

the three month year age range. Open all year will provide full sessional care for children of students. A parent education programme is also which will be open University staff students who are pa

## Grenade Army

By LAURA R

AN old grenade from the 1920's, in the Abbey R been disposed of Army Bomb Disposal. The unit travel Cork to carry controlled explosive Baal's Bridge, the grenade safe. The explosive which dates from war period, was as part of on-going by Limerick

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Tom Bourke (centre), who received a special award for a lifetime of service to soccer, pictured at the award's night with (from left) Anthony Bourke, Martin O'Donnell, Tommy Bourke, Paul O'Donnell, Tony Bourke and Pat Keating. The awards are run locally by the City of Limerick VEC Sports Advisory Body, under the auspices of the Irish Sports Council, and the guest of honour on the night was famed Olympian Ronnie Delaney

# New Dell facility for gala opening

By EUGENE PHELAN

COMPUTER boss Michael Dell and Taoiseach Bertie Ahern will be on Limerick, next Friday, to announce further "good news" for the city.

Both will jointly open Dell Computers' new state-of-the-art manufacturing facility at Raheen.

Numbers employed at the three manufacturing facilities in Raheen and Castletroy have now reached a record 4,500 and

is continuing to grow.

Dell carried out a massive recruitment campaign, over the Christmas period, and have been repaid with stunning results.

On Christmas Day when most people were celebrating and eating Turkey 44 people took time off to contact the Dell hotline and enquire about the job offers.

"It was amazing on Christmas week alone with got 700 enquires and so far in January the total number is 3,000," said

Lana O'Connor, spokeswoman for the Dell operation in Limerick.

At Christmas Human Resource manager, Pat Casey revealed that 3,700 people were on their pay roll - it has gone up an by 800 people.

The company has changed its policy of using contract staff and now 95 per cent of all employees are permanent.

Dell are now doing all their own recruiting and while they have taken on staff from Spain, Scotland and other countries they

say that they are doing all in their power to recruit as many local people as possible.



Bertie Ahern, who is coming to Limerick, this Friday

## £2,000 for Moyross taxi driver in deafness case

A MOYROSS taxi driver has received £2,000 compensation, after bringing an army deafness case to Limerick Circuit Court.

Noel Collins, 45, with an address at 68 Cliona Park, Moyross, told Judge Sean O'Laoire that he joined the Defence Forces in 1972.

Prior to that he had spent a year with the FCA.

The court heard how Mr Collins went to the ranges twice weekly for 16 weeks and used an FN rifle, general purpose machine gun, grenades, and a Browning pistol.

Giving evidence, Mr Collins said he was on the range "fairly often" throughout the year, and also served in Cyprus and the Middle East.

"I didn't think much about claiming until everyone else was doing it," he said. "I thought that I was normal, but the ears were ringing

"It might last for ten minutes," he told Judge O'Laoire. "And I'd have a pain in my head after it which would last until I'd start doing something else."

"Your ears would be killing you coming out of the range," he continued. "I wouldn't say I've a very serious hearing loss but if a few people are speaking together, I find it difficult to distinguish between them. I'm better in a one to one situation."

The court also heard from Dr Stephen Flynn who had carried out an audiogram on Mr Collins.

He said the taxi-driver's hearing loss would get worse in the normal aging process, but he would continue to have good hearing on a one-to-one level.

Judge O'Laoire said Mr Collins undoubtedly suffered, but noted that he was not aware of his hearing or many years and

but minor tinnitus.

He awarded £2,000 damages plus district court costs.

## Meeting to discuss health service issue

By LAURA RYAN

A PUBLIC meeting will be held tonight to discuss ideas and methods to alleviate the current problems in the health service in the Limerick area.

Organised by the Progressive Democrats, a number of keynote speakers will be present.

Professor Declan Lyons, consultant geriatrician at the Regional Hospital, will address the meeting on the topic of health care in the future.

will speak on "The GP and Primary Health Care."

Finally, Cllr Tim O'Malley will speak on the services the Mid-Western Health Board will provide for the millennium.

The PD's say they have organised a public seminar in Limerick to initiate a public debate about the best way to overcome key difficulties.

These include what they claim is the huge gap in the quality of care delivered to public and private patients; the shortage of nurses and medical consultants; and the waiting lists and