

January/February 1999

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### Annual Awards Banquet

Join us at the Coles' third floor banquet room on Saturday February 6<sup>th</sup> for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Buffalo Rugby Club Awards Banquet. Cocktails at 7 p.m., dinner at 8 p.m. Awards following dinner. Don't miss this event. Reservations are \$35 per person or \$30 per person if your check is received by February 5<sup>th</sup>.

Reservations include a fun evening of music, special rugby videos, a huge sumptuous buffet for a king or a queen, beer and wine, coffee, tea and mouth watering deserts!

A cash bar will be open for that special single malt scotch before or after dinner to go with your \$35 Cuban Cigar.

# The Buffalo Rugby Club

## Rucker Mauler

Also, door prizes, a raffle and a very special Wall of Fame inductee that you all know!

Send your check and ballot today so you don't miss out on THE event of the Spring Rugby Season that launches us into another round of Buffalo Rugby.

## 1998 Spring Schedule

Schedule Spring 1998 (as of 1/16/99, opponents to be confirmed)

April 10	Lockport	A and B Home
April 17	Balmy Beach	A and B Home
April 24/25	Midwest Div II Sweet 16	A and B Home
May 1	Syracuse	A and B Home
May 8/9	Midwest Div II Final 4	A and B Chicago
May 15	Pittsburgh Harlequins	A and B TBA
May 22/24	USARFU Div II Sweet 16	A and B TBA
May 29/30	Alumni Weekend	All Home
June 5/6	USARFU Div II Final 4	A and B TBA
June 12	Dead Ants Tournament	A Batavia, NY
June 26	Buffalo Can/Am 7s Tournament	Ellicottville, NY

### Captain's Corner

We stand on the brink of the most exciting season in the history of the Buffalo Rugby Club. An epic journey that will take us to such places as Ireland, England, Chicago, Chicago and Chicago on the way to the National Championship. For this journey to be a success it must be built on Teamwork, Preparation and Commitment. Success won't just be dropped in our laps-- we must earn it. Everyone must turn their energy toward achieving this goal. Everyone must turn their off season training up a notch. In the end, victory will be sweeter because we will know we deserved it. Don't let the opportunity to make history slip away.

Carpe Historium-- seize history.

### Treasurer's Note

Many people are working hard to make this season a huge success. As some have said, this is the most exciting season in the history of this club. But to make the most of it will take finances. It will be an expensive season for each of us because of all the travel. However, paying dues will be more important than ever. Start getting your money in now. A minimum payment of \$35 will be taken when CIPP forms are filled out because of increased CIPP costs. New CIPP forms must be filled out and sent in before the Tour so that we have eligible players for the playoffs. Everyone needs to pitch in with their time and efforts with the Winterfest Sevens and other fundraisers to help the treasury for this season. Please help out in anyway possible. Any other donations to the club will be gratefully accepted. Cheers.

### My Bully Pulpit:

With my colleague and fellow President, Bill, on trial in the Senate it is time to reflect on our own constitution and club history. (I've never had an intern named Monica). While we have had some stormy presidencies in the past, the current administration has enjoyed relative calm over the past five years. We appreciate the vote of confidence and the support the club has given us over the past five years. Given all of the club's success, both on and off the field, we believe that you, the members, believe that your club's leadership is moving in the right direction and not simply the only four guys who are willing to do all the work. And for that, we thank you.

Another noticeable trend that the Executive Board is happy to see is the number of folks getting involved in the day to day workings of the club, including the large number of hands thrown together to help Bear with our upcoming tour. With a busy Spring ahead of us, including another Ellicottville Sevens this summer, we hope all the enthusiasm spills over into the club as a whole (which we are sure it will). A lot of credit goes to a whole bunch of new guys who have been very enthusiastic (paid their dues on time) and have not been shy about fully participating in all the club has to offer.

