



The North County Gurkhas Rugby Club Newspaper

The Gurkha Gab

All The News That's Fit? Probably Not!

April/May 2003

Gurkha Gossip!

April Showers. . .

. . .Bring Spring Babies

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Jeff Hickey 4/1 (April Fool)

Chad (new daddy) 4/7

Tony "Blackadder" 4/13

Jean 4/15 (Tax Day)

Whitney 4/17

George 4/18

Brian Barr 4/22

Darrell (Moose-f***er) 4/29

And speaking of babies, belated congratulations to Chad and his wife on the birth of their son last month.

George Kimura is off to Atlanta to adopt a baby around 4/21. They will return about a week later with their new addition. Good luck!

Gurkha Banquet

It's once again time to celebrate the end of our season with the annual team banquet. We have a proposed date of Saturday May 31st at the Fish Club. We are planning on a live band, catered meal and of course beer. Contact Joe with suggestions for additional entertainment ideas. Some possibilities:

- There were memorable skits performed by our members last year. A repeat would be encouraged.

- A highlight reel of our successful season could be in the works.

- A lowlight reel of said season.

Discouraged but inevitable entertainment: attempted groping of the female guests by drunken sods.

Upcoming Events

Now that the magical Gurkha bus is purring like a lion, we will be planning a wine tasting trip TBA.

Coaster trip to the Gaslamp District for a Brazilian steak feast TBA.

July 19 Padres game vs. the AZ D-backs. Contact Alan by May 1 to assure a ticket. Cost is \$12 and includes food and soda, BYOB.

Casino night, not!!! Stay tuned for further news.

FROM ENGLISH IN KIWI LAND:

I went to see a couple of games at the rugby club I am going to playing at and shit those boys can hit and are fast as hell with skills up the ass (i saw a prop make a 60 meter run with a couple of dummies and then he did this up and under kick for a try so nice!!!! and there are so many islander boys playing, big ones too! So I went to a night club with two tongans, the lock and the 8 man of the premiere team and I was the only white person in the night club and had (See Gossip pg 3)...

Gurkhas Go 6-4 for the Season Capped Off by Beating LARC in Season Finale!



WOW! What a season!

We're nearing the end of a long and pretty successful season, having finished 2nd to Riverside and ahead of (in order), LA, Grunions, San Fernando, SOC, Oxy & OMBAC III. Oxy recently beat Old Aztecs in the promotion relegation game 13-11, which indicates how competitive our league was this year. Only Riverside, with all their Fijians playing, could feel confident going into any game this year. I expect them to make the national top 4, with a good chance to win it all. Our final game against LA was as tough as any we've played over the years, and was full of huge defensive plays. Unfortunately the ball bounced kinder for them on the day and they scored 2 tries to our one, and won 23-11. But I think we'll be even better next year, and more prepared to

from TV (two of our backs moves are called 'Aussie' & 'English' because I first saw those two countries run them in Internationals!).

To recap our league season.

Game #1 - Beat SFV at Home 25-3. Impressive defense frustrates their Argentinians. Game turns violent. Martinez brothers suspended for 1 & 4 weeks (gives Phil a chance to get fit!). 2nd team loses 7-24 to SFV A team playing again.

Game #2 - Beat Oxy Away 25-24 after being down 24-13 with 10 minutes to go. Excellent heart shown in comeback. Referee Dave Peters sin bins our flyhalf for being offside. Video proves he was a yard outside, just extremely quick off the mark. Another player sin binned for real or imagined offenses! 2nd team loses 7-30.

Game #3 - Lost to Grunions Away 18-30 after being up 15-3 at halftime. One we should have won, just made bad decisions at the wrong times. Defensive breakdowns also. 2nd team thrashes Grunions B team 53-0. Platinum haired gent shows the youngsters how its done, prompting questions as to why he didn't play the A game (because he's also fat, slow & old!). Hat trick scored by Clay Orey.

Game #4 - Beat SOC at Home 20-17. Basic pounding by forwards unexpected by SOC. Gurkhas ahead by 20-10 with a minute to go.

make the trip to nationals. We've proved we can play good rugby, and that OMBAC is not the only club in town. We need to increase our depth, as I believe we could have beaten LA if we'd had the luxury of all our good players who were injured during the season.



