

May 2002



THE WASP RAG

Official Newsletter of the Winnipeg Wasps RFC, est. 1965

Club Executive: President/Maple Grove Rep.- Pete Nolan; Vice President- Dave Fraser; Treasurer- **Steve Anderson**; Secretary- **Scott Macaulay**; Rag Ed.- **Todd Andrews**; Members at Large- **Cam Knudson, Darren Raeside, Rob Brown, Scott Charney, Miles Jones.**

In this, the May 2002 Issue:

- * History buffs scan the records for a precedent to Hinrichsen being "cutoff" at the 'Bridge during Carols night. A spokesman for veteran Cambridge waiter, Franco was quoted as saying "Not even when Dean 'Ebola' Melvin was rushed to hospital for a good ol' fashioned stomach pumping after the fabled '95 Rookie night was anybody denied a beer. In fact, Ebolla may have been drinking from a pitcher as he left the building".
- * "Snow Dingoes" cock their legs on the 'Prairie Fire' in classic Condors 7's final. Tour rookie, Beastie Klymzak caps extraordinary debut with follow up article.
- * Military Police have conducted an extensive investigation into emails sent to various Wasps, reportedly from long-not-heard-from Capt. Wright. Preliminary findings have confirmed that the subject is apparently still alive and indeed, capable of correspondence.
- * Rookies save up for world class Rugbyfest capers as Dom "the dominator" Isfeld styles a new pair of all- purpose shoes. "With these silver bad boys, I can go straight from practice to the Empire and not look out of place. And look, they don't have laces so I don't have to keep asking people how to tie a bow knot".
- * Nicolson returns to coaching ranks after one year "break". "With Jeremy's

concentration span lengthening each year, I find that he is able to amuse himself in the car for almost the whole practice now. Of course the new power windows keep him occupied until the battery goes flat".

* Wasps "I Do's" narrowly defeat the bachelors, in Festivale Snow 7's semi final. "We softened them up sufficiently so that they never really recovered and were no chance to win the final" boasted sophomore sensation Elliott Hannam.

* Nickname bungle leaves 'SWOOP' feeling like a new man: "I've shaved a couple of tenths off my forty metre dash and could press for the vacant wing position, following the departure of Matty Stewart". Nicolson denounced the move insisting that "This is ridiculous, nobody gets to anoint themselves with a name". Despite Macaulay's best efforts, it is expected that the new name will not stick and that 'Swoop' will soon droop back to 'Scoop'.

Thunder from Down Under

* Rugbyfest plans (Edmonton, Long Weekend) are well underway. Anybody looking for a ride contact me on 284 6806.

* The club welcomes our newest members, including our newest "MOUTH FROM THE SOUTH", Gus Macleod. Those who witnessed his opening night 'performance' at the 'Bridge, were entertained with his array of historical Scottish soliloquies, delivered at high volume for maximum impact.

* A you may be aware, Rugby Manitoba has implemented a new registration / insurance system process for 2002, involving Rugby Canada. While it is hoped that this will reduce fees in the long term, insurance fees maybe increased in the short term. Extra sponsorship secured by the Wasps executive means that, despite these increases, the dues structure is essentially the same as last year:-

Membership	Social (Non playing)	Student	Full
Jan 1 - June 15	\$35	45	90
June 16 - Aug 15	\$35	50	100
Aug 16 - Dec 31	\$35	55	110

Wasps do Regina! By Kevin "Beastie" Klymzak

Pull up a chair and let me tell you a tale of a legendary journey. It took eight young

brave men that weekend and little did they know of the adversity and adventure that faced them. They were the Winnipeg Wasps and had been called upon to reclaim their rightful spot as tourney champs at the infamous Regina Condors rugby seven's showdown!

Here's where my story begins; it was Friday night back home at the Cambridge Hotel enjoying a beer with the likes of Beano, Scoop, Nick, Toddy and myself. It was time to go and meet the rest of our clan in Regina who were Matt, Darren Tuna, and Roddy.

But let me say this "The prairies were angry that day my friends!" We were glad however for the motivation lent to us by Beno during stops at the Husky pit stop and Moussaman. We made it through the storm by one o'clock leaving us plenty of time in frozen Regina to get aquatinted with the rest of our pack, and finish some beers of course. Closing time, like always, came too early that night but we earned some well deserved rest at Roddy and Janita's. We'd be facing some tough opposition that day but we slept easily.

