

# ROVERS WOMEN FANZINE

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## EDITOR/FAN WELCOME NOTE

Women's football deserves to be at the front and centre of all medium platforms.  
A match-day programme (whether that be official - or unofficial in this case) is no exception.

As the biggest club on our island, I believe that Shamrock Rovers have the opportunity to be a trailblazer in the sphere of the women's match-day programme (or a less frequent bi-weekly fanzine).

Having tabled the first semi-professional contracts in the Women's National League, leading from the front is what Shamrock Rovers do best.

This fanzine is my vision of what a digital Rovers Women match-day programme/fanzine could look like - compiled in the form of a digital PDF.

Make no mistake about it, programmes take work and as I work full-time and am creating it solo, I'll need to figure out the frequency of publication - but that will be ironed out and confirmed.

The Hoops Scene Editor Robert Goggin's knows this better than I and in addition, has ensured to make room for the women's team within the widely read publications already packed pages.

In addition, David Hanly, a staunch supporter of the women's team, dedicates not only his weekends to commentate on their games for LOITV at Tallaght, but to produce engaging content for The Hoops Scene centred on the Rovers Women.

But at the risk of sounding greedy... I want more.

I want to see Jessica Hennessy front and centre of a quality produced programme.  
Joy Ralph, clenching her fists in celebration after she has fired us at Tolka into the All-Island Cup Final.  
Lia O'Leary speeding like the Florida rapids past a dazed defender at PRL Park.

I want to read an in depth comprehensive piece of journalism about women's football and women's football alone - straight outta Tallaght.

Yes there are roadblocks - the low attendances (when compared with the men's) at the women's games for example would mean that the costs of printing such a publication may outweigh the profits earned.

At first.

But things change and change can begin only with a vision. Or in this case, an unofficial digital programme.

With passion, a bit of entrepreneurial-ship, commitment and a little advice, I have produced what a Rovers Women programme could look like.

This fanzine is dedicated to the players of not only Shamrock Rovers,  
but all the women's league of Ireland clubs, their families and coaches.

Thanks for making 2024 such an enjoyable year.

*Christine Allen*

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## JOY RALPH RIFLES HOME TO EARN THE HOOPS 3 POINTS AGAINST PEAMOUNT UNITED

**SHAMROCK ROVERS EARNED THREE POINTS AT THE HOME OF EUROPEAN HOPEFULS PEAMOUNT UNITED, BEATING THE GREENOGUE GIANTS 1-0 IN WHAT WAS A VOCAL, FRENETIC AND SOMETIMES SCRAPPY 90 MINUTES OF FOOTBALL.**

**CHRISTINE ALLEN REPORTS FROM PRL PARK.**

Just four days out from The Peas round one Champions League Qualifier against Belarus' FC Dinamo-BSUPC, there was an understandable buzz at PRL Park.

Underneath the waning heat of a late August sun, supporters journeyed beneath the tunnel to the main pitch, conversing animatedly.

Rovers donned their classic black jersey with the turquoise sash design while The Peas sported their traditional dark green shirt and white shorts.

United were spirited in the opening twenty minutes and had success via Becky Watkins on the right wing - her one v one battle with the tenacious Savannah McCarthy a real treat for the crowd underneath the compact main stand who made themselves heard as both duelled.

Watkins and Jessica Fitzgerald had success early on both respective channels, swinging ball after ball into the box which prompted skipper Aine O'Gorman to track back for Rovers and make a number of crucial interceptions.

"Get higher!" Amanda Budden roared as Fitzgerald drove forward once more and popped off a shot with her right that the goal minder would collect.

Chloe Moloney and Jetta Berrill looked solid at the back whenever The Hoops did initiate an attack - Maria Reynolds exploiting space as McCarthy pushed high.

That was until the electric charge of Lia O'Leary blitzing past not one, not two but three Peamount players (who hit the deck as the number 11 weaved beyond their reach) sparked The Hoops to life.

"Cmon!" Budden exclaimed in approval as the marauding wingers' quick footwork sent each Pea sliding helplessly to the grass.

