



Clonkeen Chronicle

Spring 2010

St. Andrew's College One Act Drama Festival 2010

"Samurai" by Geoffrey Case was this year's entry to Andrew's Drama Festival; a swash and buckle sword and sorcery adventure yarn.

The Citizens of Dublin are bored, for a year they have been granted every wish and whim by a magic sword. They wish to look into the future, what happens when the sword is taken from them? What lengths will they go to get it back? The Play explores the notions of democracy, tyranny and what happens when need becomes greed, and the moral choices the citizens make.

We received two awards, one to the Samurai warriors for their polished approach to physical theatre which was essential to the overall style of the play. The other award to the cast and crew for re-imagining the play and making it so relevant to our lives today.

We had great technical support from Alex Jordan on sound and Adrian Matthews on lights, and a very effective set designed and made by Saul Fidgeon.

Many thanks to all at Clonkeen College for their support with this production.

The Team :- Jack O Donoghue, Oran Colhoun, Denis Shankey-Smith, Jamie Whitehouse, Kevin Mooney, Darragh Nolan, Vincent Browne, Tadhg Garton, Saul Fidgeon, Conor Scanlan, Ben Naughton, Eoghan Keegan, Alex Jordan and Adrian Matthews.

Directed by Fiona Lester.

PRINCIPAL'S FOREWORD.

Greetings everyone! It's hard to believe that we only have three weeks to go to the Easter holidays. There are so many things to mention.

To begin with, let us congratulate the school's Under - 18 Gaelic Football Panel and mentors who did us all so proud in winning the Dublin Championship and only narrowly losing out in the Leinster Final. You have done yourselves, your families and your school proud; well done to you and your mentors, Mr. Sheehy and Mr. O' Reilly!

Congratulations to Greg Clarke, Alex Jordan, Gavin Cunningham, David Parades, Sean Nolan and Darragh Nolan who all did so well at the recent BT Young Scientist & Technology competition in January. Well done in particular to Alex who was highly commended at the Event and to Greg who came third in the Senior Category (Social and Behavioural). Yet again, Ms. Duffy's students performed superbly!

Congratulations also go to the actors, helpers and mentors involved in the recent St. Andrew's One Act Drama Festival. Your performance on the night was magnificent and hugely entertaining! Thanks in particular to Ms. Fiona Lester who put in an outstanding effort yet again!

Further congratulations to Niall Murphy, Hugh O' Connor, Rory McNab and Conor Scanlan who regained the HTAI History Quiz Leinster Trophy for Clonkeen College with an outstanding performance. Well done to their mentors, Mr. Byrne and Mr. Keogh.

Finally, well done to the Transition Year 'My Vision For Europe' Team who did so well in winning the Dublin section of the EU Video Project Competition. Mr. Traynor's students (Denis Vavasour, Cian O' Hara, Sean O' Connor, Alex Mulkerrins and Alex Jordan) are into the final of the competition which will be on March 19th.

The new Student Council, with Adam Byrne-Hetherington as Chair and Stephen Lehane as Secretary, are now up and running thanks to the hard work of Mr. Noonan and Mr. Daly. They are without doubt a competent and ambitious Council and we are looking forward to working with them in incorporating change where necessary and maintaining tradition where appropriate.

The work of the Parents' Council, with Ms. Ann Lehane as chair and Ms. Breetta Allen as Acting Secretary, is continuing to play a major role in the full life of our school community. As Principal, I am very grateful that we have such a committed and dedicated group of interested and engaged

parents.

It is important to remind everyone that schools all across the country are continuing to face serious funding shortfalls as the Government reduces staffing allocations, and the overall general funding from the State for schools is significantly reduced. This means that class sizes across the country are being increased, curricular choices are being reduced and specialised Programmes like Transition Year and LCVP as well as Special Education Provision are being adversely affected. Please bear this in mind when the politicians eventually knock on your doors looking for votes.

We would like to wish the very best to the Third World Support Group project team, under the guidance and care of Ms. Duffy and Mr. McGauley who will be heading to Uganda over the Easter break. They are continuing a fine humanitarian tradition in the school which owes so much to Mr. McGauley's ongoing efforts.

