

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, January 9, 2009

### ***The Des Moines Register commemorates Buddy Holly and fateful plane crash***

**Des Moines, IA** – The Des Moines Register is commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Winter Dance Party and tragic plane crash that killed Buddy Holly on February 3, 1959.

*Buddy Holly: 50 years after the crash that changed rock 'n' roll* launched today at [DesMoinesRegister.com/BuddyHolly](http://DesMoinesRegister.com/BuddyHolly). There you will relive the Buddy Holly era and also find:

- A video tour of the Surf Ballroom including a 360° panoramic view of the backstage green room with wall-to-wall autographs.
- How Buddy Holly, J.P. “Big Bopper” Richardson and Ritchie Valens are still influencing music today.
- An hour-by-hour, mile-by-mile look at the fateful night and plane crash.
- A “Where were you?” feature to share your own memories and read others’ memories.
- Exclusive tribute recordings of two Buddy Holly classics by Iowa’s own Poison Control Center.
- Myths about the crash, official reports extended video interviews and more.

In addition, The Des Moines Register will share the Buddy Holly story in the next four Sunday print editions.

**The Des Moines Register will also welcome our own local “Prince of Rock ‘n’ Roll,” Richie Lee on Monday, January 12. Richie will play a fabulous set of Buddy Holly classics from 12:30-12:45 p.m. in the skywalk lobby.**

The Des Moines Register is a multimedia company that publishes The Des Moines Register, Juice, a monthly free-standing publication, nine community newspapers, over 15 custom publications and many Web sites including [DesMoinesRegister.com](http://DesMoinesRegister.com), [dmJuice.com](http://dmJuice.com) and [DesMoines.MomsLike.Me.com](http://DesMoines.MomsLike.Me.com). The Des Moines Register is owned by the Gannett Co. international news and information company.