

Dick B

TECH-WARATAH

RUGBY CLUB

*SENIOR PRESENTATION
AND DINNER
11TH OCTOBER 1996*

1996 YEARBOOK

Wollongong Tech Waratahs Rugby Club

1996 COMMITTEE

<i>President</i>	<i>PAUL DARBY</i>
<i>Senior Vice President</i>	<i>WAYNE IRELAND</i>
<i>Junior Vice President</i>	<i>RON WESSEL</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>KHALED MATAR, JOHN WHIDDETT</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>LYNDY O'NEILL</i>
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	<i>RICK BOYLE</i>
<i>Club Manager</i>	<i>PETER O'NEILL</i>
<i>Registrar</i>	<i>JOHN MAUGHAN</i>
<i>Club Captain</i>	<i>SIMON MARLAND</i>
<i>Gear Steward</i>	<i>SIMON MARLAND</i>
<i>Social Director</i>	<i>JUSTIN "BAT" JONES</i>
<i>IDRU Representatives</i>	<i>BARRY McVICAR PETER WALLACE</i>
<i>TAFE College Union Board</i>	<i>PETER O'NEILL</i>
<i>Bar Managers</i>	<i>MAL ANDERSON KATHY HUDSON</i>

Thank you to all the committee members did their jobs during the year and pitched in when needed to help out others.

***SPECIAL THANKS** must go to Stephen Power.
Once again Stephen has come along every week and helped
enormously by running the line.....*

SPONSORS

Coastwide Engineering

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Shoppa Docket

Northbeach Novatel

*We thank all of our sponsors for
their valued support in 1996 and look forward to
continuing our association next year.*

LIFE MEMBERS

Brian Baird
Wayne Boardman
Richard Boyle
Bruce Carr
Graeme Collinson-Smith
Gary Graham
Mark Hotchkis
Frank Isaacs
Graeme Kohler
Brian Leo
Barry McVicar
Don Muir
Jim Pettit
Lew Pogson
Cyril Saunders
Don Shaw
Ean Torpy
Geoff Wells
Ron Wessel
Mick Wilkins

PRESIDENTS REPORT

1996! Some people might say that this was a very ordinary season. Certainly on the paddock this was true. However, as difficult as it may be to believe, in all other aspects it was a good year for the club.

Some more new faces on the paddock was again encouraging, as was seeing the old faces. The nucleus of the senior grade players remained basically the same. It is good to be able to rely on these players to form the basis of our teams, however, as you all know we must be able to develop from there.

The points table showed without a doubt our problems on the paddock. Yes there was some fairly ordinary performances but there were also some pretty heroic ones. Yes there was some pretty horrible scores but again there was some that were very encouraging. Yes there was certainly the knockers, both within and outside the club, but there was also those who encouraged. To all of the players who gave everything they could, backed up, came to the games knowing they would probably have to play two games and would also probably get beaten fairly convincingly, I would to thank you both as President and personally. To all the coaches, it certainly has been a tough season but you have stuck to your guns and battled on, for this I sincerely thank you. It is performances like these that build a club. I am sure each individual within the club knows exactly how much, and in some cases, how little they contributed.

Enough of that, now to the positive side of the season. At the time of writing this report our mighty U19s were preparing to defend the Premiership trophy, to do battle in yet another Grand Final, and against their old nemesis Campbelltown. Fellas, don't let anyone tell you anything other than you are a fine team of strong and and talented footballers. For those of you who helped the senior grades throughout the year, I thank you. For those of you who have been disheartened throughout the season, take note, next year has some very exciting prospects. To Dave and Kevin, thanks fellas, by the time you read this I am certain we will be drinking copious amounts of the singing syrup and celebrating yet another premiership.

Congratulations to all of the junior teams who once again had a fantastic season. Premierships in two out of three age groups, with the U13s only being beaten in the Grand Final, is a great result. Well done to Phil Garde and his crew.

