Strength,

Vision, Skill and Determination.

St Mary's forwards were winning frees from the hard marking Coláiste Bride backs and if their striking had a better day they would have punished their opponents.

On the 14th minute they had a chance to level the game when a Fiona Morrissey 'pull' stuck in the mud on the goal line. A scramble by the Enniscorthy backs and the ball was kicked clear.

Shannon Brosnan finally opened their scoring on 18 minutes but their joy didn't last long as a spectacular one-two-three movement, displaying great accuracy and vision, involving Brona Furlong, Meabh Frayne and Una Leacy ended with the latter driving over straight between the posts to keep the gap between the sides and at the same time knock the heart out of a now struggling Charleville side. Two further points, one a piece, ensured Enniscorthy turned over at the break 0-5 to 0-2.

St Mary's needed the first score of the second half but it went once again to the magnificent Leacy. Her work ethic throughout the game equalled her scoring prowess as she became a constant thorn in Charleville's side. Two points from Leacy in the 3rd and 5th minute and the Cork side had a mountain to climb. But climb it they did!

When Clara Storey goaled for Coláiste Bride



St. Mary's Charleville player Fiona Morrissey and Coláiste Bride, Enniscorthy player Johanna Breen tussle for the ball during their All-Ireland senior camogie final clash at Carrig An Suir. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

In the 12th minute and Leacy pointed in the 13th the score stood at 1-8 to 0-2. Surely the game was all over! But credit the team and credit the spirit which saw Charleville dominate the last quarter and almost force a replay.

They drove forward like a team possessed. Emer Watson got the type of ball she likes — low and fast with plenty of space — in the 15th at 21 yards out, turned her player, soloed towards goal and billowed the net from close range. 6 points between the sides with 15 minutes left to play and St Mary's gave it their all. They attacked incessantly but couldn't break down one of the most resolute defences seen in many a time in colleges Camogie.

Their persistence paid off when Anna Geary drove a '45 through the crowded goalmouth into the net with 4 minutes to go. Charleville won

numerous '45s and frees in the dying minutes of the game and had no option but to drop them in and seek the elusive equaliser. A '45 in the 32nd minute was doubled on by Sinead McAuliffe but blundered over the bar. It was to be Charleville's last attempt and when referee John Morrissey blew the final whistle with the puck out both teams fell to their knees, albeit with very different emotions.

Scorers: Coláiste Bride: Una Leacy 0-6 (0-1f, 0-1'45), C Storey 1-0, A Murphy and S Nolan 0-1 each.

St. Mary's: E Watson 1-0, A Geary 1-0'45, S McAuliffe, S Brosnan, M Coleman 0-1 each.

COLAISTE BRIDE: Una Leacy, S Nolan, S Kehoe, J Breen, S Cullen, S Redmond, C Murphy, S Nolan, S Furlong, L O'Connor, U Leacy, C Storey, A Murphy, C Garahy, M Frayne, Subs: A Doyle for A Murphy.

ST MARY'S: E Watson, S O'Mahony, E O'Riordan, L Healy, S Sexton, A Watson, E Geary, F Dore, A Geary (Capt), A Thompson, S McAuliffe, S Brosnan, M Coleman, E Watson, F Morrissey.

## Harrington bemoans poor display

THE hardest thing to do as a coach after you've lost an All-Ireland final is give an interview. You're standing in the middle of the pitch watching the victors overdo (as it seems to you) the celebrations and you can't even speak.

It was obvious that Vincent Harrington was hurting.

For the third year in a row his side had fallen victim to Coláiste Bride of Enniscorthy and for the second year in a row it was in the All-Ireland Final.

As courteous as ever, Vincent didn't walk away but stood and offered what little explanation he could about a game in which his team just didn't reach the heights they are capable of. "We just didn't perform today," he said.

"We were also a little unlucky, that ball that got stuck on the line in the first half.... But they're a good side.

"The conditions were shocking but they had to play in it too. In fairness they're a good side and you can't take that from them."

Una Leacy, the day's top scorer, was understandably overjoyed. "I'm absolutely thrilled. It was tough going out there, the conditions were terrible, it was very heavy on your legs but we wanted this so much, we just kept going. We're tired but we'll party tonight that's for sure," the tall half-forward declared.

Coach to the victorious Enniscorthy side, Ann O'Leary, in between getting a

soaking from her elated players, managed to give her views on the game.

"Our defence was excellent; they've been really solid for us all year particularly in the semi-final where they showed what they were made of and pulled us through."

The win was a great achievement considering the fact that they had lost so many players since last year and as such had a fairly new line up.

"We won the All-Ireland junior title last year and those players have moved up now. That's where the bulk of this team came from and they were excellent out there today. It was a tough game and I want to commiserate with Charleville and wish them all the best."



St. Mary's Charleville player Sinead McAuliffe gathers the ball during the All-Ireland senior camogie final at Carrig An Suir. Picture: Eddie O'Hare



APRIL 2005

# Cluichí Ceannais na n-Iarbhunscoileanna sa Chamógaíocht



23 Aibreán 2005  
Carraig-Na-Siúire  
2.00 p.m.

Réiteoir:  
Seán Ó Muiríosa

*Ar Máiread Ní Fhearáin*

Luach: 50c

Rúnaí

## SENIOR A COLÁISTE BRÍDE, INIS CÓRTHAIDH ENNISCORTHY GREEN AND YELLOW

1 Vikki Ní Mhurchú Vikki Murphy	2 Oilibhe Ní Mhurchú Olivia Murphy	3 Sharon Nic Eochaidh Sharon Kehoe	4 Siobhán Ní Bhraoin Johanna Breen
5 Labhaoise Ní Laoire Louise O'Leary	6 Siobhán Ní Chuilín Siobhan Cullen	7 Stacey Nic Réamoinn Stracey Redmond	8 Siona Ní Nualláin Siona Nolan
9 Bróna Ní Fhuirlinge Brona Furlong	10 Áine Ní Murchú Anna Murphy	11 Úna Ní Laitheasa Una Leacy	12 Ciara Ní Stóraigh Ciara Storey
13 Lorraine Ní Chonchúir Lorraine O'Connor	14 Ciara Ní Gharrathóir Ciara Garahy	15 Méabh Ní Fhranaigh Meabh Frayne	Subs: Yvonne Walsh Sara Nolan Laura Hogan Christine Fortune Hannah Doran Emma O'Connor Stacey Kehoe Jacqui Codd
Subs: Kerri Dunne Aideen Doyle Sandra Carr Sinead Jordan Jennie Fenlon Shelly Kehoe Aoife O'Connor			



## St. Mary's Secondary School, Charleville

The student population (370 girls approximately) is drawn from the town of Charleville and the surrounding area of north Cork and south Limerick.

Sport is very important in the school. Students play camogie, basketball, football, golf and badminton as well as participating in show-jumping and athletics competitions.

This year, 2005, St. Mary's celebrates the 21st anniversary of the school's first venture on the camogie pitch. Over the years there have been many victories at County, Munster and All-Ireland levels. Much of this success is due not alone to the dedicated training and coaching within the school but as a result of the skills and love of the game, which the girls bring from their own clubs.

Without these clubs, which have fostered and shaped these skills from an early age, our task would have been more difficult.

To Ballyagran, Ballyhea, Buttevant, Charleville, Granagh-Ballingarry, Kilmallock, Milford and Mallow, we say "Thank you".

## Coláiste Bríde, Enniscorthy

Coláiste Bríde is an all girls Catholic Secondary School situated on the slopes of Vinegar Hill, Enniscorthy. With an enrolment of over 700 it has had many moments of glory on the sporting front but in particular in camogie. The game has been played intermittently in the school for the past 35 years. Contesting its first All - Ireland Semi-final in 1972, after a good win in the Leinster final. The school has to date won in Leinster on eight occasions- 1972, 1974, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2003, 2004, and 2005 and contested the last 11 consecutive A finals - a unique achievement.

After suffering defeat in 1998 and 1999 Coláiste Bríde bounced back to capture their first All-Ireland Senior A crown in 2003. They will enter the history books by not only retaining the Senior A crown in the Centenary year of the association, but by adding the Junior A title (their second, having won the 2000 final) as well. We look forward to the bright future for Camogie in Coláiste Bríde.

We wish to thank all our supporters and sponsors, especially Riverside Park Hotel for their ongoing support of our teams.

## SENIOR A SCOIL MUIRE, RÁTH LÚIRC ST MARY'S SECONDARY SCHOOL, CHARLEVILLE SKY BLUE AND NAVY

1 Fiona de Calice Fiona Chawke	2 Sorcha Ní Mhathúna Sarah O'Mahony	3 Elaine Ní Riordáin Elaine O'Riordan	4 Eilís Ní Éalaithe Lisa Healy
5 Sorcha Ní Sheasnáin Sarah Sexton	6 Áine Nic Uait Aine Watson	7 Éadaoin Ní Thuairisc Edwina Waters	8 Fionnuala Ní Dhóir Fionnuala Dore
9 Áine Ní Ghadhra Anna Geary (Capt)	10 Aisling Nic Thomáis Ashling Thompson	11 Sinead Nic Amhlaoibh Sinead McAuliffe	12 Seanán Ní Bhrosnacháin Shannon Brosnan
13 Máire Ní Cholmáin Mary Coleman	14 Eimear Nic Uait Emer Watson	15 Fiona Ní Mhuireasa Fiona Morrissey	Subs: Christine O'Shea Mary O'Mahony Michelle O'Connor Eileen Hanley Maria Walshe Rosemary Rea
Subs: Cristiona Ní Shé Máire Ní Mhathúna Míclín Ní Chonchúir Eibhlín Ní Áinle Máire Bhreatnach Róis Máire Ní Riabhaigh			





# All-Ireland camogie title goes to Wexford for third year running

## Heart-break for Charleville girls

By PAT RYAN

**COLÁISTE BRÍDE 1-8**  
**ST MARYS 2-3**

**COLÁISTE** Bride, of Enniscorthy won their third All-Ireland Senior (A) Colleges Camogie title at the expense of St Marys, of Charleville, at Davin Park, Carrick-on-Suir on Saturday last.

The Charleville girls battled very bravely but to no avail in conditions that were far from suitable, with intermittent rain falling and the going heavy.

Enniscorthy opened the scoring in the 4th minute when Una Leacy placed Lorraine O'Connor for a good point and Leacy followed with two pointed frees.

Charleville had no luck from frees or 45s over the hour (they forced six 45s in all during the game) and it was not until the 20th minute that they opened their account. Fiona Morrissey placing Sinéad McAuliffe for a well-taken point.

It was very clear from the start that the Enniscorthy defence was very solid and this never changed.

However, Charleville had their second point in the 24th minute when Fionnuala Dore placed Mary Coleman, who soloed before striking a fine point.

Coláiste Bríde 'keeper, Vikki Murphy, then saved well from Charleville's Shannon Brosnan.

In the closing moments of the first half, Ciara Storey put Brona Furlong through for a point that gave the Enniscorthy girls a three-point lead (0-5 to 0-2) at half-time.

On resumption, Sinéad McAuliffe was wide for Charleville before the irrepressible Una Leacy pointed for Enniscorthy and she then won possession from a 45 and struck another point.

Charleville made a few changes at this stage, with Sinéad McAuliffe switching with Shannon Brosnan and Mary Coleman going out to the half-forward line. However, they were to prove of no avail and Ciara Storey more or less sealed victory for the Wexford side with a 42nd minute goal (1-7 to 0-2).

Good work by Siona Nolan led to another Enniscorthy point by Una Leacy in the 45th minute.

As it turned out, this was to be Enniscorthy's last score and St. Marys dominated the last quarter. They gained supremacy in the half-back line and their midfielders also did very well. However, Charleville lacked power up front and couldn't get the scores that might have turned the game around.

However, there was no shortage of bravery and in the 46th minute good work by Aine Watson and Sinéad McAuliffe led to a well-taken Charleville goal by Emer Watson.

The Cork girls forced four 45s in the space of three minutes in a very strong attacking period, but no scores resulted.

However, four minutes from the end, Ann Geary did manage to score a goal for St Marys that brought the gap down to just three points (1-8 to 2-2).



The devastation of All-Ireland final defeat etched on the face of Lisa Healy, of St Marys, Charleville, after last Saturday's All-Ireland Schools camogie final against St Brides, of Enniscorthy, at Carrick-On-Suir.



... and Charleville's Shannon Brosnan being consoled by a teammate after the final whistle at Carrick-On-Suir on Saturday.



Aine Watson (St Marys, Charleville) gains possession ahead of Enniscorthy's Ciara Storey in the All-Ireland Schools camogie final.



A keen tussle for possession between Charleville's Anna Geary and Enniscorthy's Siona Nolan in the All-Ireland Schools camogie final. Photos by John D Kelly, Clonmel

This created a fair bit of excitement and St. Marys then went in search of an equalising goal, but it was not to be. They did secure a point through Sinéad McAuliffe in the closing moments, but Coláiste Bríde held out for victory.

Charleville's inability to score from frees and 45s was, in the end, to prove their undoing, but, in fairness to them, they did fight the good fight and went down very gallantly.

**SCORERS: COLÁISTE BRÍDE** — Una Leacy 0-6 (0-2

frees), Ciara Storey 1-0, Lorraine O'Connor 0-1 Brona Furlong 0-1.

**ST. MARYS** — Emer Watson 1-0, Anna Geary 1-0, Mary Coleman 0-1, Shannon Brosnan 0-1, Sinéad McAuliffe 0-1.

**ST. MARYS:** Fiona

Chawke (Granagh-Ballingarry); Sarah O'Mahony (Ballyagran), Elaine O'Riordan (Milford), Lisa Healy (do); Sarah Sexton (do), Aine Watson (do), Edwina Waters (Ballyhea); Fionnuala Dore (Ballyagran), Anna Geary

(Milford) (Capt); Aisling Thompson (Milford), Sinéad McAuliffe (Ballyagran), Sharon Brosnan (do); Mary Coleman (Ballyhea), Emer Watson (Milford), Fiona Morrissey (Ballyagran).

**REFEREE:** John Morrissey (Tipperary).



# Coláiste Bride

*School's Senior A. Camogie*



The  
**Echo**

# All Ireland Champions 2005



# VIKKI MURPHY, goalkeeper

This means everything to us, and to be on the winning team with my sister (Anna) makes it really special - she was great, but so was everybody

# SARA NOLAN, right corner-back

This is unbelievable - words really cannot sum it up. We won't be found wanting next year, and it will take an army to stop us

# SHARON KEHOE, full-back

We hurred really well as a unit, even in the poor conditions. We were under a lot of pressure at the end, but we held out

# JOHANNA BREEN, left corner-back

All the work we have put in has paid off in the end. The commitment was great...we are just ecstatic

## Stars full of praise

Ronan Fagan

URSULA JACOB and Mary Leacy were integral figures in helping put Coláiste Bride in line for a hat-trick of All-Ireland seniors, having starred in the successful 2003 and 2004 campaigns, with their selection on the Colleges' Centenary All-Star team serving to verify just how considerable their contribution had been.

Both are now pursuing Third-Level studies. But they were beaming with pride on Saturday, after their former team mates kept Coláiste Bride at the top, despite losing nine of last year's side. "Yeah, and because of that," Ursula pointed out, "everyone doubted would they be as good again this year. But the girls worked so hard, giving their all right to the very end of today's game, proving that determination wins out in the end; they gave everything in their hearts."

"In my eyes they played so well that it was even as if they were missing nobody from last year - this is just as good a team, if not better," the attacking ace is adamant. "The fact that we had also won the junior All-Ireland last year definitely helped in this senior success, as the seniors were boosted by the addition of girls like Louise O'Leary and Lorraine O'Connor from that junior team, players whose ability was already proven through that success."

Mary, who was also a recipient of one of Camogie's first-ever inter-county All-Stars last year, was no doubt delighted with her sister Una's ongoing contribution to Coláiste Bride's dominant position, as the latter fired six points in Saturday's 1-8 to 2-3 win.

"This was just a brilliant team display. The girls faced a tough year with all the changes from last year - but they produced a very united effort, and deserve every bit of this success."

"The conditions were tricky. However, our girls got stuck in, and they opened-up a good lead (1-8 to 0-2). After that they were never going to let Charleville take the title from them."

A number of past players like Jacob and Leacy are now playing adult inter-county competition. "The school is doing so much to add to the players' development," Mary says, "and so many players from the Coláiste Bride teams are coming through at the top level, with so many of them playing either senior or junior with the county."

"Another big thing is how many great friendships are formed through these Schools' campaigns, and that bond has been a factor in the success. Those friendships will be everlasting."



Victorious captain Brona Furlong lifts the All-Ireland Schools senior 'A' camogie trophy in triumph on Saturday. (Pic. Karl O'Keeffe).



Coláiste Bride defender Siobhán Cullen on the move against Charleville. (Pic. Karl O'Keeffe).

## 'A golden moment' for captain Brona

MISSING THE semi-final through injury had broken Brona Furlong's heart. But, that day she was consoled by the effort of her colleagues. And, after last Saturday's momentous ultimate win at Carrig-On-Suir, the captain had further praise for her team mates as they again produced the goods, to underline their position as the undoubted queens of Schools' camogie.

The Duffry Rovers' star was back in the thick of it, influencing matters from her midfield berth, in helping secure back-to-back All-Ireland final wins over arch rivals, St Mary's of Charleville. "We had lost nine of last year's team, and because of that they opposition probably thought they had a big chance of winning this time one," Brona suspected. "But, we had a point to prove, with every one of us having to prove that we are just as good as the players we had lost - the girls responded brilliantly to that challenge."

A high-achieving young athlete also, this sporting star had no doubt that this success is the: "Golden moment of my career so far, without question. This means so much. It hurt to have missed the semi-final. But I am just happy to have been able to lend a hand in the final."

Once Coláiste Bride had pulled clear by 1-8 to 0-2 after 43 minutes there was no way they were going to let the three-in-a-



RONAN FAGAN

row slip. "We were under a lot of pressure towards the end, when Charleville brought it back to three points. They kept going for goal, from frees and '45s. But we just piled everybody into our square, to keep the ball out, and we succeeded."

Obviously this three-time winner would love to be in line for a fourth medal next year. However, she'll be on the road to further education by then. But Brona is confident for Coláiste Bride's chances. "We are only losing myself, Sharon Kehoe, and Olivia and Anna Murphy from this team, while every other team will be losing a whole lot more players than ourselves. So, Coláiste Bride should have a great chance of capturing the four-in-a-row next year."

On that score, Jimmy Guinan, the school's Vice-Principal, and a vital part of the camogie's backroom team, sounds a note of caution: "But we have to try to come out of Leinster first, and then we'd have the hurdle of an All-Ireland semi-final. So, we cannot look too far ahead, or else we could trip ourselves up. But certainly having the bulk of the team again next year should ensure that we will be there or thereabouts."

Jimmy took the opportunity to praise those who he maintains make the biggest contribution to Coláiste Bride's amazing run of success. "All of this really springs from the spark set in the home, in the cradle; the parents really get them interested in sport first, and then it's onto the primary school, the club, and then ourselves (the secondary school)."

He also remembers the hardships they suffered

before finding the pots of camogie gold. "We had the disappointments, losing the 1998 and '99 All-Ireland (senior 'A') finals, both to Charleville. But we knew that at the time Charleville had great teams. They were the queenpins back then, and had won numerous Munster championships, while we were struggling to win Leinster."

"But, when we got to know the pace of the game, and what it takes to win an All-Ireland - you have to be in a final or two to learn that - we came up to the mark, because once you have players with the ability, it just takes that little bit to coax them to play as a team and realise their potential."

"Also, there is great camaraderie between the girls, which comes through in the way they play to each other's strengths, and how they encourage each other; if one of them misses a ball, the others will never come down on that player, but just say, 'Don't worry - the next ball is yours'."

Selectors Ann O'Leary, John O'Shea and Neil Moynihan worked so hard to maintain Coláiste Bride's amazing level of consistency, as they took over on what's understood to be a temporary basis from Elva Moriarty, who is on maternity leave. Without question they can be very proud of what they contributed.

"This is brilliant," Ann indeed smiled afterwards. "They work so well together. They come from so many different clubs, and this achievement shows that the camogie talent in the clubs of Wexford is top-notch, especially when one remembers that the clubs are what make these players so good."

She added: "The conditions made it so hard to play. But our girls really wanted to win this one, and while at times the players couldn't pick the ball up properly, how our girls played just went to show how determined they are to stay at the top."

"Everybody connected with this success...the parents, clubs, school, and most importantly, the playing squad deserve to be proud."

