

# OLD BOY QUARTERLY



## The Old Boy Quarterly

is targeted to the alumni rugby players of the Kansas Jayhawks Rugby Football Club.

These issues chronicle both interesting parts of the club's 50 year history and inform the readers about the club's current status & future plans.

It is meant to supplement and not replace the information on the club's website <http://www.kurugby.org/>

The club also has actively managed information on Facebook. (Kansas Jayhawks Rugby Football Club)

We are seeking to expand this publication's distribution. If you are aware of KJRFC alumni who would like to be added to the distribution, please forward this e-mailed newsletter to them.

If you are interested in financially supporting the club, charitable gifts can be made to:

**The Kansas Rugby Foundation, Inc.**

PO Box 1074  
Lawrence, KS, 66044

Featured In the next Issue:

**Report on:**

- Ireland Tour
- MU Road Trip

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*Its one minute before the kickoff.*

*You all trained hard for this.*

*You know what you have to do to beat the other side.*

*More than that; you know you are part of a team.*

*This may be the greatest minute in rugby.*

If you came to the anniversary; we want your photos. We also want more stories and photos from the past.

Send material to [pd4bicycles@aol.com](mailto:pd4bicycles@aol.com) before March 1, 2015. Please provide your contact information.



## There is time to get a **2014 Tax Deduction &** Help Your Rugby Club

***NEED* Financial Supporters to Sustain the Club**

In the last edition of this Old Boy Quarterly, the lead-off article was about the need for broad-based alumni support to sustain the club as it now exists. To summarize the situation, the club's operations cost around \$50,000 a year. The players' dues and their fund-raising activities generate about \$25,000. The remainder comes from a very small pool of alumni that cover the \$25,000 annual shortfall.

**The current financial burden on that small group is ... unsustainable.**

We ask the alumni to agree to provide an annual gift to the club to continue the program. There are many alumni and

their pooled resources could easily sustain the operations.

There is a *Donor Form* that is a separate Link in his month's email.

**Please:**

Click that Link and download the form.

Print it and mail it to us with a check.

If you get it in the mail before December 31, 2014; you can get a tax deduction for the 2014 year. The Kansas Rugby Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charity.

The club needs a funding source

that is more than for just the coming year. Please consider making your gift to the rugby club an annual tradition.

If you would like to contribute by **funds transfer** or some other method, please make direct inquiry to Rick Renfro at [rrenfro@sunflower.com](mailto:rrenfro@sunflower.com)

If you would like to establish an automatic donation of a smaller amount on a **monthly basis**, please contact Rick Renfro at [rrenfro@sunflower.com](mailto:rrenfro@sunflower.com). The steady income from a stream of monthly payments is actually preferable over an annual fund drive for a number of reasons. The club has a known income stream and the alumni are not repeatedly approached for fund drives.

**Your Club Thanks You!**

# Summary of the Fall 2014 Season

## November 1, 2014 – Jayhawks lost at University of Arkansas in MERIT TABLE Match season finale

KU came out strong and the score at half was 17-17. The Hogs went on to shutout the Jayhawks 43-0 in the 2nd, for a final of 60-17.

## October 25, 2014 - Jayhawks beat Kansas State 30-15

Another beautiful day at Westwick for the final home game against K-State. With a crowd of 200 watching, the Jayhawks scored early, often, and late to beat K-State Club side 30-15. The first score came 5 minutes after the whistle by **Ryan Russell** (BV freshman) after a miscue by K-State on a ten meter lineout. Ryan pounced on the ball and drove over for the first score. **This will not be the last try scored by the hooker that plays like a back.** The Hawks scored their second try on a beautiful 6 phase play that had **David Buteyn** (senior scrumhalf) following the play for 40 yards to score from 5 meters out. The fullback and wing play was brilliant all day. **Alex Cattle** had two tries and **Dylan Floyd** had 1 try. Alex also kicked one penalty and one after kick to bring his total scoring to 15 points. The score at half was 22-10. There were numerous plays with the backs looping and scissoring and supporting for long gains and tries. **Matt Schwartz** (head coach) has created a very entertaining and wide open style of play suited perfectly for our players.

The Jayhawks played very aggressive in your face defense to keep K-State off balance. With the pressure from the defense, K-State was only able to score 3 tries with their big forwards pounding off the rucks. Defense was again our strong suit. It would be hard to pick out individual defensive players because everyone was solid.

We played 23 players in the match and there was no “drop off” in the replacements. With 19 college players playing we are on the road to developing a great college squad.



