



# 2011 Annual Report

*Prepared by the Faded Red Board of Directors*

# President's Letter

Dear Cornell Rugby Alumni:

With the New Year upon us, we at Faded Red realize that a newsletter about the state of rugby at Cornell University is long overdue. The degree of involvement and commitment for each person reading this note varies considerably, but the fact that all of you have continued to support our rugby programs speaks volumes about the dedication and strength that Cornell Rugby has fostered in all of us.

Over the past two years, a small group of recent alumni decided it was time to take leadership of a previously stagnant Faded Red. After a hugely successful fundraising effort helped build our new rugby field, which opened for use in 2005, our alumni organization had a significant drop-off in activity. Although the Cornell teams remained successful on the field, we lacked an active and productive alumni organization. We have set out to fix that problem.

We've since rebuilt the board of directors with young and enthusiastic members, re-written our by-laws, revamped our website, strengthened our PR and marketing, worked to develop a comprehensive alumni database, and started numerous new fundraising and social activities. Faded Red is now becoming the alumni organization that Cornell Rugby, with a long history of success, deserves. More importantly, we are becoming the alumni organization that Cornell Rugby now needs to continue being competitive in an ever-more complex rugby world.

With the first Cornell men's rugby game recorded in 1879, and a continuously active team since 1938, we remain one of the longest-standing American rugby programs. We hold a special place in rugby history – one that will be reflected in an upcoming book chronicling the history of rugby in the U.S. For over 130 years, Cornell Rugby has persevered while other programs failed and it is high time that we alumni ensure the program remains vital for the next 130 years and beyond.

I am proud to be a part of Cornell Rugby, and to be a part of building on an already rich tradition. But, I am even more excited to see so many others joining us in this effort. To those of you who have provided time, money and support over the last two years, thank you! And to those of you who are ready to help, welcome! There's always more to do, and we're always open to suggestions. So please reach out, and let us know what you think and how you can help.

Bleed Red,

Avi Giladi  
President, Faded Red

# 2010 Men's Alumni Game

## After Slow Start, Alumni Z-Side Takes Care of Business

Sept. 11, 2010 – After spending a little too much time at the Palms on Friday night, the alumni Z-side came out flat against a young, but game, Cornell A-side. The result was a fast and devastating attack by the A-side backs and a 20-0 lead for the youngsters after only 20 minutes.

The Z-side eventually got onto the board in the 25th minute, making the score 20-5. However, the response from the A-side was quick, and in the 27th minute, they scored again to bring the match to 25-5. With 53 minutes of rugby still left to play, the alumni Z-side looked to be in for a long and painful afternoon.



At this point, the pace of the action was slowed as the Z-side focused on ball control, using a series of rolling mauls and forward crashes to stop the momentum of the A-side. The new strategy worked brilliantly, and with 17 seconds left in the first half, the Z-side scored a try and conversion to bring the score to 25-12. Going into halftime, the Z-side was now in striking distance for a comeback and the A-Side attack was now nonexistent.

In the second half, the match turned in favor of the Z-side in stunning fashion. Led by three trys from JoJo Bucci ('05) and strong runs from eventual man-of-the-match Tim Powers ('05), the alumni scored 42 unanswered points - leaving no doubt who was actually in charge. Those scoring trys included Avi Giladi ('04), Alex Cwirko-Godycki ('04), Eamon Molloy ('05), and Randall "The Goose" Luce ('??). The Z-side was also boosted by strong kicking from Dan O'Connor ('05) and a much needed 2nd half appearance from John Friedman ('07) who flew in from Singapore to shore up the back line. At the end of the day, the alumni Z-side powered to an impressive 54 to 25 win over current Cornell A-side.

After the game, both the A-Side and Z-Side enjoyed a healthy chicken wing lunch provided by game sponsor Wings Over Ithaca. As they ate, the second game of the day kicked off.

In game two, the alumni Double Z-side took down the Cornell B-Side by a score of 17-5. The day's events then wrapped-up with a raucous banquet at the "always classy" Chinese Buffet.

# 2010 Women's Alumni Game

## An Epic Double Header in Ithaca for the CWRFC Alumni

May 1, 2010 — Last May, on a beautiful Saturday morning in Ithaca, the Cornell Women's Rugby club held its annual alumni matches. Up first, with an 11:30am kickoff, the Cornell women's A-side played against a strong visiting alumni squad. Next, with a 1:00pm kickoff, the Cornell women's B-side team took on the Ithaca Avengers, a local affiliate club team. Many Cornell alumni and former CWRFC stars, including Adrienne Wilson, Randi Huff, Steph Brownstein, Emily Benning, Lindsey Crump, and Amanda Kempf pulled double duty as current players on the Avengers squad. Both games were played extremely well, and the Avengers and CWRFC combined for a post-match barbecue at Stewart Park.