The breakthrough for Rovers came minutes later when Maria Reynolds, who moved with the self-assuredness of a player who has mastered their craft, played a visionary over the top pass to Stephanie Zambra who did well to keep the ball in play and drive it across the goalmouth.

You never doubted Joy Ralph as the Greenhills native beat the green shirt to the ball, firing first time from an awkward angle with her left boot into the bottom right hand corner.

The number 19 nearly made it two with a pirouette and fire moments later - The Peas relieved to see the strike trickle past the left hand post.



A Watkins counter cross almost found its target minutes later but Ellen Dolan was unable to head it cleanly on target. In the heart of the park, Scarlett Herron and Aoife Kelly put in a real shift, bossing the midfield like Alan Sugar in the boardroom of The Apprentice.

Captain Karen Duggan, who was a worthy foe for Herron, cranked her neck to the left and right following a strong challenge by the number 20 - the Monaghan native fighting tooth and nail for every ball as Kelly flaunted her technical prowess.

“There’s too many kickouts we’re not winning!” A Peas defender remonstrated with her teammates as Rovers continued to dominate.

A fine save from Niamh Reid Burke on the stroke of half-time kept Peamount in it - McCarthy releasing Ralph who beat both Berrill and Moloney for pace to cut back a cross for her skipper who laid it off for the number 10.

Zambra saw the opportunity before the tee off formed in O’Gormans mind and raced to place herself within reach, firing with power towards the bottom right but Peamount’s goal minder parried it clear.

With Oasis ‘Live Forever’ ringing in the ears of the PRL Park faithful, the reigning champions started the second half strong and this was applauded by foreman James O’Callaghan from the sidelines.

A point blank strike from Ellen Dolan was somehow kept out of the net as Peamount began to be

“Keep at it Peamount, drive them on!” O’Callaghan encouraged, channelling Duffer energy on the touchline. In what was a promising spell for the homeside, Rovers had trouble retaining possession - Peamount snapping for the equaliser at their heels.

Keep the ball!” The Douglas native remonstrated as substitute Keri Letmon began to light up the right wing.

At the other end of the pitch Ralph chased down every long ball in an attempt to resuscitate Rover’s vitals in attack, her press unrelenting as the clock ticked towards full-time.

Peamounts best chance to equalise came in the 64th minute when the ball was pickpocketed from Kelly by a lively Fitzgerald and laid off for Dolan who’s placement was just a couple of inches shy off the right corner to cause the Rovers goal minder any trouble.

As the minutes passed, Burke expressed dissatisfaction to the referee with the lack of service on ball rotation - a nod to her frustration as the final whistle loomed closer.

“Everytime ref!” The Clonsilla native exclaimed moments later, as Katie O’Reilly hovered within her line of sight on the kick out.

The introduction of former DLR Dynamo Michelle Doonan was not enough to save a point from the fixture for Peamount, who ultimately succumbed to a 1-0 defeat to Rovers.



# THEY ARE BOHS - BOHS!



# THE BOHEMIAN BOOMERS

**WHAT GOES AROUND ALWAYS COMES A WAY BACK AROUND**

Scrawled inside one of my battered notebooks is the line "Bohs. Frightening on the wings."

This hastily drawn observation stems from an afternoon spent under the shade of the Jodi Stand, watching Ken Kiernan's eleven entertain a bustling Dalymount Park as they tore up the channels against Shamrock Rovers.

At the trill of the final whistle, the result was for sure one-sided.

The Hoops put four past Rachael Kelly and could have scored more were it not for Kelly's acrobatics and a smattering of heroic defending from Ciara Smith and Lisa Murphy.

With that said, the passages of play executed in the first half should be recognised by those outside of Dublin 7 for what they were.

And that is, Quality.

The Gypsies roamed unshackled in the first 45' and were a handful for The Hoops on the wings, Sarah McKeivitt and Katie Malone propelling forward as the Dalymount turf became their runway.

Against a side without the formidable centre-back partnership of Maria Reynolds and Jessica Hennessy, Bohs are sure to have run R!OT as their wingers cut inside and sought to stun.