KC Blues Game

(Above) - Dylan Floyd scoring a try

(Below) - Dan Buescher feeds a good pass



## October 18, 2014 – Jayhawks beat Truman State 64-14 in MERIT TABLE Match on the road

The Kansas University Rugby Club pounced on the Truman Bulldogs early in the match and did not let up throughout. The first try was a breakaway by **Dylan Floyd** in the 8th minute of the match. Dylan had 3 more tries during the match, but had to share the most tries with **Alex Cattle** who also had four. Dylan is our speedy, tough junior winger from Mill Valley. Alex is an exchange student from London that has added some finesse at fullback for us. Single tries were scored by **Danny Buteyn** (senior captain), **Matt Harmon** (freshman prop), **Dan Buescher** (sophomore from Mill Valley), and **Joe Connor** (freshman St. Thomas).

The team is starting to jell and become a unit that will be hard to stop. Most of the tries were in 5th to 7th phase and were absolutely a group effort. The fitness training at practice



and the tough schedule we have played are starting to show. The defense is hard and in your face, they do not give the opposition a chance to move forward. **Danny and David Buteyn**, senior twins at scrumhalf and flyhalf are molding the solid individual performances of their teammates into a very good team.

## October 11, 2014 - Jayhawks lose to KC Blues

Hawks lost a back and forth physical match to the Blues 33-26. The boys took advantage of some penalties and struck off set pieces to answer a few line breaks by the Blues. Our young guys continue to shine in our last club game of the season as our last three weeks of play are 2 MERIT TABLE Matches and a friendly against K-State. All in all; a very solid showing by the crimson and blue.

1974 wing **Steve Swalwell** noted from the sidelines, “The Jayhawks were very much in this game for a win. There were 2 or 3 unfortunate passes made that were picked off and led to KC Blues scores. These passing errors will be less frequent as you get further along in your coaching. The Jayhawks have the seeds of a VERY good side developing.”

## October 4, 2014 - Late Rally Lifts Jayhawks over KC Rugby Club in Anniversary Game - Jayhawks Beat KC Rugby Club 22-15

Over 100 Jayhawk Rugby Alumni cheered the Jayhawks to a great victory. The Jayhawks scored the game’s first 5 points off a scrum just left of the KC goal posts. KC responded to tie the game at 5-5. At half-time the game was tied 10-10 and the

Alumni took the field to cheer the Jayhawks as they broke from their half-time huddle. In the second half the game was tied 15-15 until late in the game, when the Jayhawks scored and then managed the game's only conversion kick for an addi-

tional 2 points, ending the game 22-15. *The Alumni gathered in a double-line to clap the Jayhawks side off the field.*

This was the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first rugby game ever played in the region, which was a match between these same two clubs. The game was followed by a formal banquet attended by over 200 current & former players accompanied by spouses/girlfriends.



**Alumni Clap the Winning Hawks off the Field In 50th Anniversary Game**



**Saturday September 27 - Jayhawks lost to Kansas City Islanders 42-10.**

The Jayhawk club played a very competitive game despite the score. All the Islanders' scores but one were breakaway runs with their strong, speedy backfield. **Dylan Floyd** (KU senior) scored twice on scrappy, hard-nosed play from his center position in the Jayhawks' backfield. On one score, Floyd stiff-armed two players and then chipped a soft kick ahead to beat the Islander's fullback to the ball for a score in the end zone. Once again, GREAT individual games were had by our new

freshmen **Sam Billman, Max Palmer, Matt Harmon, and Ben Anderson.**

Once these guys have played together for a season... look out!!!

**September 20, 2014 - Jayhawks lost to Wichita in a great game 36-20.**

Our young guys continue to improve against quality opponents. It was a back and forth affair most of the game, behind some very strong forward play. In the end, the difference came down to a few plays and the outcome would have been different.