Saturday morning and we rolled out of bed and practically right onto the frozen pitch at the Regina Rugby Park. Regina's tourney is a test of endurance where only one team can prevail at the end of the day. The Wasps however were ready to face the challenge.

Battles were fought a plenty that day my friends. But only the aspiring minds of a tightly knit group could come up with a strategy to win the day. You see, friends, that day between rounds we sucked the taps dry soaking up all the beer we could to give us the secret needed strength to conquer our individual battles with the likes of pirates, and condors and yanks! OH MY! Win after win and pint after pint the sun was beginning to fade that day but the climax was just heating up. You see only the undefeated Wasps and members of the Prairie Fire, a self proclaimed "iron curtain," still stood their ground. However as Scoop would say a PARADIGM of strategy was in our favor!

A battle for the ages, it truly was, and the excitement of twelve super bowls. A true great final match. The slugfest grew too large for the confines of regular time and overtime was needed to decide a true champion. Now kids remember what I said what about those wily Wasps! A great "paradigm" was in their favor. The second half of overtime was dwindling but out of the clouds of kicked up snow and blood the mighty leg of Toddy himself precisely put the ball over the try line and a tremendous play by Darren recovered the ball and touched her down claiming a glorious Wasp victory.

You might say the we arranged for an alcoholic dousing of the fizzling Prairie Fire. The iron curtain was no more than just a throwaway bargain of venetian blinds at next years' dart house garage sale! The Winnipeg Wasps won many battles but only we could say we won the war that day.

Now of course as champions' fun was to be had by all. The victory tub was soon filled and glorious renditions of Waspie melodies echoed across the Saskatchewan prairie. To this day who's to say if that tub was a soak for the champs or a wiener cook off. Either way it took a convincing offer to get us out and all we' d settle for was free beer next year when we defend our title.

That night was time to do what we do best, well besides playing rugby, and the bar quickly had the smile' n Jerries lined up but also a new beverage was in great demand all over town, after an innovative guy came up with a mouthwatering name for this concoction. It's called the Beastie and what smooth drink it is, with one part Guinness one part Smile' n Jerry and you end up with a grapefruity party in your mouth. The Beastie' s a real Regina favorite now.

That wraps it up for our adventures, but you can count on a plenty more in the season to come with two championships under our belts and a nice cool frothy delicious beastie in hand.

29 year old bachelor
29 year old bachelor
1 live in girlfriend
3 daily meals
a lot less shenanigans
equals 1 missed WASP
whatever you do (Jonesy) this one's for you

A language instructor was explaining to her class that in French, nouns, unlike their English counterparts, are grammatically designated as masculine or feminine. "House," in French, is feminine - "la maison." "Pencil," in French, is masculine - "le crayon."

One puzzled student asked, "What gender is 'computer'?" The teacher did not know, and the word wasn't in her French dictionary. So for fun she split the class into two groups, appropriately enough, by gender and asked them to decide whether "computer" should be a masculine or feminine noun. Both groups were

required to give four reasons for their recommendation.

The male group decided that computers should definitely be of the feminine gender ("la computer"), because:

- 1. No one but their Creator understands their internal logic.**
- 2. The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else.**
- 3. Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long-term memory for possible later retrieval.**
- 4. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your pay check on accessories for it.**

The women's group, however, concluded that computers should be masculine ("le computer"), because:

- 1. In order to get their attention, you have to turn them on.**
- 2. They have a lot of data but they are still clueless.**
- 3. They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they ARE the problem. In addition, "Fast" is not always better.**
- 4. As soon as you commit to one, you realize that if you'd waited a little longer, you could have gotten a better model.**

The women won!

Some sporting comments:

"This is really a lovely horse, I once rode her mother." (Ted Walsh -Horse Racing Commentator)

"I've never had major knee surgery on any other part of my body" (Winston Bennett)

"The lead car is absolutely unique, except for the one behind it which is identical" (Murray Walker)

"I owe a lot to my parents, especially my mother and father" (Greg Norman)

"Sure there have been injuries and deaths in boxing- but none of them serious" (Alan Minter)

"If history repeats itself, I should think we can expect the same thing again" (Terry Venables)

"I would not say David Ginola is the best left winger in the Premiership, but there are none better." (Ron Atkinson)

"He dribbles a lot and the opposition don't like it; you can see it all over their faces." (Ron Atkinson)

"Ah, isn't that nice, the wife of the Cambridge president is kissing the cox of the Oxford crew." (Harry Carpenter -BBC TV Boat Race 1977)

