

Pays up to 10% ON DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS. Le. Dr. sin

LIMERICK CITY FC OPEN TO OFFERS

By JOHN O'SHAUGHNESSY

THE LONG-TERM FUTURE of Limerick City FC has been put in doubt by the revelation by Mr. Pat Grace, chairman, that he is prepared to sell off the club's facility at Rathbane for private development.

Following the shock resignations of Mr. Noel Murphy from the board of directors, and Mr. Pat Cronin as programme editor — as exclusively revealed in this Thursday's county edition of the *Limerick Leader* — Mr. Grace confirmed that the Rathbane grounds is in his name and that he in turn leased it back to Limerick City FC.

Mr. Grace told the *Limerick Leader* that he owns ten acres and if the public were not prepared to support a soccer club, then he would consider other options.

Already, he said, he has had the property valued by two auctioneering firms and some private developers have expressed an interest.

Green area

When it was put to him that Rathbane is zoned by Limerick Corporation as a green area, and consequently could not be sold for development purposes, he replied that only four acres are zoned.

"There are six acres available for development if I decided to sell, and I would have to investigate the remaining four," he added. A spokesman for Limerick Corporation told the *Limerick Leader* that it is possible to have zoned areas re-zoned, "but a lot of procedures would have to be gone through without any guarantees".

From their understanding, continued the spokesperson, Old Crescent RFC originally sold the property to Limerick City FC because they were refused permission for development on the land.

Mr. Grace said it is not his wish to get out of League of Ireland football, as he feels the club has a future.

But if he were forced into a situation he would consider retaining portion of Rathbane and playing in the Munster Senior League, he told me.

The chairman said that he is open to offers for the club. He said that soccer has cost him a small fortune.

Resigned

Mr. Murphy resigned this week because he felt he served no function. He also expressed unhappiness that monies from the weekly lottery were being diverted towards the day to day running costs of the team.

Mr. Murphy states that he is not alleging any impropriety. The lottery, he said, was launched to aid development work at the ground, and what was happening was contrary to what it had been set up for.

According to him there were 10,000 subscribers paying £1 per week, and after expenses and prize money had been met, there was a weekly profit of £3,000. He complained that since the club had been formed there had been no annual general meeting, and neither had a statement of accounts been presented.

Mr. Murphy emphasised that he was not alleging misappropriation of funds, but merely questioning the purpose of the lottery.

Mr. Cronin told the *Limerick Leader* he was prompted into his decision because of an alleged statement to him from Mr. Grace that he would build houses at Rathbane, withdraw from the LOI and concentrate on a reserve team.

30,000 expected at city exhibition

OVER 30,000 visitors are expected to visit the Ideal Homes Exhibition this weekend — the first ever in Limerick — officially opened by the Mayor Alderman Tim Leddin at Moylish Sports Complex this Thursday evening.

Property valued at over £250,000 is on display on 70 stands covering furniture, hi-fi, do-it-yourself, electrical and gardening. Complimenting the organisers of the event, the Mayor said the exhibition set a standard for the people of Limerick to aspire to in order to make their homes more comfortable.

Mr. Peter Crowley, managing director of Ideal Homes, said there had been a "brilliant response" in Limerick to the exhibition and he now hoped that it would become an annual event.

Mr. Sam Naji, marketing manager, Peter Crowley associates, added, "in other places we had to chase stands, but in Limerick we had to turn some of them away".

The exhibition continues this Friday until 10 p.m., on Saturday from midday to 9 p.m., and Sunday from mid-day to 7 p.m. See page 35.



At the Ideal Homes Exhibition (from left): Sam Benson, Corbally; Elaine Barry, Clareview and Dave Healy, Corbally.



Mayor Leddin at the opening of the Ideal Homes Exhibition with (from left): Dave Greaney, Limerick Corporation; Peter Crowley, organiser, and Samir Nagi of the Peter Crowley Agency.

Schoolgirls learn art of celebration

By PATRICIA FEEHILY **FLAGS FLEW** in the autumn breeze, and the orchestra struck up and the girls of Limerick's Scoil Carmel had the best party they ever had — a celebration of the arts.

For two whole days, they discarded uniforms and textbooks and danced on the desks, delved into sculptors' clay and gave themselves up with abandon to the delights of the arts.

It was the second year of the arts festival at the progressive school and this year it attracted some big names from writing, painting and sculpting.



Taking part in the modern dance class at the...