# SIONA NOLAN, midfield

The pressure was huge, but we knew we could do it. I just cannot wait for next year, when will be keen to do well again

# LORRAINE O'CONNOR, right wing-forward

We have worked so hard towards this, and we deserved to win. It is a brilliant experience

# UNA LEACY, centre-forward

We really wanted to win this one, and you could see that out there. Everybody really contributed for us today, from the selectors right through to the supporters

# CIARA STOREY, left wing-forward

It was a great team effort, and it is very special to be part of the three-in-a-row team



**STACEY REDMOND**, right wing-back

'Few believed in us this year, but we've proved them wrong. In the end, when Charleville were pressing hard, we showed that we wanted it more'

**SIOBHAN CULLEN**, centre-back

'To win one All-Ireland is unbelievable, but to win the three-in-a-row is beyond our wildest dreams. We all worked so hard for this'

**OLIVIA MURPHY**, left wing-back

'This was an unbelievable effort, especially after losing nine of last year's team, which meant we entered the final as underdogs...it's fantastic'

**BRONA FURLONG**, Capt., midfield

'This means so much, and especially when captaining the side. The girls were superb, preventing Charleville from settling...we just worked so hard'



Coláiste Bríde's three-in-a-row All-Ireland Schools senior 'A' camogie championship winners, celebrate last Saturday afternoon's monumental achievement at Carrig-on-Suir, County Tipperary. (Pic. Karl O'Keefe).

# Magnificent three-in-a-row for Coláiste Bríde's queens

Coláiste Bríde, Enniscorthy ..... 1-8  
St. Mary's, Charleville ..... 2-3

Ronan Fagan

'WHOLEHEARTED', 'wonderful' and 'worthy' are the words which aptly sum up Coláiste Bríde's outstanding achievement in annexing a three-in-a-row of All-Ireland Schools senior 'A' camogie championship crowns on Saturday afternoon last, at the expense of their fervent rivals, St. Mary's of Charleville, at rain-soaked Carrig-on-Suir, County Tipperary.

In trying conditions, the Enniscorthy-based outfit were full value for their latest success, as they became only the third side to ever twice retain the top prize in Schools' camogie.

The fact that Coláiste Bríde had lost nine of last year's team adds to the sheer enormity of this particular achievement, although with all the newcomers having featured in winning the All-Ireland junior 'A' title last April, it ensured they had acquired the knowledge of just what it takes to win the 'big games'. And armed with no small skill, these players forged a collective partnership with the senior survivors - Ciara Storey, Siobhan Cullen, Bróna Furlong, Stacey Redmond, Siona Nolan and Una Leacy - to truly make it very difficult to single out any one of those in green-and-gold for special mention.

Certainly Una Leacy's personal tally of 0-6 was crucial to ensuring a repeat of last season's final success over the great Cork establishment - when Coláiste Bríde were overwhelming victors after a replay. But the Oulart-The Ballagh ace will readily acknowledge the contribution of a variety of team mates in helping her to secure that tally, including the likes of Bróna Furlong, Maeve Frayne, Lorraine O'Connor, Siona Nolan and Ciara Storey.

This was a team-effort in all its resplendent glory, and, in truth, it needed to be just that, as a persistent light rainfall contributed to difficult playing conditions, leaving the Coláiste Bríde queenpins to take a leaf from the book of the Wexford senior footballers, who had displayed tremendously disciplined determination six days earlier in similarly difficult conditions, to achieve a major result themselves, when overcoming Tyrone in the National League semi-finals.

Considering how Saturday's conditions made scoring somewhat awkward, Coláiste Bríde made a major leap towards another monumental win having pulled clear by 0-3 to 0-0 after eight minutes. There was still that margin between the sides at half-time (0-5 to 0-2), before the

Slaneysiders dominated the third quarter to execute a series of golden scores on the way to opening-up a 1-8 to 0-2 lead.

As much as some of us dared to dream otherwise, Charleville were far from dead and buried. They fought back with plenty of enthusiasm, and promise too, as they found the Coláiste Bríde net after 45 and 56 minutes to keep all of a Wexford persuasion on their toes. This was especially the case as the challengers applied plenty of pressure through to the bitter end, which eventually arrived just seconds after the Munster champions had gained a consolation point three minutes into added-time. In fairness to Coláiste Bríde, they displayed plenty of resistance during that closing quarter, when they dug in to ensure that the crown would not slip from their grasp.

It is a fine tribute to both sides that they rose above the wintry elements to produce such an engaging spectacle. After plenty of end-to-end play during the early stages, Coláiste Bríde drew first blood in the fifth-minute, when Bróna Furlong, Una Leacy and Maeve Frayne joined the dots for Anna Murphy to complete the picture, with a well-taken opening point. Una Leacy sent over a '45 two minutes later, before the centre-forward immediately added another point, this time from a free, after Siona Nolan was fouled in winning the resultant puck-out.

Charleville almost got back on level terms in the 14th-minute - but a palmed effort by full-forward Emer Watson got stuck in the muddy goal mouth, and was quickly cleared by Johanna Breen, as corner-forward Mary Coleman attempted to force the ball over the 'line. Enniscorthy connections were given another fright when goalie Vikki Murphy slipped on the greasy surface as she attempted to snuff out another threat. But thankfully that ball went out for a '45, from which Charleville again forced another '45. From this Murphy made a good catch, to help restore her own confidence, and the ever reliable netminder was solid thereafter.

After Coláiste Bríde shot their first wide Charleville gained their first point, when Mary Coleman handpassed to Shannon Brosnan, for the wing-forward to cut the gap to 0-3 to 0-1. Una Leacy struck back with a similar score from play, with Bróna Furlong dispatching a free to Maeve Frayne on the right, from where she found Leacy with a sweet pass.

While that score put Coláiste Bríde ahead by 0-4 to 0-1, the challengers could have been on level terms but for some poor shooting on their part, as they had struck four wides - including two from close range frees - before Mary Coleman got in on the scoring act for them, with a 28th-minute point to make it 0-4 to 0-2.

After Ciara Storey forced a good save in the dying moments of the half, good pressure by

Coláiste Bríde led to the awarding of a throw-in by referee John Morris, from which Bróna Furlong eventually gained possession to pick-off a fine point a minute into injury-time. And after Coláiste Bríde hit their second wide, the sides broke, with the defending champions ahead by 0-5 to 0-2.

There was some confusion shortly after the restart, when Charleville appeared have pegged back a point. But the referee deemed that the ball had drifted just inches wide, so leaving it to Una Leacy to resume the scoring, when she profited from a good pass by Lorraine O'Connor to stretch the gap to 0-6 to 0-2 in the 33rd minute. O'Connor forced a '45 a couple of minutes later, and Leacy again obliged, when shooting over off her knees, having slipped on the increasingly slippery surface after Siona Nolan had dropped the '45 into her.

Coláiste Bríde now had their tails up, although Charleville struck another couple of wides before the winners had a shot cleared off the 'line.

But all their pressure finally reaped a major reward for Coláiste Bríde in the 12th minute of the new half, when - after Bróna Furlong had dropped a free into the area - backs and forwards fought for possession, before Ciara Storey fired a ground shot through a forest of legs and to the net. This key breakthrough gave the Bríde an eight-point lead (1-7 to 0-2), and seemed to leave them with one hand on the Cup. That grip grew a little tighter in the 13th minute, when Ciara Storey set-up Una Leacy for her sixth point of the day.

However, Coláiste Bríde's reign as queenpins of the Schools' game came under considerable scrutiny for the remainder of the final, as Charleville did much of the attacking. After Maeve Frayne was denied a possible goal for the holders the opposition's challenge gained a shot-in-the-arm when Emer Watson shot across the 'keeper and to the right corner of the net, to cut the gap to six points (1-8 to 1-2) with 15 minutes to go.

Ciara Garahy was unlucky to see a shot for a point come back off an upright moments later, and Charleville counterattacked, with Emer Watson again on the goal trail, before Johanna Breen and Siobhan Cullen combined to snuff out the threat.

The Cork side then forced two successive '45s, from the second of which Anna Geary saw her shot fly all the way to the net, despite the fine efforts of Vikki Murphy and Johanna Breen, and Coláiste Bríde's lead was down to a tender 1-8 to 2-2.

Una Leacy sustained an over robust challenge shortly afterwards. But thankfully she recovered to continue to put her shoulder to Coláiste Bríde's

defensive wheel, with Aileen Doyle also getting her chance to contribute to the success as she took over from Anna Murphy in attack.

It was very much a case of blink-and-you'll-miss-it in the closing stages, with Charleville forcing another couple of '45s, while Una Leacy was denied what seemed to be a '45, with the ref insisting she had shot Coláiste Bríde's fourth wide, though it seemed as if her shot had gone out off a Charleville stick. After indicating some initial disgust at the decision, the centre-forward again reinvested her energies in the task at hand - defending the three-point lead. That came under further threat, before Charleville had one last chance to save the day, from yet another '45.

Coming in the third-minute of added-time, the ref seemed to inform Anna Geary that it was the last scoring chance of the game. She tried to find the roof of the net, but the ball was deflected over by team mate Emer Watson, for the last score of the game. The final whistle sounded immediately after the resultant puck-out, sparking huge celebrations among the Coláiste Bríde squad, management, past-players and supporters alike.

What a win! What a school! What next year? The four-in-a-row? Here's dreaming. No, here's believing.

'For the third year in-a-row, I have the honour of presenting the Cup to the captain of Coláiste Bríde,' Mary Moran, the President of the Second-Level Schools committee, stated afterwards, to huge cheers, before she indeed returned the much prized silverware to the standard-bearers via a delighted squad leader, Bróna Furlong, who was rich in her praise of everybody that has been involved in ensuring they have remained at the top.

**Coláiste Bríde, Enniscorthy** - Vikki Murphy (Manager-Boonavogue), Sara Nolan (Rapparees), Sharon Kehoe (Oulart-The Ballagh), Johanna Breen (Manager-Boonavogue), Stacey Redmond (Oulart-The Ballagh), Siobhan Cullen (Oulart-The Ballagh), Olivia Murphy (Manager-Boonavogue), Bróna Furlong (Dulfer Rovers, capt., 0-1), Siona Nolan (Manager-Boonavogue), Lorraine O'Connor (Oylegate-Glenbrien), Una Leacy (Oulart-The Ballagh, 0-6, 1 '45, 1f), Ciara Storey (Oulart-The Ballagh, 1-0), Anna Murphy (Manager-Boonavogue, 0-1), Ciara Garahy (Manager-Boonavogue), Maeve Frayne (Rathmore).

**Subs:** Aileen Doyle (Rapparees) for Anna Murphy; Louise O'Leary, Sandra Carr, Emma O'Connor (all Rathmore); Kerri Dunne, Christine Fortune, Hannah Doran (all Oulart-The Ballagh); Yvonne Walsh (Manager-Boonavogue); Jenny Fenton (Rapparees); Laura Hogan, Sinead Jordan.

**St. Mary's Secondary School, Charleville, County Cork** - Fiona Chawke, Sarah O'Mahony, Elaine O'Riordan, Lisa Healy, Sarah Sexton, Aileen Watson, Edwina Waters, Fionnuala Dore, Anna Geary (capt., 1-0 '45), Ashling Thompson, Sinead McAniff, Shannon Brosnan (0-1), Mary Coleman (0-1), Emer Watson (1-1), Fiona Morrissey.

**Referee** - John Morris (Tipperary).

**ANNA MURPHY**, right corner-forward

'The fact we won as underdogs makes this all the more special, and we produced a very good performance to hold onto the title'

**CIARA GARAHY**, full-forward

'We felt we could do it today, and after losing the junior (All-Ireland semi-final) we had that extra bit of drive to ensure we won this. We just played our hearts out'

**MAEVE FRAYNE**, left corner-forward

'We all played our best today and are absolutely delighted. It was all about a great team effort'

**AIDEEN DOYLE**, attacker

'We put everything into it, and we were the better team on the day. This is brilliant, but we want to do it again next year'



## Heartbreak for Charleville

A DISASTROUS start saw the girls from St Marys Charleville chasing the game for three quarters of the All-Ireland colleges final on Saturday last. Colaiste Brid dictated terms and by the three quarter stage had built up a 1-8 to 0-2 lead but the north Cork girls stages a remarkable fight back and were somewhat unlucky not to get a second bite of the cherry.

Conditions in Davin Park Carrig on Suir were appalling and it was a battle of the strongest as the teams battled against the elements.

Una Leacy opened the scoring in the fifth minute and pointed a free within the opening ten minutes as the physically stronger Wexford side signalled their intentions. At the mid way stage Fiona Morrissey's shot for goal looked to be heading for the net it stuck in the mud on the goal line and was scramble to safety and this about summed up Charleville's luck on a day when they failed on numerous occasions to take their scoring chances.

Shannon Brosnan opened their scoring on the eighteenth minute but Una Leacy replied immediately to maintain the Colaiste Brid lead, the side's swapped points before the breaks as Colaiste Brid led 0-5 to 0-2.

Maintain the upper hand Colaiste Brid had the better start to the second half with two points from the superb Una Leacy to put five between the sides.

Ciarra Storey showed shades of her famous father Martin as she slammed the ball to the net in the twelfth minute and with Leacy pointing in the thirteenth it was 1-8 to 0-2.

Showing tremendous spirit and determination Charleville called on all their experience to try desperately to get back into contention. Emer Watson led the revival when she soloed towards goal and finished to the net from close range. Now six points separated the sides with 15 minutes on the clock and suddenly it was all Charleville but time out of number the Colaiste Brid defence stood firm.

With four minutes remaining Anna Geary drove a forty five metres free to the net and in the closing minutes Charleville maintained the pressure and indeed had chances from several frees in the dying minutes of the game which they dropped in hoping to grabbing an equaliser around goal but Colaiste Brid

stood firm. Two minutes into injury time Sinead McAuliffe connected with forty five metres free but it shot over the bar and their chance of an equaliser was gone. Credit must go to Colaiste Brid on recording three in a row but we must admire the Charleville outfit who have without doubt have also brought colleges camogie to a higher level over the last number of year, many of the girls will be leaving school in September but no doubt names such as Anna Geary, Elaine O'Riordan and Fiona Chawke will be prominent next season in third level camogie.

## MINORS GO IN SEARCH OF MUNSTER TITLE

NO rest for inter county camogie players this weekend as the minor and junior teams play in the Munster championship. Charleville is the venue on Saturday (3pm) for the Munster minor championship final as Cork and Tipp do battle for the provincial crown.

Following the disappointments of last season the minor side will be hoping to capture the title they last won in 2003.

It's a new backroom team this year with former All Ireland winning senior hurler Denis Burns coaching the side, he is joined by Eire Og's Paddy Corkery and Blackrock's Rose White. Impressive so far in the campaign recording good victories over Waterford and Limerick without doubt the big test is about to come.

The selectors have made one change to the team from the semi-final with Sharon Whelton coming in for Deirdre Twomey and a repeat performance from Denise Cronin Ashling Thompson, Erin Corkery and captain Margaret O'Herlihy could ensure victory.

At minor level it is hard to make predictions, at colleges level Cork both counties have had their share of the spoils and down through the years both counties have been very much to the fore at minor grade. Last year both had to sit back as Clare added their name to the role of honours now Cork and Tipperary are determined to add another to their impressive list it all makes for an interesting afternoon in Charleville.



Cork senior camogie players Rachel Maloney (left) and Una O'Donoghue, along with Cadet Thomas O'Brien, lend their support for the Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind Shades Campaign which runs from May 2-7.

Picture: Digipix-Ireland



Ciaran Carey pictured with his daughter Sarah.

## CAMOGIE

### Munster Colleges

Junior C Semi-Final: Ballincollig Comm 2-2 Drimcollogher 3-2; Kinsale 5-6 Tulla 3-0.

Junior B Plate semi-final: Roscrea 0-4 Carrig On Suir 0-7; Coachford B 1-5 Ursuline's, Thurles 4-8.

Sevens A: Coachford 5-3 Scariff 4-1, Scariff 5-4 Nenagh 2-5, Nenagh 5-3 Coachford 2-4, Fermoy 1-3 Ennis 5-3, Charleville 9-8 Carrig On Suir 1-1, Ennis 2-4 Charleville 3-3, Carrig On Suir 0-0 Fermoy 5-6, Fermoy 4-4 Charleville 2-4, Ennis 5-8 Carrig On Suir 0-2, Semi-Finals: Scariff 2-2 Ennis 5-3, Charleville 6-6 Nenagh 3-2, Final: Charleville 6-3 Ennis 2-5.

Sevens B: Ursuline's 4-4 Bandon 1-2, Ursuline's 7-4 Carrig On Suir 1-2, Bandon 8 3-2 Coachford B 0-1, Ursuline's 6-2 Coachford B 0-2, Bandon 8 4-3 Carrig On Suir 2-3, Carrig On Suir B 4-3 Coachford B 3-3, BCS 3-2 Carrigaline 3-1, Fermoy B 1-0 St. Als 4-3, St. Als 3-5 BCS 2-4, Carrigaline 3-3 Fermoy B 0-0, BCS 4-4 Fermoy B 0-1, St. Als 2-4 Carrigaline 1-4, Semi-Finals: St. Als 2-1 Bandon 1-2, Ursuline's 2-2 BCS 0-1, Final: Ursuline's 3-5 St. Als 2-3.

Sevens C: Carrigavarr 0-0 Killinane 0-0, Cobh 6-1 Killinane 0-0, Cobh 2-1 Carrigavarr 1-4, Hospital 2-3 Killinane 0-0, Carrigavarr 1-0 Hospital 4-3, Carrigavarr 1-0 Killinane 0-3, North Pres 0-0 Bandon C 0-0, Nagle Rice 3-3 North Pres 0-1, Nagle Rice 3-4 Bandon C 1-1, Semi-Finals: Nagle Rice 7-1 Killinane 3-1, Hospital 3-3 Cobh 1-1, Final: Hospital 3-3 Nagle Rice 1-1.

Cork Intermediate B Final: Kinsale 5-7 St. Mary's, Mallow 0-2.

Junior A Final: Charleville 6-6 Bandon 2-6.

Junior B Final: Clonakilty 6-16 Loretto, Fermoy 0-6.

Junior C Final: Kinsale 4-1 Midleton 0-4.

First Year A League: Bandon 7-3 Coachford 4-5, Charleville 6-7 Christ King 1-2, Bandon 6-0 Charleville 9-8, Coachford 2-1 Christ King 1-4.

## LIMERICK COLLEGES CAMOGIE BLITZ A ROARING SUCCESS

Blessed with dry conditions, the Limerick Blitz in Rathkeale last Saturday went off a treat. Superbly organised, this major undertaking ran with clockwork precision and was a credit to chief organisers Margaret Caulfield and Peter Brosnan. They were aided in no small way by Mary Herbert who ran the kitchen for the day and helped feed over 300 hungry mouths with no fuss. Credit also to referees Eileen Carmody, Mike Nash, Larry Russell and Michael Rea and indeed to Neville Park staff Dick and Jim who were most helpful throughout the day. Praise was heaped on all concerned by every county involved and deservedly so.

### CORK BLITZ RIVALS

Cork regained the Limerick U/14 blitz when they defeated Galway in an exciting A Final. Nine teams participated in groups of three, with Cork, Galway and Limerick winning their groups. They were joined by Kilkenny in the semis as best runners-up. Hosts Limerick were grouped with Waterford and Wexford. They met Waterford in the opening group game, and playing some delightful camogie, won 1-5 to 0-1. Next up for them came

Wexford and with a place in the A semi-final at stake, Limerick emerged victors on a 2-4 to 0-2 scoreline. Their display in this game lacked the spark of the opener as many of the girls had played matches for their clubs on the days leading up to Saturday, and this told in the semi-final against Galway. Playing their best camogie of the day, they started magnificently and a brilliant Judith Mulcahy point had them ahead with three minutes remaining in the first half. They completely dominated the opening seven minutes and a solitary point was scant reward for their possession. Physically stronger Galway struck for a goal and three points in the final minutes as Limerick tired rapidly. They rallied after the break but could not breach the Galway defence. Galway broke for another goal but Limerick responded with one of their own from Ami Carroll. They could not close the gap further and it was Galway who faced a Cork team who had beaten Kilkenny by one point in the other semi. Every team played a minimum of three matches and besides those already mentioned, Dublin, Clare and Tipperary also took part.

Complete results: A Final: Cork 1-5, Galway 1-2; B Final: Kilkenny 1-3, Limerick 0-1; C Final Tipperary 3-3, Clare 1-0.

The Limerick panel was as follows: T. Carroll, R. Carmody, A. Hourigan, L. Moloney, J. Clery, S. Carey, captain, L. Potter, H. Lynch, J. Mulcahy, N. O'Connor, A. Russell, N. Carroll, A. McAuliffe, A. Carroll, S. O'Riordan, R. Rea, A. Williams, E. Balfry, M. McGrath, C. Kelleher, L. Daly, S. Dore, M. O'Mahony, Ed Kelly, K. Brosnan, K. Fitzgerald, K. Campbell, E.J. Kelly, J. O'Leary, E. Browne, S. Cremin. Well done to all the girls. They were a credit to Limerick on and off the pitch.

