

Shannon Gaels show prowess in u-12 tourney

The Dan McSweeney Memorial Tournament was a very successful under-12 blitz in football and hurling at the Gaelic Park on Saturday. There were over 200 children participating in four divisions, three in football, and one in hurling. Once again Shannon Gaels, the fastest growing club in New York, accentuated their prowess at this level as they fielded three teams, and were winners in two sections of the competition.



**NY
GAA**

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The A division was extremely competitive as three teams finished level on points, namely Shannon Gaels, Celtics and St. Barnabas. Celtics got a bye to the final, while St. Barnabas and Shannon Gaels

were forced into a play-off. The Gaels got a great start as Sean O'Connell hit a brace, while the bustling Christian Devlin rocked the net. However Barnabas stormed back with a cracker of a goal from Gearoid Kennedy, while Shane Brosnan nipped in for a point. Indeed young Brosie almost put the Saints ahead as he weaved his way in for a shot on goal, but keeper Jason Lee produced a superb save as the Gaels held on by 1-3 to 1-1 to book their spot in the final.

The Celtics drew first blood as Jack Muldoon combined well with the speedster and very skillful Sean Considine to put them on the board. When play switched to the other end keeper Dennis dived full length to deny a goal-bound shot from Sean Smith. However this wizardly forward was not to be denied as he soon split the posts before planting the ball in the net. Sean Considine was still teasing and testing the Queens boys as he landed another fine point. Sebastian Jamshahi responded with a fine effort of his own to increase the lead.

However it was soon back to parity as Jack Muldoon was having a stormer as sweeper, swept up the field to see his long range effort fortuitously drop under the bar. Celtics were now enjoying their best spell as good defensive work by Owen Walsh, Jack Shannon and Ryan Tannian was temporarily blunting the Gaels' attackers. Considine put his team ahead with another point, but the lead was short lived as Luke Duggan soon goalied.

The Gaels finished out the



Some winners at Gaelic Park.

point from between the sides. Indeed Celtics might have gone ahead were it not for another fine save by Jason Lee from the ever dangerous Considine. Shannon Gaels responded to the let-off with a point from the other danger-man Sean Smith. Two minutes later they were firmly in the driving seat as Luke Duggan got in for his second goal.

The Gaels now consolidated their lead with tight marking and tenacious tackling from Luke Corridan, Páidí Mathers, Aidan Mooney and company. Both sides settled for late points, Christian Devlin, a scion of the Duke, for the Gaels, and Lilly Sheahan for Celtics, to leave the final score 3-5 to 1-6 in favor of Shannon Gaels.

SHANNON GAELS: Jason Lee, Robert Corridan, Sebastian Jamshahi, Páidí Mathers, Aidan Mooney, Christian Devlin, Sean Smith, Luke Duggan, Sean O'Connell.

CELTICS: Jack Dennis, Owen Walsh, Ryan Tannian, Conor Cronin, Lilly Sheahan, Daniel Sheahan, Sean Considine, Ronan McAllister, Enda Kirby, Jack Shannon, Jack Muldoon.

GAELS CRUISE IN DIV. B FINAL

The B division was also quite competitive as Setanta and St. Brendan's battled it out for a place in the final against another Shannon Gaels squad. Setanta emerged victorious against St. Brendan's by a score of 4-5 to 3-3. Setanta got sterling performances and good scores from Patrick McGrinder, Kevin Ryan, Luke Padian and Aidan

Gillen, Owen Kelly, Timmy Curtin and the Moloneys, but Setanta always had the edge.

Though the Gaels and Setanta bagged goals in their early attacks in the final, Rory Duggan for the Gaels, and Kevin Ryan for Setanta, Shannon Gaels soon took control and used their support play and possession to perfection, culminating in goals from James Kirk, Oisín Mathers and Senan Price to lead by 4-1 to 1-0 at the break. The Gaels continued the onslaught on resumption as Rory Duggan laid the ball off for Colin Gargan to goal. Pascal Kavanagh then showed his goal poaching skills after Oisín Foy and Julian Jamshahi did the support to bag two. Though Setanta were being bombarded with attacks, they fought to the end as Patrick McGrinder hit a major and a minor, while Conor Stepkoski also split the uprights. Keeper McCann was overworked with incessant attacks, but he never flinched. Gaels cruised to the finish line by 7-2 to 2-1.

