



WYOMING 35CN CHRONICLES

30th March 2016

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PRE-SEASON REPORT

THE OFF-SEASON EXODUS

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. So sums up the year 2015 for the team formerly known as the Wyoming 35DS. The Highs: a league championship; The Lows: a crash and burn final series and a chain of events that would see more than a third of the team leave the squad ...

We say farewell to ...



GEORGE SAVIDIS & ADRIAN HUGHES

George and Adrian's tenure was short - one season. For 2016, they have opted to head back to the 45s to re-live former glories. Even if the rumours are true and you're playing for Woy Woy, good luck boys!



STEVE FRAME

After four years, legend Steve opted to hang up the boots (apparently he means it this time) whilst also moving onto greener pastures (only due to it having a better drainage system) at Woongarra where he has been recruited as First Grade coach. All the best mate, you are a true mentor to all of us on and off the pitch and a great, supportive friend, we will miss you.

The exit list also includes four founding members of this team:



DEAN & SHARON SINGLETON

Sponsor and Grand Final goal-scoring legend, Dean Singleton is taking the year off (we hope it's just a year) as he fights the good fight against a hernia. With Dean's absence, we have also lost his better half, the lovely Sharon Singleton, aka Lady Lavender, our lucky charm. They will be sorely missed, but have vowed to turn up on the sidelines when they can. You two are the heart and soul of this team.



TONY CRECCA



Two-time winner of the Player's Player Award and former NSL Superstar, Tony Crecca has also called it quits this season. A horrid season end saw him at odds with a select few from the judiciary board on their own personal crusade to expel him. After two separate incidents of verbal arguments - yes, verbal arguments - with a rival U15s coach, the judiciary panel convicted him with an extraneous 5-year ban !! This included not only coaching and playing (despite never being sent once to the judiciary as a player) but also prohibited him as a parent from attending his own kids' games!! Thankfully an appeal for this injustice was fought through Football NSW and Tony's name and lengthy suspension have been cleared. But whilst he won the battle, those vindictive few who sought to bring him down may get the last laugh as Tony vows he is lost to Central Coast Football forever. Here's hoping we see him return one day and that efforts are being made to remove personal bias from judiciary panels in future. Tony, it was an honour playing by your side mate.

KEVIN FLANAGAN

Captain Flanno, the pioneer whose melodic banjo coerced this band of misfits to join in the first place has called it quits after being excluded from the Premier League coaching staff this season. Sadly, WFC now also means Without Flanno Club. A big loss to the club and the team (just who will take his mantle of Leading Yellow Card achiever??) Rest assured though, Flanno bears no ill grudge and will be on the sidelines drinking and cheering - and predominantly heckling - us throughout the season. Mate, you have given me the most enjoyable years of my football life, thank you.





NOT SO WISE MEN ...

So that left us with 12 remaining players from last season ... or did it ?? There were more scares to come ... One such moment occurred in November. It was a balmy, calm evening at Wiseman's Ferry. The first night of drinking on the end-of-season trip away had seemingly ended with several of the squad retiring for the evening. But just as they settled into their respective sleeping bags, an enchanting sound echoed throughout the lodge. Equipped with an Ipod, harmonious singing voices and kitchen utensils as their instruments, Andy, Paul, Stevie G and Mark (to be later referred as Judas) entertained and delighted their fellow teammates with a soothing crescendo at 3:30am from the kitchen area directly below. Their audience yelled from above, obviously cheering and demanding encore after encore. Dean especially thought he had died and gone to heaven. Captivated so much by the music you ask? Surprisingly no!! Turns out Aaron - in an uncharacteristic fit of madness - had mistaken what he thought was a sound amplifier (to turn the music up obviously) for a power breaker. This inadvertently led to switching off Dean's breathing apparatus. Thankfully though, Dean lived on but sadly the music did not. The morning after, whilst Judas tried to disassociate himself from his fellow band-mates (and former friends), many feared that Andy, Paul and Stevie G may no longer be in the squad in 2016. Whether it be due to them being drowned in the Hawkesbury River that afternoon or being too busy with record deals and concert tours, who knows !!