### SPONSORED WALK

The sponsored walk took place in Adare on Sunday, April 17th and the pouring rain failed to dampen the spirits of the fine crowd who braved the elements. It was thanks to the girls chiefly that the Colleges board coffers were swelled and all are thanked greatly for their tremendous efforts.

### RESULTS

Limerick County Junior B Final: Bruff FCJ 1-3, Corbally 0-2.

### FIXTURES

Junior A Plate Final: Laurel Hill v Rathkelac.

Junior A Final: SM1 Newcastle West v Newport.

These fixtures complete the entire programme including colleges for the year.

### U/14 TRAINING

The girls have this week free and training will resume next week.



Elaine Murphy, Colaiste Mhuire, Buttevant, Orla Johnson, Nagle Rice, Doneraile and Darina O'Callaghan, St. Marys, Charleville, pictured with the cup which the Cork Under 14 Colleges won in the Limerick Blitz on Saturday last.



APRIL

2005



Camogie President Miriam O'Callaghan: "arrangement was a logical way to pool resources at ground level."

## Female relations forge stronger bond in the GAA's family

Colm Keys

THE integration of the ladies football and camogie associations with the GAA was cemented yesterday when a report from the integration task force was launched.

The aims of the integration task force were to bring all three organisations closer together but the ladies football and camogie associations will still retain complete autonomy.

The prospect of a ladies football or camogie final being played as a curtain-raiser to an All-Ireland hurling or football final remains as remote as ever, however.

Under the terms of the integration there will be greater co-operation and liaison between the bodies with the formalising of an alliance which protects autonomy.

Members of camogie and ladies football clubs will become members of the GAA by 2007.

In practical terms camogie and ladies football will work closely together with the GAA on fixtures and coaching projects by pooling resources and adding additional expertise in all areas.

GAA president Seán Kelly launched the integration document which followed a pilot scheme in eight counties.

Meanwhile, Tipperary's Con Hogan has been appointed the new chairman of the GAA's Disciplinary



GAA president Seán Kelly with Miriam O'Callaghan, the camogie president, and ladies football president Geraldine Giles at yesterday's launch at Croke Park

Committee. Hogan, a former Tipperary chairman and their current Central Council delegate, will chair the disciplinary arm with Teresa Rehill, a current member of the GAC staff, acting as secretary.

Current GAC chairman Tony O'Keeffe, will, by agreement take over the fixtures portfolio with Seán Ó Laoire, manager of the GAC in Croke Park, staying on as secretary.

Elsewhere, Mickey Whelan has been recruited as one of Ireland's international rules selectors.

Whelan will travel to Australia in October as part of the Irish set up in place of John O'Leary who has opted out due to personal reasons.

Whelan, who quit as Dublin manager after a torrent of abuse in 1997, worked on fitness testing with the Irish team last year and is familiar with the set up.

## Battle of wits for former stars hurlers

Máire Uí Scoláil  
Camogie

ALL eyes will descend on two former hurling stars this Saturday as former All Star Pat McLoughney takes charge of the Tipperary minors, while former Cork hurler Denis Burns will prepare the Rebel challenge as they sides collide in the Munster minor championship final in Dr

Mannix Park, Charleville (3.0).

McLoughney, who won All Star awards in 1979 and 1980, said: "I know Saturday's match will be tough, there is never anything easy between Cork and Tipperary when it comes to Munster finals, but I have every confidence the girls can play well and if they play to their potential who knows what may happen."

Meanwhile, TG4 have announced that they will screen the National League Division 1 final on May 21 and are already committed to showing highlights of the semi-finals on May 9.

**CORK (MC v Tipperary)** — LM O'Mahony, R. de Paolis, A. Moushian, N. O'Donovan, C. Mothensway, C. McCarthy, M. Foley, A. Thompson, B. Twomey, D. Cronin, M. Henley, S. Wellborn, E. Cokery, N. Dilworth, L. West.  
**TIPPERARY** — C. Keneally, M. Ryan, S. Morrissey, G. Stapleton, N. O'Connell, F. Young, D. Ryan, T. Shortt, L. O'Brien, R. Barry, A. Shinnon, C. Maher, A. Kennedy, A. McLoughney, AN Other.

## Amalgamation will benefit everyone, says Kelly

by Brendan O'Brien

SEAN KELLY is adamant that the integration of the GAA with ladies football and camogie, at club level, will be beneficial to all three associations.

He was speaking at the publication of the Integration Task Force Report, set up in 2002 to develop closer links between the associations.

A pilot scheme subsequently launched revealed that, while the three bodies should remain autonomous, they should unite at club level while developing closer relationships at county, provincial and national levels.

This will mean that an overall fixtures schedule embracing all codes will need to be drawn up at county board level, while attention will also have to be given to issues such as finance, facilities, club membership and player insurance.

Integration officers are to be appointed onto each county committee within the next three years while provision will also be made for a representative of camogie and ladies football on each county committee, provincial council and on the GAA's own Central Council.

While welcomed by most Gaelic games enthusiasts, concerns were raised at the GAA's Annual Congress about the increased workload this could involve for officials.

However all present in Croke Park yesterday put a positive spin on the plans.

"I'm very pleased with the progress made in the last couple of years on the integration process as I feel it can only

strengthen all three of our organisations," said the GAA President.

"We looked at amalgamation at a national level a few years ago but all three associations agreed at the time that this would be simply too big and too unwieldy.

"We felt that all the good work the three organisations had done up to that would be undone if that were to happen.

"Ladies football and camogie are growing in stature.

"And it was felt that by amalgamating completely there wouldn't be the same opportunities in terms of TV, sponsorship and other areas."

Both the President of the Camogie Association, Miriam O'Callaghan and the Ladies Football President, Geraldine Giles were adamant that the arrangement was a logical way to pool their resources at ground level.

"It might have been hard to persuade our members in the past but now there is a general feeling that it is the right time to implement it," said O'Callaghan.

"This report has allayed the fears that were there 20 years ago that a move like this would see us being swallowed up.

"We are moving from a goodwill basis that already existed to a more formalised agreement."

Said Giles: "When the recommendations of the Task Force have been fully implemented, we will have an appropriate structure to better our affairs at all levels — from club through county and provincial, right up to national level."



Niamh O'Keeffe and Caoimhe O'Callaghan, both from Glounthaune, played starring roles for the victorious Cork Colleges U14 camogie team at the Intercounty Blitz in Limerick last Saturday.

### Club notes

#### GLOUNTHAUNE

NIAMH O'KEEFFE and Caoimhe O'Callaghan, from Glounthaune, played starring roles for the victorious Cork Colleges U-14 camogie team at the Intercounty Blitz in Limerick on Saturday April 23rd. Both girls are members of Erin's Own. The final against Galway was a tough encounter but the Cork girls came through and won by the narrowest of margins.



## Task Force to bring codes closer together



Linda Mellerick

AN integration Task Force Committee was formed in 2002.

This task force consists of representatives of the Camogie Association, the GAA and the Ladies Football Association. The 'force' was set up to develop closer links between the three associations.

The committee has been meeting regularly to review experimental processes carried out and it is hoped that a formal alliance within the next 3-4 years, while preserving the identity and autonomy of each organisation will be achieved.

The Presidents of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, Cumann Camógaíochta Na nGael and Cumann Peil Gael this week officially launched the 'Integration Task Force Report' which will provide the framework for increased co-operation between the three Associations.

A pilot scheme involving eight counties was launched in 2003 and highlighted many issues that needed to be addressed in order to establish the best way forward. Arising out of this process it was agreed, among others, that:-

- While the Associations should remain autonomous they should be united and integrated at club level with closer working relationships at County, Provincial and National levels.

- An overall fixtures schedule, including all of the codes, should be drawn up at county board level.

Speaking at the launch, President of the GAA Sean Kelly thanked his fellow task force members for their enthusiasm to developing a road map for integration and also paid tribute to the counties that participated in the pilot scheme.

He continued 'I am delighted to see so much progress in terms of this project and the lessons learned through the experience of the pilot scheme have been essential in establishing a way forward. The alliance between our associations will take place on a phased basis over the next number of years it will mean some changes to our rule book but I expect that by 2008 provision will be in place for the appointment of an Integration Officer on each of our County committees'.

He also said that provision would be made for a representative of Camogie and Ladies Football on each County committee, on Provincial Councils and on the GAA's Central Council and that County and Provincial fixtures committees and other relevant subcommittees would soon be in a position to incorporate representatives of the ladies associations as considered appropriate.

The Camogie and Ladies Football Association's have given similar commitments to make appropriate provision in their rules to facilitate the integration process. Miriam O'Callaghan, President of the Camogie Association, said 'There has long been a common purpose between the three Associations and I feel that the combined potential of all three and our effectiveness in promoting Gaelic Games can best be achieved through a concerted effort on all our parts.'

We are delighted to be involved in this process and I have no doubt that it will bear much fruit in the future, not just for Camogie, but for Ladies football and for the GAA in general'.

Geraldine Giles, President of the Ladies Gaelic Football Association, echoed these sentiments and pointed out that there was already significant crossover in the activities of the three Associations on the ground in terms of shared facilities, coaching and games promotion strategies.

President elect of the GAA Mr Nicky Brennan said he was looking forward to the challenge of overseeing the implementation of the report. 'We will be looking for the full support of all our units to ensure that within three years we will have laid the foundations for our associations to proceed in unity and confidence.'

## Death of camogie great

IT was with regret that camogie followers learned of the death on Monday last of Cork's longest surviving All-Ireland winning captain Josie Young better known as Josie Mc Grath.

Josie captained the county to their second All Ireland senior title back in 1935 while still at school, and indeed she attended the counties Centenary dinner at the Rochestown Park Hotel on October 22nd where she received a rapturous reception from the large gathering as she was presented with a memento of the occasion and later cut the Centenary cake with 2004 All-Ireland captain Val O'Keefe.

She had the distinction of playing on the first team to win the Cork County senior championship when St Aloysius School took the Science Cup in 1932 and was captain of the team in 1934.

Josie wore the colours of both Old Aloysius and Cork

By MARY NEWMAN

with distinction winning six Cork senior county championship medals and four All-Ireland senior medals.

The daughter of former T.D. and Lord Mayor of Cork Pa Mc Grath who served as Mayor from 1952 to 1955, she acted as Lady Mayoress on many occasions with her father.

Josie's daughter Deirdre followed in her mother footsteps winning county championship and provincial honours on the camogie fields.

Described in the history of Cork Camogie by author Mary Moran as 'A player with a classic style of play she was rarely beaten in a clash and was a tremendous colleges player'.

It was an honour for me to have met Josie Mc Grath at the centenary dinner and I was enthralled as she filled me in on some details of her past exploits on the playing fields.

Without doubt her attendance was the highlight of a very special night for the organising committee.

Sympathies are extended to her son's daughters and extended family.

## Cork juniors v Waterford Juniors Camogie c/skip

On Monday Waterford juniors travel to Killeagh for the opening game in the Munster championship, writes Mary Newman.

Despite fielding a new team this season following on last year All Ireland success the juniors have shown tremendous potential through the national league to book their place in the semi finals.

On Monday they will call on several players with senior inter county experience with Rosalie Holland, Ciara Healy, Niamh Bowles and Linda O'Connell all available following re-grading this season to junior. Waterford have been working hard to improve the game in the county and certainly the efforts have paid off with the county minor sides taking All Ireland minor B honours in recent times however on current form Cork will be favoured to advance to a semi final meeting with either Clare or Tipperary on Sat, May 21.



Cork Senior Camogie players Una O'Donoghue, Joan O'Callaghan, Rachel Maloney, Elaine Burke, Clara Healy and Ailse Murray pictured with Mollie at the Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind Shades Campaign. The campaign runs from May 2 to May 7 nationwide.

Picture: Digipix-Ireland

## Championship time

BANK holiday weekend will be a busy one on the camogie inter-county calendar as the county minor and junior teams participate in Munster championship competitions.

On Saturday, Charleville host the Munster minor championship final while on Monday the action is in Killeagh as the junior championship gets under way.

It's do or die for both sides with no back door or no way back in either competitions. The minor side will be hoping to put last year's disastrous campaign to one side as they go in search of a title last won in 2003 while it's a new look junior side who will defend the title following the successful capturing of the All Ireland Junior title last year.

Under the guidance this year of former All Ireland winning senior hurler Denis Burns, the minors have been impressive in their campaign to date, recording good victories over Waterford and Limerick. In the opening game against Waterford, they experienced little difficulty but Limerick provided stiff opposition in a semi final clash where Cork trailed at the interval and had to up the pace before booking their place in the final.



Cork's minor coach Denis Burns, getting the right results.

Cork will be minus the services of the impressive Deirdre Twomey, who suffered a hand injury in the meeting with Limerick. Given her contribution of three points from play in that game, she will be a huge loss as Cork set out to topple a Tipperary side who recorded a good victory over holders Clare in their semi final clash. But Cork will be looking to Niamh Dil-

worth, Ashling Thompson, Erin Corkery and captain Margaret O'Herlihy to lead their challenge.

At minor level, it is sometimes hard to gauge the form but another thriller is on the cards. Down through the years, both counties have been very much to the fore at minor level. Last year Clare added their name to the role of honour now Cork and Tipperary are determined to restore the old order.

On Monday, Waterford juniors travel to Cork for the opening game in the Munster championship. Despite fielding a new team this season, Cork have shown tremendous potential through the national league to book their place in the semi finals. On Monday they will call on several players with senior inter county experience, with Rosalie Holland, Ciara Healy, Niamh Bowles and Linda O'Connell all available following re-grading this season for junior.

Waterford have been working hard and the efforts have paid off, with the county minor sides taking All Ireland minor B honours in recent times.

However, on current form Cork will be favoured to advance to a semi final meeting with Clare or Tipperary on May 21.

YOUNG (Cork): On April 25, 2005, at the Mercy University Hospital, after a short illness, JOSEPHINE (GRANJO), Killeallen Cottage, Boreenmanna Road, beloved wife of the late Christy and dear mum of Aileen, Deirdre, Traolach, Pat and Christopher. Deeply mourned by her loving family, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, relatives and friends. Lying in repose at the Templehill Funeral Home, Boreenmanna Road of Jeph O'Connor Ltd. Removal this (Tuesday) evening at 7pm to St Joseph's SMA Church, Blackrock Road. Requiem Mass at 11am tomorrow (Wednesday). Funeral afterwards to St Finbarr's Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

APRIL

2005



APRIL

2005

Cumann Camogaíochta na nGael  
Comhairle na Mumhan

## U-16 'A' MUNSTER FINAL

## TIOBRAID ÁRANN

V.

# CORCAIGH



Venue:

Dr. Mannix Park, Charleville

Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>

## Camogie bosses face debut showdown

by Therese O'Callaghan

THE showdown between Tipperary and Cork in today's Munster minor camogie championship decider is an enticing prospect, but the two rival managers provide an added twist.

Former rival county hurlers Pat McLoughney and Denis Burns will make their county camogie management debuts.

McLoughney, a past Allstar with the Premier County, will be hoping to claim their first title in five years. An

added incentive for him is the inclusion of his daughter Aoife in the side. Another name that should feature in the Tipp selection is Therese Shortt, a sister to U21 hurler Pat.

Cork show one enforced change from their game with Limerick, with Sharon Whelton coming in for the injured Deirdre Twomey.

Margaret Herlihy captains the side and management will be hoping that St Mary's player Aisling Thompson will have got over last Saturday's All-Ireland Colleges disappointment.

Cork lead the way in the provincial honours list but any Tipperary challenge will be forefront in their minds as they square up in Charleville's Dr Mannix Park at 3pm.

Meanwhile, Clare have brought forward their Munster Junior championship semi-final with Tipperary by 24 hours to avoid clashing with the Banner's NHL final with Kilkenny.

The Cork v Waterford clash stays on course for Monday afternoon.

## Cork side look to have the right balance to win

THE Cork camogie minors take centre stage in Charleville tomorrow at 3pm in the Munster minor final writes Linda Mellerick.

Cork annihilated Waterford in round one but found the going tough against Limerick in the semi-final.

The Limerick game will stand the team in good stead. The minors have almost an entirely new squad this year and a tough game was just what they needed.

Pat McLoughney, coach to the Tipperary side says that the biggest worry they have going into the

game is the lack of decent matches. "We're going well at training but its matches you need."

"We played Clare and were lucky to beat them and that's the only championship game we've had on route to the final."

Having said that, Pat is happy with the way training has gone. He is assisted on the line by Paula Bulfin and Helen Kiely, both All-Ireland senior medal holders, and Paula Ryan another former Tipperary player.

Tipp, like Cork, have practically a whole new squad this year so

neither manager knows much about what he is facing.

Pat agrees but he is sure of one thing: "When Tipp and Cork meet there's always a battle."

"I'm quite sure there'll be very little between the sides again this time round."

Tipp have an injury worry to corner-forward Mary Gleeson who suffered a gash to her leg last week.

Cork have lost the services of St Catherine's Deirdre Twomey who broke her hand and she is certainly a big loss but Cork's balance should

help them through. Sharon Whelton fills the vacant spot.

This could be a close one but Cork should do enough to retain the title they last held in 2003.

On Monday the Cork juniors play Waterford in the Munster junior semi-final.

Realistically this will be a very one-sided game with Waterford lacking the competitive standard needed to be serious championship contenders.

Cork will use the game as a way of utilising further players in a bit to settle an All-Ireland Champion-

ship side.



**CORK:** L M O'Mahony; R de Faoite, A Moynihan, N O Donovan; C Motherway, Cliona McCarthy, Mairead Foley; A Thompson, B Twomey; D Cronin, M Herlihy, S Whelton; E Corkery, N Dilworth, L Weste.

**TIPPERARY:** C Kenneally; M Ryan, S Morrissey, G Stapleton; N O'Connell, F Young, D Ryan; T Shortt, L O'Brien; R Barry, A Shinnars, C Maher; A Kennedy, A McLoughney, A.N. Other.

### FIXTURES

**Munster minor final:** Cork v Tipperary, Saturday 30th April, Charleville-3pm.

**Munster junior semi-final:** Cork v Waterford, Monday 2nd May, Killeagh — 2.30pm.

(TIPPERARY)			(CORK)		
(Blue & Gold)			(Red & White)		
1 Christina Kenneally (Drom & Inch)			1 Lisa Marie O'Mahony (Eire Og)		
2 Marion Ryan (Shannon Rovers)	3 Sarah Morrissey (Cashel)	4 Geraldine Stapleton (Silvermines)	2 Roisin De Faoite (Blackrock)	3 Aine Moynihan (Ballygavan)	4 Niamh O'Donovan (Douglas)
5 Niamh O'Connell (Knockavilla)	6 Fiona Young (CAPT) (Toomevara)	7 Deirdre Ryan (Cashel)	5 Carolyn Motherway (Dungourney)	6 Cliona McCarthy (Eire Og)	7 Mairead Foley (Rockban)
8 Terese Shortt (Drom & Inch)		9 Louise O'Brien (Roscrea)	8 Brid Twomey (Aghabullogue)		9 Aisling Thompson (Milford)
10 Ruth Barry (Burgess)	11 Aoife Shinnars (Newport)	12 Catriona Maher (J.K. Brackens)	10 Denise Cronin (Ballinacollig)	11 Margaret O'Herlihy (CAPT) (Eire Og)	12 Sharon Whelton (Clonakilty)
13 Antoinette Kennedy (Drom & Inch)	14 Aoife McLoughney (Shannon Rovers)	15 A.N. Other	13 Erin Corkery (Eire Og)	14 Niamh Dilworth (Inniscarra)	15 Leah West (Ballinacollig)
Subs:			Subs:		
16 Nora Costigan	17 Mary Gleeson	18 Sharon Hayes	16 Cliona Conway (Douglas)	17 Katie Hickey (Bishopstown)	18 Sinead O'Callaghan (Ballinhassig)
19 Sara Nolan	20 Catherine Kelly	21 Patricia McGrath	19 Ella Ryan (Dungourney)	20 Ellen Healy (Enniskeane)	21 Ursula Quinn (Courcy Rovers)
22 Siobhan McGrath	23 Bonnie Kennedy	24 Aine Brislane	22 Sarah Coleman (Rockban)	23 Fiona O'Connell (Inniscarra)	24 Siobhan Gleeson (Eire Og)
25 Marie Ryan	26 Tracy Flanagan	27 Rita McGrath	25 Deirdre Twomey (St. Catherine's)		
28 Eimear Shanahan	29 Laura Young	30 Cliona Ryan			
31 Catriona Walsh	32 Margaret Kirwan	33 Karen Seymour			
34 Ailish O'Connell	35 Sarah Dwyer	36 Shona Ryan			
37 Marie Dalton	38 Marie Horan				

**Manager:** Pat McLoughney (Shannon Rovers)

**Selectors:** Helen Kiely (Drom & Inch), Paula Bulfin (Cashel), Paula Ryan (Toomevara)

**Coach / Selector:** Denis Burns (Rockban)

**Selectors:** Paddy Corkery (Eire Og), Rose White (Blackrock)





Tipperary county under-14 panel who won the Limerick Colleges Shield recently. Back row (l. to r.): George Mahony (mentor, Burgess), Becky O'Brien, Cait Devane (Clonduffy), Michelle Moten, Cliona Ryan (Moneygall), Aoife Butler (Drom-Inch), Aoife Murphy, Aine Brislane (capt.), Ethna Canning, Sandra Dunne (Toomevara), Laura Mahony (Burgess), Anne-Marie Quinlan (Kilruane), Michaela Cooley Courtney (Kildangan), Emer Ryan (Burgess), Laura Power (Silvermines), Johnny Kirwan (mentor, Moneygall). Middle: Margaret Collins, Mary Kate Burke (Thurles), Emma Spillane (Hollycross), Olivia McCarthy (Brian Boru), Catherine Shortt (Drom-Inch), Amy Kennedy (Burgess), Laura Greene (Silvermines), Jennifer Lewis (Lorrha), Niamh Williams (Kilruane), Sinead Moloney, Claire McGrath (Roscrea). Front: Donie Kelly (mentor, Toomevara), Aoife Cronin (Carrick Swans), Sarah Kirwan (Moneygall), Laura Dunne (Hollycross), Emma Mulqueen (Kildangan), Sarah Kennedy (Portroe), Niamh Kelly (Toomevara). Photo: Rose Mannion.

