

THE GAINLINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE MIAMI UNIVERSITY MEN'S RUGBY CLUB ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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(3 year term)

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Miami U. Men's Rugby Football Club Alumni Association, Inc. shall be organized and operated to develop, support and sustain collegiate rugby football at Miami University.

Miami Rugby Celebrates 40 Years!

Old Boys Weekend 2008: September 5th & 6th

Miami Rugby Football Club will celebrate its 40th Anniversary and 36th Old Boys Match the weekend of September 5th & 6th in Oxford. For those of you who have not been to an Old Boys in a while or can only make them occasionally, this is the year to travel to Oxford!

A record turnout of alumni is expected. Combined with spouses, current players, coaches and special guests, Saturday evening's banquet is expected to exceed 200 people. So if you have not yet responded to the RSVP card mailed last week, please return the enclosed RSVP form by August 20th.

The banquet this year will be a sit-down affair with beverages provided. Each rugger will receive a commemorative beer stein featuring the club's original 1968 crest and the new 2008 crest (see the new crest below right). Speakers will include Roger Mazarella, Bowling Green R.F.C. players and coach for 40 years and former Miami Coach William Cotton. Please come and celebrate 40th years of rucking, scrumming, friendship and camaraderie with your old club-mates!

Friday 9-5-08

- 1:30 pm: Friday Afternoon Golf Outing - At Hueston Woods
- Evening: Social Gathering—at The Stadium, 16 S. Poplar St.

Saturday 9-6-08

- 9:00 am: 6th annual MUMRFC Alumni Association Annual General Meeting, Shriver Center
A free continental breakfast will be provided. All alumni encouraged to attend our annual business meeting.
- 12:00 pm: Touch Rugby Match organized by Ken Glassmeyer
- 1:00 pm: A-side MUMRFC Vs. The Old Boys
- 2:30 pm: B-side MUMRFC Vs. The rest of the Old Boys
- 5:30 pm: Banquet Cocktail Hour Starts—at Izaak Walton Lodge, 5703 Brown Road
- 6:30 pm: Dinner Served—City BBQ of Cincinnati
- 7:00 pm: Presentation, Awards, Scholarships, Speakers & Jersey Auction
- 8:15 pm: Jersey Auction Bids Due
- 9:00 pm: Ceremony concludes; Lodge closes at 10 pm
- 10:30 pm: Pub Crawl starting at Skipper Pub, 121 E. High St.

Lodging

NOTE: Call before 8/5/08 and mention MUM RFC 40th Anniversary event for rates below.

- Best Western Sycamore Inn, 6 E. Sycamore, (513) 523-0000 \$108.88 total/night , 20 rooms held
- Holiday Inn "The Elms", 75 S. Main, (513) 524-2002 \$159.95 to \$189.95/night , 15 rooms held
- Baymont Inn, 5190 College Corner Pike, (513) 523-4103 \$99.99/night , 20 rooms held

Special Limited Edition 40th Anniversary Jersey Auction

The alumni will be playing in a special VERY limited edition 40th Anniversary set of jerseys this year. These jerseys will be auctioned off Saturday evening at the end of the banquet. Index cards for bidding will be provided to place your private bid. Once all collected, we will allow the highest bidder to choose a jersey, The second highest bidder will go next and so on.

Silent Auction

This year we will be hosting a silent auction fundraiser at Old Boys during the banquet. Items may be donated by contacting Craig Scheiderer at 614-395-0816 or scheidcs@gmail.com to help support our ongoing fundraising efforts. Items may be mailed to 1627 Locust St., #802, St. Louis, MO 63103.

Important Dates

- August 2nd—Pre-orders Due for 40th Gear
- August 5th—Hotel Reservations
- August 20th— RSVP Deadline
- August 30th— Deadline for Silent Auction Donations

Miami RFC Crest 1968**Miami RFC Crest 2008**

Miami U. RFC News

Miami RFC Coaches Report: Successful Summer Recruiting Drive

Summer Recruiting

The Miami Rugby Football Club had a very successful summer recruiting drive. A small group of players and the two coaches were able to collect over 50 names and emails of potential players. Of these names at least 16 of them have played high school rugby and over a half dozen of them have never played rugby but sought our club out for information. Several of the new recruits have already contacted me for a preseason workout, and for the first time in club history an incoming freshman paid dues before reporting to school.

