

SBU Rugby Alumni Newsletter

September 28, 2004

Rob Peraza Rugby Alumni Weekend Update- we are confirmed... rugby weekend will take place the weekend of April 30, 2005. Continue to spread the word.

Neil Peraza (Neil.J.Peraza@Disney.com)

My family at St. Bonaventure,

Although I did not personally attend SBU, I feel like a quasi alumni through the love and support the SBU family has shown to my family. Seeing you at the Rugby alumni weekend and the yearly Gringo Open has brought my family and me so much closer to understanding Rob's passion for each and every one of you. He spoke so highly of his days at SBU and it was evident in the friendships that carried over into his life after college.

Your generosity has raised over \$65,000 in the SBU foundation and the 2004 Gringo Golf open proceeds are yet to be included in this number. Simply amazing!!!! My family is humbled every time we get together by the love you show. David Clemmons, the same young man who won last year's scholarship, again won this year. Many of you had the opportunity to meet David at the 2004 Gringo Open. Without your help, getting the money for college would have been that much more difficult.

What we need to do now is turn it up a notch and hit the next plateau for the scholarship. Through year round donation efforts highlighted by the Gringo Open (June 2005; 2004's tourney raised close to \$12K!!) we can get there. This scholarship will live on in perpetuity and benefit many more students in the years to come.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in April, where I hear the alums are already in training and organizing to avenge a loss at the hands of the undergrads (C'mon!! Rob would never have allowed that to happen - he's cheering you on, believe me!!!) and then again in June for the 2005 Gringo Open. Please get the word out to everyone you know and we'll see you there. Thanks again for all of your efforts!!!!

Neil Peraza
Rob's younger brother

www.rdperazamemorial.com

Billy Kelly '95 (bill.Kelly@opco.com)

Volunteers Needed!

As most of you know by now, the 4th "Rob Peraza Rugby Alumni Weekend" will mark the 30th Anniversary of St. Bonaventure Rugby. Even though it is very early, we already have at least 60 alumni who have committed to being there and that number should grow. When you throw in family and friends...there is a lot that needs to be done. In the past, there were a few- that did a lot. Going forward we are looking for a few people to help out in the following areas (in order of importance):

- Party Chair- organize alumni weekend parties and create an itinerary for the weekend. From golf on Friday to the post game drink up. In the past this has fallen on Alex's shoulders and it is way too much for one person to do. It deprives Alex of valuable drinking time and I know he has taken financial losses in past alumni weekends. We need people who can price out caterers, reserve party space, work the door and collect money (Don Head would be great at this!)...there is a lot more to this than people think and we need others to help.

- 70's, 80's, 90's and 00's Alumni Class Chairmen- call/email classmates and recruit them for rugby alumni weekend and other rugby related functions. Also send in class information for the newsletter (weddings, reunions, births....). Nick Benvenuto and Tom Ren are the only members from the 70's we are in touch with...know of anyone else? Based on past alumni weekends, you would never have known there was a rugby team from 1987 - 1990. We want to see some new faces at this reunion and these people will help.
- Treasurer/Fund Raising Committee- work with the university and alumni, organize events, and find ways to raise money for the undergraduate team and Peraza scholarship.
- Does anyone have the time, energy and resources to create and run an alumni website? The undergraduates have one, but they don't update it. An alumni site would be great way for guys to keep in touch and informed about what's going on.
- Game selectors- make selections BEFORE we get on the field and make sure we have a referee (Paul Fordiani '84 is a certified ref in the Potomac Union and has offered to ref the first side). So far- Bob Sims, Drew Carozza, Dave Conley, and myself are the lone selectors. We need more input from guys from the late 90's and early 00's. Being a selector does not mean you are automatically one of the first 15 to play. In fact, we need more help organizing the reserves and second side.

The more people who can help out, the better. Please respond if you want to get involved. Thanks. Billy Kelly

Matt Fernandes '05

SBU- 34 Geneseo- 24

This weekend we traveled to Geneseo with starting wing Jeff Nogaj (concussion) and fullback Steve Blaske (back) returned to the lineup and played in their first game of the season. Geneseo hadn't lost a home game in 5 years and hadn't lost a league game in 3 year. The game started off very quickly with some great ball movement and excellent attack. Senior captain Andy Chang put us on the board a few minutes in, with one of his three tries of the day. We attacked extremely well, but unfortunately we had a lot of rookie mistakes, which led to tries for Geneseo. We were much more dominant than the score shows. A penalty try for a high tackle was awarded to them as well as very poor decision making in an attempt to clear the ball from our own territory, which they just fell on top of the ball and the try was awarded. We also had A LOT of handling errors, which will be fixed. Wingers Andy Chang and Jeff Nogaj and fullback Steve Blaske worked great together completely picking apart the Geneseo defense. Lineouts were exceptional, having not lost one offensive lineout and winning several defensive line outs. This gave moved us to 1-0-1. This Saturday @ 1 pm we have our home opener against Buffalo State.