We also want to thank the Alumni for all of their support over the past two years. Lex, Tom S. and Tom F. have done a lot to bring you folks back into the fold and starting with this newsletter, you will be receiving the Rucker and Mauler on a regular basis. The Alumni fund is going strong and will be a big help to the club in the future. On a final note, we are attempting to reconstruct the history of the club as best we can. If you have anything at all, old newspaper clippings, photos (team shots in particular), selections sheets, banquet programs, newsletters -- anything, please contact Lex or myself. We would like you to send us copies or let us look through your treasure chest and make copies of items at the club's expense. We hope to put together a comprehensive history over the next year and will need the support of everyone. Record keeping has not been the club's strong suit.

John "I never slept with Lewinsky"  
Jablonski

### **Buffalo to Host Eastern Regional of Midwest Div II Sweet 16**

As a result of our fine fall season, the club will host the Eastern regional of the first round of the playoffs. On April 24, 1999, Buffalo will play Univ. Of Michigan and Nashville will play the Chicago Blaze. The winners of

these games will play on Sunday April 25, 1999 with winner going to the Midwest final 4 in Chicago on May 8 and 9. These matches will be played in Delaware Park. Call HIPWECK as the date gets closer for the times of the games. Let's get out and support the home team. This a big chance for the club to show its strength. Other playoff teams: Central region-Rochester, West Condors (Chicago), Dayton, Metropolis (Minneapolis); Western region- Des Moines, Wisconsin, Detroit Tradesmen, East Side Banshees; Northern region- Grand Rapids (Michigan), Louisville, Northwest Woodsmen (Chicago), Pittsburgh RFC.

### **Club History**

by Lex Maccubbin

For some time now, I have been interested in generating a record of the club that can be kept for future club members and provide a history of our club. One thing that I have been interested in is who has played A side games and how many have they played. To that end, I have looked at my own records of selections and compiled some data. I have a nearly complete set of selections for the time of 1994-1998 with some less complete information for 1990-1994. What follows is from that information and obviously very preliminary and incomplete. If anyone else has kept records, I would like to get copies so I can update my information. Many clubs honor players for their 50, 100 etc A-side matches. It would be a great tradition to start here. Please note for the data provided below, I only considered matches that are full length. That is regular games in the spring and fall, playoff matches and matches on tour and against touring sides. I have not included tournament games unless they were regulation (40 minute halves). All feedback is welcomed. As of 11/14/98, some 120 players have played on the A-side for the Buffalo Rugby Club. Most of those players have played at least 10

matches, however, some were "one game wonders". The following list is of players have played in at least 20 side matches (for the data that I have).

Player	Number of Games	Number of Different Positions
Mike Lewis	47	3
Chris Kowalski	46	3
John Jablonski	43	3
Scott Terech	42	3
Bob Bogdanowicz	36	4
Alex Nadiak	32	1
Vince Mistretta	31	4
Jeff Calabrese	29	3
Jerry Hann	28	3
Ted Graney	28	1
Doug Miller	24	4
Ted Duffy	22	2
Gerry Wojcik	22	3

(This is obviously way low but I don't have all the early years data)

### **Alumni Corner**

#### **Buffalo Vintage News and Mauler Rucker Merge**

For nearly two years now we have been sending out two separate newsletters. We recently realized that there was a lot of overlap in the mailing lists and some duplication in the content. So we have decide to merge the mailing lists and send out one newsletter. There will still be information designed more for the alumni (see the Alumni Corner) but everyone will get whole package. Thanks for all the support for the Buffalo Vintage News. Remember that we are always looking to expand the coverage. If you have names and addresses that should be added to our

mailing list, please send them to the club mailbox or call HIPWECK (716-447-9325) and leave a message.

#### **Alumni Purchase Club Banner**

This past fall the club proudly displayed our new club banner at games. The brainchild of Jim Dunnigan, the banner 4 feet by 8 feet, navy blue with the club logo in white. During the offseason, the banner hangs in the bar at Coles. Many thanks to Jim who raised the funds and got the banner made.

Alumni supporting this project included Jim Dunnigan, Randy Bailey, Andy Montante, Rory O'Connor, Tom Surwill, Tom Finn, Jose Perez, Will Beckwith, Paul Sauer, Dean Penman, Ed Dzurilla, Jim Haberstro, Bob Schoff, and Franz Ross.