An email was sent out the first week in July informing the new recruits of the preseason workout, scholarship opportunities (both within the MUMRFC and with USA Rugby), as well as a brief intro to Coach Jared's experience and what the MUMRFC can do for them. Along with our efforts, Mike Arnos, the club sports director, handed out several more packets of information on our club. The recruiting efforts will start back up the first week of classes and conclude with the club sports fair on Thursday, August 28th.

A special thanks goes out to the following individuals who arrived on campus several mornings before 7:45 am to discover new talent and grow the club - Andrew Fitzgerald, Tom Fabbro, Andrew Delzoppo, Kenny Thompson, Dan LeMoine, Coach Tim Williams, Brandon Croley, Luke Markovich (and thank you to the individuals whom attended high school tournaments and recruited as well - too many to name). This recruiting effort is the largest seen in the last 10 years and will most likely pay off this fall season. A freshman rugby orientation is scheduled for the weekend before classes start, followed by an intro to rugby practice on Tuesday, August 26th. Stay tuned to the **Gainline Online** to read about our freshman recruits this fall.

More Summer "Trys" Scored

Congratulations to Andrew Delzoppo on making the Midwest Collegiate All Star team. "Del" was one of four props selected to the 26 man roster to travel and compete at the newly built Infinity Rugby Park in Glendale, CO. The tighthead prop played approximately 35 minutes of the first contest against the Northeast All Stars, then earned the start the next day against the So Cal All Stars. The Midwest Thunderbirds went 1-1, with a victory against the Northeast side, and a loss versus a very solid So Cal side. Del played very well and was able to stabilize and win many set pieces as well as disrupt the So Cal side on defensive line outs. Hopefully more Redskins will follow his lead next season.

New Miami RFC Crest

Miami University officially approved a new crest for the rugby club this summer. The old crest was under a lot of pressure to be replaced due to the American Indian head. The school eliminated all Native American symbols from their crests back in 1997, and dropped the term Redskin, changing to the current Redhawk mascot. The rugby team was the last organization on campus to replace the symbol; we are unable to use the Redhawk, as it is reserved for varsity athletic programs only. The new crest will be worn on the new jerseys, shorts, and balls starting at Old Boys 2008. It will also be featured on the souvenir mug along with the original 1968 Miami RFC crest. No worries though, the alumni association will still be allowed to use the "Redskin".

Spring 2008 Results

1/18	Miami 10—Un. Of Florida 9
3/29	Miami 26 — Indy Impalas 17
3/29	Miami B 19 — Anderson Un. 12
4/5	Miami 8 — Wittenberg Un. 10
4/5	Miami 22 — Wright State 14
4/12	Miami 12 — Ohio State 25
4/12	Miami B 0 — Ohio State B 15
4/19	Miami 8— Ohio University 12
4/19	Miami B 14—Ohio University 12
4/20	Miami 29—Wittenberg 5
4/20	Miami 24—Ohio Wesleyan 0
4/20	Miami 32—Wright State 5
4/27	Miami 26—Indiana Un. 26
4/27	Miami B 22—Indiana Un. B 12
5/3	Miami 28—Queen City 14
5/3	Miami B 21—Queen City B 17

Miami Fall 2008 Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Location</u>
8/26	Practice begins	Oxford, OH
8/31	BGSU	Bowling Green, OH
9/6	Old Boys 40 th Anniversary	Oxford, OH
9/13	Kent State University *	Kent, OH
9/14 (Sun)	Indiana University	Oxford, OH
9/20	Anderson University	Oxford, OH
9/27	University of Dayton *	Oxford, OH
10/4	Ohio University *	Columbus, OH
10/8 (Wed)	University of Cincinnati *	Cincinnati, OH
10/10-12	Rugby Camp - Marty Wiggins	Oxford, OH
10/18	University of Kentucky *	Oxford, OH
10/25-26	1 st & 2 nd Round Midwest Tourney	T.B.D. *League
11/8-9	Finals of Midwest Tourney	Iowa Matches

