

# The WASP RAG

Official Newsletter of the Winnipeg Wasps Rugby Club, est. 1965

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**Club Executive:** **President/Maple Grove Rep.-** Pete Nolan; **Vice President-** vacant;  
**Treasurer-** Steve Anderson; **Secretary-** Scott Macaulay; **Rag Ed.-** Todd

Andrews;

**Members @ Large-** Cam Knudson, Darren Raeside, Miles Jones, Rob Brown, Scott Charney.

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## **In this, the Christmas 2002 Issue:**

- Rudy proves that the justice system DOES reform wrong-doers, following a full incident free round with a golf cart at the Canoe Club tournament.
- 'Bundy' Hinrichsen adds to an already lengthy list of public incidents following sickening but funny banquet collision. Although believed to be on some sort of marital "good behaviour bond", Carols organisers have fingered the loose cannon as a potential catalyst for unruly behaviour.
- Jones swaps the prestige of living on the same street as the DART house, for affordability of the Northend.
- Calder left to ponder Canadian Immigration policy as he spends christmas alone, while watching Australian reprobates whooping it up at carols night.
- Condors send Dark Cloud Macleod on successive goodwill tours to promote upcoming Superbowl tournament. Tour veteran, Scoop suggested that the loss of Matty Stewart and Zim from last years successful squad would be difficult, but not impossible, to cover. On the positive side, beano has indicated that he would once again be pleased to assume the role of substance abuse consultant.
- Doubling as a special preview for next years event, we present wheel's Rookie night write up.

## **Mouth from the South**

Ø People often ask me, they say "Tobes, you're a learned fellow. What's all this talk from Jones and Rob Brown about the English rugby team holding the Cook Cup?". Well people, the Cook Cup is a bit like the Queen. Nobody really knows what they're for or whether you should be proud to call them your own. You see, England have never been able to win a **WORLD CUP** which is a bit embarrassing for them since they're often reminding the colonials that they taught us how to play. To make up for this, they've invented some other things that they can play for and occasionally win. Following a streaky victory over the wallabies at Twickenham recently, we're told that they have retained the Cook Cup. Sadly for them, the **WORLD CUP** is NEXT October in Australia and, just like Stout Ale and their cricket team, they don't travel too well.

## **10 reasons you know you're married to a WASP (Anon.)**

**10.** You're marriage proposal went as follows: "Will you marry me...and my team"?

9. The Cambridge Hotel is #1 on your speed dial.
8. Your husband's idea of a romantic dinner is to share a slice of pizza from Maria, the Pizza Lady.
  7. Winning the lottery means: "Hey Babe, I won at liar's dice today"!
  6. A Cambridge waitress was a bridesmaid at your wedding.
  5. You know all words to the 'stray Wasp strut'.
  4. You've spent one of your anniversaries in one of the following places: In Edmonton for RugbyFest, in Brandon for the Triangle Tour or in a heated tent during Snow Sevens.
  3. Sunday mornings are religiously glued to channel 41, CTV Sports Net.
  2. Possible baby names include Jonah, Spencer and Reece.
1. He's loyal, he's strong, he's handsome and dammit he plays RUGBY.

## Wasps Truth or Rumor?<sup>by MJ</sup>

1. **Blake Morden**, oft found at the Cambridge regaling stories of yesteryear, once saved a drowning twin while patrolling the treacherous stretch of Lake Winnipeg known as Grand Beach. He later reported bedding the aforementioned twin and her lovely sister, while leaving his signature "Stinky Pete" Sticker at the scene of the alleged encounter.
2. **Darren "Tuna" Raeside** was Manitoba's first male competitive Highland dancer. He and his sister Candace dominated their respective gender based competitions during what organizers describe as the "Raeside Era" of the late 80's and early 90's. Their competitive flair unmatched, each family member saw a steady stream of trophies atop their respective shelves. Darren's reign ended when Clive McGonagall, then 11, entered his category, becoming the second male competitive Highland Dancer in Manitoba's History
3. Following their respective countries recent tours of the Northern Hemisphere, both **Todd "Toba" Andrews** and **Sid "Skid" Roberts** were actually found speechless for approximately 30 seconds each, at the Cambridge following Snow Rugby. The madness ended with both exclaiming that "these tours are meaningless, and we dominated the 7's season, where were the northerners for that?"
4. **Angus "Worst Import Ever" Macleod**, along with his many talents as a Land Valuer, recently displayed his 'til recently unbeknown skill of sketching. With just a pack of 10 hb pencils and a pad, he along with some fresh paint, has transferred the Den of ineptitude known as the "Dart House" into his vision, that is now proudly the "Art House".

