

Evening Echo SPORT

email: esport@eecho.ie

Keano's golden era yet to come



**Robert
O'Shea**

THE LONGSHOT

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY, when it comes many years before the twilight of a life, always leaves you a bit short-changed.

It's alright when a sportsman comes to the end of his career and is allowed to look back on the highs and lows, successes and failures and groin strains, but when you have Wayne Rooney charting the arc of his existence a few times before he hits 25, it's surely overkill.

Roy Keane's second book was supposed to hit the shelves today, but a Tesco store in Manchester managed to stock them (by mistake, they claim) on Monday.

You'd forgive Keane bringing out a second book in his 40s as the first was published before his playing career had finished and because his wisecrack ratio supersedes most football memoirs.

However, it might be best if he waits until he is closing in on his dotage before he chooses to publish again.

What would a Keano book from the golden years read like?

I'm glad you asked.

Keano on... Martin O'Neill

There are things I regret in my life but he's not one of them. Sure, we got to the World Cup in Qatar. Sure, we topped a group including Italy and Spain. But I'd told the FAI I wanted the window seat on the way over so I could check the weather as we flew into the country. Where did they put me? The aisle. I know people find it funny after there was an Oscar-winning film made about what I did on that flight, but if you're not going to monitor the desert climate on the journey over what does that say about your mind-set? What was Martin doing? Headphones in watching a George Clooney movie. This was why I got on the first plane home when we landed.

Keano on... Briggs

When Briggs ran away I can't say I was all that surprised. When we were out on our walks I could never hand on heart say he was 100% behind me. He'd be sticking his head in this or that bush, when his head needed to be in the game of stick we were playing. He just couldn't stick it.

Keano on... Guiding the Cork hurlers to the All-Ireland that stopped Kilkenny's 15-in-a-row

Unbelievable, and if a couple of the lads hadn't have gone over the top celebrating we could have done something in Europe.

Keano on... Alf Inge Haaland

We became great friends after he wrote me a long letter. He came around and I signed his cast and we had a great chat.

Keano on... McCarthy

Who?

Recommendation: Slovenia, Macedonia, Lithuania and Sweden all to win at home tonight at 25-1 with Boyles.



Cork U16 Ladies Football captain, Laura Cleary from Éire Óg, receives the City and County Youth Sports Star Award from Des Donnelly, Marketing Manager Gresham Metropole Hotel, in the company of John Buckley (John Buckley Sports, sponsors), deputy county Mayor, Cllr Andrias Moynihan and deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr Fergal Dennehy, at the Gresham Metropole Hotel, Cork.

Picture: John Tarrant

Cleary honoured to accept award

AWARDS

By JOHN TARRANT

CORK have emerged as the benchmark of consistency over the years in ladies football and the future is bright after a young group of Rebels regained a hold of the All-Ireland U16 Football Championship.

And by offering a compelling exhibition of power, pace and precision, the outcome merited a talented group landing provincial and ultimate All-Ireland accolades.

That run of success earned all concerned the monthly recipients of the Cork City and County Youth Awards at a function in the Gresham Metropole Hotel.

There was no stopping Cork from stamping their class in the Munster and All-Ireland series. A convincing series of wins over Waterford and Kerry earned a provincial final where Cork endured their toughest

test to overcome Waterford again, on this occasion after extra-time.

Cork looked equipped to fare well in the All-Ireland series. And they did so by sweeping past Cavan and Dublin to land the outright success.

Deputy Lord Mayor Cllr Fergal Dennehy extended congratulations to the team and management on their selection as monthly winners of the City and County Youth Awards in association with John Buckley Sports.

Team captain, Laura Cleary from Éire Óg, maintains a strong family tradition and described it as a great honour to represent the county and wear the Cork jersey.

"The team worked so hard all year, since last January, its been training and more training, all 32 girls on the panel and team management put in such an effort. Its brilliant to have so many clubs represented and the girls have been so united and become close friends," she said.

