



Waterford

SIDELINES



The Magazine of Waterford Institute of Technology GAA Club

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CHASING MORE GLORY!

New college year, new students, new lecturers, new beginnings. But one thing hasn't changed: the hunger for GAA success at Waterford IT. If anything, in fact, that hunger can be expected to be even stronger in 2001-02. That's because although the college hurling, football and camogie teams were as competitive as ever last season, unfortunately the silverware passed most of them by. Thankfully there was one shining exception to that slightly depressing rule. Let's hear it, please, for the camogie team, who captured the Ashbourne Cup in style, seeing off UCC in the semi-final and UL in the final. Wonder women!

A big hand too for the WIT footballers, who put up a fantastic performance in taking a star studded Jordanstown - the eventual winners of the competition - to extra time in the second round of the Sigerson Cup.

Alas, that was more or less where the good news ended. The hurlers, who were going for a Fitzgibbon Cup three-in-a-row, were caught on the finishing line by UCC's late late show in the semi-final in Ardfinnan. To rub salt in the wounds, the lads were also beaten by the same opposition in the Division 1 league decider.

The ladies' football team succumbed to UUJ in the first round of the O'Connor Cup. The freshers' hurling team, meanwhile, found UCC too good for them in the final of that competition, although their footballing counterparts put up a series of fine performances in Divisions 1 and 2.

The fact that WIT came so close in so many grades without quite tasting ultimate glory merely underlines how difficult it has become to achieve success in the third-level arena. Still, to paraphrase Oscar Wilde, if there's one thing worse than not winning trophies, it's not being in the running to do so.

And that, thankfully, is not an accusation that can be thrown at us! Rest assured that the WIT representatives will once again be seen at the business end of the leagues and championships this season. And with a bit of luck in running, who knows how much silverware will be won? Incidentally, just to prove how well a GAA education here equips you for life after college, Sidelines is pleased to congratulate a number of alumni on their feats in the past 12 months. Peter Barry, Andy Comerford and Henry Shefflin, all past Fitzgibbon Cup

medal winners in the mustard and green jersey, were key members of the Kilkenny team that crushed Offaly to claim the millennium All Ireland hurling title.

Not to be outdone, if you'll excuse the pun, Tommy Dunne, one of the most distinguished hurlers in the history of the GAA club here, captained Tipperary to NHL and Munster silverware, with other celebrated WIT old boys like Brendan Cummins and Eamon Corcoran among his accomplices. Not to be outdone by her male counterparts former WIT Ashbourne camogie winner and present WIT GAA Club secretary Sinead Nealon won a second consecutive senior All-Ireland with Tipperary in 2000.

How many current students may follow in their footsteps? Plenty, we hope.

Correction: we know!

WELCOME TO SIDELINES 2001

Welcome to Sidelines 2001. The beginning of yet another academic year is just around the corner and the start of yet another GAA season beckons. This year promises to be just as eventful for the club as the previous nineteen. So when you have settled into WIT's environs why not check out the GAA Club. We have over 20 teams catering for everyone from the club junior to the intercounty senior in all codes, Hurling, Gaelic Football, Ladies Football, Camogie and Handball. Sidelines is the essential reading for every GAA fan and provides every student with the who, what and when of the WIT GAA Scene. It has something for everyone.



Ashbourne Cup Champions 2001

Back row L-R: Brigid Grennan, Julie Delaney, Anna-Marie Young, Ursula Walton, Jackie O'Connor, Brigid Mullally, Deirdre Delaney, Mairead Hanrick, Liz Murphy, Eve Talbot, Angela Sheehy, Ursula Jacob.
Front row L-R: Sharon Moylan, Lizzie Lynch, Ann-Marie O'Regan, Ciara Moran, Joanne Hayes, Kate Kelly (Captain), Karen Nugent, Evelyn Quigley, Karina Sommers, Lorna Donegan, Mary Walsh.

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Kate Kelly - Captain Fantastic

by Jackie O'Connor

Ashbourne 2001 will no doubt live vividly in the memory of the panel of 24 determined, strong willed girls who against all odds were crowned Ashbourne Cup Champions but none more so than in the memory of captain Kate Kelly. Her contribution to the team was enormous and not alone did she receive her second Ashbourne medal in three years, but she was also awarded Player of the Tournament for the second time, an incredible feat by any player.



It was during the month of January that the captain of the team was decided upon and Kate was a worthy recipient. A very modest and hard working player, each team mate had great faith in her to lead us to the promised land. I played Freshers camogie with Kate and I knew she had an abundance of talent which I felt really

showed through in this years Ashbourne Cup final. Her trojan work at both the heart of attack and defence knew no bounds. She always seemed to be there in any position when needed. Even Joanne (our goalie) was getting worried that her position in the goal could be short lived! Thus a very versatile player who played a true captains role. Her incredible leadership qualities combined with her ability and skill has made here a household name in her native Wexford where she plays her club camogie with St. Ibars. She is also currently on the Wexford Senior team playing a vital role in attack.

Kate is a 4th Year Business Studies student of Economics and Finance who deep down wished she applied for the Rec Man course but thought the long hours of study and diligent work was not for her! I have the fortune of knowing Kate since first year, so when asked to write an article about her I was more than happy, especially if it meant dishing the dirt on some of the escapades she was involved in over her three years in WIT i.e. Bar Stool Dancing, the Rooster Song and taking refuge in bins to mention but a few. But I'll leave that for another day, so Katie you can relax now!

However, to prove socialising, sport and study do really mix it is noteworthy to remember that Kate not alone excelled in the sporting front but also academically receiving **Business Studies Student of the Year 2001**.

Fortunately Kate has another year in WIT and what a year it would be if another Ashbourne Medal could be added to the silverware. She is an excellent scholar/sports woman but most of all a brilliant friend and an inspiring Captain/Team-mate. **Here's to Ashbourne 2002!!**

Jackie O'Connor is a 4th year Recreational Leisure Management student. She has won two Ashbourne Cup Camogie medals with WIT.

Did you know ...

Did you know ...
Fitzgibbon Cup corner back
Shane McClearn was also
manager of the victorious
Ashbourne Cup Camogie
Team.

Kerry football
midfielder Donal Daly
won a Div 2 All-Ireland
Football league medal
with WIT in 1996.

SENIOR INTERCOUNTY HURLING STARS

Paul Curran : Tipperary

Paul is now entering his third year in WIT and is already the holder of a Freshers All-Ireland medal as well as a coveted Fitzgibbon Cup medal. This year he added a National Hurling League and a Munster senior hurling medal to his collection. An exceptional full back, Paul is just as comfortable in the centre back position.

John O'Neill : Kilkenny

A versatile player, John like Paul has sampled success at the highest level with WIT. At home in midfield or halfback John has a bright future in the game.

Henry Shefflin : Kilkenny

The 'King' as he is affectionately known in WIT. Henry returns to WIT this year to complete his degree in Financial services. Already the holder of a Freshers All-Ireland medal and two Fitzgibbon cup medals Henry has won everything there is to win in third level hurling. This year with Kilkenny he added a third Leinster senior hurling medal to his silverware to go with his All-Ireland Senior medal and All-Star award.

Michael Jacob : Wexford

This was Michael's first year on the Wexford senior hurling panel. A talented forward he too is the holder of a Freshers All-Ireland medal as well as a coveted Fitzgibbon Cup medal.

