

By SIMON MAGUIRE

ANDY FARRELL believes this summer's tour of New Zealand will be harder than any World Cup campaign.
And the Ireland head coach

is planning on using the experience to see who will handle the heat — and who will fall by the wayside.

Farrell has named a 40-man squad for the trip which includes five uncapped players.

Leinster's Joe McCarthy,

Leinster's Joe McCarthy, Jimmy O'Brien and Ciarán Frawley join Munster's Jeremy Loughman and Connacht's Cian Prendergast as the new faces in the squad.

Ireland face the mighty All Blacks in three Tests — with two midweek clashes against the Maori also scheduled.

It is one of the most testing tours an Irish side will ever undertake and Farrell is well aware of the challenge ahead. He said: "Along with the staff, there are 70 of us going on this tour – the biggest tour Ireland's ever done.
"It will need the energy, the cohesive energy, of all 70 to

make this happen the way that we want it to happen.

"Because, if two or three don't believe – we're not writ-

ing the historic report that we want to write.

"In that regard it's brilliant. We're just finding out more

were just inding out in about ourselves."

Farrell (right) sees the challenge as the ideal preparation for next year's Rugby World Cup in France—given the difficulty he is expecting from the team's hosts this summer. summer.

He said: "When it comes to the World Cup – I reckon we Cup - I reckon need 40-plus players who are good

Faz upbeat on priceless trip

enough to play in knockout rugby stages.

"I'm talking quarter-final, semi-final and final.

"We know who those teams could be in the quarter-final and we need to find out about ourselves. Therefore, we can't lose. "Some

"Some guys on this tour will fall by the wayside. Some guys wayside. Some guys on this tour will flourish that we didn't think would flourish because of the extreme think

pressure. "I have no doubt some guys who didn't make the tour will have an unbelievable pre-sea-son and start next season with bang and

work their way back into this but we'll find a hell of a lot out about ourselves on this tour and that's why it's priceless to us.'

Farrell's side beat New Zealand last November and he is expecting the Kiwis to come out swinging in July.

He added: "We expect them to be at their best – like we

to be at their best — like we always do. We've beaten them before and got on the end of a good hiding on the back of it. "Again, it's priceless for us to find out more about ourselves and find out who is going to front up and who is going to proper to be about our to be a second to be a sec going to perform at a level that probably they didn't think they could perform at and that's what we're after -

pushing the boundaries. "We all know what's com-

ing. How we react to that and

how we perform is key.
"They've been No1 in the
world for a long time and,

"They we been NoT in the world for a long time and, you know, they had a couple of losses last year.

"But they'll see this as the start of their World Cup campaign as well, I'm sure, and they'll want to hit the ground running for their international season.

"There's no harder place to go in world rugby than New Zealand. If you look at the five games that we've got—does it get any harder? Is the World Cup harder than that?

"I don't know — I suppose we'll see on the road. This is what we're facing and unless we meet that challenge head-on, then it's going to be a tough old tour."

Serena but I don't believe it

SERENA WILLIAMS is heading back Wimbledon after landing a wildcard at the age of 40.

The seven-time SW19 champion will make a shock return in her first competitive singles match

competitive singles in a year.

US ace Williams withdrew from last year's tournament after tearing against Aliaksandra Sasnovich on Centre Court.

She has fallen

Williams (below).

Williams will appear at Eastbourne International next week — but only in doubles action alongside Tunisian world No 4 Ons Jabeur.

The icon's last Major triumph.

Centre Court. She has fallen to world No 1,208 due to inactivity – but there was never any doubt someone of her stature would be on the initial wildcard list.

And All England Club chiefs had to bring forward the announcement by a day after Williams

by a day after Williams broke the news to her 15 million followers on Instagram.
The 23-time Grand

Slam singles champ posted a pic of her white Nike trainers on a grass

By ROB MAUL

court and said: "SW and

court and said: "SW and SW19. It's a date. See you there. Let's go."

US Open champ Emma Raducanu, 19, will be seeded in the first round and, if the draw is unkind, she could face Williams (below).

Williams will appear at

The icon's last
Major triumph
was the 2017
Australian Open
— before she
gave birth to
daughter Olympia
— and she has lost
in four Slam finals since
then

then.

then.

THE US Open will not follow Wimbledon in banning Russian and Belarusian players.

This means Moscowborn ace Daniil Medvedev – the world No1 – will be able to defend his men's title in New York from August 29. men's title in N from August 29.

Legal Notices

SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL

avid Souhan, James Souhai enise Souhan and Yvonn ouhan are applying for Plannin irmission for the construction detached two bedroom dwellin pm, won-rr, and a submission baservation may be made t fouth Dublin County Council virting and an payment of th rescribed fee (£20.00) within the ariad of 5 weeks beginning to he date of receipt by Sout lublin County Council of the polication.

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Voluntary Strike-Off
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having it's registered office at C/O
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Avenue, Dublin 12 and having
their primpial place of business at
C/O Petra Management, Unite 3,
M50 Business Park, Ballymount
Avenue, Dublin 12 and which has
no assets or liabilities exceeding
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the company is not carrying on his/her powers pursuant t section 733 of the Companies A: 2014 to strike the name of th company off the register. By Orde of the Board Director Ian Cahill.

Dublin City Council

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