**FOLLOWING THEIR 4-0 DEFEAT TO ROVERS AT DALYMOUNT, KEN KIERNAN'S BOHEMIANS ARE NO DOUBT DETERMINED TO RETURN THE FAVOUR ON THE HOOPS HOME SOIL.**

Since their 4-0 defeat to Shamrock Rovers at Dalymount Park in June, Bohs have beaten All-Island Cup Champions (still hurts) Galway United, reigning league champions Peamount United in the FAI Cup and held title contenders Shelbourne to a 1-1 draw under the glare of the TG4 cameras.

Nosing two points ahead of Rovers Women with a tally of 19 in 6th place, Bohemians possess the flair, creativity and fire to push The Hoops right down to the wire.

Here's why:

## **KATIE MALONE #10 - THE GIGGSY OF THE WNL.**

Bohemians marauding number 10 is a zipline of energy and a force to be reckoned with for any back line.

A vibrant attacking threat on the wings, Malone will no doubt drive at the Rovers defence like a Bohemian bat outta hell.

Known for her speed and quick footwork, the Health and Nutrition graduate's creativity and vision has injected a real boost to Bohs vitals. A Dalymount dynamo.





## SARAH POWER #12

A defensive shapeshifter, Sarah Power is instrumental to the maintenance of Bohs structure – her physical presence and composure invaluable to The Gypsies as they carve out narrow wins over the opposition.

Not shy of a strong challenge, Power will no doubt look to keep Ralph, O’Leary and O’Gorman in check.

Yet Powers strengths are not limited to one section of the turf.

In the clip below, watch how Power cuts inside to dupe Jess Gargan as the Dalymount dancers hold Shelbourne to a 1-1 draw.

**Game time:** 27:43

<https://www.loitv.ie/en-int/livestream/bohemians-v-shelbourne/1782681>

Well worth watching the TG4 Sport replays.

In this second clip, look at the force with which Power challenges the Shelbourne attacker.

Granite.

**Game time:** 41:30

<https://www.loitv.ie/en-int/livestream/bohemians-v-shelbourne/1782681>

“

## WHO GOT THE POWER?

### LISA MURPHY #4

Lisa Murphy is an absolute warrior.

Now in her 4th year at Dalymount, the former Hoop is a key component in the Bohs rampart.

Murphy likes to muscle attackers off the ball and is determined to win every challenge – both aerial and on the ground.

**Game time:** 16:40

Watch how Murphy lights on Éabha O’Mahony in the Dublin Derby, preventing a potentially dangerous cross.

<https://www.loitv.ie/en-int/livestream/bohemians-v-shelbourne/1782681>

**Game time:** 34:40

In this second clip, look at how Murphy throws herself at Noelle Murray’s missile.

**Game time:** 61:30

A battle against the skilful Kate Mooney that Murphy refuses to lose – and wins.





## THREATS TO WATCH:

[HTTPS://WWW.LOITV.IE/EN-INT/LIVESTREAM/BOHEMIANS-V-SHELBOURNE/1782681](https://www.loitv.ie/en-int/livestream/bohemiains-v-shelbourne/1782681)

### Game time: 59:25

Alannah McEvoy makes light work of Keeva Keenan on the right lane before driving past Rachel Graham and firing a cross into the dangerzone. Savannah McCarthy/Shauga Fox will have their work cut out at left back at Dublin 24 on game day.

### Game time: 03:24

Look at this pass from Sarah McEivitt to McEvoy. Swerves it across the baize as if she were Ronnie O'Sullivan mid flow state on a 147. Malone likes to pick a pocket or two.

### Game time: 20:12

Watch how McEivitt strides down the left wing and looks to pick out McEvoy who hovers menacingly at the far post. Hennessy's height will be paramount here to ward off the Bray natives threat.

### Game time: 68:20

Aoibhe Brennan shows persistence and deft ball control here to win it back from the white shirt and dink it to Fiona Donnelly. Socks may be low but work rate is high,

Brennan. light on her feet, can serve as the trigger that unleashes a Bohs attack.

