

St. Nathy's Newsletter

Volume I, Number I

January 2004

Welcome to the first edition of the St. Nathy's College Newsletter

We hope you enjoy the very first edition of our Newsletter. The daily life of St. Nathy's College, like most Voluntary Schools, involves a great deal more than just the academic pursuits of the classroom. So much happens by way of students' participation in extracurricular activities that it can be difficult for even the Principal to keep track of all accomplishments and achievements. With this in mind we decided to publish a Newsletter (hopefully twice a year) which would provide an opportunity for us to document just some of the activities we have become involved in during the first term. My sincerest thanks to all the staff who give so generously of their time in organising and providing for these activities.

Sadly, due to space restrictions, it was not possible to include all news items. Any obvious omissions will be rectified in the next edition. I hope you enjoy reading this first publication.

Fr. Martin Convey

PRESIDENT

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St. Nathy's Students excel at Charity Fundraising

Students of the College were very busy last term fundraising for charity. St. Vincent de Paul and Concern were among the charities to benefit from their efforts. The annual Carol Service is a trusted way of charity fundraising each year and, indeed, has become a well established event in the Advent Calendar. A large number of people filled the Cathedral on December 10th for this year's *Service of Carols & Readings* which was performed by the College Choir and students.

The choir was conducted by Mrs. Sheridan with musical accompaniment by Mrs. Kiely. The readings were chosen and prepared by College Chaplain Fr. Surlis.

The proceeds from the



L.C.V.P. students presenting a cheque and food hampers to Eileen Casey from S.V.D.P. Also included is Mr. Keville, L.C.V.P. Co-ordinator.

Carol Service, as well as the sales of the CD recording of the Choir, went to the local St. Vincent de Paul Society. An initial cheque for €2,016 was presented by College President Fr. Convey and Acting Deputy Principal Mr. Dunne to members of the local St. Vincent dePaul Society - Margaret McGreevy &

Eileen Casey.

Students had previously collected hampers and a further €300 for SVDP as part of an L.C.V.P. project co-ordinated by Mr. Keville. Students also raised over €2,500 for Concern by way of the December Concern Fast. **WELL DONE EVERYBODY!!!!!!**

School Exchange with Germany

A Group of 2nd Year students recently visited our partner school, *Gymnasium Leoninum*, in North-West Germany. The visit was part of a cultural exchange during which the students lived with German host families, attended school and participated in various cultural activities.

Attending a multi-lingual concelebrated Mass in the Sacred Heart Kloster, visiting the historic city of Bremen and being present at a *Bundesliga* match between Frankfurt and Bremen proved to be some of the high points of the visit. It was an enriching and worthwhile experience for

all concerned. During the exchange, meetings were held with our *Comenius* partners from Germany, France and Poland. We look forward to the return visit of our European partners to St. Nathy's in April. Students were accompanied by Ms. Burke, Ms. Finan, Mr. Ronayne & Fr. Surlis.

Exceptional Year for Kilmovee Ladies Football

After ten months of training in rain, hail and sunshine Kilmovee Ladies season has drawn to a close. It's been a season packed with hard training sessions, tough matches but also hard earned victories.

In June of last year the minor team had a substantial win over Carnacon in the county final on a wet and windy evening in Mayo Abbey, Carnacon were never really given a change in the match. They only scored two points in the second half leaving the final score at 2-14 to 7 points. Many of the players on the minor panel were still eligible to play with the U-16 team. They had a very experienced team and this was shown on

"The icing on the cake was the Connacht Title captured in Sligo on the Oct. Bank Holiday Weekend."

the field, when they won a county title in November beating St. Bridget's.

However, the main aim of the club for 2003 was the Intermediate County Title and this was achieved in Foxford in September. It was a closely contested match against St. Bridget's but Kilmovee succeeded in the end. The icing on the cake was the Connacht Title the team captured in Sligo on the Bank Holiday weekend in October. There were great scenes of celebration in Kilmovee that night. The club's season ended in Cork in November where they lost the All-Ireland semi final to Naomh Aban. In total, the club has won three County titles and one Connacht title this year. The success achieved by

the club this year is due to the hard work and good organisation by the team manager John Eagney over a number of years, who nurtured the talents of underage and school level players resulting the achievements of 2003.