We would also like to wish the Transition Year students all the best on their International Tour to Andalucia, Spain. Mr. McBride and his team of teachers will, no doubt, have their hands full looking after forty one students!

Dom Twomey (Principal)

Poetry Aloud Competition

A number of students entered the Poetry Aloud Competition organised jointly by Poetry Ireland and the National Library. Entrants were required to learn off a number of poems and recite these in competition over a number of rounds. The preliminary rounds were held in the impressive surroundings of the National Library on Kildare St. Barry Lennihan (6th Year) made it through to the semi-finals and final, which were held over a long day in Wesley College. Barry fin-

ished as runner-up in the senior section. Prizes were presented by Uachtaran na hEireann, Mary McAleese. A special thrill for the finalists was being congratulated by and photographed with Nobel Prize winning poet Seamus Heaney. A special thanks is due to Fiona Lester who prepared the boys for this prestigious competition.

J. Byrne



PARENTS' ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT

The Parents' Advisory Council have been busily pursuing many different projects during the current school year. Before Christmas, the main focus for the Council was organising the school pantomime, 'The Gingerbread Man'. Council members put in a huge effort securing sponsorship for the programme, collecting raffle prizes for the nights, and printing and selling tickets for the show. The PC also coordinated Front of House and Security on the nights. Special mention has to go to outgoing PC member Grainne McGovern (now on the Board of Management) and Mick Dolan for their heroic efforts. Many hours of hard work was rewarded with a very successful show and great fun was had by all!

In November, Kay Mooney and Michelle Dowling attended a training meeting for PC members in the Red Cow Inn on our behalf. The outcome of the training and our subsequent discussion is that Ciara Phelan has been appointed PRO for the PC, with the task of increasing communication with the wider parent body. We plan to update all parents through the Clonkeen Chronicle, and are hoping to produce a pamphlet of "Frequently Asked Questions" for the parents of incoming students. Any other suggestions would be welcome.

On January 29th, the Parent's Council was delighted to help the Student's Council and Third World Support Group with their preparations for the 2nd year Social that evening. The lads did most of the work, and we gave a hand with decorating, shopping and security on the night. The Social was a huge success. The added bonus is that much-needed funds were raised for the Third World Support Group's Kenya projects. Well done to all involved!

On Wednesday 10th February, the PC organised a very interesting talk on Drugs Awareness, given by Garda Gary Dunne from the Drug Squad and Sergeant Angelina Conifrey, a Community Guard from Cabinteely Station. Both Gardai were very well-informed about drugs in the locality and the 70+ parents in attendance learned a lot! We are very grateful to Gary & Angelina for giving their time and expertise.

Upcoming projects involving Parent's Council members include "Healthy Eating Seminars" for the First Years and TY Students by PC members Yvonne O Regan and Assumpta Dunne, with the help of the Student Council. This will build on last year's excellent seminar. We are also in the process of sourcing and funding new curtains for the school stage. Members of the PC are also involved in coordinating the upcoming "Careers Evening" for senior students, which is scheduled for 24th March. Ciara Phelan & Bernadette Hussey have volunteered to give input to the current review of the School Code of Behaviour, while Ann Lehane & Breea Allen are involved in reviewing and amending the Parent's Council Constitution.

Ciara Phelan (PRO Parents' Advisory Council).

TENNIS NEWS/ DAVIS CUP

Garreth O'Carroll, Clonkeen College's Tennis Coach, is well under way in selecting the junior and senior teams for this year's Summer Tennis Leagues. It has been great to see the response from so many students in the school who are interested in Tennis. Particular credit must go to the many students who have been attending regular coaching with Garreth since the beginning of the school year. I have been really impressed with their dedication and was delighted to see their tennis skills in action over three weeks during November and December of 2009.

DAVIS CUP TRIP

Garreth organised a trip to see some Davis Cup Tennis

at Fitzwilliam Tennis Club on Friday Mar 5. So many in the tennis club were looking forward to going that this trip was fully booked out.