### Game time: 75:40

A 22 karat strike by Éabha O'Mahony is stopped with a sublime save by Bohs goalminder Rachael Kelly - will be a real test for Ralph as she looks to rifle home another.

## UNDERESTIMATE THE BOHEMIAN WOMEN AT YOUR PERIL

# CAPTAIN FANTASTIC

AN ANALYSIS OF THE  
HOOPS YOUNGEST  
EVER GOALSCORER -  
ELLA KELLY







"A DEFT LOB FROM SKIPPER AINE O'GORMAN SAW KELLY RATTLE THE FRAME OF AMANDA MCQUILLANS GOAL WITH AN ABSOLUTE ROCKET FROM AN OBTUSE ANGLE ON 45 MINUTES - THE SMACK OF BALL ON WOOD DISTURBING THE BREAKFAST CUTLERY AS STAFF AT THE MALDRON HOTEL FINISHED PREPARATIONS FOR THE MORNING BUFFET."

Voted the Rovers Women Player of The Month for August, Ella Kelly is one of the many rising stars to emerge from the Shamrock Rovers talent factory,

Like Anna Butler and Alannah Prizeman, Kelly's natural flair and hard work has seen the youngster earn the number 23 shirt in The Hoops senior squad.

Making her debut on the 30th of March against Treaty United (<https://www.echo.ie/kelly-makes-debut-in-four-goal-thriller/>), Kelly would go on to become the youngest ever goalscorer for the club - rippling the net on April 20th against DLR Waves at 15 years, 6 months and 2 days in the All-Island Cup (take a look at her goal sourced from the Shamrock Rovers YouTube channel [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vK-vx\\_9iehg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vK-vx_9iehg))

Ella Kelly's greatest strengths are her technical versatility and maturity on the turf.

Kelly excels with her ball control, vision, and creative play - a triple threat of a triad that allows her to influence the tempo of the game.

Let's take a look at some of Kelly's most impressive moments to date.

<https://www.loitv.ie/en-int/livestream/shamrock-rovers-v-shelbourne/1783202>

## STRIKING POWER

**Game Time: 44:41**

In Rovers Women FAI Cup battle against Shels in late August, Kelly's missile from an obtuse angle registered as a solid 7 on the Richter scale. Only the woodwork could deny the youngster from firing Rovers into the lead on the stroke of half-time.

## CONFIDENCE

**Game Time: 19:37**

Throughout that gruelling battle against The Reds, Kelly dropped the shoulder time after time, duping experienced defenders and mastering Tolka talent Christie Gray on the left lane.

See for yourself

**Game Time: 36:04**

Kelly swiftly neutralises the threat with light feet as Gray looks to charge her down. Kelly handles her press with a suavity beyond her years. Superb.

## WORKRATE

Watch how Kelly intercepts a Mendez throw before pick-pocketing the ball from her toes. Kelly then darts forward and drives a cross inside the box.

<https://youtu.be/wbmCrkR-d3g?si=8CVnvLoJwFnDb8cM>

**Game Time:** 31:11

Watch in this clip how Kelly refuses to concede defeat to Gray as the pacey winger seeks an opening. Kelly once again comes out on top,

## SPEED/BALL CONTROL

Kelly appears to glide effortlessly whenever she sees a ball for the taking in open play, beating the opposition to both first and second balls.