**September 13, 2014 - Hawks leave Topeka with an 83-0 victory.**

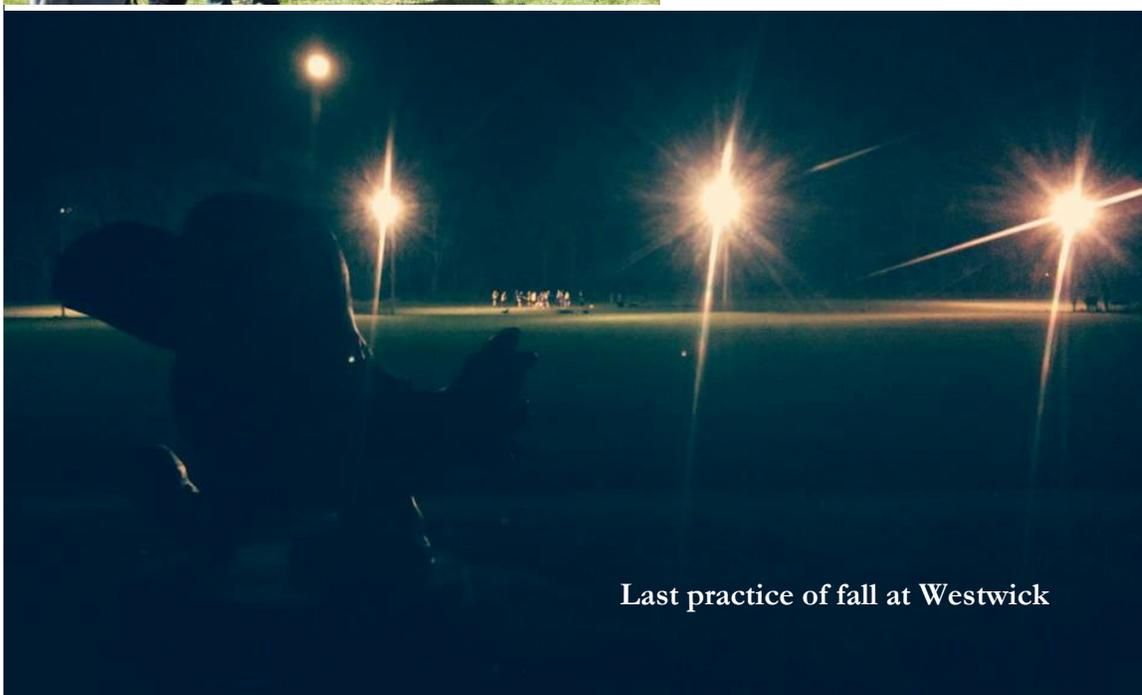
The boys took the opening kickoff down for a try and never took their foot off the gas. Scrums and lineouts were strong all day as we capitalized often on set pieces. The Jayhawks had high pressure defense and forced several mistakes as we enjoyed having the ball in our hands most of the afternoon.

**September 6, 2014 - The Hawks went 1-1 at Iowa State in Ames in MERIT TABLE match.**

Jayhawks didn't travel strong and suffered a pounding loss in the 1st side game, but won in 2<sup>nd</sup> side.

**August 30, 2014 - KU lost to Central Missouri State in season opener**

The Hawks dropped a hard-fought battle in Warrensburg today against CMSU. With most of the squad completely different from last spring, these boys started off the fall season with some very promising play. Big thanks to everyone who helped hydrate/cool the team today and a special thank you to Wendy, our trainer, who took care of our bodies. \*\*\*\*



**Last practice of fall at Westwick**



**Kansas Jayhawks Tour of Ireland March 2015**

The KJRFC will be making a twelve day tour of Ireland March 11<sup>th</sup> to March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015

We are planning on taking 25-30 players and will play 3-4 games. We plan on taking 15 nonplayers. We will start the tour from Dublin on Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup>.

We are in the process of locking down games, transportation, lodging. As we get details we will let you know.

It is very expensive to get to Ireland and to stay there. We are making every effort to keep costs low. You will be responsible for securing and paying for your roundtrip airline flight (somewhere between \$800-\$1,000). The club is going to raise money to help subsidize the ground portion and we hope to keep the costs to \$500 per player. We think the total costs per player will not be more than \$1,500.

If you would like to secure your spot please contact Rick Renfro [rrenfro@sunflower.com](mailto:rrenfro@sunflower.com) \*\*\*\*



ABOVE - Former NZ All Blacks captain Tana Umaga relaxes with Jayhawks before the November 1 match with the Eagles in sold-out Chicago's Soldier Field.

(L-R) Jayhawks' Rick Renfro (coaching coordinator), Tana Umaga, Dan Buescher (inside center), and Ryan Russell (hooker)

Tana played for the All Blacks from 1997-2005. He has 74 international caps. Was named captain of the team in 2004. He captained the team for 21 games, in which the team was 19-2. He officially retired from international rugby in 2005. He was also a Hurricanes player from 1996-2007 has 122 caps and was the Hurricanes' captain from 2003-2007.

NZAB proceeded to beat the Eagles 74 - 6. The outcome was not a surprise. The "line" was 52 points with few takers of the USA side of the bet.