## COUNTY CAMOGIE

# Tipperary claim Munster minor title

By GER KINANE

Tipperary ..... 3:05  
Cork ..... 1:10  
AFTER plenty of heart stopping moments especially within the four minutes of injury time Tipperary eventually emerged victorious in the 2005 Munster Minor A camogie final, defeating Cork by the narrowest of margins.

Tipperary got off to the best possible start when right from the throw in centre-forward Aoife Shinnors won the ball and her shot deceived the Cork keeper and went all the way to the back of the net. A minute later Therese Shortt took a free from a considerable distance and made no mistake in striking it sweetly over the bar. Therese was on hand again two minutes later to extend Tipperary's lead with a point from a '45'. Cork's first score came after six minutes when Niamh Dilworth pointed from a close in free. Minutes later Aisling Thompson soloed through and pointed. Both sides continued to serve up an exciting, tense affair with some great duels throughout the field. At midfield Therese Shortt and Louise O'Brien showed their determination by contesting excellently for every ball.

After 13 minutes of play Tipperary's Aoife McLoughney who was working hard in around the

square received a pass from Catriona Maher which she then pointed. Cork replied with a point of their own from Leah West. Then in the 21st minute Cork shook the Tipperary net with a well-taken goal by Sharon Whelton after a great passing sequence involving a number of the Cork attack. Cork were beginning to dominate and split Tipperary's defence open minutes later resulting in a point from Niamh Dilworth. Credit to Tipperary they showed no signs of lying down and immediately worked the ball up the field where Aoife McLoughney pulled on the ball low and hard into the bottom corner. Before the break Aoife Shinnors showed her accuracy from a free to give Tipperary a 3 point lead on the scoreline of 2-4 to Cork's 1-4.

Cork were the first to score in the second half from a free after 4 minutes. Bonnie Kennedy who was introduced before half time showed her skill with a fine point from a tricky angle to put three points between the sides again. Amazingly this was to be Tipperary's final score till injury time as Cork began to apply more and more pressure. They had 4 unanswered points, two from frees and one from play by Margaret O'Herlihy and a point from corner forward Erin Cork-

ery. Cork pressed forward for further scores but Tipperary's defence held firm. Fiona Young played a captain's role at centre back making some great clearances. While at full-back Sarah Morrissey made some valuable clearances and was commanding throughout the 60 minutes. She was assisted by Marion Ryan in the corner who gave a solid display and tormented her marker with great interceptions. With time running out Tipperary needed a score and came close on a number of occasions. Then in injury time

they won a free. A point behind, Therese Shortt bravely stood up to take it. Therese struck the free with great power and it travelled all the way to the back of the net to the delight of the Tipperary following. There was still time for more action as Cork raced up the field in search of a goal. In the end they had to be content with a point and when the referee blew the final whistle the scoreboard read in Tipperary's favour: 3-5 to 1-10.

This was a great success for Tipperary camogie and credit to the management

and players for the effort they have put in, in achieving Munster honours. The team must now prepare for a meeting with the Ulster champions in an All-Ireland semi-final.

Tipperary: C. Kenneally, M. Ryan, S. Morrissey, G. Stapleton, N. O'Connell, F. Young, D. Ryan, T. Shortt, L. O'Brien, R. Barry, A. Shinnors, C. Maher, A. Kennedy, A. McLoughney, M. Gleeson. Subs: B. Kennedy and S. McGrath for A. Kennedy and M. Gleeson. R. McGrath for R. Barry.



Margaret Caulfield, secretary of the Limerick Colleges under-14 blitz committee, presenting the Limerick Colleges Shield to Aine Brislane, captain of the Tipperary under-14 panel. Photo: Rose Mannion.

MAY 2005

## Cracking first round clashes in prospect



Linda Mellerick

THE DRAW for the Cork County Camogie Championship took place last Thursday evening and the hat turned out some very exciting first round clashes for 2005.

For the first time Cork have introduced a back door system in the senior A championship and a 'round robin' style competition for the senior B.

Six divisions compete in this year's A championship. To balance the teams a preliminary round will see Muskerry play Avondhu. There is no second chance for divisional sides.

Round One will involve the 10 senior clubs.

### FIXTURES

B. Milford V Cloughduv, C. St. Finbarr's V UCC, D. Inniscarra V Fr. O'Neill's, E. Aghabullogue V Barryroe, F. Courcy Rovers V Kilbrittain.

Some exciting ties!! The fixture of the round will have to be Milford versus Cloughduv.

Milford, last year's defeated finalists, seem to be close to winning their first senior county title. But that never guarantees anything!

Cloughduv have five senior intercounty first team players and have a balanced side throughout. They must surely be in with a chance to take the title.

St. Finbarr's should account for UCC who won't be serious contenders this year.

In a repeat of the 1993 county final, Inniscarra and Fr. O'Neill's meet again. O'Neill's, victorious on that occasion, will find it tougher this time round. Inniscarra to come out on top in this one!

Barryroe should have the edge over Aghabullogue while the local derby between neighbours Courcy Rovers and Kilbrittain will be a great one to watch with Rovers maybe stealing it.

The five losing clubs from round one will play the five remaining divisions in Round two.

### Fixtures

G. Losers D V Seandun, H. Losers E V Muskerry or Avondhu, I. Losers B V Imokilly, J. Losers C V Carbery, K. Losers F V Carrigrohoun.

The winners of round one will go directly into round three. At this stage there will be 10 teams left. Only two games will be played in round three leaving six teams advancing straight to round four.

### Fixtures

L. Winners C V Winners I, M. Winners K V Winners B.  
Round 4: quarter-finals (8 teams)  
N. Winners F V Winners D, O. Winners E V Winners M, P. Winners J V Winners G, Q. Winners H V Winners L.  
Semi-finals  
N V P, O V Q.

There are plenty of games in this year's championship with the back door system a great opportunity for clubs to get a second chance.

Trying to arrange a date for the games is another matter. The inter-county scene will determine when the first rounds, in particular, will take place. With the Cork seniors and juniors involved in the latter stages of the league, the Munster Championship and the All-Ireland open draw series, it is looking like the middle of July before the local championship can kick off.

Carrigrohoun will once again start the championship as hot favourites to retain the crown. But don't rule out Milford, Cloughduv or St. Finbarr's. Based on last year's performances, Inniscarra won't be easily defeated either. Without doubt the Cork championship has improved dramatically over the past couple of years. The spread is exciting and great for Cork camogie.

Glen Rovers and Bishopstown both regraded this year to senior B. Amazing how the cycle goes. Between them Rovers and Bishopstown dominated the nineties winning 11 titles. But players retire and credit the clubs for swallowing their pride and realising that to keep their younger players interested they have to give them a chance and senior A isn't where they need to be at the moment. So that's it! It's all to play for. The best of luck to all.

## Goals prove decisive as Tipp take first Munster minor title in five years

Tipperary 3-5  
Cork 1-10

by Therese O'Callaghan

TIPPERARY collected their first Munster minor camogie title in five years with an impressive

performance in Charleville's Dr Mannix Park on Saturday.

The old adage 'goals win matches' applied. Tipp registered their first green flag inside the opening minute from Aoife Shinnors, Sharon Whelton pegging one back after 20

minutes.

Points from Margaret Herlihy and Niamh Dilworth put the Rebels ahead but the Premier defence held out and Therese Shortt doubled on a Shinnors free to record their third goal.

Scorers for Tipperary: A Shinnors and T Shortt (0-11, 0-1 45m) 1-2 each, A McLoughney 1-0, B Kennedy 0-1. Cork: M Herlihy 0-4 (0-3 frees), S Whelton 1-0, N Dilworth 0-3, A Thompson, L West and E Corkery 0-1 each.

TIPPERARY: C Kenneally, M Ryan, S Morrissey, G Stapleton, N O'Connell, F Young, D Ryan, T Shortt, L O'Brien, R Barry, A Shinnors, C Maher, A Kennedy, A McLoughney, M Gleeson. Subs: S McGrath

for A Kennedy, B Kennedy for M Gleeson, R McGrath for G Stapleton.

CORK: L M O'Mahony, R de Faoite, A Moynihan, N O'Donovan, C Motherway, C McCarthy, M Foley, A Thompson, B Twomey, D Cronin, M Herlihy, S Whelton, E Corkery, N Dilworth, L West.

Subs: E Ryan for D Cronin, S Coleman for C McCarthy, S O'Callaghan for S Whelton.

Referee: F McNamara (Clara).



MAY 2005

# Late heartbreak for Cork camogie girls

Tipperary 3-5  
Cork 1-10

THEY say sport can be cruel.

These words rang so true in Charleville on Saturday afternoon when on the stroke of normal time Tipperary hit the back of the net to steal the Munster Minor title from Cork and get crowned champions for the first time since 2000.

Cork should never have been in such a vulnerable position but poor shooting and over-elaboration of the ball meant that they fought a battle all through.

Tipperary got the 'dream' start. With the ball, from the throw in, breaking out the wing to Aoife Shinnars she stuck it from all of 70 yards.

Looking to be heading wide, Cork goalkeeper Lisa Marie O'Mahony casually stood to the side when by some twist of fate the ball sneaked in to the bottom corner of the goal. Two further points within the next two minutes by Terese Shortt and Cork didn't know what hit them.

Playing with the aid of a strong wind Tipperary fired on all cylinders. They were winning at midfield and putting endless pressure on the Cork defence who coped well.

Slowly Cork began to push Tipp back.

A pointed free by Niamh Dilworth opened their scoring on the sixth minute, followed by an Aisling Thompson point in the ninth. Shinnars again swerved and swayed in the 13th minute to score an excellent point for the visitors to leave a gap of four.

Leah West pointed for Cork in the 19th. Despite being under pressure and playing against a stiff breeze Cork, over halfway through the first half, found themselves only three points behind.

They drew level with a wonderful goal minutes later. Dilworth flicked on to Erin Corkery, whose quick hand pass to Sharon Whelton split the Tipp defence and Whelton rifled the ball to the back of the net.

A point by Dilworth and Cork were ahead by one. The Cork mentors must have been delighted to be in such a position after their terrible start.

Their joy was short lived when on 26 minutes Aoife McLoughney teed the ball to the right of full-back Aine Moynihan and turned to pull left sided



Cork's Aisling Thompson solos away from Tipperary's Siobhan McGrath, during their Munster Minor Camogie Final in Charleville.

Picture: Press 22



Linda Mellerick

to the far corner of the Cork goal. Shinnars again pointed for Tipp in the third minute of injury time and the Premier County led by a goal at the break.

With the wind at their backs would Cork broke free and exerted the same pressure on their opponents that had been heaped on them but they didn't make it pay.

Dilworth pointed after four minutes to leave two between the sides but Cork weren't to score again until the 21st minute.

They persisted to solo with the ball up front and often passed when the better option would have been to take a shot. Over-elaboration gave the Tipp

backs the time they needed to hunt in packs and break out. Tipp had their chances too but the Cork backs dug deep, particularly Carolyn Motherway, who gave a whole-hearted display throughout.

Tipp's only score of the second half, before the winning goal, was a point in the eighth minute by substitute Bonnie Kennedy. Cork enjoyed the majority of possession and their persistence paid off when they led for the first time since the 26th minute of the first half with two minutes to go. A point separated the sides.

On the stroke of time referee Fintan McCarthy awarded Tipp a free from 40 yards. A point was all that Tipp needed and when Terese Shortt stepped up it was her sole intent. Cork lined the goalmouth. Shortt struck but the strong wind kept the ball hanging. It dropped short of the bar and reflected off a Cork stick into the back of the net.

Tipp couldn't believe their luck. For

the second time in the game they had got a goal out of nothing. And this was the one that mattered. Cork were numb.

Three minutes of injury time and Cork had an opportunity when O'Herlihy again broke through. Unfortunately she billowed it over leaving the bare minimum between the sides and time ran out. It was the cruellest of defeats which left Cork shattered and ruling their wasted chances in the second half.

**Scorers Cork:** M O'Herlihy 0-4 (0-2f), N Dilworth 0-3 (0-1f), S Whelton 1-0, A Thompson, L West and E Corkery 0-1 each.

**Tipperary:** A Shinnars 1-2 (0-1f), T Shortt 1-2 (0-1 '45, 1-0 f), A McLoughney 1-0, B Kennedy 0-1  
**CORK:** M O'Mahony; R de Faoite, A Moynihan, N O'Donovan; C Motherway, C McCarthy, M Foley; B Twomey, A Thompson; D Cronin, M O'Herlihy (Capt), S Whelton; E Corkery, N Dilworth, L West.

**Subs:** E Ryan for C McCarthy, S Coleman for S Whelton, S O'Callaghan for D Cronin.

**TIPPERARY:** C Kennaally; M Ryan, S Morrissey, G Stapleton; N O'Connell, F Young (Capt), D Ryan; T Shortt, L O'Brien; R Barry, A Shinnars, C Maher; A Kennedy, A McLoughney, M Gleeson.

**Subs:** B Kennedy for M Gleeson, S McGrath for A Kennedy, R McGrath for G Stapleton.

## Burns promising better days ahead

"We were never really safe in the game and there was always the danger that something like that would happen" was how Cork coach Denis Burns summed up Tipp's winning goal.

"I'm delighted with the way the girls played he said. "They showed great character because after 10 minutes it looked like we were going to be

blown away. We missed a few, but you always have to allow for that.

"We practised an awful lot of fast hurling but I don't know was it the ground that didn't allow for it today. We needed to get the ball in fast to our full forward line. When it went in we had to dig for it and there was a lot of stopping and starting. We ran a bit too much

when there were chances to put it over the bar."

Understandably the Cork girls were upset and Denis rallied them around.

"We're very proud of you all," he told his squad. "You've a great future ahead of ye. You'll get disappointment along the way and today was one of those. We didn't get the rub of the green today, but on another

day things will go your way."

Pat McLoughney, manager of Tipp, was thrilled with the victory.

"It was a good win. I suppose we had a bit of luck," he generously stated.

"I thought our defence was superb. It was one of the best games of Camogie you could have seen at that level. There

was a good crowd here, there was a great atmosphere. I'd say if the wind wasn't there you'd have had an even better match," he said.

"I thought the game was gone. When Cork got that point I said that's it!

"But the free, I think it took a refraction.

"I don't really know what happened."

## Cork to get past Deise

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie news

CORK open the defence of their provincial and All-Ireland junior championship titles today when they face Waterford in Killeagh (2.30pm).

Fielding a totally new team this season, Cork have shown tremendous potential through the national league campaign to book their place in the semi-finals.

Tonight they will call on several players with senior inter county experience such as Rosalie Holland, Ciara Healy, Ellen O'Herlihy Niamh Bowles and Linda O'Connell, all of whom are all available following their re grading to junior, while younger underage stars who have come through the ranks include Orla Cotter, Aine Watson, Clodagh Deasy and Orla Coughlan.

Cork also have a new backroom team with Willie O'Regan and Brendan Coleman joining last year's selector Liz O Mahony while Miriam Deasy, who a played a major role in the capturing of the title last season, has now turned her attention to training the side.

What of their opponents from the Deise county?

A lot of work has gone into camogie Waterford in recent years and certainly the efforts have paid off with the county minor sides taking All Ireland minor B honours in 2003.

County secretary Ciara Tobin said "We are looking forward to meeting Cork, we know they have a new team this year but you never know with Cork.

"However, the girls have enjoyed the league campaign and the challenge posed by Cork will be on which we can measure our progress by."

Coach Paul Lyng is joined by Daithi O'Brien, Brian Cunningham and Brian Dignam as Waterford plot the down fall of the holders.

However, the smart money will be on Cork to advance to a semi-final meeting with either Clare or Tipperary who also meet today.



# Junior Championship in Killeagh on Monday, 2nd May at 2.30pm

## Corcaigh

### CORK

1

Frances Killeen

2

Deirdre Hayes

3

Rosarie Holland

4

Lucy Hawkes

5

Emer O'Sullivan

6

Linda O'Connell (CAPT)

7

Aind Watson

8

Niamh Bowles

9

Orla Cotter

10

Orla Coughlan

11

Deirdre O'Reilly

12

Michelle Browne

13

Mary Coleman

14

Ciara Healy

15

Clodagh Deasy

#### Subs:

16 Hazel O'Regan

19 Emer O'Friel

22 Aine Kelleher

25 Colleen Long

28 Noelle Collins

17 Deirdre Coomey

20 Edwina Waters

23 Emer Keane

26 Marion O'Donovan

29 Yvonne O'Neill

18 Ellen O'Herlihy

21 Carmel Deane

24 Stephanie McEniry

27 Evelyn Crowley

Vs

## Port Lairge

### WATERFORD

1

Aisling O'Brien

2

Bridget Whelan

3

Pauling Cunningham

4

Niamh Ryan

5

Aisling Kelly

6

Annette Raheer

7

Jenny Simpson

8

Aileen Cummins

9

Bella Daniels

10

Karen Kelly

11

Breda Kennedy

12

Emma Hannon

13

Carole Sheehy

14

Aine Lyng

15

Lisa Guiry

#### Subs:

16 Liz Fleming

19 Louise O'Dowda

22 Rosanna Gahan

25 Patrice Clancy

17 Jane Hickey

20 Lisa Prendergast

23 Mary Murphy

26 Paula Guiry

18 Laura O'Connor

21 Fiona Kiely

24 Nichola Morrissey

## MUNSTER JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

# Tipperary Lose Out To Clare

Clare ..... 2:13  
Tipperary ..... 3:07

Despite a hat-trick of goals from Tipperary's Mary Looby it was Clare who claimed victory in Newmarket-on-Fergus on Sunday afternoon and now go on to face the winners of Cork and Waterford in a Munster semi-final. It was a game which Tipperary could have won but credit to Clare they fought hard and scored some great points to keep them in front.

Tipperary were slow to start and found themselves trailing by three points after six minutes when Claire McMahon pointed from a free and Catherine O'Loughlin also snuck in for two quick points. In the tenth minute Tipperary had their first score a pointed free by Siobhan Ryan. Clare responded showing their strength in the forwards with four points on the trot, a free from Claire McMahon, two points from Fiona Lafferty and a well-taken point from Catherine O'Loughlin. Tipperary looked to be in trouble and in a smart move Michelle Shortt was switched to mid-field where she immediately had an impact. After 15 minutes Michelle gave a great pass to Siobhan Ryan who went on a run before off loading the ball to Mary Looby. Mary went forward and struck the ball neatly between the keeper and the post to score a badly needed goal, which lifted the whole team. Julie Delaney was having a good game at wing back and her clearance up the wing led to Jackie O'Connor winning a free. Michelle Shortt stood up to take it and dropped the free into the danger area where Mary Looby was once again on hand to catch it and under pressure from the full back she hand-passed it to the back of the net.

From the puck out

Clare's Fiona Lafferty won control of the ball and pointed. Minutes later Mary Looby gathered possession once again, turned her player and pointed to level proceedings. The remaining five minutes of the first half saw some great passages of play. Claire McMahon showed her accuracy from frees with another point while at the opposite end Alison Lonergan gave a lovely pass to Lorraine Davis who raised a white flag. Clare answered again with a point from Laura Linnane before Lorraine Davis pointed for Tipperary after a fine pass from Jackie O'Connor. Tipperary would have been pleased to go in at the break all-square as they had started poorly and were playing against a strong wind. However on the stroke of half time Claire McMahon's shot from distance looked to be heading wide but curled into the top corner. This left the score at half-time Clare 1.10, Tipperary 2.4.