Students left directly after school on the day and a feast of around four hours of top quality tennis was enjoyed by all.

J. Clarke / Mr Keogh

The New Student Council

The new student council met for the first time late February in IADT for a session of getting to know each other and learning about what the role of the student council is.

The student council comprises twenty 5th years who meet weekly and work with the school community to represent the students and work on specific projects.

Adam Byrne-Hetherington has taken the role of Chairman, with Darragh Nolan as his Vice. Stephen Lehane was elected Secretary, with Darragh McGrath as his vice. Everyone is very enthusiastic to get started, with a lot of new exciting projects on the cards. We hope to hit the ground running and if you see us around the corridors don't be afraid to come talk to us.

Stephen Lehane

Well done to the boys who were elected. Inside sources inform me that they are already on the move. A big part of their plans for the year is to keep the student body more informed of the work they do on their behalf. Watch that space. D. Ed

Get on yer bike!

Only this time around it is a unicycle we are talking about. **Patrick McRedmond (6th)** is one of a growing number of people who are taking to the unicycle. He explains that he started unicycling a few years ago because he thought it would be fun and it looked easy enough. He quickly moved onto more difficult things and is now learning to juggle fire while unicycling so that he can take part in the street performers festival this summer.

Every time he goes out on his unicycle people ask him what is the point. His reply "just great fun"

Transition Year

Students have just finished their second period of work experience and are starting their final term. The spring/summer term is usually a very busy one. With hopefully improved weather, outdoor activities can move on to such things as canoeing and sailing. The tourism programme includes visits to Guinness Storehouse, the National Gallery of Ireland, the ESB Georgian House and elsewhere.

Students will be presented with their subject choices for fifth year in the coming days. Parents and pupils should give the decision on this very

serious consideration. Be sure to check out whether any third level course the student likes has any subject-specific requirements.

THE CD PROJECT

The CD project has been up and running since last November and the students participating in it have been writing some great songs and music. They are almost ready to go into the studio and record the follow up to last year's album. (which inci-

dentally,* sold out completely *after the live performances!)

Similar to last year, there will be a performance from all the groups in the project with all proceeds going to the Third World Group and the great work they are involved in. Tickets will be on sale for the concert sometime after Easter, so there is going to be some very busy activity over the coming weeks as we try to pull it all together. Watch this space...

Mr Clarke

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Dail na nOg Update

Darragh Nolan's (5th) term as Dail na n'Og Councillor is almost up. It reached it's climax last week as he gave a presentation to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children. At this years Dail na n'Og, Stephen Lehane from 5th year is at-

tending and Darragh has been given the honour of chairing the session. The march 5th session of the Dail na n'Og will surely be remembered as one of the best ever.

Darragh and Stephen have recently been elected to the student Council here in Clonkeen College where Stephen is Secretary and Darragh is vice Secretary. These two are going to make a difference. D. Ed

Young Scientists

Congratulations to this year's Young Scientists Darragh Nolan (5th year), Greg Clarke (5th Year), Alex Jordan (TY), David Parades (TY), Gavin Cunningham (TY) and Sean Nolan (TY). It was a great achievement to have their projects on display for the week. Alex Jordan got highly commended and Greg Clarke came third in his category in the Social and Behavioural section with two of his friends from Rockbrook.

Any student interested in taking part next year should contact their science teacher or talk to me.

Good luck to Alex Jordan, Mark Richardson and Daniel Whitehouse who are entering projects into Scifest next month.

Good luck also to Colin Egan who is taking part in the Physics Olympiad and Conor Hayes who is taking part in the Biology Olympiad in DCU at the end of this month! Hopefully they go on to represent Ireland in Croatia (physics) and Korea (biology).

M. Duffy

This Darragh Nolan seems to be all over the place! well done D. Ed!

Clonkeen College Debating Society.

