

The WASP RAG

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

- **Club Executive:** **President-** Tepe Nolan; **Vice President-** Mr Anderson; **Secr.-** Cam Knewsumone; **Treasurer-** Andy Old; **Quartermaster-** Scott Chargedme; **Rag Ed.-**Rob Lilac **Members @ Large-** Phil Womanore, Kilometer Jones; **Club Captain-** Steve Clapsareunworthy.

NOVEMBER EDITION. The WORLD CUP YEAR.

To all the people that believed in England I thank you. To the Kiwi and the "cut-off" Aussie that we all love, see you in four years.

"Swing low...sweet chariot....."

QUOTES

"The English backs are a joke. Wilkinson is a great kicker. Full stop, new paragraph. He is a muppet in attack, and it's no surprise to see him hiding behind his pack" (Aussie)

"The Pommies have no chance." (Kiwi)

"Robinson is a horrendous liability who couldn't catch a cold" (Aussie)

"The Pommies are a joke....." (Kiwi)

Following complaints made to the IRB about the All Blacks performance of the 'Haka' before their games, the Board has now agreed the following pre-match rituals of their own.

A. The England team will chat about the weather, wave hankies in the air and attach bells to their ankles before moaning about how they invented the game, and gave it to the world, and how it's not fair that everyone can beat them now. Failing that they will see what the Americans are doing and join in.

B. The Scotland team will chant "You lookin' at me Jimmy?" before smashing beer bottles over their opponents' heads.

C. Unfortunately the Committee were unable to accept the Welsh suggestion as too many sheep may be harmed during the tournament.

D. Argentina will unexpectedly invade a small part of opposition territory, claim it as their own "Las In-Goals-Areas" and then be forcibly removed by the England team.

E. Two members of the South African team will claim to be more important than the other 13 whom they will coral between the posts whilst they claim the rest of the pitch for themselves.

F. The Americans will not attend until almost full time. In future years they will amend the records to show that they were in fact the most important team in the tournament and make lots of films to prove it.

G. The Canadian team will erect tables on the halfway line and make perogies.

H. The Italian team will arrive in bright red cars, harass the female stewards and then run away.

I. The French will declare they have new scientific evidence that the opposition are all mad. They will then park lorries across the half-way line, let sheep loose in the opposition half (unless playing Wales) and burn the officials. However they may not attend the World Cup at all as it involves the deployment of Frenchmen in another part of the world.

J. The Australians will hire a hairy mascot and call him Gus, he'll then run in front of the opposition and scream "freedom" (which will piss the Jocks off as they should of thought of that but were too busy drinking).

K. The Ireland team will split into two, with the Southern half performing a Riverdance, while the Northerners march the Traditional route from their dressing room to the pitch, via their opponents' dressing room.

A tribute to Toddy Andrews to commemorate his time here in Manitoba.

It dedicated to the bald eagle who soared in ever so gracefully, but like the predator it is, snatched some of our local chickies and left with a swoop.(Not Scoop. That's another story.)

Cheers,

Tuna

For t'is adventure which drives the most living spirit.

*From a far away place it reaches us in another time, and finds a home at rest upon another place, another time...
And warms the heart.*

*The hearth is warm where cold sets upon
our walls and doors.*

*Our pastures grow
Crops of gold where dirt did blow...
Thunders crash on Prarie fields or
blazing sun
and harvests yield*

Boston Pizza

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

*to autumn lakes and leaves
a blaze.*

Orange, Red, Black, Gold

Winter.

Snow is new.

A blanket.

Comfort.

On fresh new ice, like knives they slice.

The air cuts too, as daggers sharp.

A dance. Release.

The sound of clanging, banging. Ice meets metal

Silence. Magic.

Inside on tables upon tables, and chairs pull close.

Tight.

Warm.

Brew is lasting.

Many more hands to share one cup, and stand so close.

But now apart...

Laughter, pain.

Green, white.

Silence.

It flies so high, so straight.