Spring 2008 Scoring Highlights

Most Overall Points (38)
 Luke Markovich
 Freshman Flyhalf
 4 Trys, 6 Conversions, 1 PK, 1 DG

Most Trys (6)
 Ryan Grote
 Sophomore Outside Center

Most Kicking Points (32)
 John Lyons
 Sophomore Fullback & Flanker
 13 Conversions, 2 Penalty Kicks
 (Also had 1 Try)

Miami Rugby Old Boy Profile: Bill Cotton, Coach 1976-1979

We recently had an opportunity to speak with William Cotton, former coach of Miami RFC. Bill will be traveling with his wife from Christchurch, New Zealand this September to attend the club's 40th Anniversary and serve as one of the evenings distinguished speakers. While state-side, Bill will be visiting and staying with Marty Morrow and Kirby Farrell as well as seeing several other Miami Old Boys who have remained good friends over the years. Below are excerpts of our discussion and correspondence with Bill.

Gainline: How did you come to coach Miami RFC?

Bill Cotton: I came to Oxford in Fall 1976 as a visiting Professor of Accounting in the School of Business. Woody Fox was in one of my classes and at the end of the second class he came up to me and said; "You are from New Zealand aren't you?" I said I was and then he said; "Do you know anything about rugby?" Again I said yes, and told him that I used to play for a series of lower level junior teams for the Sydenham Club in Christchurch New Zealand, and that I had coached some junior teams over the last few years. Woody said; "We have a club here and we do not have a coach – would you be interested?" I said that I might and asked when the next game was. It turned out that it was "Old Boys" that coming weekend. I attended that game as an observer. I believe that the Old Boys, led by Alan Weber at stand off, won that game. But I saw a lot of good athletes in the Miami side and there seemed to be quite a lot of potential. And that is how it started – I went to the Tuesday practice the next week and began the coaching.

GL: Tell us about your first training session with Miami RFC.

BC: At the first practice we all had a chat and then got into it. I remember that I emphasised the importance of "winning up front", and we practiced about 30 scrums with the pack. This was a bit of a change for them, but I had the backing of Doug Edwards, who played at hooker or prop for the A team. The forwards also practiced lineouts and I taught them a few plays off lineouts, including the "front peel", from which we scored a few trys during that first season. We also had a very athletic set of backs, with a lot of game winning potential. We worked on the importance of passing well and keeping the ball alive. We also introduced a few simple plays, some of which worked some of the time!

GL: Tell us of a highlight during your Miami days.

BC: The (1977) MAC Championships were held at Bowling Green, and our guys won both the A and B titles. The teams were similar to those listed to the right, but additions to the A team included Marty Morrow, Doug French, and Mike Pugh. The A final against OU was a cliff-hanger. With about five minutes to go we were leading 9 – 3 after a Marty Morrow try and conversion and penalty by Doug French. (Remember in those days a try was worth 4 points). Then OU scored and converted to tie the game at 9 all. We went to sudden death overtime, and with 2 minutes to go Doug French coolly slotted a penalty to win us the game. The B final against Toledo was also close, with Miami finally winning 12 – 6 thanks to two converted tries by Marc Sheridan. We swept the MAC title again in 1978. Additional highlights were the away trips, particularly those to distant locations. Among the most memorable were the Mardi Gras tournament and the visit to Colorado. The Mardi Gras tournament was held in Baton Rouge in Feb 1978, and there are many "war stories" emanating from the road trip – not the least were the nightly visits to the Mardi Gras parades in New Orleans. For the Colorado trip we were known as the Oxford Area Touring Side (the "Oats"), and played a number of games in Colorado, both on and off the field!

GL: What was the competition like within the club? How many sides did Miami field at that time?

BC: There was great competition to get into the A side, especially as we started to win a lot of our games, and by the time we got to the MAC Championships in the Spring (1977), we had two very good teams, as well as a set of C team players aspiring to move up.