Chris McGrath : Wexford

The 'Hopper' returned this year to WIT and with him brought his vast array of talents. A speedy forward, Chris has been a member of the Wexford set up for the last number of years. A veteran of the Fitzgibbon championship winning team of 1999 he also holds All-Ireland League Division 1 medal as well as a Freshers All-Ireland medal.

Damien Murray : Offaly

Damien was a member of this years Freshers Hurling team which was beaten in the All-Ireland Final. He was corner forward in this years Fitzgibbon semi-final and scored an excellent goal. While Damien is excellent from open play he is also very accurate from frees and in this year's National League game against Galway he scored twelve points from frees.

Gearoid Considine : Clare

Gearoid came to Waterford with a huge reputation and certainly proved to everybody here that it wasn't hearsay. At ease at midfield or in the half-forward line he overcame a career threatening injury to become a vital cog in the Fitz team's wheel. His first game after his cruciate ligament injury was against the Waterford seniors in which he scored six points from play. He followed these scoring feats with an exceptional 2-6 from play in our quarterfinal victory over Cork IT in the Fitzgibbon.. A valuable asset to the Clare senior set up he's sure to be one to watch for in the future.

Joe Brady : Offaly

Jo was another member of this years Freshers Hurling team. He came to WIT off the back of Leinster Minor and U21 success with Offaly. He made his senior debut with Offaly in this year's championship against Kilkenny. A young man who certainly has a bright future in the game.

J.J Delaney : Kilkenny

A fresher last year. J.J made an immediate impression on the WIT Hurling scene with some exceptional performances, especially in the Fitzgibbon Cup. He made his intercounty senior debut against Offaly in the Leinster semi-final at corner back and produced a solid performance. In the Leinster final he once more proved his competence at this level with a polished display.

Entering a college environment for the first time was a daunting experience, with an avalanche of new faces, new regulations and a new way of life. The same could be said of my initial contact with the WIT GAA Club, as it was such a vibrant organisation intrinsically linked to everyday college life. I joined the club for a bit of craic and to keep fit and to possibly get an opportunity to play hurling with top class players who were attending WIT at that time. Little did I know then, how some of those players would be some of the greatest friends I would ever meet. And provide unforgettable moments.

After impressing in some early freshers matches, myself and some other fresh faced light weights were told to attend Fitzgibbon Training. At first it sounded like gathering live bait for shark fishing and initially it was!! The first night at training I found a quiet corner in the dressing room as not to disturb anyone. Minding my own business I suddenly realised I was in the shadow of two giants. To my left was big Peter Barry (Kilkenny) and to my right was the even bigger Ollie Moran (Limerick) They stared and I stared back as legends do, and then the questions flowed, who, what, where, when? Medals? What medals I asked. I could feel the drops of sweat on my neck and I hadn't even left the dressing room! But so began my love affair with the Fitzgibbon Cup, winter mud wrestling (I mean training) with WIT GAA Club. We were beaten by the Garda college in the Fitz semi that year even though Brian Tobin played a stormer well into the early hours of the morning on the streets of Cork City. However the league title was captured with a young Andy Moloney landing a great left handed score to the jaw of the Garda centre-back to win by a point in the 'Battle of Cashel'. Although we lost some great clubmen that year, it was the start of a golden era for WIT GAA, much of which was built on the success of an amazing freshers team that won the Division 1 All-Ireland title in April of 1997. Those young men were to

backbone our assault on the 'Fitz' and Preachers Nightclub in the coming years. The likes of Brian Forde, Eamon 'Two Strokes' Corcoran, Mickey Bevans, Chris 'Hopper' McGrath, Randy Moloney, Mark O'Leary, Leigh O'Brien and oh er.....Gussy Flynn!!

The following year again ended in disappointment losing to UCC in the final, but more importantly we had added some new faces to our panel - well it actually resembled more of a circus at times. Willie Maher who was previously a model for Ralph Lauren, a spirited young man by the name of Cathal Murray who never left home without his cream jeans and a modest young chap Henry Shefflin were a few of those talented young men. That weekend was held in Limerick. However on the Monday night chaos was once again enjoyed in the 'Wash' bar in Cork. A lasting memory from that trip involved certain players and a supporter with two unknown UCC camogie players spudpicking at 4am. On the way home from drowning our sorrows one player decided he had enough of driving and opted instead to walk home from Dungarvan. Thankfully the rescue services were able to cut 'Hopper' (Chris McGrath) out of the wreckage.

The breakthrough did eventually come in 1999. A solid management team and intense training provided the platform for our success against old rivals UCC in Templemore. Our passage there was fraught with danger as in the previous rounds our keeper's backside saved us on numerous occasions. Indeed 'Chalkey' (Kevin O'Brien) was lucky to save his own behind after confusion with another player about who was actually going out with a certain girl at that time. Obviously communication was proving difficult but with the immortal words of our coach "If we go to Templemore we'll do business with anyone" life was made easier.

On returning to Waterford with the cup that year, emotions ran high with many players sharing a tear and a sink while the unforgettable speeches made

1999 Fitzgibbon Cup Winning Team



Back row (l-r): E. Everard, H. Shefflin, A. Kelleher, C. Cassidy, A. McCormack, D. Lyng, D. Bennett, E. Flynn, M. O'Leary, K. O'Brien, N. Jacob, W. Maher, S. McClearn, P. Shefflin.
Front row (l-r): E. Corcoran, C. McGrath, B. Forde, M. Hassett, C. Power, A. Moloney, A. Geoghegan, N. Ronan, M. Bevans, P. Delaney, M. Kavanagh, A. Herne, D. Joyce.

by our captain Andy Moloney will be forever remembered and censored. That particular panel featured many great characters, Enda 'Tiny' Everard who once got a lift home from training in an ambulance; Neil Ronan who spent thousands on hair gel and our comrade in arms Mike Hassett!

The Fitz cup was retained in 2000 in spectacular style amid rumours about Joycies sexuality (which were later proven unfounded) and Alan Geoghegans sleep disorder. The 'Oakdown Babes' became national sex symbols on Des Cahills slot on morning 2FM, probably because no one could see what they actually looked like, while Conor the resident Development Officer tried in vain not to get the boys evicted onto the streets.

That team produced many stars including Michael Kavanagh, Declan Browne (who was never able for me!), John O'Neill and many more. Unfortunately in 2001 our dreams of three in a row were shattered by UCC. Some of the players did enjoy success off the field as a young Paul Curran received a magnificent trophy for being voted the most ignorant man in Ursuline Court. The little man from Midelton, Liam Walsh fell in love but sadly when the young lady was informed of this she left the country. While all the lads from Ursuline Court

cleared all their debts by selling their bodies (well done Bourkey).

Most of the stories from the last few years have been confined to GAA legend never to be retold again except where old friends meet. Indeed the friendships that have been ignited are a key component of the WIT GAA Club success story. Many of these daring deeds have brought about a strengthening of player's loyalty to each other, for example 'Snakes' arrest at the Dome and 'Hoppers' insanity. A special bond is formed once the club jersey is pulled on and on those cruel runs around the 'killing fields' better known as Waterford Crystal Sports grounds on dark wintry nights. Teams may come and go with players scattered all over the world, but the friendships united by WIT GAA often lasts for a lifetime, held together by memories of their time playing and partying together.

So let this be an education to all freshers, tradition is difficult to build, do not let us down! "Win with your mind, play with your body" or vice versa!!

Shane McClearn has been involved with WIT GAA Club for four years, as both a player and official. A holder of a Fitzgibbon Cup medal. Shane has also won a Freshers All-Ireland medal and numerous division 1 senior league medals.