More too come

#### **Winterfest 7s**

Our annual Winterfest 7s tournament will be held in Delaware Park February 13, 1999. This is a low key fun tournament and is part of the Olmsted Winterfest. There will be Mens and Womens Divisions. Come on out a check out the tournament and other Winterfest events. Tournament headquarters will be at the Parkside Lodge and refreshments will be available. Anyone who wants to help out, call HIPWECK and leave a message.

#### **Advertising**

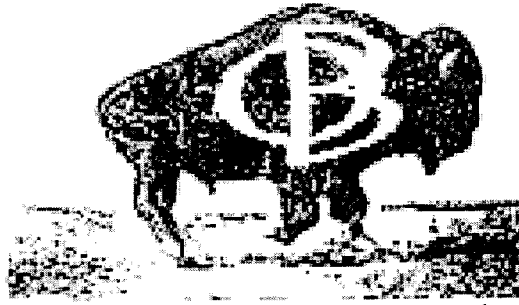
The following advertising is here to help defray the cost of the newsletter. For anyone interested, the cost is \$10 per half page per issue. We are also accepting free classifieds from players and alumni for apartments for rent, things for sale and jobs available or needed. Especially important to help keep young superstars in the area. If you want an ad please email me or call me @ 892-4986

#### **Classifieds**

**Apartment for rent:** Kleinhans area 2 bedroom, huge kitchen newly remodeled lower flat. \$500 + call Pete @ 656-8834

# The President wishes the Club much success on tour and in the playoffs!

John J. Jablonski, Esq.  
Nixon Hargrave Devans & Doyle LLP  
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# Buffalo Rucker Mauler Vol. 1

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## President's Corner



As the Buffalo Rugby Club embarks on the next millennium I want to briefly look back at what an outstanding year we had in 1999. Truth be known, our run began in the fall of '98-our 5-1 league record put us in first place and sent us to the Midwest playoffs as a top seed. After a fantastic tour of Ireland and England, we came back for the playoffs in the spring of '99 with renewed confidence and camaraderie. We won two tough playoff matches on our home pitch in Delaware Park and headed off to Chicago for the Midwest Final Four and the USA Sweet 16. Even though we fell short against the Condors and the Islanders, we left a strong impression in Chicago. Administrators, Coaches, Referees and other players were impressed by our style of play, or commitment and our attitude. We picked up where we left off this fall and finished undefeated and 4-0 in our league. Since the fall of '98 we are 12-2 in Midwest competition.

What they don't realize is that we haven't played our best rugby yet. This spring we have a chance to go back and take the next step. I believe we learned a lot from our experience last year. But to get to the National Championship it will take renewed effort from everyone. We all

need to work to improve our fitness, strength and skills. We must also have a winning attitude and we must be ready to play **each** match full tilt for 80 minutes. One of our biggest advantages is that we have come together as a club. The active playing members of the club believed in one another, and we have put together great team chemistry over the last few years. I have every confidence we will continue to build on this accomplishment.

The year 2000 promises to be a big one for the Club in many other ways as well. We will participate for the 6<sup>th</sup> year in the annual Buffalo Winterfest by hosting a 7's tournament. This event is very big for the Buffalo Park's Department and we are lucky to be a part of it. The club will need help from a lot of people to make the tournament a success, so don't be shy about offering to help out.

Keep your ears open for more information on the Banquet. It will be held February 5, 2000. John Baldwin is working on the details, and the event will be as exciting as ever. Mark your calendars!! Information will be posted on our Website that is being update continuously thanks to the efforts of Rick Van Coervering. Make sure you check it out.

I want to thank everyone who attended the AGM. We had a strong turnout, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as president of this club. Thanks to John Jablonski for his leadership over the past several years. He has done a great service for this club. I also want to thank the new members of the executive committee. We have a very strong lineup of people, and I am sure the club will continue its success under their leadership.

Finally, as we strive to break through to the National Championship this season, everyone on the club can play a vital role. Alumni, Old Boys, Social Members and Active Players. I encourage everyone to get involved.

See you on the Road to the National Championship.