**Game Time:** 7:08

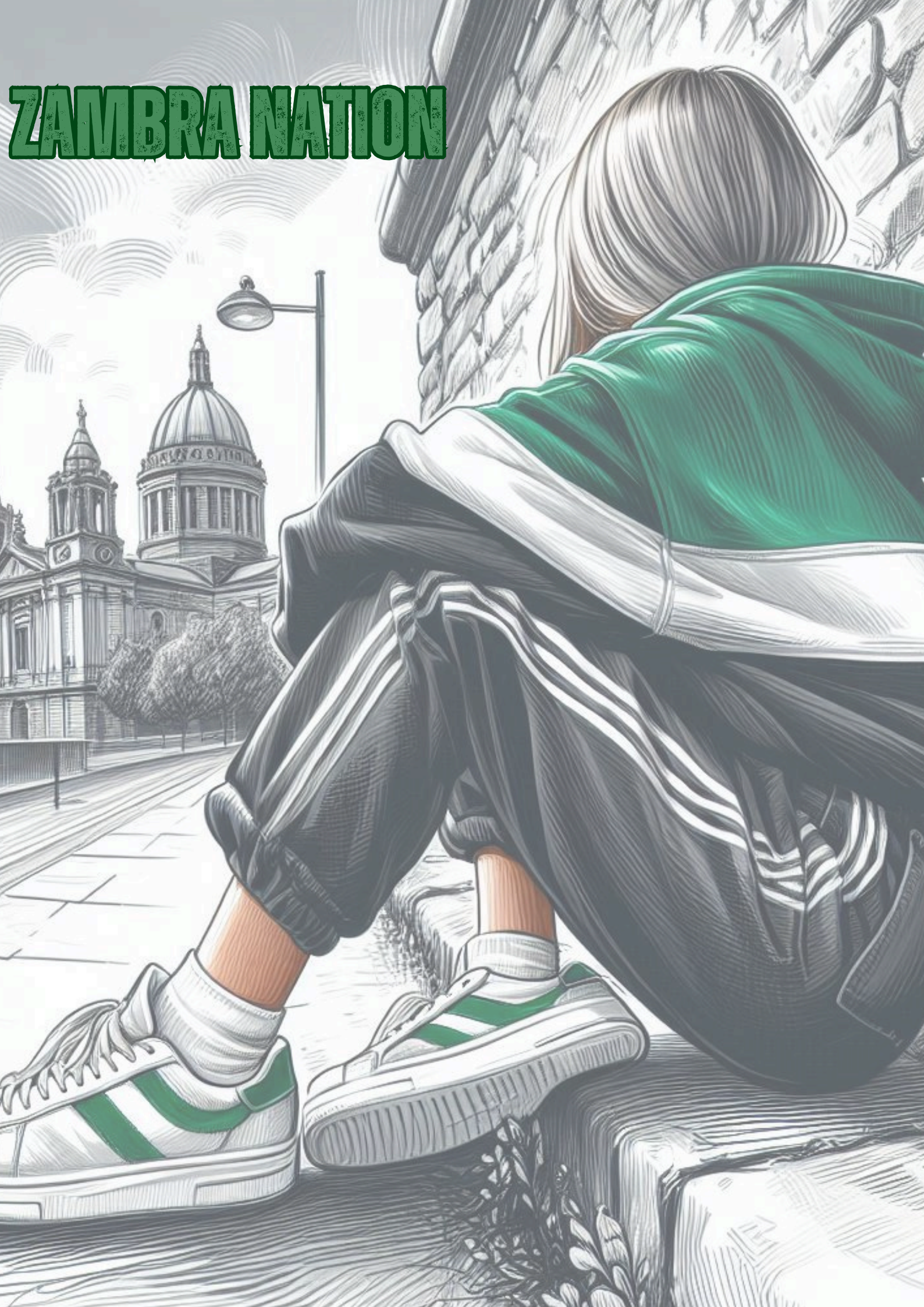
Watch how Kelly muscles Gray out of the equation and deftly controls the ball to keep it out both Gray and Maggie Pierces reach.

## SUPERSTAR.





# ZAMBRA NATION





**'THE SHANKILL NATIVE'S 3RD PASS WAS THE PIÈCE DE RÉSISTANCE, A DINK WITH THE OUTSIDE OF HER RIGHT BOOT DELIVERED AT JUST THE RIGHT PACE TO REACH HER SKIPPER AINE O'GORMAN, WHO WAS STOPPED BY THE FORMIDABLE KAREN DUGGAN.'**

## **ROVERS V PEAMOUNT - EXTRA TIME MATCH REPORT**



It's October 2013.

One Republic's 'Counting Stars' sits atop the charts and a sensational strike from a 25 year old female Irish footballer has caught the eye of both Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi

(You may have heard of them.)