The second half was another tough encounter with both sides finding scores hard to come by. Clare once again got off to the better start and after six minutes had a shot on goals which Rosanna Kenneally saved but the resulting rebound was kicked to the net by Claire McMahon. Tipperary weren't prepared to lie down and a long range free by Niamh Harkin dropped in front of Mary Looby who pulled on it and blasted it to the back of the net. Two minutes later Michelle Shortt pointed from a free to leave two points between the sides. While Clare had points from Claire McMahon and Laura Linnane. Neither side dominated the second half with both teams on top in stages. Clare looked to be through for a goal on two occasions in the second half but great defending by Andrea Davis and Caroline

Ryan kept them at bay. Claire McMahon did however score a point late in the game. At the other end Mary Looby who gave an excellent display at full-forward continued to threaten the Clare defence for a goal but Tipperary had to settle for a point from Michelle Shortt. With a goal between the sides Tipperary won a free in which Michelle Shortt passed to Mary Ryan and

her shot was blocked out for a 45 which was then cleared to the sound of the final whistle.

**Tipperary:** R. Kenneally, A. Davis, C. Greed, C. Heffernan, J. Delaney, N. Harkin, M. Luttrell, L. Davis, M. Ryan, J. O'Connor, M. Shortt, A. Lonergan, K. Kennedy, M. Looby, S. Ryan. **Subs:** T. Maher for C. Heffernan, N. Flanagan for K. Kennedy.

#### CAMOGIE

**Munster Junior championship**  
Clare 2-13 (C McMahon 2-5, F Lafferty 0-4, C O'Loughlin 0-3, L Linnane 0-1)  
Tipperary 3-7 (M Luby 3-1, M Shortt 0-3, L Davis 0-2, S Ryan 0-1).

**Leinster U14 championship**  
Dublin 2-7 (R Costello (Costello), A Ni Thuathail 1-3 each, S Fords 0-3, L May, A Fagan 0-1 each) **Kilkenny 0-4** (S Dunne 0-3, C Shield 0-1).

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## Cork set for semi-final battle against Wexford

by Mary Newman

IT'S down to the last four as the division one national league reaches semi final stage on Sunday next as Cork, Wexford, Kilkenny and Galway remain on course to lift honours.

The meeting of Cork and Wexford is eagerly waited. Cork under a new management team of John Cronin, Fiona O'Driscoll, Lillian Zinkant and Ollie Hallihan have made steady progress in their campaign without setting the world on fire. They have introduced several new faces to their panel through the league series while continuing to build their team around the more experienced players.

Aoife Murray is enjoying a tremendous season in goal while Rosarie Holland, Mary O'Connor, Joanne O'Callaghan and Stephanie Dunlea continue to form part of a solid defence.

Nora Ahern was hugely impressive in their meeting with Tipperary, while Jen-

nifer Browne and Sarah O'Donovan have also fitted in well on promotion to the senior team.

The selectors are waiting until later in the week to announce a starting 15 taking players commitments to college exams into consideration but names sure be pencilled include Una O'Donoghue, Vivienne Harris and captain Elaine Burke while Jennifer O'Leary, Rena Buckley, Rachel Moloney and Breige Corkery if available will be a huge asset in what is a tricky assignment.

The curtain raiser at 2pm is the semi-final clash of Galway and Kilkenny and while Galway have been there in recent years while it's a boost to Kilkenny to have come out of a group that included Cork and Tipperary.

Both counties have made huge efforts to get back to winning ways and Galway under the guidance of former Inter county star Sharon Glenn have been hitting the headlines in the past few months.



# 96 hurling and 48 camogie teams for Féile

by Mary Newman

A LARGE gathering of Cork Camogie and Hurling clubs were represented at Pairc Uí Chaoimh on Thursday last as details and the draw for this year's All Ireland Féile na n-Gael were unveiled.

Ard Stiúrthoir Síle Wallace represented the camogie association while

chairperson of the National Féile Committee Jim Berry and secretary Jerome Conway outlined details of this year's event which will bring 96 hurling and 48 camogie clubs together for what is without doubt gaelic games's most prestigious under age competition.

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.

The visiting teams will travel to Cork on the Friday and play their host club before all participants make their way to the city centre for a parade of clubs.

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. Certainly the weekend of June 16/17/18 is one to keep free.

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.

This evening representatives from the various clubs and counties will attend a function in the Lord Mayor's chambers at City Hall to officially launch Féile.

## Rebel are in cruise control

By MARY NEWMAN

Cork camogie

Cork 3-13  
Waterford 0-4

THEY know stiffer test lie ahead but having successfully opened the defence of their Junior Championship provincial and All-Ireland crowns with a victory over Waterford yesterday, Cork can now concentrate on their semi-final meeting with Clare on June 21st.

Within six minutes of the start the holders had signified their intent with Ciara Healy grabbing two goals.

In between Aine Lyng had converted a Waterford free but in truth even at this early stage it was always going to be a mountain to climb for Waterford.

In defence Cork they were first to every ball while up front Ciara Healy, Michelle Brown and Orla Coughlan picked off their scores effortlessly.

After 17 minutes Waterford were left floundering when Orla Coughlan sailed past their defence before tapping the ball to net, and when a roving Ciara Healy knocked over four points without reply they were left with a mountain to climb trailing 3-8 to 0-2 at the break.

With conditions taking their toll scores were scarce in the second half but nevertheless both sides battled on.

Cork remained in control and had two points on the board from Healy and Deirdre O'Reilly before Lyng pointed two Waterford frees.

Waterford never gave up but in the end Cork, with Michelle Brown and Hazel O'Regan extending their advantage, comfortably advanced.

Despite defeat Waterford manager Daithí O'Brien was reasonably pleased. "I am happy with the commitment shown by the girls today. At the start of the year our aim was to come out of our group in the National League and give Cork a good game in the Munster championship.

"On Sunday next we face Westmeath in a play-off for a league semi-final spot and we gave a reasonably good account of ourselves today against the All-Ireland champions, the game is making progress in the county and I am pleased with that."

Cork selector Brendan Coleman had more reason to smile. "We have a new team this year and are making good progress having reached the National League and Munster semi-finals. Clare will be a tough and we will have a lot of work to do if we are to reach the Munster final."

Cork will not get it as easy against a Clare side who recorded a 2-13 to 3-7 victory over Tipperary to set up a semi-final meeting on June 21st.

**CORK:** F. Killeen, D. Hayes, R. Holland, L. Hawkes, E. O'Sullivan, L. O'Connell, A. Watson, N. Bowles, O. Cotter, O. Coughlan 1-1, D. O'Reilly, M. Browne 0-4 (0-3 play 0-1 f), M. Coleman, C. Healy 2-6 (2-4 play, 0-2 free), C. Deasy 0-1, Subs: H. O'Regan 0-1 for O. Coughlan, (43 min), E. O'Friel for C. Deasy (43 min), E. O'Herlihy for C. Healy (43 min), A. Kelleher for D. Hayes (44 min), E. Waters for A. Watson (44 min).

**WATERFORD:** A. O'Brien, B. Whelan, P. Cunningham, N. Ryan, A. Kelly, A. Maher, J. Simpson, A. Cummins, B. Daniels, K. Kelly 0-1, B. Kennedy, E. Hannon, C. Sheehy, A. Lyng 0-3 (free), L. Guiry, Subs: L. Fleming for C. Sheehy (44 min), L. O'Dowda for K. Kelly (40 min), L. Prndergast for B. Kennedy (45 min).

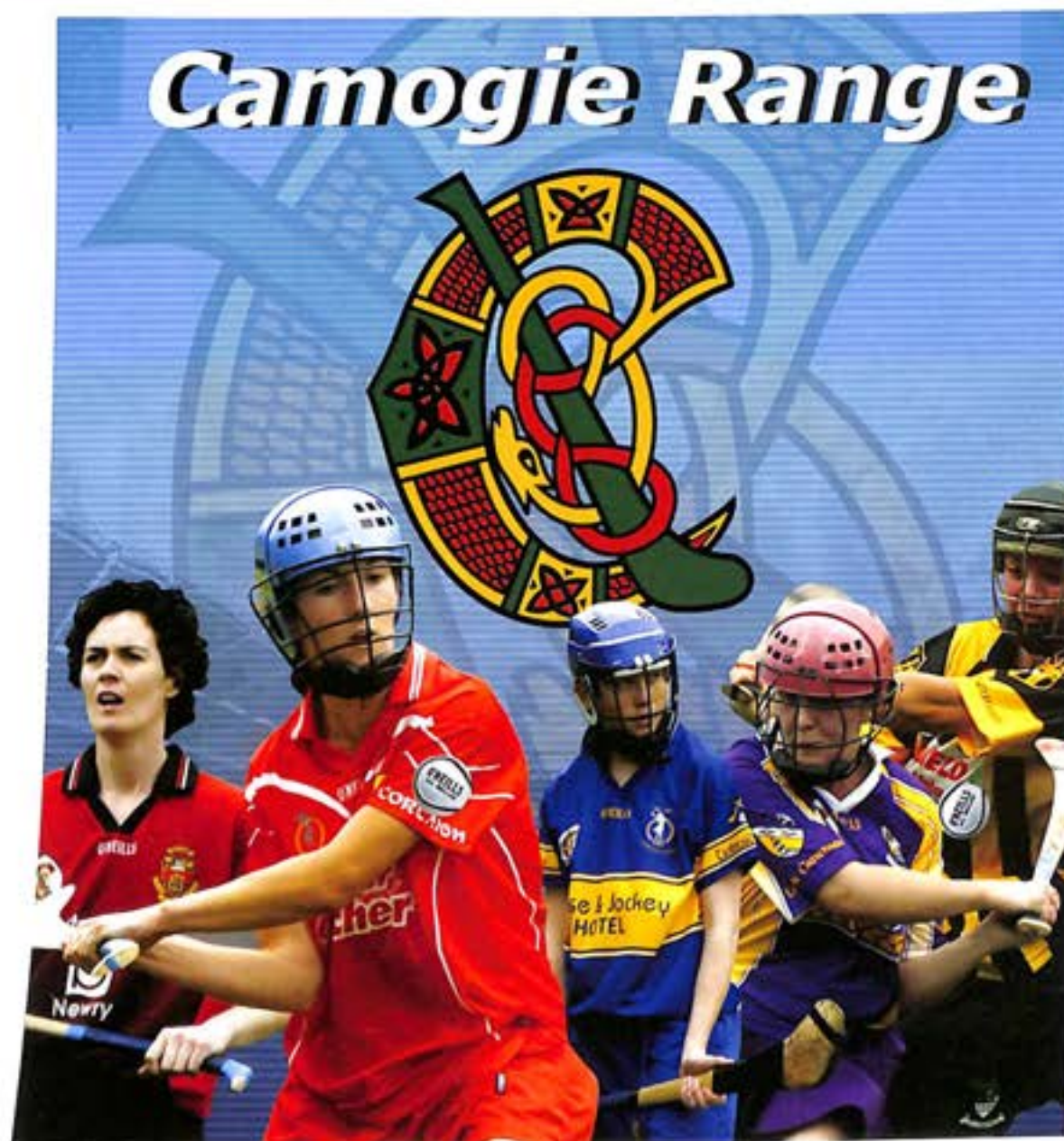
Referee: Mr J. O'Donnell, Limerick.

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Tony O'Mahony, chairman of Cork Féile, Marion McCarthy, chairperson Cork Camogie Board, Cllr Seán Martin, Lord Mayor of Cork, and P. J. Sheehan, Mayor of Cork County, at the council chambers to launch the 2005 Féile na nGael.

Picture: Paul Reidy/GMC Photography





MAY 2005

# Begley - O'Neill's ULSTER COLLEGES Camogie All Stars

# 2005



**Aisling Diamond**  
St Mary's College,  
Clady



**Aoibheann McKenna**  
St Patrick's High School,  
Keady



**Claire Quinn**  
St Patrick's College,  
Maghera



**Collette McSorley**  
St Catherine's College,  
Armagh



**Irene Cushnahan**  
St Patrick's College,  
Maghera



**Eilis O Doherty**  
St Patrick's College,  
Maghera



**Kelly O'Higgins**  
St Malachy's High School,  
Castlewellan



**Kate Lavery**  
St Mary's Grammar School,  
Magherafelt



**Claire Dallat**  
Cross and Passion College,  
Ballycastle



**Michelle McGuigan**  
Armagh College of Further  
Education



## Camógáíocht



**Rhona Torney**  
St Genevieve's High School,  
Belfast



**Claire Kinsella**  
St Patrick's High School,  
Keady



**Michelle McManus**  
St Patrick's College,  
Maghera



**Mairead Rainey**  
St Louise's Comprehensive  
College, Belfast



**Katie McAuley**  
St Mary's Grammar School,  
Magherafelt



**Stephanie O'Kane**  
Cross and Passion College,  
Ballycastle



**Orlagh McCall**  
St Genevieve's High School,  
Belfast



**Sinead Cassidy**  
Loretto College,  
Coleraine



**Patricia Murray**  
St Patrick's College,  
Maghera



**Shauna Jordan**  
St Patrick's Girl's Academy,  
Dungannon



## Camogie

O'Doherty  
honoured  
for heroics  
in goal

By Seamus McAloonan

**B**ACK in February, Ellis O'Doherty created an Ulster colleges' record by becoming the only player to win four successive Ulster senior schools' medals.

The Slaughtneil goalkeeper was between the sticks in each final.

Last night, her outstanding feat was recognised when she collected one of the Begley-O'Neill's Ulster Colleges' Camogie Allstars.

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

St Mary's, Magherafelt captain Katie McAuley also managed to take her second successive award yesterday.

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

These include Kate Lavery, Claire Kinsella, Stephanie O'Kane, Rhona Torney and Mairead Rainey.

Aisling Diamond is 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.

Ellis 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.

Claire is a first-time recipient, as is Kelly O'Higgins and 16-year-old scoring sensation Collette McSorley, who was one of four players from Armagh selected.

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

## ALLSTAR PANEL

**Begley - O'Neill's Ulster Colleges Camogie Allstars 2005:** Michelle McGuigan (Armagh College of Further Education), Aisling Diamond (St Patrick's Keady), Stephanie O'Kane, Claire Kinsella (St Patrick's Maghera), Kelly O'Higgins (St Malachy's, Castlewellan), Collette McSorley (Armagh), Rhona Torney (St Genevieve's High School, Belfast), Mairead Rainey (St Louise's Comprehensive College, Belfast), Katie McAuley and Kate Lavery (St Mary's Grammar School, Magherafelt), Shauna Jordan (St Patrick's Girls' Academy, Dungannon), Ellis O'Doherty (Slaughtneil), Michelle McManus, Patricia Murray, Irene Cusnahan and Claire Quinn (St Patrick's College, Maghera), Aisling Diamond (St Mary's College, Clady), Collette McSorley (St Catherine's, Armagh), Sinead Cassidy (Loretto College, Coleraine).



■ **HENS WITH HURLS:** The 2005 Begley-O'Neill's Ulster Colleges' Camogie Allstars pictured at last night's awards dinner in Walsh's Hotel, Maghera

Pic: Michael Cullen

Cork dig deep to earn  
final shot at GalwayCork  
Wexford1-11  
2-6

by Therese O'Callaghan

CORK secured their place in the National League decider, which will be staged ahead of the Guinness Leinster SHC clash between Dublin and Laois on May 22, following a highly entertaining clash against last season's finalists Wexford at McDonagh Park, Nenagh, yesterday.

Cork got off to a brilliant start, rifling over three points in the opening six minutes through Jennifer O'Leary, Sarah O'Donovan and debutante Angela Walsh. However, the Slaneysiders reversed the lead when Ursula Jacob — from the great hurling dynasty in Oulart-the-Ballagh — struck to the net after 22 minutes.

Gaining the upper hand at midfield, where Kate Kelly and Evelyn Quigley were in top form, the Wexford girls held sway at the interval, 1-4 to 0-6, despite O'Leary checking in with two pointed frees and another effort from Ballygarvan's O'Donovan.

Cork re-emerged with a shuffled pack — most significant was the new partnership of Rachel Moloney and Angela Walsh in the middle of the park. In fact, it only took Walsh a couple of minutes to make an impact,

rattling the net following an impressive drive all the way in from her new posting.

Now enjoying territorial advantage, Cork stretched the lead to four points approaching the final quarter.

However, Wexford who had missed some crucial scores, summoned all their experience and when centre-back Mary Leacy (now operating on the 40), broke through for a goal, Cork were forced to dig deep. That they did, with the clinching scores arriving from Walsh and substitute Ciara Healy.

**Scorers for Cork:** J O'Leary 0-6 (0-4 frees), A Walsh 1-2, S O'Donovan 0-2, C Healy 0-1.

**Scorers for Wexford:** U Jacob 1-1, M Leacy 1-0, K Kelly 0-3 (frees), A Codd and S Carr 0-1 each.

**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, J O'Leary; U O'Donoghue, S O'Donovan, E Burke (Capt).

**Subs:** D Twomey for E Burke (40), R Holland for J Browne (45), P O'Connor for B Corker (55), C Healy for U O'Donoghue (60).

**WEXFORD:** M Darcy; A Moran, C O'Loughlin, C O'Connor; D Codd, M Leacy (Capt), B Holohan; K Kelly, E Quigley; A O'Connor, A Codd, L Holohan; U Leacy, M Hearn, U Jacob.

**Subs:** O Hernan for M Hearn (35 mins), C Murphy for D Codd (38), S Carr for A O'Connor (47).

**Referee:** D Noble (Dublin).

Galway  
Kilkenny1-14  
1-4

GALWAY easily beat a disappointing



**Cork forward Denise Twomey races goalwards past Wexford's Aisling Moran.**

Picture: Denis Minihane

Kilkenny side in the other semi-final.

It was a highly economical display from Sharon Glynn's side, who had Lourda Kavanagh in exceptional scoring form. The wing-forward finished with a tally of eight points, seven in the opening period, as Galway took a 0-9 to 1-2 interval lead.

The westerners outscored their opponents 1-5 to 0-2 in the second half, their goal coming late on from Brenda Kerins.

**Scorers for Galway:** L Kavanagh 0-8 (0-4 frees, 0-1 45m), B Kerins 1-3, V Curtin 0-2, O Kilkenny 0-1.

**Scorers for Kilkenny:** C Doherty 1-0, S Millea 0-3 (frees), A Neary 0-1.

**GALWAY:** S Gannon; R Glynn, S Cahalan, L Lally; F Healy, T Maher, A Kelly; A Hillary, C Glenon; E Kilkenny, B Hanney, L Kavanagh; B Kerins, V Curtin, O Kilkenny.

**Subs:** J Gill for F Healy (2 mins inj), A M Hayes for E Kilkenny (55), A Connolly for B Hanney (58).

**KILKENNY:** C Ryan; K Kinahan, J Dillon-Maher, D Minogue; B Grennan, M Costello, E Aylward; S Millea, E Maher; I Kennedy (Capt), B Mullally, L Lyng; M O'Connor, A Neary, C Doherty.

**Subs:** P Comerford for E Maher (blood sub, 38), E Maher for P Comerford (40), P Comerford for C Doherty (44), J Frisby for M O'Connor (50).

**Referee:** J Pender (Kildare).

## CamogieChat

With Mary Newman

## CHAMPIONSHIP DRAWS

CHAMPIONSHIP draws were the main talking points last week as ten clubs and six divisions went into the hat for the Senior B championship. Under the new system this year there will be one preliminary game with two divisions meeting, the ten clubs will play in round one with the losing club meeting a division in round two while the winners progress to round three, by now there will be ten teams remaining therefore only two games will

be played in round three with six teams going forward to round four.

In the Senior B and junior A championship the teams are divided into two sections with the top two in each emerging to contest the semi-finals. The Junior B championship remains a straight knock out competition.

The championships will be sponsored by Mercury Restaurant and lounge Washington Street.



Two Munster Council Award Recipients Marty Morrissey (Media Award) and Suzanne Kelly (Camogie Award) with GAA President Sean Kelly and former Munster Council Secretary Donie Nealon





By **Séamas Míla Fhinnéin**

What a lift St. Mary's Magherafelt gave Ulster camogie on March 5th

Ulster Camogie PRO Séamas McAleenan feels that the victory goes way beyond the confines of the south Derry school.

"A week before when St. Patrick's Maghera went down to Charleville for the Senior All-Ireland semi-final – they failed to score against the Munster side and conceded 4-15."

"All that week there have been messages on the camogie website that it is time for Ulster schools to re-consider participation in the A grade competitions, that the future looks bleak."