I would like at this stage to thank all those who have made this season possible. The Wollongong College Union Inc., for the use and maintenance of our ground and facilities. Many thanks to the WCUI General Manager, John Redmond and the Recreation Centre Manager, Ross Longbottom.

JUNIOR CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1996 can be looked upon as the most successful in our juniors' short history.

The results of the season started early with us running the Campbelltown Sevens and all teams winning their respective age groups. This was followed up two weeks later with the U15 and U17 teams winning the Tech-Waratah 15-a-side at Campbelltown.

During the year 34 boys represented Illawarra at Country and NSW Championships. Seven boys also represented Country at Australian Championships.

*Two of our boys **Ben Olsen** and **Rodney Petty** were selected to represent New South Wales U17's.*

*A special mention needs to be made of the great achievement of **Josh Darby** - Illawarra Player of the Year. Josh was selected to represent at the highest level when selected in the Australian U16 side and is Tech-Waratah's first **Australian Representative**.*

This all culminated on Grand Final (night) at Vikings in early September with all of our teams playing, taking out the U15 and U17 championships. Our U13 side - although undefeated all season - could not continue this form on the night.

I would like to express my appreciation to our club sponsors - especially Electrical Engineering Equipment(EEE) - for their support during the year.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Coaches, Managers and Committee members for their continued efforts throughout the year and look forward to further success in 1997.

Phil Garde

CLUB CAPTAINS REPORT

The 1996 season on the field, for the senior grades as we all know, was a shocker but again the U19 and junior team provided the highlights.

Congratulations to our premiership teams on their great results and also to the U13's who played in the grand final which was a great effort. I'm sure they'll go on better next year and be another Tech-Waratah premiership team.

The U19 and junior teams have been an inspiration to the senior players and we all look forward to playing together and destroying the opposition.

I would like to thank all the grade coaches; Tony Cheetham, Tony Leeder-Smith and Puni Wuatai for all the time and effort they have put in this year and for not chucking the towel in like I'm sure they wanted to at many times during the year.

Well done to Kev Price and Dave Tregonning for coaching and moulding the U19's into a slick, aggressive and skilful unit. I'm sure we are going to reap the benefits of your work in the not too distant future.

Many thanks go to Stuart "Blue Murder" Pearson and Wylie "Wild Man" Pearson for playing in the first grade front row all year. I'm sure they dreaded rocking up to the games every week knowing they were going to cop a bashing every time, but they carried on regardless and for that I have the utmost respect for both of you.

On behalf of all the players I would also like to thank Rick Boyle, Michele Leeder-Smith and Ron Wessel for their time and effort in strapping the players on game days. Without you guys a lot of the players wouldn't be able to run out onto the paddock.

Mal and Kath did a superb job with the canteen this year. I still can't believe how Mal can work his 23 different jobs and still run the joint! Thanks to Kath for keep the bar open late on many occasions when I'm sure she would rather have been home in bed asleep.

Thanks to the committee for all their hard work and making my job easier. Darbs, Pete O'Neill and Wayne deserve special mention for all the tireless effort they have put in this year.

Finally, I would just like to mention to my fellow players - and especially the younger ones - that if we all stick together, with the plans in the pipeline for next year, the lean times are just about to finish.

*Rugby, like all sports, is about winning games and premierships but its also about **friendships**. If the young blokes in our club can make half as many good mates as I have in my time here, they'll have a great time and won't*

U19 COACH'S REPORT

Another Premiership. What an absolutely fantastic result for the club and the guys who played in this final series. They really deserved this because they have really trained well all season.

Let's just recap on the season as a whole.

It was great to carry so many from last years under 17 premiership side through to the 19's. Both Dave and myself believed they could go a long way this year. In the first round we came up against our old foes Shoalhaven very early, and it was great to beat them at home quite easily. They were always going to be a hard team to beat, no matter where you played them. Campbelltown were always going to be the team to beat and our first loss of the season was to them by 5 points, but we did not have our rep players for that game, and we knew they were beatable. In the first round our first big hiccup came when we lost to Shamrocks with a last minute penalty. That gave us two losses for the round and second place.