1997 Fitzgibbon Cup Semi-Finalists and Division 1 League Champions



Back row L-R: P. Fanning (Coach), A. McCormack, L. O'Connor, D. Ruth, E. Flynn, O. Moran, M. Hall, T. Maher, P. Barry, C. Walsh. **Middle row L-R:** B. McKeogh, P. Cronin, A. Hearne, K. McCarthy, C. Power, M. Hubbard, G. Flannagan, E. Corcoran, L. Donovan.
Front row L-R: S. McClearn, B. Forde, B. Tobin, C. McGrath, M. Bevans, D. Kelly, A. Rodgers.

Name:	Jenny Kirby
Course:	BBS
Influences in your career:	Parents
High point of your sporting career to date:	Playing Leinster Club Final in Croke Park in 1996
Third level college-sporting honours:	O'Connor Cup runners up 2000
Other achievements if any:	5 Senior Club Championships, 1 Leinster Club and 1 All-Ireland Club runners up.
Other sports played:	Basketball and squash
Players you admire:	Eileen Gill and Monica Jordan (Westmeath)
Most memorable game for WIT:	O'Connor cup semi-final V UCD, we won in extra time
Ways of improving the game:	More consistent refereeing
Best sporting event/match witnessed:	Westmeath's All-Ireland U21 victory in 1999 v Kerry
How would you like to be remembered:	Someone who made a difference
Ambitions in life:	Win County Championships and All-Ireland Club
Favourite music/genre:	Rock/Pop
Person you would like to have a date with:	Joshua Jackson



NO JOY FOR LADIES By John Butler

Yet again another year of bitter disappointment for the much-talented Ladies Football team. We began the year hoping to go that one step further then we had the previous year when we reached the O'Connor Cup final.

The O'Connor Cup brings together a group of ladies whose main interest is football as well as being part of a group who share beer, jokes, clothes, houses and even boyfriends (Sandra and Lizzy). Within a short period lifetime friendships are made.

With the huge amount of Freshers showing an interest in Ladies Football this year we decided that trials would have to be held so that the strongest panel possible could be picked. Several trials took place and after a couple of weeks we had decided on the majority of our panel.

Training was slow at the start of the year and this was reflected in a heavy defeat in our first league game against UCC. On the plus side there was excellent displays on the day from some of the new players and this all augured well for the year ahead. The next league game was against CIT and while we dominated the first 20 mins we failed to turn this possession into scores. Once we fell behind the heads seemed to drop and we again suffered defeat. Training was intensified as we needed a win to raise confidence levels. This win came against the Garda

College when there was some exceptional defending and scoring displayed. In our final league game against Tralee, a game we needed to win in order to have any chance of league qualification, we suffered defeat in atrocious conditions. Even after the match both teams agreed that the game should never have taken place in such dire weather conditions. But great heart and determination was shown in this game that was not evident in previous games and the confidence was growing as O'Connor Cup time drew nearer.

After the Christmas break training was becoming more intense and sessions were held on Tuesday mornings and on Wednesday and Thursday evenings in the Waterford Crystal Sports Grounds. By the end of January training sessions were held in the RSC as the girls were put through their paces. All involved put in a great effort during this period.

Challenge matches were difficult to organise as players had many commitments with their club and county teams. The introduction of a new Munster competition presented us with an opportunity to compensate for our poor league displays and also would act as an ideal preparation for the championship. In our first match we played CIT in Cork. This was a game in which the girls really played to their full potential. The whole team

played really well and we won the match by 12 points. This was a huge improvement from the game three months previously when we had lost to the same opposition by a similar scoreline.

However, just as preparations and performances were taking shape the dreaded foot and mouth hit these shores. Training continued as best it could but with nobody knowing if the O'Connor Cup was going to take place or not.

Eventually the game took place in Maynooth versus UUJ. With the team well prepared and everything in place we played against the wind in the first half and did very well for the first 20 minutes until UUJ got two very lucky goals which knocked us back. Playing with the wind in the second half, we knew that a good start was needed by our side but unfortunately UUJ hadn't read the script and they hit us for a few early scores. We dominated the final quarter but in the end credit must be given to a very strong and skillful UUJ team. A brave effort was made by our side on the day and a huge thanks must be given to each and every one of the panel.

Let's hope lady luck shines on us in 2002!

A member of the famous Moyle Rovers Club in South Tipperary, John has been involved with ladies football in the college for the last two years



Back row L-R: Anna-Lisa Crotty, Julie Cunningham, Jenny Kirby, Maria Morrissey, Anne Sheridan, Elaine Molphy, Anne Morrissey, Lorraine O'Grady, Joanne O'Grady, Louise Doyle, Jackie O'Connor, Kate Kelly, Sarah McLoughlin, Sandra Dooley.
Front row L-R: Tracy Bunyan, Lizzie Lynch, Rebecca Halahan, Maura Griffith, Ciara Moran, Aine Ryan, Catrin McGrath, Teresa Cahillane, Sharon Moylan. Missing from photo: Sarai Flynn

SENIOR INTERCOUNTY GAELIC FOOTBALL STARS

Colm Morris: Wexford

Colm has been part of the Wexford panel for the last four years. A tenacious and tight marking corner back, he had another outstanding year with both WIT and Wexford. His performance against UUJ in this years Sigerson Cup was very impressive.

Kenny Naughton: Galway

Kenny is once more a part of John O'Mahony's Galway set up. An excellent playmaker and scoring forward, he had a superb Sigerson campaign showing great leadership qualities on and off the field.

Diarmuid Kinsella: Wexford

A fresher this year, Diarmuid made an immediate impression. A versatile player who could play at midfield or in the forwards. He was outstanding with Wexford this year and chipped in with some vital scores. Diarmuid has a bright future with both WIT and Wexford.

Kevin Coffey : Waterford

A very tenacious defender, Kevin was a star of this years Sigerson campaign.

Emmet Doherty : Waterford

A new face to the intercounty scene, Emmet matches his blistering pace to his acute accuracy which makes him a thorn in the side of any defence.

Did you know ...

Gearoid Considine played at wing forward for Clare in this years National Hurling League Final.

WIT GAA Club secretary Sinead Nealon has won back to back All-Ireland Senior Camogie Titles with Tipperary.

A Bridge Too Far - Fitzgibbon 2001

The year 2000 was always going to be a hard act to follow. Having hosted the Fitzgibbon the previous year, winning the event and capturing the league title, a massive effort was needed to reach these dizzy heights again.

The year started off brightly as WIT topped their group in the league with excellent victories over DCU, UCD, Maynooth and Carlow IT. These victories were very encouraging considering we had lost seven of the starting Fitzgibbon Championship winning team from the previous year. In particular we had a very tough game against UCD who were pipped in the Leinster Club Championship the previous week. Training continued right through October, November and December under the watchful eye of Shay Fitzpatrick.

The new year started off on a bright note with a well earned victory over a Waterford Senior Hurling Selection. The game was an especially encouraging work out from the perspective of the new players involved. A week later we played UCC in the Division 1 All-Ireland League Final. WIT played way below par and UCC certainly upped their game in what was a disappointing spectacle for those who had travelled to Carlow. The final scoreline was 2-5 to 1-5 and WIT's run of two years of being unbeaten had finally come to an end. This game was not seen as a setback rather a learning curve and with victories over Graigue/Ballycallan in the following weeks the team were quietly confident of victory over Cork IT in the Fitzgibbon quarter/final.