But what a turn around from the year before! We can all thank Greg Bartelt for bringing us up to this level this year. He gave his time to us voluntarily (and turned down our offers of financial compensation), and showed our coaches and players the methods being used by pro' teams around the world. Personally I'm grateful. I only see what you guys also see on TV these days. Techniques and training methods change, and its far more valuable to get information first hand instead of figuring it out

Confusion between substitutes on final scrum helps them score consolation try. 2nd team loses 22-30, continuing the pattern of when A wins B loses, and vice versa!

Game #5 - Beat OMBAC III at Home 35-12. One of the best games of the season and most satisfying to yours truly! After being called a Foreign Asshole for refusing to let OMBAC renege on playing B games, and patronizing comments the year before about how we'd have more fun in 3rd division, the boys played with flair & great defense. 2nd team lost to a mixture of OMBAC B,C & D teams(II, III & IV).



Game #6 - Lost to Riverside at Home 12-68. Completely outplayed by a number of super fast Fijian backs. Any mistake was punished by try

nearly every time. Even though we knew what to expect and trained specifically to counter them, it was a sobering eye-opener. Few of us had played against talent like that. 2nd team won 12-0 against surprisingly weak Riverside B team, giving us hope that maybe Riverside did not have much depth. Again A/B win loss pattern continues.



Game #7 - Lost to SOC Away 22-27.

Disappointing 1st half had us down 5-22. Much improved 2nd half saw us run out of time and

lose by 5. Referee (confirmed by video) allowed SOC to kill our quick rucks and upset our game plan. Referee finally sent off 1 SOC player 2 minutes from end, but too late for us.

Turns out that the sent off player was not on match report and two others did not have SCRFU ID's. Official protest comes to nothing - even though charges were proved. Seems like regulations & B.S. paperwork is a waste of time & money! 2nd side win 32-5

Game #8 - Lost to Riverside Away 0-48. 2 tries taken away by Referee in first half and mistake right on half time gives Riverside 20-0 lead. Referee with apparent axe-to-grind (relating to

SOC protest) officially cites Platinum Haired Gent/coach for using a few choice epithets in half time oratory. Injuries force PHG to take field to no effect except for a flying stiff arm by fijian to PHGs head which Referee thankfully noticed. Defense was better than last game vs Riverside but still not up to playing against 2 national team players plus friends. 2nd side also lose, 0-30 to a Riverside club that seems to have much more depth at home than away. One of our HS players plays wing and seems to break leg on final play of the game. Turns out to be a 'bad bruise' and he plays HS game a week later!

A/B game streak finally broken (the wrong way!).

Game #9 Beat OMBAC III Away 30-5. Another excellent game played with skill & guts, featuring 2 try effort by Troy Faris. Many photos taken of scoreboard OMBAC 5 VISITOR 30 after game. 2nd team almost put A/B team streak back on track with 17-17 draw, after try in last minute but missed the conversion for the win. PHG forced to referee the game, begging the question: With all OMBACs numbers, how come they don't have any referees of their own? Why does visiting coach end up refereeing the game?

Game #10 Beat LA at Home 18-17. Another extremely satisfying win, putting us in 2nd place in the league and giving us a home playoff game. We were comfortably ahead it seemed but let LA score 2 trys in the second half to give us a scare near the end. This was the first time we'd beaten LA in league although we had both won and lost to them in preseason tournaments. 2nd team lost 10-45 with PHG refereeing again when he's rather be downing a Guinness or three! LA's depth on their B side was noticeable (and ominous as it turned out).

Playoff game: Already mentioned above, but I'd just like to thank those who helped out setting up the Luecadian for our after matches and serving food there. McCabes turned out to be too expensive (and a little too far to get to), and the 49er is way too far, and the Leucadian turned out to be excellent once we got kegs put on for us. Burgers and Chili at most games (& awesome meatball sandwiches at the last) were much appreciated. So thanks to those most responsible: Troy, Claire, Lena and other wives and girlfriends who helped out, including Susan the cookie lady.

Can you believe we had this much fun in a season and all it cost us was \$150 each (plus a few hours at community events). What a deal! The only hassles seemed to be getting a half decent training field that didn't injure us all!