In the second round we seemed to adopt the attitude to do enough to win and made many of our games quite difficult without losing. A loss to the arch enemy, Vikings, at home really hurt but the draw with Campbelltown in Campbelltown was a good result for us and a psychological boost as they threw everything at us and, even though we didn't play well, still managed a draw. A loss to Shoalhaven at Shoalhaven cost us dearly and relegated us to third. In that game we also did enough in the second half to give us confidence for the finals.

In the finals we drew Shoalhaven first up and we were down 12-3 very early in the game playing into the wind. We turned this into a 14-12 win and a step closer to that premiership. Our next game was against Campbelltown, again another windy day, and going into the wind in the first half we were down 16-0 at half time, looking like taking the hard road to the finals. A credit to all the players in this game. We never gave up and a last minute try and conversion gave a 17-16 victory and an opportunity to take out the U19 premiership again. The rest is history as we ground Campbelltown into the dust at Steelers Stadium with an 18-14 victory and a long night of celebration.

A big thank you to all who assisted throughout the year, especially Ronny, Wayne, Simon, Michele, Rick and Bat, also all the other senior guys from the club who came to training over the finals weeks to run opposition: your help was much appreciated. In addition to this, all the players, especially those that sat on the bench in the finals series - thank you, we wouldn't have done it without you.

To Dave Tregonning, thanks: I think we make a good team. Thank you also to Keith Mayberry - we didn't lose a jersey all season.

Congratulations to those guys in the teams that represented this season be it at State, CHS or Illawarra. Many of you have great futures and much bigger honours are waiting for you as long as you continue to commit yourselves.

2ND GRADE COACH'S REPORT

Seven years ago I came to Australia on a working holiday and was based in Wollongong. It was then I had my first contact with Tech Rugby Club where Michelle was Fitness Trainer and Strapper. I was really impressed with both the friendliness and hospitality of the Tech Rugby Club and went back to England a fitter and harder player.

Returning to Wollongong in December last year I ran into Barry McVicar who mentioned that Tech-Waratahs were looking for coaches. Since I had been coaching grade in Salisbury, England for a few years I decided to give it a go, hence my present situation with Tech-A-Tah Rugby Club.

The 96 season has been long and hard with some very committed players. The standard of play over the last seven years and general loyalty of players seems to have dropped in Wollongong with players shifting loyalties from club to club, resulting in difficulty getting team together for away matches.

It has been a mixed season for 2nd grade fielding a different team each week depending on who was available. I would like to thank the U17's and U19's, along with the grade players who played two and three games per Saturday on a regular basis. With more players like these guys, Tech-Waratahs would be the top club in the Illawarra. Special thanks to Steve Power for consistently running the touch line: Much appreciated Steve!

There were two big Saturdays for 2nd grade this year. The first against Vikings on their home ground, where Tech players believed in their ability to win against their old rivals. Outstanding efforts were made in this game by Julien Payne, Bernie Wett and Justin Jones (the Sponge). The second win was at home against Wollongong and was a hard fought game. A special to Richard McLean who, in my opinion, was the most improved prop of the season, along with the U19's who backed up once again.

Second grade played hard throughout the season, always giving their all and always in difficult circumstances.

Special thanks to Peter O'Neill and Kevin Price who came out of retirement to help second grade in dire circumstances.

I would like to say thanks for all my new grey hairs and the support you have given me throughout the season. We must remember WHY we play this great game - TO ENJOY IT!!, to meet new friends and play with and against old friends.

Thank you very much for the season and all the best for 1997.

Tony Leeder-Smith

1ST GRADE COACH'S REPORT

I looked upon the 1996 season with mixed feelings. First it was great to be back involved in coaching, renewing some old friendships, mixing with others for the first time and making new friends within the club. But, overall the performance of the club on the field brought me great disappointment after having anticipated a much better season.

