

For Immediate Release

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Celebration of Life for Graham "Basher" Downes

Playoff Bound OMBAC Rugby Closes Out 2013 Regular Season on Saturday

San Diego, CA – The Old Mission Beach Athletic Club (OMBAC) Rugby Team is looking to continue its winning ways in their Southern California Division One league finale on Saturday. Winners of six of their last seven matches, OMBAC is looking to improve to 8-4 with a victory over a 1-10 Back Bay squad at the Little Q on Saturday, April 27. Kickoff for the A side match will be at 1:00 p.m. with a B side match to follow at 3:00 p.m.

In addition to hosting the rugby matches on Saturday, the Little Q will also play host to the Celebration of Life for past OMBAC and U.S. National Team rugby player Graham "Basher" Downes. Downes helped lay the foundation for OMBAC Rugby's great success in the 80s and 90s and has been a constant supporter of the program to the present. Basher influenced many aspects of San Diego and created friendships across industry and sport, anyone that knew Graham is invited to come celebrate. Images of Downes will be on display at the field. There will be a short ceremony and an open mic between the A and B side matches for those wishing to say a few words in Graham's memory. A big crowd is expected as many of his USA, OMBAC and KwaZulu Old Crocs teammates, business colleagues, family and friends will be in attendance.

The Little Q is the old Chargers practice field at the South West corner of the Qualcomm Stadium parking lot located at 9449 Friars Road, San Diego, 92108.

In lieu of the usual \$5 admission charge, OMBAC Rugby will be asking for a \$5 donation that will go to start the "Graham Downes Scholarship Fund."

Win, lose or draw, OMBAC will finish the season in third place in Southern California but another win would boost their confidence even further for when they travel to Sacramento on May 4 to take on the Sacramento Lions in the Round of 32 National Playoffs.

Come on out and support OMBAC Rugby and share memories of one of the greatest players to have ever pulled on an OMBAC Rugby jersey.

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