Union Happenings:

Well this year provided some good entertainment as we battled with clubs and SCRFU administration, for those that didn't see the emails bantered about, here is 3 or 4 exchanges with that beloved club from the south, OMBAC. **The first email is the infamous Foreign Asshole exchange!**

(From Mike Tracy of OMBAC, trying to get Paul Ganey to allow them exemption from playing a second side match as they were getting their butts waxed by the whole D2!)

...Presently, many OMBAC players are "sucking it up" and playing two games every weekend, in both the first and second division. At some point though, that only works to further injure and discourage athletes. We went to San Fernando last weekend with only 18 players. OMBAC was promoted into the second division two seasons ago and played well last year. This year they have lost 12 players due to military deployment alone and will probably lose several more. I didn't hear any great outcry when Camp Pendleton withdrew a team from the competition. If you think we are going to risk the well being of young athletes new to the game for the sake of some **foreign asshole** like Ray Steel, or anyone else, your fucking nuts. The league will just have to take the course of action they deem appropriate. MT

(Then Lin Walton of OMBAC tries to put on a dog and pony show to gain sympathy?)

...In the event that you are not aware, the following is provided. The entire 1st U. S. Marine Expeditionary Force (7,000 Marines) has been called upon to deploy. Seven additional San Diego based ships (with 3,000 sailors aboard) that were not scheduled to deploy, left a few weeks ago on very short notice What am I missing here that you all don't see or get! Gentlemen, please, We're talking about a rugby match. These young men (OMBAC and Camp Pendleton players who're pilots & flight officers at North Island and Miramar, also

Marines stationed at Camp Pendleton and sailors aboard those ships) are going to face possibly chemical and biological weapons used against them. Let's try to keep rugby in its proper perspective.

My thoughts and prayers are with them, their wives, children, moms and dads. I hope that they come back safe in body and spirit. I hope that they don't have to fire a single shot. I'm quite thankful that they're there to serve and protect those of us who're left here to live in this wonderful Country. And, oh by the way, if they happen to miss a rugby match or two, I'm certain they believe we'll probably survive!

From one who answered the call (whom by the way, missed opportunities to play in OMBAC and in U. S. Eagle matches in England and against Australia due to Navy deployments) and who's proud of them for their willingness to do so. I don't need your response, because their answer to the call to protect our Nation's national interest, speaks volumes for me.

Lin Walton

Commander, U. S. Navy (ret.)

(What would banter be without the Sheriff's 3 cents!!)

My 2 cents Lin and Mike,

I take heavy offense, especially you as a former officer, would take the issue of playing rugby about serving in the armed forces!! The Issue here has nothing to do with patriotism!! (A nice melodramatic twist to try and make everyone look bad and make ombac seem like the downtrodden ones)

The issue here is doing what EVERYONE else has done in D2 and in some cases D1 for years and years. "Sucking it up" and playing 2 games regardless of numbers. It's also about following

the rules you agreed upon by DEMANDING to have a second team enter SCRFU, which caused much uproar and lots of extra work by the EC debating and trying to make a level playing field for all. 1 stipulation was that your club would have to play 2 Fixtures per D2 rules.

It doesn't say 2 fixtures only when you have 25+. It says 2 fixtures period and last year Kern lost a game by forfeit for only playing 1 game.

BY THE WAY, Ray Steel is not asshole for opening his mouth and standing up for the rights of his fellow team mates and fellow SCRFU Team Members. And he pays taxes just like you and is a citizen just like you!! He has done more for trying to make rugby a better and FUN place than any of you at ombac. By the way winning national championships is not community service for rugby! Fostering youth rugby programs and helping out in the community and by volunteering time and money is!! I'd rather have 15 Ray Steels' than 100 premadonna's that just play the game and go home and care nothing for their fellow rugger.

I say leave it on the field,

Dano

LCPL, USMC, former Never Ex-Marine

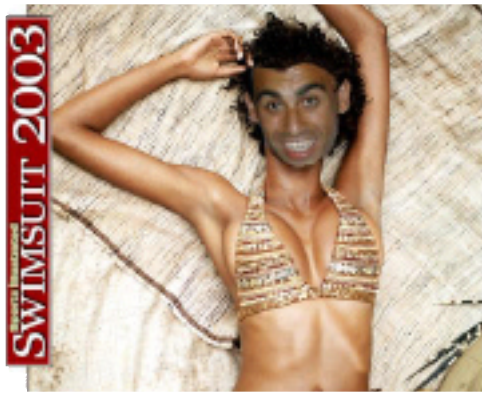
In the immortal words of the "Church Lady", "Well now wasn't that special!"