SHANNON GAELS: Senan Price, Oisín Mathers, Liam O'Connell, Pascal Kavanagh, James Kirk, Rory Duggan, Julian Jamshahi, Oisín Foy, Colin Gargan.

SETANTA: Sam McCann, Luke Murtagh, Kevin Ryan, Conor Stepkoski, Luke Padian, Patrick McGrinder, Aidan McDermott, Carmel McDermott, Joe McCormack, Julian McGrinder.

Rangers picked up the third football award as they got the better of St. Brendan's by 2-2 to 1-0. Emmett Loughrane and Joe

ST. BRENDAN'S: Owen Kelly, Timmy Curtin, Kieran Copping, Steve Moloney, Niall Moloney, Sean McCarthy, Paddy Gillen, Jessie Swartz.

Le Cheile defeated Rockland in the hurling competition.

ST BARNABAS DINNER DANCE

St. Barnabas GFC is holding a victory dinner dance on Nov. 30 at Gaelic Park. Incidentally the Bronx club could claim to be the most successful in New York this year as they won the championship and league, though Monaghan might dispute that as they also won both. However St. Barnabas also won the u 21 title, thus giving them the top spot ahead of the Farney men. Fittingly the Guest of Honor for the celebratory occasion is Eamonn Deane, the manager of the team. Eamonn, son of the late Thomas and Agnes, grew up with his seven brothers and two sisters in Aghawillan, Co. Leitrim. He received his primary education at Aghwillan N.S., and secondary education at St. Phelim's Ballinamore. Eamonn's football career was nourished with the Phelim's team, and flourished with the Aghwillan club. Upon arrival in New York in 1985, he soon established a very successful construction company along with fellow Aghwillan native Brendan Flanagan.

Since joining the Barnabas club, Eamonn has held great variety of positions, including that of President from 2002 to 2005, plus training and coaching at all levels. In addition he was a member of the team that won

Peil nÓg teams to the current Collegiate team. The Deane family, which resides in Yonkers, consists of Eamonn's wife, the former Ann Plunkett, also an Aghwillan native, daughter Sinead, an aspiring photographer, and son Liam, a prominent player on the victorious St. Barnabas championship teams.

The Paddy Markham Award will be presented to Teresa O'Sullivan, a native of Aghavas, Co. Leitrim. She is the seventh of eight born to the late John Joe and Anna Williams. She received her early education at Rossan N.S. and secondary at Moyne Community School. Teresa was a multi-talented athlete. She competed in the 100 meters, represented Moyne in basketball, and competed in the Connaught Games in the shot-put. However her greatest interest was Gaelic sports as many of the Williams family were players and prominent members of the Aghavas GFC. In 1985 Teresa arrived in the US and began working in the health care system. In 1992 she married Brendan O'Sullivan, and the fact that Limerick and Aghavas share the same colors helped cement the union. They are the proud parents of Laura, Gerry and Neil. Since the children became involved in Gaelic sports Teresa has fulfilled several positions in the Barnabas club with distinction, and she is currently the Registrar. In addition she has travelled with the Feile teams on several occasions.

The Player of the Year Award will be presented to Mike Travers, a native of Elphin, Co. Roscommon. He began his football career with Elphin GFC, and progressed to play under u 16, minor and u 21 with Roscommon. Mike arrived in the States in 2007 and initially played with Leitrim and Roscommon, winning intermediate titles with the latter. This year he transferred to St. Barnabas, and played a major role in securing both titles for the club. Mike hit nine eight points in the final, and was also named "the man of the match" for the game. He is currently employed by Structuretech. Mike and Stacy have a son Cillian.

GAA Elections: There is a contest for a few positions on the New York Board. Joan Henchy and John Fitzpatrick are seeking the Assistant Secretary's position, while John Twomey takes on the incumbent John Phelan for the Treasurer's job. There is a crowded field in the race for Delegates to Congress, as Larry McCarthy