Any alumni interested in joining Alumni Weekend 2011 or getting updates on the current team should email president Molly Hulbert at [mah364@cornell.edu](mailto:mah364@cornell.edu) to get on our new alumni listserv.



# Club Communications

## Faded Red Joins the 21st Century

For those of you who follow the Twitter-verse, I'm sure you've seen the recently viral video (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JUs7iG1mNjI>) of Bryant Gumbel and Katie Couric discussing the internet back in 1994. It's a hilarious flashback to a time before iPads, iPods and 35,000 emails a day, when most folks didn't know what the "@" symbol meant.

Of course, it's not so funny when you consider the fact that in all that time, Faded Red lacked a solid home on the internet. Fortunately, those days are over! Thanks to the excellent work of Stephen Siano, Faded Red now has an online presence that we can all be proud of. I encourage you to visit our wonderful new site (<http://www.fadedredrugby.com/>), and while you are there, please join our alumni network.

For more on outreach and communications efforts at Faded Red, please contact Alex Cwirko-Godycki at [alex.cwirkogodycki@gmail.com](mailto:alex.cwirkogodycki@gmail.com).

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Cornell University Rugby Alumni Association

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**2010 Fall 1st XV Standings**

	W	L	T	Points
<a href="#">Dartmouth</a>	7	0	0	35
<a href="#">Columbia</a>	5	2	0	23
<a href="#">Harvard</a>	5	2	0	22
<a href="#">Yale</a>	4	3	0	18
<a href="#">Brown</a>	3	4	0	16
<a href="#">Penn</a>	2	5	0	11
<a href="#">Princeton</a>	1	6	0	8
<a href="#">Cornell</a>	1	6	0	7

[Full Ivy Match-by-Match Results >](#)

Mood Indigo On Upper Alumni

CORNELL UNIVERSITY RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

# Finance Update

## Our Fundraising Efforts Get a Makeover

We recently revamped our Faded Red accounts structure to create five separate accounts for alumni contributions. This system allows all Cornell Rugby alumni to target their donations to the programs they care about most deeply. The five new accounts include Faded Red General, Faded Red Endowment, Faded Red Men's, Faded Red Women's, and Faded Red Johnson School/JGSM. Contributions can be made directly to any of these accounts online (by visiting: <http://www.fadedredrugby.com/giving>) and new bylaws outline how funds from each account may be accessed and distributed, protecting use. Furthermore, all donations to these accounts are tax deductible.

Donations to the team accounts are generally geared towards funding day-to-day expenses like travel, equipment, and apparel. However, we will also aim to raise enough money to fund chartered bus travel for each team using these funds. The General fund can be used for a different assortment of needs like field maintenance and facility costs. We also hope to offset travel costs for players qualifying for all-star and development camps when possible.



Our long-term goals rely largely on the Endowment fund. In the immediate future, we are strongly focused on establishing a coaching stipend via this fund. The men's and women's teams are currently in search of stable and long-term coaching commitments, and without reliable leadership building a consistently successful program is nearly impossible. We intend for our endowment to soon have enough principal for an annual dividend that covers the salary for coaches.

For more on fundraising efforts at Faded Red, please contact Tom Bachrach at [tbachrach@gmail.com](mailto:tbachrach@gmail.com).

# Finance Update Continued

## A New System for Day-to-Day Funding

In an effort to ramp up financial support for our rugby programs with consistent and predictable cash flow, a new fundraising initiative called Faded Red Dues was also established this past year. Alumni agree to make a recurring (and tax deductible) donation to Faded Red of at least \$10 per month. This donation can be earmarked to any of the three major program funds (Men's, Women's, or JGSM), as well as to our General or Endowment funds. For a very reasonable monthly contribution, we can all remain involved with Cornell Rugby and help Faded Red work towards the goals outlined above. More information on this initiative can be found at <http://www.fadedredrugby.com/giving>.

Although our dues program is still new, we'd like to thank the following alumni who have already begun giving Faded Red Dues and kicked us off to an excellent start. Names in **bold** reflect contributions above the minimum amount.

### 1999

Douglas, Peter M.

### 2001

Pergament, Jason L.