Earning runner up in the 2014 FIFA Puskás competition for the best goal of the year, Stephanie Zambra's (then Roche) deft skill, ball control and clinical finish for Peamount United against the Wexford youths soared the Shankill shooter to international acclaim - her wonder goal caught on camera by former manager Eileen Gleeson.

Yet as amazing an achievement as Zambra's nomination was (for both women's football in Ireland and the game on a global stage) this piece won't refer to it again.

Long before Cadbury promoted women's football with the FAI, the self confessed Manchester United supporter carved out 58 international appearances and 14 goals for the girls in green.

Zambra in addition has played in the US (with Houston Dash), England (for Sunderland Ladies) and Italy (with the Serie A side Fiorentina.)

To distill The Hoops playmaker into one grainy (albeit brilliant) sequence of play would serve only to discredit her footballing achievements - both past and present.

In this feature we will examine the work ethic, skill, drive, wisdom and talent that the thirty-five year old Shamrock Rovers play maker continues to shed in abundance.



## 1) STRIKING ACUMEN

There is a moment, when Zambra, poised at the edge of the box, appears to slow down time. This is one.

Clip minute: 1:51

[https://youtu.be/St\\_WSft\\_lrM?si=qFoTOw5dmLPae8M8](https://youtu.be/St_WSft_lrM?si=qFoTOw5dmLPae8M8)

Here we see Joy Ralph charging forward before laying the ball to her skipper Aine O'Gorman.

The Hoops number 13, who has been anything but unlucky for the Dublin 24 women cuts the ball back to Zambra who's eyes have never once left the ball.

An intake of breath from the West Stand as Zambra sets herself up with one touch before firing with pinpoint accuracy towards the bottom right hand corner.

Only a sublime save from Galway United's Jessica Berlin can prevent Zambra from netting the winner and securing All-Island Cup Glory for The Hoops.

## 2) TEMPERAMENT

In what was a tense FAI Cup quarter-final between Shelbourne F.C and Rovers at Tallaght Stadium, Zambra utilised her experience - urging calm in heated moments.

Game time: 70:40

<https://www.loitv.ie/en-int/livestream/shamrock-rovers-v-shelbourne/1>

Watch how Zambra (far right of screen) signals for her teammates to settle in the moments after Pearl Slattery's second yellow card and subsequent dismissal.

From injuries to taking her place at the forefront of a senior international strike which demanded better conditions for our countries female footballers, there is not a moment of pressure that the Shankill native has wilted beneath.

Zambra in addition shook the Tribeswomen when she buried her All-Island Cup spot kick into the bottom left hand corner. Pressure makes diamonds.

## 3) BALL CONTROL

If the viral FIFA Puskás Award nominated goal was not enough evidence, watch how a loose ball from Pea Becky Watkins is pick pocketed by Zambra who does really well to control the ball and flick it to Lia O'Leary on the left lane.

Game time: 73:29

<https://www.loitv.ie/en-int/livestream/peamount-united-v-shamrock-rovers/1782687>

## 4) WORK RATE/ASSIST RATIO

Zambra's hold up play reminds me of the Arsenal Women play maker Alessia Russo.

Like the Gunner, Zambra's value to Rovers goes far beyond hitting the back of the net as she uses her strength and perseverance to carve out assists.

You will often see the number 10 feeding Joy Ralph up top with a deft lob over the top of defenders heads or via a sharp cut back cross.