BURNT TO ASH

Coincidentally, two of those three band members had expressed doubt in returning for 2016. Stevie G was tempted to hang up the boots but put a beer in his hand at every team outing possible and he was soon willing to sign another three-year contract in his own blood. The last man in doubt was Paul. Meady was busy into the new year requesting confirmation texts. With a list of 15 players, including 4 new recruits (more on that shortly), Paul was the last one remaining. Why? He was tempted to join the A's. Andy thought he'd make one final appeal, reminding Paul that the A's don't have the Chronicles. He received a prompt reply, Paul was in !! All was great in the world again ... until a month later. Having played a couple of A's trial games, Paul had a change of heart. He'd hit 40 by 2015's end and wanted to test his skills in a higher grade. So, on the eve of the teams pre-season drinks session, he sent out a few texts to the team stating he was out. The boys, took it well and sent their well wishes to Paul via sms ...



You are dead to us !! :👹

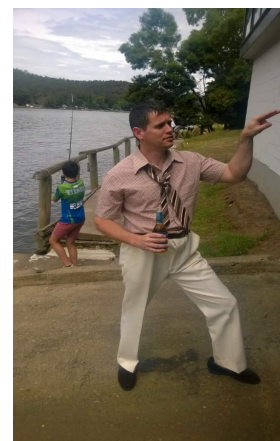
MMS 7:25 pm

So alas, a farewell also goes out to:



PAUL ASHTON

Two-time Player of the Season, Golden Boot star striker and his most cherish accolade, Winner of the Best St. Vinnies Outfit at the end-of-season trip away (see photo on the right). Hopefully he sees the error of his ways and joins us again in the future. All the best mate. Don't forget that stack-hat !



LUCA & ZIGGY'S RECRUITMENT DRIVE

By last season's end, the team knew they'd have some heavy recruiting to do. We particularly needed to strengthen the midfield. Luca took it upon himself by calling on teammates to find worthy replacements for our fallen comrades.

Some didn't quite comprehend what Luca was asking ...

When telling his teammates to "aim high", Jason kinda took it literally and went to Tree Tops Adventure Park whilst Aaron jumped in a plane !!



When grounded again, Luca told Aaron to use his presidential influence and "fish around at other clubs", all Aaron seemed to get from that directive, was ... "fish"...



Andy was either overly ambitious or overly stupid when he approached new Mariners recruit and former World Cup and Liverpool hero, Luis Garcia, to join the team when the A-League comp ends in May. In Andy's defence, Luis is 37 after all, so it was worth a shot right ??



Chris had high ambitions also. Here he was spotted at half time at the Liverpool Legends vs Socceroos Legends game at Sydney Olympic Stadium. Coaching his U10s Mariners Academy squad or secretly recruiting for the 35s? You decide ...



Luca soon realised it was up to him and Ziggy to do the hard work themselves. Armed with crates of wine, they hit the road hoping to lure new players any way they could ...



ZIGGY practices his sooky / intimidation glare to entice new players to sign up.

There had been hopes to acquire Luke O'Toole from the A's but the D's won that signature. Those meddling D's were after Luca too. Luca confessed that he'd almost signed up for them one drunken night. "The Grange is a dangerous place" he would later warn.

There was also the hope of gaining the signature of Mick McGarvey but Andy's bribery attempts of good movie tips and Luca's offer of a year's supply of sangria both failed. Mick hinted he might join up next year but for this one he has shown loyalty to a mate playing his last year in Ourimbah and signed up with them instead.

Eventually though, recruitment success ...

SCOTT HOWISON

Luca tracked down Scott Howison a former teammate who he'd shared Premiership glory with. A skilled player with East Gosford ties, Luca boasted that Scott can play anywhere. Welcome Scott, thanks for signing up.



FRANK VAN GESTEL

By chance, Andy and Meady ran into another of those on Luca's radar at a Mariners game, Frank Van Gestel. A nice guy by all accounts but upon consultation with Meady, Andy said No ... Why? Because he's another Manly supporter. We already had too many of those and despite losing seven players last season, not one of them was a fricken Manly supporter - so now we'd have more !! Alas, Meady ignored this and welcomed Frank, a former Gosford player, to the team.



WAYNE FORDHAM

Andy and Meady were also in the ear of Wayne "Fordo" Fordham whom Flanno had recruited for their Soccer 5s team. A former Wyoming local, Fordo had been playing for a Doyalson 35s team in the Northern competition the past years. Energetic, friendly and up for a laugh, Andy and Meady knew instantly he'd fit in perfectly and their nagging paid off. Welcome aboard Fordo.