**Yun, Richard Hyok**

### 2002

Hempel, Jason

Merrell, Michael John

Stevens, Justin Ari

### 2003

**Kelly, Timothy Sean**

**Tempest, Charles Ryan**

### 2004

**Cwirko-Godycki, Alexander David**

Giladi, Aviram Moshe

### 2005

**Bachrach, Thomas Jameson**

Bucci, Joseph Genduso

Cahan, Levi Josiah

Cook, Mackenzie Rainier

**Gearity, Ray**

**Molloy, Eamon**

Powers, Tim

Tyler, Brian

### 2006

**Andon, Timothy John**

**Crespi, Brian Philip**

Culley, William Charles

Juliano, Ryan L

Yap, Chun Hong

### 2007

Irvin, Daniel Scott

**Loewenstein, Evan David**

McGowan, Morgan Snead

### 2008

**Acquaviva, Jonathan Philip**

# The Year in Review: CWRFC

## Another Championship Season for Storied Program



Cornell Women's Rugby recently finished one of the most successful seasons in team history. The team took first-place at the Beantown Tournament at the University of Massachusetts with a championship victory over Yale. CWRFC continued with regular season victories over Buffalo, Brockport, Syracuse, Geneseo, and Hamilton for an undefeated season and a state championship victory. Cornell's winning streak continued with an Elite-8 home victory over UConn, giving CWRFC a bid to the NRU Final Fours. However, the season ended with a 28-10 loss to Army and a last-minute heartbreaking 17-15 loss to Dartmouth. Cornell was ranked as high as #12 in the nation by Rugby Magazine.

Flanker Naquell Stephenson and Scrumhalf Kayla Strong were voted team MVPs. Flanker Kat Fahey and Center/Backs Captain Christine Sargent were two of the most productive scorers. Sophomore lock Daisy Chinburg was awarded Rookie of the Year after starting every A-side game this season. Strong and Elisa Becker are the team's two nominations for the Academic All-Ivy team.

With 16 seniors graduating, the team now looks to develop its impressive new rookie class and younger generation of players. Junior Talia Baker will serve as player-coach and forwards captain for another year while Junior Bethany Potter will take over as backs captain. The team is still actively searching for a full-time coach.



# The Year in Review: CURFC

## A Young Squad Eyes 2011 After Promising 2010



With a large freshman class, Cornell Men's Rugby took its preseason very seriously training twice a day for most of the summer. Cornell started the Fall 2010 Ivy League season at home against Yale on homecoming. Big Red took the veteran Yale side to the brink of defeat only to fall in a last minute Yale push 24-22. Falling to Harvard and Princeton at home only strengthened the Cornell side and prepared them for a hungry University of Pennsylvania side.

With many Cornell try scorers and a tough defense, Big Red took down The Quakers 46-24. Traveling up to Hanover, Big Red, as every Ivy League team, was the underdog. Big Green Dartmouth saw a hard hitting and relentless Cornell side that produced one of the only tries of the season against Dartmouth. Cornell ended its season on Randall's Island facing top-ranked Columbia. After some hiccups and speed bumps, Big Red played the Lions 12-12 in the second half but fell short in the end.

Though Big Red finished 1-7 in the Ivy League it showed much improvement from the 2009 season. With a promising freshman class of 20 new players, Cornell is pushing forward to the 2011 season with tenacity and anticipation.

# Ivy League Update

## Ivy league Leads the Pack

As many of you know, 2009 was a monumental year in American collegiate rugby. For the first time, teams aligned by traditional NCAA conference arrangements for their official season play.



The 8 teams that pioneered this change were the men's teams of the Ivy League. Bearing longer travel, greater expense, and overall more difficult competition, these historic teams broke away from the previous USA rugby alignment to form the Ivy League Rugby Conference. Other conferences, including the Big10 and Pac10, are working towards this change as well – the Big10 having the first Big 10 Tournament this year, something the Ivy League has been doing for over 20 years. We remain at the forefront of American Rugby, but as mentioned above these changes add stress and expense that we must help to offset.

In 2010, the Ivy League continued to make progress, becoming an official LAU region recognized by USA Rugby. This change clears the path for greater access to league insurance, referees, sponsorships and tie-ins to national tournaments. Additionally, the league ratified new rules for end of year playoff seeding and the selection of national tournament attendees. Together, these updates place the Ivy League at the forefront of collegiate rugby.