The Phil Speaks Debating Competition in Trinity College occupies the minds of those involved in debating in the school at the moment. With every-

one desperate to follow in the immortal footsteps of David Nolan who went all the way to the final last year, a total of 5 teams (two people per team) were entered into the competition to represent Clonkeen this year, with students from 2nd year up all the way to 6th year involved. They were: Alex Jordan and Ben Corbett, Tom Toner and Carl Wallace, Ben Turner and Luke McMorrow, Colin Egan and David Nolan and finally the Clarke twins, Anthony and Joseph. Congratulations to David Nolan and Anthony Clarke who succeeded in getting through to the next round. Well done t o a l l !

Unfortunately our duo of Colin Egan and Colin O'Shaughnessy were unable to compete in the next round of the Denny Debating Competition at UCD due to study and other commitments. Congratulations on having got so far: no doubt their success would have been guaranteed had they been able to c o m p e t e ! There have been some lively debates since the turn of the new year, with room 18 being filled with our thoughtful insight and convincing speeches on the morality of the Death penalty and the existence of God (apologies to those who took offence at the misspelling of exist*ence on the posters around the school, in particular Mr Barry and Mr Keogh who just couldn't help pointing out my grave error!) Again, we would like to stress that ALL students and staff are wel-

come to come along and get involved if they see an interesting motion. Debates are held in Room 18 on every second Friday.

Niall Murphy

Chess

It's been a busy season for the Clonkeen Chess Team with our School involved at both the Minor and Junior Level. The minor team recorded great victories over Templeogue, High School, and Divine Word School beating all three Schools respectively 5-0. They were unfortunate to lose in a very close final group match to a strong St Benildus team 3.5 - 1.5. The Junior competition is still ongoing with Blackrock College left to play, they recently beat Belvedere College 3 - 2 which was a great result for the team. There will be a Chess Competition commencing shortly this year to find Clonkeen's Chess Champion of 2010, with Eoin Brennan (R1) aiming to hold on to his title for a second year in a row! The competition is open to all 6 years, so even if you are not a regular member of the Chess Club you are more than welcome to enter and give it a go! Take Care and Good Luck

Mr Mc Laughlin

Clonkeen college Irish World cup football hero

Stephen Moroney transition year student here in Clonkeen College was

selected to be part of a squad who were invited to play in a pre world tournament in South Africa at the end of last month.

The team left for South Africa on Saturday 23rd of January. They flew from Dublin to Paris where they collected two other teams, Paris Saint Germain and Esperance from Tunisia. They then carried on to South Africa and arrived in Johannesburg on Sunday afternoon. They were drawn in the same group as The Kaiser Chiefs (South Africa), SAFA Tswana (South Africa) and Shandong Lueng (China). In the opening match against Shandong Lueng, who went on to win the competition, they were unlucky to lose 1-0. The next game was against the Kaiser Chiefs Again. SAFA Tswana in the final group game was an easier game and they ended up winning 1-0. After the playoffs the highest position they could finish in the competition was 7th. In their final game they were up against the Kaiser Chiefs again. This time they came out on top with a 1-0 win meaning they finished 7th overall.

They arrived back in Dublin the following day to a warm welcome from family and friends. Overall the trip was a great success.

Great to see that despite the best efforts of a Mr. Henry Ireland did get to S.A. and even better that one of our own was there.

Third World Support Group

Despite difficult times we continue to persevere with our work. Thanks to your generosity we managed to put together 20 large hampers for the St Vincent de Paul at Christmas. Thank you.

The Third World Support Group organized a street collection in Dunlaoghaire on Christmas Eve which raised €1,465.84. Another street collection in Blackrock raised €869.11. A non uniform day before Christmas raised €896.29. A second year social also raised €892.06. A bag packing in Dunlaoghaire raised €959.24. Finally we are continuing to collect Christmas fast money which to date has raised €3,700.

The monies collected last year went into a water project for Gilgil village and school in Kenya. Thanks to your generosity the village now has a regular water supply and was able to produce crops for the first time in five years. Likewise, in Gilgil school the children now can attend on a regular basis since they have a reliable water supply. We really are making a difference. This year the emphasis is on improving the sewage situation which is a cause of a great deal of ill health and death in the area. Once again thank you for all your help.