STEWART WEBB

Brad takes credit for our next recruit. A former teammate of Brad and Mark from their dark All-Ages days, Stewart Webb finally clocked up the 35 years of age to reunite with his buddies. Welcome to the team, Stewart.



With the recruitment job seemingly done, Luca and Ziggy took some well deserved recovery time ..



But alas, we are not quite a full squad yet. Thus far, we only have four new recruits. With the news that Dave Stanbury awaits medical clearance to play this year, we will be starting the season with only 14 players. Here's hoping firstly that Dave gets the all clear and secondly that we can find another player or two before the cut-off deadline in May. If anyone has someone in mind, please contact Meady.



BS??? THAT'S ERM, BS !!

During the off-season, CCF received extensive feedback from players in the Over 35s competitions requesting more value for money equating to more games per season. The grand plan was to reduce the amount of divisions and create ten team, 18 round competitions. This news meant there would be no escape for us avoiding the CS promotion despite taking a dent in our playing roster. On paper, it appeared the CS competition would consist of the bottom 4 teams from last season's CS division and the top 6 from the DS. That didn't seem too bad but on the same day Paul called it quits, Meady found out more horrifying news ... our team was being placed in the BS competition !! Firstly, the standard of the B's tournament could potentially mean we'd be inflicting scores similar to our Preliminary Final last year but also, it would mean these reports would become the WYOMING BS CHRONICLES. That just doesn't sound right, even though in truth they have been called that before. Meady and the committee appealed for a re-grading immediately that Friday evening. The next night, during pre-season drinks welcoming the new recruits, fear and panic were rampant. How had we been promoted two divisions? Would we win the appeal? Could we escape into the North competition or collectively jump ship and play for Gwandalan. The latter sounded like the best plan. Monday, we'd all go to NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages and change our names to: George Stevens, Avery Bradley (that's a real name, look up the NBA), Kenneth Andrews, Lurch (formerly known as Dave Stanbury), Marky Baggins from Hobbiton, Connor O'Christopoulos, Me'Nige A Trois, Marlin Quill, Burk Jasons, Luca Skywalker, and Marlo Gregorio. Thankfully the re-grade was successful, but we have ended up unexpectedly in ...



WYOMING 35 BS CN CHRONICLES



THE LAND OF THE NORTH

Yes, we have ended up in the Northern section of the Over 35s C Division (aka CN). A fresh start. Goodbye the shire, hello M1 trips ... and according to the draw, only one home game on the seemingly cursed Alan Davidson Oval 2 ground. Our adversaries - other than an East Gosford team (rumoured to be our Grand Final opponents from 2013) - are all new for us. This season we face: Kanwal, Killarney, Budgewoi, Woongarra, Tuggerah and Wyong. The latter is a concern for us as their strip is very similar to Luca's beloved AC Milan. Would we need to beg them to play in an alternate strip or could Luca soldier on. Luca said he would still play but if he did score against them, that we are not to expect a celebratory dance as he'll feel dirty inside.



THE TRIAL GAME

Though we were almost into a fortnight of Autumn, the summer heat remained for our first and only trial game of the season. Up against a very structured East Gosford unit (playing in the BN comp after appealing their initial A-grade allocation) at St. Phillips College, Narara. The less said about the final scoreline the better. What sounds worst, saying we conceded six goals or half a dozen? A bit rusty it could be said about our return to the football field. There were some positives though: the new recruits fitted in splendidly both on and off the pitch. Scott showed his class in the centre midfield, setting up plenty of options and coming very close with a free kick that hit the crossbar; Stewart showed tenacity in defence and even picked up the teams only goal assist in the game, when his clearance shot when straight to the opposition, oops; Frank put his body on the line up front, a workhorse effort; and Fordo ran all day up and down the right wing, full of enthusiasm and energy. And what of the remaining squad from last year - well, they were all rubbish!! Nah, just kidding.



The standout was Aaron Quill in goals. He was in fine form making some great saves, blocking a penalty and thwarting a striker during a one-on-one attacking play. So good was the latter that the striker applauded his efforts.