Tries: Andy Chang (3), Adam Deisinger, Andy Miller, Matt Fernandes
 Conversions: Andy Chang 2-6

Player of the Game: Andy Chang

B-side: SBU - 17 Geneseo - 12

The B-side showed a lot of skill against a combination of Geneseo Alumni and B-siders. There were many players who showed an awful lot of promise and potential. This game was very reassuring for depth for the A-side. The B-side moved to 2-0.

Starting A-side

LHP- Dan Pearson

THP- Clarence Picard

Hooker- Nate Smith

Lock- Andy Studley

Lock- Dan Hager

Blindside Flanker- Les Degolier

Openside Flanker- Matt Fernandes

8-man- Pat Harnisch

Scrumhalf- Mike Gallagher

Flyhalf- Andy Miller

Inside Center- Brandon Purtell

Outside Center- Adam Deisinger
Wing- Andy Chang
Wing- Jeff Nogaj
Fullback- Steve Blaske

<http://student.sbu.edu/Clubs/Rugby/>

Scott Salvato '93 (ssalvato@molloy.edu)

Dear fellow Bona Rugby Alumni,

It's been a while since I've gotten up to the Alumni match. Fortunately, I have been able to continue my rugby career, so my Club's matches always interfered. As captain I would have heard no end of crap from the Long Island Rugby Club if I left the team for a weekend of drunken revelry with my Bonaventure mates.

But I have recently laid down the reigns of power and now intend to put my boots to use on the backs of some young lad who thinks he knows how to play. Ahhhhh, the rich thrill of making college punks squeal like little schoolgirls. Age has its joys.

Cheers to Billy Kelly, Drew Cardozza, and everyone who keeps the Alumni strong.

See you in the Spring!

Scott Salvato
Class of '93

Here is a very scary chain of emails that were started by Kevin Valis '92. Kevin sent this to everyone he keeps in touch with from SBU, both rugby and non-rugby friends. This is probably comes no surprise to everyone that TED and Kevin are props. Thanks Kevin for getting in touch with your classmates and getting them interested in coming back.

Kevin Valis '92 (kvalis@voyager.net)

(below is the memo Kevin)

"I hope all is well with everyone! It has been a long time since most of us have all been together at St. Bonaventure and I just wanted to throw an idea/date out for all of you to be aware of. The 30th anniversary for Bona Rugby is the last weekend in April 2005; it also is a fund raising op for Rob Peraza's fund us stupid ruggers have established in his memory. I plan on attending and would LOVE to see us all there.

Cheers! KV

TED Duffy's '92 response to Kevin Valis' email...

"Seeing as I have been given enough time, I will attend. Kevin I would like to thank you for the heads up...I will start tanning ASAP for photo ops at the field. I have been eating a lot, and there is nothing worse than white fat in a photo. Also I will bring an industrial vat of Lube for the Steve Sipos "Walk on all fours" routine...Oh, I have been working on an after school special that we could all run through around midnight on Friday...It is titled "Chlamydia is not a flower"

TED"

Scott Bryant...

TED,

As I have always told Sipos and West, "Tan Fat looks much better than White Fat"!

The team picture from last year's Rob Peraza Rugby Alumni Weekend will appear in the next edition of *The BonaAlumnus*...special thanks to Beth Ebert from the paper for getting us in there. Look for it in late October.

Through the years, there have been a handful of rugby alumni who have asked SBU to give part (or all) of their school donations to the rugby club. In an effort to help the club with their growing list of financial needs, we recently asked Rob DeFazio (Head of SBU Intramurals) and Mary Jane Telford (associate director of annual giving) a few questions regarding these donations and the club's funding. Remember, this is a great way to help the club and the university. If you do decide to send the club money via the university, let Matt Fernandes know when it is coming (bonarugby@yahoo.com) so they can look out for it and use it on anything that comes up. Here are the questions we asked:

1. What happens to money that rugby alumni members send to the university that is supposed to go to the rugby club?
2. If there is money in such an account (rugby club), what are they allowed to use it on and what is the process they have to go through to get it?
3. What can we do as alumni to help them- and the university, build a nest egg to pay for the growing expenses of managing a rugby club?
4. How much does the university give the club from the intramural budget that does not include alumni donations?