Unguided, determined, undaunting.

Precision.

Does it know the time it left, to where it goes?

And makes no sound, a sound so loud.

It lands.

Rejoice!!! Dismay.

The foot that guides it...

G'Day! G'Day!

Follow true North.

Adventure is driving.

Driving soul, knees, hips, shoulders and

Gleaming brow.

The past is with you, always telling, always steering

You're adventure within you.

Home.

Then and now...

It was revealed by Scott Harland that he has gone his entire Wasps career without a nickname. He felt that as in years past, as Wasps coaches have had nicknames, that he should also have one.

Here are the top ten nicknames from which you the Wasps will decide to name Scott for his initial season coaching the club

10. Lumpy
9. Harlanda the Kissing Bandit
8. Stumpy (ask his wife)
 7. Scoop (this one is open for the next year or so)
 6. Scooter
 5. Mr. Premier
 4. Sparky the wonder coach
 3. Rosie
 2. Bubbles (Have you ever seen his glasses before his laser surgery)
1. Foghorn Leghorn

On the last play of the game in Brandon versus the Barbarians, for the right to play the Rowdies in the finals, the Wasps Seconds season came abruptly to a halt. 15-14 was the score that denied us a third consecutive appearance in the second divvy finals. It goes without saying that such a close defeat is a hard pill to swallow but it was impossible for anyone to hang their heads afterwards as the game was hard fought and the effort from everyone was something to be sincerely proud of. I'm sure also that this will steel our resolve to win next years championship. Judging from the faces on the field, and with some commitment to training this is a goal that is well within reach.

Even though we did not bring home the championship, the season could only be termed a successful one. It was a lot of fun, with many tight games and interesting faces performing in them. Most notably it saw the return of Kirk Gorham, after a 20 year sabbatical studying Zen Buddhism in the Himalayas (fabrication). When Saint announced that the two of them would line up together at second row, many people looked cross-eyed at each other and got ready for a long season defending our try line. We were surprised when Gorham played like a man 20 years his junior, while Saint played like a man who is 54. It was a celebratory Saint at Snafu weekend who produced pictures of his grandson. Saint was ecstatic and stated how great it was not to be the only one in the family wearing diapers (outrageous lie). Another fantastic year was put in by another legend not too far away from paying reduced bus fare, Guy McKim. Once again Mac appeared at just about every position on the field. It was interesting to note that the only guy to get slugged in the intense playoff game was the oldest player on the field, as well as a co-founder of the Barbs. Almost straightened out his nose. All kidding aside, it is a testament to our club that we have such a great blend of young players and savvy veterans who have so much experience to offer.

One of the highlights of the season had to be our road game in Dauphin. Desperate to avoid a costly default, we were able to reschedule a cancelled game on the hottest day of the summer in the Canadian hotspot, Dauphin, Manitoba. The temperature climbed to 39 degrees by kickoff. It was best summed up by Steve Clatworthy, who noted that "it isn't the heat. It's the humidity!" as his boots threatened to spontaneously combust before the match. We were able to handily defeat the Mavericks, despite Crash, who had to leave the pitch before full time in order to vomit. A lesson to be learned, when you are playing in weather where you can boil an egg in the water bottles, don't test yourself to see how much alcohol you can handle the night before. One cheer was given, it should be added, to Rob Brown, who made the trip in order that we would have a ref. Rob as you may know is moving to Calgary to pursue his life long dream of becoming a redneck. So long Wally, if we need a ref someday, we'll give you a buzz.

Other than that, the rest of the season is a bit of a blur. We won some games, lost some others and had a few ties. We like to blame the referees for those latter two cause that's what you do. Anyway, it was a great load of fun and was an honour to captain the side after Scoop departed for Australia. I apologize for the messed up "psyche" cheer before the last game as well as forgetting who was supposed to kick off. My mind was on other things, such as why Enberg was in Cleveland for the biggest game of the year and where the hell were Blake, Danny and Beano who did manage to show up somewhere before extra time. Beano did not get to play in the game, as well as Damian and newcomer Jeff. So extra thanks should be given to them for making the trip. Every year in the playoffs, this seems to happen but sometimes it is unavoidable, but sorry anyway. Remember that this should be extra incentive to show consistently for practice throughout the entire season.

