

## • SPORTS •

## Minnows Drom-Broadford Knock Nemo Rangers Out

By Liam Reidy

THIS YEAR'S ALL-IRELAND CLUB senior football championship endured its first major shock when minnows Drom-Broadford emerged victorious over seven-time champions Nemo Rangers by a single point in the Munster semi-final at the Gaelic Grounds on November 23. Although closer inspection of Drom-Broadford's record in the Co. Limerick senior football championship suggest they have been knocking on the door for a while, to make the breakthrough at the provincial level. Limerick media outlets called this Drom-Broadford side the team of "the decade within the county," after they thrashed Ballylanders in the county decider two weeks earlier. They previously won the championship in 2001, 2003 and 2004. In a unique achievement, cen-

ter back Thomas McLoughlin, was captain on each occasion they won the county.

Senior inter-county players Sean Buckley (0-3), Micheal Reidy (0-2), Garret Noonan (0-1), along with minor Derry McCarthy (0-1) were the scoring heroes in their win over the decorated Nemo Rangers side. The west Limerick team now meets Clare champions (Kilmurry-Ibrickane) on Sunday December 7 at Páirc na nGael, Limerick in the Munster club-final. Drom-Broadford will be hoping to put one over the Banner men, having lost to them in 2004 by a single point in the Munster semi-final.

This author will be listening to the Munster Final on the internet early on December 7, to hear how my former teammates will fare in our club's biggest ever game.

## Local GAA Round-Up

By Liam Reidy

### Official Opening Of GAA Fields On Treasure Island

IT IS A BUSY COUPLE OF WEEKS for the San Francisco Gaelic Athletic Association, as they will officially open the newly renovated playing fields on Treasure Island. GAA President Nickey Brennan, will perform the opening of Páirc na nGael at 1.30pm on Sunday December 7. A match follows the ceremony between the 2007 and 2008 Vodafone All-Stars.

The following Friday December 12, President of Ireland, Mary McAleese will officially open Páirc na nÓg, as part of her trip to the San Francisco Bay Area. The President will arrive at the field at 10.30am. All are welcome.

### Vodafone 2008 All-Stars Touring Party

Many GAA followers in Bay Area will be eager to get a glimpse of the best Gaelic footballers from Ireland when they play at Páirc na nGael, Treasure Island on Sunday December 7. Months of preparation have been undertaken by the Treasure Island GAA board, western divisional and youth boards to make the weekend a great success. Thousands of Gaels from across the Bay Area are expected to attend the opening day celebrations, and patrons are advised to arrive early to the venue. It promises to be a day not to be missed.

The 2008 All Stars traveling party is: 2007 All Stars: Marc Ó Sé, Darragh Ó Sé and Colm Cooper (Kerry); Kevin McCloy and Paddy Bradley (Derry); Graham Cauty (Cork); Barry Cahill (Dublin); Stephen Bray (Meath); Tommy Freeman (Monaghan).

2008 All Stars: Conor Gormley, Justin McMahon, Brian Dooher, Seán Cavanagh, Davy Harte and Enda McGinley (Tyrone); Gary Connaughton and John Keane (Westmeath); Shane Ryan (Dublin).

Replacements: Michael Cussen, Nicholas Murphy and Donncha O'Connor (Cork); Redmond Barry and Ciaran Lyng (Wexford); Ryan McCluskey and Martin McGrath (Fermanagh); Ryan McMenamin and Colm

McCullagh (Tyrone); David Henry (Dublin); Seamus Scanlon (Kerry); John Doyle (Kildare); Brendan Murphy (Meath); and Dessie Mone (Monaghan). Referee: Jimmy McKee (Armagh). Managers: Mickey Harte (Tyrone), Pat O'Shea (Kerry).

### San Francisco Selection Game

The best footballers in the western division will play an exhibition match at Páirc na nGael as part of the opening day festivities. Below is a list of players that have been in training for the game during the last few weeks. The throw is timed for 12.00pm.

*Sean Treacys:* Paudie Allen, Brian Murray, Mark Gallagher, Charley Connelly. *Naomh Padraig-Shannon Rangers:* Brendan Caldwell, Shane Connolly, Seamus McCory, Bring King, Gilbert O'Sullivan, Stephen Hennessy. *Celts:* Brian McCarty, Brendan Power, Kevin Power, Niall O'Flynn, Cullen Roche, Adian O'Flynn, Dave Gordon, Pat Power. *Ulster:* Dave Flaherty, Gary Clark, Austin McKenna, Ross McKenna, Benny Higgins, Neil Donnelly, Mickey McCann, Darren McCauley, Simon Maxwell. *Sons of Ború:* Richie Kane, Kevin Reilly, Sean Farr, Brendan Brady, Andy Fogarty, Brian Reilly, Dennis McDonagh, Bonny Collins. *Michael Cusacks:* Conal Gallagher, Adian Brogan, Eugene Brolly, Decky O'Donnell, Dermott Flaherty. *Young Irelanders-St Brendans:* Thomas Carroll, Paddy White, Liam Robinson, Mark Barbary, Freddy McCarron.

### Youth Games Kick off Festivities

Many of the under age players taking part in next years CYC championships will be in action on Treasure Island as part of the opening day celebrations at Páirc na nGael on Dec 7. Boys and girls Gaelic football and hurling games are planned for opening day at the new fields. The children will also take part in a pre-All Star match parade at 1.30pm. There are lots of fun activities for kids planned on the day including bouncing castles in the childrens play area. Families are most welcome.

# Ireland's 32

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*—Peter, Jackie and Conor*

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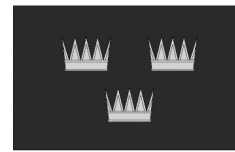
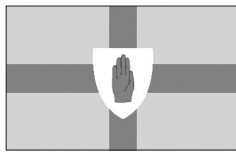
Friday December 5th - The Bog Savages (Rebel Rock)

Friday December 12th - Sandra 'Slán Abhaile' Party

Dee Kennedy Promotions (Kilkenny)

Saturday December 27th - Jeeze Louise

Ireland's 32 Welcomes  
The Gaelic Football All Stars  
& The Kilkenny Hurling Team



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