

August, 2000 Issue



THE WASP RAG

Official Newsletter of the Winnipeg Wasps RFC, est. 1965

Club Executive: **President/Maple Grove Rep** Peter Nolan; **Vice President** Dave Fraser; **Secretary/Rag Ed.** Todd Andrews; **Treasurer** Stu Cox; **Members at Large** Steve Clatworthy, Laurence Eta, Scott Macaulay, Mike Saj;

In this, the August 2000 Issue:

- - Rumours of an upheaval in the DART house have potential residents scrambling to come up with likely acronyms. Long term tenant, Miles Jones, refutes claims that health authorities had him forcibly removed after complaints from parents who claimed that children in adjacent school grounds should not be exposed to such squalor during their formative years.
- - The Tuna spawns. Renee gave birth to a bouncing baby girl, Shea Rian Raeside (7 1/2lb) on 30th June.
- - Wasps welcomes our latest try scoring sensation, Ryan (pukey) Gray. Club veteran Saint laments "he has scored in each of 1st 5 games and at that rate should pass my career total sometime during his next game".
- - Wasps coaching staff consider tactical defaults for all future games on field 3 following 'black Wednesday' where a number of players were sidelined with long term injuries.
- - A full account of Rivertrail and Rugbyfest shenanigans.

Thunder from Down Under

- **Free unlimited sex for club members who have fully paid dues before SNAFU.** To claim this prize, recipients will be required to dress in woollen clothes and make sheep noises (baaa) and must submit themselves to our Scottish visitor, Shaun "Badger" Little.
- The club is considering a "**Manitoba in a day**" tour on the 6th or 7th of October as part of our 35th Anniversary celebrations. Contact Gary Nicolson (832 2178) if

interested. Failing a complete tour (Portage- Brandon- Dauphin) , the club would like to go to Dauphin for an exhibition game.

- The club would like to thank coaches for this years high school program, including Bill Bien (Kelvin), Blake Morden and Wayne Ritchot (J.H. Bruns); Marc Rampaul, Miles Jones and Stew Denston (FRC). A full update of the colts season will be included in the next issue.
 - The club is currently taking orders for our new jumpers. They have gold chest and shoulders over a black torso and will be \$65-70 including a personalised number and embroidery. Anybody interested in ordering one can attend a practice at 6.30pm on Monday evenings at Viscount Alexander school or call me.
 - I apologize for turning the Wasp Rag from a monthly into a quarterly issue. Any social or other members who would like to keep in touch with current events are encouraged to attend practices.
 - The club is considering sending a team to the Jesse James tournament in Minneapolis on the September long weekend. Anybody interested should talk to Scoop (284 3940).
 - **ROOKIE NIGHT The Friday night of SNAFU.** Meet at the Bridge at 7pm and then on to the DART house. This will be combined with a **stag party for BIGSID.**
 - LOST AND FOUND NOTICE: LOST on the afternoon of Wednesday 28th June- double clutching skills and numerous gear box parts. Please contact Jim Foulkes or return anonymously to Wasp bus...
 - Minutes of Wasp Meeting held Wednesday, March 08, 2000 Minutes of July 4th Wasps Meeting. Present: Andrews, Eta, Macaulay, Nolan, St Germain.
1. Approval given to book **Holiday Inn South for Oct 28th for Wasps 2000 banquet.**
 2. Club will continue to pay for gas for bus trips.
 3. Bingo credits (\$10 each) can only be used against dues or banquet, not to purchase club merchandise!!

Rugby in Manitoba- You can't beat it!! By Dark Cloud Macleod

This season we have seen a great influx of foreigners from around the world coming to Manitoba to play their rugby. Why is this.....I wonder? Obviously the secret is out, there have long been rumours in International rugby circles that there is a rugby paradise in the center of Canada. Stories abound of a place where the sun shines (not lately), the beer flows (cheaply) and the women are plenty (and of all sizes). So it seems more and more players are flocking to Manitoba to see for themselves if this Shangri-La exists. The answer as we all know is yes!! A list of these attractions has been ranked in importance to rugby players:

1. Cheap beer (ie. Cambridge Hotel)
2. Beautiful women who love accents! (they are also blind. The bald eagles record is living testament)

3. Tournaments.....sorry parties (Rugby Fest / SNAFU)
4. Travel opportunities (BC, Alberta.....Brandon!!!!)
5. Good rugby (serious + social and..... naked!)