C. McGauley

Conversations on the Stairs

A conversation overheard on the back stairwell between first year students went as follows: David what is your favourite painting on the stairwell? He took a few moments before replying as he pointed to the canvas depicting the green arms reaching for a broken switch. Why do you like this work? "Well because it's cool, Ronan" replied David.

Regardless of the depth of appreciation for the new paintings, they have encouraged dialogue amongst the pupils. Who likes what and why? The recent introduction of paintings on the back stairwell has been a huge visual success. A number of art students were assigned a topic and a style of art as a starting design brief. Robert Lyons based his work on past civilizations and painted a picture based on the carvings on Easter Island. Mark Hughes took his inspiration from the stained glass windows of Harry Clarke. Denis Shankey-Smith naturally took Surrealism as his starting point given him a well deserved break from his academic pursuits. Ivan Sheridan was asked to depict a modern icon and he selected Laura Croft from the film Tomb Raider. He worked in the medium of silk screen printing. Ivan also worked with Damien Crosbie on a life size portrait entitled "Santana". Martin O'Donoghue examined the etchings of M.C. Escher and introduced a twist into his interpretation of the work by adding a smiley face. Donal White injected subtle humour in his depiction of Pop art, capturing a lady chewing gum about to burst a bubble. Garret Mullen's work captured the compositional quality of balance found in the work of Piet Mondrian. Stephen Lehane's piece is based on Cubism and has a strong graphic appeal. Robert McMackin's influences were based on H. R. Geiger work on the film "Alien". See for yourself.

K O'Donoghue

U-14/FIRST YEAR GAELIC FOOTBALL

After our hard-fought, but ultimately fruitless, U-14 match against St. MacDara's our attentions turned to our annual 1st / 2nd Year League. In honour of the GAA's 125th Anniversary Celebrations we chose our team names from heroes nominated by the First Years (and their family members in some cases!). It was fitting that the **Teacy-Goughs** (that's ex-pupils and Dublin hurlers **David and Oisín**) won out against the **Sheehy-Sherlocks** (Mr. **Enda Sheehy** and **Jason**, team-mates on Dublin's last Sam Maguire Winners). No, **Mr. Sheehy** DIDN'T vote for himself! The **Carey-Shefflins** and **Earley-Whelans** played out their 3rd draw of the campaign in the 3rd place play-off! On the winning team were **Justin Byrne**, **Eoin Brennan**, **Finn Ellard**, **Eoin Gannon**, **Martin McGauley**, **Jakub Puszc** and **Christopher Roche**. Well done too to the following on submitting their favourite GAA stories when voting for their GAA heroes: **Justin Byrne**, **Finn Ellard**, **Luke Allen**, **Jacob Marrar**, **Cian Moriarty**, **Maguire**, **Robert Phillips**, **Seán Keating**, **Gary Moran** and **Cathal Taylor**.

The defence of our 1st Year Dublin Championship got under way with a comprehensive win over **Hartstown C.S.** Hopefully by the next bulletin we'll have news of a few more victories. Training for First Years every Monday, as usual!

Pauline Murray / Jim Lynch

QUIZZES

The **Senior French Quiz Team** couldn't emulate their History counterparts, but still finished a creditable 6th in their **Dublin Schools' Final**. Well done to **Colin Egan**, **Colin O'Shaughnessy**, **Andrew Hume** and **Darragh O'Loughlin**

Colin Egan also represented Clonkeen in the Irish Examiner All-Ireland Quiz. His team-mates that evening were **Hugh O'Connor**, 6th Year, **Scott Curtis**, 3rd Year and **Eoin Brennan**, 2nd Year. We narrowly lost out on a victory, though we're hoping for a best runners-up spot in the 2nd Round. So we don't know if that's Colin's last quiz for us, or not! **Eoin** finished top of the pile in 2nd Year, while **Scott** narrowly edged out **Emmet Deeney** and **Stephen Boylan** in the 3rd Year Competition. Well done lads.

Jim Lynch

Winter Olympics. Vancouver 2010.