**Doug McCauley still has four sets of Jayhawk Rugby warm up gear leftover, they are all XL with a couple of XXL jerseys in the mix.**

**The price is still \$300.00 Please contact Doug.**

[mccauley@sunflower.com](mailto:mccauley@sunflower.com)

The players were evenly matched in size, speed & strength. The NZAB's weren't supermen, they just play much better as a team and have better skills. \*\*\*\*

**KC Rugby Football Club is bringing back...**

**The Heart of America Rugby Tournament**

**March 28 & 29, 2015**  
-at-  
**Heritage Park**  
**162nd & Pflumm**  
**Olathe, Kansas**

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9 Pitches  
3 Lighted Pitches  
Concession Stands  
Facilities

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Men's Division  
College Division  
Women's Division  
High School Division  
Old Boy's Division

# Alex Cattle

## Q&A with the Jayhawks' talented fullback from London

This past fall 2014 season, the club was joined by Axel Cattle, a 21 year old junior attending KU on the "student-abroad program". The 6' 185 lbs player was a terrific fullback on the college side and scored points in nearly every game (4 tries on Truman State). Here is a Q&A with the talented foreign player about his perspective of the Jayhawks.

### 1. How old were you when you started playing rugby?

I started playing for the **Hong Kong Football Club** when I moved to Hong Kong with my family when I was around 5 years old.

### 2. Were you playing for a team, before you came to Lawrence?

After leaving high school I joined a club called the **London Exiles** who are based in South London and is comprised of mainly old Exeter University students, some of whom have previously played professionally, so it was a great learning platform for me.

### 3. I believe you played fullback for the Jayhawks. Is that your "normal" position, or did you fill a need on the team and play out of position?

I'm most comfortable playing fullback or on the wing; having played there most of my life, but have no issues stepping into the centres if needed.

### 4. When you played in England, were you any sort of "special player" or on a superior team?

I went to a very rugby-famous high school back home called **Sherborne**. Throughout the years whilst I was at school, there were several guys who represented England at age group levels and we had several coaches who had previously had roles coaching England age group sides. I was a stronger 7's player at

school, as I was one of the smaller guys. I didn't start playing 15's competitively until after I left school. The 7's side had some successes over my time playing; winning a few regional tournaments, but often falling short on the final hurdle in the national competitions. The 1<sup>st</sup> XV at school also had a strong season and beat some of the best teams in the country whilst I was there (**Radley, Millfield, Wellington College**).

When I joined London Exiles, it was a large step up in terms of the physicality of the game. It took me a while to adjust, but after one season I managed to break into the first team and become a regular. We secured promotion in my first season and moved up into a league which encompasses a lot of the South of England. Individually, I found the physical step up tough, but managed to use my strengths of quick feet and speed to my advantage when coming up against much bigger guys.

### 5. In what year of school are you now?

I am currently a junior, but in my final year of study, as in the UK we only take 3 years.

### 6. What got your interest in the student-abroad program, and what made you decide on KU?

I have always been interested in studying abroad and wanted to study somewhere which was completely different to home. I have been fortunate enough to live in Hong Kong and Australia, so the obvious answer for me was to come to America. I looked at several colleges including **Rutgers, Ole Miss, and Georgia**, but I



wanted something which would allow me to experience 'real America'. KU had a fantastic geography programme and provided a good basis by which to travel around the country.

### 7. Where did you live on campus?

Naismith Hall

### 8. When do you return to England?

I leave Kansas on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December to go travelling around Panama for a few weeks before I return to the UK on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January.

### 9. What is your field of study?

Human Geography

### 10. Did you know KU had a rugby club, before you came over? Was that any sort of influence on your decision?

I knew that I wanted to play rugby when I came over to the US and found out through a bit of research that KU had a side. It did have a small influence upon my decision, as I knew it would allow for me to be introduced to a great bunch of guys and be able to play some consistent rugby over the semester.

**11. Assuming you had no idea KU had a rugby club, how did you realize the school had a team and decide to come out and play?**

I contacted **Griffin Hastings** through Facebook and decided to come to training after being in the country for less than 48 hours - very jetlagged.

**12. Keeping in mind most of the readers of the Old Boy Quarterly played decades ago, did you attend the 50th anniversary banquet and what was your over-all impression of the club & its history?**

I came to the banquet and was really shocked at the history of the club. I had no idea how long it had been going and to see so many old boys there was an indication that it was a club many people were proud to be a part of. I met people from back home in the UK and from all over the place (even Brazil). It was nice to speak with the old boys and learn about sides and individuals over the past. It really came as a huge surprise, as I naively thought that rugby was very recent to the US. It was a great event and who knows, I may even be back in 50 years' time!

**13. Does the rugby club and the fact you play on the rugby team generate much "buzz" for you on campus? (Did people - (girls) - think it was cool?).**

When people find out you play rugby here, a lot of the time you are bombarded with questions, as it's still a relatively unknown sport. A lot of people hold a large amount of respect towards the guys that play and there is a lot of 'that's a really tough sport' and 'football looks like tennis next to rugby' comments. And of course I'd be lying if I said that the girls didn't love it, it seems to have the same effect as my accent (a concept that is still bizarre to me).