As the season wore on and our numbers diminished, it became obvious that we were not a competitive first grade side, but to the players' credit they never gave up trying when the opposition were usually much bigger, faster and much more physical than we were. To the players that stuck it out all season on Saturdays and at training and would play wherever they were asked to play, I am truly grateful for their support.

I would also like to thank Tony Leeder-Smith for his efforts throughout the year, especially at training where his efforts were invaluable in a year which must have been very frustrating for him at times. Also a big thanks to my manager Rick Boyle for his efforts.

Now for some good news. Congratulations to Kevin and Dave and all the U19 players for their victory in the grand final which brought a much needed boost to the club in a year we would rather forget. They set themselves a goal and it was good to see it paid dividends for them in the long run.

Also, congratulations to all of the premiership winning coaches and players from the junior competition for a great effort throughout the year.

The only advice I can give to the club is that, although it is good to win junior competition, it is a proven fact that it is not helping our senior club to get up off the bottom of the competition ladder. So hopefully the new committee can put together some form of structure to bring the club some competitive first grade quality players to blend with the talent that we have, to make us a competitive club within the district. This can only be achieved by everyone striving together to reach this goal.

Finally, thanks to the committee for giving me the opportunity to be involved this year with the club and I hope next year will be a much better one all round for the club.

Tony Cheetham

PLAYERS MILESTONES

400 GAMES

Rick Boyle, Wayne Boardman, Ean Torpy

300 GAMES

Kevin Abnett, Wayne Boardman, Rick Boyle, Tony Johnson, Barry Thomas, Ron Wessel

200 GAMES

Kevin Abnett, Graham Abnett, Wayne Boardman, Gwynne Brickell, Steve Hindson, Mark Hotchkis, Tony Johnson, Ian Kent, Paul Klein, Brian Leo, Richard Macrae, Bob Maitland, Mark McConnell, Barry McVicar, John Morris, Jim Nielson, Brett Ramsay, Dick Salm, Gavin Steele, Barry Thomas, Ean Torpy, Sam Vlandys, Ron Wessel, Mick Wilkins

100 GAMES

Graham Abnett, Kevin Abnett, Malcolm Anderson, Peter Arneman, Tony Arnold, Tony Auguston, Brett Ayre, Bill Barker (T), Bill Barker (W), Len Barker, Noel Bennetts, David Birch, Wayne Boardman, Bruce Bolding, Alan Booth, Rick Boyle, Gwynne Brickell, Sid Brown, Gary Burn, Kevin Callaghan, Hugo Cario, Tony Cheetham, Ron Chittock, Jim Clabour, Wayne Collard, Rod Coleshill, Graeme Collinson-Smith, Trevor Cowell, Steve Creenaune, R. Crewar, Tony Curren, Paul Darby, Steve Davies, Paul Davis, W. Davis, John Dawson, Richard Dixon, Brent Edwards, Allan Elliot, Brian Field, John Fox, Mark Fox, Robert Glasgown, Simon Golightly, Gary Graham, Mick Greenhalgh, Alan Gregory, Gary Hart, John Hayward, Wilf Hedley, John Heisley, Steve Hindson, Mark Hotchkis, Tony Johnson, Dave Johnston, Ian Kent, John Kinnear, Paul Klein, Graham Kohler, Reg Leighton, Peter Leiner (T), Peter Leiner (W), Brian Leo, Spiro Lozenovski, Richard Macrae, Richard Maitland, Robert Maitland, Paul Malady, John Maughan, Mark McConnell, Ian McCulloch, Jim McGrath, Barry McVicar, Philip Metera, Jerry Moffatt, John Morris, Don Muir, Paul Murray, Tony Naulty, Warren Neil, Jim Neilson, Mick Nowbray, Yaraslaw Olander, Mal Pearson, Jim Pettit, Les Porter, Anthony Quilkey, Peter Quilkey, P. Ragnoli, Brett Ramsay, Henry Rarere, Tony Rogers, Ian Ruttera, Dick Salm, Don Shaw, Michael, Steve Smith, Gavin Steele, Michael Strudwick, John Sutherland, Rusty Swanson, Barry Thomas, Josh Tito, Ean Torpy, Fred Tritton, Gary Thompson, Sam Vlandys, Peter Wallace, Brian Warnock, Michael Weine, Ron Wessel (T), Ron Wessel (W), John Whiddett, Mick Wilkins, Geoff Youll.

