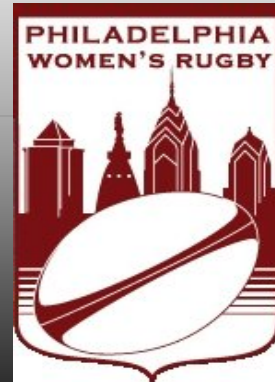


# PWRFC News

It is better late than never...

Summer 2011 Edition



## PWRFC 7's: It was the Best of Times it was the Worst of Times

By Whitney Hileman

Beginning in May, the dedicated and heat-loving Philadelphia Women's Rugby 7s players met at Edgely field for fun but grueling practices. . Coach Bob Weir led the team. Meeting twice a week regardless of heat, hail, and Irish Soccer teams, Philly Women's 7s began the building of a dynasty using devotion, perseverance, and hearts of steel.

The season began on June 11th in Lehigh Valley. Philadelphia entered two sides into this tournament, downright overwhelming the opposition with their numbers and good looks. Philly A finished the day with a 2-3 record and a loss in the plate final. Philly B finished the day with a 0-3 record but solidified their reputation for being the most tenacious team around by facing a certain Phaidra Knight without fear.

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## Philadelphia 15s Schedule

Pumpkinfest (CANCELLED)	August 27-28
Vs. Atlanta (L)	September 3
At Albany (L)	September 10
Vs. Nova (L)	September 17
At Boston (W!)	September 24
At Providence (L)	October 1
Vs Village Lions (L)	October 15

Expect a Fall Season Article in the Christmas Edition!!!!

President-Suzanne Igoe  
Vice President- Kate Hallinan  
Treasurer- Kierston Nordstrom  
Secretary- Whitney Hileman  
Team Capitan- Emily Record

# Bob Weir: Motivational Speaker, Inspirational Coach

By: Jenna "Cougs" Dietrich

It's not easy being Bob Weir. He's learned the hard way that it's impossible to make 36 women happy. But he hasn't given up yet.

Bob's enthusiasm softens our rough edges and anxiousness while we are all vying for those too few starting positions. He makes us laugh when we're caught in the middle of a torrential downpour playing a match in the freezing cold. He's the steady drinker at Oneal's, who cracks open a few beers with us but slinks back home when Bo breaks out the Tuaca. He reminds us when we feel defeated that there are many other goals we've accomplished despite the ending score. He has a passion for rugby and for Philadelphia Women's Rugby Club that can only be expressed in his own words...



*"Rugby has magical powers. The results and effects of our development through this game last a lifetime and can be passed on to next generations as an 'added gene'. Let's play tomorrow with passion, flare and explosive play."*

That gem was repeated several times on everyone's status updates. Hours of enjoyment were had by all.

Now as we face the fall season, we find ourselves in an uphill battle. At our team meeting we unanimously agreed the goal was 4<sup>th</sup> place. We had the entire summer to stew over how we were going to make this a reality and then our faithful leader spoke again...

*"If you dream of winning in the fall; summer workouts are the deposit on that reality. New players are the club's life-blood; be a rugby vampire and get us some new blood! – Count Bob"*

With a little bit of unintentional hilarity and tons of enthusiasm, Bob always knows exactly what to say to each and every one of us.

So to start off this challenging fall season, I asked Bob for an inspirational quote to kick off the season and here's his reply...

*"I see great things happening for PWRFC this season. To step into our greatness we need to have inspiration and to inspire each other! Inspiration is a gift and power that if shared among teammates can transform our potential to our reality. Inspire means to 'Be in Spirit'. Working together we can energize our minds and hearts and induce us to be and to act. And that is RUGBY! Who's with me?"*

Bob, we're all with you! We're smiling all the way to the tri zone thanks to you.

# On the Record with Record

By: Erin Ridout

I first asked Record if I could interview her about two weeks ago. At first she thought it was about 7s, but when I explained that it was to be an expose of her, she became hesitant, even resistant. In the end, she could not turn me down. When she accepted, I exclaimed "Thanks Record! I feel like Katie Couric!"

Ridout: What does the drink Rockstar mean to you?

Record: After my heart stops pounding? Very calm.

Ridout: If you were a color, what color would you be?

Record: Probably green. Maybe blue.

Ridout: When did you start playing rugby?

Record: 2001

Ridout: What is your date of birth?

Record: July 27th

Ridout: And the year?

Record: Oh yeah, 1981.

Ridout: Where were you born?

Record: West Virginia

Ridout: Who do you think Barbara Walters is?

Record: I feel like she's an actress

Ridout: If you could have any pet, what pet would you have?

Record: Would I have to pick a pet?



Ridout: Favorite city?

Record: I really like Philly

Ridout: Favorite junk food?

Record: Ice cream (Peanut butter and chocolate is the flavor)

Ridout: Vegetarian since when?

Record: Forever

Ridout: So you've never eaten meat?