We protested the SOC game after finding out that 1 of their players who was red carded was not on the match report and that 2 guys on their team were playing without SCRFU ID's. The protest was voted as not valid as we did not follow the P&P's for protesting a game, I fought tooth and nail but when the vote came down the majority won.

On a side note we are being represented very well in the SCRUFU as we now have 3 Gurkhas on the EC Board, Jean the secretary of the Union, George Kimura the Youth Rep and Dan the current President of the South LAU. It might not mean much as I'm sure Ray and Joe would say, but every bit helps and we can only change the system from within.

This just In!!

Congratulations to Buzzer as he made his first magazine cover!! Good job Baz!



High School Rugby Season Review

The HS preseason began in promising fashion. In addition to the Rancho Bernardo club (now in its sixth year) and La Costa (second year), a new group surfaced at Torrey Pines. Last year LC fell short of our goal of having a 15's side, and they ended up merging with RB to get playing time.

fractured leg to play in a HS match only one week later. (Turned out the leg wasn't really broken, just bruised reaaally badly--at least that's what he says.)

RB was the cream of the crop in San Diego area HS rugby--no surprise there--and throughout the season they tended to dominate the opposition. RB's success came in part from returning experienced players as well as some impressive new talent, including standouts Jackie (she's only 14--we might have an eventual Junior Eagle on our hands) and Lenny Ruiz, whose brother Ricky joined the Gurkhas this year. The top veteran performers included the duo of fly half Jon Linch and scrum half Tom Silberberger, and the fleet-footed Jordan Howe at fullback. All three had gained valuable experience playing with the Gurkhas in 7's events last summer, as well in B games this 15's season, and it showed as they consistently played at a level above others on the field. Regrettably, due to their advancing age these geezers have all played their last for RB. We wish them well in their future rugby endeavours, be it with the Gurkhas or elsewhere.

This past year the LA area and environs demonstrated that they are developing faster than SD, both in number of programs (Fullerton, SOC, among others) as well as level of competition (the LA Cougars/South Pasadena group is currently the best by far in So Cal). The days when RB offered the only (and best) HS rugby in So Cal are over and we need to continue and increase our efforts down here to expand and improve HS-level rugby. In regard to this past

This year we decided to try some 7's competition, the idea being to get the kids playing as separate groups as quickly as possible and keep their interest level high while they learned about the game and prepared for real competition. A couple of scrimmages were held in December with the TP group giving RB some surprisingly tough tests despite their inexperience.

As the preseason wore on it became apparent there was no longer enough interest among the players at LC. Most of them will still be in school next year, so there's still hope for them, but this season was a bust. On the positive side the TP group was meanwhile coming along nicely, despite having lost their coach in mid January. Since Batman was no longer committed to the LC group he stepped in to fill in the coaching void and found them to be an enthusiastic bunch, eager to learn more about and play the game we all love. Over the course of the season they played several 15's games, and though they required the help of some RB players to help fill out their numbers, each game they had 10-14 of their own, which is more than LC ever had their first year. Their efforts on the field were finally rewarded with a victory in their last game, a high scoring affair (41-34) against the SOC Junior Gators at Leo Mullin Park. A couple of the older youngsters also got the opportunity to get experience during some of the Gurkha B-side matches. One of them, Will "Tex" Mantz, demonstrated fantastic healing ability by coming back from an apparently

season a big thanks needs to go out to a few individuals for their time invested: George Kimura, head coach of RB; John Gibb, assistant RB coach; the Platinum Haired Gentleman, who refereed many HS matches; and Batman, coach for hire (though the pay isn't much at all) first at LC then with TP.