Sometimes very difficult decisions have to be made and as you can ask any coach, it is not easy or fun to make them. So here is three cheers to them and three cheers to everyone else for a great 2003 season. Let's make 2004 a championship year.

Thanks, Cam Knudson AKA Noodles

Club Captains Report;

The 2003 year overall was an enjoyable one. Although we did not have the success we have had in previous seasons on the field, the strength of the club in many ways grew. This club stepped up, in both first and second division. The loss of several key players through injuries and relocation hurt us early on in the year. It also provided an opportunity for some of our younger players to show what they were made of, as well as provided an opportunity for some of our veterans to show that they still have what it takes. Both teams came together towards the end of the year and made a good accounting of themselves in both semi-final games. The fact we did not make it into the finals is not a result of lack of talent or effort, but is an indication of how the League as a whole has grown, and the quality of rugby with it. If we intend to continue to be a productive team, effort will have to be made during the off season. When the season starts again next year attendance at practice is a deciding factor, and was my only gripe this year. Practice makes a difference. The talent on this club is there, practicing regularly will allow us to use it effectively.

I would like to take the time to mention that the Executive and the President did a fantastic job. As I mentioned earlier we did lose some important club members. As a result every member of the executive, as well as many players stepped up to make this one of the more memorable social years in recent memory. Anyone who was at the rookie party would know what I mean. The club is in good hands, keep up the good work, and thank you for all the time that you have put in to the club. It is appreciated.

I would like to finish off by saying that the true strength of this club was undiminished, and by that I mean the camaraderie and competitiveness. When all is said and done that is why we are all playing this game, none of us get paid to go out every week compete. We play for the love of this game, and for the guys we play with. It is the reason I look forward to the next year.

Cheers,

Steve Clatworthy

Secret Squirrel investigates

Cole Summers wrote:

Amsterdam May '01 Wasps Friendship Tour

Pub door 6 feet from our room(s) door ..Last stop on the pub crawl. Ron and I the first night, by myself the 2nd. Big boobed bartenders two nights in a row;one white,one black. ...Big delts,bi's...-yikes they're 'guys'. Sucking back a beer or two-suddenly blue flashes in my vision-swoosh! swoosh! What the Fuck! I've been drugged! Get out quick! Struggle climbing up the stairs... Light show in my head....Scary shit.A bit too much of a cultural experience...shudder to think of potential disasterous scenerios....

A few years back at a Waspie's wedding social ,Ward and I got up and slow danced.. to raise a little shit and keep the 'civilians' guessing.

Reasons for the above.....

1. Tooo much of the local delicacy

2. The flu.

3. ***Alien Abduction (A.A.)***

4. An overpowering love for butch barmaids .

(note: I am not calling Ward a butch Barmaid, I've never seen him work behind a bar!).....ANON

Here are some upcoming events:

- Looking for Class 2 Bus Drivers. Club will pay for license.
- New Wasps coach for upcoming season. ***Scott Harland.***
- Christmas carols at the Cambridge. December 20th after snow rugby.
- Snow 7's. February, exact date and location to be determined.
- A slogan contest will be held for creating a t-shirt. The winner will get a free t-shirt.

The company that supports us and blurs our vision

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Dennis Malthouse is a proud sponsor of the Winnipeg Wasps

Appleton Rum, Cambridge Hotel, Gibson's Rye Whiskey, Labatt, Malthouse Auto, and Tim Hortons

"Always Got Time for
"

...and Phil Manore

**Cnrs of Main and Burrin;
Ingster and Sheppard**

New Song Lyrics, 'the Winnipeg Wasp are on the piss again...'

