

Ja Title for Limerick

All expectations in taking

There was great jubilation among the band of Limerick supporters as Pat Hartigan received the National trophy from Fr. John O'Donnell, President of B.L.E. Titan he may be, but for all his struggles he was unable to escape from his fellow athletes as they carried him over to the steeplechase water and ceremoniously dumped him in. Then followed the fastest run of the day by a woman as club chairperson, Maire Murphy sprinted across the track to the sanctuary of the women's dressing rooms and so escaped a similar fate.

DEBORAH TOBIN
Deborah Tobin, Dooneen A.C. made the journey to London for the girls' A.A.A. Championships at the week-end and produced a magnificent performance in taking the silver medal in the shot putt with a throw of 12.69. She is a great prospect and must have a bright future in athletics. Her good result in England is a tribute to all who help foster juvenile athletics in Limerick.

and place of the ladies the long on the cake. He beaten by two teams with such well known ones as Michelle Walshe, O'Shea, Aideen Morriy Barnwell, Marita Walsuders and Ailish Smith, Brian, Siobhan Treacy of Cushla Murphy was the 1500m and third in 4.31.28 and 2.11.7 respectively Barrett was also in form second positions in the .27) and discus (36.92). Weir finished second in the up and others who contri the total points were to. Majella Maher, Ann Walsh, Suzanne Cobbe and glish. And if Pat Hartigan ood men's captain, Marosse was not to be found as women's captain and er part on the field also in cond in the javelin.



All re-signed: Brendan Storan, Gary Hulmes and Liam Murphy.

City unfold plans for new season

BY JOHN O'SHAUGHNESSY

PAT Grace, chairman of the newly formed Limerick City, claimed on Wednesday evening that he lost £20,000 on Limerick United last season and is prepared to inject £50,000 into City in the new season.

In outlining the club's plans for 1983-'84, he said that the players were now the property of Limerick City and would play under the management of Ewan Fenton.

Mr. Grace told a press conference that he was anxious to give the game a new image and that he had many plans in mind which would benefit the club.

It is to be their policy to concentrate on developing local talent and in this respect had signed a few promising junior players, notably Pat Forristal, ex-Drogheda and Pike Rovers.

Despite some heavy losses sustained over the last few years, the chairman expressed confidence in the future and said he was encouraged by the response he had received from the players and the Limerick District Management Committee.

The new board is comprised of Anne Grace, secretary; Pat Grace, chairman, and directors, Noel Murphy, Michael Browne and Michael Bourke.

When asked if he was satisfied that Limerick City would be Limerick's only representatives in the L.O.I. next season, he replied that they were the only club registered

from Limerick.

It was disclosed that Ewan Fenton took over as manager on a gentleman's agreement and had no contract. "I have every confidence in him and know he will do a good job."

Structure

The wage structure within the club has also been revised.

Ewan Fenton said it was his intention to build a good soccer team to represent Limerick, even though it might mean changing the style of play adopted over the last few years.

"We have got to go out and entertain the fans," he added.

He had always tried to encourage young talent in his previous spells with Limerick and was pleased to have acquired a number of players over the past few weeks.

He appealed to supporters to give the team a chance to settle. "I cannot promise success overnight."

Local junior and minor clubs were thanked by him for their co-operation and he hinted that it was his desire to have a happy relationship between both bodies.

"These clubs have spent time and money in grooming young players and we will recognise their efforts."

When asked if Limerick City would sign experienced L.O.I. players if they became available, he said that only quality players would be invited to the Market's Field.

Mr. Grace told the conference that he was prepared to back Limerick City to the tune of £50,000 in their first season.

"We are very happy that we are starting fresh and have positive plans for League of Ireland soccer in Limerick over the coming years."

It was disclosed that City will play a pre-season friendly against Linfield at Windsor Park on Saturday week.

It will be recalled that three years ago they met Linfield in the Tyler Cup at the same venue and were very well received in going under 2-1.

Ewan Fenton, of course, had a spell with the Northern club in the sixties.

City start the domestic season late in August in the Munster Senior Cup.

The club turned down a request from Fulham for a pre-season friendly at the Markets Field on the grounds that their players would not have been fully fit for the occasion.

It emerged from the conference that plans are now afoot to re-roof the popular side of the ground.

One area of controversy, however, is that those holding life membership cards may not have them honoured. "This is something we have to look into," stated Mr. Grace.

Over the last few years a number of life membership cards were issued by Limerick A.F.C. and Limerick United in an effort to raise funds.

However, season tickets are to be issued in '83-'84 and this is welcome news indeed.

Racing

RESERVE WITHOUT SHOWS PROMISE

To many in racing, Alan Lillingston of Kilmallock will go down in history as one of the few amateurs ever to win the Champion Hurdle. Alan did that back in 1963 on the one-eyed Winning Fair. Approximately five years earlier he had taken over the Mount Coote Stud just outside Kilmallock.

Mount Coote had been founded by Sir Gilbert Greenall at the beginning of the century and since Alan took over the stud has bred a number of really good horses including the 1000 Guineas winner One In A Million, the present champion National Hunt sire Deep Run, Ballynacadd and Ragtime.

Mount Coote is a commercial operation but now and again there is one that Alan doesn't sell and he puts it into training himself. Such a horse is Without Reserve who won at Leopardstown on Monday beating Foscarini (also bred by Mount Coote) in the process. This opposition were well and truly strung out behind the first two and so Without Reserve could well justify his owner-breeder's faith with more wins in the very near future.

The feature of a very good evening meeting at Limerick Junction next Thursday is the £6,000 added Ballsbridge-Tattersall Stakes, a race confined to two year-olds whose sires stood in the EEC and run over five furlong.

There are some very good horses entered including no less than eleven winners. Also on the card the Parkinson Cup Handicap Hurdle. The actual cup was bequeathed by the late Senator J. J. Parkins who was a trainer as well as Senator and twice sent out over one hundred winners in a season and in those days racing took place only two or three times a week most and so that was an incredible achievement.

Racing

On Monday evening the racing over at Gowran Park and here the big race is the Racehorse Trainers Association Handicap, a flat race run over a mile and three quarters. In addition to providing half the prize money, the Trainers Association are providing special prizes of £500, £300 and £200 to the trainers of the first, second and third horses past the post trained by members of the association.

In the absence of Hegemony—surprise absentee from the four d declarations — this Saturday Heinz 57 Phoenix Stakes is likely to go to the Ted Curtin trained G. Event. The easy winner of her or two starts so far, Gala Event for a very high class filly indeed and despite some formidable opposition, is expected to win. Safe Ho may prove best of all the other including April Wind, Malang-L and Final Thatching.

IT MAKES A GOOD