The C side also did very well in the games they played, although it was often difficult for other clubs to field a C team and our guys often ended up playing a short game against a mixture of A and B players from the other club. After winning the MAC for the second year in a row in 1978, the sport became very popular. We often had enough players to field four or five teams, including the infamous "Warpigs."

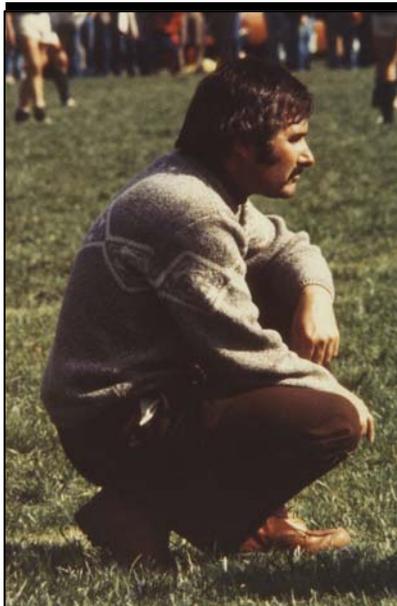
GL: What positions did you play as a player?

BC: Having started playing at age 7, I played primarily in the forwards through my age-grade years (11-12 years old),.....

(Continued on Page 4)

Miami A vs. Purdue ~1977		
Position	A side	B side
Fullback	Ken Glassmeyer	Russell Brodfuhrer
Left wing	Kevin Iler	Pete Shoup
Right wing	Tim Kehoe	Munch Iler
Outside centre	Jeff Comeau	Pete Grice
Inside centre	Kirby Farrell	Glen McIntyre
Stand off	Peter van de Carr	Woody Fox
Halfback	Tom Meaney	Doug French
No 8	Jeff Russell	Dean Corbett
Left flanker	Steve Honerlau	Mike Dobrin
Right flanker	Mike Boyd	John Biggins
Left lock	Kris Braunschweig	Jim Law
Right lock	Jim Seybold	Ron Waite
Tight head prop	Doug Edwards	Marty Morrow
Loose head prop	Bob Lavelle	Bill "White Owl" Walker
Hooker	Chuck Kikta	Stu ??

Miami University Men's Rugby
Football Club
Alumni Association
P.O. Box 1603
Traverse City, MI 49685
USA



A 37 year old Bill Cotton watches the Miami RFC from the sideline. 1978

Old Boy Profile: Bill Cotton (continued from Page 3)

....before moving into the backline where I played Flyhalf. As a youth player, I played on a Canterbury representative side and captained the team for one year.

GL: Tell us about your home club.

BC: Sydenham R.F.C. celebrated its 125th Anniversary in 2007. I coached there in the Juniors (late teens to early 20's). I had the opportunity to have Ken Glassmeyer, '78, come to play for Sydenham in the early 80's.

GL: Any closing remarks?

BC: I have many fond memories of my time at Miami, and have made some life-long friends from among the players in my "era". It is a source of pride that many of these people have been instrumental in the continued success of the Old Boys weekends, and I am looking forward to seeing a lot of these old friends in September.

Rugby Clubs Coached: Sydenham R.F.C., Christchurch, New Zealand, Miami R.F.C, 1976-1979, Clansman R.F.C. (Senior Men's), Edmonton, Canada, 1979-1981, Bowling Green R.F.C., 1981-1985, and SUNY Geneseo RFC, 1985-1990

Professional Career: Retired Professor of Accounting (retired in 2002 after spending his last 18 year at university at SUNY in up-state New York). Bill moved back to New Zealand where he now works as Program Development Manager for Advanced Business Education Limited. This company runs the Professional Competency Exam, which is the final step in becoming a CPA in New Zealand. Bill writes a lot of their material and also leads a team which writes material for the CPA profession in Hong Kong.