*The company that supports us and blurs our vision*

Dear Wasps...

**From: Bridge Robin** [[bridge\\_robin@hotmail.com](mailto:bridge_robin@hotmail.com)]

**To: Andrews, Todd RE: Another Import Down**

Tobes,

Settled into the clubhouse, had first training friday and first match sunday. Before training I kept hearing they needed a scrum half and they expected me to fill that void. At training, the coach comes up to me, asks if I'm a scrum half, I tell him I'm a hooker and he laughs. After training, in the bar, they post the line-up and have the nerve to start me on the bench. Do they not know who I am? Then Maurice comes over with the registration form, and tells me it's 150 euros dues, how's your form, mate? i paid \$1200 for my plane ticket. Anyhow, he said after that they'd waive it if I looked after the grounds, which I figured I'd be doing for rent anyhow. Match on Sunday, they tell me in changeroom, I'm now starting at Scrummy. Then, they were mad cause I went into too many rucks. Brown and Gus will be happy to know that I only lasted 25-30 minutes before I had to get stitched up (five) thanks to a knee from one of their flankers. (I think it was the same dude I'd just kneed, obviously not as hard) I tried to hide it, and was successful for a couple plays, and when I asked them to tape it up, they said forget it, and sent me to Hospital. We won 19-5, were up 12-0 when I left, I think I'll be playing flank next week. I may only be allowed to stay 3 months (I find out next Tues) and if so, I think I'd like to try to catch up with Brown's old team in England, so pass on his address if you would. Hopefully they'll let me stay longer, and give me a work permit. Heard rumours that up to 8 ladies (between the girls team and the hangerarounds) are keen on me, but I've only noticed about 4. They still haven't put up that jersey we gave them, oh well. Rudy

**From:** [ian\\_douglas@cpr.ca](mailto:ian_douglas@cpr.ca) **To:** [tandrews@gov.mb.ca](mailto:tandrews@gov.mb.ca) **RE:** Kats RFC Vancouver BC

Good day, I was in Vancouver last week on business and stopped by the old Kats Rugby Club where Mark and Ernie barely recognized me coming through the night fog. They mentioned they're interested in hearing from players heading to or through Vancouver. They also mentioned they might be willing to help with jobs and board if needed. It's an excellent club with a private clubhouse in the Kitsilano area. If you know anyone heading that way please put them in touch with Mark or Ernie. I know they'd appreciate it. Thanks! Dougo

KATS RFC Colours: Green with White Trim  
KATS President Mark Ablas, 2960 West 44th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6N 3K4, 604-266-9909 (w) 604-669-1113

Dear Wasps Cont'd...

**From: Angus Macled [daddynu@hotmail.com]**

Fellow Waspies, that is if I am able to call myself a wasp after being labelled the 'worst import ever' as well as sharing a nickname with a major but silent actor in Star Wars; and I can't remember all the names Tobes and Jones have called me both on and off the paddock. However I have been asked by the powers that be to write an article, and I presume it to be about my time in Winnipeg. Whether it be about the lack of women in which I have wooed, or the amount of time spent on the paddock, the progression of my Pipe playing ( thanks Dougie Smee), or could I talk about the property market of winnipeg; as you all know I have the worlds most venerated land management degree (as a certain member at large has described it ).

In fact my time here at Winnipeg and throughout other parts of Canada has been nothing short of f%\$\*ing brilliant. I have meet amazing people and friends that I am sure I will have for life. There has no doubt been some funny times had, but if you are familiar with my habits you are aware that I became quite, well lets say, away with the fairies when most worth while stories were created. This is due mainly to the nature of the club and the members who belong to it. There are not to many clubs that I have been involved in, or am aware of, that you can have a beer and a yarn with any member of the club. After just 2 days in Winnipeg, I celebrated my birthday with the Wasps and had a very enjoyable night (I don't think I was cut off but I haven't seen a particular waitress there since!).

I am a chap who has always been up for a good laugh and the odd pint. These two usually go hand in hand and being with the Wasps has been no exception. The time I had being part of this club wether it be on the paddock playing at inside looking for a pass from Toddy A or enjoying a beer with the boys at the Bridge, it will never be forgotten.

So people of the Winnipeg Wasps, past future and present, I extend the invitation to anyone (as a younger, leaner Miles Jones did to me last year), that if you have the inclining to travel Australia or even play rugby, do not hesitate to contact me and I will try my best to help you out and have a beer with you where possible!).