Clonkeen past pupil on Irish team at Winter Olympics. Patrick Shannon from Cherrywood and LC 1995 competed in the skeleton event. He also competed at Torino in 2006. Patrick was the school's top athlete in his school days winning medals in Leinster and All-Ireland schools sports. His top event was long jump but he also won medals at triple jump, sprint and relay. Patrick finished 25th on the very dangerous looking sliding course on Whistler. Well done to him on his continuing sports participation at the very highest level.

Cross country

Well done to the u-14 and u-15 runners who competed in the East Leinster finals at Avondale House Rathdrum. Best performance on the day came from Conor Brennan (S1) who finished 5th in his race.

Teams: U14. David Neary, Conor Brennan, David Ryan, Caolan Mooney, Colm Corcoran Kenna, Jacob Marrar, Daragh Browne.

U-15: Conor O'Sullivan, Eoin Brennan, Joseph Clarke, Ken Fleming Byrne.

Track and Field begins immediately. High jump practice in hall after mocks. All athletes welcome to trials.

Br. Kelly

U 14 Hurling

The U14 Hurling championship is about to start this week. Clonkeen are in a group with MacDarraghs and Comcilles and we are hoping to retain the cup we won last year. Br. Kelly, Ms Kavanagh, Mr. Bennett and Willie Braine are actively involved in the training of the team. We have been moved up to division B from C last year. The core of last year's team is still available so we are confident if we can keep everyone fit and healthy and have everyone available that we will be challenging for honors again.

Mr. Bennett

TY video project

Congratulations to Transition Year students Ben Errity, Alex Jordan, Alex Mulkerrins, Seán O'Connor, Cian O'Hara and Denis Vavasour who will be representing Dublin in the final of the 'My Vision for Europe' video project on 19th March. They produced a three minute music video where they were asked to explain the EU to a group of aliens landing from space.

To reach the final, they had to beat 13 other schools from Dublin. If they win the final, they will win an all expenses paid weekend away in Strasbourg for them and 19 of their classmates. You can view their winning video by clicking on the 'Videos' section on <http://www.myvisionforeurope.com>

GAA Hero Selection

Well done too to the following on submitting their favourite GAA stories when voting for their GAA heroes: Justin Byrne, Finn Ellard, Luke Allen, Jacob Marrar, Cian Moriarty-Maguire, Robert Phillips, Seán Keating, Gary Moran and Cathal Taylor

... J. Lynch

Clonkeen College Dublin C Champions

Clonkeen College score goals galore to win the cup! Clonkeen College won the Dublin C Championship for the first time since 1979 in UCD last Friday the 26th of February

The school put in a fantastic performance, and won an exciting game against Moyle Park Clondalkin by a score of 6-11 to 1-6.

The game was a tough, strong and firm affair, with both teams giving as good as they had, making it a thrilling game to watch for supporters. The team had reached the final the previous year to lose in dubious circumstances, and were seeking revenge.

Managed by Mr Sheehy and Mr O'Reilly, hard training had been put into this years Championship, with the squad of 32 training effortlessly during the mid-term break to put the hard yards in to prepare for the final. Clonkeen had previously put in good performances against both Lucan Community College and St. Vincents CBS in previous rounds. The major difference between the teams was the clinical goals taken by Clonkeen in the first half, by scoring five excellent goals. Strong moves and hard work by the team set up Clonkeen's forwards for goals, and they didn't disappoint, with Mark O'Grady and Conor O'Brien getting two goals each, and Stephen Moroney also getting a goal. It seemed each time they had a goal opportunity, they buried it in the back of the net. Paul Moffatt put in a great performance at full-forward, as well as centre back, showing his versatile ability to play both in the backs and forwards. Darragh Mooney and Adam Hudson worked tirelessly

U16 Soccer

Clonkeen's U16's soccer team were very unfortunate to lose the Leinster Cup semi-final 2-1 at the Carlisle Grounds in Bray, on the 12th of February. After going down one nil to a very early goal from Chanel College, the team showed great determination and strength of character to force the game into extra time. Clonkeen dominated normal time, winning battles all over the pitch, and finally forcing an equalizer through the Captain, Ryan Mathews, in the last ten minutes. It was a just reward for all the possession.