MJ and Rob were great in getting back to us. Here is what they had to say:

I will answer the question about \$\$ earmarked for the rugby club. Whenever donors designate a particular "restricted fund" to be the recipient of their gifts, we deposit that gift into the specified account like a particular academic dept, athletic team, QAC, or scholarship. It's just like when donors make a gift to the Rob Peraza Schlp. That is where the donation is deposited. With that said, it is important for the donors to make their wish clear. I usually suggest that a brief note accompany the check stating the restricted fund and/or placing the fund name in the "note line" on the check. If the donor gets a phone call from the Bonathon, he should again make sure he is clear that he wants the pledge or the credit card donation to be credited to the rugby club.

I will also mention that sometimes a company will not make a matching gift to an athletic team. Each company is different. I don't think I'm speaking out of school, under the circumstances, to say that Nick's company does make the match to the rugby team and that is where it was deposited.

Rob can request from University Relations periodic updates on who has made donations (and how much) to the rugby account. I believe his budget report would show an increase when a donation is received but it doesn't show who the donor was.

I hope this answers a couple of your questions. I'll let Rob handle the others. Please be assured that the University is very careful about placing donations in the appropriate restricted accounts when a donor designates a specific restricted fund.

Thank you to all of you for the many efforts you make to raise money for the Rugby club as well as for the Rob Peraza Scholarship. Your time and efforts are much appreciated by many people.

Take care.

MJ

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Hello all.

I will try to answer all the questions raised upon. Whenever a donation is made it is put in the rugby account, which comes up on my monthly budget print out. Just as when the team members pay their dues they make the check out specifically to SBU men's Rugby so there is no confusion. The money goes into the account and whatever is not spent rolls over to the next year. With the help of your donations, the team dues and the intramural budget we have made some great strides over the last few years. As you know and contributed to we now have a scoreboard (unofficially the Rob Peraza Scoreboard), the team received new uniforms a few years ago, they have a full blocking sled, tackling dummies and blocking pads. We get them new game and practice balls each year also. Last year we subsidized some buses for the team as well. The amount intramurals give each club sports varies each year. It depends on what intramurals is given to begin with and then the needs of each team. For example the rugby conference dues are an immediate \$850 bill to start the year, then most of the team needs to get CIPP certified, which is about \$20 per person. Throw in an EMT, security and then tournaments it costs a good amount to have a successful program...which rugby has been for I may be wrong on this but very close in saying 30 years. Please let me know of any questions or concerns. I am a 100% supporter of all student groups and activities and am willing to help them in any way possible. Take care and the best to you all.

Rob

1981 SBU Team picture...Can anyone tell us who is in this photo? (thank you Bob Soms '83 and Paul Fordiani '84 for sending this in)



Reminder:

We are putting the 30-year history of St. Bonaventure Rugby together on a CD that will be available on alumni weekend. So far Bob Sims and Billy Kelly have sent in pictures...we need more people to send in photos from their respective years. The goal is to have representation from as many classes as possible in the collection. **We need your help.** Please send any (and all!) Bona rugby and rugby related pictures, articles, and video so we can include them. If you remember the 25th anniversary weekend, Brian Conley '86 put together an awesome program that included history and pictures that people sent in. This will be similar, except it will be saved on a CD for people to take home with them. If you absolutely cannot attend alumni weekend, we can arrange to have a copy sent to you. Here's what to do:

- Emailing scanned photos is the easiest way to do this. If possible, please email what ever you would like to include to Paul Fordiani- fordianip@comcast.net

- If you are mailing photos, articles, or video, please send it to (include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you are not going to be able to attend rugby alumni weekend):

Paul Fordiani
19525 Ridge Heights Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
PH: 301.926.8622

- Please send as many items as possible...as soon as possible so we can begin to work on this. We hope to show it for the first time after the alumni game.

- In order to receive a copy, all we ask for is a small donation to the "Robert David Peraza Scholarship" at SBU- all proceeds will go directly into Rob's scholarship.

If everyone chips in, we have enough alumni to make this a great collection- please get on this and send in what ever you have!

Thanks to Fitz, Pat Doyle '80 has been found!