"At present Ulster has only one county – Antrim – participating in the Senior National League and they got comprehensively beaten at the weekend by Galway."

"Then St. Mary's Junior (under 16) team take out the very same Charleville school with a gutsy display to qualify for the school's fifth All-Ireland Junior final in 11 seasons."

"What people forget as well is that Maghera also have played in two Senior deciders during that time."

"Yes the game in our schools is a bit off the All-Ireland standard – but not as much as people think – and the big hope is that Magherafelt can go all the way and claim a second national Junior title."

Their game with Charleville was tense and closely-contested throughout with Sinead McLaughlin's first half goal separating the teams right up until three minutes from time when the scoreline stood at 1-3 to 0-3.

That said a lot about the defensive displays from both teams. Then Charleville substitute Annette McAuliffe finally got the better of Ciara O'Kane in the home goals to tie up the game at 1-3 each.

That was the point when Magherafelt showed that they were different to a lot of other sides.

They went right up the pitch and Michaela Convery – a Colleges' All-star last year – banged home a goal for them. It got the crowd really behind them and with that atmosphere around them there was no response from Charleville.

They now have a great opportunity of going all the way as last year's runaway champions Colaiste Bhríde Enniscorthy came up short against Presentation Athenry.

Athenry haven't won a title since the mid-seventies, although they were in last

year's final. Magherafelt will need to watch Noirin Coen though as she scored 2-5 out of their 2-7 total.

In the Junior B semi-final St. Patrick's Keady simply could not breach a very disciplined Colaiste Mhuire.

Marie Rafferty in the Ennis goals brought off some excellent stops particularly during the second half, while outfield Fiona Lafferty always proved a handful for the south Armagh side.

The visitors led by 2-1 to Michelle Murphy's 0-1 at the break, their goals coming from Lafferty and Sinead O'Halloran and indeed they could have had another couple but for some good stops by Keady 'keeper Catherine Toner.

It was one-way traffic for almost the entire second half but all the home side had to show were two Michelle Murphy

points from frees and the game ended with Ennis going through to their first ever national decider where they will play Borris Vocational.

**ST. MARY'S MAGHERAFELT:** Ciara O'Kane, Roisin O'Kane, Aileen McCusker, Eimear Donaghy, Christine McKenna, Roisin O'Boyle, Keelin Bradley, Attracta McPeake 0-2, Cathy Carey, Eleanor Mallon, Michaela Convery capt. 1-0, Eimear McKenna, Aileen Kearney, Sinead McLaughlin 1-1, Claire Lavery. Charleville: Annette McAuliffe 1-0, Marie Walshe 0-1, Fionnuala Dore 0-1, Aisling Thompson 0-1.

**COLAISTE MHUIRE ENNIS:** Fiona Lafferty 1-1, Sinead O'Halloran 1-0, Corine Koseingrave 0-1. St. Patrick's Keady: Michelle Murphy 0-3.

## Ulster Colleges' Camogie Council

### Corn Eimhear - Ulster Colleges' Junior Championship.

ST. MARY'S, MAGHERAFELT (11)	1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996*, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005
ST. MICHAEL'S, LURGAN (8)	1956, 1957, 1958, 1965, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1972
ST. PATRICK'S, MAGHERA (8)	1980, 1987, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1997, 1999, 2003
ST. LOUIS, KILKEEL (5)	1961, 1970, 1971, 1973, 1974
SACRED HEART, NEWRY (4)	1959, 1962, 1963, 1964
LORETO, LETTERKENNY (3)	1976, 1981, 1982
LORETO, COLERAINE (2)	1960, 1966
ST. PAUL'S, KILREA (2)	1983, 1985
ST. PATRICK'S, DUNGIVEN (2)	1984, 1986
CROSS & PASSION, BALLYCASTLE	1955
ST. COLUMBAN'S, KILKEEL	1976
ST. MARK'S, WARRENPOINT	1977
VOCATIONAL, BAWNBOY	1978
VOCATIONAL, VIRGINIA	1979
ST. PATRICK'S, KEADY	1988

# COLLEGES ROLL OF HONOUR

## CAMOGIE ROLL OF HONOUR

### ULSTER COLLEGES' JUNIOR B CHAMPIONSHIP. CORN LIATROIM FONTENOYS.

2005 St. Patrick's Keady 5-9 St. Louis Kilkeel 0-2

### CORN EIMHEAR - ULSTER COLLEGES' JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP.

2005 St. Mary's Magherafelt 6-7 Cross and Passion Ballycastle 2-1

### CORN UAN ULADH (AGNES FARRELLY CUP) - ULSTER COLLEGES' SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP.

2005 St. Patrick's Maghera 1-6 St. Mary's Magherafelt 0-4

### CORN AN ATHAR MHC DAIBHÉID ULSTER COLLEGES' SENIOR B CHAMPIONSHIP.

2005 Cross and Passion Ballycastle 4-6 St. Louis Ballymena 0-4



# CAMOGIE *world* with

by Maire Ui Scolai



## Olhausen

### THE ROYALS HIT THE NEWS

Over the past few years many counties have been busily preparing for last year's centenary celebrations and also concentrating on the development of the game within their county. There is one county that stood out a lot last season for various reasons and that has got to be the County of Meath. A long time ago when I began playing with my South County Dublin club Cuala, or Naomh Mhuire as it was then known as, my first official game with my club happened to be one sunny summers evening in the Royal County - Dunboyne to be precise! I suppose when it is your first game it always stays in your mind, well we won and that was my memory of Dunboyne.

However, many years later I had cause to visit Meath in a totally different capacity, as National PRO in Centenary Year. Don't get me wrong, I did visit the county in between both as Dublin and National PRO, but suffice to say that a lot of events took place in Meath last year. For one thing the playing birth of camogie could almost be attributed to Meath as back in 1904 the then Meath Agricultural Society Grounds, which is now Páirc Tailteann, was the venue for the very first public camogie match between two Dublin clubs, Cúchulainn and Craobh a Chéitinigh. Since then the growth of camogie both in Ireland and abroad has grown dramatically with almost 90,000 participating in the sport.

Having had breakfast with some of the Meath officials at Congress recently I was prompted to write this article and highlight the great work going on in that county at present and how they are looking to the future.

### 3,000 ROYALS!

Down in the County Meath, there

are almost 3,000 players and members alone and in the past year they have increased by a further four brining the total number to thirteen clubs. With the publicity the county got last year one feels that the county board are very much steering the game in the right direction. Success may not have reached the intercounty teams yet, but last year was a historical year for their Minor 'B' team. They became the first Royal team to win a Leinster title! The young players then had the wonderful opportunity of playing the All-Ireland semi-final on July 17th as part of the celebrations to mark the first ever public camogie match. Lady luck did not fall on the young Royals that day, but judging by some of the talent on view one could say it will not be long before we see some of these young players on the junior intercounty scene.

That day, July 17th, really put Meath camogie on the map thanks to the hard work of many Meath people such as Brigid Carney, Anne Dempsey, Mary Burke, the 2004 Meath Ambassador and hardworking PRO. The sun shone while the Minister of Education Noel Dempsey unveiled a plaque on the wall of Páirc Tailteann recalling the first ever camogie match

played there in 1904. There was something on the day for both young and old. Two intercounty games went ahead as Meath players donned the long black skirts and white shirts and played an old fashioned game. Young children from Meath also played on the hallowed Páirc Tailteann turf. However, perhaps the most striking item that day was the formation of 100 Meath children who made a perfect human 100 to mark one hundred years of camogie. When one saw the work that went in to all that it does not really come as a major surprise that Meath camogie has come in leaps and bounds and more importantly has the potential to become much stronger.

One must not forget the hosting of Féile na nGael last year, the headquarters of which were based in Páirc Tailteann. The visiting of the primary schools was also a first for Cumann Camógaiochta na nGael and for many Meath boys and girls it was a great honour for them to meet such great camogie stars as Kildare's Miriam Malone, Tipperary's Ciara Gaynor and Kilkenny's former nine times winning All-Ireland medal holder Bride McGarry. All this camogie activity had to lead to



The Meath minor team which won the Leinster championship last year

something good in the form of the county U10 Blitz.

### UNDER 10 BLITZ

Youth, they say is the backbone of any great organisation and that is where the Meath County Board have gone back to. The success of the Meath minors of last year did a lot for the county. Last year the County Board ran a very successful U10 Blitz. Such was the success of this project that the Board this year have eight teams taking part and it has now become an U10 Championship. The medals and Cup for this competition has been sponsored by Ratoath man Jim McDermott. The under ten concept is quickly growing as a great exercise for young children. They develop the skills much faster, as they are continually hitting the ball. They are on the field for a shorter time but it is real quality time they are receiving. Considering that the county is presently fielding teams at junior, U18, U16 and U14 fourteen, one can see the huge benefit a well run U10 Competition could have on the county in a short number of years.

So where now can the Royals look to, well in 2003 Kilmessan almost pulled off a famous club victory when they reached the final of the Leinster Junior club championship only to be pipped by Offaly club Druncullen. The growth of other clubs is also significant - Killyon won the county championship in 2004 and it remains to be seen if they can make it back to back titles this year.

While growth and development on the playing field is of the utmost importance, development other wise is of the utmost importance for the

future development of the game. The County Board in their wisdom have become involved in the Meath Local Sports Partnership to their benefit.

### MLSP...

Meath Local Sports Partnership was founded in July 2002, under an Irish Sports Council initiative. The key aim of the MLSP is to increase participation in sport and physical activity and to provide a voice for those who participate locally in sport throughout the county.

The Objectives of Meath LSP are to:

- Increased opportunities for everyone to participate in sport and physical activity in Meath
- Enhanced training and development opportunities for all involved in sport and physical activity in Meath.
- Encourage better use and planning for sport and physical activity.
- Increased awareness of the work and programmes of the MLSP.
- Promote participation in sport in a drug free environment.

The Meath LSP works with member agencies and local community groups in providing opportunities to

participate in sport and physical activity regardless of age, ability, background and socio-economic position.

The Meath LSP is run on a daily basis by sports co-ordinator Mary Murphy and Office Administrator Marcella Mitchell; and is managed by the Meath Local Sports Partnership Board.



The minor management team of Una Burke, Christy Mangan and Breda Fahy enjoy the moment



President of the Camogie Association, Miriam O'Callaghan and Minister Noel Dempsey unveil a commemorative plaque to mark the first ever camogie game, which was played in Páirc Tailteann in 1904

This Board is made up of local agency, community and sporting representatives; all of whom represent the major stakeholders in sport and physical activity in Meath.

The officers of the Meath Camogie Board 2005....

Chairperson - Brigid Carney  
Vice Chair - Margaret Burke  
Secretary - Anne Dempsey  
Assistant Secretary and PRO - Mary Burke  
Treasurer - Terry Tormey  
Assistant Treasurer - Aileen O Reagan  
Registrar - Breda Mc Kenna

With such hard working officials it would be great to see Meath improve on the intercounty scene and in time that will come no doubt. Perhaps when that great football hero Séan Boylan 'hangs up' his football boots he will go back to camogie as he once was involved with Meath camogie, after all he did play the small ball game!



Meath Camogie Chairperson and staunch Killyon member Brigid Carney hands over the Meath senior championship trophy to Katie Connolly

MAY

2005



# Cork forced to dig deep to repel brave Wexford

Cork 1-11  
Wexford 2-6

**CORK are through to the National Senior League Final, but only just.**

Three weeks ago the Rebels won their group with a magnificent display against arch rivals Tipp.

It was hard to believe that much of the same team took to the field yesterday for their semi-final encounter with Wexford.

Tense, nervous and jittery throughout, Cork were lucky to come away with a two points victory to set up a final showdown with Galway in Nowlan Park on Sunday, May 22.

Cork started well and led by three points after six minutes. Jennifer O'Leary, Sarah O'Donovan and Angela Walsh on target. Kate Kelly opened Wexford's account in the seventh minute.

Wexford gradually upped the ante and won the lion's share of possession in the first half.

Kate Kelly and Evelyn Quigley ruled centrefield and had the Cork defence under constant pressure.

Their persistence paid off after 18 minutes when Ursula Jacob rattled the Cork net to put her side in front by 1-2 to 0-3.

Wexford's confidence was growing by the minute. Indeed had they shown more composure up front and been more accurate with placed balls they would have caused Cork severe problems.

Jacob added a point four minutes



Cork corner forward Una O'Donoghue tries to get past Wexford's Claire O'Connor during their National Camogie League semi-final at Nenagh.

By LINDA MELLERICK  
Camogie

later but two pointed frees from Jennifer O'Leary kept the minimum between the sides entering the final five minutes of the half.

A point apiece from Kelly and O'Donovan left it with Wexford entering the dressing room at the break leading 1-4 to 0-6.

It was evident that the game had started to swing in Cork's favour in the last five minutes of the first period. They upped the tempo and started to show their true ability.

The second half started with Cork again forcing the pace. The

Cork mentors made two positional changes which had an immediate effect.

Rachel Moloney and Angela Walsh moved to centrefield, with Breige Corkery and Emer Dillon switching to right half forward and centre forward respectively.

Moloney and Walsh thrived in their new roles and Cork began to drive forward.

Within two minutes Walsh had edged Cork in front by two points with a magnificent goal.

Gaining possession on the halfway line she soloed all of 60 yards before playing a one-two and shooting to the far corner.

O'Leary added two further frees and Cork now led by four points.

It appeared as if the floodgates would now open, but Wexford had other ideas and an excellent goal by Mary Leacy reduced the deficit to one point with 14 minutes remaining.

Again it was a Cork error when they lost possession out the field. Wexford delivered a fast ball in and Leacy, all alone on the edge of the square, gave Aoife Murray no chance.

Kate Kelly levelled it two minutes later, 2-5 to 1-8.

O'Leary and Walsh added two for Cork with Sandy Carr replying for Wexford.

A point separated the sides entering injury-time when substitute Clara Healy, who had entered the game minutes earlier, scored an excellent point to leave a two points margin at the final whistle.

Cork were evidently disappointed with their performance but they are through to the final and at the end of the day it was mission accomplished.

**Scorers for Cork:** J O'Leary 0-6 (0-5f), A Walsh 1-2, S O'Donovan 0-2, C Healy 0-1.

**Wexford:** U Jacob 1-1, K Kelly 0-3 (0-1f), M Leacy 1-0, A Codd and S Carr 0-1 each.

**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, J O'Leary, U O'Donoghue, S O'Donovan, E Burke.

**Subs:** Denise Twomey for E Burke (40mins), R Holland for J Browne (45mins), P O'Connor for B Corkery (55mins), C Healy for U O'Donoghue (50mins).

**WEXFORD:** M D'Arcy, A Moran, C O'Loughlin, C O'Connor, A Codd, M Leacy, B Holohan, K Kelly, D Codd, A O'Connor, E Quigley, L Holohan, U Leacy, M Heame, U Jacob.

**Subs:** O Hernan for M Heame (35mins), C Murphy for D Codd (38mins), S Carr for A O'Connor (47mins).

## WHAT THEY SAID

IT'S better to play poorly and win than to play to the best of your ability and lose. Cork are well aware that yesterday's performance won't do come championship time.

Although playing well below par, they are through to the National League final and must look at the positives rather than the negatives. Cork manager John Cronin had mixed emotions after the game.

While delighted to be in the final, he was only too aware that the side will need to up the level of their performance.

"After our big win against Tipperary I suppose it was bound to come back on us a bit.

"It was always going to be hard to raise them to that level again so soon.

"We were very flat in the first half and the players seemed very nervous.

"I said at half-time that we were playing badly and yet only down a point. We had to

improve from there.

"We'll have to improve a lot for the assignment against Galway," the Cork mentor added.

Willie Carley, in his first year in charge with the Wexford seniors, felt it was a case of a lot done but a lot more to do.

"I'm the new kid on the block and I've been working an awful lot on skill with them.

"I don't believe in this rounds of the field kind of thing so whatever we do we do with the hurley and ball.

"But there's an awful lot needs to be done with them. I was quite satisfied today.

We showed improvement at times. I felt we should have won the first half but in the end probably lost it more than anything else.

"We showed desperation at times, carelessly giving away the ball. We're playing Cork in the championship in Wexford in July and this time we'll try not to let them off the hook," he declared.

## JUNIORS AIM FOR FINAL SPOT

WITH the seniors safely through to the league final the county junior team will be hoping to make it a double when they meet Laois on Saturday next in Cashel at 2.30pm. This year Cork have had to field a new junior team following on last year All Ireland victory and through the league campaign to date the team worked hard to book their place in the semi final, in between they have advanced to a Munster Championship semi final meeting with Clare and preparations have gone well. They have been boosted also by the inclusion of several players who were regarded this year and the team is a good blend of youth and experience. Mary Coleman, Niamh Bowles, Ciara Healy and Frances Killen are amongst the player who trainer Mag's Finn and coach Miriam Deasy will look to on Saturday to help book a second league final place for Cork and certainly they are more than capable against a Laois side who will provide tough opposition.

## CamogieChat

With Mary Newman

### Seniors advance to final

HAVING to withstand a late Wexford onslaught before booking their place in the national league final the county senior side now look forward to a meeting with Galway on May 21. Trailing by two points at the interval a goal by league debutant Angela Walsh gave Cork the lead two minutes into the second half. Wexford failed to panic and worked hard keeping to keep in touch, a Mary Leacy goal put just one point between the teams and with the sides exchanging points Cork held their slender lead. Angela Walsh stretched it to two with full time looming but two close in frees gave Wexford a chance, standing firm the Cork defence held their line, injury time points by substitutes Sandy Carr and Clara Healy didn't alter the lead as Cork held out to book their place in the final. With the sides pencilled in for a championship meeting on July 17 no doubt we will see a lot of changes in personnel on both sides, Wexford are an emerging force and Cork will know that Sunday's encounter will have been a typical league encounter and despite playing badly they will no doubt be happy to have advanced to contest the league decider.

In the opening game Galway recorded a 1-14 to 1-4 victory over Kilkenny and they certainly looked a side to be reckoned with. Sharon Glynn has done a superb job since taking over the coaching and they will be a force to be reckoned with.



### skills title for Catherine

WELL done to Catherine O'Brien (pictured) from the Inniscarra club who took the Cork Feile Na nGael skills title. In a close contest Catherine edged out Ballinhassig's Catriona Collins who was places second followed by Denise Luby from Glen Rovers in third. Well done to all participants on their superb performances.

## Juniors set to secure place in league final

IT'S a hectic time of year for many of Cork's inter-county players, particularly those involved with both the junior and senior panels.

Last week, the seniors qualified for the National League final with a two points win over Wexford.

Tomorrow afternoon in Cashel, the Cork juniors bid for a place in the junior decider when they take on Laois in the semi-final at 2.30pm.

Ciara Healy, Lynda O'Connell and Niamh Bowles are three players facing a hectic schedule.

Ciara Healy came on as a sub in the senior game last weekend and scored a marvellous point when the game was hanging in the balance.

The senior mentors have released all such players for the clash, leaving the junior mentors with plenty of options.

Healy, in flying form at full-forward this year, is sure to fill the spot again. While Cork have yet to name their team it's sure to be along the same lines as that which defeated Tipperary in the final group game four weeks ago.

Francis Killen will be in goal. The six defenders should be Deirdre Hayes, Aine Kelleher, Stephanie McInerney, Lynda O'Connell, Emer O'Sullivan and Niamh Bowles. Lucey Hawkes is unavailable until after her exams. Orla Cotter and Deirdre Coomey are likely to lineout at midfield while Hazel O'Regan, Orla Coughlan, Michelle Brown, Emer O'Friel, Ellen O'Herlity and Clodagh Deasy will compete for the five positions up front.

Laois reached their first National League final 12 months ago but were defeated by Kildare. They are a talented outfit with many of the players rising up through the ranks.

Sarah Guddy, an All-Star nominee in 2004, is a top class defender and is sure to play a prominent role.

Therese Keenan is the very accurate free-taker while forward Louise O'Mahony is another key player.

While Laois have made great strides, it is hard to see them giving Cork a scare.

Cork have huge strength in depth while Laois have a maximum six clubs in the county.

Trained by Pat Delaney, they feel that they will be there or thereabout when the final whistle sounds on Saturday afternoon.

Laois are eager to build on their minor success and are determined to reach their second league final in as many years.

### Fixture

Tomorrow: National Junior League semi-final, Cashel, 2.30pm.

MAY  
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Catherine O'Brien from the Inniscarra Camogie Club presenting first prize in the Inniscarra Camogie Club's recent draw to Angela Riordan, Ballincollig who shared it with her sister Bernadette Mulcahy, Ballynoe. Also pictured is Margaret O'Sullivan secretary, Joan O'Leary treasurer and John Lane chairperson.