All of these attractions together with the friendliness of the tobas provide the perfect conditions for "World Class Capers" and the best comeraderie to be found anywhere. So it comes as no surprise that every player to a man, who has spent a summer in Manitoba playing rugby or visited on tour has had an absolute riot. These visitations have benefitted everyone a great deal as we have exchanged styles of play, tactics and cultural ideas about the sport like the anal chug that was so effectively demonstrated by the lads from Guys Hospital RFC and "How we tackle in 'New Zealand" by Sid Roberts.

This brings me to the Winnipeg Wasps. Not only are we the best club in the province, but we are by far the best ambassadors for Manitoba rugby here and abroad. The club has toured all over the world and club members have gone off on their own to conquer other lands. All the while making valuable contacts and friendships. Yet on the homefront we have excelled in recruiting foreigners who have come and helped out a little bit here and there, bringing with them new styles, habits, tactics and accents. Through hard work scouring the pubs of Winnipeg we have collected a motley crew of players from as faraway as Romania and New Zealand, to Hungary and Ireland. Now we are on the internet attracting players from all over the world. In fact, we make such an impression on other clubs foreign players that they come drink with us and then tell their mates to join us when they come through.

Enter our new foreign editions to the club. Stewart 'Nobby' Denston, and Shawn 'the Badger' Little. Nobby has joined us from Griffith, Australia fully equipped with speedos and blundstones to keep the bald eagle from homesickness. He will be living the quiet life in the DART house. Badger has joined us from Bonnie Scotland in all his kilted glory and can be reached at the Scottish Embassy on Cunnington. Both lads have already made a big impact on the pitch and more importantly in the pub! The Wasps expect nothing less from our new members and long may our fine International tradition continue.

Subject: Rugby commentators

Here's one for all you rugby fans, sky TV watchers, blokes and anyone else: Ten of the best quotes from Sky TVs rugby man, the ubiquitous Murray Mexted!!

- 10) "He who hesitates.....is lost."
- 9) "Both sides are here to play rugby."
- 8) "You don't like to see hookers going down on players like that."
- 7) "The turf here (Newlands) never took properly and it isn't very well rooted...in fact you could say it is rooted.....did I just say that?"
- 6) "He's looking for some meaningful penetration in the backline."

- 5) "Spencer's running across field calling out come inside me, come inside me."
- 4) "I can tell you it's a magnificent sensation when the gap opens up like that and you just burst right through."
- 3) A Sky TV producer was conducting a sound test before the last Springbok test at Carisbrook... "Murray can you hear me?...Murray can you hear me?"
- 2) "Darryl Gibson has been quite magnificent coming inside Andrew Mehrtens, and I'm looking forward to seeing more of the same today."
- *And the never to be forgotten shocker from a 1998 Super 12 Hurricanes match....* 1)
Everybody knows that I have been pumping Martin Leslie for a couple of seasons now." Finally..."I don't like this new law, because your first instinct when you see a man on the ground is to go down on him"

Don Innes 35th Anniversary Picks:

As you may know it is the 35th anniversary of the club this year and RAG staff have invited me, as long time Wasps member and rugby follower, to pick my best team of Wasps over those years. After much thought and a few beers here is my top list for the past 35 years for the Wasps RFC.

Ralph Hicks (1)	Bernie Harold (2)	Lyle Hicks (3)
Kirk Gorham (4)	Shane Hiebert (5)	Terry Dann (6)
Paul Harland (7)	Gary Nicholson (8)	Guy McKim (9)
Jon Jenkins (10)	Lloyd Dawes (11)	Ted Paterson (12)
John Swindlehurst (13)	Dan Hotel (14)	Riley Barkman (15, Captain)

SUBS

Rob St Germain Al Hall Ken Campbell Ian Williams Gary Packoluk



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our vision*

Rugbyfest 2000 by "The Wheel"

For the millennium installment of Rugbyfest, this reporter was asked by the RAG executive to travel over 2100 miles, such was the status of the occasion. Due to the nature of all the benefits promised, the traveling wasn't an issue. Soon enough Friday night was upon us, and Wasps young and old were appearing left and right at Elerslie's warm up bash. Some tour veterans came bearing only beer money, some came bringing American money (you know, to bolster the Canadian economy, gotta feel for those poor bastards!) and some even came bearing female COXpanionship. That night was a good indicator for rookies regarding the events to follow. One thing that was missing, was a minivan transporting the Wasp tour captain and assistant captain that should have departed Winnipeg early Fri morning. With some digging, sources close to the Assinaboine Zoo revealed that due to a recent a-rang-a-tang escape, only one man was qualified to track down the obviously stressed out animal.