**14. The KU rugby club has historically recruited good athletes from other sports that come to KU and get their introduction to rugby at KU. The old measuring stick for the club was the ability to attract former KU football players to the team etc. Rugby takes at least a year to understand and so good athletes help, but don't guarantee a great team. Today, we are able to attract players who already played a few years in high school. They hit the ground at KU at a much higher level of rugby understanding and are able to out-play people who are bigger & faster etc. What have you noticed about playing with your KU teammates versus some of the clubs you have played against?**

I was surprised with the standard when I arrived. Obviously there are guys new to the sport, but it didn't take them very long to become acquainted with the rules and catch on quickly. I wasn't aware that high school rugby was a thing over here and it enables guys to develop much quicker and also help the guys that have never played before. There are several players in the KU side that clearly have a very good understanding of the game; much higher than I would've thought before coming over. That gives the entire team a boost and sets a basis on top of which we can perform. We played some teams with much larger guys who I'm sure would've been recruited from football (most notably **Truman**) and we managed to run rings around them and put up a large score.

**15. In the same line of thinking as above; the KU club occasionally gets foreign players that play on a level that is way above the level of the domestic players. Their impact changes the way the club plays and sometime impacts the style of play on the club for years after their participation on the club. I can think of several from England and Scotland years ago that changed the club. We would like to attract more players like you; who are from a rugby-country and will come and play a season with our club. What advice would you give our club to promote and encourage more student-abroad players from England?**

I struggled to find information on the rugby club aside from the club's own Facebook page. KU has a study-abroad scheme with several universities all over the world, so if the KU study-abroad department could include the existence of the rugby club in their website or their promotional videos, it would get a lot of attention from guys at home. As far as I'm aware, none of the other US universities that I looked at had a rugby side, so it was a real selling point. Also I'm sure it would be beneficial to contact previous exchange students who have played. The former players could promote the KU club and the opportunities that it provides, after they return to their universities and high schools back home.

**16. What game with the Jayhawks was the most fun for you and why?**

The **K-State** game was my most enjoyable game. We played in front of a big crowd and everything that we had been practicing in training came together. We put in a strong performance, and obviously it's a big rivalry which always provides a bit of extra motivation.

**17. Are you interested in staying/returning to the USA to start a career? What is that career?**

I honestly don't have many career plans as it stands, but I certainly haven't ruled out the possibility of coming back to the states. I am considering a career in renewable energy and perhaps the sale of alternative energy sources to companies, but at the same time, I have a million career plans which I would be interested in, so I will just go where the wind takes me at the moment.

**18 Are you aware that the rugby club has a business referral network on LinkedIn to help graduating players with their careers in the USA? (Kansas Jayhawks Rugby Club Alumni Group)**

I didn't know this, but I will be sure to check it out! \*\*\*\*

# 5 THOUGHTS ABOUT THE JAYHAWK RUGBY CLUB THIS FALL

On November 1, a few Jayhawks went to Chicago to watch the Eagles play the NZ All Blacks at a sold-out Soldier Field. This event would have been unimaginable to me back in 1972 at KU. ...USA team, ...NZAB, ...in sell-out of a major USA stadium. The sport has evolved terrifically on the national level.

In October, almost 200 of us returned for the Jayhawks' anniversary reunion in Lawrence and reminisced about all the things the club has accomplished over the past half century. The Jayhawks' club has also evolved.

Here are few things that have transpired this season or are soon to happen:

**ONE** - The club has recently had big wins over Truman State and Kansas State. You could argue that these two area college clubs, along with Central Missouri State, make up a barometer of how well the Jayhawk club is doing. These clubs are consistently very tough competition. If you could sweep all of them, you might consider the Jayhawks something of a regional power in college rugby. CMSU beat KU earlier this fall, but the Jayhawks' numbers and quality of play have improved since that game. At the end of the season, the club traveled to the University of Arkansas for a Merit Table match for the season finale. They were tied 17-17 at half, but lost in a 2nd half blow out. The Jayhawks sit 1-2 in Merit Table, with the win over Truman State and losses to Iowa State & Arkansas. The club goes to Ireland in March and upon return will play their remaining 3 Merit Table matches on consecutive weekends against **Missouri**, K-State, and Oklahoma State. This will be a great spring to watch the Jayhawks play rugby.

**TWO** - The club's media blitz with the UDK and on Facebook have paid off. The college numbers are way up. There were 35 college players ready to play against K-State. Rick Renfro said the subs that went in were as good as the players coming out. The side features a number of freshmen who had several years experience in high school. A few student-abroad players, such as Alex Cattle (from London) have been contributors as players.