This game was billed as one of revenge for CIT as we had beaten them two years earlier on our way to winning the Fitzgibbon Cup. The game was played on a sunny day in Bishopstown in front of an expectant audience. The game started off at blistering pace with CIT getting a point from an early free. This was the last time they held the lead as WIT took control of the game. In Gearoid Considine & Henry Shefflin WIT had two players who were unstoppable on the day. Gearoid finishing the

opportunity of the forwards. The game ended on a scoreline of 3-17 to 0-11 and WIT were heading for their fifth Fitzgibbon semi-final in a row.

Our opponents in this game were our old adversaries UCC. This game was due to take place on Saturday 10th of March as part of the Fitzgibbon weekend which was to be hosted by UCD. However this weekend never took place due to the foot and mouth crisis. This was particularly disappointing for all involved as the whole years

early initiative. They led four points to one after quarter of an hour but WIT soon rallied, with a brace of points from Henry Shefflin, Michael Jacob and David Burke. This left the sides level and when David Burke set up Damien Murray for WIT's only goal another final appearance seemed on the cards.

WIT finished the first half strongly and led by five points at half time. On the resumption WIT hit UCC with two more points from the sticks of Henry Shefflin and Gearoid Considine. The game hit a lull mid way through the second half and with WIT in control a fourth final in a row now looked likely. However UCC hadn't read the script and with ten minutes to go they scored a goal from a line ball, that set the game alight. They followed up this score by banging home another goal from a free to go two points up and with only minutes to go the game had gone from WIT. However to WIT's credit they never gave in and when Michael Jacob added another free they seemed if there was a chance of a recovery. UCC though added another point from a free to seal WIT's fate.

The result was hugely disappointing from a WIT perspective. The year had promised so much but in the end returned very little. Thanks to all involved for the huge commitment that was put in throughout the year.

Here's to next year and another unknown journey, Roll on Fitzgibbon 2002!



WIT v Cork Senior Hurling Team 2001

Back row L-R: Fergus Flynn, David Burke, Damien Joyce, Willie Maher, Shane McClearn, J.J. Delaney, Michael Fitzgerald, John O'Neill.
Front row L-R: David Dowling, Aidan Cummins, Andy Moloney (Captain), Owen O'Donovan, Alan Geoghegan, Pdraig Delaney, Niall McCormack.

game with a personal tally of 2-6 from play and Henry scoring 1-6. In all sectors WIT were on top and if had not been for the frees we conceded we would have been well out of sight by half time. The pattern continued in the second half as WIT continued to pile on the scores. The game was well out of reach of the CIT team with fifteen minutes to go. This was thanks largely to the brilliance of the defence especially Willie Maher at centre back and Paul Curran at full back and of course the

preparations had been geared to this one weekend. It must be said though that all involved realised that there was a much bigger picture.

The game was finally re-fixed for the 28th of March in Ardfinnan. This was a huge game for both sides as WIT were out to avenge their early league defeat at the hands of the same opposition and UCC were aiming to put themselves into a position to win their 38th Fitzgibbon. The game once more started at a blistering pace and UCC took the

INTERCOUNTY STARS - LADIES FOOTBALL

Anna-Lisa Crotty : Waterford
 What can be said that already hasn't been said. A five time All-Star, Anna-Lisa is one of the stars of the modern game. A fantastic footballer she is equally adept at midfield or in the defence.

Rebecca Hallahan: Waterford
 Rebecca was last years senior captain. This was her final year in WIT. A player who never knows when to give in, she has been a fantastic servant to WIT GAA over the last four years. She may have played her last game for WIT but we're sure it's not the last we will hear of Rebecca.

Julie Cunningham (Waterford):
 Julie was one of the stars of this years O'Connor cup campaign. This was her second year on the Waterford panel. An extremely talented player. Julie never seems under pressure. She has a fantastic array of skills which are sure to lead her to the top.

Kate Kelly (Wexford):
 Equally adept with the hurley Kate has been a member of the Wexford team over the last number of years. She recently won a club All-Ireland with her native Shelmaliers. Kate has shown that the day of the duel player is not over yet. Hopefully this year she can add the O'Connor Cup to her Ashbourne Camogie success.

FRESHERS GO CLOSE

All Ireland Hurling Finalists 2001

by Declan Hogan

Over the past number of years, WIT has always been there or thereabouts in the final stages of the All-Ireland Freshers Hurling Competition. This year was no different, when we contested the All-Ireland Final against UCC.

Our campaign started off in late October, when we took on UCD in Waterford. We had no real training done, as we had spent the previous three weeks conducting trials to pick our panel. However, we were still confident of victory as we had a talented bunch of hurlers and most of them had just finished up playing with their clubs.

UCD were well prepared for this game, and with the aid of a strong breeze in the first half, they had opened up a sizeable lead at half-time. WIT did play better in the second but could find no way past a very strong UCD defence. The Dublin College ran out easy winners by ten points.

We realised we had a lot of work to do and the panel put in some very tough training sessions over the following weeks. Our next game was away to Carlow and we ended up winning well against a spirited Carlow team. We suffered a major set-back in early November when three of our starting fifteen, namely Canice Hickey, James Moran and Liam Heffernan, opted out of college. Our final league game was in Waterford against DIT. We needed to win this game to qualify for the knockout stages of the competitions. Playing in St. Saviours, we emerged as easy

winners against DIT. However, what was worrying for us was the poor display from most of our forwards. We now faced CIT in Cork on the following Monday, in what was going to be a very tough game.

CIT started the game very well and were seven points to the good at half-time. However, WIT produced a tremendous second-half performance and when Niall Murphy goaled with 5 minutes to go, the sides were level. Super-sub Timmy O'Connell (who learned how to hurl in Clare) scored a brilliant point to put WIT into the All-Ireland semi-final and leave a CIT team feeling shocked, surprised and deflated.

In the semi-final, we were, yet again, given a very tough draw. We had to travel to Galway to take on a very strong and skillful NUIG team. Following some of the hardest training sessions that many of the lads ever endured, we headed off to Galway in a confident mood. However, like the CIT game, we were very slow to settle and NUIG clearly were the better team in the first half. Luckily for us, a combination of poor striking from Galway and some lucky scores from WIT meant that the teams were level at half-time. The second half of this game proved to be one of the toughest periods of hurling for a long time in colleges hurling. Both teams traded points for most of the second half leaving the score level with five mins to go. With the Galway team pushing forward at every opportunity, they left large gaps in their defence. The WIT forwards

finally showed their real potential by firing over 5 points in a row to earn a thrilling victory.

We were now in the All-Ireland final and our opponents were our old rivals, UCC. The foot and mouth precautions then put back the date of the final. There was nothing to do but keep training and try to prepare as best we could. After a number of false starts, the final date was eventually set for the Monday before Easter in Carrigeen.

Waterford played with a strong breeze in the first half and enjoyed most of the possession. However, yet again our shooting let us down and we had too many wides. At half-time, we were three points ahead but facing into a gale-force breeze in the second half. However, against all odds we dominated possession in the second half but some brilliant defending from UCC and very economical scoring from their forwards meant that the Cork College deservedly earned the All-Ireland title. It was a very sad and dejected loser's dressing room afterwards.

Great effort was put in all year at training. Attendance was good and the standards of hurling were extremely high. Of the panel, J.J Delaney has already established himself as left corner back on the Kilkenny senior team. Joe Brady and Damien Murray were part of Offaly's senior squad. Many others played for their county at U21 level during the summer. We had four lads on the Fitzgibbon panel and will have many more next year.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all the lads for the great effort they put in all year. Also, thanks to Cormac Flanagan who was the other coach of the team.