"Julian Dicks is everywhere. It's like they've got eleven Dicks on the field." (Metro Radio)

"Well, either side could win it, or it could be a draw." (Ron Atkinson)

"Strangely, in slow motion replay, the ball seemed to hang in the air for even longer." (David Acfield)

"What will you do when you leave football, Jack, will you stay in football?" (Stuart Hall - Radio 5 live)

"One of the reasons Arnie (Arnold Palmer) is playing so well is that, before each tee-shot, his wife takes out his balls and kisses them..... Oh my God, what have I just said?" (USTV commentator)

**Australian Rules Football player suspended for biting opponent's scrotum
Wednesday, 01 May, 2002 11:36:00 SYDNEY, Australia (CP) - Australian Rules Football player Peter Filandia has been suspended for 10 matches for biting an opponent's scrotum during a match. The Port Melbourne captain told a hearing he bit Springvale player Chad Davis after his face was smothered. Filandia apologized for the incident, adding that he didn't know what part of Davis' body he had bitten. "It was a split-second decision," Filandia told the Australian, a Sydney newspaper. A doctor said Davis suffered bruising to his scrotum and lost a small amount of blood. Filandia, 31, was ordered to have counselling before playing again.**

Last year, the Australian National Rugby League banned former international John Hopoate for 12 weeks for poking a finger up an opponent's behind. His club fired him for the incident.

ED- Which just goes to show, you have to be tough (and not shy about your body parts), to grow up playing sports in Australia.

Dear Wasps...

From: Steve Salt [SMTP:salt4890@mach1.wlu.ca] To:The Wasps

Sorrigh Tobes,

So, admittedly I am completely shite at responding to e-mails. I am thinking of returning to Winnipeg for a little while (a week or two) sometime this summer to hang out and maybe drink some beer, and cheer for the Wasps. I am also thinking of coordinating that time with when the Rugbyfest happens, and hopefully hit that too. If you could let me know when that was happening, and reveal to me the chances of scoring a couch in someone's house for a wee period of time, let me know... I am quite excited at the prospect of returning to the prairies for a victory lap. Congrats on the sweet season last year, I hope the Winnipeg winter wasn't too shitty, and looking forward to hearing back!

Cheers

Salty

From: Matthew Stewart [rugslaw@hotmail.com]

To: Pete and The Wasps Subject: Bad News

I just want to thank you all for welcoming myself and my family into the Wasps rugby family. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time with you blokes and strangely enough will miss beating some other Manitoba clubs. The rugby has been great, and the people even better. We are sorry to have to leave so soon and really with only a email to say goodbye (Saves buying a round). Good luck in 2002 and thanks once again for a great time.

Matty Stewart

P.S. I heard that you were paving the way for me in Ottawa. A few clubs have

called my father asking if I would go and play for them. For my first year back I am only going to play Div 1 and work on the back skills a little more. I will most likely try to join the Irish in the following season. But thanks for the calls anyway.

From: Max Pellerin [SMTP:MB2L@shaw.ca] To:Andrews, Todd (AGR)

Subject: 2002 Winter Olympics review - The Rag

The 2002 Winter Olympics have been and gone. The medals have been handed out and as proud Canadians no one really gives a shit about any of the medals aside from the two hockey golds we gladly and deservedly re-captured.

Interesting to note Australia's arrival on the Winter Olympic podium. A few observations:

Much like the Australian Wannabees, uh Wallaby's, dubious successes, the Australian short-track speed skating medal depended on opponents slipping, stumbling and bumbling to allow for a much ballyhooed but unearned victory.

As for the Aussie gold in women's aerials one has to ask who else might you expect to win such an event when a majority of the time during it you're upside down. It seems odd only that the Aussie's got just one medal in this sport and have taken this long to get it.

I feel much better. I don't think I really needed to review the Olympic's. I think I simply confused what I thought were mid-winter blues with the fact I haven't been able to heap abuse towards a fellow rugby club member for quite sometime.

Cheers and mind your response. You never know when your next traffic infraction might be.

Pellerin

ED-So, hockey is now the only thing that matters??

What happenend to curling, the only sport that you've been able to 'hang your hat on' during all these years in the icy wilderness? The silence after that tragic draw attempt by K. Martin was the most deafening since the Ben Johnson debacle. Incidentally Max, there are cynics out there who will claim for the next 4 years that Canada was embarrassingly lucky that a complacent Swedish team (who clearly had the measure of Canada in their only head-to-head fixture) overlooked that modestly talented bunch of Belarussians (who have shown that there is chance for

Canadian Rugby if only they could check their egos, along with their Sorels, at the door) in the quarter finals.

