

# **BUDWEISER DIVISION II NATIONAL RUGBY CHAMPIONSHIP**



**SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
MAY 16 & 17**

**USS ALABAMA MEMORIAL PARK  
Mobile, Alabama**



of the Cleveland Cavaliers defends against Ed Pinckney of the Boston  
s game.

AP photo

just 30 points in the second half on  
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"We played a great defensive  
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Mobile Press Register 5/16/92

## gets k in raft

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Press Register photo by Mary Hattler

Jesse Nichols of the Battleship Rugby Club climbs on top of the pile as he  
and his teammates celebrate their 12-11 win over Nashville Sunday to claim  
the national championship.

## BRC wins national title

By EDDIE CURRAN  
Press Register Reporter

Don't know if they call it this, but it was an  
old-fashioned goal-line stand that pre-  
served their lead and gave the Battleship  
Rugby Club a tense 12-11 win over Nashville  
and with it the Division II national rugby  
championship Sunday at Battleship Park.

It was a game infinitely more exciting and  
challenging than Saturday's easy win, and  
when it was over the Battleship ruggers  
hugged and dove on one another and  
commenced a celebration that, if it's not still  
going on, is at least still being felt in the  
brains of its rowdy participants.

It was a perfect end to a dream season for  
this rag-tag group of lawyers, students,  
salesmen, teachers and, if the game program  
is to be believed, a sex therapist and a  
millionaire as well. The common denomina-  
tor for this group of men ages 17 to 46 is their  
love of rugby and Sunday was their club's  
crowning achievement.

The field was lined with fans, many of  
them former Battleship players, and they  
saw their team just barely hold off a Nash-

ville team that a day earlier had come back  
from almost certain defeat to beat the  
powerful Santa Rosa, Calif., team.

That Santa Rosa team, incidentally, clob-  
bered Houston 36-3 in Sunday's consolation  
game.

In the final the home team took what  
appeared to be a safe 12-4 lead early in the  
second half but Nashville answered with a  
score to close to 12-8 and for several minutes  
after that controlled the ball deep in Battle-  
ship territory. It looked for awhile as if  
Nashville would repeat Saturday's come-  
back heroics.

To score a "try" a player must not only  
bring the ball in the end zone, but he must  
put the ball on the ground. A Nashville  
player, racing down the sideline, dove, the  
ball outstretched, but fell just short of the  
goal-line. Though his team retained posses-  
sion and kept the pressure up they couldn't  
put the ball in against Battleship's stubborn  
defense.

The visitors would manage a three-point  
field goal during the threat to close within

See BRC, 3C, Col. 1

## Jaguars to lead destiny

By BE  
Register

South Alabam  
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See JAGS, 3C, C



# BRC

■ Continued From Page 1

one but in the final minutes Battleship kept play safely in their half of the field.

Battleship had many heroes in the trenches, like oldsters Greg Roberts, who's 37, and 39-year old Joe Bolton. None was tougher Sunday than 29-year old steamship agent Sean Duffy, a stocky battler who scored some of the game's biggest hits.

"I like to hit," said the former high school linebacker and fullback. "It's the one thing I enjoy most. Let the backs score."

Duffy had some smashing stops early in the game, one which saved a score, and sparked Battleship's first score when he retrieved a loose ball in the Nashville backfield and immediately started a fast break.

Duffy ran up the middle, then lateralled to a teammate who lateralled to another and so on, until the sixth or seventh player who touched the ball, speed-demon Jimmy Boyd, took the final pitch wide for the score. Battleship kicker Scott Montague — whose two conversions, compared to none for the Nashville kicker, made the difference — slammed home the conversion — rugby's version of the extra point — to put the home team up 6-0.

Nashville's David Watkins powered the ball in for a try moments later but the Nashville kicker couldn't convert and Battleship took a 6-4 lead into halftime.

Midway through the second

half Battleship scored on a Nashville penalty. With the ball loose in the end zone, Battleship's Jessie Nichols was running for it when a Nashville player, with no hope of beating Nichols to the ball, tackled him. All Nichols would have had to do was land on the ball in the end zone, and the ref ruled that by tackling Nichols — and it's illegal to tackle a man without the ball — the Nashville player had illegally stopped a score.

The sure-footed Montague added the two-point conversion to give Battleship the 12-4 advantage.

Tony Neely would score for Nashville to narrow matters to 12-8 but once again the visitors failed on the conversion. Nashville's Phillip Neal scored the field goal, the final points of the game.

The game was viciously played, much more so than Saturday's 23-3 Battleship win, and several players had to be replaced. Once a rugby player leaves the game he can't return.

Four times in the first half play was stopped so one of Battleship's best players, 26-year old Randy Stroeker, could be tended to. Playing with severely bruised ribs suffered Saturday, Stroeker finally had to leave the game for good.

"That first half was ours but in the second half we were fighting for our lives," Stroeker said. "There were no easy tries out there, that's for sure."

Including play this fall, Battleship concluded the season at 31-3, the finest record in club history.

ference tournament.

Senior relief pitcher Collin Kerley was the bullpen ace with a 10-0 record.

This is the Jaguars' sixth Sun Belt title — first in five years. They have gone to post-season tournaments the last three seasons on at-large bids.

The NCAA will announce the remainder of the 24 at-large bids Monday along with the pairings. The eight sites for the six-team, double-elimination tournaments were announced

# Arena fo Night, Pred

By ROBERT ASHBROOK  
Press Register Reporter

A 50-yard indoor war with plenty at stake is coming to Mobile Thursday.

The New Orleans Night and Orlando Predators will play a 1992 Arena Football League exhibition game at 7:30 p.m. at the Mobile Civic Center.

The game, which is being billed as the Delchamps Arena Football Showdown, is more than just another pre-season game for the two teams involved because it comes just before the final roster cuts.

Both teams have over 30 players on their rosters. The league rules state that each team can have only 18 active players and two players on reserve, so this game is of immeasurable importance to the players who are "on the fence."

In addition to the field being only 50 yards long there are several other differences from college football and other types of pro football.

# NAACP, rig

By BOB LEWIS  
Associated Press Writer

MERRILLVILLE, Ind. (AP) — The special prosecutor in Mike Tyson's rape trial criticized the NAACP and women's rights advocates Sunday, saying they didn't support the woman Tyson was convicted of attacking.

Greg Garrison also blasted the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for contacting blacks who could have been seated on the jury in the Rodney King police beating trial, thereby disqualifying them as jurors.

"It looked pretty clear that during the Tyson trial it was the NAACP — the National Association for the Advancement of Male Colored People," Garrison told a meeting of the Indiana Associated Press Managing Editors.

"They came Mike Tyson, TI of racism I can black females Garrison said.

He also said nization for W spoken out low against Tyson's Washington an women suffer.

"Where have en's rights gre weren't they spence against w wrong if NOW is organization an virtually do," Gi

Tyson was co ary of raping the f ca contestant in hotel room last

"Back on camp she's attending

# Jags

■ Continued From Page 1

batters.

With seven seniors on the team, South Alabama is deep in experience as well as talent as they bid for their first NCAA Regional title. They have finished second three times since Kittrell replaced Eddie Stanky as coach in 1984.



## LOCAL SPORTS



Rugby players engage in an unusual practice known as a scrum, in which the ball is entered into play, during a tournament Saturday at Battleship Park.

# It's just like football, sort of Battleship team bulls its way to finals in rugby

By EDDIE CURRAN  
Press Register Reporter

This rugby may be a mystery to some, but anyone who knows football knows that what John Friend was doing Saturday came right out of football.

Friend, an old high school option quarterback, faked a pitch — in rugby this is called "a dummy" — curled in like on a keeper, faked again then pitched out to teammate Eric Dayton who, like a good football tailback, caught the ball in stride and motored in for Battleship Rugby Club's opening score on the way to a 23-3 mauling of visiting Bay Area Athletic Club of Houston.