To those of you just coming into the college, I would strongly advise that you compete in the GAA competitions. Whether you are a Junior Hurler or a County Senior, you are treated the same and you will definitely make great friends.

The WIT Freshers Hurling panel for 2000-01 was:

Declan O'Donnell (Waterford)
John Lillis (Tipperary)
Jonathan Cleary (Clare)
Joe Brady (Offaly)
J.J Delaney (Kilkenny)
Ger Joyce (Kilkenny)
Brian Lynch (Clare)
Michael Frisby (Waterford)
Conor O'Byrne (Waterford)
Damien Murray (Offaly)
Chris O'Neill (Kilkenny)
Niall Murphy (Cork)
Peter Garvey (Galway)
Ray Stewart (Clare)
Sean McKeogh (Tipperary)
Brian Power (Waterford)
Timmy O'Connell (Tipperary)
Pat Cleary (Kilkenny)
James Doran (Kilkenny)
Damien O'Brien (Tipperary)
Canice Hickey (Kilkenny)
Liam Heffernan (Kilkenny)
James Moran (Tipperary)
Shane Maher (Tipperary).

Declan will graduate with a Diploma in Rec Man this October. He has represented WIT with distinction both as a player and official.

WIT GAA CLUB WOULD ESPECIALLY LIKE TO THANK OUR CLUBS OFFICIAL SPONSORS:

HURLING

ERICSSON

MENS FOOTBALL

**Mossy O'Keefe
G&T C&C
Contract Cleaners**

LADIES FOOTBALL & CAMOGIE

Datapac
CORPORATE SERVICES

Name:
Course:

Michael Crowley
ND in Business Studies
(Recreation & Leisure)

Influences in your career:

My Family, Friends & Coaches

High point of your sporting career to date:

Winning the Kerry Senior Football Championship and League in 2000 with my club Dr.Crokes

High point of your academic year to date:

Hopefully graduating in September

Third level college-sporting honours:

All-Ireland Colleges Soccer Cup and League winner 2000. Represented WIT in Sigerson 2000 & 2001

Other achievements if any:

Member of Irish Colleges Soccer Team which Toured USA in 2001

Other sports played:

Soccer & Golf

Players you admire:

Seamus Moynihan (Kerry) & Roy Keane

Most memorable game for WIT:

All-Ireland Colleges soccer Final v's Tralee IT

Ways of improving the game:

Better Communication between players & coaches.

Best sporting event/match witnessed:

All-Ireland Senior Football replay 2000, Kerry V Armagh

How would you like to be remembered:

As a player of passion

Ambitions in life:

To win a Sigerson Cup medal

Favourite music/film:

Hip Hop/ Shawshank Redemption

Person you would like to have a date with:

Angelina Jolie

What sports star/entertainer do you dislike the most and why:

Pat Kenny because he's hopeless and monotonous.



FOOTBALLERS BOW OUT OF SIGERSON CUP COMPETITION UUJ 0-16pts – WIT 0-12pts

Once again it was a case of Sigerson Cup heartbreak for the gallant footballers of WIT as they exited the competition after extra time at the St Saviours club grounds in Ballybeg on Friday 16th February, going down to hot favourites University of Jordanstown by four points. The four points separating the sides after 90 minutes does not do any justice to the Waterford performance. In fact, they could and should have won the game at the end of normal time but for conceding possession in front of the Jordanstown goal when the teams were level in the final minute of play. Jordanstown came to Waterford with a big reputation and indeed they looked a highly professional outfit as they took the field. Within minutes of the start, they knew they were in a game as they were knocked out of their stride by this committed WIT team. A strong defence and a powerful performance by Greg Ramsbottom, who scored four points from play, gave WIT a deserved 0-5 to

0-4 lead at the break. On the turnover, Jordanstown rallied strongly to go into a two points lead but Waterford refused to concede as they came storming back to equalise. However, two bad misses from frees were to prove costly before Eamon Taaffe put Waterford back in the lead with six minutes remaining. It was panic stations now for Jordanstown as they threw everything forward to force an equaliser by Kevin Hughes in the 57th minute. The last two minutes saw WIT on the attack and when it appeared that Greg Ramsbottom was fouled in front of the posts, referee, Brian White, gave a free out to the Ulster side for an earlier infringement and the game went into extra time. It was then that Jordanstown's great strength in depth came into play as they used up their full complement of subs. A blinding opening ten minutes of extra time saw them go five points clear before the break. On the turnover, WIT stormed back into the game with two points

from Ken Naughton and Greg Ramsbottom, which sent the shock-waves through the Ulster side once again. The final minutes saw WIT camped in the Jordanstown half but two breaks upfield saw the Ulster side force two frees resulting in the scores that gave them the ultimate four points victory. There were many heroes on this gallant WIT side and no one more than Kevin Coffey, who after a brilliant hour was forced out with injury in extra time.

Scorers: G Ramsbottom 5pts, K Naughton 4pts, E Taaffe 2pts, D Miller 1pt

Team Players: C Counihan, K Coffey, G Cullen, M Crowley, C Morris, C Lavery, K Lee, J Foley, D Joyce, P Murtagh, D Kinsella, K Naughton, B Kelly, G Ramsbottom, E Taaffe.

Subs: D Mullen, S McGinley, K Lee T O'Mahony, Brian Kelly, D Leahy.

Note: UUJ were later to be crowned Sigerson Cup Champions in early April 2001.



WIT Sigerson Football Panel 2001

Back row L-R: Sean McGinley, Finian Moran, Kenneth Naughton (Captain), Diarmuid Kinsella, Colm Lavery, Colm Counihan, Michael Crowley, Jesse Foley, Donal Miller, John Paul Connolly, Pat Healy, Eddie McGarry, Donal Leahy, Kevin Foley, Colm Clear, Colm Tynan, Gary Cullen.
Front row L-R: Tommy O'Mahony, Ronan McMahon, Damien Joyce, Colm Morris, Eamonn Taaffe, Kevin Lee, Greg Ramsbottom, Peter Murtagh, Kevin Coffey, Bobby Kelly, Emmet Doherty, Brian Kelly, Chris Dwyer.

SENIOR INTERCOUNTY CAMOGIE STARS 2001

Kate Kelly: Wexford

This year's Ashbourne Captain. Kate is practically a veteran at Senior Intercounty level. An exceptional player she allies her pace with acute accuracy and can be a thorn in any teams defence. This year she not only collected the Ashbourne Cup but also the Player of the tournament award, her second time to win this award having already won it in 1999. Kate is a natural leader and a huge inspiration to all her team-mates.

Brigid Mullaly: Kilkenny

Brigid like Kate Kelly has vast experience at intercounty level. A Kilkenny senior for a number of years now, Brigid added a second Ashbourne medal to her collection this year. A fantastic competitor and skillful hurler her never say die attitude was one of the many memories of Ashbourne 2001.

Helena Jacob: Wexford

Helena's first year in WIT was certainly memorable. She was fullback on the all conquering Ashbourne camogie team. A solid and dependable player, she played at corner back against Tipperary in this years All-Ireland quarter-final.

Evelyn Quigley: Wexford

Evelyn was the quietest member of this years Ashbourne panel!! She won an Ashbourne medal in her first year. A constant thorn in the opposing teams defence due to her never say die attitude, she like Helena played against Tipperary in this years All-Ireland quarter-final. An excellent forward she has many more years on the intercounty scene.

