

HARVEST FESTIVAL 2004



Purple Pirate set to perform magical feats of fitness

Award-winning kids' entertainer sailing into Port Coquitlam Saturday.

Children are in for a treat this year, with headlining children's entertainer Dustin the Purple Pirate set to perform at the Harvest Festival Saturday, Oct. 2.

Combining his passions for bike pedaling, exploration and fun, Dustin the Purple Pirate has developed an interactive magic and fitness show — **FUNDamentals of Fitness** — based on his experiences as a salty seafarer.

Dustin has been involved in action and exploration for more than a decade, developing a love for wrestling and weight training in high school, and learning the importance of strength, discipline and technique.

His first pirating experience began when he became a deck hand aboard the Viking Princess, but soon realized he needed to exercise his dancing feet.

He set a new course for Edmonton, enrolling in Grant MacEwan College, where he trained in the art of ballet and modern dance under Brian Webb.

The call of the ocean, however, was too strong for Dustin, who heard there were bounties to be plundered in Lake Ontario. He navigated his way to Toronto, working as a modern dancer.

After almost freezing his sash off in TO, he marked a course for Miami and hopped aboard the MV Royal Majesty, which combined his love of dance and sailing on the open seas.

Aboard the ship, Dustin explored the Caribbean, Mediterranean and Australia,



Dustin the Purple Pirate will come ashore to perform twice at Port Coquitlam's Leigh Square bandshell on Saturday, Oct. 2, at noon and 2:30 p.m.

before making his way back to Vancouver to continue his exploration on bicycle.

Promoting himself to captain, and kicking off Purple Pirate Entertainment, Dustin has been bringing smiles and joy to children and navigating the river roadways of the Lower Mainland since his return.

Currently based in Vancouver, he focuses on children's entertainment and pedaling — cycling from Vancouver to Banff in six days for the Banff International

Television Festival.

Last year, the Purple Pirate was awarded the honours of Children's Entertainer of the Year in a people's choice competition, and has worked with children's favourites such as Sharon and Bram.

• **Dustin the Purple Pirate's performances are free and will take place at the Leigh Square bandshell at noon and 2:30 p.m.**