100 GAMES reached at Tech-Waratahs

Edward Baird, Justin Jones, Peter King, Jason Lammers, Simon Marland, Khaled Matar, Simon Muir, John Scott,

GAMES PLAYED

NAME	Games at start 1996					1995 TOTAL	CAREER TOTAL
		1	2	3	U19		
ANDERSON, Mal	179		2			2	181
ARNOLD, Tony	182			1		1	183
ATKINS Michael	0				17	17	17
AUSTIN, Heath	0			11		11	11
BARNES, Kent	0		3			3	3
BARNETT, Steven	0		2			2	2
BEHR, David	18	1	3	2		6	24
BIRCH, David	134	14				14	148
BOYLE, Rick	442			1		1	443
BRIGUGLIO, John	52		2	11		13	65
BULLEN, Chris	0	3				3	3
BYE, Mark	0	3	3			6	6
CHAPMAN, Arthur	15	2	5			7	22
CHEETHAM, Tony	154			1		1	155
CLOTHIER, Craig	65			5		5	70
COLEMAN, Scott	0			5		5	5
COOPER, Glen	39	14	2			16	55
CORNFORD, Andrew	54			11		11	65
CRAWFORD, Julian	91					0	91
CRIMMINS, Jason	18	1	5	4	18	28	46
DARBY Josh	0				3	3	3
DARBY, Paul	182			1		1	183
de LOA, Loa	14	1	8	5		14	28
EDMONDS, Adam	16	10	5			15	31
EMMETT, Theo	0		2	3		5	5
EVANS, Greg	86			1		1	87
FASCH, Daniel	28	15				15	43
FLYNN, Jacob	0			1	14	15	15
FRIGO, Shane	0		1		15	16	16
GEORGE, Damian	0	3	5	5	5	18	18
GORDON, Andrew	90			2		2	92
GOULD, Phil	15		9	2	13	24	39
HARDY Daniel	0				4	4	4
HARRIMAN, David	13			1	3	4	17
HUDSON, Tim	0		4		17	21	21
IRELAND, Wayne	65	16				16	81
JONES, Justin	102	2	12			14	116
KELL, Rob	78			1		1	79
KIELY, Chris	32	11	3			14	46
KNIGHT, Dave	0			10		10	10
KOHLER, Lucas	24	3				3	27

GAMES PLAYED

NAME	Games at start 1996					1995 TOTAL	CAREER TOTAL
		1	2	3	U19		
LAING, Mat	66			4		4	70
LANE, Brian	34	3	10	15		28	62
LANGRIDGE Tim	0				18	18	18
LEEDER-SMITH, Tony	0		1	1		2	2
LOLLBACK, Steve	42			5		5	47
LYMMERY Ben	0				12	12	12
MACRAE, Richard	259			1		1	260
MAKEA, Tommy	43	12				12	55
MANOVSKI, Zlatcko	40	11	4	5		20	60
MARLAND, Simon	102	18				18	120
MARTIN, Lee	0		4	10	12	26	26
MATAR, Khaled	100	6		1		7	107
MAUGHAN, John	179		6	16		22	201
MAYBERRY, Adam	13	1	7	15	3	26	39
MAYBERRY, Luke	0	1	14	2	18	35	35
McLEAN, Richard	0	1	7			8	8
MILLER Aaron	0				15	15	15
NEELY, Brad	0			6		6	6
NEVILLE Shane	0				11	11	11
NEWING, Greg	28	6		4		10	38
OGDEN, Cameron	0		4	4	16	24	24
OGDEN, Craig	35	14				14	49
OGDEN, Shaun	62	2	4	5		11	73
O'HARA, Darryl	34		4			4	38
OLSEN, Ben	0		9	10	17	36	36
OLSEN, Tim	0	1	6	8	2	17	17
O'NEILL, Alan	10		2	4	11	17	27
O'NEILL, Peter	54		3	4		7	61
O'SHEA Darren	0				2	2	2
O'SHEA, Mark	0	4	1	1		6	6
PARRISH, Darryl	25	2	2	9		13	38
PATIA, Po	0	16				16	16
PAYNE, Julien	15	4	5			9	24
PEACE, Cameron	0		1	4	5	10	10
PEARSON, Stuart	22	9	2	4		15	37
PEARSON, Wylie	17	10	8	4		22	39
PERRY, Ian	78	12		1		13	91
PETTY, Rodney	0		5	4	17	26	26
PHILLIP, Tiuru	0	4				4	4
PHILLIPS, Jamie	16			6		6	22