Record: There was accidental duck in Morocco

Ridout: Favorite Philly location:

Record: The hills in Fairmount Park. Alone.

Ridout: Halloween or St Patricks Day?

Record: Halloween, only because I don't like St Patrick's Day

Ridout: And why's that?

Record: Because it's an embarrassment to the Irish people

Ridout: Middle name?

Record: Storey, with an E.

Ridout: Would you date a guy named Paul?

Record: Sure

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After finishing his stout glass of Tequila, Coach Bob Weir knew exactly what direction to lead his players by tweaking the defense and adding several new offensive plays. The following weekend was spent at Acapulca, the same location as the Philadelphia Pumpkinfest this upcoming weekend (August 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011), at the Delaware 7s



tournament. Again, Philadelphia entered two strong, ridiculously good looking teams, however, this time, the tides had changed and Philadelphia came out with key wins but more importantly essential lessons learned. It became apparent that this focus on elemental skills would be imperative in the future as both teams suffered devastating one point losses to inferior, ugly teams in the final seconds of their respective games. The taste of defeat lingered in the mouths of all players, particularly the A side players as they lost for the first time to Severn River Exiles.

The following weekend, players made the journey into the country lands, where this reporter feels most at home, in order to compete in Harrisburg 7s. Yet again, Philadelphia fielded two incredible teams that did nothing short of bulldoze the competition. Philly A set themselves up to win the tournament but faltered in the semi final match against cross town rivals, Keystone. As is traditional Philly style, the teams entered the social with unmistakable, unmatched, and undeniable swagger that no team, male or female, old or young, skilled or less talented could possibly match. Without a doubt, Philadelphia won Harrisburg's social.

Luckily the players and coaches had a weekend off to recover from Harrisburg but there was little rest for the weary and the team traveled again on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Cheesesteak 7s holds a place near and dear to Philadelphia Women as it is held "in" our home. Though missing our Ray-Ban wearing coach, Philadelphia women made the most dominating impression of the entire season. With the help of notable veteran players, Philly B finished the day with a 2-1 record; their best of the season. Philadelphia A had a notable win against Nova in order for the chance to place in the top three in the premier level of the tournament.

As the weather turned from hot to hotter to the hottest place on the planet, Philly's rugby team stayed cool while their skills got too hot for TV. The team spent two weeks preparing for the MARFU championships. The team needed to place in the top 4 in order to ensure a bid to nationals. Basically, Philly needed to beat the Severn Exiles in the first game in order to qualify. The Severn Exiles twice stole wins from Philly in the final seconds. Determined not to allow a third devastation, Philadelphia hit the pitch with a ferocity that could only be described as superhuman. Through patience, endurance, and "hitting so hard they mama felt em" Philly Women were able to end the game with a 10-5 score. Philly women did the unthinkable: procured a national bid.

Nationals were held in San Francisco on August 6-7. Philadelphia was ranked 10 out of 10 and, according to reporters, referees, and some other teams, was not supposed to fair well in the tournament. Though competition was fierce, Philadelphia women sustained a win and several heartbreaking, final second loses in the tournament. The team finished 8<sup>th</sup> in the tournament but



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Ridout: How many miles per hour can you bike?

Record: Down hill?

Ridout: Sure

Record: 30 miles per hour

Ridout: Do you believe in ghosts?

Record: [long pause] No

Ridout: Aliens?

Record: Probably. Yeah.

Ridout: Name one adjective to describe yourself?

Record: I don't know. Quirky.

Ridout: Did you read Harry Potter?

Record: No. Not interested

Ridout: Last book you read?

Record: Freedom. By that guy. I just lost it. But if I find another copy I'll finish it.

Ridout: Favorite musician?

Record: Well, TuPac's my favorite

Ridout: How many clothing items do you own that say something about PWRFC?

Record: I don't know. A lot. 8?

Ridout: Favorite beverage?

Record: Chocolate milk

Ridout: How often do you eat biscuits?

Record: Not as often as people might think, although they're really good.

Ridout: Weight/Height?

Record: 5' 9" 165 or 170lbs

Ridout: What would you take with you if you were going to be stuck on a desert island forever?

Record: I don't know. Till the end of time? That would suck. Maybe a puzzle.

Of time? That would suck. Maybe a puzzle.

Ridout: Would you rather fart green or sweat purple?

Record: Sweat purple

Ridout: And finally, what is the one thing you'd like the readers of the PWRFC Newsletter to know?

Record: I don't know how to answer that.



The editor would like to apologize to the readers... Pumpkinfest was cancelled.  
This newsletter was released slightly behind schedule. Okay, 3 months behind schedule.  
Joan's article is funny though... So I left it in.