Hi Billy, hope all is going well. Can you please add Pat Doyle to the distribution list. Pat Doyle was co-captain with me in 1980, played fly half, and worked the taps in the 'skellar, keeping thirsts' quenched for many a rucker for very little \$\$ (don't let Joe Flanagan see that one) He was in Ra cha cha on biz yesterday and along with Tuna we enjoyed a few ales last evening. He wants to come to the 30th "Extravaganza", but I couldn't even tell him the correct date. Do we know that yet? Or did I just forget it? (too many years of my head getting squished at second row)

I will continue to keep this ball rolling...I think we should ask everyone to call/email fellow alums (players and non) and get them to come back for our reunion. Maybe someday it will be bigger than those other ones the school has.

Cheers, Fitz

Reminder:

We will be sending out a separate email soon that will provide details on how to order the 30th anniversary rugby kit. Once that goes out, please send in your orders ASAP. Below is a mock-up of the kit that will include:

- Jersey made out of Adidas' newest and highest end product made with "Climalite" technology (durable and breathable fabric). Jerseys will be numbered with 30th Anniversary and SBURFC patches (as seen below).
- Adidas drawstring rugby shorts (as seen below).
- Yellow rugby socks...like they were 30 years ago.

We are still working on the cost, but the entire kit should cost approximately \$75.00. We are getting a great deal on the kit (the Jersey alone would normally cost over \$75.00)

and it is going to have to be ordered in its entirety. As soon as we firm up the price we ask that you send us your order as soon as possible. We will not have much flexibility with making additional orders once the order period is over. Stay tuned for more details!



Upsate NY Rugby Update

New York State Rugby (NYS Rugby) completed its second full week of play today, as 74 clubs are vying for playoff spots in 11 divisions in men's club, and men's and women's collegiate play.

In men's club play, at the Division III level, the Syracuse Chargers and Rochester Colonials are deadlocked atop the standings at 3-0. Syracuse, the two-time defending league champions, has outscored its opponents, 154-28, this season. Rochester, the runner-up the last two seasons, has outscored its opponents, 112-30, in its three wins. The clubs have their only regular-season matchup on Saturday, October 9, in Rochester. Binghamton, Cortland-Homer, and Genesee all trail the leaders, deadlocked at 2-1.

Collegiate Men's Premier Division I is led by traditional rivals Buffalo and Cornell at 2-0. Buffalo topped Brockport, 39-0, on Saturday, while Cornell outlasted RPI, 39-5. The two hook up next Saturday in Buffalo at 1:00 p.m.

Collegiate Men's Division II is paced by Colgate and Siena in the East and Buffalo State in the West; each club is 2-0 on the season. Colgate opened its season with a decisive 36-15 win over Cortland, while Siena has had hard-fought wins over Albany and Le Moyne. Buffalo State edged Fredonia, 11-10, on Saturday, after a season-opening win over Hobart (22-0).

Paul Smiths, Niagara and St. John Fisher, all 2-0, stand atop their respective divisions in Collegiate Men's Division III play. Niagara has come out quickly with wins over Alfred and Oswego, while Fisher has topped Daemen and Alfred by a combined 57-3.

Cornell stands alone at 2-0 atop the standings in Collegiate Women's Division I action. The club has opened the season with decisive wins over Buffalo and Syracuse by a combined 53-0 margin. Buffalo and Ithaca both check in with 1-1 records; Buffalo topped Ithaca Saturday, 31-5.

Albany is atop the East, while Geneseo leads the West in Collegiate Women's Division II play. Geneseo continued its strong start in Week 2 with a 27-0 blanking of RIT.

In Collegiate Women's Division III East action, Oswego, Plattsburgh and Siena are each 1-0 to start the season. Plattsburgh had a big 61-0 win over Potsdam, while Siena topped Hamilton, 17-5. In West action, Niagara paces the field at 2-0 after season-opening wins over Le Moyne and St. Bonaventure.

Empire West Div II College Men

Team	Games	Points	Wins	Losses	Ties	pFor	pAgn	pNet	AvgFor	AvgAgn
Buffalo State SUNY	2	21	2	0	0	33	10	23	16.5	5.0
University of Rochester	2	16	1	0	1	51	17	34	25.5	8.5
St Bonaventure University	2	16	1	0	1	44	34	10	22.0	17.0
Geneseo SUNY	2	11	1	1	0	44	44	0	22.0	22.0
Fredonia SUNY	2	1	0	2	0	20	31	-11	10.0	15.5
Hobart College	2	1	0	2	0	7	63	-56	3.5	31.5