The Cambridge Hotel

Home of the Winnipeg Wasps

Birdsies, Liar's Dice,

Sports Select Arguments

Snowy Saturdays 4pm- close

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Hi Robby

I don't know if you want to put this in the rag or not?

I just wanted to thank all the boys who came by the hospital to see me and all the guys who phoned after I broke my arm.

It's a good feeling when you're down to know the boys are rallying behind you.

That's why I'll be back on the pitch next year. As far as healing I'm in week 3 and everything is coming along really well.

I figure I'll be playing hockey sometime in early to mid December.

I just wanted to throw something in.

Thanks

Martin Hulme, Account Manager, Employee Benefits

THE RESOURCE CENTRE | GREAT-WEST

I don't ever want to feel

Like I did that day

Take me to the place I love

Take me all the way

It's hard to believe

That there's nobody out there

It's hard to believe

That I'm all alone

At least I have her love

The city she loves me

Lonely as I am

Together we **CRY**

(Cheers Chilli's, Red Hot Chilli Peppers, 'Under the Bridge')

Movie Quotes.

“Honestly Baby, do Wasps make you feel horny?” (A. Powers)

“Say hello to my little friend, Calder!” (Scarface)

**I see skies of blue and clouds of white
The bright blessed day, the dark sacred night
And I think to myself what a wonderful world.**

**The colours of the rainbow so pretty in the sky
Are also on the faces of people going by
I see friends shaking hands saying how do you do
They're really SAYING**

(Louis, brilliant baby! Louis Armstrong, 'Wonderful World')

Wasp Briefs by Doobs

- Our very first trip with the new Wasp bus was a success. Travelling to Brandon, playing a tough match, songs and beer afterwards, and Crash's unfortunate "Golden Shower" were all highlights of the venture. "Clapper we have maybe 5 km left, can't you hold on?!" My words to Steve while he's filling a beer cup with borrowed beer. We just did not have enough time to cut out a hole for the guys to do their business. We have maybe a kilometer left when Steve has filled the cup to the brim and decides to throw it out the window. Without warning of course...and guess who's window is down whilst he's hurling it out the window. Sir Crash. "I could see what was happening so I ducked under the seat, when I got back up all I saw was Crash wiping his glasses. He didn't look to impressed" from an anonymous prop.
- "Mighty Meatball re-injures shoulder" was the front row talk in one the practices of July. "So was it in a scrum or just in practice or what" says I. "I injured it while opening the fridge!" The trials and tribulations of a Wasp prop.
- There's a new creature in the City of Winnipeg. A mix between a loose forward, and a white naked gorilla who loves Salsbury House. I got the call from the Bigfoot research organization on a Saturday afternoon. Headed by a former Wasp Mr. Jason Mizak. "It only comes out on very rare occasions. The "Salsquatch" was seen at the Sals on the corner of Stafford and Pembina in its natural habit. Naked, full to the point of intoxication and at 3:00 in the a.m." After many hours of research it has been determined to have the same blood line as the werewolf except that the moon does not change the individuals horrific alterations. The changes occur after many hours on a Friday night sitting in the Cambridge bullshitting about the past, losing at birdsies, and feasting on Labatt's jumbos. Everybody BEWARE for whispy may be in your area if there's a Sals nearby.
- Kevin Barske received honors from the Cab Drivers Association shortly after SNAFU. "He sure looks like he is going to puke in the car" was the comment mentioned to Whispy by the cabbie while travelling to the next late night party. Barske waited until the cab stopped and then let his guts out. The cab driver was ecstatic and amazed by Barske actions for his description of the big second row was "nothing short of polluted!"
- For those us who weren't there, please raise your glasses and give a "Cheers" to all those dedicated rugby players who traveled to

Dauphin and played in possibly the hottest game ever. 39 degree Celsius. It was the record hot spot in Canada. If you didn't hear Crash puked his guts out after the game, I believe from heat exhaustion. Cheers to Crash for busting his balls during that heat and to the other wily vets.