Coach Cotton at 67 years old



Contact Us

- Membership:** Contributions of \$50 or more/year qualify you as a member of the MU Men's RFC Alumni Association. Mail to Mike Coco, P.O. Box 1603, Traverse City, MI 49685 or use the enclosed envelope. Or pay via PayPal at MURugby.com
- Website:** www.murugby.com
- List Serve:** Keep in touch with your fellow Miami Rugby alumni. To join our email list serve, send an email to murugby-subscribe@yahoo.com
- Gainline News:** If you have a story, picture, or other information that you'd like to contribute, contact Steve Seilkop, 3942 Rives Chapel Rd., Siler City, NC 27344 (seilkop@earthlink.net)
- Gainline Online:** During the fall and spring seasons, we publish a weekly e-newsletter with Miami RFC match reports and highlights. To subscribe, send an email to mjcoco@gmail.com

MIAMI RUGBY 40TH ANNIVERSARY RSVP FORM

PLEASE RSVP BY AUGUST 20TH

Note: If you already sent in your RSVP Card that was mailed separately the week of July 14th, there is no need to return this form.

Name: _____ Year: _____

Guest(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Cost for Alumni: \$50 (includes match fee and dinner) #_____ x \$50 = _____

Costs for parents, spouses and guests: \$25 each #_____ x \$25 = _____

I am unable to attend, but please accept this donation: _____

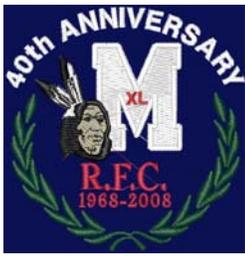
Total: _____

Make Checks Payable to “MUM RFC AA”

Send payment to: Miami Rugby Alumni Association
c/o Mike Coco
P.O. Box 1603
Traverse City, MI 49685

Or fax to: 231-346-5957 (No cover page necessary)

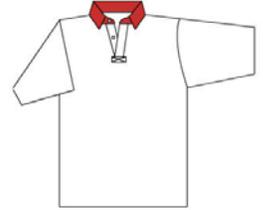
Questions: Contact Mike Coco at 614-325-1079 or mjcoco@gmail.com



MIAMI RUGBY 40TH ANNIVERSARY ORDER FORM

What better way to show your pride of being a Miami RFC Alumni or supporter than with some new cool gear!

- JERSEY:** Barbarian 100% cotton standard fit traditional rugby jersey, white with red collar and Miami RFC 40th Anniversary Indian Head block M logo embroidered on the left chest and red # on back. Available in sizes Adult XS-XXXXL.
* 2X's + \$3.00, 3X's + \$5.00, 4X's + \$8.00.



BSS-002: Solid (short sleeve)

Size(s): _____ #'s _____ * \$64.00 X _____ = _____

- GOLF SHIRT:** Holloway polo/golf shirt in red. This Dry-Excel performance shirt has the Miami RFC 40th Anniversary Indian Head block M logo embroidered on the left chest. Available in sizes S-XXXXL.
* 2X's + \$3.00, 3X's + \$5.00, 4X's + \$7.00.



Size(s): _____ *\$37.00 X _____ = _____

- HAT:** Low profile pre curved unstructured enzyme washed baseball cap in navy or khaki with Miami RFC 40th Anniversary Indian Head block M logo embroidered on the front. Self material back strap with antique buckle and tuck away strap. One size fits all.



Color(s): _____ \$17.00 X _____ = _____

- RUGBY BALL:** Custom Miami RFC rugby ball with old and new club logos.

\$30.00 X _____ = _____



Name: _____ Phone (Daytime): _____

Total # of items _____ Total Order \$ Amount _____

E-mail Address _____

Return this order form by August 2nd for pre-orders as quantities of items sold at Old Boys will be limited. Contact Mike Coco mjcoco@gmail.com (614)-324-1079 with any questions. Your merchandise will be delivered at the 40th Anniversary event. Checks should be made out to "MUM RFC AA" and sent to Miami Rugby Alumni Association, P.O. Box 1603, Traverse City, MI 49685.

Optional Shipping: If you can't attend, add \$8.00 for the first item and \$2.00 for each additional item for shipping and provide an address and it will be sent to you via UPS. Ship to address **ONLY** if not attending the 40th Anniversary Event. Street: _____ (Add company name or suite/apartment # if applicable.)

City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____