Brigid Grennan: Kilkenny

Brigid was a fresher last year and had an excellent start to her camogie career in WIT as she collected an Ashbourne medal. A solid defender Brigid played corner back with Kilkenny in this years All-Ireland Camogie championship.

Julie Delaney: Tipperary

An Ashbourne veteran. This year's victory was certainly very sweet for Julie. She was on the 1998 team which was beaten by a point by UCC in the final and in 2000 suffered defeat at the hands of UCD by the same margin in the semi-final. Julie had an excellent Ashbourne weekend. Her performances brought her to the attention of the Tipperary management team. Julie is now hoping to be part of Tipps quest for 3-in-a-row.

Name:	Anna-Marie Young
Course:	ND in Business Studies (Recreation & Leisure)
Influences in your career:	My parents and my past and present coaches.
High point of your sporting career to date:	Winning an Ashbourne medal with WIT in 2001
High point of your academic year to date:	Ragg Week.
Third level college-sporting honours:	I was part of the WIT team that won the Ashbourne Cup 2001
Other achievements if any:	Leinster Colleges camogie champions 1997, 2 Leinster 7-a-side championships & four underage county finals.
Players you admire:	Kate Kelly & DJ Carey
Most memorable game for WIT:	Ashbourne Cup semi-final 2001 v UCC
Ways of improving the game:	To train hard and have belief in your own ability.
Best sporting event/match witnessed:	Kilkenny V Clare 1999 All-Ireland Hurling Semi-Final
How would you like to be remembered:	An honest and friendly person who was committed and determined
Ambitions in life:	To win another few Ashbourne medals, to live a long and happy life.
Favourite music/film:	Sixth Sense
Person you would like to have a date with:	Brad Pitt
What sports star/entertainer do you dislike the most and why:	Eddie Irvine because he is to full of himself.



Did you know ...

Henry Shefflin became the first ever student in WIT to win a Hurling All-Star while still a student.

There were nine past and present WIT players involved in this years Leinster Final – Michael Kavanagh, J.J Delaney, Peter Barry, Eamon Kennedy, Andy Comerford and Henry Shefflin (Kilkenny) and Declan Ruth, Michael Jordan and Chris McGrath (Wexford)

Peter Barry

by Enda McEvoy

It's quite simple, really. Peter Barry would not be the proud possessor of an All Ireland senior hurling medal, or be a dual Eircell All Star either, if he hadn't gone to college at Waterford IT. And our source for this provocative – some might say dubious – contention?

Why, none other than the player himself! Scout's honour. Not a word of a lie. Peter Barry entered the then WRTC as a callow fresher back in the autumn of 1992. He left it five years later a man, with a Fitzgibbon Cup medal in his back pocket and (no less importantly) a wealth of experience under his belt. The experience of playing with and against the best young hurling talent in the country. The experience of training in and being hardened by the worst of winter weather. The experience of discovering at first hand the sacrifices that would be involved in climbing to the top of the intercounty tree. That the Kilkenny man has accomplished the latter bit is not in doubt.

Three successive All Ireland final appearances, All Star awards in 1999 and 2000, general recognition as one of the leading defenders in the game. Barry has made it, alright. For which much of the credit, to repeat, belongs to his third-level almamater.

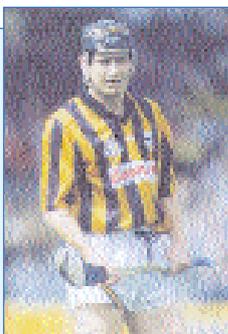
Wearing the Waterford college's mustard and green jersey played "an unbelievably important" part in his personal success, Peter contends. "There's no way I'd be on the Kilkenny team without it. The Fitzgibbon Cup is a terrific competition which truly prepares you for intercounty hurling. You're playing against lads who are as big and strong as you are – or bigger. It teaches you to stand up for yourself."

It certainly taught the James Stephens clubman. Partnering Colm Bonnar at midfield on the college's 1995 Fitzgibbon Cup-winning combination taught him some more. Colm mightn't have been 25 years his senior, it merely seemed that way. "He was a fair few years older, anyway. And that was good from my point of view, because he was so experienced. The ideal guy to be playing alongside, to have winning the ball and driving on with it." Then there was Colm's fellow Tipperary man Tommy Dunne. The star of that WIT team, the player of the 1995 Fitzgibbon tournament. Finals weekend was hosted by Maynooth, the matches taking place in dreadful early March weather. "The conditions were cat," Peter recalls. "But they made no difference to Tommy. He won great ball, passed great ball, got great scores. Such a classy player."

Originally a forward (who now remembers the three points he scored in the first half of the 1997 Leinster final against Wexford?), Peter, who by day is a number-cruncher with Duggan Steel in Kilkenny, operated as a midfielder for his county under Kevin Fennelly before Brian Cody converted him into a wing-back two years ago. There's been no stopping him since then.

Good job for him he went to college here!

Enda McEvoy is a GAA Correspondent with the Sunday Tribune



ROLE OF HONOURS: 1982 - 2001

1982 - 1983	Division 3 Hurling League
1983 - 1984	Division 2 Hurling League
1984 - 1985	Division 3 Football League Freshers Football League
1985 - 1986	Division 1 Hurling League
1986 - 1987	Division 1 Hurling League Hurling Championship Division 3 Hurling League Freshers Football League Munster Freshers Football Championship
1987 - 1988	Division 1 Freshers Hurling League Ladies Football Championship Munster Freshers Hurling Championship Fitzgibbon Plate Hurling
1988 - 1989	Division 1B (Intermediate) Hurling League Division 1 Freshers Hurling League Munster Freshers Hurling Championship Freshers Camogie League Division 1 Ladies Football League
1989 - 1990	Purcell Cup Camogie Championship Division 2B (Intermediate) Football League Division 2B (Intermediate) Hurling League
1990 - 1991	Purcell Shield Camogie Championship Division 2 Football Trench Shield
1991 - 1992	Division 1 Camogie League Purcell Cup Camogie Championship Division 1 Hurling League Fitzgibbon Cup
1992 - 1993	Division 1 Camogie League Purcell Cup Camogie Championship Freshers Football League Handball League and Championship
1993 - 1994	Division 1 Freshers Hurling League Munster Freshers Hurling Championship Ashbourne Shield
1994 - 1995	Fitzgibbon Cup Division 2B (Intermediate) Football League Freshers Camogie League
1995 - 1996	Division 1 Freshers Hurling League Division 2 Football League Handball Ladies Open Singles
1996-1997	Division 1 Freshers Hurling League Ashbourne Shield Division 1 Ladies Football League Division 1 Hurling League
1997-1998	Division 1 Freshers Hurling League Division 1 Hurling League Division 1 Camogie League Division 3 Hurling League
1998-1999	Fitzgibbon Cup Ashbourne Cup Division 1 Camogie League Division 1 Ladies Football League Division 1 Freshers Ladies Football Championship O'Connor Cup Plate – Ladies Football
1999-2000	Fitzgibbon Cup Division 1 Hurling League Division 1 Freshers Hurling League
2000-2001	Ashbourne Cup

Name:	Damien Murray	
Course:	Architectural Technology	
Influences in your career:	My father	
High point of your sporting career to date:	Leinster U21 Championship Medal, 2000	
High point of your academic year to date:	Getting into second year.	
Third level college-sporting honours:	None, hopefully I can work on that this year.	
Other achievements if any:	2 Club minor and U21 Championships. Represented Offaly at Senior inter county level in Hurling	
Other sports played:	Badminton	
Players you admire:	Johnny Dooley	
Most memorable game for WIT:	Fitzgibbon semi-final 2001, for all the wrong reasons!!	
Ways of improving the game:	A trap door for Offaly!	
Best sporting event/match witnessed:	1994 European Cup Final, AC Milan 4 Barcelona 0	
How would you like to be remembered:	Multi-talented male chauvinist.	
Ambitions in life:	To win a club All-Ireland with my club Coolderry.	
Favourite music/film:	Wolfe Tones/The Godfather	
Person you would like to have a date with:	Anna Kournikova	
What sports star/entertainer do you dislike the most and why:	Eric Cantona, because of his temperament and he played for Man Utd	

Did you know ...