Amongst the players in the Kilmovee club are many pupils of St. Nathy's College: Kelly Colleran, Emer Grehan, Lorraine Kelly, Fiona Duffy, Avril Rushe, Jamie Duffy, Elaine Regan, Deirdre Cassidy, Claire Duffy, Caroline Gorman, Lisa Cafferky, Lisa Bolton, Lorraine Bolton and Aisling Leonard. There are also past pupils on the team. They are Deirdre Gordan, Edel Colleran, Caitriona Colleran, Emer Tansey, Michelle Kelly, Aisling Burke, Lisa Quinn, Angela Gordan and Miriam Grehan.

Sr. Josephine Fahy Cup '02 / '03

The girls of St. Nathy's won their first trophy in October when they won the Sr. Josephine Fahy Cup. This competition is organised by Ballinrobe Community School for First and Second year girls, and it commemorates Sr. Josephine Fahy, who worked hard for ladies football in that school.

The competition started last May. St. Nathy's first match was against Glenamaddy Community School, a close affair which resulted in a three point win for St. Nathy's. The second match against St. Mary's of Ballygar ended in a more comfortable victory. The

semi-finals were held over until September. St. Nathy's played Presentation College, Headford, and again a comfortable win was secured. So it was off to Ballinrobe on October 14th to play the host school in the final. The St. Nathy's girls started the game in determined mood, and they built up a big first half lead. They showed no signs of letting up in the second half, and ran out comfortable winners on a scoreline of 9-13 to

*Ballinrobe C.S. 3-5
St. Nathy's 9-13*

3-5. *Well done to the team and to Coach Mr. Foy!*

The team that started that memorable final was: Cliona Coleman, Aisling Cox, Ciara Phillips, Lisa Bolton, Lorraine McNulty, Joan McNulty, Maggie Dooney, Lisa Reid (Captain), Sarah Tyrell, Lisa Cafferkey, Clare Duffy, Caroline Gorman, Martina Freyne, Katie O'Grady, Elaine Murren, Sub used: Niamh Cregg. Other subs: Louise Convey, Therese Cully, Katie Duffy, Nadine Frain, Aoife McDonagh, Eunice Moran and Sarah Towey.

Declan Davey Wins Regional Award

Last year's Leaving Certificate student Declan Davey became the first winner from St. Nathy's College of the Ordinary Level Engineering Project for the counties Roscommon, Leitrim, Sligo and Longford. Declan was recently presented with a gold medal and perpetual trophy from the Engineering Teachers' Association at a special function in Carrick-on-Shannon sponsored by Miko Metals,

Cork. His project then went on display at the National Finals in Cahir Co. Tipperary at the beginning of November where he received a Certificate of Excellence in Engineering. His project was a model lawn mower. St. Nathy's wishes Declan the best of luck with other future projects he undertakes. *Well done too to his teacher, Mr. Colleran!*

Meanwhile, Leaving Cert. Engineer-

ing students have commenced work recently on their project for the 2004 Examination. This year's project is "to design and make an amphibious vehicle". The completion date is 5th March 2004. Good luck to all students involved.

Student Mentors

Thanks to the Senior students acting as Mentors to First Years. Keep up the good work this term.

Words of Wisdom for L.C.V.P. Students

Each year as another group of students leaves St. Nathy's one realises the many benefits the L.C.V.P. programme has given them as they enter the next phase in their lives. For some there is a place in a third level Institution, for others a position in the workplace. But, for whatever path these students follow it is a well known fact that the benefits of their L.C.V.P. experience will stand to them in future years.

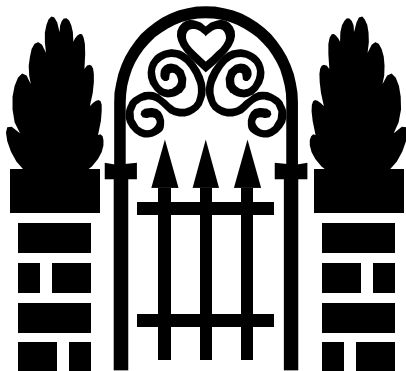
Were it not for participation in LCVP many would not have been given the opportunity to take time out from the classroom to ex-

perience life in the working world by work-shadowing in local industry or by work experience. L.V.C.P. students' job preparation skills are enhanced by guidelines given to them on preparing C.V.s, formulating plans, writing reports and improving their I.T. skills with the use of computers.

