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OCTOBER 20, 1976

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Senior Soccer: Casey and Johnson take control

Have similar soccer backgrounds

BY JOHN O'SHAUGHNESSY

JOE CASEY and **Frank Johnson**, two men with almost identical soccer backgrounds, were last night given responsibility for steering Limerick back on course after a disastrous start to the new season.

Mr. Michael Webb, chairman, told me after training at the Markets Field on Tuesday that Johnson had been appointed manager, with Casey in charge of training.

"These appointments are for the 1976-77 season," said Mr. Webb, who expressed confidence in the club's new trainer and manager to lift the blues away from the bottom of the table.

And the new men are equally confident that given time they can restore an air of respectability to local soccer.

Frank Johnson joined Limerick from Prospect in 1948. Three years later he moved on to Northern Ireland club, Distillery, and was transferred to Waterford in 1956, moving back to Limerick one year later.

Winner of two Inter-League 'caps' his favourite positions were inside forward and half-back.

SIMILAR

Joe Casey had a similar career. He made his League of Ireland debut in 1949, having learned his early football with Pike Rovers.

He continued playing at full-back for the Shannonsiders until '56 and was then transferred to Waterford. He played with them for three seasons and came back to the blues to win a League medal in '59-'60. Joe retired from competitive football in 1965.

A few years ago Casey helped to train Limerick for a short period.

When asked how he viewed his new appointment as manager, Johnson said that with a couple of team changes and more motivation he felt Limerick could hold their own in the best of company.

"If the public give us a chance to settle in then we will have won half the battle," smiled the



Limerick's new men: Joe Casey and Frank Johnson. In background is a photo of the Limerick team which won the League in '59-'60, of which Joe Casey was a member.

Shannon Foundry employee.

Winner of a Minor Cup medal with Prospect 32 years ago, Frank commands much respect on the local front and, according to captain Joe O'Mahony, "is an ideal choice."

Johnson is dedicated to the game; in fact he played junior and inter-club soccer up to two years ago.

REPUTATION

During his time in LOI football Joe Casey built up a fine reputation and was looked upon as one of the best full-backs in the game.

He was twice selected on the

League of Ireland team.

Joe, not a man of many words, will be in charge of training from this Wednesday.

It must be agreed that Casey and Johnson have inherited one of the toughest jobs in the League. With Limerick floundering at the bottom of the League and without a win this season, their first objective must be to restore confidence and pride to the side.

St. Patrick's provide the opposition at Richmond Park next Sunday, and then come two successive home matches against Drogheda United and Home Farm.

the Social Service Centre field at the Markets Field, y, 20th October, 1976, are of the Social Service Centre; ig manager, Limerick Track, usey, director, Social Service than £2,500 will be paid for g, which has some of the top ds in training.

Expected SET FOR MEETING

RMAC LIDDY

Limerick Social Service Centre w level so often by those who the benefit of all the citizens— nderably to-night when the an- meeting is held at the Mar- of the top greyhounds in entered.

Game Hannah, Move On Carrig few (res.). Open 550 Yds. Flat — Small Bend, Apt Childers, Lovely Falcon, Eyedispidia, Kinnard Ivy, Dark Fathom, Tropiquillo (res.).

OLD CRESCENT RFC:

Double defeat

Our 1st and 2nd XV's were beaten by Highfield in Cork last Sunday, the 1st XV by 4 points to 3, and the 2nd XV by 16 points to 3. We are having problems with these two teams at present, due to injuries, and the unavailability of players, but we are confident that these matters will be resolved in the very near future and that these teams will get back on to a

JUNIOR SOCCER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

- FAI Junior Cup (1st round):**
 Fairview Rgs. v. Garryowen, 10.45, Priory Park, T. Power.
 Priory Utd. v. Charleville, 3 o'clock, Portland Park, A. McNamara.
 Meanus v. Star Rvs., 11 o'clock, Meanus, G. Keane.
 Moyross v. Hyde Rgs., 11 o'clock, Knockalisheen, C. Bennett.
 Summerville v. Drombanna, 3 o'clock, Pike Field 2, D. Constable.
 Newcastle v. Glebe Rgs., 3 o'clock, Newcastle, B. Spain.

Summerville

Munster Junior Cup:
Summerville Rvs.
Shelbourne B
Although they enjoyed most of the play in this game, Summerville failed to put their many scoring opportunities to effect, and are still waiting for their first win of the season. They showed much improved form on this occasion and manager, Charlie Elliott must be confident that their lean spell is now nearing an end. Tomas Daly was the Rovers scorer and he was well supported by Tony Kennedy, Brendan McInerney, Dessie Clohesy and skipper, Tony Barry, who was outstanding. Summerville play Drogheda in the FAI Cup at the

PRINCESS



Princess Grace Shannon this week: See page 14.

BRIEF

Passengers delayed

Passengers travelling on the train from Limerick to this Thursday were delayed for 75 minutes at Limerick Junction. CIE spokesman said that holdup was due to a breakdown on the Dublin to Limerick train, which goes via Limerick Junction.

Free mouth guards

As part of their contribution to Dental Week, the Dental Laboratory in Dublin have provided free 100 mouth guards for a number of rugby teams in Limerick. These will be the senior junior teams in the Crescent Comprehensive School, Moyale; two teams in Limerick and St. Brendan's, Drogheda.

Rebuilding

Mr. P. McCarthy & Sons, Thomas Street, have sought permission for the rebuilding of their fire damaged premises in William St., Limerick.

Weather

weather in Limerick

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