The win puts the host team in Sunday's 1 p.m. final of the Budweiser Div. II National Rugby Championship, being played at Battleship Park. In the 11 a.m. consolation game Santa Rosa, Calif., will face Houston.

Friend would score Battleship's second "try" — their term for a touchdown, and it's worth four points — on another play right out of football.

With Houston controlling the ball just inside their half of the field Friend, playing like a defensive end stringing out an option, faked a burst towards the Houston ballcarrier then cut infield, intercepting the pitch in midair and racing, untouched, 60 yards into the end zone.

"Basically, those type skills come in handy out on the rugby field," said Friend of his

football playing days. "It was one of those things, two guys coming at you and it's the classic play — I took a step towards him and gambled and luckily he passed it."

Sunday is no doubt the biggest date in this club's history, and by all accounts they'll face a tougher challenge Sunday than Saturday. They'll play Nashville, a surprise, last-second winner over Santa Rosa, for the right to call themselves national champions.

The California team dominated the first game and led the entire contest until, with seconds remaining, Nashville's David Brooks scored a try to bring Nashville within one at 8-7. With no time remaining Nashville's Phillip Neal lined up a 40-yard extra point try and just did get it over the bar for two points and the win, 9-8.

The Nashville team, like the Battleship Club and unlike the Houston team, has fast players on the outside. Sunday's game could be a high scoring affair.

"We've got one tomorrow so we can't get too excited about it," said Friend after his team's win. "It was a good victory but obviously the tougher competition will be tomorrow. I think we'll be the underdogs."

After that first score, with Friend pitching to Dayton, Battleship kicker Scotty Montague nailed the extra point to put the home team up 6-0. Montague again hit the extra point after Friend's second score to give Battleship a 12-0 advantage.

An apparent score by Battleship speedster Jessie Nichols was called back after it was ruled he stepped out of bounds going in, but Dayton would score one more for Battleship before halftime.

Battleship's Matt Capo stole a pitch deep in his own territory, broke a tackle and bolted about 20 yards, then unloaded the ball to Dayton, no slowpoke, who took the pass about 70 yards for the score. The try after was no good and Battleship led 16-0 at the half.

Randy Holbein would score Battleship's lone try in a far less eventful second half. That point after was missed but Battleship made it 23-0 on a Montague field goal.

Houston avoided the shutout with a three-point penalty kick in the final minute.

No one was seriously hurt though several players had to be replaced with minor injuries. Though this is clearly a rough game the greatest hardship may be those suffered by the late substitutions, rather than the injured lads they replace.

In rugby a player's number is determined by his position. When one player leaves the game his replacement must wear that same number. Usually this means he must wear the same jersey that the previous player has been wearing for 70 or so minutes of running under the blazing sun.

It is said to provide a moist, refreshing sensation.

## Power tennie not Rame in nationals

# Battleship Rugby Club hopes to wear the national crown

By EDDIE CURRAN  
Press Register Reporter

Rugby has something of a reputation — and their own bumper stickers are much to blame — as a ferociously violent sport played by hairy animals who prefer only beer drinking to mauling their fellow players.

Me play rugby, in other words.

John Friend, highly civilized, on the surface at least, begs to differ.

"Rugby has a reputation as being overly violent and when I ask people to come out they say, 'I don't want to get hurt.' But actually in rugby, if it's played the way it's supposed to be played, you don't get hurt like in football," Friend said before a practice this week.

"You don't use your head as a battering ram like in football. Believe it or not, I get hurt more out on the basketball court at the YMCA than out here."

As for the beer drinking part, well, Friend was a quarterback on his high school football team and started all his four years on the YMI baseball team. He's been on teams ever since he can remember but it's now, at age 31 and preparing for the national rugby tournament, that Friend says he's in the best shape of his life.

Friend is one of the player-coaches on the Battleship Rugby Club that's hosting the Div. II national rugby championship Saturday and Sunday at Battleship Park.

Friend and the 35 or so players on the Battleship team are approaching this tournament as if it's the Super Bowl. These guys are eating broccoli and salads and pasta and running wind sprints, not guzzling 12-packs.

"It's not unlike football or any other sport in that it's conditioning that separates the good teams from the bad teams," Friend said. "Everybody's a decent rugby player for 10 minutes. It's the last 10 that separate the good teams from the bad teams."

And Battleship, as the record attests, is one of the good teams. Including both the fall and spring seasons the Mobile club is 29-3. Two more wins — their first game being Saturday at 2:30 p.m. — and these guys can call themselves national champions.

"It's as big to our players as anything they've ever done," said Friend. "It's a once in a lifetime chance and everybody's been preparing tremendously."

"You can't really equate this to a bunch of guys just getting together — everybody on this team is in shape and they are competitive athletes that have played other sports."

Certainly they do it because they love it. They coach themselves, so there's no big guy walking the halls with a whistle who's pressured them into playing. The crowds are never huge, usually just friends, former players and girl friends and wives, so glory and recognition are not factors either.

They'd like to change that. Friend would like bigger crowds and he'd like to see more good athletes come out for the Battleship team, but the Club's future doesn't depend on it. These guys play simply for the love of it, and they'll continue to do so regardless of how many people watch them play.

"Rugby is the ultimate competitive sport," Friend said. "I've played everything and it combines so many things."

"I wish more people would come out and play. Once they do they're hooked. If I had to do it over again I would have started when I was 17 or 18. I honestly would have played it instead of baseball," he said.

The other qualifiers for this weekend's tournament are teams from Houston, Tex., Nashville, Tenn., and Santa Rosa, Calif. Saturday's first game will begin at 12:30 p.m., with Battleship in the second game.

Sunday's consolation game will be at 11 a.m. with the national final at 1 p.m. Admission is free.



Battleship Club member works out for weekend series.  
Press Register photo by Ed Sam

## Lady Gators after title

By ROBERT ASHBROOK  
Press Register Reporter

Captain Patricia Hicks of Satsuma High will be gunning for her fourth state softball championship in seven years when the Lady Gators open Class 6A tournament play this afternoon at Lagoon Park.

In the six previous state tournaments, Satsuma has won championships in 1986, 1987 and 1990.

This year's edition of the Lady Gators own a 33-8 record heading into today's 1 p.m. game against Opelika.

Defending state champion Baker (32-7) will play Huntsville in another Class 6A encounter at noon.

In other games today involving Mobile and Baldwin County teams, Robertsdale (40-10) will battle Spartans at noon and Citronelle takes on Euclid at 1 p.m. in Class 5A outings, and Daphne (16-14) goes against Brooks at noon in a Class 4A encounter.

Hicks said Satsuma has a veteran club that is peaking at the right time of the year.

"We are going to be hard to beat," Hicks said of her Lady Gators. "I usually don't say anything like that, but we've got eight seniors and a lot of experience."

"And, we are peaking out at the right time of the year. This bunch really wants it. They are real eager and with all these seniors they would sort like to win it. We are excited about the state tournament this time around."

Hicks then said Satsuma is a good hitting club.

"We've got a good bit of power, but we also base hit the ball a lot," Hicks said.



From the Theodore "T" Island #1, passing it to port, then to the finish line previously established.

## Mobile to host national rugby

The Battleship Rugby Football Club of Mobile, in conjunction with U.S.S. Alabama Battleship Memorial Park, has announced the sponsors of the Budweiser Division II National Rugby Championship.

The tournament will be held at the U.S.S. Alabama Battleship Memorial Park on May 16-17. The major sponsors for the tournament include Budweiser-Busch Distributors, The Rehabilitation Institute, G.T. Henry's, Best Western Battleship Inn, and U.S.S. Alabama Battleship Memorial Park.

The two day tournament will feature the top four division II rugby teams in the nation. The Battleship Rugby Football Club will face the regional champions of the west, mid-west, and Pacific Coast for the national championship.