Zambra executed a visionary ball over the heads of the Sligo Rovers defenders as The Hoops put on a show at The Showgrounds back in June (report here <https://www.extratime.com/articles/33741/wloi-report-sligo-rovers-1---4-shamrock-rovers/>)

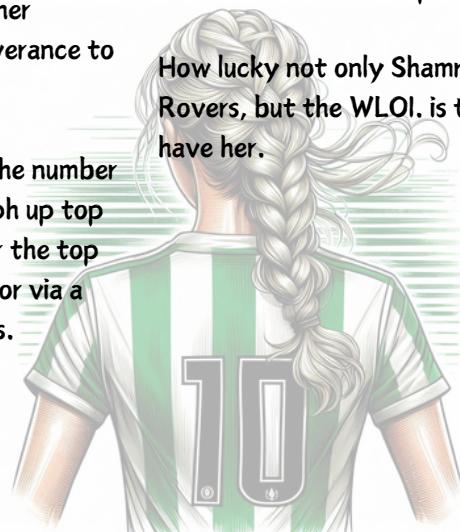
In Rovers 1-0 win away to Peamount last weekend (on foot of which Zambra earned a spot in the LOI Women team of the week) watch how Zambra chases Maria Reynolds long ball and cuts ahead of the pacey Jetta Berril before cutting a clinical cross back inside.

Game time: 20:25

<https://www.loitv.ie/en-int/livestream/peamount-united-v-shamrock-rovers/1782687>

At 35 years young, The Zambra remains in her prime.

How lucky not only Shamrock Rovers, but the WLOI, is to have her.











## REWIND 90:

**08/06/24**

**'AT LAST!' SHAMROCK ROVERS STRUT  
THEIR STUFF IN DUBLIN 7 AND PUT FOUR  
PAST THE BOHEMIAN FASHIONISTA'S TO  
SECURE THEIR FIRST LEAGUE WIN OF  
2024.**

A 1,011 strong crowd streamed through the Dalymount Park turnstiles on what was a glorious Saturday afternoon to support the Bohemians women in their Dublin Derby clash against Shamrock Rovers.

Stephanie Zambra would make her first start for Collie O'Neill's outfit since their 4-0 win over DLR Waves at Tallaght in April, while for Bohs, Tiegán Ruddy and Alannah McEvoy were named to face their alma mater along with Bohs May Player of The Month, Savannah Kane.

The visitors started on the front foot with Joy Ralph and Zambra on the hunt early doors – skipper Aine O'Gorman linking up well with Lia O'Leary from right to left as the visitors enjoyed the lion's share of possession.

Melissa O'Kane once again looked a different class in the centre of the park as the number 22 turned Katie Malone in the 17th with a feint straight out of Madison Square Gardens.

Ken Kiernan's backline were impenetrable however in the opening forty-five and Rovers were forced to shoot from outside the D.

Bohs looked dangerous on the counter, their one touch football a real pleasure to witness for both the home fans and the neutral as their wingers looked to exploit the channels.

Katie Malone and Sarah McEvitt were a formidable challenge for The Hoops centre-backs, yet Maria Reynolds and Jessica Hennessy were measured in their movements, gliding in sync to snuff out the danger.

KATIE MALONE AND SARAH MCKEVITT WERE A FORMIDABLE CHALLENGE FOR THE HOOPS CENTRE-BACKS, YET MARIA REYNOLDS AND JESSICA HENNESSY WERE MEASURED IN THEIR MOVEMENTS, GLIDING IN SYNC TO SNUFF OUT THE DANGER.



Scarlett Herron sat at left-back and held her own against McKevitt - the Monaghan native very much on the ball rather than off it for the women in green and white this weekend.

Zambra would signal for Ralph to push higher up the pitch as Rovers recovered from another Bohemian assault - the number 10 executing an audacious attempt on goal in the 29th when a visionary long ball from Hennessy landed at her feet.

The strike would float over Rachael Kelly's crossbar but the intent was a reminder of the magic that Zambra, at the age of thirty-four, can conjure with her boots.

Rovers continued to press but were unable to convert in the final third

As the shade fell across the pitch at Dalymount a shot from Ralph caused havoc in the box and Zambra was quick to pounce - only the iron will of Murphy denying the Shankill native from netting the opener.

The Bohemian women received an appreciative applause for their efforts as they sauntered back to the dressing room at half-time, the game all square at 0-0.

Rovers started the second half with the intensity of a team 1 goal down with five left to play.

Zambra had the first chance on goal, driving her foot as if it were a #1 wood driver through the ball only to see it hit the Bohs goal minder square.





