



Dirty Pitch

News from the Devils Nation

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Fall Clinic Caps Pre-Season Preparations

Formal preparation for the Empire Conf. XV's began in earnest on Tue, Aug. 26, one week prior to the start of classes with nearly twenty-five veterans participating in morning conditioning and afternoon drill sessions. BU coaches spent part of the time recording skill and conditioning metrics of the veterans. The Alumni sponsored fall clinic ran from Sat, Sep 6 – Sun, Sep 7 with two of the clinicians doing assessments at Friday afternoon practice. A successful pre-season recruitment brought a total of 50 different players to the pitch over the weekend.

Kevin Gerrity, took the lead in recruiting four guest coaches to cover the three days. The visiting coaches included St. Joe's Prep RFC staff Bobby Fagan (formerly Xavier High School) and Tom Dugan; Pat Laczkowski, Chair of the NYSRRS, and George "Mac" Robertson, partner at RugbyLaw and co-founder



of the National Rugby Football League (NRFL).

Friday afternoon was led by Coaches Fagan and Dugan. They made a general assessment of the skill level of veterans and rookies. Their unique experience of coaching high school level players made a big impact on all players present. Concepts, drills, and strategies were explained very direct and simply demonstrated.

The first half of Saturday was spent on specific skills, including an early morning kicking clinic and scrum-half workshop. Before breaking

for lunch, coaches Fagan and Dugan were able to run unopposed lines, rotating different players through different positions. This allowed BURFC coaches to assess several different players for each position.

Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning were spent with Referee Laczkowski and Mac Robertson focused on laws, pack skills, break downs, and game strategy.

A **HUGE** thank you to our alumni support which made this clinic possible.

Empire Conference Schedule Announced

The ERC league schedule has been released for the Fall 2014 season. The conference has undergone some changes with the promotion of Iona, St. Bonaventure, and Univ. of Buffalo to the Div-1A Rugby East. Colgate has joined

the ERC this season from the Div-2 Empire RFU.

All times TBD. Please come out and cheer on the Devils to Victory!

- Sept. 13** - Devils @ Fordham
- Sept. 20** – USMMA @ Devils
- Sept. 27** – Devils @ Stony Brook
- Oct. 4** – BYE
- Oct. 11** – Colgate @ Devils
- Oct. 18** – Syracuse @ Devils
- Oct. 25** – Devils @ Brockport

New Look for the Devils in 2014

During the 2014 Spring season the Devils adopted the green, black, and white of BU. The change was made to help strengthen the Club's ties to the University during ERC competitions. The new alumni sponsored uniforms were unveiled at the Binghamton 7s Rugby Tournament.

Not to worry the Red and Black are neither gone nor forgotten with a Red and Black Tasmanian Devil patch on the sleeve paying homage to the team's heritage.



2014 Fall Clinic Photos



Coach Tom Dugan oversees a drill on Saturday morning.



Pat Laczkowski, Chairman of the NYS Rugby Referee Society, discusses the laws of the game with the Devils Saturday afternoon.

Devils Fundraising With Rent-a-Rugger Program

The operational expenses of the club have risen dramatically over the last few years. Monetary support from the University is minimal, generally covering ERC & USR dues and referee fees. In many cases the generous support of Alumni has made it possible to purchase new uniforms, cover travel costs, and tournament fees.

BURAA was established in part to help organize and

facilitate Alumni support in partnership with the present club members. Part of this relationship includes a mandate that the Devils commit to fundraising a small percentage on their own.

One of the programs the Devils have started is Rent-a-Rugger. For a donation the team will assign members to assist the benefactor with whatever labor is required. While the program is just

beginning to be advertised across the University Community, our hope is that the club may be able to cover more of the seasonal operational costs, allowing Alumni donations to be utilized for larger capital projects.



Devils pose for picture after laboring on Labor Day.

Mark Your Calendars, Alumni Weekend 2015

Plan on joining current Devils and Devil Lords Young and Well Aged for the 2015 Alumni Weekend!

May 1st & May 2nd, 2015

Friday: Alumni Booze and Schmooze @ Tom & Marty's, 9 pm -?

Saturday: Alumni Game @ pitch, TBD
To be followed by Alumni Banquet.

Post-match photo Alumni Weekend 2014.
Photo by John Stoutenburg, MD



Have an idea for a story or new item? Email the Editor at bgrills@binghamton.edu

AFD



B.U.R.F.C. is online!

www.binghamtonrugby.com

Follow the Devils this season on Facebook and Twitter.

BURAA was founded in 2010 with the vision of uniting the BU Rugby Alumni into a single, structured organization for the benefit of the BU Rugby community, past, present, and future. BURAA is here to ensure the long-term financial stability necessary in the development of the Binghamton Devils as a top-tiered collegiate rugby program. We also support the development of an alumni network to reconnect old teammates, forge new bonds, and open opportunities for our members.

If you have any questions, comments, or ideas the BURAA Advisory Board is here for our alumni. Email BURAA at buraa_advisory_board@yahoo.groups.com.

We thank you for your continued support of Devils Rugby.

BURAA Advisory Board:

Michael Geller

Lee Nesser

Kevin Gerrity

Dan Weinberger

Brian Grills

Neither wind, nor snow, or rain will keep Delano from cheering on the Devils.



Support Your Club, Donate to BURAA!

Join BURAA in support of Devils Rugby. Please consider making an online tax-deductible donation at: <http://www.giving.binghamton.edu/giving/>.

Step by step instructions to donate online:

1. Navigate to the Binghamton University Foundation website Giving Page at <http://www.giving.binghamton.edu/giving/>.
2. In the "Gift Information" section
 - a. Select the radio button for "Gift"
 - b. In the "Account" drop-down select the option for "Other, please specify"
 - c. In the "Amount" field enter the amount donating
 - d. In the "If other, please specify" field enter "Men's Rugby Club Acct. #10547"
3. Complete the "Personal Information" section and the "Payment Details" sections, which are self-explanatory.
4. Press the "Continue" button to review your gift details.
5. Press the "Submit" button.

For accounting please email your donation receipt or any questions to Michael Geller at michael_geller@hotmail.com.