

# Limerick sports arena to be one of Europe's finest

By JIMMY Woulfe

PHASE ONE of the new Arena Sports Centre at UL will be completed next month. It will include indoor basketball arenas, indoor sprint track, indoor jogging track and a range of health and keep fit facilities.

Phase Two, which will include the national 50m pool, is due for completion about this time next year.

The £20m state of the art sports facility, when fully completed will cater for 10,000 every week and will be the largest sport and recreation centre in Ireland.

It will have indoor running lanes and have capacity to cater for up to 2,000 spectators.

Dr Roger Downer, president of UL said: "The new sports centre, together with the 50 metre swimming pool, will provide students, staff and the public with one of the finest facilities in Europe".

With an accumulated capacity to cater for up to 500,000

it will promote the critically important concept of good health and facilitate further enhancement of relationships between the university and the community.

Phase One, now nearing completion with the final fitting out work being carried out, contains many unique facilities such as a four basketball court sport hall with wooden sprung floor, a 60 metre six lane indoor sprint track, a three lane suspended jogging track, a cardiovascular suite, weight training centres, an aerobic studio and a wellness clinic.

Retractable seating will cater for up to 2,000 spectators and the University Arena will be a very attractive venue for hosting major indoor events.

At a cost of £11m, phase one funding came from a unique private sector mix of student levy of £3.5m, private donations of £3m and commercial funds of £4.5m. Phase Two which will include the 50m swimming pool is a public/private sector project with £6m being contributed by the

# Power calls on Lawlor to resign his seat

By DEARBHLA LOOBY

DEPUTY Mayor of Limerick Peter Power has called on former Fianna Fáil TD, Liam Lawlor, to resign his Dáil seat.

He is the first member of Fianna Fáil to publicly call on Mr Lawlor to resign, following his failure to appear before the Flood Tribunal last week.

Fianna Fáil city councillor Peter Power told the Limerick Chronicle that he firmly believes Mr Lawlor should resign.

He is surprised that nobody in the party has of yet come out and called on him to do so.

Alderman Power said that Mr Lawlor is showing contempt for the Dáil and the Flood Tribunal.

"The Dáil unanimously set up the tribunal. As a person who voted to

the Dáil and the tribunal. He is showing disrespect and contempt for law-making in the Dáil."

The city alderman, who hopes to be selected as a candidate for the next general election, said it is a time when the public "already hold their politicians in very low esteem".

"If he's allowed to get away with this, he will further reduce the esteem in which politicians are held."

He said that while Mr Lawlor has already resigned from the political party, he should go further and resign from his seat.

"I wouldn't be afraid of a by-election in his constituency. He should resign and Fianna Fáil should make their stance in relation to his behaviour clear."

Ald Power said he was aware that he may come under criticism within his party for saying what he has said, but added that it "is something which needs to be