**THREE** - Rick Renfro and coach Matt Schwartz have had a couple of group-dinner meetings in KC with high school players, their parents, and sometimes their HS coaches. This is priming the pump for new Jayhawk players in 2015 and beyond.

**FOUR** - The club is in the process of negotiating renting a time slot at an indoor recreation center that has a turf field. This will allow the club to practice indoors through February and early March. This will have some costs associated with it, but can work to keep the club fit and together. The club is figuring out how to pay those costs. (Anyone \$\$?)

**FIVE** - Over the past 50-years, the club has had periods where things "snowballed" and the club got better and better; and then there were periods where things fell apart and the club "spiraled" down. Everyone inside the club says we are in a snowballing phase of improvement. At some point the club becomes famous on campus and the competition of good athletes fighting for a starting position becomes a reality... I wonder; is that starting to happen? \*\*\*\*



# The Impact of the 2014 **FRESHMEN** Class

## By Matt Schwartz - Jayhawk Head Coach

The Jayhawks college team had a great turnout this season. While the score in some of the games did not suggest progress (Iowa State was a big loss), the Jayhawks were tight at halftime in the games with University of Arkansas and the club game with the KC Islanders.

### What separates this season from past seasons was the quality of freshman players.

They have a great work ethic, positive attitudes, dedication, and most importantly, a willingness to be a part of something bigger than themselves; a member of the Kansas Jayhawks Rugby Football Club. This team NEVER gave up.

We had a core group of freshman that came in with experience from playing in high school. That was HUGE! **Matt (Matty Ice) Harmon** came out of the Chicago area. We had a lot of support from high school rugby teams in the KC area that helped us recruit **Max Palmer, Joe Conner, Ryan Russell, and Sam Billman**.

Support from the KC area high school coaches meant a lot to me because when I played rugby, I played with or against some of those guys who are now coaches of those KC high school teams. (**Tim Kleumpers, Matt O'Donnell, and Derek Mannell**). Whatever our club can do to help foster local youth rugby will not only help KJRFC, but also the sport of rugby in the future. The coaches of the high school teams want to see their players continue the sport through college.

These freshman are important. I know they will play a major role for

the club in the coming years. Every one of those guys played more than one position this season and did it well....notably **Ryan Russell** at 2,12, **Joe Conner** at 7, 8, and 14, **Matt Harmon** 1,4, **Sam Billman** 1,6, **Max Palmer** 6,7. After our toughest collegiate matches (Iowa St. and Arkansas), the opposing coaches came and talked to me about these players. They were amazed that they were freshman...."He played like a senior." .... That speaks for itself. At the end of the day, those guys are capable of contributing to the team with any number on their back. I would not be surprised if a couple of them played at a higher level collegiately in the future.

#### RECRUITING OVERVIEW

We need to remain focused on a getting experienced players from high school. There are several things we can do to build stronger bonds with the high school teams, such as hosting their games at Westwick as a curtain raiser for our games. We could also host coaching clinics.

Having an updated website and an active Facebook page helped recruit and retain players. Getting noticed is important. In the past, we have had new recruits who were seniors who had never heard of the club until that last year of school.

I read **Alex Cattle's** comments on including information about the rugby club in the KU student-abroad program. Getting the rugby club folded into that program is a great idea.

The early fall practices at 23<sup>rd</sup> & Iowa helped get the recruiting off on the right foot. We need to have some practices there during the early part of every season.

I wish we had a stronger presence in the fraternities. Maybe some of the Old Boys who were Greeks can help come up with a way to help us. \*\*\*\*

Jayhawks get a core group of talented freshman with years of high school playing experience.

They will play a major role for the club for years.

We need to remain focused on a getting more experienced players from high school. As well as recruiting good athletes from the university who we can introduce to the sport.

Many thanks to the area high school coaches who assisted in this recruiting effort !!!

# Old Boy "Road Trip"!!!

## March 28 - Jayhawks vs MU @ Columbia

Are you interested in chartering a bus for a day-trip from Kansas City to Columbia?



- The Jayhawks will get tuned up with a tour of Ireland from March 11 to 22.
- The MU Merit Table match is Saturday March 28 in Columbia.
- The Jayhawks then play more Merit Table matches in the next weekends - K-State on April 4 and Oklahoma State on April 11.

That Missouri match on their field will be tough as Hell. The Jayhawks' performance in the MU game could be an influence on the games in following weeks. It would be terrific if we could fill the sidelines with Jayhawk Old Boys to cheer them on.