There are so many people to thank for my time here but no doubt I will have a beer with you all at carols, and the Australian contingent will do its best not to get cut off. All the best and have a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.  
Cheers GUS

*ED- I think it's reasonable to assume that you're a Wasp but still, certainly not qualified to be to be discussing large members ...*

# The Cambridge Hotel

Home of the Winnipeg Wasps

**Birdsies, Liar's Dice,**

**Sports Select Arguments**

**Snowy Saturdays 4pm- close**

1 good knee

2 many follicles

No good pickup lines

Bagpipes and shouted Scottish soliloquies

equals Worst Import Ever

whatever you do (Gus) this one's for you

## *Rookie Night Write-Up (Part II)* by The Wheel

I'd like to start by thanking you, the reader of this fantastic material of lies and mistruths, for your patience. If proper deadlines were set by a certain editor-in-chief, this article would've seen the pages of the rag back in the last issue. Now that this is all cleared up and I have your attention, let's see if I can remember the events of a beautiful July evening correctly!

It all started at the 'Bridge. The now defunct bus was waiting to leave at 7pm sharp, while swarms of rookies were looming inside unsure of what to expect from this notorious evening. Nicknames such as Ebola, and Typhoid were born on nights just like this. While loading the bus, nervous comments such as "no anal chug.....right?", could be heard being whispered throughout the crowd of young and old. When all was said and done, Corvino, Kevin, Danny, Paul, Angus, Elliot, Tyler, Mike, John, Josh,!! Nick, Jeremy, Keith, Darren, Jeff, Mitch, Mark, Joel, Marty, Rob, Doug, Darcy, and Phil were aboard the legendary WASP travel vehicle, being led in song by none other than Blakie. Yep..... 23 rookies! It was to be a record breaking year for numbers and for fun. Jack Brogan's farm was the site for the festivities, and it was perfect! Lots of room, no neighbors to complain, nothing sharp in sight, and a huge bonfire pit!! As well, the good people at Labatts made sure no one would be left thirsty!

To break the ice, the newly acquired wasps were broken up into 4 teams with one veteran to captain the side. Matty Hannam led "Flower Power". Thumps licked the "Clit-Ticklers" into shape, Dom held the reins on the "Flavoursavers", while guess who, was in charge of "Team Rudy"? Here's how the rules broke down. 1)The competition was a 16oz chug, with the fastest time being the ultimate goal while maintaining minimal spillage. 2) All rookies were to give a quick !! bio of themselves to the crowd, and how they chose the sport of rugby. All before the first heat. 3)Top 4 qualifiers (1 from each team) were to go head to head in a final chugoff showdown. Here's how the first round finished up.

<u>Flower Power</u>	<u>Clit-Ticklers</u>	<u>Team Rudy</u>	<u>Flavoursavers</u>
Josh -6.02	<b>Gus -4.14 (4th)</b>	Beano -3.48	Kevin -6.31
Elliot -7.41	Darren -5.16	Paul -5.03	<b>Danny -3.89 (3nd)</b>
<b>Chris -3.83 (2rd)</b>	Jeremy -6.97	Nick -DNF (chug clock expired)	John -8.13
Marty -5.57	Keith -4.42	Jeff -4.57	Mike -5.67
Tyler -7.67	Rob -5.13	<b>Mitch -3.36 (1st)</b>	Joel -5.97
Mark -5.97	Nick -4.75	Doug -4.58 / Phil -4.67	Darcy -DSQ (spillage)

The stage was set for the 4 fastest chuggers to face off against each !! other after making it out of their respective teams. Then, out of nowhere, there was talk of a late entry for the final showdown. Nic had mentioned earlier in the evening that his own son, Jeromy, had never been rookied and boasted that any Nicholson, regardless of age could make a fool of anyone, even an Aussie, when it came to a chug off. When Nic jr. was approached, he declined the invite, citing he was over-hydrated in preparation for his mite league soccer game the following week. So it was to be Mitch, Chris, Angus, and Danny to decide which wasp had the slipperiest throat, for that refreshing lager to slide down. All contestants seemed to be matched up fairly well, but once it started, it was over!! Mitch made a fool out of all of them, with a much ooohh'ed and aaaahhh'ed response from the crowd. In an unprecedented time of 2.92 seconds, Mitch was declared Rookie Chug Champ 2002!