## Atmore Dragway results

Here are the results of the Atmore Dragway winners.  
number 1, Bay Minnette, Ala.;  
number 2, Dale, Ala.  
number 3, "tie, A"  
number 4, "tie, A"

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# Rugby

All The News That's Fit

June 22, 1992  
Volume 18, Number 5  
\$3.00



Former Eagle flyhalf Dave Horton touches down the game-winning try in the Pacific Northwest Rugby Union's 21-9 victory over the Chicago Area Rugby Union in the final of the first National Local Union All-Star Championship. In the semifinal matches, the Pacific Northwest, the Pacific champion, beat Western champ Texas, while Chicago, the Midwest champion, beat Eastern champ Met, New York. (Photo - Hagerly)



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C. Roberts; C. Bowen



J. Tucker; J. Boyd; M. Gips; M. Gries; E. Crowe; R. Hulben; Seals; A. Basset; E. Dayton; R. Wakefield; J. Little;

K. Parton; B. McWilliam; S. Montague; N. D. Quinn; J. Calhoun;  
Montague

Front Row  
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+ J. Anderson  
(Person)  
B. H. C.



# Battleship: 1st National Division II Champ

by Jim Hoehn

Mobile, AL

May 16-17, 1992

Host Battleship Rugby Club made the official theme song of the inaugural Budweiser Division II National Club Championship was none other than "Sweet Home Alabama".

Battleship, the Rugby-East representative, extended a 6-4 halftime advantage to 12-4 on Jesse Nicholes' penalty try 13 minutes into the second half and then held off a comeback by Midwest entrant Nashville for a 12-11 victory, capping a 31-3 season with a national title.

Final:

## Battleship 12, Nashville 11

Battleship, whose explosive backline dominated in a 22-3 semifinal victory over Bay Area of Houston, went on the offensive early in the final when speedy wing Jimmy Boyd skirred around the right end near the Nashville 30, but his kick ahead was covered by Nashville in goal.

Nashville, which advanced with a 9-8 semifinal victory over Santa Rosa despite being outplayed in almost every facet of the game, countered when wing David Brooks picked off a pass at his own 25 and raced up the right touchline. Only a cross-field tackle by Boyd at the Battleship 15 prevented an early Nashville try.

Both teams attacked in every opportunity in an aggressive opening quarter, but Nashville failed to capitalize in the 11th minute when scrum-half Phillip Neil's 39-yard penalty attempt fell short.

Nashville counterattacked on a wing kick, only to have Battleship display its quick-sink capacity. Flyhalf Scott Montague stripped a Nashville halfback on the tackle near midfield and fed flanker Sean Duffy, who broke several tackles before dishing back to Montague. Battleship spun right to Boyd, who turned the corner to cover the final 25 yards for the try. Montague added the conversion to put Battleship on top 6-0 at the 19-minute mark.

On the restart, Nashville surged deep into Battleship territory, with #8 David Watkins peeling out of a maul to score from 5 yards out. Neil's conversion attempt was no good, 6-4.

Neil triggered another Nashville drive in the closing minute, breaking weak side around the scrum and feeding flanker Curtis Hollis at midfield. Hollis carried to the Battleship 10 before being stopped by wings Nicholes and Boyd.

### Second Half

Battleship turned misfortune into a 12-4 lead 12 minutes into the second half when an attempted drop goal bounced back off the left upright. Nashville's attempted clearing kick went directly to Nicholes on the wing. Nicholes, who had a clear lane to the goal, was tackled offside by the only Nashville player in the vicinity and referee Jerry McLemore awarded a penalty try. Montague kicked the conversion.

"Nashville kicked the ball from the end zone, and the wing was out with me," Nicholes said. "He tackled me anyway and was way offside. A good hit, but he got caught." A minute later, an alert play atkins helped Nashville cut the lead to 12-8. Watkins cut around the front of the lineout at the Battleship



Battleship RFC (Mobile, AL) wing Jesse Nicholes gathers in a pass from outside center Eric Dayton against Nashville (TN) in the final of the Inaugural National Division II Club Championship. Nicholes accounted for the eventual game-winning points with a second-half penalty try, as Battleship hung on to win 12-11. (Photo - Hoehn)

35 and burst up the left touchline, dishing to hooker Tony Neely at the 5-yard line for the score. Neil's conversion was wide left.

In the 35th minute Battleship attempted to counterattack from its own end, but Nashville picked up the ball on the tackle at the Battleship 30, sending Brooks down the right touchline. Brooks appeared to score on a dive at the corner, but McLemore ruled that he had stepped on the touchline.

Battleship was penalized on the ensuing lineout at the 1-yard line, but stopped Nashville's charge. Following a 5-yard scrum, Battleship committed an infraction at a ruck at the 20-yard line. Despite the four-point deficit, Nashville opened to kick and Neil's penalty goal from in from of the posts cut the lead to 12-11 with about eight minutes of injury time remaining.

"We found out how much time was left and thought we could get back down there," Nashville full-back and captain Keith Burnen said of the decision to go for three points. "And we were back down there."

Nashville continued to pressure in Battleship's half but got no closer than the 30-yard line. Nashville, which had rallied to beat Wisconsin in overtime the previous weekend in the Midwest Championship, firmly believed it would stage another last-minute comeback.

Nashville	Battleship
Clanton	1 Calogaf
Neely	2 Faxon
Johnson	3 Bolson
Copeland	4 *** Wiseman
Duncan	5 Roberts
Hollis	6 Duffy
Elkins	7 MacWilliams
Watkins	8 + Stroecker
Neil	9 Earles
Boone	10 Montague
Brooks	11 Boyd
Williamson	12 Friend
Sullivan	13 Dayton
Hollan	14 Nicholes
Burnen	15 Gries

+ replaced by Montaine(++)  
 ++ replaced by Crowe  
 \*\*\* replaced by Wakefield  
 Referee: Jerry McLemore  
 (Midwest; Mid-South)  
 Touch Judges: Tom Rainey (Deep South), Henry Hahn (Deep South)

Bersolone and Jeff Dunbar each scored a try and Matt Eshoo added a conversion to give Santa Rosa its commanding halftime advantage.

### Second Half

Santa Rosa, which earned the Pacific Coast's national championship berth with a 15-0 victory over the Occidental Old Boys in April, continued its dominance in the second half, pushing the lead to 26-3 on Wongking's second try. Flanker Doug Orr touched down and Kevin Wolski added the final try and conversion to complete the scoring at 36-3.

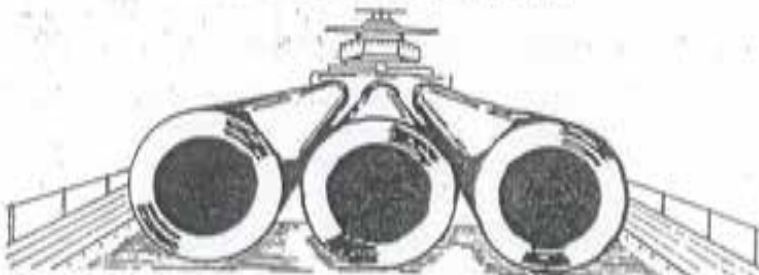
Asked if it was hard for his team to get up for the third-place match after a heartbreaking semifinal loss, Santa Rosa coach Pete Eiermann replied, "Not when you've got something to prove".

