

Cranberry sauce – but no turkeys

By MAIRE CARMODY

A LIMERICK band have been dubbed the next U2 as their debut album reached number 35 in the US charts this week.

The Cranberries are a sell out in the US, not only has their album sold over 450,000 copies, but the concerts are booked out with one having to be moved from 2,000 to 4,000 seater venue in Atlanta.

Lead singer Dolores O'Riordan's, 22, from Ballyricken, brother PJ, who is the band's accountant spoke to us about their success.

"The Buzz Bin has guaranteed that a certain number of plays on MTV, which is brilliant. Everyone wants to get on MTV which is beamed to every corner of the world. They are also using a clip of The Cranberries for an advertisement," said PJ.

In the first four months of release The Cranberries debut album "Everybody else is doing it so why can't we" sales are the same as Sinéad O'Connor's album Cobra.

The Cranberries are touring America with award winning band Suede, but it

seems that the Limerick foursome are making the headlines.

"They are on a co-headline with Suede who won an award from the record company Mercury. Last week the Cranberries went on stage first, then Suede, but a lot of the crowd left after seeing the Cranberries. Now Suede play first," said PJ.

"Last Monday night they were booked for a 2,000-seater but it was sold out and had to be moved to a 4,000," said the band's accountant.

The Limerick band will be gaining even more international recognition as they will be support to Duran Duran during their tour, they are huge in America selling out in 20,000 seater stadia.

So is the money rolling in now that fame has arrived?

"It is starting to come in, but they owe a lot of money back, there wasn't any expense spared on making the album. Stephen Street produced the album," he said.

Nor has the success of making it in the US gone to their heads.

"They are not getting big headed they are keeping their cool, especially with all the media attention," said PJ.

He added that their families are very proud of how they are doing.

Dolores, who used to

sing in the Laurel Hill school choir and in her local church choir, joined The Cranberries in 1990 when she replied to an advertisement for a singer which was in a window of a Limerick recording studio. From there they have been going from success to success and are only a short distance from picking up a gold disc for selling half a million copies of their album.

The Cranberries never do cover versions. All the material is their own. Dolores writes the lyrics while, Noel Hogan, from Moyross, writes the music, he also plays guitar. His brother Mike plays the bass while Fergal Lawlor from Parteen is on drums.

Dolores sent a message to the Limerick Leader to say:

"Hello to all the local fans, America is not a bad place, we are looking forward to the gig in Limerick."

The Cranberries are planning to return to play a gig in Limerick at Christmas time. They also hope to play in Dublin's The Point when they return home.

It seems that The Cranberries have put this city on the music map as the international newspapers refer to them as the Limerick Four.

The Cranberries have set up a fan club for more information write to PC 180, Limerick.



The Cranberries, their debut album "Everybody else is doing it so why can't we", is doing it as it has reached number 35 in the American charts.

Efficiency is now the success key

By EUGENE PHELAN

LIMERICK managers and supervisors will be told there are alternatives to dismissal for poor work performance at a seminar in Bunratty later this month.

"Is dismissal the only answer to work performance?" is the theme of the conference which will be held in the Bunratty Shamrock Hotel on Thursday October 28.

The recent IBEC report emphasised that although absenteeism had reduced over the last five years, the National average was not good enough.

In addition to absenteeism supervisors have to deal with problems of employee performance that relate to alcohol abuse, personal problems and boredom.

The workshop has been organised by the EAP Institute, Waterford and conducted by Tony Clear, a management consultant with considerable experience in the field of employee performance and absenteeism control and Maurice

Quinlan who was the first private consultant to offer EAP services in this country in 1980 and who brings to bear a wide range of experience in handling employees with behavioural problems.

The workshop will consider the alternatives to dismissal for poor performance. To turn around an employee is a better and less expensive option.

However, the procedure which must be followed if all efforts have failed and dismissal is inevitable, will also be detailed in this thorough and comprehensive workshop.



At a press reception in Dun Laoghaire to announce details about the EAP seminar coming to Limerick later this month were Tony Clear, Management consultant and Maurice Quinlan, director.



Shiela Buckley who graduated in travel and tourism from Limerick Senior College is seen here with his parents, Gerry and Mary. (LL)



Buckets of fun! Twins Shane and Stephen Power, Hyde Road, examine one of the more unusual exhibitions at the Australia/Argentine exhibition at the City Gallery.