Apparently by allowing the ape to dye his hair and apply black and blue make-up to his right eye, our hero Haji was able to only delay the other patiently awaiting wasps by 6-8 hrs. Later that night, Camster "The Hamster" was introduced to the braintrust of the wasps on tour namely Scoop and Big Sid. We adjourned to our rooms to mix some drinks and relax. It was at this point Scoop realized that hiring a reporter that spent the last 3 days on the road eating nothing but beef jerky and Taco Bell might affect the rooms air quality. So Sid willing took me onto his side of the room. (Yes, I slept beside Sid, and NO, I don't want to talk about it!) As we all awoke and carried on Riv tradition (part 1) by stuffing ourselves full of greasy pork and doughy pancakes, it was off to face a gruesome bunch of hard hitting albertans, namely the Edmonton Pirates. The tone of our first fixture was set by Asst. Capt. Young Nic. He made several shocking lineup additions minutes before the opening whistle. Jenkins at halfback, Nobby Denston at inside centre, Fontura and Saint locking, Bill Chambers flanking? These selections were either unproven for this caliber and speed of a game or should have asked Steve Young for advice. As it turned out though, the Pirates rolled over and played dead as the new and old members of the 2000 wasps trounced them Lots to Not Many. As Helmut put it best, "where's my pitcher"? (From then on, the countdown to OTS was on!) The next game much of the same with all the backs taking turns shredding the opposition defense to threads. The score at half was 6-0....in tries! It was at this point Haji + Roddie deemed players such as, Rampaul, Barske, Saj, and Andrews "expendable" for upcoming trips to Edmonton citing their lack of vacation planning and saving money would only make them an infectious cancer among the rest of the team. The Druids finally got on the board in the game but it was still a landslide victory for the good guys. Riv tradition (part 2) followed, with the 60m waterslide dash, (When is MacLeod going to figure out that the slide exiting on the left is shorter?), the train-like sliding technique didn't last too long due to the number of 5 and 6 yr olds getting hammered in the pool (I wonder if that kid is out of the hospital by now!) With 2 events completed, only 2 remained on this years WaterPark itinerary. The "Moon" slide made popular in the Blake Morden era, and the, "Squish 15 guys in the Hot Tub and chug a beer while ignoring the 16 yr old lifeguards!" Needless to say, the last 2 had limited results with few maintaining a passing grade.

What would May long be without a trip to the place made famous by Rugbyfest visits- the Sawmill restaurant. An establishment that gave birth to the ever elegant navel-peez, and "Bufty" (who will forget that famous rendition- "I'm buffed, I'm tough, I've got the stuff and the chicks just can't get enough"). This year was no exception for RAG'able stories before and after dinner. It all started as the tables grew from 2-4-6-8-10 to finally taking over the entire patio for the 2nd straight year! From there, it was visible that 2 young ladies inside lacked information on why 40 some odd people insisted on yelling, "The Winnipeg Wasps Were On The Piss Again". They didn't really understand so I insisted they find out more about us.... at the Banger at the Hanger. They agreed.

There was also a rookie who didn't think his food was sitting well so he went to the men's seeking a solution. 15 minutes later snoring was heard, Helmut jumped all over this one hoping he would possible be able to give the young rook his forthcoming nickname. He grabbed the camera and a pair of bolt cutters to get into the stall. (What if he was choking helmut later stated after fending off alegations of perversion). The end result was a nasty stain on young Biffy's new shirt, a mess in the bathroom I'm sure we didn't admit to, and a large hangover brewing. The Hanger was better than ever AND smoke free! Women seemed to be growing on trees there and on a side note, who invited the f---ing Assasins?! Details after this point are rather sketchy, and hopefully everyone made it back to their hotel or at least a safe one, stocked with beer, pizza and horny girls!