The career investigation reinforces or redirects their career choices. The opportunity to participate in a recorded interview as part of their course work might be the only chance they will have to experience such an important occasion before they actually go for their first real

interview.

The L.C.V.P. team in St. Nathy's are proud to be involved in such a worthwhile programme. We hope that the skills developed through L.C.V.P. will prove invaluable for years to come for those adults of the future .



L.C.V.P. - an Opening for Opportunity

Welcome Back

We welcome back this term our Deputy Principal Mr. Feeley after a recent illness. We also extend our thanks and gratitude to Mr. Dunne who acted as Deputy Principal in his absence.

Home School

Liaison Teacher is visiting parents of First Year students during the school year. She can be contacted at 094 – 9860010 Ext. 26

St. Nathy's Boys' Football — a Great Season so far

Senior Football

The Seniors have put in some great performances to date. A fine win over Ballyhaunis in the Connacht League has qualified them for the play-offs and, in the Mayo Colleges competition, the team has reached the quarter-finals. The team are to play St. Coleman's College when a date has been fixed.

Since September some individuals have put in some exceptional individual performances for the College on the field of play - like Dermot McGarry who captains the team.

Team: D. Regan, D. Madden, C. Killeen, B. Horan, B. Collieran, D. Killeen, D. McGarry, C. Cregg, A. Hanley, P. Hanley, D. O'Grady, J. O'Grady, F. Brett, S. Moran, C. Conway, C. O'Donoghue, C. Gilligan, D. Morgan, C. Collins & C. Dunne.

Junior Football

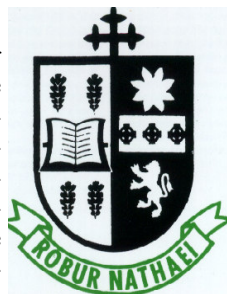
St. Nathy's Junior side have reaped some reward from the hard training of late with a crucial win over rivals St. Muredach's in the semi-final of the Collieran Cup. This team meets last year's winners of the competition, Belmullet Vocational School, in the

final. The team had to dig deep for a victory with some fine performances from Captain Shane Moran and Gary Murphy in midfield. In defence Declan Hannon, Brian Horan and Christopher Dunne, among many others, put in Man of the Match performances. *Well done to Coach Mr. Brett!*

Team: D. Rushe, D. Hannon, B. Horan, D. Dunne, B. Collieran, D. Morgan, N. Tuohy, L. Morris, S. Moran, G. Murphy, C. Collins, P. Hanley, J. Duffy, P. Kelly, G. Conway, R. Durkin, S. Lennon, P. Rogers, J. Mulligan & R. McGrath.

Second Year Boys' Football shows Promise

St. Nathy's Second Year Boys' football team, while losing both their League encounters to St. Louis Kiltimagh and Rice College Westport, put in spirited performances and now look to the Championship after Christmas hoping to show further improvement. We recorded a win against St. Attracta's Charlestown in a



challenge match.

Panel: Niall Towey, Patrick Mahon, Colin Johnston, James Curley, Matthew Drury, Gavin Horan, John Cox, Gerard Mullen, James Duffy, Barry Cox, Fergal Quinn, Daniel Higgins, Patrick Butler, Stephen Tahaney, Craig Corrigan, Declan Durkan, Paul Gilligan, Paul Regan, Ciaran Golden,

Sean Mahon & Bruce Holton.

Meanwhile the Juvenile team bowed out of the Mayo Colleges Competition when going down to St. Muredach's, Ballina in a thrilling encounter in Balaghaderreen. *Well done to the team and to Coach Mr. O'Mahony!*

The Juvenile panel in addition to above players include 1st Years: Shane Gallagher, Grant Deeney, James Murren, David Drake, Gerard Loftus, Nicholas Finn and 3rd Years: Jonathan Hanley, Philip Rodgers, Nigel O'Dowd and Daniel Brown.

Ladies Football Review

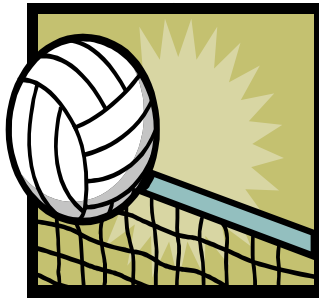
Ladies Football

The year so far.....

The junior players of St. Nathy's have enjoyed a successful campaign to date this year, with qualification in the Connacht championship secured, and the arrival of a trophy in the school – the first to be won by a ladies football team.