The Mighty QUILL blocks a penalty



Meady had a few great runs up front and almost found the net when he chipped the keeper. Stevie G was still chasing hard in defence until the final whistle, though upon being complimented after the game for this, he conceded that may have been the only time he did run. Marky and Jason started the season in fine form conceding penalties and perhaps putting their names up for the leading grubs of this new squad. Time will tell. Luca was in doubt before kick off as he's been battling a dislocated toe. But a quick spoonful of concrete, with a dash of sangria, and he was back in fine form in the centre mid spot.



MEADY chips the keeper but unfortunately the crossbar too.



FRANK gets a shot away



JAY MARSHMAN impresses on debut. A former teammate of Frank's who unfortunately had to pull out of the team.



GANGLAND STYLE !! / FORDO frightens the opposition by letting one rip.















Regardless of the score, it's great to be back and here's hoping for another fun-filled year free of incident and injury ... And in a shock for all, the team intends to train this year. Not training in the DS squad's sense of training, ala drinking at the local pub, but actually on-the-field training during those cold winter nights. Tuesday Nights 7pm on Field 2, Alan Davidson Oval.

Special thanks to:

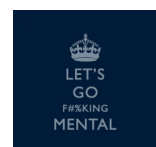
- Julia who continues to strap the team and despite living all the way in Ettalong has signed up for the long northern trips this season.
- Ngari for standing for what sometimes can feel like an eternity taking photos on the sideline.
- The Singletons and other guests for coming to support us.



HOLIDAYS ARE OVER !!

CENTRAL COAST - 35CN							
2016							
WEEK 1 (ROUND 1)							
	HOME		AWAY		GROUND	DATE	TIME
	 WYONG	VS	 WYONG		Baker Park 1 (Wyong)	April 2	13:00
	 KILLARNEY	VS	 BUDGEWOI		Edsacc North Field 3 (Killarney)	April 2	13:00
	 EAST GOSFORD	VS	 TUGGERAH		Eastern Rd Oval 1 (Tuggerah)	April 2	13:30
	 WOONGARRAH	VS	 KANWAL		Hamlyn Terrace 1B (Woongarrah)	April 2	14:30

CYA SATURDAY !



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO FORDO FOR FRIDAY



CENTRAL COAST - 35CN

2016

RD	HOME	VS	AWAY	GROUND	DATE	TIME
1	 WYONG	VS	 WYOMING	Baker Park 1 (Wyong)	April 2	13:00
2	 WYOMING	VS	 KANWAL	Alan Davidson Oval 1 (Wyoming)	April 9	14:30
3	 EAST GOSFORD	VS	 WYOMING	Alan Davidson Oval 1 (Wyoming)	April 16	15:10
4	 WYOMING	VS	 KILLARNEY	Alan Davidson Oval 1 (Wyoming)	April 23	14:30
5	 WYOMING	VS	 WOONGARRAH	Alan Davidson Oval 1 (Wyoming)	April 30	14:30
6	 BUDGEWOI	VS	 WYOMING	Budgewoi FC 1 (Budgewoi)	May 7	15:00
7	 WYOMING	VS	 TUGGERAH	Alan Davidson Oval 1 (Wyoming)	May 14	13:00
8	 WYOMING	VS	 WYONG	Alan Davidson Oval 1 (Wyoming)	May 21	15:10
9	 KANWAL	VS	 WYOMING	Kanwal Oval 1 (Kanwal)	May 28	15:10



CENTRAL COAST - 35CN

2016

10	 WYOMING	VS	 EAST GOSFORD	Alan Davidson Oval 1 (Wyoming)	June 4	13:00
11	 KILLARNEY	VS	 WYOMING	Edsacc North Field 3 (Killarney)	June 18	15:10
12	 WOONGARRAH	VS	 WYOMING	Hamlyn Terrace 1 (Woongarrah)	June 25	14:15
13	 WYOMING	VS	 BUDGEWOL	Alan Davidson Oval 2 (Wyoming)	July 2	15:10
14	 TUGGERAH	VS	 WYOMING	Eastern Rd Oval 1 (Tuggerah)	July 16	14:30
15	 WYONG	VS	 WYOMING	Baker Park 1 (Wyong)	July 23	15:00
16	 WYOMING	VS	 KANWAL	Alan Davidson Oval 1 (Wyoming)	July 30	15:10
17	 EAST GOSFORD	VS	 WYOMING	Hylton Moore Oval 1 (East Gosford)	August 6	13:30
18	 WYOMING	VS	 KILLARNEY	Alan Davidson Oval 1 (Wyoming)	August 20	13:30