Ted Graney

#### Match Secretary Report



The spring schedule is starting to take shape. The "A" side schedule is dependent on how our run at the national title goes this year. Presently the schedule is as follows:

- 2-19 Winterfest 7's Delaware Park
- 3-16 Savannah Tournament, GA
- 3-25 TBA
- 4-1 Albany Knicks - H
- 4-8 Syracuse Chargers - H
- 4-15,16 Midwest Regionals - H
- 4-22 TBA (Easter)
- 4-29,30 Midwest Final 4, Chicago

May and June to be added shortly.

Both the Niagara men's club and Pittsburgh Harlequins have contacted us to set up possible games. I will keep you posted.

#### Coach's Corner



Training begins with basketball at Mosey's gym on Thursday, January 13, 2000 and continues every Thursday until February 17, 2000 when training begins. Training will begin twice a week on Feb. 22, 2000 with Tuesdays in Mosey's gym at 7pm and Thursdays at Mosey's gym at 7pm.

Savanna trip is rapidly approaching. Any one interested must give Bear a \$40 non-refundable deposit ASAP. There are only 30 spots booked for the plane flight and hotels. \$150 must be in by the banquet, February 5, 2000 or you will lose your spot. We will leave after work on Thursday, March 16, 2000 and fly into Atlanta, GA arriving at 10:45 p.m.. We will either bus or car-pool from there to Savannah. We play on Saturday and Sunday and then drive back to Atlanta, Ga. We will fly back to Buffalo on Monday, March 20, 2000 arriving at noon. Approximate price of the trip will be \$350.00, which includes airfare, lodging and transportation and will be due in February.

Contact Bear if you have any questions. (833.5603)

#### Vice President's Corner



Any one who is interested in buying a Buffalo Rugby jacket needs to contact Alex by December 23. We need to have an order of 12 jackets to keep the price at \$85.00. The money needs to be paid to Alex Nadiak. In the memo portion of your check place the size and exact name (spelling, etc.) that you want to appear on your jacket. Don't wait because Alex will place the order the day after the deadline. It will take approximately 8 weeks to get the jackets. Remember that the jackets run about 1 size larger than what you

normally would get. If you have any questions call Alex at 837-0512.

### Social Chairman



This year's Banquet will be held on February 5, 2000. The time and place are to be announced.

Remember that John tends bar on Friday night happy hour at Soho. We all should try and frequent Soho as they did give us sponsorship money for our last tour.

### Winterfest 7's

Winterfest 7's is an important fundraiser for the club. Please spread the word to any clubs and/or college teams (men's and women) to contact either myself, Ted Graney, or Alex Nadiak. The cost per team will be \$150. There are incentives for committing early so have the people contact us for details. Remember the more teams we get the better financially it will be for the club.

### Miscellaneous Matters

We have a touring side from Wales coming to play us in late May during the week before the final 4. Everyone will be expected to come out and welcome them when they come into town. We will be hosting them for two nights. The game will played at night on Wednesday, May 31.

[Editor's note: I hosted this team twice in Philadelphia and both times they were a great group of guys who just want to play some good rugby and drink a lot of beer at the bars.]

Be sure to check out the Buffalo Rugby Club web site as there are many new additions and changes being made.

(<http://memebers/xoom.com/OldBoys/brc>) We are working to include the phone list that will be periodically updated. Please continue to e-mail me at [Jemmons175@aol.com](mailto:Jemmons175@aol.com) with changes in address, phone numbers, e-mails and any old boys you run into that want to be included on the list.

### Tour To Spain 2001

The team is in the preliminary stages of planning a tour in 2001 to London and Spain. It is looking to be a 2-week tour so begin your tour accounts and do not miss this tour. We will begin fund raising for the tour. Any fundraising ideas are welcome.

### CIPP Form

CIPP forms must be complete and turned into USA Rugby immediately. In the past you were allowed to play in games by showing the carbon copy of your application while waiting on your card. This will not be allowed this year. You must have your card to play. There is a 4-week turnaround time for them to process the applications. Do not miss a chance to play in a playoff game just because you were slowing in submitting your CIPP application. CIPP applications can be obtained from Ted Graney (884.2934)

### IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE:

Lessons in Community Relations by Jon Burton

How to Win Friends and Influence People by Mike Ikliwskyj (close enough)

Respecting Your Elders: Knowing When to Say Uncle by Rich Peacock