Picture: Tim Buckley

# Catherine wins skills competition

**There has been a hive of activity in Inniscarra camogie circles in recent months.**

The Cork County Féile individual skills competition was held in Páirc Camógaiochta Inis Cartha on Wednesday night last. Catherine O'Brien from the Inniscarra club emerged as winner.

Catherine is 14 and captained

Cloghroe to Sciath na Scol honours in 2003 and Inniscarra to Muskerry U11 success in 2002.

Since camogie began to be played in the parish, the O'Brien family of Cloghroe have contributed enormously to Inniscarra both on and off the field.

During the summer of 2001, the club set up a committee to investigate the possibility of getting a pitch of their own. In

the culmination of an extraordinary feat for the Inniscarra club the pitch was officially opened on 24th July 2004.

This is the first pitch in County Cork and only the third in the country to be dedicated to camogie only.

It is one of the first camogie pitches in the country to be bought and developed to completion by a club.

The Inniscarra club was very keen to clear the outstanding debt as quickly as possible.

To this end a grounds development draw was organised during the months of February to April and held on the Wayside in Cloghroe on April 28 last.

First prize €5,000 went to sisters Angela Riordan, Ballincollig & Bernadette Mulcahy, Ballynoe.

## CAMOGIE

### National League Div 2 semi-finals

Galway 2-12 (C Glynn 1-2, E Haverty 1-0, M Dunne 0-5 (3F, 1'45), M O'Brien 0-2, M Kelly, T Manton, Y Donnelly 0-1 each).  
Waterford 1-4 (A Lyng 1-3 (0-2F), B Kenny 0-1).

Cork 4-13 (C Healy 3-11, M Coleman 1-0, C Deasy, E O'Herlihy 0-1 each).  
Laois 0-6 (L Mahony, E Mahony 0-2 each, T Keenan 0-1 (F), A Dooley 0-1).

Leinster MAC final: Kilkenny 3-12 (M Quilty 1-4, E Kease, A Farrell 1-1 each, M Dargan 0-3, C Dorme, S Fahy 0-1, N Corrigan 0-1 each).  
Dublin 2-8 (A Murphy, K Murphy 1-0 each, C Moloney 0-4, M O'Gorman 0-2, K Farrell, C Donnelly 0-1 each).

Leinster MBC final: Offaly 5-4 (A Dooley, M Markham 2-1 each, M Moloney 1-0, A Cordial, S Flannery 0-1 each).  
Kildare 4-5 (C Farrell, T Lyng, S Healy 1-1 each, S Hurley 1-0, L Walsh 0-2).

Leinster U14 Championship Rd 1:  
Kildare 2-5 Offaly 2-2, Dublin 4-10 Wexford 0-4.

● **CLASSY CIARA:** Cork's Ciara Healy hit an incredible 3-11 in their National Camogie League (Division Two) semi-final victory over Laois (4-13 to 0-6) in Cashel on Saturday.

The Rebels progress to a meeting with Galway on May 29 after the Connacht side defeated Waterford 2-12 to 1-4 in Walsh Park. Goals from Clodagh Glynn and substitute Emer Haverty proved crucial to Galway's progression to the decider.

The same counties will also contest the Division One Final.

## County championship draws with plenty of bite

AT Páirc Uí Chaoimh on Thursday last, draws for the county championship were the focus of attention. In what is a first for Cork camogie there will be a second chance for losers in the Senior A championship, while in the Senior B and Junior A championship, a round robin system will be in operation.

Ten clubs and six divisions went into the hat for the Senior A championship, and under the new system there will be one preliminary game with two divisions meeting, the 10 clubs will play in round one with the losing club meeting a division in round two while the winners progress to round three. B now there will be 10 teams remaining therefore only two games will be played in round three, with six teams going forward to round four.

In the Senior B and junior A championship the teams are divided into two sections with the top two in each emerging to contest the semi-finals. The Junior B championship remains a straight knock out competition.

Certainly there are some mouthwatering games anticipated, the meeting of last year's defeated finalists Milford and Cloughduv drawing gaps as the names emerged

from the hat, the losers to play Imokilly. St Finbarrs have a meeting with the students from UCC and here the southside outfit will be confident of advancing with the losers pencilled in to meet Carbery.

In a repeat of the county final of 2003 Inniscarra come face to face with Fr O Neills and for the losers it's a date with Seandun. Newly promoted Aghbullogue will make life tough for Barryroe with Muskerry awaiting the losing team in round two. Kilbrittain meet Courcy Rovers and this is a clash that both will be anxious to win with the losers down for a tough second round meeting with county champions Carrigdhoun.

The Senior B section 1 has Valley Rovers, Eire Og, St Catherine's, Carrigaline and Newcestown pitted against each other while section 2 will see Glen Rovers, Ballinhassig, Bishopstown and Ballygarvan all vying for honours. While last year's defeated county finalists Ballygarvan will be hot favourites to go one better this year, the round robin system will give the other teams a chance of causing a surprise.

In the Junior A, Douglas, who will be favoured to lift



Catherine O'Brien, Inniscarra Camogie Club, Cork County Camogie Féile skills winner for 2005.

Picture: Tim Buckley

the title, are in a group with Sarsfields and Watergrasshill while the first group has Rockban meeting Ballyhea, Newtownshandrum and Killeagh.

The county board has secured sponsorship, with Mercury Restaurant and Lounge, Washington Street. Bob O Leary is to be congratulated for his continued support to camogie in the county.

**Mercury Restaurant Senior A County Championship Preliminary Round:** A Muskerry v Avondhu Round 1: B: Milford v Cloughduv C: St Finbarrs v U.C.C.D: Inniscarra v Fr O Neill E: Aghbullogue v Barryroe F: Courcy Rovers v Kilbrittain Round 2: G: Loser's D v Seandun H: Loser's E v Muskerry or Avondhu I: Loser's B v Imokilly J: Loser's C v Carbery K: Loser's F v Carrigdhoun Round 3: L: Win-

ners C v Winners I M: Winners K v Winners B Round 4: N: Winners F v Winners D O: Winners E v Winners H P: Winners J v Winners G Q: Winners H v Winners L  
SEMI FINALS: N V P O V Q MERCURY RESTAURANT SENIOR B CHAMPIONSHIP SECTION 1 Valley Rovers, Eire Og, St Catherine's, Carrigaline, Newcestown SECTION 2 Glen Rovers, Ballinhassig, Bishopstown, Ballygarvan  
SEMI FINALS WINNERS SECTION 2 V RUNNERS UP SECTION RUNNER UP SECTION 2 V WINNERS SECTION 1 JUNIOR A CHAMPIONSHIP SECTION 1 Rockban, Ballyhea, Newtownshandrum, Killeagh SECTION 2: Sarsfields, Douglas Watergrasshill SEMI FINALS: Losers Sections 1 V Losers Section 2 Winners Section 1 V Winners Section 2 MERCURY RESTAURANT JUNIOR B CHAMPIONSHIP A: ST Fanahan's v Delaney's B: Na Piar-saigh v Brian Dillon's C: Ballincollig v Sliabh Rua D: Clonakilty v Castlemagner E: Kildorrey v Blackrock F: Dungourney v Tracton G: Youghal V Winners E H: Buttevant V Winners A I: Winners D V Winners F J V Winners C V Winners B Semi finals G V J I v H

## Galway set up final date with the Rebels

**GALWAY WATERFORD 2-12 1-4**  
HOT favourites Galway are through to the National Camogie League Division 2 final after a comprehensive semi-final victory over Waterford in Walsh Park yesterday.

However, Galway did not have this semi-final all their own way as the sides were level on less than three occasions in the opening half.

Galway got off to a dream start with a brilliant goal after three minutes when centre forward Clodagh Glynn sent in a high lobbing ball which sailed into the corner of the net.

Despite the early setback, Waterford's only goal of the day came three minutes later from Aine Lyng to level the sides at 1-0 each.

The sides were level again for the third time midway when Waterford's Breda Kenny made it 1-2 each.

Galway added three further points from Molly Dunne and Yvonne Donnelly to put them ahead 1-5 to 1-2 at the break.

The second half saw the Decies put a lot of pressure on the Galway goalmouth but experience told on the day as they failed to find the net in the second half.

Galway, who introduced several subs, then saw sub Emer Haverty fire home the second goal past brave Waterford goalkeeper Aisling O'Brien who had denied Galway on several occasions.

**SCORERS** — Galway: C Glynn 1-2, E Haverty 1-0, M Dunne 0-5 (3F, 1'45), M O'Brien 0-2, M Kelly, T Manton, Y Donnelly 0-1 each. Waterford: A Lyng 1-3 (2F), B Kenny 0-1.

**CORK LAOIS 4-13 0-6**  
GALWAY'S opponents in the Division 2 final will be Cork who easily overcame Laois 4-13 to 0-6 in Cashel in the second semi-final also yesterday.

Ciara Healy who came for the senior side in last Sunday's League semi-final scored a magnificent 3-11 out of 4-13.

Meanwhile, in the Leinster U-14 Camogie Championship, Dublin hammered Wexford 4-10 to 0-4.

**SCORERS** — Cork 4-13: C Healy 3-11, M Coleman 1-0, C Deasy, E O'Herlihy 0-1 each.

MAY 2005



# Healy inspires Cork to an easy victory

Cork 4-13  
Laois 0-6

CIARA HEALY was once again Cork's top scorer when the Rebels easily disposed of a physically-tough but otherwise poor Laois side in the semi-final of the Junior National League in Cashel last Saturday.

Playing with the aid of a very heavy wind, Cork had this game sown up after seven minutes when Healy rattled the net from the penalty spot to add to the three points she registered inside the first three minutes. It was Healy who won the penalty after winning possession and pouring down on goal found herself dragged back by a desperate Laois defence.

Cork were camped in the Laois half of the pitch and were it not for some alert goalkeeping from Marian O'Grady would have put an even greater distance between the sides.

Louise Mahony eventually opened

Linda Mellerick

the scoring for Laois on 20 minutes with an excellent long range free against the wind. She added another five minutes later but that was to be the sum total of their scoring for the first half. Cork meanwhile were continuing to edge further and further away with points from Healy again (3), Clodagh Deasy, Michelle Brown and Orla Cotter.

Mary Coleman finished off good work by the Cork half forward line to the net leaving the half time score standing at 2-9 to 0-2.

Laois, now with the wind at their backs threw everything at Cork in the opening minutes of the second half and hit three points in the fifth, eighth and ninth minutes. Therese Keenan (two) and Mahony again the scorers.

Their joy was short lived as substitute Ellen O'Herlihy and Healy replied



Ciara Healy was Cork's top scorer against Laois, scoring 3-9 of Cork's total of 4-13.

and when Healy goaled on 14 minutes after a great run and pass by Orla Coughlan it was a case of damage limitation for Laois. The Cork selectors made use of the allotted five subs and still they continued to drive forward. Louise Mahony, Emer Delaney, Therese Keenan and Anna Camplion gave everything they had for the Laois cause but Cork's superior strength in all sections of the pitch ensured a facile victory.

Another 1-2 from the magnificent Healy put an end to Cork's scoring spree for the day and it was Laois who

hit the final score on full time with an Anita Dooley point.

**Scorers Cork:** C Healy 3-9 (0-1p, 0-7f), M Coleman 1-0, C Deasy, O Cotter, M Brown and E O'Herlihy 0-1 each.

**Laois:** L Mahony 0-3 (0-2f), T Keenan 0-2(f), A Dooley 0-1.

**CORK:** F Killeen, D Hayes, R Holland, N Bowles, E O'Sullivan, L O'Donnell, A Watson, D Coomey, O Cotter, O Coughlan, D O'Reilly, M Browne, M Coleman, C Healy, C Deasy.

**Subs:** H O'Regan for M Browne, E O'Herlihy for D Coomey, E O'Friel for O Coughlan, N Collins for M Coleman, E Waters for L O'Donnell.

**Laois:** M O'Grady, E Cuddy, E Moynan, L Helfernan, C Phelan, M Moore, S Cuddy, T Keenan, A Camplion, L Mahony, A Donoghue, E Delaney, E Mahony, S Moylan, M Dowling.

**Subs:** L O'Callaghan for M Dowling, A Dooley for L Helfernan.

## Cork juniors impress on their way to national finals

Cork 4-13  
Laois 0-6

INDICATIONS from as early as the seventh minute were that the junior side would be joining the senior in the national league finals on May 29, and this proved correct as Cork proceeded to give a superb display of camogie.

For full forward Ciara Healy the game was a particularly satisfying outing as she notched up 3-9 of

Cork's tally of 4-13. Aided by the near gale force wind in the opening half Cork took full advantage and had 2-6 on the scoreboard before Elaine Mahony opened the Laois scoring with a 20th minute pointed free. In between Ciara Healy and Mary Coleman had found the net for Cork with Healy also adding four points. Michelle Browne and Orla Cotter were also on target with points, and holding all the aces Cork turned over leading 2-9 to 0-2 at the

interval.

A much improved Laois took the field for the second half and, aided by the elements, they began to play with more confidence.

Three points without reply from Therese Kirwin and Louise Mahony cut the deficit as they held Cork scoreless for the opening 10 minutes. Substitute Ellen O'Herlihy had Cork's opening score of the half with an 11th minute point quickly followed by a pointed Ciara Healy

free.

Any hope Laois had of a revival were quashed when Orla Coughlan set up Ciara Healy for a third Cork goal, and six minutes later Healy grabbed her side's fourth, calmly palming past in the Laois goal.

From here to the finish it was all Cork, but to their credit Laois battled on with Anita Dooley adding their sixth point seconds from the full time whistle.

In the second semi-final Galway

recorded a 2-14 to 1-4 victory over Waterford to set up a meeting with Cork in both senior and junior national league final which will be played on Sunday, May 29, at a venue to be announced.

**Cork:** F. Killeen, D Hayes, R Holland, N Bowles, E O'Sullivan, L O'Connell, A Watson, D Coomey, O Cotter, O Coughlan, O'Reilly, M. Browne, M Coleman, C Healy, C Deasy. Subs: H O'Regan for M Browne, E Waters for L O'Connell, E O'Herlihy for D Coomey, E O'Friel for O Coughlan, N Collins for L O'Connell.

## Cork crash out despite Healy's efforts

by Mary Newman

Clare 0-11  
Cork 0-10

IT WAS a disappointing outing to Bodyke for the county junior team as they failed to negotiate the challenge posed by a strong Clare side in the Munster Junior championship semi-final and went crashing out of

contention for major championship honours this season.

In a game that never sprung to life, Cork fielding a new line out this year following on last year's success, could never get away from a home side that were very determined from the throw in.

With both sides exchanging points continually through the game, the majority of scores coming from

placed balls, there was never more than two points between them.

At the interval they were dead-locked and that's how it remained through much of the second half.

Going into the closing stages, Cork thanks mainly to the accuracy of Ciara Healy, held a slender lead but Clare put the Cork defence under tremendous pressure and won two frees

which Claire McMahon stepped up to confidently convert and edged the home side past the finishing line and into the Munster final.

It was a day when Cork certainly deserved no more than a draw and a second bite of the cherry after a game when most of the score from both sides came from placed balls, with Claire McMahon and Ciara Healy excelling for their respective sides.

### ● DUBS WIN:

Dublin overcame Offaly 3-7 to 2-4 in the opening round of the Leinster junior camogie championship in Páirc Uí Mhurchú, Ballyboden St. Enda's, yesterday.

Meanwhile, reigning Munster and All-Ireland Junior champions Cork fell to Clare (0-11 to 0-10) in the provincial semi-final in Bodyke.

Byrne: registered a personal best in Manchester.

MAY

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**T**HE county junior's side will join the senior team in the national league finals on Sunday, May 29 after they proved much too strong for Laois on Saturday last.

Full forward Ciara Healy was star of the show as she notched up 3-9 of Cork's tally of 4-13. Aided by the wind in the opening half Cork had raced into a 2-6 lead before Elaine Mahony opened the Laois scoring with a twenty minute pointed free. In the interim Ciara Healy and Mary Coleman had grabbed Cork goals with Healy adding four points, Michelle Browne and Oral Cotter also on target with points as cork dictated terms to lead 2-9 to 0-2 at the interval.

Laois showed fierce determination form the restart and now aided by the elements they began to play with more confidence, three points without replay from Therese Kirwin and Louise Mahony cut the deficit before Cork substitute Ellen O'Herlihy had her sides opening score of the second half quickly followed by a pointed Ciara Healy free. If Laois hoped for a revival they were wrong as Orla Coughlan set up Ciara Healy for a third Cork goal and six minutes later Healy grabbed her sides fourth calmly palming to the net. From here to the finish it was all Cork but to their credit Laois battled on with Anita Dooley adding their sixth point seconds from the full time whistle.

In the second semi final Galway recorded a 2-14 to 1-4 victory over Waterford to set up a meeting with Cork in both senior and junior national league final which will be played on Sunday, May 29 at a venue to be announced.

## THOUGHTS NOW TURN TO MUNSTER CHAMPIONSHIP

THERE is little time to rest for the junior as it's into championship action on Saturday next when they travel to Bodyke Co Clare for a Munster semi final meeting with the home county. It's a repeat of last year final when Cork stripped Clare of their crown and they will be going all out to avenge that defeat. Clare will be fielding a strong side as it's the counties first



Cork Colleges Camogie team who recently won the inter county divisional blitz

choice team and Cork will be hoping to maintain the momentum that has seen them reached the national league decider, with no back door system in operation its all or nothing on Saturday.

## CHAMPIONSHIP DRAWS

AS promised this week we have listed the full championship draws

## MERCURY RESTAURANT SENIOR A COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

Preliminary Round:

A Muskerry v Avondhu

Round 1:

B: Milford v Cloughduv

C: St.Finbarrs v U.C.C

D: Inniscarra v Fr O'Neill

E: Aghbullogue v Barryroe

F: Courcy Rovers v Kilbrittan

Round 2:

G: Loser's D v Seandun

H: Loser's E v Muskerry or Avondhu

I: Loser's B v Imokilly

J: Loser's C v Carbery

K: Loser's F v Carrighoun

Round 3:

L: Winners C v Winners I

M: Winners K v Winners B

Round 4:

N: Winners F v Winners D

O: Winners E v Winners H

P: Winners J v Winners G

Q: Winners H v Winners L

SEMI-FINALS:

N V P

O V Q

MERCURY RESTAURANT

## SENIOR B CHAMPIONSHIP

SECTION 1

Valley Rovers, Eire OG, St

Catherines, Carrigaline, Newcestown

SECTION 2

Glen Rovers, Ballinhassig,

Bishopstown, Ballygarvan

SEMI-FINALS

Winners Section 2 V Runners up

Section 1

Runners up section 2 V Winners

Section 1

MERCURY RESTAURANT

JUNIOR A CHAMPIONSHIP

SECTION 1

Rockban, Ballyhea,

Newtownshandrum, Killeagh

SECTION 2:

Sarsfields, Douglas Watergrashill

SEMI-FINALS:

Losers Sections 1 V Losers Section 2

Winners Section 1 V Winners

Section 2

MERCURY RESTAURANT

JUNIOR B CHAMPIONSHIP

A: ST Fanahan's v Delaney's

B: Na Piarasigh v Brian Dillon's

C: Ballincollig v Sliabh Rua

D: Clonakilty v Castlemagner

E: Kildorrey V Blackrock

F: Dungourney v Tracton

G: Youghal V Winners E

H: Buttevant V Winners A

I: Winners D V Winners F

J: Winners C V Winners B

SEMI-FINALS:

G V J

I V H

# Fixtures are coming thick and fast for Cork girls

By LINDA MELERICK

Cork camogie preview

CORK will play their third competitive fixture in 19 days this coming Saturday when they travel to Bodyke, in Clare to play the home county in this year's Munster Junior Championship semi-final (3.30pm).

The demands on the players this time of year allows little time for recuperation and none whatsoever to recover from any injuries and knocks picked up.

Cork's star half-back Lynda O'Connell was involved in a heavy collision against Laois last Saturday in the semi-final of the League and looks doubtful. She will be a huge loss against a physically strong Clare outfit.

Twelve months ago the two teams met at the same stage of the championship and an excellent Cork side, who went on to win the All-Ireland, hit the banner for six and were leading comfortably entering the last quarter of the game.

Cork went to sleep and for 10 minutes Clare ran riot. They narrowed the deficit to a couple of points and had Cork on the back foot before the Rebels realising they were in trouble upped the ante and ran out eventual winners by four points.

Cork have a new squad this year while Clare remain the same.

The good news from a Cork point of view is the senior players are available and at their disposal which means Rosalie Holland of Barryroe, Niamh Bowles of Newtownshandrum and Ciara Healy, the team's top scorer, will start.

Cork will need their expertise.

Like their hurlers, Clare will contest the game very physically and playing in their own back yard will be hard to beat. Cork's defence is strong with Bowles, Edwina Waters and Eimear O'Sullivan experienced and playing well.