Bay Area	Santa Rosa
Brzezinski	1 Mihaere
Vera *	2 Ratcliff
Degner **	3 + Chambers
Dwyer	4 Bodwin
Johnson	5 D. Orr
Gunn	6 Monroe
Israel ***	7 ++ Malcoery
Newman	8 Eshoo
Schmanke	9 Gilligan
Mitchell	10 @@@ Pickford
Craig	11 @@@ Bersolone
Odell	12 Baughman
Fickstein	13 @ McKamey
Morzin	14 Dunbar
Anhuier	15 +++ McMillan

Referee: Laurel Locken (East)  
 Touch Judges: Andy Mackiewicz, Mark Robertson (Deep South)  
 \* replaced by Busky  
 \*\* replaced by Price  
 \*\*\* replaced by Kopp  
 + replaced by Kahaulaie  
 ++ replaced by Hensley  
 +++ replaced by Wongking  
 @ replaced by Ilands  
 @@@ replaced by Wolski  
 @@@@ replaced by Rivers

(Continued on Page 10)

The Battleship RFC Presents the 14th Annual  
**BATTLESHIP TOURNAMENT**  
 USS Alabama Memorial Park  
 Mobile, Alabama  
 November 21-22, 1992



**GO AHEAD, MAKE MY DAY!!**

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- "B"/ Collegiate Divisions
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Jim Andrews  
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 205-666-6994 (FAX)  
 205-460-2966 (H)



(Continued from Page 9)

## Semifinals:

Nashville 9,  
Santa Rosa 8

David Brooks finished Nashville's only solid backline movement with a corner try on the final play in injury time and Phillip Neil angled home the difficult conversion to rally Nashville to a stunning 9-8 victory over Santa Rosa.

Santa Rosa, which dominated scrums, lineouts and the resulting possession throughout, led 4-0 at the half on a try by flanker Maddlock Monroe. Neil scored for two previous misses and pulled Nashville within 4-3 with a chip shot penalty goal in front of the posts.

Santa Rosa extended its lead to 8-3 six minutes later when prop Jason Mihaere bulled into the try zone.

Santa Rosa appeared to have a berth in the final all but locked up when Brooks shook free in the corner and Neil converted the game-winner.

"I was surprised their lead wasn't bigger because they had at least 70 percent of the possession and we were on the ropes," Neil said. "We were in our own end most of the first half and a lot of the second."

## First Half

Santa Rosa wasted little time in using the wind advantage, pinning Nashville deep in its own territory on the opening kickoff.

At 12 minutes, Santa Rosa appeared to take an early lead, spinning left to fullback Danny McMillon from a scrum at the Nashville 22. The apparent try was negated, however, when referee Laurel Locken ruled McMillon did not have control on his hook slide into the end zone.

Santa Rosa capitalized on an error when flanker Doug Orr alerted picked off a pass on a Nashville 22-meter dropout play. Orr then fed Monroe to put Santa Rosa on top 4-0.

With Santa Rosa's pack dominating and its backline displaying aggressive defense, Nashville's first-half offense was limited to Neil's missed penalty goal from 36 yards in the closing minutes.

What little possession Nashville's backline enjoyed was frittered away through poor ball handling.

## Second Half

With the wind at its back, Nashville pinned Santa Rosa deep in its own territory early on, but came away empty when Neil was wide left on a 32-yard penalty attempt six minutes into the half.



Nashville (right), the Midwest champ, contests a lineout vs. Santa Rosa, the Pacific champ, in the semifinals. Nashville came from behind to win 9-8 on a late try and sideline conversion, while Battleship, the East champ, handled Bay Area, the West champ, 23-3 in the other.

Neil finally put Nashville on the board in the 13th minute, driving home an 11-yard penalty goal from just to the left of the posts, 4-3.

Santa Rosa responded with a drive into Nashville territory. Second row Jeff Budwin controlled the lineout at the Nashville 22. Mihaere burst out of the loose at the 12-yard line and carried a pair of tacklers into the end zone to extend the lead to 8-3 in the 19th minute.

During the final quarter, both teams abandoned 10-man rugby, but timely defensive play negated the more wide-open offensive display.

In the final minute of injury time, Santa Rosa stole a Nashville lineout at its own 30-yard line, but failed to find touch. Nashville's Burnett cleanly fielded the kick at his own 40 and spun left to flyhalf Richard Boone. For the first time, Nashville's backline cleanly distributed straight to the wing. Brooks tried to center his try in the end zone, but was forced to touch down in the corner.

With a strong wind blowing to the right corner, Neil's conversion from 35 yards up the left touchline sailed above the right post.

"With this wind, I thought it was going to drift off the edge of the post, but it stayed in," said Neil. "I was thinking, 'I'd done this before, just do it again.'"

The defeat was particularly hard for a Santa Rosa club that controlled all but the final score.

"It's really frustrating to dominate and not win," said Orr. "They didn't win one scrum. They didn't even win their own scrums...but we didn't put them away."

"If we score that first try, it's a track meet," Orr said. "That took away our momentum."

Nashville	Santa Rosa
Canton *	+ Mihaere
Neely	Rauloff
Johnson	Kahaulaile
Duncan	Bodwin
Gregory	Hensley
Watkins	Monroe
Williams **	D. Orr
Haverstick	Wongking
Neil	Tomasin
Boone	Pickford
Brooks	Berolona
Sullivan	C. Orr
Williamson	McKamey
Grice	Dunbar
Burnett	McMillon

\* replaced by Hollis

\*\* replaced by Copeland

+ replaced by Chambers

Referee: Laurel Locken (East)

Touch Judges: Andy Mackiewicz,

Mark Robertson (Deep South)

Battleship 23,  
Bay Area 3

Outside center Eric Dayton scored a pair of tries and home favorite Battleship held Bay Area scoreless until the closing minutes on route to a 23-3 semifinal victory.

Inside center John Friend and hooker Randy Holbein each added one try for Battleship and flyhalf Scott Montague added a penalty goal and two conversions. Center Jim Engler scored Bay Area's late penalty goal.

"We've been preparing for this for a long time," said Dayton. "You get kind of nervous thinking about teams you don't know and that's what Bay Area presented. They were a hard team, but we seemed to get the lucky breaks and came out on top."

## First Half

Dayton and company quickly unveiled Battleship's explosive offense, making the home favorites to a 6-0 lead at the six-minute mark.

Battleship, which won the Rugby East Division II title in December with a 19-13 victory over Burlington (VT), stole a Bay Area lineout at the Bay Area 23, spinning right. Veteran fullback James Montaine filled on the burst and dished to Dayton for the score at the right post. In the

22nd minute, Friend's defensive gamble paid off when he intercepted a pass in full stride and rumbled 63 yards untouched to make it 12-0.

Battleship extended its lead to 16-0 at the half, stopping a long Bay Area backline movement at its own 20-yard line and scoring on the counterattack when Dayton burst through for a 70-yard scoring run.

## Second Half

Bay Area attempted to get back into the game three points at a time, but fullback Chris Madden missed difficult penalty attempts from 52, 35 and 36 yards in the first 20 minutes.

Battleship then put the game out of reach when hooker Randy Holbein, who came on at the half, capped a backline movement with a try in the left corner, 20-0.

Montague's 36-yard penalty goal from in front of the posts ran the lead to 23-0 before Jim Engler prevented the shutout with a 17-yard penalty goal in the 37th minute.

"We didn't play well at all," said Bay Area coach Reg Turner. "We didn't knock people down. We allowed them to run in tries from 75 yards out. We just weren't making the first tackle felt. Basically, we didn't do ourselves justice. We didn't play as well as we can."

Battleship	Bay Area
Bolton	Brzezinski
Parton **	Geries
Tucker	+ Reemier
Rubens ***	Johnson
Wieman	Halls
Duffy	Kopp
Srooccker	Israel
Bowen #	Cook
Capo	Wiese
Montague	Mitchell
Crowe	Odeli
Friend	Flagler
Dayton	Pickens
Nicholas	Morton
Montaine *	Madden

\* replaced by Gries

\*\* replaced by Holbein

\*\*\* replaced by Wakefield

# replaced by MacWilliams

+ replaced by Degner

Referee: Jerry McLamors (Midwest)

Touch Judges: Tom Rainey (Deep South), Henry Hahn (Deep South)

Second Division: First Class

The tournament might have been

labeled Division II, but the host Battleship Rugby Club, led by the

tireless efforts of president Jim Andrews, staged a first-class event in every way, shape and form.

