



South Delta
Sundevis Rugby
www.sundevisrugby.com



For Immediate Release

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Sun Devils prepare to embark on 'Tour of Ireland'

Delta, B.C. - On March 13th, the Sun Devils Rugby team will embark on its first international tour in over a decade. According to Tour organizer and coach, David Blackwell, the Sundevis are taking two squads on tour, a total of 39 boys. They will land in Dublin on March 13th and arrive home via Belfast, on March 27th. The 15 day tour of Ireland will include games in Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Galway.

While in Ireland, the Touring side will explore the coast of Connemara; visit Bunratty Castle in County Clare and The Rock of Cashel, in County Tipperary. Later a visit is scheduled for the Cliffs of Moher, widely considered to be Ireland's top attraction, drawing over one million visitors in 2007. While in Dublin, they'll tour Trinity College Library and view The Book of Kells, produced by Celtic monks over 1,200 years ago.

Andrew Harvey, a 1976 graduate and former South Delta rugby player now coaching said the idea for the tour was first proposed a few years back at the annual Old Boys Game. *"In May 2005, the first Sundevis Touring team from 1976 celebrated a 30 year reunion and it was proposed by Tim Ivens, one of the event organizers and our first team captain, that any proceeds from the weekend's events be put toward a high school tour fund. The idea took root and here we are"*

Charlie Minns, the current Senior coach believes the Ireland Tour will help the team to bond and strengthen the team's camaraderie. *"Many of these boys will gain direct knowledge of another culture for the first time and forge friendships and memories that will last a lifetime."*

Organizing such an endeavour required a firm commitment from players and two years of hard work. Members of the tour accepted these burdens of responsibility and we are confident the 2008 Ireland Tour will help build the momentum for many tours to come. Our grateful thanks go to the South Delta Secondary School, parents, businesses, organizations and all the sponsors whose generous support helped make our Tour to Ireland possible. To all those who have contributed - well done and thank you!

About Sun Devils Rugby

South Delta Secondary School has a proud tradition of rugby that took root back in 1973. The Sundevils Rugby Program is primarily run by volunteers from outside the school and funded by registration, the school PAC, community sponsorship and fundraising. The volunteer group includes Sun Devils alumni, parents of current students and other rugby enthusiasts. Last year we saw the program grow to 108 registered students through grades 8-12, up from 89 in 2006 and 66 in 2005. In the spring of 2008, we have over 150 players participating in rugby programs including a senior squad, two junior squads, a grade eight and nine team and a girl's squad.

About South Delta Senior Secondary

South Delta Secondary School was built and opened in 1973. The school's Mission Statement is: *'to educate a community of learners contributing to an environment which fosters mutual respect and encourages learners to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to reach their potential as responsible, educated citizens in a changing world'*. South Delta students perform at or near the top provincially, nationally and internationally on tests of literacy, numeracy and science.

Check out the Sundevils website for more info at: <http://www.sundevilsrugby.com>

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