The idea would be similar to the Royals Game we did this past season. We would charter a luxury 55-seat touring bus (with a toilet) and drive from Kansas City in the morning and return that evening.

### Rough outline:

- 9:00 Meet at Johnny's on 95th in OP KS
- 11:15 arrive MU rugby field
- 3:00 Early dinner somewhere in Columbia

- 5:00 Depart home (we could move this up)
- 7:15 Arrive back at Johnny's (see above)

Very rough cost estimate is \$50 or \$60 a person if we get 30 riders. Not including food & drink.

If you are interested, RSVP to Steve Lange before February 1 at pd4bicycles@aol.com. If we have sufficient interest, I'll firm up a budget and prorata costs. \*\*\*\*

*(Almost to the day 40 years ago: KU beat MU for Big 8 title on 3-29-1975 @ Columbia.)*



## October 4, 2014 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet Presentation Summary

### Master of Ceremony - Steve Lange

**Welcome** to the 50th anniversary of the Kansas Jayhawks Rugby Football Club.

### Thanks for their work on the reunion:

- **Pat Rapp** – KU catering manager for the evening's festivities, 2<sup>nd</sup> President after Bunting, former coach, recruited a lot of founding players, owned club's first pub
- **Jim Bartle** – Planning of this year and this night for past 3 years, played for decades, former coach, attorney that helped establish 501(c) (3) charity, managed club's tour account, manages Westwick facilities
- **Paul Diedrich** – Stepped out of retirement to help organize the logistics of this weekend, he played 14 years and was CEO or President for many of those years. During that time the club had a transformative period of accomplishments that made it one of the most evolved clubs in the country when international tours started, hosting national coaching clinics, and territorial tournaments. He was the club's Faculty Advisor and Endowment Bursar for 35 years.
- **Rick Renfro** – Work on the anniversary with **Bartle** and **Diedrich**, he played and coached for decades, and has been the consistent glue that fixed and supported the club for 39 years.

### Thanks for other anniversary events:

- **Don Harris** – Organized the summer K.C. Royals outing & party bus.
- **Paul Diedrich, Louie Riederer and Paul King** – Golf & Lunch event on Friday

### Introduction of Current Team:

- 20-30 college players were along the side wall, who stated their names & positions.
- The college club president, **Danny Buteyn** said how much it meant to have the alumni on the sidelines and how much the club obviously means to the old boys. He and his teammates will keep it going another 50 years.

### Newsletter was done by club to accomplish 4 things towards tonight's anniversary:

1. Started in 2011 as a 3-year project to find & start dialogue with 50 years of alumni who are scattered around the world.
2. When you get 50 years of alumni together from different eras, they would not know each other's stories and the newsletter accomplished that with quarterly segments.
3. The club wanted to collect digital scans of its historical news clipping, photos, and especially the stories that accompanied those photos. Thanks to those that submitted photos, stories and sat for interviews.
4. Most importantly, the club wants to assemble and keep the alumni engaged. The consistently great college clubs in the country benefit from a large alumni base. We hope we can keep the alumni involved in the club in the future.

### Thank those who traveled far to attend:

- **CC Buck** came 2,700 miles from Anchorage, Alaska
- **Martin Evans** came 4,300 miles from Cardiff, Wales
- **Paddy Delargy** came 4,400 miles from London, England
- **Sami Arap** came 5,300 miles from Sau Paulo, Brazil



Bill Mills, Steve Lange, Paul Diedrich, Joe Kiltyka

### Thank those who played for club a long time.

- All past players asked to stand.
- They sat down as the years played were rattled off.
- **Grant Lechtenberg** was only player who played over 20 years (25 actually).

### Thank long time functionaries who have worked on various chores for the club for decades:

- **Randy Renfro** (club accounting and IRS charity filings)
- **Dave Hamill** (Westwick improvements, working the gate, and **most importantly**, employing players, and renting apartments to players)
- **Westwick owners: (Rick Renfro, Steve Merdinger, Jim Bartle, Grant Lechtenberg, Don "Duck" Harris, and Louie Riederer)**

**Rick Whitson** for personally organizing the first alumni game on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club in 1974. The annually scheduled alumni game is one the biggest reasons so many alumni have stayed connected to the club over the decades.

**Doug McCauley** for leading efforts to cleanup and re-purpose the club house, and his work on resurrecting the old video tapes of the club. He's also the current assistant coach.

**Coaches: for all the time and effort they contribute to a sport they no longer play.**

- **Joe Kieltyka** (50 years) and **Bill Mills** (20 years) for their long-term coaching contribution to the club.
- Current coaching staff **Matt Schwartz** and **Doug McCauley**, Schwartz made comment on the big impact brought by the experienced players who previously played in high school. If they stick together on this team; it will be a great team.
- All stand who coached the club over the years.