As Jeremy Wutherspoon can attest, "slipping bumbling and stumbling" is all part of the Olympic experience as those who have the talent, but not the nerve, are found wanting. Finally, I am left wondering whether, if a Canadian had skated in 2nd behind the heroic Aussie, Steve Maybury (who had apparently taken up skating just weeks before the event whilst visiting relatives in Calgary), we would have heard the bitter cries of "it was fixed, there must have been collusion" with the astonishing announcement of dual gold medals!

PS When extrapolated to the relative size of the Canadian contingent, Australia won the equivalent of 168 gold medals (no silver or bronze) at the Salt Lake Olympics.

From: Max Pellerin [SMTP:MB2L@shaw.ca] To: Andrews, Todd (AGR) PT 2

Ouch!.....Your ignorance of true Canadian passion is truly astounding and proof positive of your brief tenure as a Canuck.

Hockey is all that matters. Curling, as you would seem to imply, does not matter a wit to the average Canadian. It is to Canucks what cricket is to Australians and that is: A strangely pleasant past time with little or no point and thus of no real importance. Only those with no sporting ability entertain involvement in the likes of cricket or curling.

It may interest you to know that the Sale/Pelletier & Wutherspoon debacles were the result of true Canadian spirit. They were demonstrative of Canada's continual search for a good challenge. Recognizing early on that Sale/Pelletier & Wutherspoon were destined for undisputed gold it was Pelletier & Wutherspoon who chose, valiantly I might add, to undergo minor cosmetic surgery and switch spots. Clearly Wutherspoon had an easier time grasping his new sport (Sale) whilst Pelletier acquitted himself reasonably well considering he's used to skating in a pair of size 6's. I suggest that had the opportunistic Maybury the same sense of challenge and fair play he might best have thrown himself to the ice with the others. In true 'Botany Bay' fashion he may well still have won gold due to his ancestral links with ex-patriot British heathen and criminal society. I'm sure he would have found an appropriate use for his 18" blades to ensure a first place finish. As for your suspected ability to win 168 golds! See 'Botany Bay' above.

Later chum.....p!

From: Chris Schneider [chris_schneid7@hotmail.com]

To: Wasps and fellow Australians

G'day coppers, how r u all going? feeling very australian after the anzac day services/. the dawn service was unbelievable and we had been at anzac cove since 7 the night before and it was a party alot of effes (turkish beer) getting drunk but as soon as the ceromonies began everyone fell silent except for the bloody tv camera dudes. but after a couple hours of sleep the australian service went off perfect weather very relax atmosphere felt like u were in australia . The overall atmosphere was so uplifting a great cure for homesickness highly reccomend turkey . Will be in london probably by next week for cash reasons. Finished in holland 4/4 went to berlin excellent time had there very modern city but the east west divide and ww2 still have an effect on the city in a good way, as the city is progressing very quickly. then went to Vienna awesome city then the fun began EU travelling very easy no border police or visas to hassle u/. went thru hungary very nice but ! ! needs a coat of paint missed connecting train there had to stay walking around lost in budapest but everything worked out well. Than had a marathon train trip to istanbul 30hours zigzagging across romania (felt like a third world country horse and cart are still the main source of transport then thru bulgaria after romania this place look like heaven.....the train and then my time ran out so i will email very soon. have fun & all the best

Chris 'Porky' Schneider

Rivertrail 7's Report by 'Knude'

The 2002 edition of the Winnipeg Wasps Rivertrail Sevens took place once again on February sixteenth at Maple Grove Rugby Park. For the umpteenth consecutive year the plans to hold the River Trail sevens on the mighty Red at the Forks fell through the not so thin ice. No matter as all attendees can attest that the conditions at the Grove were tremendous and the day went off without a hitch as the Kelvin Old Boys retained their championship.

The day began in typical fashion with a large majority of competitors arriving late and hung after drowning their sorrows the previous evening after watching Canada get dumped on by the chicken Swedes. Before the draw had even been completed the boys from North Dakota began screaming for alcohol. They'd have to wait awhile for the bar to open and the line always formed behind Pukey Grey who wasted no time celebrating his birthday two fisting early morning doubles. Pukey would predictably offer no help to his overmatched teammates, the Wasps Singles (or Desperateados) who went great lengths to ruin the Wasps long and

hard earned reputation of skill and competence in snow rugby competition. Thankfully, the Wasps I Do's were able to pick up the slack and showed off some skill and dazzling speed. The I Do's walked through the round robin games with ease, no doubt earning some glances from Rugby Canada selectors. Also garnering attention from Rugby Canada was Scoop who showed great stewardship of his I Do's side in the first game by using his quota of subs in the first minute of the game by making substitutions for his three finest players.

