The Leader's weekend sports pullout

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Saturday, December 13, 2014

(LEASER SPORT)

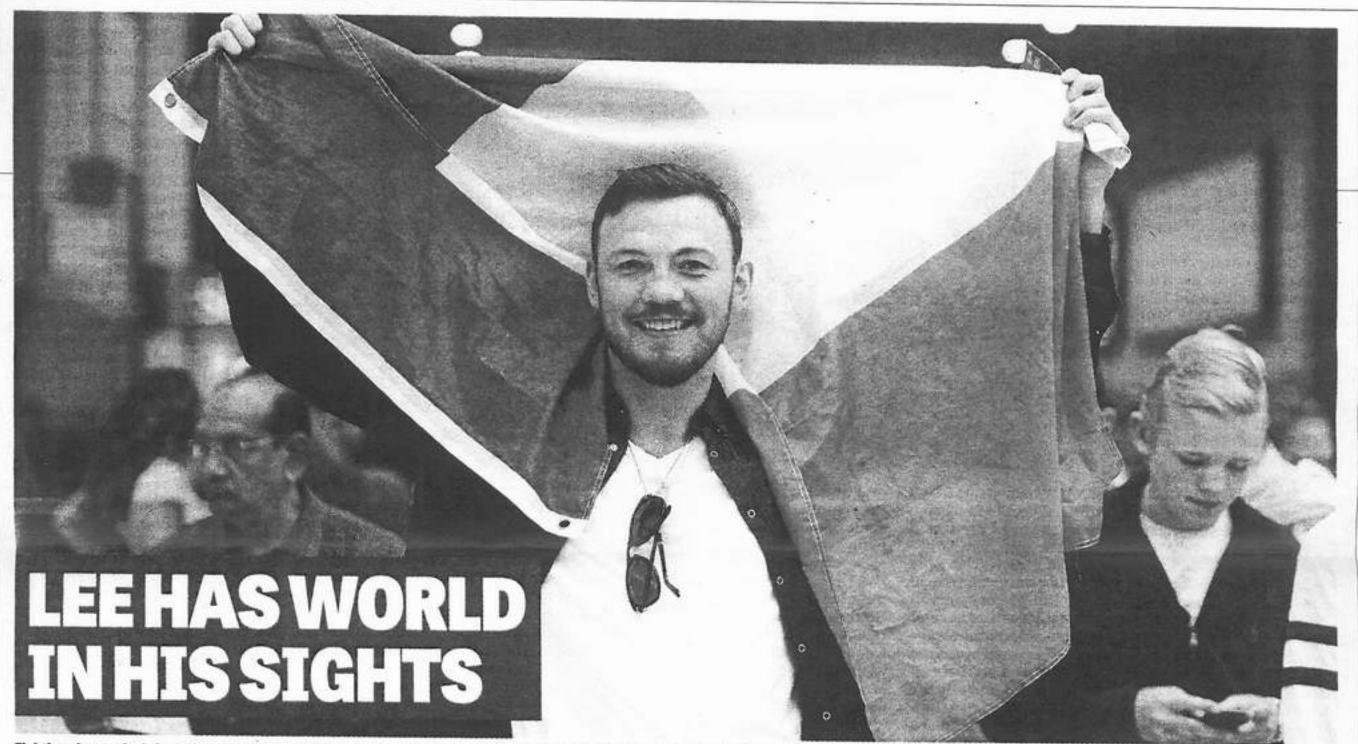
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CITY EDITION



Fighting chance: Andy Lee takes on Russian Matt Korobov in WBO world middleweight title in Las Vegas in the early hours of Sunday morning. See Page 25 for more

## Battle on for Limerick GAA's chairman role

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FOR the first time in almost 20 years a sitting Limerick GAA chairman is being challenged at the county's Annual Convention.

This Sunday in the new clubhouse of Ballylanders GAA, vice-chairman Pat Heffernan is standing for election against chairman Oliver Mann.

Patrickswell's Mann is in

his second year as County Board chairman and Blackrock's Heffernan is the outgoing vice-chairman.

The last time a sitting chairman was challenged was in December 1996 when Gerry Bennis stood against Brendan Danaher and ultimately lost out when the vice-chairman's vote was necessary after the two candidates ended with the same number of votes.

There will also be one more election at convention with three candidates nominated for the two roles of Munster Council delegates - Mickey O'Sullivan (St Kierans), Liam Lenihan (Tournafulla) and Frank Reidy (Feohanagh-Castlemahon).

Sunday's Annual Convention brings an end to the five year term of three officers - Rory Kiely (Central Council), Denis Holmes (Munster Council) and Liam O'Sullivan (Development Officer).

However, Kiely is the only one of the trio that is departing. Former Limerick GAA chairman Denis Holmes is

to be the new Central Council delegate as he is the only candidate nominated to replace Rory Kiely.

Claughaun's Liam O'Sullivan will become the new vice-chairman as Pat Heffernan won't stand for the role he currently holds.

O'Sullivan's former role as Development Officer is to be filled by Croom's Seamus Twomey.

Twomey is the only candidate nominated for the position, meaning that there will be at least one new face on the 2015 County Board executive. The one confirmed departure is Rory Kiely.

The Feenagh-Kilmeedy official brings an end to 48 years service to the County Board.

Indeed his GAA administrative career started as secretary of his club in 1953.

Limerick GAA secretary Mike O'Riordan has led the tributes to Kiely.

"Having worked with Rory for the past number of years I would like to thank him for all his help during this peri-

od shown to me. I wish him a healthy future and on behalf of everyone in Limerick GAA Ithanks him for his contribution," said O'Riordan of Rory Kiely.

Kiely served as Limerick GAA chairman from 1969 to 1981 and as Limerick's delegate to Munster Council for 27 years, starting in 1982.

>>> Check out Pages 4 and 5 for an interview with both candidates for the Limerick GAA Chairman's role

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