GAMES PLAYED

NAME	Games at start 1996					1995 TOTAL	CAREER TOTAL
		1	2	3	U19		
POWER, Martin	29	6	3			9	38
POWER, Stephen	12		1	4		5	17
PRICE, John	9		1		18	19	28
PRICE, Kevin	14		1	1		2	16
PRICE, Mathew	38		3	1	18	22	60
RAGLAND, Adam	0		1	6		7	7
RAMSAY, Brett	206			7		7	213
REIHER, Matt	0			1	12	13	13
ROSSIT Dean	0				1	1	1
ROSSITT, Rob	12		3	7		10	22
RUTERA, Ian	202		5	6		11	213
RYAN, Michael	0	2	9	10		21	21
SCACCIA, Michael	0	1	7	1		9	9
SHERLOCK, Phil	77			1		1	78
SMART, Ross	0		1	4	6	11	11
SILVESTER, Luke	68			1		1	69
SKORA, Ziggy	23			1		1	24
SOPHER, Daniel	20	6	2			8	28
STEELE, Colin	83			1		1	84
STRETTON, David	13		2			2	15
STRUDWICK, Michael	178		4			4	182
TAMOARE, T	0	12	3			15	15
TIERE, Eddy	0		5	5		10	10
TIERE, Mark Julio	0		5	5		10	10
TREGONNING, Adam	30		8	1	11	20	50
TREGONNING, Jay	3		1		10	11	14
TRENGA, Christian	17	1	2	6		9	26
TROY Ben	0				1	1	1
TULLY, Daniel	0		6	7	12	25	25
WESSEL, Ron	415			1		1	416
WETT, Bernie	17	4	5	1	1	11	28
WHITE, Wayne	25			6		6	31
WIACZEK, Steven	0		2		2	4	4

1996 AWARDS



U19 MOST IMPROVED	- Davey Tully
U19 PLAYER OF THE YEAR	- Shane Keogh / Adam Keogh
CROOKY OF THE YEAR	JUSTIN JONES
3RD GRADE MOST IMPROVED	Brian Laine
3RD GRADE BEST AND FAIREST	John Maguire
STIRRER OF THE YEAR	Tony Cheetham
2ND GRADE MOST IMPROVED	DAMIAN GEORGE
2ND GRADE BEST AND FAIREST	Jason Jones - BATHMAN
BEST TRAINER	CRAIG OGDEN
TRY SCORER OF THE YEAR	DANIEL KASCH
POINTS SCORER OF THE YEAR	Luke McMAHON
1ST GRADE MOST IMPROVED	DANIEL SOPHER
1ST BEST AND FAIREST	DANIEL KASCH
MOST IMPROVED CLUB PLAYER	Chris Keirsey
MOST CONSISTENT CLUB PLAYER	DANIEL SOPHER
MOST OUTSTANDING PROSPECT	SHANE KEOGH
RICK BOYLE TROPHY	SHANE KEOGH
CLUBMAN OF THE YEAR	Wayne Ireland