From this point on, the night turned into a debacle, with each rookie being required to start a song of their choice. Notables saw Nick Fenner sing one no one could understand, Corvino and Danny start one, no one knew , and finally Angus sing a

song that even he didn't know the words to! We knew at this point it was time to call forward a song enthusiast. Tank stepped up to the wooden stump and sang the "There was a lady in...(add colour of choice here)", and made us all believers of why nights like these, are nights to remember. (My personal favorite is the lady in pink verse...) The spoon game made a brief appearance, but there was not nearly enough light from the bonfire to even protect the games' judge from being hit by competitors' spoons-fire. The game was then called. (it also happened to be roughly the same time that the 2nd keg was thought to be empty!) The 'bridge was then named the next stop. Aboard the bus, 40 or so Waspies once again engaged in an emotional sing-song event with all involved learning the, "Stray Wasp Strut" the way it was meant to be sung: LOUD (but slurred), on our bus, empty bottles clinking at feet, teammates arm-in-arm. If you thought this was good, you need to experience Rugbyfest in Edmonton-wheel

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## DINNER/DANCE SPEECH 2002 by Saint

Mr. President, honoured guests and Wasps,

First of all let me thank the executive for giving me the opportunity to do what I love so much and that is speak to my fellow Wasps and anyone else that will listen to me. There is nothing like a captive audience for someone who likes to speak. However since I have been on the receiving end of far too many banquet speeches I will endeavour to keep this short and if not sweet at least palatable.

I have been asked by the executive to speak on what it means to be a Wasp. I guess the criteria are to ask someone who has been around for a very long time and can put together a string of words without falling down or drooling. These stringent requirements of course eliminated notable Wasps like Cole Summers, Bill Whitten, Jack Brogan and Don Innes. Since the executive asked that the speech be over before last call that meant Gary Nicholson was also eliminated. Of course many of today's Wasps would consider Don Deally, Ward King and Gord Foulkes to be Old Boys but there are enough of us around that remember them as young kids and rookies. This process meant that I was the chosen one.

I would like to share with you what I feel it is to be a Wasp. My initial reaction was: "dam this is a lot of work" but then I started to get enthused about communicating my feelings on this topic. Doing this reminded me that I like being a Wasp; in fact, I really like being a Wasp. When someone finds out I play rugby my first comment is: "yes and I play for the Winnipeg Wasps RFC". And if they ask: "are they a good club", I say, "Yes, we are the best club." I get a feeling of pride and satisfaction when I notice new members of our club express that feeling.

I believe there are a lot of reasons why Wasps take pride in our club. I would like to share some of those reasons with you. I don't present these in any order of importance nor do I consider this an inclusive list. I also don't present them to you as the authoritative list but rather just the thoughts of someone who has been around longer than most.

I think the biggest strength of our club is the fact that we play really good rugby. This is where everything starts. Over the years we have had the good fortune to be blessed with great coaches. Names like Riley Barkman, Guy McKim, Gary Nicholson and Todd Andrews come to mind. There have been others but I mention these because I believe they were and are great innovators and motivators. As the game of rugby changed we were lucky to have people in our organization who recognized these changes and introduced them to our club.

There are a host of other Wasps who have and are helping the club during practices. New players are taught how to play properly and to develop a love of the game because our rugby leaders believe in the importance of good rugby. I would be remiss if I didn't mention that many Wasps have stepped up and accepted the challenge of coaching our club when the need was there. Because we have this strength in coaching the result is players who have been coached well can take that knowledge and help the Wasps' RFC when it is needed.

Most importantly, this translates to good rugby on the field. We are the club everyone wants to beat. We are the club that has not only traveled Canada and the States but the world to play rugby. Our players know that we can not only compete but also be very successful against teams from all over the rugby playing community. **Success builds pride.**

Another strength is how new players are made to feel welcome. Many years ago we as a club developed the philosophy that any new player should be greeted by at least one member of the club if not more. That member should make sure the new player was not only introduced to as many Wasps as possible but should also have a beer bought for him at the Bridge. In addition the new player should be informed of all the social functions taking place and made sure he is part of those activities. I put that challenge to every new member of our club that you take that tradition on next year. And in case you didn't have a beer bought for you then guys like Mike (Buffy) Sie and Rob Brogan owe you beers. This process means that new players are made to feel a part of this club right away. A key to success both on and off the field is having a strong sense of team and community. New players learn very quickly that they are part of this team and become an integral part very early. **Community builds pride.**

The Wasps have always been rugby innovators and leaders in this province. A club or any organization that rests on its laurels and doesn't move forward is doomed to failure. As new law changes were made our club studied and adopted them. Changes in style of play and methods of coaching were done to adapt to these new changes.

Wasps have been leaders in developing rugby in this province. Many of our new players may not realize it but Wasps have either formed or been instrumental in developing new clubs in this province. Some of these clubs are no longer in existence or are a big part of the rugby community. Wasps have founded the St. Vital RFC and the Portage RFC. The Assassins were founded by former Wasps, as were the Sturgeon Creek RFC, U of Manitoba RFC and the Brandon RFC.