In extra time, the effort expended in getting back into the game began to show and all three substitutes were needed as exhausted players started to cramp. Steven Byrne came on for Luke Foy, Carl Wallace came on for Ben McGovern, and Aaron Murphy replaced Seán Toner. But then Chanel College scored their second goal right at the end of the first half of extra time. However, as we have come to expect of this group of players, this cruel blow merely brought the best out of them. They raised themselves once again to dominate the remainder of the game.

Their character was illustrated through the sight of players like Roy Dunne playing until the final whistle despite a leg that locked with cramp, and

in the backline, to stop Moyle Park attacks, as well as fielding great ball around midfield to set up attacks.

In the full back line, Collie Brock and Niall O'Dowd in particular put in excellent defending performances.

Clonkeen did not have it all their own way, and needed the great goalkeeping skills of Conor Quinn to keep the opposition out at a crucial stage in the first half. Moyle Park went all out attack at the start of the Second Half, grabbing a goal on the Throw in, and Clonkeen had to dig deep to re-take control of the game. Philip Nolan and James Lee worked repeatedly around midfield to win the breaking ball for Clonkeen, and further scores from Conor O'Brien, Micheal Whelan and Mark O'Grady put an end to Moyle Park's strong resistance.

The final nail in the coffin was when James Lee's 45 dropped short, with the unlucky Moyle Park goalkeeper letting the ball through his legs. On the final whistle, the team were joined in celebrations by the many Clonkeen supporters. Captain Conor O'Brien lifted the trophy, giving a roaring speech. The team could now look forward to another final. On Friday the 5th of March they faced Cross and Passion, Kilculen of Kildare in a Leinster Final in Blessington, Co. Wicklow. How far can this team go. Lets watch this space.

E. Sheehy, J Reilly (managers)

Clonkeen just fall short in Leinster Final

Under a boiling hot sun, in the beautiful surroundings of Blessington, Co. Wicklow, the Clonkeen under 18 team were narrowly defeated by Cross and

Passion of Kildare. A superb Gaelic match was played out on a lovely pitch, with both teams giving their all from the very start. Mr Sheehy and Mr O'Reilly had the team motivated for success and their players did not disappoint. The team gave their all from the throw-in, with Adam Hudson, Philip Nolan, Conor Quinn and Conor O'Brien showing great example. Cross and Passion were strong and through great performances by their central players, led by two points at half time. Again they took a big lead in the second half, but a wonder goal by Micheal Whelan, followed by a cross in finish by Stephen Moroney, brought the Clonkeen side back into the match. The side worked tirelessly to get the equaliser, but the ball would just not come down for them. While a few missed chances here and a referee decision there might have gone for Clonkeen, the boys put in a huge effort, and just fell short of victory by two points. The final score was Cross and Passion 2-11 to Clonkeen College's 3-6. The under-18's, led by captain Conor O'Brien, deserve great credit for their strong performance and work rate, and did the school proud by their achievements this year. We look forward to the future with optimism.

Seamus O'Raghallaigh

Paul Moffatt shrugging off a painful shoulder injury, and Jamie Costello managing to play through some pain and surge forward from centre-half to hit what was probably Clonkeen's last meaningful shot. But unfortunately it was not to be.

The U16 Soccer Squad has been fantastic all year, training regularly, conducting themselves admirably with regard to each other and the various opposing teams they have faced. It was sad end for many of the squad but for thirteen of the twenty-seven there will be another chance next year.

Golf

Because of the bad weather the golfers have not had much of a start to the season and the first outing was the Leinster Schools Junior Event Qualifying 2010. The venue was the Charlesland Golf Club in Greystones in the Garden of Ireland on the 23 February 2010.

Representing the school were Daniel O'Hara (captain)(R1), Karl Schutte (R3) and Shane Whelan (R6). Clonkeen were paired with 2 schools, St. Andrew's and St Benildus College. This was the first time the trio represented the school and despite not making it through to the next round they did us proud and performed extremely well. They should develop into a fine team.

B Noonan (Golf co-ordinator)