Gibson's Finest Rye Whiskey

Presidents Report Season 2003.

The President.

I'm led to believe that the last time our club missed the play-off finals was in 1991. Not a bad record. Over the years since I got involved with the Wasps RFC as a player and part of your executive, we have tried to make the club into a cohesive unit in which all members can participate. This takes dedication from both players and executive.

The loss of Todd Andrews was a big blow to our club. We all know he had the skills, the personality and the charisma to be a great captain.

I look at the personnel we have playing for us now, good athletes with lots of talent but for some reason, no one has stepped up to the plate to take Todd's place. We do have the players on the club that can do the job, so lets do it.

The above are not negative remarks. The Wasps Rugby Club means a lot to me, this is why I will remain the club President for the up/coming year 2004. We have a lot to do. I have encouraged members to take part in all club functions including Referees Clinics or Coaching Clinic. This is important not only to our Club but to the league

There has been a number of members that have come forward with a sponsorship to our club. Money donations and merchandise donations are noted and appreciated.... Club dues are the lowest in the league. 95 percent of club members have paid their way but there are a few stragglers by the way side.. From the Executive down to players we all have to pay because we all get the same rewards at the end of the day.

Pistol.

I went to a gypsy, Mystic Maureen. She had an eye patch and a weird damp smell. I had the Wasps fortune told to me. To avert bad fortune, turn clockwise one rotation with a jumbo in the air.

Here's how it went;

There's a tall lad in your team he likes to yap. Be careful about his smile.

You will have a visitor from up north, be wary. Especially when he's holding a camera.

Your rivals from the west will feel pain on your next visit.

Always give the lad with the biggest heart a lift to the field because golf carts and bikes get him into trouble.

Do not bet with people that have a fern tattooed on there body.

Jerry will be the victor of many battles.

The Wasps will be victorious.

CAPTION CONTEST, A FREE DOUBLE PARALYSER TO WHOEVER COMES UP WITH THE FUNNIEST CAPTION.
ENTRIES IN BEFORE THE BRIDGE CLOSSES ON THE NEXT NIGHT OF TOUCH RUGBY.

(Thanks to all the people that contributed to the Rag, Ed.)

Dear All,

As the majority of people know I will be moving to Calgary in the New Year. To thank the Wasps is not enough I would like to remind people why the Wasps are one of the friendliest teams.

I met the Wasps at SNAFU two years ago after seeing a black eye in the hotel I was staying in, I questioned the lad how he got it and he mentioned the festival at maple grove. I was there for 20 minutes before my flight back to Blightey and the bald lad from Australia gave me his business card. I kept in contact with the weed specialist and eventually arranged to move in to the DART house, what ever that was?? Todd said he was out of town the weekend I was to arrive but Garry would pick me up. I was used to the bustle of Heathrow airport not Winnipeg. So I wondered how I would recognize Garry. Todd said, "you'll know!" Down the stairs I went looking around for this Garry chap, when I saw Nic all dressed up in rugby gear holding a ball. Wish I had a camera, it was bloody February and Garry was dressed like it was June. I dropped my stuff of at the Dart house and was taken to the 'Bridge'. I met a lot of people that day, not Jerry though, thank God. I was saved a seat between Sid and Fenner. I felt right at home because two southern hemipsphere boys instantly insulted me, in the age old 'bloody pommies are all the bloody same". It was the first time I had drunk alcoholic milk. I would like to meet the cow that does that. The following day I was taken to the festival on the river, Garry wanted to check the ice for snow rugby, at that time I thought he was off his head. I met Cam and Wispy. It was a great day. It took a week or so before I really got fully absorbed into the Wasps rugby club. The Barske and myself arrived early for the snow sevens. Kev brought out a bottle of rum, which we disposed of by midday. The day was memorable for I reffed my first snow game and saw Kev twist both ankles. The moral is don't drink and slide (two dislocated shoulders later).

The Wasps have always made me feel at home. Thank you Wally