Junior:

The Junior team has qualified for the semi-finals of the Connacht "B" championship. The team won three of their four matches, against Coola Post-Primary School, St. Mary's of Ballina, and Sacred Heart School, Westport. The only defeat was against



Colaiste Mhuire, Ballymote.

The players on the Junior panel are:

Lisa Reid (Captain), Cliona Coleman, Aisling Cox, Ciara Phillips, Lisa Bolton, Aisling Tierney, Lorraine McNulty, Joan McNulty, Grainne Freyne, Sarah Tyrell, Lisa Cafferkey, Edel Murray, Clare Duffy, Caroline Gorman, Martina Freyne, Elaine Murren, Katie O'Grady, Niamh Cregg, Sarah Towey, Aoife McDonagh, Nadine Frain, Maggie Dooney, Therese Cully and Katie Duffy.

Senior Ladies Football

Congratulations to the Senior Ladies football team who are now on their way to the Connacht semi-finals. This is a very tal-

ented panel of footballers with many having already enjoyed much success at club level.

Boasting a panel of over thirty players, selection of a first fifteen can often be difficult. *Good luck in your future games girls and well done to Coach Ms. Staunton.*

The Senior Panel: Kelly Colleran, Elaine Duffy, Fiona Duffy, Amanda Drury, Karen Egan, Aisling Farrell, Emer Grehan, Lorraine Kelly, Aisling Leonard, Katie Mellett, Avril Rushe, Bernadine Casserley, Lisa Bruen, Deirdre Cassidy, Shauna Clifford, Leanne Cogan, Elaine Coleman, Jamie Duffy, Grainne Freyne, Claire Healy-Beirne, Suzanne Horkan, Sandra McNulty, Edel Murray, Shauna O'Donoghue, Amanda Tyrell, Lolita Noone, Sinead O'Kelly, Claire Duffy, Caroline Gorman, Sarah Tyrell & Lisa Cafferkey.

First Year Boys' Football

Training started in late September with 37 players toting out for the first training session. On the 10th October we had our first competitive outing when the A and B teams travelled to Kiltimagh to participate in a blitz with four other schools. The B team came away unbeaten with good wins over Ballyhaunis and Swinford. The A team played four games, beating Ballyhaunis and Kiltimagh, while narrowly losing out to Swinford and Castlereagh. On Tuesday 18th October the A team played two further games,

once again beating Ballyhaunis, while losing out to Ballinrobe by a couple of points. The 1st Year Championship begins at the end of January with a home tie against Carrick-on-Shannon. *Well done to the teams and to acting Coach Mr. Guilfoyle*

The A Panel: P. Keegan, N. Finn, G. Deeney (Capt) K. Carney, K. Roddy, J. Murren, M.O'Grady. T. Morgan, N. Deery, S. Gallagher, D. Drake, H. Crane, S. Cooney, G. Loftus, S. Durkin, G. Doherty, R. Phillips, S. Finn & M. Barrett.

The B Panel: D. Tully, K. Duffy, D.McCoy, J.R. Melvin, A. Hunt, E. O'Connor, B.McCarthy, C. Hoff, P. McGuinn, D. McCoy, R. McLoughlin, G. Horan, O. Yurko, M.Flynn, W. Cullen, K. Regan D. McDonald, J. Greevy, T. Ward & N. Keenan.

Keep up with Connacht
Colleges Football online at
www.connachtcolleges.com

Junior Cert. Woodwork & Leaving Cert. Construction

Leaving Cert. students are, at present, very busy and involved in the Construction of their respective projects. The initial planning and designing has taken place some months ago. As usual, the projects vary in content and design and, of course as always, a high standard of work is expected from the students. We look forward to all projects completed by the 1st April 2004.

Junior Cert. The Materials Technology (Wood) Design Briefs have been distributed among the students taking the subject in 2004.

The suggested projects were received favourably by both teachers of the subject and students alike. Designing has commenced and great enthusiasm is evident from seeing the variety of ideas that have come forward. Again, completion date is April 1st 2004.

Good Luck to all the pupils involved.

New Staff

Welcome to Mr. Guilfoyle and Ms. Mooney who joined the staff of the Science Department at the beginning of the year. Also to Chaplain Fr. Surlis. We extend an equally warm welcome to Mr. McGhee & Mr. Daly.