The championship was held on a regulation pitch at the U.S.S. Alabama Memorial Park in Mobile, home of the World War II battleship and the state's largest tourist attraction. Full-size practice and warm-up areas were adjacent to the main pitch.

The fanfare of the U.S.S. Alabama, with a sunset view of Mobile Bay, was the sight of Saturday night's tournament banquet, which featured a catered seafood buffet, drinks and dancing.

The tournament banquet, Santa Rosa coach Pete Eiermann stressed that Division II clubs represented the largest percentage of U.S. rugby players.

"We are the ocean from which the fresh of the U.S. Eagles blows off," Eiermann told the banquet audience, who loudly applauded his views.

The tournament banquet was hosted on the fanfare of the U.S.S. Alabama, Mobile's major tourist attraction. In addition to winning, the Battleship RFC did a fine job in organizing and hosting this event.

Gib Hixon, who manages for the Mobile Convention Bureau, handed at the banquet to emphasize the bureau's appreciation for rugby's contribution to the area's tourism.

The Memorial Park was one of the major sponsors of the tournament, as was Budweiser Busch Distributing.

Participants were housed within drop-kick distance of the pitch at the nearby Battleship Best Western Inn, one of the tournament sponsors.

G.T. Henry's, a local nightclub, hosted player receptions Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and The Rehabilitation Institute (TRI), a physical therapy and a sports medicine clinic which was well-represented on the touchlines, were other major sponsors.

Ozone Springwater provided water to all clubs while Newman's Ambulance, TRI, Spring Memorial Hospital and West Mobile Orthopedic Center provided medical support. In stark contrast to the accepted norm, the tournament also drew extensive local media coverage, including newspaper, TV and radio.

Mobile Press Register sportswriter Eddie Curran was on hand both days with stories and photos featured in both Sunday's and Monday's paper, including front-page play in Monday's sports section.

Offsetting the conspicuous absence of USARFU blazer-clad representation, was the presence and support of local dignitaries at the post-championship awards ceremony: with City Councilman Reggie Copeland; Bill Tunnell, the director of public relations of the U.S.S. Alabama Memorial Park; and Jack Barbato, sales manager of Budweiser Busch Distributing, each presenting trophies.

Importance Of Division II

National Title

Win or lose, players, coaches and administrators of all four teams were unanimous and outspoken in their support of the Division II National Championship.

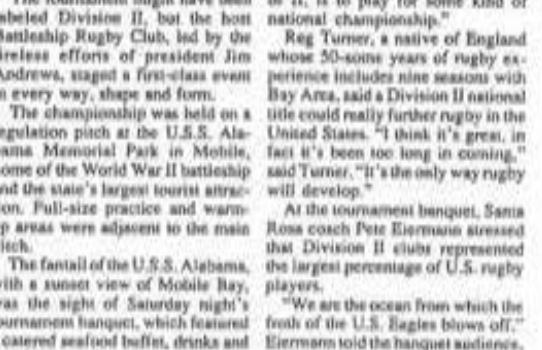
"There are probably more Division II clubs in America than there are Division I, Division II clubs and a Division II championship are the way to increase the spread of rugby in this country," said Nashville captain Keith Burnett. "The dream of every player, whether it's Division I or II, is to play for some kind of national championship."

Reg Turner, a native of England whose 50-some years of rugby experience includes nine seasons with Bay Area, said a Division II national title could really further rugby in the United States. "I think it's great, in fact it's been too long in coming," said Turner. "It's the only way rugby will develop."

At the tournament banquet, Santa Rosa coach Pete Eiermann stressed that Division II clubs represented the largest percentage of U.S. rugby players.

"We are the ocean from which the fresh of the U.S. Eagles blows off," Eiermann told the banquet audience, who loudly applauded his views.

The tournament banquet was hosted on the fanfare of the U.S.S. Alabama, Mobile's major tourist attraction. In addition to winning, the Battleship RFC did a fine job in organizing and hosting this event.



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# 1992 USARFU 2nd Division Final Four

## Battleship (Mobile, Alabama)



(FRONT, L-R) - Tucker, Boyd, Capo, Gries, Crows, Hoffstein, Barks, Bassett, Dayton (with ball), Wakefield, Little, Paxon, MacWilliam, Montague, Dingwall, Calagaz. (STANDING) - Zimlich, Faust, Kelchek, Cooklin, Babon, Nicholas, Hataway, Duffy, Wiseman, Strocker, Smoot, Grande, Leach, Deane, Montaine, Flynn, Roberts, Brown, Andrews.

Name	Position	Age	Ht.	Wt.
Bred Bassett	Prop	27	5-9	205
Joe Babin	Prop	38	5-11	280
Charles Bowen (c)	#	32	5-11	210
Jimmy Boyd	Wing	23	5-9	145
Joe Calagaz	Prop	25	5-11	210
Man Capo	Scrumhalf	28	5-9	170
Chip Cooklin	Prop	30	5-10	230
Evans Crows	Wing	30	5-10	175
Eric Dayton	Center	23	5-9	160
Oreg Deane	Lock	31	6-2	195
Sean Duffy	Flanker	29	6-0	215
Steve Earls	Scrumhalf	24	5-6	140
Rick Faust	Center	42	5-11	180
John Flynn	Center	32	6-2	190
Mark Gries	Fullback	28	5-10	210
Randy Holbein	Hooker	28	5-8	160
Mike Leach	Lock	32	6-1	205
Billy MacWilliam	Center	31	5-11	180
Scott Montague	Flyhalf	27	5-10	175
James Montaine	Fullback	37	6-0	190
Jessie Nicholas	Wing	28	6-1	170
Keith Paxon	Hooker	37	5-7	180
Oreg Roberts	Lock	37	6-0	185
Randy Strocker (c)	Flanker/W	26	6-2	205
Joe Tucker	Prop	40	5-8	215
Reid Wakefield	Lock	38	6-0	190
Jimmy Wiseman	Lock	30	6-3	230

## Nashville (Tennessee)



(FRONT, L-R) - Foy, Hollis, Burnett, Neil, Watkins, Gries, Sellars, Simons. (MIDDLE) - Havensick, Holland, Brooks, Sherwood, Hindmarsh, Johnson, Jackson, Neely, Markham, Williams, Williamson, Burns, McClamrock. (BACK) - Thompson, Thielke, Crockett, Reid, Greenhaw, Chason, Jewell, Scott, Copeland, Blake, Ballard, Rayburn, Deane, Gregory.

Richard Burns	Flyhalf	31	5-9	205
David Brooks	Wing	24	5-11	212
Keith Burnett (c)	Fullback	29	5-10	170
Kurt Chason	Prop	34	6-1	235
Bennie Copeland	Lock	36	6-2	200
Jerry Greenhaw	Wing	25	5-11	175
Zeke Duncan	Lock	25	6-2	240
Scott Elkins	Flanker	27	6-1	190
Ed Foy	Flanker	33	5-8	160
Tommy Gregory	Lock	31	6-3	240
Ed Gries	Fullback	29	5-7	155
Mike Havensick	#	28	6-1	190
Sven Hindmarsh	Hooker	35	5-8	174
John Holland	Wing	27	5-11	170
Curtis Hollis	Flanker	21	5-11	180
Jon Jackson	Center	31	6-1	205
Brian Jewell	Lock	23	6-4	205
Dan Johnson	Prop	27	5-11	225
Phillip Neil	Scrumhalf	27	5-7	135
Tony Neely	Hooker	30	5-11	195
Mike Rayburn	Flanker	38	5-11	190
Kevin Simmons	Flanker	38	5-9	180
Mark Sullivan	Center	26	6-2	185
Phil Thielke	Lock	35	6-2	210
David Watkins	#	32	5-10	210
Mark Williams	Flanker	28	6-0	205
Marion Williamson	Center	28	5-9	180

## Santa Rosa (California)



(FRONT, L-R) - Isaac, Burt, McKenney, Burstone, Makozay, Rawliff, C. Orr, Pickford, Hugheson, Gilligan, Winkler, Brown. (BACK) - Wengking, Fahren, Katsulis, Israel, Crockett, Dasher, Rivers, Hoxley, Babin, Chambers, Pitzer, Meiers, Moore, D. Orr, Tomsen, Moore, Burtson.

