



# WASHINGTON RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

CHERRY BLOSSOM AND WASHINGTON SEVEN-A-SIDE RUGBY TOURNAMENTS

May 31, 1984

## Report to Members

### WRFC SEASON AT A GLANCE

\*-PRU Game

ST. PATRICK'S DAY TOURNAMENT WON BY WRFC, March 18.  
\*MARYLAND OLD BOYS DEFEATED 20-0, March 24.  
BEACON HILL WINS OVER WRFC 4-0, March 31.  
PHILADELPHIA DEFEATED 18-0, April 14.  
\*SUD AMERICANO DEFEATED 31-9, April 21.  
OLD BLUE/NYC BEATS WRFC 13-9 (OT) IN CHERRY BLOSSOM FINAL, April 29.  
\*OLD RED DEFEATED 19-12, May 5.  
WHITEMARSH DEFEATED 13-6, May 12.  
OMEX VICTOR OVER WRFC 12-6, May 19.

"Washington RFC is back!" Who says so? Our 12-3 record and Rugby magazine (May 28), which in its rankings of club in unions across the nation has WRFC 1st in the PRU, followed by NOVA, MOB, Irish and Old Red, and 10th in the ERU, behind Blackthorn (#1) and NOVA (#7). Our final game against OMEX was a disappointment to be sure, but our victories and near wins, plus the fine performances of team players on PRU and ERU sides, should fill us all, players and alumni, with pride and encourage us as we prepare for the Fall.

### N O T I C E: TEAM SOCIAL PARTY JUNE 7

Another team party, hopefully as fun and well attended as the one in December, will be held on Thursday, June 7, at Huey Foreman's place, 9505 Persimmon Tree Rd, Potomac, MD (ph: 983-1196).

DIRECTIONS TO PARTY: From VA, MD: On I-495 Beltway, take River Road Exit to Potomac. Go several miles, past Congressional Country Club, to Persimmon Tree Rd, turn LEFT, Huey's is 3rd house on left. From DC: Take McArthur Blvd. out, past Beltway, to Persimmon Tree Rd.

We hope you will bring friends or spouse and recruits. To cover costs, there will be a modest charge of \$5/person, unless you bring food or drink. Should you plan to bring something, please let Huey know. [NOTE: our party at Jeff Wishmyer's in late July to start the Fall season will still be held.]

### WRFC PLAYERS LEADS ERU TO VICTORY

For the first time in years the ERU won the ITT, played in Chicago May 26-28. We understand WRFC players, Chris Doherty (team captain), Kevin Swords, and Jeff Wishmyer, were major factors in the victories. The scores were: (game 1) East over MidWest 30-0; (2) East over Pacific 13-6; (3) East over West 10-0. Chris scored a try in game one, Jeff took a strike against the head, which lead to a try, while Kevin

took a strike against the head, which lead to a try, while Kevin treated the opponents' second rows as he does most second rows-just run over them, get lineout ball and bully through.

Two WRFC players, JR and Kevin Swords, will journey to Chicago June 9 for the "under 25" games equivalent of the ITTs. A national team will be selected at that time.

OMEX GAME DISAPPOINTS As, NOT Bs

Comments: "The post-Cherry Blossom let-down was evident on May 19. The First XV lost 12-6 in a frustrating game in which things just didn't quite go right. OMEX is one of these quick, swarming, hard working, tight defense, and kick and chase offense teams which are hard to play on OUR terms. We have to give much thought to such teams, as they can force you out of your patterns and into sandlot rugby all too easily. The British sides can beat that sort of rugby because they stick to basics, tighten up (control the ball), and wait for the breaks which inevitably come, especially from kick and chase. Our problems were many: the forwards seem to have lost the confidence in or desire for rucking to some degree, and the scrum is not the force it was earlier (weak 'drive' call, wheeling, not tight, no locking). Add to that our failure to protect our lineout jumpers and drive them forward, and we have a big possession problem. The backs kicked away much of what we got and were otherwise disorganized -- alignment and spacing were atrocious, running laterally killed many attacks, and the few times we brought a man in, for example, weak-side wing, we failed to execute with confidence and authority. Our opponents got many overlaps on us and we none on them. Clearly, we have much to work on for the Fall season but we should all be encouraged by the fact that we have all the means necessary to solve our problems.

"Two tries by Chip Henderson (both converted by Baby Huey) and one by Big OB gave the Second XV a 16-11 win over OMEX. We had to ask several guys to play twice and are grateful to them. A dominant scrum lead by Huey, McGribbo and Steve "G-Man" Hardy provided the platform of success. Other back standouts were Kenny "A Man Called Horse" Thorpe and Dory "The Sheile" Abi-Najem. Hit Man Hollander gave a good account of himself too. All in all, a noble effort."

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