Smith and Murphy would keep their side afloat as Rovers unleashed wave after wave of attack to no avail.

That was until The Hoops centre-back, Jess Hennessy, grabbed the game by the scruff of the neck and charged forward, her tall frame dancing past three.

Winning her side a corner, it was only fitting that the Mullingar native would score The Hoops first.

As O'Gorman whipped the set-piece into the box, Hennessy charged into view as if from the ether, her towering header powering the ball into the top right bin in the 50th minute.

The story could have been very different at Dalymount with Bohs creating two significant chances to level the contest across the ten-minute spell before Rovers' secured a second in the 63rd.

The first opportunity came when Aoibhe Brennan won an aerial header that slipped Malone through on goal. Lawless to her credit was quick to react and sprinted off her line to clear the ball high and into the rafters of the Jodi Stand.

McKevitt would strike from an obtuse angle in the 58th but the Rovers stick minder did well to parry the number 8s attempt on goal clear.

O'Kane would secure the visitors 2nd, the power behind her long range effort beating the Bohs captain who could only watch as the ball bounced behind and across her goal line.

The needle between Ralph and Smith was on display for the remaining half hour as both attacker and defender attempted to outsmart the other - both players appearing to enjoy the competitive edge as they flashed a smile.

Rovers cruised to a third in the 70th when O'Gorman sprung to meet a deft cross at the end of an O'Leary whip - the skipper guiding the ball with her head into the bottom right-hand corner.

The crowd at Dalymount became subdued as the final twenty wound down and The Hoops sought to finish in style.

A glancing header from O'Reilly in the 81st would secure their 4th (and the talented youngsters first senior contribution) as the Rovers gears clicked in unison.

The visitors showed no signs of letting up and would make four substitutions in the final ten, Under 17s Academy stars Ella Kelly and Anna Butler amongst those to take to the turf.

Shauna Fox would also make an appearance alongside the quick footed Jaime Thompson and almost make it five with her head.

Butler too would show real finesse in front of the Dublin 7 crowd and was unlucky not to bag Rovers' fifth before the full-time whistle blew.

The Hoops now sit in 8th place in the Premier Division Table - one spot above Bohemians due to the goal differential between both teams.

## DUBLIN 24 NEWS

# THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE D24 HQ

SOURCED FROM THE SHAMROCK ROVERS WEBSITE

In advance of his sides Dublin Derby against Bohemians at Tallaght stadium, Collie O'Neill had the following to say about Ken Kiernans Bohs to club media:

"Again, they're one of those teams that can just pounce on any kind of mistake that you make." He surmised. "They've good quality in Katie Molone and obviously Alannah McEvoy that we know from last year, so they have players there that can actually punish any kind of mistakes that you make. But again, we'll be looking to try and make sure that we're solid defensively but also trying to have a little bit more about us in going forward."

On the opportunity to advance up the table, O'Neill reflected. "Well, that's what we said together as a group at the end of the Shels game, that the most important thing now is to try and be as professional as we can and try to get maximum points or as many points as we can between now and the end of the season. We're one for one after last week, so the next one in front of us is the Bohs game and we're going to go full at it as best as we can. It doesn't matter that you're playing Bohs or what their position is in the table in relation to us, it's about us trying to do our job and try and get up to the proper level that we're supposed to be at."



Following The Hoops impressive first half performance against Peamount and subsequent win, O'Neill was given the nod for manager of the week by the powers that be in the LOI Women, while both Scarlett Herron and Stephanie Zambra were rewarded with a spot in team of the week following two exemplary performances.

Reflecting on the Rovers Women hard fought victory over the European hopefuls O'Neill said "We knew we had to try and do a different kind of style, the pitch was small so we knew it was going to end up being a scrap and more about second balls. It wasn't going to be about trying to play nice, pretty football, it was about trying to play in good areas and I think the team adapted well to it and went about the job in a good fashion."

Finally, Tallaght native Ella Kelly captained the Ireland Under 17s for their 5-2 victory over Portugal in Lisbon along with fellow Hoop Anna Butler.

Congratulations to both girls