There is no doubt but should Lynda O'Connell not start, her tough, physical play will be missed and she is one Cork would love to have for the encounter.

Should Deirdre Coomey and Orla Cotter at centerfield play a fast ball into Orla Coughlan, Mary Coleman and Healy then Cork will cause problems.

Once Healy gets the ball into her hand she is extremely difficult to stop and it usually leads to a score.

Catherine O'Loughlin will be Clare's main threat. Fast and nifty up front she has almost single handedly won games for her County. The supply going through will have to be curtailed. This one is hard to call. Cork may just shade it.

While there is no substitute for match practice and while Cork are improving with each outing, the team must be tired. This game will be tough and win or lose the side play the National League final next Sunday in Templemore. Heavy demands indeed but winning makes it that much easier!

# League final date makes little sense

WHEN I heard the fixture date for the National Senior Camogie League Final between Cork and Galway, I couldn't believe it.

The date is Sunday May 22. Yes! None other than the day when Cork play Waterford in the Munster Hurling Championship. The fixture is driving me crazy. Not because there's a chance I may miss the hurling game but because of all 'our' efforts to promote our game.

The Camogie Association harp on and on about the threat of our game to other sports, most notably ladies football.

They've roped in former players, like myself, to give of our time and join various committees, all with the one aim of developing and driving camogie forward.

The easiest promotion of all is to play our attractive fixtures where the public can view them.

Not behind closed doors! All the 'paper promoting' and boardroom talk in the world won't draw the gate receipts and won't increase membership.

It has always been my recommendation and one which I again highlighted to the 'Competitions Review Committee', of which I am a member. Right now I wonder why I bother. We take great steps forward and then ruin it all with decisions like this.

To me this is really a case of just getting the fixture out of the way. To try and make amends Central Council have informed Cork that the game is to be moved from Kilkenny to Templemore, Tipperary with throw in at 11.45am to allow for players to get across to Thurles in time for the hurling match. What a joke! 11.45am for a National League final? The very timing makes the event unimportant. And the players aren't the issue here. They are already

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie

dedicated camogie fans. It's the general public we are trying to convert. Did we even try to get the game as a curtain-raiser to the hurling clash? Or even after it which would be better again! Our big games should be played at venues where curiosity and general GAA interest would entice a person to pop over the road and watch a camogie game live for the first time. If only 50 people did this six times a year and thoroughly enjoyed it, then we're winning. With that off my chest, I'll refer back to last Saturday's semi-final win over Wexford. Four weeks ago I was thrilled with Cork's display against Tipp in their final group game. They showed hunger, fitness and an abundance of skill. Last week I was extremely disappointed but, on reflection, maybe it was a good thing. Cork play Wexford in the first round of the All-Ireland Championship on July 2. Cork, over the years, have shown that they need to be hungry to win. A victory or two and we forget very quickly what it's like to lose and what is required to win. I suppose it goes for all codes really. Winning back to back All-Ireland titles is an extremely hard thing to do. You have to have that killer instinct, the instinct that will make you lunge for a ball regardless of the consequences just to get it. Cork have lost the last two All-Irelands and there is no doubting their hunger or their commitment this year to date. I'm just hoping that this hunger isn't saved for Tipperary alone. Wexford will be a fitter, tougher more determined team come July but so should Cork.

We have the talent skill wise. But I'd love to see a little more passion. When a game hangs in the balance, it's that very emotion which will give you the edge.

## CAMOGIE

Munster Junior Championship semi-final

CLARE 0-11 (D. Murphy 0-4 (0-2), C. Mc Mahon 0-4 (0-4), C. Halley, L. Linnane, F. Lafferty 0-1 each) CORK 0-10 (C. Healy 0-10 (0-9))

CLARE: R. Lynch; J. Scanlon, D. Corcoran, C. Mc Mahon; S. Lafferty, E. Minogue, C. Halley; D. Lynch, M. Mc Mahon; L. Linnane, D. Murphy, E. Gaffery; Claire Mc Mahon, F. Lafferty, C. O'Loughlin. Subs: D. Lynch for S. Lafferty, M. O'Halloran for C. Commene. CORK: F. Killeen; D. Hayes, R. Holland, N. Bowles; E. O'Sullivan, L. O'Connell, A. Watson; O. Cotter, D. Coomey; O. Coughlan, D. O'Reilly, M. Coleman; H. Regan, C. Healy, C. Deasy. Ref: R. Kelleher, Limerick.

Leinster Junior Championship quarter-final

DUBLIN 3-7 (A. Cullen, C. Durkan, E. Brannigan 1-0 each, C. Lucey 0-3 (0-2 '45, 0-1), L. O'Hara 0-2, N. Taylor, G. Mc Cluskey 0-1 each) OFFALY 2-4 (S. Daly, M. Molloy 1-0 each, M. Davis 0-3 (0-2), 0-1 '45), E. Dermody 0-1 (0-1))

DUBLIN: E. Butler; S. Hanks, A. Mc Cluskey, E. Ryan; A. Fitzpatrick, S. Cunnane, C. Power; C. Lucey, A. Fanning; S. Curran, L. O'Hara, C. Durkan; G. Mc Cluskey, A. Cullen, N. Taylor. Subs: E. Brannigan for S. Curran, 29mins.

OFFALY: C. Kelly; M. Corcoran, L. Corcoran, K. Brady; M. Morkan, E. Dermody, M. Crean; K. Nugent, F. Stephens; E. Corcoran, M. Davis, S. Daly; S. Sullivan, M. Kelly, M. Weyer. Subs: M. Molloy for S. Sullivan, 46mins, C. Crean for S. Daly 54mins.

Ref: P. Gannon, Meath.

Fixtures, Sunday:

National League Div 1 final: Galway v Cork, Temple Stadium, 5.30pm.

Div 2 final: Galway v Cork, Pairc Shileann, Templemore, 3pm.

## Camogie side successful

● CAMOGIE: Community Games: Douglas won the Cork section the weekend before last, and so will be again representing the county later in the season. Congratulations to our girls.



# Rebels lose their crowns after defeat

Clare 0-11 By LINDA MELLERICK  
Cork 0-10 Munster Junior camogie semi-final

CORK lost their Munster and All-Ireland crowns in Bodyke last Saturday afternoon when they were defeated by Clare in the Munster Junior championship semi-final.

To lose by a point is the cruellest of margins but when Cork reflect on the game they will concede that to score only one point from play and for one player to score the team's total contribution just won't win matches for you.

Thunder and lightning filled the skies before the throw in and the game commenced amidst a tremendous downpour.

The pitch, however, was in good condition and Cork were first to settle. Two pointed frees in the first and third minutes by Healy gave Cork the edge. Clare looked nervous and tense before Laura Linnane got them off the mark in the fourth from play.

Cork had a golden opportunity of a goal in the sixth but failed to connect in front of goal. Healy pointed another free to put two between the sides again. It was Healy who was winning the majority of frees as the Clare defence ensured she never got too near the danger area.

Apart from Healy, Cork had little penetration up front. They looked tired and lacked hunger and drive.

Orla Cotter, once again, worked like a Trojan at centerfield. Lynda O'Connell, who went to incredible lengths during the week to overcome injuries picked up a week ago, gave a solid display at centre-back and she was ably assisted by right half-back Eimear O'Sullivan.

Cork had another goal chance thwarted in the 14th minute. Rachel Lynch saved from Clodagh Deasy and the ball was eventually pulled wide.

These two missed opportunities had a huge bearing on the game. As the first half wore on Clare's confidence grew. Deirdre Murphy operating at centerfield was excellent.

Maura McMahon was as ever battling for every ball and up front Claire McMahon caused endless problems for the Cork full back line. It was the banner county who finished the half strongest. Four points in the 19th, 20th, 21st and 25th minutes saw them lead by two entering the final two minutes. Healy pointed two further frees and the

half ended seven-points-a-piece.

The second half now gave way to sunshine. In a tight pitch which allowed for no open play the game became more of a tussle. Only one point from play tells its own story.

Clare pointed a free in the eighth, Healy replied in the 13th. Both counties again swopped points in the 18th and 19th minutes, the latter Corks only score from play. Clare tapped over again on the 24th and Cork replied on 26.

Entering the final moments of the game it was Clare who were awarded a sceptical free in front of goal and McMahon converted. Despite the fact that they were numerous stoppages in the game no extra time was added and when the full time whistle blew Cork were dethroned of their coveted Munster and All-Ireland titles.

A bitterly disappointed Cork manager Brendan Coleman gave his thoughts after the game.

"We're extremely disappointed. We just didn't perform. You can't expect to win with only one forward scoring", the Valley Rovers man declared. "We had two goal chances in the first half and if we had converted those things would have been different. But we didn't."

Coleman felt that it just wasn't to be their day. Nothing, he felt, went right. The journey was tough; the tight pitch didn't suit their game and corner back Deirdre Hayes arrived late for the game due to exam commitments.

"It was just one of those days. Little things can upset your game plan and we just never got into our stride. We were off form. But that's sport; you have to take the bad with the good. My job now is to lift the team for next Sunday's National League Final against Galway and hopefully get something out of the year," he said.

**Scorers Clare:** C McMahon 0-4(f), D Murphy 0-4(f), C Halley, F Lafferty and L Linnane 0-1 each.

**Cork:** C Healy 0-10(f-9f)  
**CORK:** F Killeen, A Kelleher, R Holland, N Bowles, E O'Sullivan, L O'Connell, A Watson, O Cotter, D Coomey, O Coughlan, O'Reilly, M Browne, H O'Regan, C Healy, C Deasy.

**Subs:** M Coleman for M Browne, E O'Herlihy for D Coomey.

**CLARE:** R Lynch, J Scanlon, D Corcoran, C McMahon, S Lafferty, E Minogue, C Halley, D Murphy, M McMahon, L Linnane, M Whelan, E Gallery, C McMahon, F Lafferty, C O'Loughlin.

**Subs:** D Lynch for S Lafferty.

**Referee:** Rosemary Kelleher (Limerick)

## JUNIORS LOSE THEIR CROWNS

DISAPPOINTMENT for the juniors team who failed to negotiate the challenge posed by a strong Clare side in the Munster Junior championship semi final at Bodyke on Saturday last.

Fielding a new line out this year following on last years All Ireland success it was always going to be an upward struggle but given the tremendous league performances which has seen the side reach next weekends final hopes were high. A very determined home side made the going tough from the throw in and with both sides exchanging points continually through the game the majority of scores coming from placed balls their was never more than two points between them, at the interval the sides were level and that's how it remained through much of the second half as they continued to swapped points.

With full forward Ciara Healy the only player to be on target Cork held a slender lead but Clare converting two frees edged into a lead which they held to the final whistle to book their place in the Munster final on a day when certainly Cork deserved no more than a draw. The backroom team now have to rally their charges for next Sundays league final.

## LEAGUE DOUBLE IS ON THE CARDS

SUNDAY is a busy day as the Cork Junior and senior's county teams go in search of a national league double. Unfortunately the games are scheduled for two separated venues and first stop will be Templemore at 3pm with the Juniors meeting Galway its then a dash to Semple Stadium Thurles where the senior teams from the same counties meet to decide the destination of the senior title at 5.30pm This game is being played after the Munster Football championship meeting of Kerry and Tipperary and with little or no interest in either Cork or Galway in this game it just does not make sense not to play the two camogie games in Templemore, seemingly the senior game is geared towards television coverage after the football game but surely a more sensible alternative would have been to have the

junior game later in the evening at a venue near Thurles, never the less the focus of the players and mentors are the games and certainly we are promises two lively encounters.

Galway have put in a huge effort to reach the senior decider and they have shown huge improvements under the guidance of former inter county star Sharon Glynn. They dealt with the challenge of Kilkenny in their semi final with confidence through the league campaign has shown steady improvements. It's been 2002 since they last contested the senior league final on a day when they defeated Limerick to take the title and the feeling in the county is one of optimism, on a few occasions over years they have promised a lot but have failed to deliver at the final hurdle. Last season PJ Molloy took over the coaching duties but they failed to make an impression losing out to Cork at All Ireland championship semi final stage.

Former inter county star Sharon Glynn has joined Molloy and Damien Coleman as a selector the players have responded magnificently they have a nice blend of youth and experience and on their performance last day out will prove a handful for Cork.

Cork have used the league to introduce new faces to their team, on Sunday they are hampered by the non availability of several players who are tied with exams and by injury but never the less the mood is a positive one. Wexford provided a stern test semi final test and having over come the strong challenge they will go into Sundays final confidently. Newcomer Angela Walsh fitted in well in her first senior game and she is almost certain to get another chance to stake a bid for a permanent place on the starting fifteen. Ciara Healy has been performing well with the county junior team and while she will be a huge loss to them in their quest for a junior title her inclusion from the start would be a huge boost to the senior side. Nora Ahern has impressed in defence and has also fitted in well through the campaign, team captain Elaine Burke is struggling with an injury and may be ruled out and if so the team will be led by vice captain Emer Dillon. The team will not be announced to the players until Friday evening but will be expected to be along the lines of the one which defeated Wexford.

The Juniors will have mixed emotions following on their exit from the Munster

## CamogieChat

With Mary Newman



Joanne O'Callaghan, who lines out with Cork seniors in their National League Final with Galway on Sunday.

and All Ireland championship last weekend at the hands of Clare, coach Brendan Coleman and his back room team will have to lift the spirits and try and regroup their charges to get something from a year which looked to be going so brightly for them but no doubt they will give it their all. As with the seniors they are hampered by players who are exam tied and they will be also have players who will be lining out with the senior team and therefore not available for the junior decider, this is something which should have been taken into consideration when the powers that be decided to play the two finals on the same day. With just sixty minutes separating them from a national league title they will give it their all, Deirdre O'Reilly, Mary Coleman, Frances Killeen, Niamh Bowles and Orla Cotter are amongst the players who have impressed through the league to date and no doubt again on Sunday they will form the backbone of Corks bid for the first half of a unique double against a Galway side who will also face the dilemma of having players on both panels. Linda O'Connell will be hoping to lead her side in what is the first half of a unique double on the same day and given the tremendous effort they have put in this year it's no more that they deserve.

# Fixture madness leaves camogie sides tied up

AFTER ALL the controversy surrounding the initial date for this year's Senior National league final, which was originally down for tomorrow, clashing with the Munster hurling championship encounter with Waterford, the final is switched to next Sunday the 29th.

Even then the fixture leaves a lot to be desired from both counties point of view.

Cork and Galway contest both the junior and senior finals.

What the central fixtures committee has decided is that the junior final will also go ahead on the 29th in Templemore at 3pm and the senior final will take place in Thurles at 5.30pm after the first round Munster Football tie between Kerry and Tipp.

I often wonder how the committee comes up with such proposals.

Both counties have players on both the junior and senior panels.

The junior game at 3pm will not finish until approx. 4.20pm.

At least four of the Cork panel in-

cluding county board officials, supporters and the media will have to jump into cars (forget about the presentation, there'll be no time for that) and drive the 20 minutes or so to Thurles to make the senior final.

20 minutes is the minimum this journey would take on a normal day. But this isn't a normal day - it's Munster Football championship day! Traffic in general and the restrictions in place will make it virtually impossible to park within a mile of the grounds.

It's going to be pandemonium and what should be a relaxing enjoyable day for both sets of supporters will now be a time watching panic. Most notably the junior side will suffer. Had the senior game gone on in Thurles at 5.30pm preceding the junior game at 7.30pm, then the junior selection committee could make use of the senior panellists not used.

As for the senior game! Galway contest their first final since 2002. The Westerners have been their own worst enemy over the past number of years.

Possessing some of the most skilful under age players in the country and with Peares winning five All-Ireland Club titles in eight years their self-destruct conduct is at times difficult to comprehend. In Galway the players seem to retire in their early twenties.

Does that come from not winning?

I don't really think so! A lot of it comes from in house bickering and poor management.

Galway won their first and only All-Ireland in 1996.

A star studded team with an average age of 23. To be fair they contested the '97 and '98 finals after that and were defeated by Cork but they were there.

Since then, nothing! Not only that but they have taken 10 steps backwards. Some of their displays in the last few years were nothing short of dismal.

PJ Molloy took over the reins 12 months ago and in a short space of time improvement was evident. This year, ex-star player, Sharon Glynn (another to retire possibly 8 years before her time) has taken over as manager.

Molloy and Damien Coleman are fellow selectors. Certainly the bite seems to be back.

It may be too a little too early to expect an All-Ireland but it's not a mil-

lion miles away if they can continue to progress. Glynn will have them fired up and she knows that a league title will do her preparations for championship a world of good.

It's hard to judge just how good they really are as their semi-final opponents, Kilkenny, were poor. I expect Cork to take the title.

As for the junior final, if Cork are without their senior panellists it will understandably be a huge loss.

But my reckoning is that any really talented player in Galway will have been snapped up by the senior squad.

Again, they may not release these players for junior duty.

The strength throughout Galway wouldn't be as strong as Cork's and they are unlikely to be able to field two strong teams. It could well be a double victory for the rebels!

On another note, the best of luck to St. Patrick's girls National school who play in the Sciath na Scol finals next Thursday.



# Doubles all round for Kinsale girls

Community school captures colleges trophies in junior and senior grades

by Howard Crowdy

**I**T WAS quite a year for the girls of Kinsale Community School on the camogie front as they notched up an impressive 'double double' on the playing field in capturing the County and Munster colleges trophies in both junior and senior grades.

Speaking at the presentation of medals night in the Trident Hotel in Kinsale, team coach Sinead O'Donovan remarked that it had been a remarkable year for all concerned, with the hard work and dedication paying off with county and Munster titles under their belt.

The juniors defeated Midleton in Kinsale to take the colleges county title, and went on to play in the semi-final then final of the Munster Championship, taking the Munster title by defeating Dromcollagher at their home ground in Limerick.

Not to be outdone, the seniors captured the county title by defeat-

ing St Mary's Mallow in Kinsale, later defeating Laurelhill of Limerick in Newtownshandrum to make it a unique and unprecedented double for the school.

Sr Mary Donovan, school principal, said that on behalf of the school to congratulate the girls on their successes and that they were 'a credit to themselves, their family and their school' following their achievements. "You will all talk about this particular achievement for the rest of your life," she said, in taking not only the county title, but adding the Munster title as well a few short weeks later.

The Principal also paid credit to the players parents "who were unpaid voluntary chauffeurs" and to the team coaches Sinead O'Donovan and Caitriona Leahy for their dedication to both teams.

Caitriona Leahy remarked that the players were great to work with, with total dedication both on and off the pitch. "Some of you are leaving us this year, and I hope that you continue playing camogie in the future. As for the rest of you, another season commences in the autumn with training commencing next September!"

Cork star John Considine presented the senior medals while Paudie Palmer presented the junior medals, with both coaches calling out each player and the contribu-

Members of the Kinsale Community School junior and senior camogie teams pictured at the medal presentation night at the Trident Hotel, Kinsale recently. Right: Ursula Quinn and Sarah Allen, captains of the victorious Kinsale Community School senior and junior camogie teams respectively. Picture: Crowdy



tion they made during their campaigns.

Even now, the trophy collection builds, with the juniors recently

winning the First Year Blitz in Iniscarra and the seniors also winning the VEC Intermediate competition in Cloughduv.



Left: Pictured at the Kinsale Community School camogie medals night at the Trident Hotel in Kinsale were Rebecca O'Donovan, Fiona O'Brien and Siobhan O'Brien.



Kinsale teachers and camogie trainers, Sinead O'Donovan and Caitriona Leahy celebrating the school team's victorious year. Picture: D. Ryan

## A winning year for our camogie teams

KINSALE Community School has just completed a very successful sporting year on the camogie front, with the junior and senior teams sweeping aside all opposition to take both Munster titles.

The seniors defeated Youghal, Limerick's Laurelhill, Glanmire, and Mallow to take their title. The juniors defeated Ballincollig and Mid-

leton then Tulla from Clare and Drumcollagher.

At the medal presentation, the girls praised trainers and popular teachers, Sinead O'Donovan and Caitriona Leahy. The girls presented them with photographs of their winning teams. Principal, Sr Mary O'Donovan, praised their dedication and sporting dedication.

## Cork juniors must lift it one last time

THE Cork junior camogie mentors will have a tough task trying to raise their team after last weekend's Munster semi-final defeat, writes LINDA MELLERICK.

A tired Cork team surrendered their Munster and All-Ireland titles and it is hard to bounce back from that.

But there is no better way than to get back out there again. To win the league would be a great boost and the first step on the ladder to building for next year.

Cork's schedule to date has been pretty tough with league and championship matches intertwined.

This Sunday sees them play their fourth competitive fixture in as many weeks and that is bound to take its toll.

To recover from one game and build yourself up for another in seven days isn't the way to prepare, but Cork will have to pull out all the stops for this one.

It's their last game of the season and it would be fitting and deserved should they be crowned National League Champions.