Greg-to-Gurkha Dictionary

As detailed elsewhere in this newsletter the Gurkhas experienced some success this year, finishing second in SoCal Division II. This is impressive on its own, but even more so considering last season we finished in the bottom third and needed to fight through relegation matches to stay in Div II. Also, as a result of said relegation four teams dropped to Div III and the competition this year included no weak opponents. Our success was in no small part due to the help of new coach Greg Bartelt who gave us the game plan and guidance to become a force in Div II. (And props to the Gurkhas themselves who were the ones who had to execute the game plan come match time.) Greg was able to coach us effectively despite his having a lot of names to remember, not just with us but also OMBAC with whom he began coaching as well. He got most of the names right, but with some individuals there was the occasional lapse of memory and he came close but couldn't quite get the name right. Having sympathy for a guy who was dealing with names of dozens of players for a few hours each week, we didn't ride him too hard about it. All the same, in order to know who he was talking about or to we needed to develop a "Greg-to-Gurkha Translation Dictionary":

Gossip Cont. . .

a brilliant time getting wasted till 7am in the morning.. Everyone was cool to me (nothing to do with the fact a was hanging out with some big ass mother f... I am sure ;). I have met 4 All Blacks already which is so cool, even though none of them were impressed with the British lions top I was wearing at the time, so i just told them i won it in a raffle, {even though i got it for my 21 st and love it, so for all you non all black players out there (that's everyone I know) the lions are still the best.} I wonder what they will all think of my bright white England top I wear next week :) ha ha My first training will be on Tuesday i can't wait!

Beat SB!!
English Scott

Santa Barbara Playoff Schedules

Sat April 26th

12 p.m. Blue Championships
Old Aztecs vs. SLO (Field TBD)

12 p.m. Blue Consolation
Kern County vs. OC Bucks (Field TBD)

12 p.m. White Consolation **GRUNIONS VS. NC GURKHAS (FIELD TBD)**

1 p.m. White Championships
LA vs. Riverside (Harder Stadium)

3 p.m. CR1
Back Bay VS San Mateo (Harder Stadium)

5 p.m. CR 1
Santa Monica VS Hayward (Harder Stadium)

Sun April 27th

10 a.m. CR Consolation
Losers of Saturday Matches (Harder Stadium)

12 p.m. CR Championship
Winners of Saturday Matches (Harder Stadium)

HORROR SCOPE for the month

ARIES:

You are strong minded (some say pigheaded) , focused and determined attributes that serve you on the pitch and in the Bar whether you are going for a try or trying for a beer! Aries are often found in the backs where they can lurk in the back field plotting the next play. This is your lucky month so buy a lottery ticket and spend your winnings on a pitch for the club. Your lucky numbers are: 44,17,29,25,49,31.
MME. Sophie

The 49'er Bar and Grill
760-744-5200

Philip "Archie" Archuleta
Chiropractic Care
760-736-4490

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Greg Name	Real Name
Big Al	Big A
England	English Scott
Vinnie, Vito	Vino
J.D.	J.P.
Lem	Lev
Simon	Jason
Adam	(Bad) Andy
Matt	Turtle

On A Somber Note:

This was distributed through the SCRFU Email List: In case some of you don't know Wanda is also a Gurkha she has helped the club out with her time and support in the past!

-----Original Message-----
 From: LALENIA DOUGLAS
 [mailto:dieselpwr21@hotmail.com]
 Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2003 10:19 AM
 Subject: WANDA ANDREWS

March 7, 2003

Hello Family & Friends,

We hope our letter finds you and your family happy and healthy.

It is unfortunate that it couldn't be under better circumstances that we are writing you but we are in need of some help and knew that turning to family and friends was our best option. Wanda Andrews, mother to Lalenia and Jordonna, has recently been hospitalized in the Tri-City Hospital I.C.U. for an advanced case of diabetes. Although she is now doing much better than she was when she arrived, she has a

long road to recovery ahead of her. Not only is she without health insurance, but she is now unable to work due to the severity of her condition.

So, her daughters along with a group of her very close friends have begun fundraising in an effort to make this time for her as worry-free as possible. Since there is no possible way to know at this point how long it will be before she can return to work, we are trying to raise enough money to get her through at least the next couple of months.

A donation of any amount you can make will be greatly appreciated. Donations can be made out to Wanda Andrews and sent to Wanda Andrews c/o Leland & Kim Peneku, 2811 Via Clarez, Carlsbad, CA 92008. If you would like to make a donation directly to the account we have set up, you can do so at any Washington Mutual, account #444-3588285

Operation Iraqi Freedom:

These photos are from Cass who of course is over in Iraq



This is Cass in a bomb crater!



Here he is stockpiling some weapons for next years OMBAC's game!!