

Ireland vs. California boxing headlines Irish Week 2006 in San Jose

For Immediate Release

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SAN JOSE (Feb. 27, 2006) – Twelve bouts of amateur Olympic-style boxing highlight activities scheduled for Irish Week 2006 in San Jose celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Sister Cities relationship between San Jose and Dublin.

The Ireland vs. California boxing matches will be at 4 p.m. Sunday, March 12 at the San Jose Civic Auditorium with tickets priced at \$150, \$125, \$40, \$25 and \$18. Tickets are available at the HP Pavilion box office or through TicketMaster outlets.

This will be the third time a team from Ireland has fought in San Jose as part of the Irish Week celebration. The last time was in 1998 and featured many of the best boxers in each country. Once again we expect a great night of amateur boxing that you won't want to miss:

Also included in Irish Week is joint concert of the Dublin Youth Symphony Orchestra and San Jose Youth Philharmonic at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 11 at the Civic Auditorium and Spirit of Ireland Dinner, a black-tie event with special guest Bertie Ahern, Taoiseach (prime minister) of Ireland, on March 14 at the Fairmont Hotel.

Tickets and information for the March 11 concert are available at (409) 885-9220 or at www.sjys.org. Tickets and information for the March 14 dinner are available through Ray O'Flaherty at (408) 244-8270 or at www.sanjosedublin.org.

The San Jose Sports Authority is the sports marketing agency for the City of San José. Since its creation in 1991, the Sports Authority has brought more 150 events to the city as well as supporting programs that benefit local amateur and youth sports. Visit us on the Web at www.sjsa.org.

Boxing card

Ireland vs. California

112 pounds – Conor Ahern, 22, vs. Isaac Vizcarra, 18
Ahern is national senior champion and current member of the Irish High Performance Team.

112 pounds – John Paul Kinsella, 25, vs. Aaron Alafa, 21
Kinsella, former two-time Irish senior champion, faces Alafa, ranked second at this weight in the USA.

132 pounds – Anthony Hopkins, 19, vs. Stan Martyniuk, 20
Martyniuk is the United States' second-ranked boxer at 132 pounds and will be fresh from U.S. championships.

141 pounds – Aodh Carlyle, 25, vs. Jorge Roque, 27
Carlyle is experienced but without a title while Roque has 23 bouts.

141 pounds – Noel Flood, 20, vs. Gabriel Cavazos, 24
Flood is new to the senior level fighting experienced Cavazos.

152 pounds – Terry O'Neill, 22, vs. Gerardo Lopez, 18
O'Neill reached the Irish semifinals last year; Lopez is new to the senior level and just back from his first national championship competition.

178 pounds – Kenneth Egan, 24, vs. Brandon Gonzales, 23

Egan is four-time Irish champion while Gonzales is ranked No.2 in the United States.

201 pounds – Ian Tims, 26, vs. James Zimmerman, 25

Tims has two national titles; Zimmerman is a veteran of 30 bouts and will have competed at nationals.

First time at senior level

125 pounds – James Upton, 18 (Ireland) vs. Max Becerra, 19 (California)

132 pounds – Philip Sutcliffe, 16 (Ireland) vs. TBA (California)

141 pounds – Jake Hanney, 16 (Ireland) vs. Joel Nieves, 17 (California)

165 pounds – Martin Collins, 18 (Ireland) vs. Mauricio Zavaletta, 17 (California)