A Leaving Cert. student pays tribute to Ms. Egan

The month of September brought news of the sudden and unexpected death of Ms. Teresa Egan. Ms. Egan had spent the previous 15 years teaching in the school. One of the most memorable of the many tributes paid to this exceptional teacher came from one of her students. We reprint it here.

The best memories in life are formed in our school years. Teachers play a significant role in a student's life. We look to teachers as our mentors. In their own unique way, they are our shepherds and we are their flock. Students often find themselves seeking their advice - after all we spend most of our daylight hours in their company.

I find if a student begins to grow in love for a certain subject they become more attached to their teacher because it's their love in teaching that aids them in times of difficulty. All the years teachers spend learning are passed through to us. Their knowl-

edge proves beneficial from the information and experiences that they provide us. I believe teachers can be taken for granted. Students can automatically believe teachers are immortal, that they live forever. Everyday the bell rings you expect them there, waiting to fill you with their intelligence of the world. I am guilty of this. Teachers are human and humans have proven that they don't live forever.

In late September a member of staff passed away - a teacher for many years who taught numerous students, I being one of them. Ms. Egan sadly died without receiving our thanks for her generosity, support and friendship that she provided to every student and colleague. To us she was unique and courageous. Her sense of humour still lives on in the place we hope she loved the most, her classroom.

She was a woman who stood proud as a devoted Catholic, who shared and expressed her Faith through her teach-

ing. Without realising it, Ms. Egan became our friend. I am currently a student alongside others who had become accustomed to Ms. Egan's company every morning. Her warm heart and skilful teaching made me adopt a certain fondness for history.

Now we are left with a classroom that seems so empty without her. Instead of Ms. Egan's presence we are left with a mind filled with memories that seem so distant. As we are left to live our lives there is nothing we can do but keep moving, take each day as it comes and do not take anything for granted.

Although Ms. Egan has passed on, we still remember the Faith she had in everyone of her students. Part of me still expects her to be waiting at the classroom door. Maybe it is still shock. I honestly do not know. But what I do know is that, without a doubt, she is still our shepherd and we will always be her followers. (R.F.)

St. Nathy's College Representatives on Various Local Teams

Ballaghaderreen

Under 12 Mayo County Champions
Sam Durkin, Robert Phillips, Steven Cooney, Kieran Roddy.

Minor A Mayo County Champions
Ciaran & David Kilcullen, Damien Regan, Connor Conway, Conor Gilligan, Brian Collieran, Andrew & Pearce Hanley.

Under 21 A Mayo County Champions:
Andrew Hanley, Ciaran Kilcullen.

Eire Og

Under 16 Roscommon Division 2 Champions:
Daniel Morgan, Christopher Dunne, Brian Horan, David Grennan, Colm McKee, Donal Regan.

Charlestown Sarsfields

Under 17 B Mayo County Champions:
Gary Murphy, Shane Moran.

Western Gaels

Under 14 Roscommon Division 2 Champions:

Barry Cox, James Duffy, Sean Crehan, Nicholas Finn, James Murren, Kevin Carney, Henry Crean, Patrick Mahon, Sean Mahon, Barry Mahon.

Congratulations

to Sheila Lavin—First Year winner of a Music System in a recent Bank of Ireland school promotion.

Quiz Events

PTAA ACHONRY FINAL 2003

Juvenile Section - Winners

Edel Regan, Aoife Bruen, Ailish Higgins & Darina Ryan-Pilkington.

Junior Section -Runners Up

Philip Rogers, Emma Clancy, Fiona Mulligan & Michael Higgins.

Intermediate Section - Winners

Avril Rushe, John Higgins, James O'Kelly & Aoife O'Callaghan.

PTAA CONNAUGHT FINAL 2003

Juvenile Section

St. Nathy's beaten by one point for a place in an All-Ireland Final.

Intermediate Section - Winners

Avril Rushe, John Higgins, James O'Kelly & Aoife O'Callaghan.

PTAA ALL-IRELAND FINAL 2003 Intermediate Section - Winners

Avril Rushe, John Higgins, James O'Kelly & Aoife O'Callaghan.

GAEL LINN POST PRIMARY SCHOOL QUIZ - NOV. 2003

Junior Section - Winners

Aoife Bruen, Ailish Higgins & Aoife O'Callaghan.