Sunday morning is never easy, it's always a long walk back to the Riv, but I've learned it doesn't seem as long if you're still smirking. The BBQ was a success with the three man lift being, as always, hotly contested.

3 games of rugby
 1 hot sun
 5 in a taxi to the Sawmill
 30 people on the patio
 2 many beers
 4 inviting urinals
 equals 1 comatose WASP
 whatever you do (Biffy) this one's for you

<p>The Cambridge Hotel Home of the Winnipeg Wasps Birdsies, Liar's Dice, Arguments, Brawls</p>

2000 Festivale River Trail 7's

After months of cajoling, it has become obvious that Scoop will not, under any circumstances, provide a write up of the Rivertrail 7's. Sadly, it seems that the late night phone calls and seedy, smoke-filled, back room deals have left the peerless schemer jaded; reflecting on a hollow victory with a hand full of worthless trinkets. As a result, I have taken it upon myself to give an account of the tournament as I remember it...

Conditions were far from ideal with Field 1 covered with compacted snow, similar in consistency to poorly-laid asphalt while Field 2 was a thin layer of perilous, quicksand-like snow covering 4 feet of solid ice. Nonetheless, it was a balmy -5 or so and a strong gathering of teams were keen to again take to the meeting place of the Assiniboine and Red Rivers as adverse weather conditions has prevented this in the last 2 years.

Amidst rumours that the seemingly invincible Axe scents squad of '99 was likely to be further strengthened with omissions of Jones and Jack Brogan, Ladbrokes of London quickly installed them as favourites. However, when names of the likely substitutions was revealed, it was apparent that the Axe Scents were going to require an interpreter and a minor miracle to complete back to back victories. While the enthusiasm of the eastern Europeans Andre and Gil was not disputed, their knowledge of the game was. This fear was founded when Gil was crushed from the very first kickoff. After scraping himself from the tarmac, team mates responded to his look of confusion by stating that, unlike Saturday afternoons at Vincent Massey, this was indeed full contact!

Suspicious that the veteran portion of the squad may struggle under the demanding conditions (ie beer available during the tournament) were also founded as the UK contingent (Phil Guy and Eta) found itself less and less inclined to leave the tent for matches. Our Dutch member (Tank) moved gingerly on the fields, amidst fears that the ice may not have been thick enough to carry his winter-friendly frame.

The end result was never in doubt- a great time was had by all. On the field though the Axe Scents managed a narrow win over the wanderers and losses to wombats and the assassins (although we clearly softened them up for a predictably easy victory by Scoop's boys later in the day).

Thereafter, teams warmed up for a rugged evening of entertainment at wise guys. Literally, a mountain of Baja Rosa was consumed but the evening was marred by a number of eye injuries. A doctor at the scene was unable to determine the cause (in fact the doctor could hardly speak) but it was later revealed the self inflicted wounds were the result of some bizarre new ritualistic type shooter, which has manifested itself in the sadistic mind of Cartier and other Condors.

When Sunday morning rolled quickly around, all that was left to do was to locate where we had parked; pay the fine for parking in the handicapped zone at the university and then have

the Condors surgically removed from the couches of the DART house. When they had left, it dawned on DART house residents that none of them had asked for the use of a towel during their 48 hour stay. We came to the uncomfortable conclusion that they had not showered (a pity really as the shower is one of the few working utilities left in the DART house).

Congratulations must go to Gary Nicolson for a well run and rewarding event and to Scoop's Boys for flying the Wasp flag with a sparkling display of rugby in the semifinals and final. However, it remains to be seen whether Scoop's financial backing is extensive enough to keep his mercenary squad together next year or whether he will be forced into a fire sale similar to the post-championship sell off of the '98 Florida Marlins which left faithful fans howling for blood...

Letters to the Editor

From: James Stott [get_jamesstott@hotmail.com]

To: Toddy

Subject: diabolical omission

I am only now recovering from the initial shock, disappointment and despair of being left off the greatest wasp player list. I have reassured myself that the route of this injustice is surely based in some clerical error of a semi-competent editorial staff. First practice outdoors today. It'll be the first time I will be able to test out the groin. I have been religiously avoiding the "larger" ladies this offseason as to eliminate any undue stressors. OK enough of the blahblah, I though I would drop this note to you as I am finally nearing the end of my illustrious educational campaign, and will be looking for work. I though if any of the boys had any leads out in the peg, I might take a look into coming out. I am looking for something in marketing, advertising, or public relations. Any help would be smashing.

