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Castletroy and Orla O'Driscoll, Lisnagry, standing beside the sign and not Newport in Wales, where the Munster rugby team will play this Saturday
Picture: OWEN SOUTH (LL)

Oh, Stony grey foil of Monaghan

THE brother of one of Ireland's foremost poets has launched an astonishing attack on Frank McCourt stating that he did not deserve his position at the University of Limerick.

Dr Peter Kavanagh, brother of Paddy, a scholar of literature in both English and Irish, has accused UL of pulling off a publicity stunt by appointing McCourt Glucksman writer in residence in 1997.

He says of the Pulitzer Prize winning author: "I knew that fella when he was teaching my daughter in public school. And his brother too. They say he has made a fortune, but what of it? I don't consider him to be a writer in any sense of the word, well maybe if you read the facile, mindless pulp that appears in Cosmopolitan and the like. I don't know if he can put two complete sentences together."

Author, Dr Kavanagh, makes his comments in an interview in the Lough Gur & District Historical Journal.

"What is irritating is the position that they gave him at the university. He's now worthy of that position; he doesn't have the capability. Can you imagine sending your son or daughter to be taught by a man that man? Of course it's a publicity stunt," he says.

The University of Limerick this Thursday had no comment to make.

But if Frank McCourt is feeling bad about Dr Kavanagh's comments, he might take some solace from comments made about other Irish authors and poets.

"Look at Heaney for instance; now for the life of me I can't see what all the fuss is about with him."

...nce in a million

Unfortunately, Seán will not be able to view the show when it is shown on RTE One this Friday night. The rugby enthusiast will be on his way to Newport for the vital match which could decide Munster's fate in this year's European competition.

The Munster team flew out of Shannon Airport for Heathrow this Thursday afternoon and will return immediately after the game on Saturday night, arriving at Shannon at 12.15am.

By then, Seán Collopy, could be Limerick's first ever television game millionaire and Munster could be on their way to further European Cup glory.



Munster rugby fan, Seán Collopy from Parteen; will be hoping to get the answers right in this Friday night's Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? show on RTE One (LL)

Pressure