Members of the Limerick Mind Benders American football team in training at this week: Bobby McCann, Pat O'Sullivan, Marcus Lloyd, trainer, Peter McCann, Martin Coffey, Anthony Kelly, Denis Fitzpatrick, Anthony Barry, Matthew Kelly, Robert McCann and Patrick O'Sullivan.

American football kicks off in Limerick

By LEADER REPORTER

THE MARKETS Field, the cradle of Limerick rugby and Gaelic games that went on to become the home of senior soccer, is now set to become the first venue in Limerick for the region's latest sporting craze — American football.

The game will take place on November 8 next between the Limerick Mind Benders and the Charlestown Townsies from Massachusetts to raise funds for community development in Southill. Negotiations are almost complete for a four match programme in Ireland to commence in Limerick with games in Belfast and Dublin.

Southill based curate Fr. Joe Young made friends with the Townsies on a visit to the U.S. and the Irish tour was arranged. The Charlestown team are paying all their own expenses so that the proceeds of the games will go towards a number of projects in Southill — the money will be channelled through Fr. Young and the Southill Connection.

The Belfast Blitzers will provide the opposition at the Ulster venue, Dublin Celts will be the other opposition. It is hoped to have two games in Limerick.

Equipment

"It will all be done properly with a gridiron field, posts, full equipment the lot," Fr. Joe told the *Limerick Leader* this week. The bulk of the Mind Benders come from Southill and they are still looking for members especially those with any previous experience.

The Limerick side are the first in Munster and the game against the Charlestown side will be their first. "We won't be any pushovers," declares Fr. Joe.

The Limerick Mind Benders, he insists, will give as good as they get and he hopes to bring a team from Limerick to the U.S. "It really is a great game," he said.

The equipment used by each player comes to about £350 and the American players are bringing presents of a full set from each to youngsters in Southill.

The quarterback on the Limerick team is Matthew Kelly. One wonders if his name will become as famous as his namesake on the Limerick hurling team, Paddy Kelly.

£1m quiz

Caherdevin and District Credit Union savings have reached the £1 million mark. To celebrate this achievement a quiz has been organised and

Spycatcher is coming

The controversial "Spycatcher" book by Peter Wright should be on sale in Limerick within the next couple of days.

A spokesperson for Easons in the city said this Friday: "We will have 200 or 300 copies on sale here, it could be today, tomorrow, Monday or Tuesday, at the very latest." It costs £14.95.

Tom Dunne 'comfortable'

A file is being prepared for submission to the Director of Public Prosecutions by detectives at Henry Street headquarters, Limerick, who have interviewed two men while investigating the assault on Tom Dunne, the Munster junior hurling star from Adare, on Sunday of last week, September 27. He had intervened as a peacemaker in a fight between two men, at about 10.20 p.m. at the junction of Catherine Street and Thomas Street.

Body found

The body of Denis Heffernan (55), of Emly, Co. Tipperary, was recovered from the River Shannon on the Honan's Quay side of Sarsfield Bridge this Thursday afternoon after it was discovered by Traffic Corps Garda Kevin McCarthy. The body was taken to Barrington's Hospital for a postmortem.

Requiem Mass

Requiem Mass will be said at St. Patrick's Church at 11



Eileen Carey of "St. Emillie", 21 Mount Vincent, Roshrinis, daughter of the late Sean and Kay Carey, who recently received a National Diploma in Personnel Management at NIME.

Shannon emergencies

A British airforce Seaking helicopter which made an emergency landing at Shannon on Wednesday evening with one engine out of action, was having a new engine fitted at the airport this Thursday. The Seaking had been taking part in a series of search and rescue exercises involving the Irish Air Corps, the Life Boat Service and the R.A.F., off the South coast when the engine failed.

NEWS LINES

Mairin Mac Aodha, manager of the Limerick cement works, has been appointed to the board of directors of Irish Cement Ltd.

Sean's t homeco

By LEADER REPORTER **THE REMAINS** of 23-year-old Sean (Jacko) O'Donoghue, of "Barraduff, Lower Park, Corbally, Limerick, who died in England on Tuesday, will be taken from Shannon Airport at 6.15 p.m. this Friday evening to St. Patrick's Church on Limerick's Dublin Road.

Sean, a trainee hotel manager completing his studies in England, was killed when the car he was travelling in caught fire after being involved in a collision.

VERY VERY C

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