Marcus Hugheson	Center	34	6-0	175
Todd Burstone	Wing	29	5-11	180
Jeff Burtson	Lock	29	6-4	276
Paul Chambers	Prop	28	6-0	235
Joe Crockett	Hooker	30	5-9	185
Jeff Dasher	Wing	27	6-1	175
Ted Ennis	Flyhalf	33	5-10	160
Matt Isaac	#	21	6-2	210
Kelly Gilligan	Scrumhalf	23	6-0	180
Bob Hoxley	Lock	35	6-1	220
Suki Katsulis	Prop	34	5-10	225
Dan Makozay	Flanker	23	6-3	215
Mike McKenney	Center	25	5-8	180
Dan McMillan	Fullback	30	5-11	200
Jason Mihaere	Prop	24	6-0	270
Maddock Monroe	Flanker	22	6-3	225
Chris Orr	Center	36	5-9	195
Doug Orr	Flanker	28	6-2	230
Scott Pickford	Flyhalf	37	5-8	160
Doug Rawliff	Hooker	26	5-9	190
Tony Rivers	Center	23	5-11	195
John Tomsen	Scrumhalf	33	5-10	200
Kevin Watski	Wing	23	5-9	170
Alf Wengking	#	34	5-11	190

## Bay Area (Houston, Texas)



(FRONT, L-R) - Madden, Craig, Anhaizer, Weiss, Israel, Kopp, Vera, Mitchell, Schumanski, Gerles, Price, Busky, Bagley, Fishelson. (BACK) - Huls, Geary, Johnson, Dwyer, Newman, Cook, Morison, Keaster, Degner, Florio, Gunn, Brzezinski, Odell, Turner.

James Anhaizer	Fullback	32	5-9	170
David Brzezinski	Prop	31	6-2	200
Randy Busky	Hooker	26	5-8	190
Nigel Cook (c)	#	32	6-0	190
Chris Craig	Wing	28	5-11	180
Carl Degner	Prop	32	6-1	190
Bill Dwyer	Lock	19	6-3	210
Jim Engler (c)	Center	26	5-9	180
Kurt Fishelson	Center	27	5-10	210
Bob Geary	Lock	36	6-4	230
Todd Gerles	Hooker	31	5-7	130
Todd Gunn	Flanker	30	5-10	190
Tom Huls	Lock	34	6-4	220
Steve Israel	Flanker	29	5-10	180
Dalton Johnson	Lock	29	6-4	220
Kevin Kopp	Flanker	33	5-9	180
Chris Madden	Fullback	28	6-0	190
Gary Mitchell	Flyhalf	26	5-8	160
Kevin Morison	Wing	33	6-0	190
Robert Newman	#	33	6-1	210
Will Odell	Center	29	6-0	170
Ian Price	Prop	29	5-7	190
Mike Schumanski	Prop	27	5-11	220
Tony Schumanski	Scrumhalf	30	5-8	180
Alison Vera	Hooker	29	5-4	160
John Wengking	Prop	33	6-0	240
Jay Wiley	Scrumhalf	32	5-10	190



## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

PRESIDENT  
DR. IAN NIXON

May 26, 1992

VICE PRESIDENT  
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GENE ROBERTS

TREASURER  
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PAST PRESIDENT  
ROBERT J. WATKINS

DIRECTOR OF  
ADMINISTRATION  
KAREN KAST

Mr. Jim Andrews  
Battleship Rugby Club of Mobile  
Box 65  
Mobile, AL 36601

Dear Jim:

On behalf of USA Rugby, I extend our sincere thanks and congratulations to you and the members of your club and organizing committee for hosting an impressive and successful inaugural 1992 USA Rugby National Division Two Championships. It was your vision, dedication and skill that turned the Championship into a reality and all reports back to me are that the weekend was a memorable one for everyone involved.

Please accept the enclosed Patrick Sport Bag as a small token of our appreciation for all your work to organize the event. The Championship was a tremendous success and we salute your efforts.

Congratulations are extended for your team's success on the field as well!

It was a pleasure working with you and we look forward to a future which includes many more first-class USA rugby events under the administration of the Battleship Rugby Club of Mobile.

Sincerely,

Karen Kast





## THE CATHOLIC CENTER

Archdiocese of Mobile

400 Government St., P. O. Box 1966, Mobile, Alabama 36633, (205) 434-1585

July 13, 1992

Mr. Jim Andrews  
President  
Battleship Rugby Club of Mobile  
Post Office Box 65  
Mobile, Alabama 36601

Dear Jim:

I should have stayed for the match! Congratulations on coming out on top for the Budweiser Division II National Rugby Championships last May at Battleship Park. The chance to be with you and the other members of the team certainly opened up a new dimension in my life--maybe I'll be able to pursue it on another occasion and stay longer.

Joe gave me one of the championship shirts--it has caused no small amount of comment among those who know me so well. They suspect, quite rightly, that I was not on the team! Still, it is a matter of pride to be associated with all of you.

May God bless and keep you in all the ways and days that lie ahead.

Faithfully in Christ,

Most Reverend Oscar H. Lipscomb  
Archbishop of Mobile



## P R O C L A M A T I O N

- WHEREAS, the Battleship Rugby Club of Mobile was founded in 1975 to promote the growth and camaraderie of the sport of Rugby; and
- WHEREAS, the Battleship Rugby Club (RFC) initiated and successfully hosted the inaugural Budweiser Division II National Rugby Championship, which was held at the USS Alabama Memorial Park on May 16 - 17, 1992; and
- WHEREAS, the goodwill generated within the local media and business community in support of this Rugby event was well complimented by the large crowd which attended the games at Battleship Park. And, over 150 Rugby enthusiasts journeyed to Mobile with their participating Rugby clubs from Santa Rosa, CA; Nashville, TN; and Houston, TX; and
- WHEREAS, the Battleship RFC beat the Bay Area RFC of Houston, TX 23-3 and then went on to defeat the Nashville Rugby Club by the score of 12-11 in a very hard-fought contest to win the title of "National Champions;" and
- WHEREAS, the Battleship Rugby Club represented the USS Alabama Memorial Park and the City of Mobile in this nationally recognized event; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Mobile wishes to properly acknowledge the Battleship Rugby Club for its great accomplishments.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Mayor and members of the City Council do hereby proclaim Tuesday, May 26, 1992, as

### "BATTLESHIP RUGBY CLUB DAY"

in Mobile, and urge all citizens to join me in extending congratulations to these dedicated athletes.

DONE AT THE CITY OF MOBILE, ALABAMA  
THIS 26th DAY OF MAY, 1992.

*Michael A. Dow*  
MAYOR

*Chas. E. Phipps*  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

*Clinton J. Thomas*  
COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

*Armaton G. Watson*  
DISTRICT I

*Thomas Sullivan*  
DISTRICT II

*Reggie Garland, Jr.*  
DISTRICT V

*Gene M. Barta*  
DISTRICT VI

*John R. Pearce*  
DISTRICT VII



# BATTLESHIP RFC - NATIONAL CHAMPS!!!

J.D. Andrews 6-19-92

Capping a ten month campaign which saw the club complete a highly successful 32-3 record (including 9 playoff games), the Battleship RFC of Mobile won the inaugural Budweiser Division II National Rugby Championship held at the U.S.S. Alabama Memorial Park during the weekend of May 16-17, 1992. Pulling off this first ever event with USARFU's endorsement in a brief 5 month period, the Battleship Club also set a new standard for organization, venue, and amenities for a National Championship.