Senior Section - Winners

Philip Craig, Avril Rushe & Shane Moran

Thanks to Mr. Curley for his work in helping achieve these great successes.



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Ideas / News Items

for the next edition of this Newsletter are very welcome. Hopefully, the next one will be available by June 2004. In the meantime, good luck everybody until then - especially the exam classes.

*Visit the College Website
www.stnathys.com*

Aware Daisy Day

Many thanks to Claire, Clíodhna, Grazyna, Kerrie, Nicole and Sarah who raised €583 for Aware on Daisy Day.

Basketball News

Under 16 Girls

In the LonLeitRos League the U-16 Girls got successfully through to the LonLeitRos Final Against St. Claire's Manorhamilton and won.

They are also through to the semi final stage of the All-Ireland School's Cup where they meet Clonslee. On the way to the semi final they have beaten Scoil Mhuire, Athy 56 - 10; North Presentation, Cork 60 - 20 and Charleville in the quarter final by 18 - 16.

Under 16 Team: Clíodhna O'Mahony, Ann-Marie Crowe, Lisa Reid, Katie Murray, Leah Hunt, Eimear O'Callaghan, Sarah Tyrell, Maggie Dooney, Mary Freeman, Noreen McDermott, Elaine Regan, Ciara Phillips & Martina Freyne.

Senior Girls

The Senior Girls did not compete in the All-Ireland School's Cup. They narrowly failed to reach the LonLeitRos Final.

Team: Ashling Farrell, Sarah Higgins, Sarah Mulligan, Kelly Colleran, Clare Healy-Beirne, Avril Rushe, Lolita Noone, Ashling Beirne, Clíodhna O'Mahony & Michelle Waldron.

Under 16 Boys

The under 16 boys, to date, have beaten Carrick-on-Shannon in the North/West Regional League and were successful against Summerhill, Sligo to become Regional U-16 Champions. They now go on to play in the All-Ireland Tournament Play-offs in February. In the All-Ireland School's Cup, they played St. Mel's Longford in the 2nd round and were victorious. They have also played Ballincollig in the Quarter Final and won 50 - 30. They now go on to the semi-final against Ard Scoil Ris, Limerick.

U-16 Panel: Liam Morris, Philip Craig, Shane Moran, Thomas Mahon, Stephen Lennon, Stephen Foley, Philip Rogers, Martin Jennings,

Handball Review

The ancient game of handball is alive and well in the school which has a 60 x 30 glass back wall alley. Two Connacht titles have been won this year. Thomas Morgan is 1st Year Connacht Singles 60 x 30 champion while Nigel O'Dowd in U-15 won a Connacht title. Stephen Cooney, David Drake and Sean Flynn have represented the school at 1st Year level. Other handballers include Shane Moran, Noel Deane, Christopher Dunne, Martin Jennings and Brian Horan.

Ballaghaderreen Pantomime

Well done to all students of St. Nathy's College who took part in the recent Pantomime. You provided the people of the town and environs with four nights of really great entertainment.

Gaisce Award

Congratulations to Amanda Drury on achieving a bronze medal in Gaisce challenge. Amanda is currently undertaking the Silver challenge. Best of luck to Aisling, Alex, April, Clíodhna, Deirdre, Edel, Maureen, Nicole and Suzanne who are currently undertaking the bronze challenge.



[2nd Yr. All Ireland League Finalists]
Ronan McGrath, Nicholas Murphy, Michael Higgins, Neil Morris, Colin Towey, Daniel Browne, Trevor O'Grady and Morgan Leydon.

Senior Boys

In the All-Ireland School's Cup St. Nathy's had a great win against St. McDaras, Dublin in the 2nd round with a score of 7 points - 52 points. They then met St. Aidan's, Cavan in the quarter final and won 72 - 56. They now play Ballisodare in the semi-final. In the North/West Regional League they were one victory away from reaching the North/West semi-final, having been successful against Abbey College, Boyle 65 - 18 and CBS Roscommon 48 - 31. Their final opponents were Marian College, Mohill who narrowly beat them.

Senior Panel: Joseph Fleming, Gavin Conway, Peter Kelly, Damien Regan, Brian Colleran, Declan Hannon, Barry Morrisroe, Fergal Brett, Gary Murphy, Liam Morris, Philip Craig, Shane Moran and Thomas Mahon.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
TEAMS & TO BASKETBALL
COACH MRS. DUNNE**