## Welcome to the CPL

Fall 2010 marked the 2<sup>nd</sup> full season of Ivy League Rugby conference play. Dartmouth was crowned Ivy League champion after finishing the season undefeated and Columbia took 2<sup>nd</sup> in the regular season standings. Due to the shake up in the college rugby structure implemented by USA Rugby, Dartmouth will be participating in the College Premier League (CPL) in the Spring of 2011. The CPL will be the highest division of men's college rugby in the country. For a full list of CPL teams see: <http://rugbyintexas.com/?p=336>.

Men's Division 1 (D1) is the league below the CPL and the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest standard of men's college rugby in the U.S. The D1 playoff competition will consist of a 16 team playoff in the spring of 2011. The winner of the Ivy League Rugby Conference has a direct bid into the D1 national round of 16. However, due to the restructuring, Dartmouth was ineligible to represent the Ivy League in the D1 playoffs due to their entry into the CPL. The Ivy League Rugby conference elected to have a wild card playoff weekend with the top 4 teams after regular season play, not including Dartmouth. These 4 teams were Columbia, Harvard, Yale, and Brown. If Cornell had won their last regular season game against Columbia, they would have snuck into the top 4 and had a shot at making the D1 round of 16. After an exciting weekend of play November 6-7, 2010 at Columbia's Baker Field, Harvard won the wild card weekend and the right to represent the Ivy League at next spring's D1 round of 16.

For all things Ivy League, please contact Faded Red's Ivy League liaison and representative, JoJo Bucci at [jojobucci@yahoo.com](mailto:jojobucci@yahoo.com).

# Meet Your 2011 Kit Supplier

## Cornell Rugby Signs With Boathouse Sports

Cornell Rugby is proud to announce that Boathouse Sports has signed on as the official kit supplier to Cornell Rugby and the Ivy League Rugby Conference for the Fall of 2011 season and beyond. This new sponsorship deal runs through 2014. Highlights include:

- one set (24) of custom jerseys in 2011
- a \$500 product credit (at team price) in 2011, 2012 and 2013
- On-going discounts....Cornell Rugby will receive 10% off team price for all “in-season” orders. Cornell Rugby will receive a 20% discount for all pre-season orders (as an example, Fall 2011 orders must be submitted before May 15 2011 to qualify for this discount )
- In addition, Boathouse Sports will provide to the Ivy League Barbarians a full uniform set (24) in both 2011 and 2012. In addition to the uniform, a custom jacket will be supplied to each of the team members.
- Boathouse will develop, at no charge, an on-line team store for Cornell Rugby. A 25% rebate will be returned to Cornell Rugby team for on-line sales.

The image shows a screenshot of the Boathouse Sports website. At the top, the Boathouse Sports logo is displayed in white and red. Below the logo is a navigation bar with "SHOP BY" options for "Sport" and "Category", a "SHOPPING CART" with "0 items", and a "My Account" link. A search bar is also present. The main content area features a large banner with the Boathouse Sports logo in the center. On either side of the logo are two male models wearing red and blue jackets. Below the banner are three smaller images showing rowers in action. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the text "Shop the Boathouse CREW SHOP", "GREAT DEALS ON STOCK ROWING GEAR & GORETEX", and "Now Available 2010 CATALOG". The footer also includes the phone number "800.875.1883", a small American flag icon, and the copyright notice "© 2008 Boathouse Sports". At the very bottom, there is a list of links: "About Boathouse | Contact Us | Customer Service | Request a Catalog | Testimonials | Employment | Site Map | Privacy Policy" and "Layouts | Fabrics | Colors | Mascots & Symbols | Fonts".

# Wear Faded Red on Your Sleeve, Literally

## A New Way to Support Faded Red

We recently hooked up with a fantastic, no-frills rugby supplier named “RA” to produce a new line of Faded Red gear. These guys love rugby and great design, and they’ve handed us a great deal to kick things off. As with many our projects, we’re only in phase one. However, that doesn’t mean you have to wait for the latest and greatest. To order your next Faded Red t-shirt, please see below:

### Faded Red Shield T-Shirt



### Faded Red Logo T-Shirt



#### ***Purchase Faded Red Shield T-Shirt***

<http://shop.rugbyathletic.com/default.aspx?p=viewitem&item=FR018&subno=&showpage=1&subcat=4>

#### ***Purchase Faded Red Logo T-shirt***

<http://shop.rugbyathletic.com/default.aspx?p=viewitem&item=FR019&subno=&showpage=1&subcat=4>

Do you have comments on or suggestions for this report? If so, send your ideas to Alex Cwirko-Godycki at alex.cwirkogodycki@gmail.com.