## Pumpkinfest in August??!!

By Joan Miller

Hell yeah, we are having Pumpkinfest in August! With the move from fall to late summer comes some other changes, but have no fear—change is a good thing ladies! Pfest Chair Emily Tunney has it on good authority that change can be good for the rugby soul. Last spring she began to plan our 27<sup>th</sup> annual P'fest, and was really toiling over making the decision to move the tournament up to August. Torn over what to do, Tunney decided to avoid her problem by grabbing a few pints of Peroni at O'Neal's for Sunday Funday. Karaoke was in full swing, and Katie W (who? Oh, Woj!) was on the stage doing a rendition of "Turn! Turn! Turn!" by the Byrds. It was by no means Tunney's first time hearing the song, but this particular evening the words of the Book of Ecclesiastes spoke to her. She realized that when she inserted "rugby" before "heaven" in the chorus, she had the answer for the Summer/Fall dilemma she'd been looking for, and maybe some predictions about what we might expect at this year's Pumpkinfest.

A time to be born (into PWRFC, rookies), a time to die (cross over to the other side-BIBB)  
A time to plant (plush DE grass at Alapocas Park), a time to reap (a P'fest trophy)  
A time to kill (Trav's coming for you, TK), a time to heal (BIBB osteoporosis bones)  
A time to laugh (when PWRFC shows BIBB what's up), a time to weep (if BIBB shows us what's

up)

To everything—turn, turn, turn  
There is a season—turn, turn, turn

And a time for every purpose under [rugby] heaven (late August?!)

Tunney realized moving the tournament up would serve as an opportunity to improve teams' chances for making it to the tourney, and moving the games to Alapocas State Park in Delaware would ensure the club could save some money and actually play on grass! And the rest has seemed to fall perfectly into place. We have the most perfect theme for the P'fest balls (jack-o-lantern watermelons), the most fierce and beloved competition (BIBB alumnae team), the most fabulous Saturday night social theme (Malibu Barbie and friends), and the weekend will conclude where this story began—O'Neal's for a Sunday Funday social!

The moral of this tale is that change can and will be a good thing for our 2011 Pumpkinfest tournament, so be sure to come support current PWRFC players and our alumnae in what is shaping up to be one of the great P'fests of all!!!



# “Twinning”

(title shamelessly stolen from the Jersey Shore, season 4, episode 3)

By Karen Minyeti

When I volunteered/got volunteered to write this article (don't actually remember) I thought I would be fairly easy. Write an article about twins? Sure why not, I've been one for all of 25 years (Hey Katia!). Then I sat in front of the computer and blanked out. Alas, I had to turn to the world wide inter web for answers and in my search I realized that maybe a few words of wisdom from one twin to new parents of twins and a few pictures of the new bundles of joy would get me through the page.

First piece of advice. A lot of twins might discourage you from dressing the babies alike. I say go for it. You're already doing double duty with diaper changes, feeding, cleaning, etc. Personal style will develop eventually and you'll have adorable pictures of the twins in matching outfits. Everybody (t)wins.

Second piece of advice. Check out the Annual Twins Day Festival in Twinburg, Ohio at some point. I've never been but a bajillion twins all in one place? Sharing stories about how they don't feel each other's pain and how people mistakenly think they share the same fingerprints? Could be totes aws!

Third piece of advice. This one goes out to the world. Being a multiple does not somehow give us telepathic abilities. The fact that many twins are able to guess what their other twin is thinking or about to say, speaks more to the close bond they share. When I get hurt she doesn't feel it. When she gets hurt, I don't feel it (which considering we both play rugby, is a good thing). You guys, we really are different people and we like to be treated as such.

Fourth piece of advice. Not really advice but did you know Elvis Presley had a twin? Neither did I.

Bottom line is, being a twin is hard and parenting them might be harder. I fight with my sister, joke around, fight some more, talk/text 30 times a day then pretend that we're not friends but at the end of the day, we have to have each other's back. I will be the first one to deny any similarity, physical or personality wise. I will also be the first one to appreciate the uniquely different experience that twins (and multiples in general) have. Parenting is a game of chance. Parenting twins is an opportunity to get it right twice. Sabato and Chris, congratulations on Quinn and Avery and best of luck in your new parental roles. We look forward to seeing the babies in matching PWRFC onesies.

# 90's Nickelodeon Fundraiser at O'Neal's is All That

By Rose Dillon



This season's fundraiser was a roaring success, making about \$750 and causing several attendees to "lose their global guts:", including Katie "TK" Hallinan's younger sister Maura.

Erin Ridout, with her technically impeccable Quail Man belt headband, took top costume honors. Whitney Hileman won second place for her Ug costume, effectively working around the challenge of non-opaque zinc oxide sunscreen. Kerstin "Toad" Nordstrom also dressed as the tyrannical *Salute Your Shorts* counselor, but did not receive a jelly stress ball that promptly exploded all over party-goers feet. Seriously, Whitney, that was gross.

Raffle winners were Bob Weir (Camden Riversharks tickets) and Cassie Sims (cash). Rumor has it that exploiting the Hallinan sisters' impressive wingspans was integral to their success.

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Expect our Christmas Edition Soon!!!!