Clubs and Societies co-ordinator Colm Bonnar has won all the major titles in Hurling, All-Ireland Senior, All-Ireland Intermediate, All-Ireland U21 & All-Ireland Minor with Tipperary and Fitzgibbon Cup with WIT.

Football Development in WIT

Football in WIT is still probably secondary to hurling. This is understandable when you look at our success on the hurling fields.

However, football is extremely close to the breakthrough and we will win the championship in the not too distant future. Over the past number of years we have

been very successful in freshers A and B and our senior teams continue to compete with and beat all the teams in our division.

The future looks good and the dedicated teams involving Colm Tynan, Paul Quirke and Kevin Ryan must continue with the professional approach to squad selection, training, match preparation and all associated activities in pursuit of excellence on and off the field.



Gary Cullen in action against UUJ - Sigerson 2001

The coming year will bring us all the challenges of putting together a squad strong enough for the league campaign and Sigerson championship after Christmas. The management team is fully focused on this and we have been making preparations for this since last March. We can guarantee all interested players that we will continue with the professional approach of the last number of years and build on our successes to date.

A Profile of Shane McClearn



The GAA has always portrayed itself as an amateur organisation developed and progressed by unpaid volunteers. The pillars of every GAA club are your local farmer, housewife, builder and so on. However in this age of professionalism in sport it is very hard to find people willing to give of their time and at no cost.

In third level we depend even more on the goodwill of staff and students alike in giving of their free time in preparing teams. This year was no different in WIT. We were very lucky that we had so many volunteers willing to help manage and coach teams. In one case one young man achieved what seemed most unlikely? A final year student on the B.A in Recreation and Leisure course and a member of the WIT Fitzgibbon Team, Shane McClearn took on the mantle of Ashbourne Camogie Manager. A tall order indeed for most people but this wasn't just any person.

A native of Killimor in Galway, Shane entered the hallowed halls of WIT in September 1996. He represented the college with distinction winning a Fitzgibbon Cup medal in 1999 as well as a freshers All-Ireland hurling medal and numerous division 1 hurling medals. After his Fitzgibbon success in 1999, Shane decided to take a break from third-level education and headed off to the land down under.

So to September 2000 and the man they call 'Mac' is back to Waterford, just one more year of study and the degree will be in the bag. In this situation most people who come back to college after a short break decide that nothing is going to get in the way of their studies. They haven't met Shane McClearn though. His objectives were to win another Fitzgibbon, train the senior camogie team to win the Ashbourne and last but, not as important as the rest get the Degree!

The year, in Shane's eyes, wasn't a success or failure, it was hard to describe. He's nearly certain he'll get that piece of paper that says you passed, he was beaten in a Fitzgibbon semi-final a failure in his eyes but the great success he feels is the Ashbourne victory. He started training the girls in October and five months later they were Ashbourne Champions. This was no mean feat on Shane's part considering that he also had to juggle his studies and Fitzgibbon hurling training. While 2001 will not be a year remembered for filling the trophy cabinet it will be remembered for the contribution of people like Shane McClearn to the continued development of WIT GAA Club.

This year will be no different, as we will be looking for many more Shane McClearns'. So why not come along and help out.

A Spotlight on GAA Club Activities

The year 2000/2001 has once again been a very successful year for the club. This year over 20 teams competed across the board in various competitions. While often our Fitzgibbon, Sigerson, Ashbourne and O'Connor Cup teams steal the limelight. WIT GAA Club would not be what it is today if it weren't for all the players who participate on the various other teams which make up this club. Our fresher's 1 and 2 football teams competed excellently once again with some great victories, but unfortunately they did not reach the knockout stages of the league. In the Freshers 1 & 2 Football Leagues they played against IT Tralee, UCC, UL and CIT. A huge amount of work was once more put into securing Freshers football success.

Indeed great credit must go to Eoin Breathnach, David Bourke, Eamon Taaffe for the way in which they organised trials, training and matches. We had 120 at our trials in September so they had an unenviable task in picking two panels. Lets hope this year we can make the breakthrough we are looking for. Our intermediate football team topped their group but were beaten in the All-Ireland quarter-final by NUI Galway.

The fresher's 2 hurlers were pitted against many colleges first teams and so they didn't get out of their group. However under the guidance of Niall McCormack and Tom King they put up many excellent performances. Some of those who excelled in the Freshers 2 campaign were called into the Freshers 1

panel for the knockout stages of the competition. For the record the freshers 2 played against UL, MICL, UCC and Cork IT. Our intermediate hurlers once again suffered at the hands of others. As the teams in our group would not play us we had no games. This year though we took the step of entering a Div 2 hurling team. This team comprised of many of our intermediate players. Indeed some of the performances earned some of the players a place on the Fitzgibbon Cup panel. Lets hope the intermediate hurling issue is resolved this year.

A special mention must also go to our division 2 camogie team, who faced many colleges first teams. The girls showed great commitment throughout the year and had plenty of games

and some victories in a group that included Carlow IT, IT Tralee, Cork IT, Garda College and UCC. These girls trained with the Div 1 team and a number of them made it to the Ashbourne weekend as members of the panel Thanks to Jackie O'Connor and Mary Walsh for their help with training and organising the games. Likewise their ladies football counterparts had a good year. They too trained with the Div 1 team and a number of their team also made an impact in the O'Connor cup. Their two trainers Julie Cunningham and Miriam Hally had the girls training at some unearthly hours but this once again showed the dedication of the many volunteers which make this club a huge success.

The Camogie Scene

by Sinead Nealon

The bitter disappointment of being knocked out at the semi-final stages of Ashbourne 2000 proved to be the key motivator in our 2001 campaign. The year however, got off to a shaky start, being knocked out of the league and suffering a heavy defeat to UCC. With these type of performances it looked imminent that the Ashbourne was not Waterford bound. However, despite these early setbacks, the team was focused on one goal – Ashbourne 2001. This meant an extra effort in pursuit of glory. To do this, huge efforts and commitment were needed and the girls did just that – Christmas holidays were cut short, late nights socialising were put on hold and training was stepped up a gear under the watchful eye of Shane McClearn.



Joanne Hayes

And so Ashbourne time arrived – the big question “were we ready”? We played UCG in the quarterfinal – a game that Waterford started at an exceptional pace. We led at half time, but on the resumption of the second half UCG had the better start. Sides were level with minutes remaining and things were tit for tat. But our backs defended bravely, mid-field covered and chased throughout and our forwards found form in the closing stages. So, WIT back in

another Ashbourne semi-final, to meet old rivals UCC – the red hot favourites to win out the competition. But the Waterford ladies thought differently! They started the game

showing true grit and determination and led narrowly at the interval. UCC threw everything at us but we battled bravely in pursuit of Ashbourne glory. UCC were down to fourteen players but this had a negative effect on Waterford and seemed to inspire UCC throughout the remainder of the game. But it was too late, the final whistle blew and we managed to hold on. Delight and relief on the Waterford girls faces, while spectators stood in amazement as the hot favourites had just been knocked out of the Ashbourne!