Cheers

James Stott

*Ed: It is NOT true that
I have asked for the
"millenium team" from a
large number of people
and then included only
those where I rated a
mention
to your predictable
omission Stottsy- Let's*

... *With respect*

*be honest- it would be
a sad reflection on our
club to include a
player whose greatest
injury concern was a
sore ass.*

From: Dean Melvin [SMTP:dean_melvin@hotmail.com]

To: tandrews@gov.mb.ca

Hi Toddy,

Not too much happening here. Just got back from a weekend in Wales. Had a nice time doing some hiking and we managed to climb the highest peak in the UK south of scotland. Impressive, eh? Booked a trip home at the end of august so looking forward to seeing everybody in the bridge. I am still trying to work out a few other details, but I'll let you know. I should have some pics in a few days to send along as I took in about 4 rolls this morning for processing. Really looking forward to seeing everyone in a few months. I read that someone got killed at the pemby last weekend. What the hell's going on there? Anyways, I should get back to it as I still have a lot of damage to do to my skull in the next 2 hours. In other European news, a group of gypsy girls outran Ben Johnson, the Canadian sprinter, after they stole his wallet in Rome yesterday. The former 100-metre world champion was pickpocketed after being surrounded by the girls outside a bureau de change. He ran after them when he realised he had been robbed but only managed to catch one of them, not the one with the wallet.

Dean

*Ed- I'm not sure
whether climbing the
highest peak in
Scotland is impressive
or not* ...

Hello everyone,

Finally! I'm returning back to Canada for a brief stay starting July 21. I will be staying for a little more than a month as I am going to England for a few years to teach elementary. Can't wait to see you all. Give me a ring when you have the time.

Cheers,

Troy Calder

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TIPS FROM THE MED

KIT

Club athletic therapist Gord Foulkes

The season is well upon us and for those who have been at training and playing in the first few games has surely encountered some bumps and bruises. I have the opportunity here to help everyone who has run into some minor injury trouble.

Here are some easy tips for the care of minor injuries that may occur.

1. **ICE, ICE, ICE!!!** Ice the injury as soon as possible after the initial. Ice for approx. 20 min. every hour or two for the rest of that day. Ice a few times the next day. Ice prevents swelling (and other fluids) from collecting at the injury site and hindering healing.
2. **COMPRESSION** - Between icings you should have compression on the area using items like tensor bandages. They should be wrapped snugly (but not too tight as to cut off circulation) to prevent swelling that may occur between icings and give the injured area some support. This will also allow the body to remove the swelling instead of it collecting in the injury site.
3. **ELEVATION** - Whenever possible, elevate the injured body part above the height of your heart at all times. Elevation helps slow the flow of blood (and other fluids) to the injured area and from collecting in the injury site.
4. **REST** - For the first two days after injury just rest. After that, modified activity could resume providing that you are relatively pain-free. Pain should be your guide. If the injured area is still really painful (feeling like its not getting better) after a few days, then you need to seek other medical attention, either from myself or another qualified person.

I would appreciate knowing about your injuries so that I can advise on prevention of further injury, treatment, or rehab. This is a rough guide for minor injuries only. If you are seriously hurt or just don't feel right, seek medical help immediately. Do not just see your family doctor, or just go to a hospital; GET A SECOND OPINION FROM A QUALIFIED SPORTS DOCTOR! See you on the pitch!

The Top Ten Reasons why Miles Jones is leaving the DART house.

- 10. It's summer and the lawn needs mowing.
- 9. Tired of answering Stu Denston's Aussie girlfriend's wakeup calls.
- 8. Darcy took his porn collection.
- 7. Nobody left who speaks english.
- 6. Rumor of Bufty moving in (it would defeat the purpose of a good education to have the club's 2 best privately schooled individuals in the same dwelling).
- 5. Just really wanted to give back to the club.
- 4. Fed up with the lack of commitment to Tuesday night Yoga training from other household members.
- 3. Rumours of cheap rent if faking a Scottish accent in St Vital.
- 2. Truly missing Capt. Wright inspirational tirades about present state of Manitoba scrummaging.
- 1. Found David Koresh's manifesto in Dr Andrews' room with all the BD's scratched out and WWRC printed in its place.