Thank **Louie Riederer's Golf Cowboys** (The largest and closest alumni cohort group.) – They stepped up to provide the bulk of the advertising budget used to recruit this year.

**All-Americans** asked to stand

**Recognition of OSVA (Optimus Socius Viator Athleta) - Lou Blanco** explained that it is the club tour award for on & off field MVP. All who had been awarded the OSVA were asked to stand

**Recognition of Club Officers - Paul Diedrich** – Thanks to all **Club Officers** over the years, because the club doesn't just happen. People have to do things off the field to make it happen. (All stand who have been a president, CEO or executive member/officer.)

**Recognition of Kernow Cub - Roger Walter & Cody Weber** came forward with Kernow Cup.

- Roger was first to get it and Cody was most recent. There have been 39 winners.
- Roger gave a summary of **Allen Chapman's** im-

pact on organizing the club (including the constitution) so it would be more than “personality-based management” and therefore stable. He stressed personal fitness. He also encouraged and organized the foreign tours to get the club to see the sport beyond its neighborhood context.

- Kernow cup explained (voted by team for player who contributed to the rugby club both on and off the field).
- Ask all to stand who were ever awarded it. (Noted: Most of the players in the room from years before it was established probably would have been awarded it.)

**Grant Lechtenberg - The rugby world** is not what it was when most alumni attended college:

- USA RFU & Territorial unions
- HS, College, and Club all use field & coaches.

**Rick Renfro - Life Time Member recognition**

- **Grant Lechtenberg & Paul Diedrich** (joined Allen Chapman, Joe Kieltyka, Rick Renfro, Jim Bartle and Dominic Barnao)

**Special 3-Minute anniversary photo montage video concluded formal presentation. (YouTube file: )**

**langejayhawkbanquet2014**

**Joe Kieltyka - Toasted all who had passed away and not at anniversary. Names were read. \*\*\*\***



**Jimmy Bartle (9) selling souvenirs**



**Bob Borchardt and Mike "Spike" Hammond**



**Don "Duck" Harris**



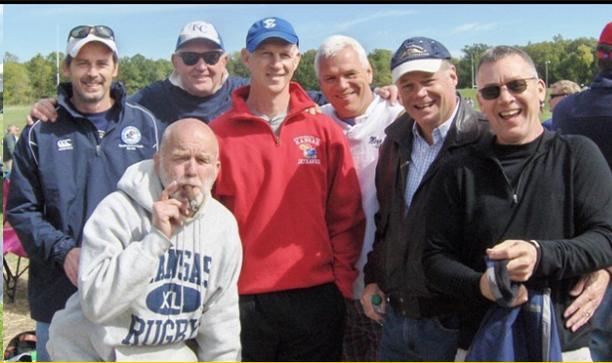
**Martin Evans**



**Lou Blanco, Quint Nufer, Bill Boyle**



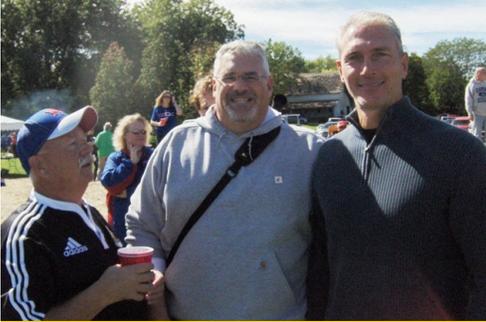
Bill Mills, Kim Ewonus, Mark "Mushy" Mullins



Randy Renfro, Don Harris, Steve Merdinger, Larry Krisman, Mike Forth, Kenny Dunn, (front) - Dave Hamill



Rick Renfro



Marv Oller, Mark Mitscher, Doug Martin



Real Old Boys  
(Left)  
10 Mike Schwartz  
9 Ted McGrade  
19 Paul Berardi

(right)  
Steve Swalwell



Billy Pryor, Ted McGrade, Martin Gray

(Below) Jeff Tschudy , Louie Riederer, Mike Vanderbosch



Mark Mullins, Kim Ewonus, Chris Stenger



(Left) Initial score of game - off a scrum





Jacques Fluker, Tom McCormack, Jack Kline, Shorty Lawrence, Mark "Mushy" Mullins, John Brown, Kim "Ewo" Ewonus



"Dead Dog" flying home with Mushy Mullins



(Far) Rich Coulson, Steve Swalwell (Near) Dan Marting, John Brown



Greg Allen, Kim Ewonus, Jack Kline, Dan Marting, Jacques Fluker, Phil Connor



Golf Group at Alvamar