The four contestants included our club representing US Rugby East, Nashville RFC from the Midwest RFU, Bay Area (Houston) RFC representing the Western RFU and Santa Rosa, CA RFC from the Pacific Coast RFU. In the semifinals on Saturday, Santa Rosa was beaten 9-8 on a last minute try and kick by Nashville. Battleship easily handled Bay Area Athletic 23-3. Starting for BRFC were Parton, Wiseman, Roberts, Tucker, Bolton, Duffy, Stroecker, Bowen, Capo, Montauge, Friend, Dayton, Crowe, Nicholes, and Montaine. Gries, MacWilliam, and Wakefield came in as replacements for injury.

On Sunday, the Battleship Club was pumped, primed, and therefore played to perfection in a tough match against Nashville, taking the win and the National Championship by the score of 12-11. How could they not have been ready to play when considering the motivational skills of Kieth Parton, Jim Montaine, John Friend, and Charlie Bowen, among others? The quest for this victory started months, if not years, ago when the Battleship RFC made up its collective mind that it would finally be something other than an 'also ran' such as Gulfport or 2/3 of the rest of the Deep South RFU. The pride that was shown by everyone in the organization including old boys, wives, girlfriends, parents, supporters, and social members was perhaps personified best in one Sean Duffy. He damn near ran over my Scottish Bagpiper who was chartered to lead the team out on the field for the Championship Game. We forgave Sean, however, as he went on to play perhaps the game of his life and share Co-MVP honors with Scotty Montauge.

The Championship Game will long be remembered as a hotly contested match, played with much tenacity and finesse. The outcome of the game hinged on Battleship's late goal-line stand, according to Eddie Curran of the Mobile Press Register. Eddie did a superb job in reporting on this Championship, really capturing the essence and spirit of Rugby. Starting for the Battleship were Wiseman, Roberts, Calagaz, Parton, Bolton, Duffy, MacWilliam, Stroecker, Earls, Montauge, Friend, Dayton, Nicholes, Boyd, and Gries. Montaine, Crowe and Wakefield came in as replacements for injury. By the way, Santa Rosa went on to take third place with its 36-3 win over Bay Area.

### FANTASTIC SUPPORT FROM BATTLESHIP RFC

The entire weekend was as well organized as anything with which I have had the pleasure to be associated. This is due primarily to a dedicated cadre of players and social members, all of whom are second to none in their spirit, enthusiasm, and work ethic. Speaking of the players attitude, the selfless manner shown by the 15-20 guys who did not get to play is highly commendable. It is a quality which demonstrates maturity both as a player and as a Club and will serve to take the Battleship RFC to even higher plateaus.

It was great to see as many Old Boys and Alumni at the event. Having several hundred screaming supporters was a key to our success on the field. In order to be awarded this event, USARFU required a heavy financial commitment from the Battleship RFC. As you can see from the attached Income vs. Expenses report, we raised almost \$15,000 in total funding. Of that figure, about \$5,000 was 'services in-kind' (donated) and approximately \$10,000 was in cash. To do this required a substantial commitment of \$150 per player (which was met almost 100%), new Corporate Sponsorships, and a maximization of program advertisement, raffle ticket, T-shirt, and concession sales. In summary, all of these goals were met and this enabled the Battleship RFC to host the finest Championship Tournament that you may ever see. Putting it in the context of Santa Rosa's "three week - \$12,000 'Bama Tour' Campaign", one can see that competing at this level is expensive. It takes commitment, hard work, and dedication to the task at hand. But, it can be done!

As a footnote to the following Profit/Loss Report, you will hopefully realize that you are part of a very generous club. By this I mean that though we cleared \$1,600 on the event, a worthwhile sum indeed, we immediately gave back to the Club membership over 50 Commemorative Crest T-shirts and over 50 Championship plaques. These were presented at our Luau on 5-30-92 and cost your clubs' treasury about \$700. Money is important, but, justly deserved recognition is perhaps more important.



### NOTES ON THE CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND

The Banquet on Saturday night 5-16-92 was well attended by over 200 players and supporters. Guests included Jim Hoehn of Milwaukee, covering the event for Rugby Magazine. He commented that he had not been hosted better as a journalist in covering events from Rugby's Hong Kong 7's to football's Super Bowl. He said we should be proud of ourselves and our organization and realize just how lucky we all were to have a great facility such as the U.S.S. Alabama to host the Championship. Look for an outstanding report on the event in the June '92 edition of Rugby.

Also attending as a guest was Gib Hixon of the Mobile Convention Bureau (MCB). Working with myself, John Friend, Greg Roberts, as well as Michael Clarke of the MCB, Gib helped to create unsurpassed press coverage before, during, and after the weekend.

The referees and touch judges included Jerry McLemore, Laurel Lockett, Tom Rainey, Mark Peterson, Andy Mackiewicz, and Henry Hahn. They all attended the banquet as guests of the Battleship RFC. Sponsors Jim and Dub Walker of G.T. Henery's also were there.

We received numerous compliments on the food which was superbly catered by Weichmans All Seasons. Having been one of only nine restaurants which catered both of President Reagan's inaugural receptions, we felt that Weichmans was the best choice. I believe we were right.

The music was ably provided by Russell Combs. I must also thank all those club members who helped bring the beer over, set up and take down tables and chairs, procure and display the table ornaments, and generally clean up the place. The attitude shown by our players regarding attire is also noteworthy and appreciated. They looked good and played better.

Afterwards, everyone adjourned to G.T. Henery's Bar which has also hosted the Players Reception the previous night. Our thanks to Dub and Jim for a job well done!

### CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS

A much needed financial shot-in-the-arm was had when we promoted the idea of seeking Corporate Sponsors. I believe Gary Thwaits is to thank for this inspiration. He personally raised over \$1,000 in contributions from The Rehabilitation Institute and G.T. Henery's. I was lucky in generating \$750 from Budweiser-Busch and the tent (a \$500 expense to Bud). They will also provide this same level of sponsorship at our Fall Tournament. Additionally, John Word of the Best Western Battleship Inn contributed \$500 at my request while the U.S.S. Alabama effectively granted us two Ship rentals for the Championship Banquet and our Luau (a \$1,400-1,500 normal charge for both events, total). We are extremely gratified to have received this support and we all should thank these sponsors by utilizing their products/services when possible:

Budweiser/Busch  
U.S.S. Alabama Memorial Park  
TRI  
Battleship Best Western Inn  
G.T. Henery's

Mr. Jack Barbato  
CDR Frank Dengler USN (RET)  
Mr. Mike Molyneux  
Mr. John Word  
Mr. Jim Walker

### DONATION

Once again, Bill Barbour's Friends of Exceptional Children were beneficiaries of your hard work which went into the event. Mr. R.J. Smith has written an extremely nice letter (attached) which acknowledges your efforts. Many thanks to all involved.

### CHAMPIONSHIP THANK YOU LIST

- The members of the U.S.S. Alabama Memorial Park and Battleship Commission for their superior efforts in providing their facilities including the field and the U.S.S. Alabama for our banquet, especially CDR Frank Dengler, Ms. Pam Jeffcoat, Mr. Bill Tunnell, Mr. Bill Parsons, and all the maintenance staff.
- Mr. Jack Barbato and Budweiser Busch for their support in providing the tent, cash contribution, and the 4 kegs enjoyed by all at the Banquet.
- All the other Corporate Sponsors including TRI, Best Western, U.S.S. Alabama, and G.T. Henery's.
- Jim and Dub Walker of G.T. Henery's for hosting the Friday night reception, Saturday night party, and also for allowing us to continue our relationship after the Sunday night celebration. We are lucky to have these guys associated with the Battleship Rugby Club.
- Greg Roberts and John Friend for significant achievement as Public Relations experts. They arranged a press conference, several press releases, and continually contacted the local media to secure excellent coverage. Again, they worked with the Mobile Convention Bureau to make this happen, having weekly meetings to ensure the proper approach. Indeed, John Friend is now a "Rising Star" in the eyes of the local press and I fully expect his next stop to be New York City!
- Thanks again to all the Tournament Referees and especially to Tom Rainey for organizing them and bringing them to Mobile. Several letters of appreciation from them are included for your perusal.
- Newmans Ambulance Service; TRI Trainers including Russell Porter, Kieth Holland, Rhonda Griggs, and Gary Thwaits; and Springhill Memorial Hospital, for excellent medical coverage.
- Mr. Tony Goubil and the Sheriffs CB Patrol for their control of traffic and security.