The Single side was surprised as anyone to find that they had finished eighth in the round robin and would match up with the I Do's in the quarters. The Boot to the Head award would thereby be shared by Beano and Jimmy Fraser. Beano had slinked home so that he could make himself pretty for the evening festivities, while Fraser slugged himself off to the Saracens side. Their able bodies may have made the difference in the game, as the side was somewhat short with Greys inebriation and Barske's two sprained ankles. The I Do's pulled out to a 19-0 halftime lead and seemed to be breezing to victory. However, the Miracle at Maple Grove was almost achieved when the Desperateados roared back in the second half with three tries but fell short by two points. I can assure Tobes that no one put the blame on him for missing the two chip shot converts that would have given them the W.

The I Do's moved on to play the U of M side, confidence a little battered. This proved to be a tight and intense contest. The general axiom that forwards shouldn't kick was proved again when Scoop scored a try and attempted to convert. The two points looked like it would be the difference until the Wombat kicker missed what could have been the game winning points from directly in front of the hay bales. Overtime was averted with a beautiful field length try in the last seconds of the game by Matt Stewart.(I think), and it was on to the final to face the Kelvin Old Boys, led by CIAU all-star Scott Coe, the Juice and an assortment of other Wasp brethren. With the absence of Dave Bowen (had to go home to vacuum the carpet) and Sid Roberts (was getting tired and KOB were large), Vegas oddsmakers determined KOB to be the decided favourites. KOB went on to a 19-5 victory, but the outcome, many say, may have been different had the I Do's not knocked the ball on while walking in for an early try while KOB scored a long try off the resulting scrum. The game was a hard nosed affair with many of those hard noses going soft. Kalen Brunham exited the game early and Troy Calder's beak was broken having met with the back of Scoop's noggin. Anyone watching Scoop's earlier coaching gaffe and deciding he was a little soft of skull should talk to Troy.

Thanks go to all who participated in and organized this, as always, successful tournament. Special thanks go out once again to Garry Nicholson for his tireless efforts.



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Wasps "Truth or Rumour By MJ Super Sleuth.

I have decided to start a column which shall deal with the aforementioned title amongst club members and followers alike. Each Rag shall contain 10 rumors some true some not so true, but all possible. Simply circle T or R after each option and check your answers at the end of this publication.

Folks, It's time to play "Wasps - Truth or Rumor ? "

- 1. Sid Roberts arrives late to every Snow rugby match because he is woefully unfit and cannot stand his better half out dummifying Him each week. T R**
- 2. Scott "Scoop" McCauley received his nickname for defecating in the Woods at Maple Grove and having the decency to clean it up with a plastic bag. T R**
- 3. Aaron Corvino has developed his life philosophy from all four Kevin Smith movies and various writings from Hunter S Thompson. T R**
- 4. "O" along with his talents on the rugby pitch is also an award winning Artist. T R**
- 5. Pistol Pete Nolan was once in the Scottish Guard, but due to poor marksmanship, a faked illness causing his appendix to be removed and a constant disregard for all military law and tradition, He was discharged. T R**
- 6. Jon Jenkins, Having failed his City of Winnipeg Bus Drivers Course in the early 80's, fled Canada for the Sanctity of the southern hills of Peru, where he quickly embedded himself into the native lifestyle and later became the mayor of a town which is known today simply as Jenkinstown. T R**
- 7. Cam Knudsen and Cole Summers were recently the co recipients of the "Conspiracist's of the Year award from their own web site "youjustdontknowbutwe'regonnatellya.com" T R**

- 8. Ron Enberg is actually from the planet K-Pax and his employment at the Zoo is directly contingent to his ability to communicate verbally with the animals. T R**

- 9. Whilst in Korea, Steve Anderson was caught and eventually exiled for his organization and participation of a "Save the Street Dogs" campaign, he was later awarded the "Pet Saver of the Year" Award the highest such award handed out by the Humane Society. T R**

- 10. Kevin Barske celebrated his 1st wedding anniversary this year buy purchasing a cake and throwing a party at the Dart House. T R**