Laura comes from a sporting family, dad John, the current U16

coach, helped Cork to back-to-back All-Ireland SFC titles in 1989/90. And, of course, aunt Nollaig is the holder of nine All-Ireland Ladies SFC medals after Cork defeated Dublin in the recent final at Croke Park.

"At times, dad could be cross but I'm used to it, having trained under him at club level in Éire Óg. Hopefully, I can go on and repeat some of their success and follow their footsteps to Croke Park.

"The coming weeks, the focus is on the club championship. Next year, attention turns to minor level and hopefully further success," she said.

Deputy County Mayor Cllr Fergal Dennehy and Deputy County Mayor Cllr Andrias Moynihan spoke of no stopping a Cork team from stamping their class on the 2014 campaign.

Gresham Metropole Hotel's Des Donnelly and sponsor John Buckley commended Cork on their intensity and work-rate that yielded ultimate honours.

"The awards are a fantastic op-

portunity to recognise the talents of Cork's young sporting stars," said Mr Buckley.

Thanks were extended to a team management of John Cleary, Tom Scally, Aoife McCarthy, Paddy Lucey and Theresa Meaney. Among the attendance at the function were members of the management and members of the extended Cleary family including Laura's mum and dad, Helga and John.

PANEL: Mairead O'Sullivan (St Vals), Emma Spillane (Bantry), Sophie Hurley (Bandon), Ashling O'Sullivan (Mourneabbey), Jenny Brew Dinan (Donoughmore), Beatrice Casey (Boherbue), Aileen Lynch (Bandon), Ciara McCarthy (St Val's), Niamh Murphy (Erin's Own), Ciara Hartnett (Douglas), Laura Cleary (Éire Óg), Abbie Scannell (Fermoy), Saoirse Noonan (Nemo Rangers), Grace Culloty (Bride Rovers), Sadhbh O'Leary (Kinsale), Amy Rose O'Rourke (Donoughmore), Sarah Hayes (Rosscarbery), Jolene Forde (Mourneabbey), Ciara Hughes (St Val's), Ciara Ryan (Clonakilty), Grainne Cahalane (Éire Óg), Lorraine O'Neill (Clann na nGael), Isobel O'Regan (Nemo Rangers), Kate Hanlon (Glanmire), Danielle O'Connor (Boherbue), Chloe Collins (Dromtariffe), Caoimhe Moore (Kanturk/Mourneabbey), Nicola Dennehy (St Val's), Maire O'Leary (Éire Óg), Nicole Quinn (Bandon), Erin McEneaney (Passage West), Meg Joe O'Sullivan (Beara).

Ebony and Ivory engineer five-point lead

TENPIN BOWLING

By Jim Desmond

THERE are four weeks gone in the 2014 Autumn/Winter Monday Doubles' League at the Leisureplex Coliseum and it's Ebony and Ivory who are in a five-point lead.

The situation is, as follows: 1st Ebony and Ivory, 26pts; 2nd Old Hand, 21pts; 3rd Pin Bombers, 20pts.

Congratulations to John McGrath of Pin Bombers and Aisling O'Neill of Him 'n' Her who both

rolled grand slam of highs last week.

John McGrath had outstanding men's high game of 233, men's high series of 582, men's high game-plus handicap of 276, men's high series-plus handicap of 711 and he rolled 87 pins above his average.

Aisling O'Neill had women's high game of 188, women's high series of 510, women's high game-plus handicap of 238, women's high series-plus handicap of 660 and she rolled 51 pins above her average.

After four weeks of the 2014 Autumn/Winter Tuesday Morning Ladies Trios League at the Leisureplex Coliseum it's Lucky Strike who are maintaining their lead.

The position is: 1st Lucky Strike,

17pts; 2nd Nutcrackers, 15pts; 3rd Wannabes, 14pts.

Catherine Spillane of All Sorts rolled last week's high game of 184, she also had high game-plus handicap of 254 and she rolled 72 pins above her average.

Ciara O'Brien of Lucky Strike had last week's high series of 320, while Peggy Green of Wannabes had high series-plus handicap of 437.