In addition Wasps were on the committee that formed boy's high school rugby in Manitoba. Not only were we on the committee but have coached more high school programs over the years than anyone in this province. A large part of our success this year is due to the many fine young men we have gotten from our high school programs. The leadership shown by our players in coaching is key to that success. Over the years Wasps have or are presently coaching both men and women's teams in this province.

Wasps also started women's rugby. The first ever game of women's rugby in this province was played in 1977 with two high school girls' teams coached by 2 Wasp players and refereed by a Wasp. From those humble beginnings the following year saw the founding of the Wasps' Women RFC and the Wanderers' Women RFC. Wasp men coached the Wasps women team. The Wasp women have grown to be a strong, viable and independent organization but we take pride for our role in developing women's rugby in Manitoba.

Our club was the first to be online with a web page. With some humility I would like to point out that our online presence has allowed us to attract new players from around the world and to communicate with former and present Wasps no matter where they are. Very shortly our web page will take on a brand new look that will be innovative but still retain its functionality. **Leadership builds pride.**

Another reason to take pride in being a Wasp is; quite frankly we look good. I remember a very short president of the MRU with a strong Kiwi accent remarking on how our club was certainly the best-dressed club in the province. I know this point may sound a little silly but I don't believe there is any amateur rugby club that can match us for club attire. As I speak I'm sure Doobs is taking orders for the new Wasp's dress shirts. **Looking good builds pride.**

A true strength of a club is how it handles adversity. It is easy to be strong and proud when you are winning. Anyone can do that. Can you be proud and strong when adversity knocks at your door? Although I truly believe we are very successful it has been at our lowest moments that the strength and character of our club was developed. Over the years our club has faced not only losses on the field that were hard to deal with but we faced losses off the field that were the most difficult to deal with.

In addition to losing our co-founder, Derrick Morgan, we have lost Hans Jannusson, Scott Jamieson, Tony Coy and Al Hall. While these losses were tough to face they all made our club stronger. These players all represented what was good about our club in their own way. I thank Derrick for founding us, I marveled at the strength of Hans on the field and his persona off the field. If anyone could be a poster child for all the characters on a rugby club then Scott Jamieson would be that poster child. Much has been said of Tony Coy but the one indisputable fact is "there was only one Tony Coy" and when I think of my friend, Al Hall, it brings a smile to my face. He went to his final resting place wearing his Wasp jersey, shorts, socks and boots. While the losses on the field do not compare with the loss of our teammates they have been instrumental in our development. Even in the dark days when we lost several championships in a row our club grew into the largest rugby club in the province. We never lost sight of what was the most important thing about rugby and that is not the wins and losses but the fact we get to play the best game in the world with the best club. I watched with a great deal of pride last year as our club won both divisions and celebrated those victories at the Bridge. While I was disappointed in our losses this year I was most proud to be a Wasp watching our boys celebrate the year at the Bridge. There was no difference in the celebration from last year to this year. **Adversity builds pride.**

This brings me to my last point about what it means to be a Wasp. The true strength of a club is the people. There have been thousands and thousands of guys who have worn the Black and Gold. Some only wore it for one game and some have worn it for what seems like forever. We certainly have more former Wasps living in all parts of the world than current Wasps. I remember a group of former Wasps living in Calgary holding their own version of "carols at the Bridge". There was a group of 15 and they called themselves the Calgary Wasps XV. I get many emails from former Wasps asking how the club is doing, how much they appreciate getting The Rag via the web page and always expressing their pride in being a Wasp. Most of them will sign off by saying my favourite motto. "Once a Wasp, Always a Wasp."

During the summer at the golf tournament a former Wasp, Tony Temple, who was visiting expressed his pride in how well the club was doing. He said it was great to see the club in such capable hands and how much fun the boys were having. As an old boy I am very grateful that our club remembers it's past and honours that history with respect. However while we take great pride in our former members and old boys that never seem to go away the real strength of the club lies with the membership today. The best Wasps are the Wasps playing today. It is these players that are carrying on the traditions of the club and forming new traditions. It is you guys that are the pride of our club. It is you guys that are worthy to be called at this moment in time: "Best Wasps Ever." **Wasps build pride.**

I thank you for listening to me and I know you are as proud as I am to be a Wasp. **"Black and Gold Forever"**

# Boston Pizza

"When the Music is too loud for Pistol, you know it's the place to be"  
**Winnipeg, Brandon & Portage la Prairie Locations**

"Always Got Time for  
"

...and Phil Manore

**Main and Burrin  
Ingster and Sheppard**