- Mr. Chip Conklin and the fine staff of Camellia Trophy Shop for arranging and producing the outstanding trophies.
- Field Prep Crew - Charley Bowen, Lars Granade, Brad Bassett, Jim Wiseman, Bill Bender, Mark Gries, Mark Broadus, Randy Holbein, the City of Mobile, and especially the inimitable Walter Verneville for his twice painting the field. Also, thanks to Brad Bassett and Mobile Water Service for watering the field.
- Goal Post Painting - Thanks to Kieth Parton.
- Rugby Magazine - Thanks to Ed Hagerty and Jim Hoehn for their interest and outstanding coverage.
- Riverview Plaza Hotel for hosting Jerry McLemore and Jim Hoehn at no cost to us.
- T-Shirt Design - Many thanks go to Jimmy Wiseman for an exceptional shirt design. This shirt (240 units) sold out almost immediately and we will probably take some more orders. See CB!
- T-Shirt Sales - Buck Curran, Libby Schraeder, and Jacky Schraeder for selling all the shirts and taking the pre-sold orders.
- Mobile Gas Tent - Thanks to Greg Roberts and Mobile Gas for providing the tent our Club used throughout the week-end.
- Team Photo-man - Thanks to Bob Zimlich for his work in documenting the event, especially the Championship Game.
- Team Video-man - Thanks to Mike Smitherman for filming all the games and providing the necessary copies.
- Concession Sales - Thanks to Lars Howen, Bill and Dee Bender, Patty Wiseman, Harold Hardin, Gary Thwaits, Mark Broadus for making the concession booth sales successful. Thanks to Yarborough Enterprises (at the behest of Reggie Copeland) for allowing us to sell shirts and concessions, in variance with their contract with the U.S.S. Alabama Memorial Park. A special thanks to Lars Howen for organizing this group and buying all the provisions.
- Banquet-man - Also, we all owe Lars Howen our thanks for collecting all the monies for the Banquet (and also for the Luau).
- Field Cleanup - Thanks to everyone involved.

- Ad and Raffle Sales - About 33 people contributed close to \$5,000 via ad sales, raffle sales, or cash. I thought the effort put forth was excellent and all who did their share are to be commended. Thanks to Charlie Bowen, Gary Thwaites, and Lars Howen for collecting this money and keeping up with this great effort.
- Program Design - Gary Thwaites and Lars Howen did a very thorough and complete job in laying out the program so that it was camera ready. Also, the job was given to the printer on time and in good order. Many thanks!

#### CITY OF MOBILE SUPPORT

Mr. Reggie Copeland, Councilman, helped to provide an extremely high level of support from the City of Mobile. He figured prominently in providing the crowd barriers and bleachers which served to enhance the entire setting. Mayor Mike Dow also contributed his support in naming us and the Championships in two City Proclamations. In the first he named the week of May 11-17, 1992 as "Budweiser Division II National Championship Week". Secondly, he proclaimed May 26, 1992 as "Battleship Rugby Club Day" in the City of Mobile in honor of our National Championship. This proclamation was signed by all the council members and read before the entire council at their regular meeting. Both documents are attached for your records. Also contributing from the City were:

Max McGill	-	Bleachers
Chan Keller	-	Bleachers and Scoreboard
Sonja Green	-	Crowd Barriers

#### FUND RAISING!

By Lars Howen

The never ending requirement for money still haunts us. Please remember that we still collect aluminum. Collections have dropped off in recent months.

Also, we ask that all take a serious look at the Melaleuca network we recently signed on with. After just two months, we have enough signed up to completely offset the cost to the team!

This can be a fantastic situation for our club if we all take it seriously. Though there is a \$21.00 sign-up fee and the cost is about \$35.00 a month, you must not look at it as throwing your money away. You receive an equitable amount of merchandise that you really can use, in return for your participation. Our club is receiving the kinds of products that we need on the sidelines for our games.

If you are so inclined, you have the opportunity to get your merchandise at little or no cost. And with a minimal amount of effort, you can even make a little money for yourself! And remember, everything that benefits you will equally benefit the rugby club. There are organizations in this region of the country that are making thousands of dollars each month! As an active participant in this program, you will eventually have other rugby clubs directly below you. You can't help but make some money. There are several clubmates that are willing to help you every step of the way.

C'mon everyone! You cannot argue with dollar signs. This is not a difficult way to ensure the perpetuation of our club. You also might hit paydirt for yourself.

If you are deadset against this method of raising money, at least tell some friends about us and help us help the club



# SPRING '92 DUES RECAP

Name	Status	Prior Balance	Spring '92 Dues	Spring '92 Paid	Balance Due
Jim Alvarez	Social	\$ 0	\$25	\$25	\$ 0
Jim Andrews	Player	0	50	50	0
Brad Bassett	Player	0	50	50	0
Bill Bender	Social	0	25	0	25
Joe Bolton	Player	0	50	50	0
Charlie Bowen	Player	0	50	50	0
Jimmy Boyd	Player	15	50	14	51
Mark Broadus	Social	5	25	0	30
Vince Byrne	Social	0	25	0	25
Matt Capo	Player	0	25	20	5
Chip Conklin	Player	0	50	50	0
Evans Crowe	Player	25	50	50	25
Buck Curran	Social	0	25	25	0
Eric Dayton	Player	0	50	50	0
Scott Daoust	Social	25	25	0	50
Hal Decker	Player	50	50	0	100
Nigel Dingwall	Social	25	25	25	25
Sean Duffy	Player	25	50	50	25
Stacy Earls	Player	0	50	25	25
Deanna Farnell	Social	0	25	0	25
Rick Faust	Player	0	50	50	0
John Friend	Player	0	50	50	0
Vince George	Social	0	25	25	0
Mark Gries	Player	25	50	75	0
Lars Granade	Player	25	50	50	25
Harold Hardin	Social	0	25	25	0
Gary Holbein	Social	0	25	20	5
Randy Holbein	Player	0	50	40	10
Frank Holbein	Social	0	25	35	0
Lars Howen	Social	25	25	100	0
Tim James	Social	25	25	20	30
Mike Leach	Player	0	50	50	0
Billy MacWilliam	Player	25	50	75	0
Mike Michalowski	Social	0	25	25	0
James Montaine	Player	0	50	0	50
Scotty Montauge	Player	20	50	70	0
Jesse Nicholes	Player	50	50	100	0
Keith Parton	Player	0	50	50	0
Greg Roberts	Player	20	50	25	45
Jason Smorol	Player	0	25	25	0
Randy Stroecker	Player	0	50	50	0
Gary Thwaits	Social	0	25	25	0
Tim Trice	Social	0	25	25	0
Joe Tucker	Player	15	50	50	15
Reed Wakefield	Player	25	50	75	0
Jimmy Wiseman	Player	25	50	75	0
Walker Williams	Player	0	25	25	0
Walter Vernueille	Social	0	25	25	0
Bob Zimlich	Player	0	50	50	0
TOTAL		\$450	\$1,925	\$1,844	\$596

1993 USA RUGBY  
NATIONAL DIVISION II  
MEN'S CLUB  
CHAMPIONSHIP



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
MAY 8 & 9, 1993

USS ALABAMA MEMORIAL PARK  
MOBILE, ALABAMA