UL were our opponents in the final. Waterford played with the breeze in the first half, and got off to quite a bad start to say the least. UL dominated throughout and the Waterford girls had a hell of a job to do in the second half. But once again we started poorly. With ten minutes remaining, UL lead by 7 points, surely victory was out of our

grasp now. However the never say die attitude of this WIT team stood firm and we were not going to surrender easily. And suddenly, lady luck was on our side – two goals within three minutes. We now had a game on our hands, the Waterford girls were firing on all cylinders and we managed to take the lead with seconds remaining. Eventually the final whistle blew and the Ashbourne was once again on its way to WIT. It was indeed a wonderful victory in a marvellously competitive competition.

The Ashbourne Cup was back in Waterford for the second time in three years. And so the celebrations began. Another title to the clubs amazing roll of honour. Well done to all involved on a fine achievement.

Our division 2 camogie team had plenty of games and some good victories in their league campaign, which included Carlow IT, Cork IT, Garda College, Tralee IT and Galway IT. Even though the camogie teams had no silverware at the end of their campaign, the players succeeded in building a sense of camaraderie and team spirit that in itself was something special. The season left us with many happy memories and a strong base on which to build for the future.

Roll on Ashbourne 2002!

Our GAA club secretary, Sinead's achievements in camogie are unique:
Third Level Honours: Purcell Cup, Ashbourne Cup and Div 1 League Medals.
County Honours: Minor, Junior, Intermediate and two Senior All Ireland medals



Members of WIT Camogie Team in Athlone at Ashbourne Cup finals weekend

Name:	Louise Doyle	
Course:	National Cert in Construction Economics	
Influences in your career:	My Family	
High point of your sporting career to date:	I got player of the match in the Minor Leinster Final for Laois	
High point of your academic year to date:	Making it to second year in college!!	
Third level college-sporting honours:	Getting to O'Connor Cup Final 2000	
Other achievements if any:	2 Leinster & All-Ireland Minor Medals and 2 Junior Club Medals with Ballylinan Football Club Rebecca Hallahan & Anna-lisa Crotty (Waterford), Declan Browne (Tipperary) & Paul Curran (Dublin)	
Players you admire:		
Most memorable game for WIT:	O'Connor Cup semi-final 2000 v UCD	
Ways of improving the game:	Improve Refereeing standards & have a more free flowing game.	
Best sporting event/match witnessed:	The 1998 All-Ireland Final, Kildare v Galway	
How would you like to be remembered:	Dedicated, loyal and a team player	
Ambitions in life:	Live life to the full and never regret anything.	
Favourite music/film:	Coyote Ugly	
Person you would like to have a date with:	Joshua Jackson	
What sports star/entertainer do you dislike the most and why:	Jason Sherlock (Dublin) because he is an attention seeker and the media gives him unnecessary recognition.	

CLUB SPORTS GEAR

The WIT GAA club's official colours are as follows:

Jersey	Dark green and mustard
Shorts/Skirts	Dark green with mustard stripes
Socks	Mustard with green band on top

The following is a list of items which are available from the GAA office:

Jerseys	Tracksuits	Sweat tops/fleece tops
Shorts	Sports bags	Polo shirts
Socks	Hurleys	Sliothars

If you require any of the above items, they can be purchased directly from the GAA office or campus shop. Most of them you can receive free of charge if you participate in the various fundraising activities held during the year.

However, all club members are required to wear official club colours for all games.

A Word from the Editor

My sincere thanks to all who have helped me with the publication of this year's edition of Sidelines. I wish you all an enjoyable year and let's hope that the new millennium brings continued success to our club.

Guím sonas daoibh go léir, rath Dé ar bhúir.

Conor Power

WHERE TO FIND US - GAA INFORMATION CENTRE

If, for any reason you cannot call to the GAA office (main campus), never fear as all members can receive information regarding upcoming fixtures, training and team selections at our GAA information centre which is located in the Atrium, just outside the canteen.

This centre will be staffed by a club official, (you may even be lucky enough to talk to the "main man", our full time Development Officer, Conor Power) each Monday to Friday at the following times:

11.00am - 11.30am 12.45pm - 1.45pm 3.00pm - 3.20pm

The WIT GAA club can never be accused of not moving with the times, as we use the most up to date equipment in order to help our communication network. Our latest venture sees us now using electronic notice boards to display any information regarding the club's activities both on and off the field! These boards are updated regularly from the control centre in the GAA office by our dedicated and enthusiastic members!



Conor Power



GAA ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Any large organisation needs a base from which to organise the "troops" and the GAA at WIT is no different! Our so called "home" is our office which is located on the first floor of the Courtyard building, which sometimes resembles Connolly Station on a Christmas Eve! It is a hive of activity and is open from 9am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday. If you have any questions or helpful suggestions feel free to drop in and let your views be made known.

Phone 051-302239 Fax 051-353906
e-mail: gaa@wit.ie Web site: www.gaa.wit.ie

The Importance of Being Solvent

FUNDRAISING INCOME TICKETS SELLING

Words calculated to bring a shiver to any normal person's back. Even - and especially - a student's!

Unhappily, any club or society needs money to survive and flourish. The WIT GAA club is no exception in this regard. It's a dirty job, but someone has to do it, and in this case, someone means YOU.

God, as we are frequently reminded, helps those who help themselves. The members of our club help themselves - and the club - by selling tickets. These tickets, and the cash they bring in, are our lifeblood.

Remember, running a GAA club costs money. Lots of it.

In order to provide games for all our members, from the intercounty senior player to the club junior performer, we field nearly 20 teams in different competitions each year. Each team costs a minimum of - wait for it - £3,000 to run during the season.

That's right. A minimum of £3,000, including expenses for travel, meals, gear and equipment. Add in the cost of weekend competitions and

you get some idea of the difficulties in keeping the WIT GAA club on the financial straight and narrow.

Our main sources of income are sponsorship, the GAA lotto and the Higher Education draw. The Higher Education draw, which is especially important to us, works as follows.

All members of the club are asked to sell tickets.

The good news is that selling tickets is not a one-way process. Members who sell their tickets will have the opportunity to receive college gear depending on the number of tickets sold. The money raised also goes towards free accommodation, meals and travel at weekend competitions. And anyone who sells tickets over and above the mandatory amount receives gear to the value of the additional amount raised.

Or to put it another way:

YOUR GAA CLUB NEEDS YOU!

Clubeagras
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael
Institiúid Teicneolaíochta
Port Láirge

WIT GAA
COUNCIL

Waterford
Institute
of Technology
GAA Club Structure

PRESIDENT
Eugene McKenna

SECRETARY
Sinéad Nealon

TREASURER
Sheila O'Donohoe

DEVELOPMENT
OFFICER
Conor Power

HANDBALL
CLUB

Chairperson: N. Mc Cormack
Secretary: D. Joyce

CAMOGIE
CLUB

Chairperson: J. O'Connor
Secretary: K. Kelly

MENS
FOOTBALL CLUB

Chairperson: E. Taaffe
Secretary: S. Stapleton

HURLING
CLUB

Chairperson: S. McClean
Secretary: W. Maher

LADIES
FOOTBALL CLUB

Chairperson: C. Moran
Secretary: E. Lynch