



Chikopi Chant

December 2009

Beef-O-Bob

SEASONS GREETINGS

December is upon us and during this holiday time, snow covers all of Chikopi with over three feet (100cm) of the fallen white flurry flakes. Ahmic Lake is beginning to freeze over and only an occasional rabbit leaves his footprints in the snow on Wally Weber Field or around the diamond of Pro Boim Stadium. We think of this time as winter settling in and 2009 coming to an end, but it is also a time to look ahead to 2010 and all the challenges we are about to face, some of which we already know and others which we have no idea are coming



2009 was a busy year in sports. Let's take a look at some of the international highlights: **American Football** – University of Florida defeats Oklahoma in the BCS National Championship Game, Super Bowl XLIII sees the Pittsburgh Steelers defeat the Arizona Cardinals 27 to 23; **Association Football** – Mexico wins the CONCACAF Gold Cup defeating the USA 5 to 0; **Baseball** – the new NY Yankee Stadium opens in April and the Yankees win the World Series in October against the Philadelphia Phillies 4 games to 2, the Yank's 27th World Series Championship; **Basketball** – Los Angeles Lakers defeat Orlando Magic 4 games to 1 to win the NBA Championship, Kobe Bryant named finals MVP; **Boxing** – David Hayes defeats Nikolai Valuev to claim WBA World Heavyweight Title; **Cricket** – Pakistan wins the ICC World Twenty20; **Cycling** – Alberto Contrador wins the grueling Tour de France; **Handball** – France defeats Croatia 24 to 19 in the World Men's Handball Championship; **Ice Hockey** – the Pittsburgh Penguins defeat the Detroit Red Wings 4 games to 3, Russia defeats Canada to win the IIHF World Championship; **Motor Racing** – Helio Castroneves of Brazil wins the 93rd Indianapolis 500, Jimmie Johnson becomes the first NASCAR driver ever to win 4 consecutive Sprint Cup Series Titles; **Netball** – New Zealand defeats Jamaica 32 to 27 to win the inaugural World Netball Series; **Tennis** – Roger Federer defeats Andy Roddick and Serena Williams defeats sister Venus Williams at Wimbledon Championships, Spain defeats Czech Republic for the Davis Cup; **Swimming** – at the 2009 World Championships in Rome, the United States won 11 gold, 11 silver and 7 bronze medals (29) while China had 11 gold, 7 silver and 11 bronze medals (29), Russia was third with 8 – 8 – and 4 medals (20), Great Britain was 6th with 4 – 3-2 (9) medals, Italy was 7th with 4 – 2 – 6 (12), Mexico was 19th with 1 – 0 – 0 (1) and Canada 20th with 0 – 4 – 5 (9), 30 countries won medals; **Rugby** – Ireland won the 115 Six Nations Championships; **Rowing** – Germany won 4 gold, 1 silver and 3 bronze medals (8), New Zealand wins 4 – 0 – 1 (5) and USA was third with 3 – 3 – 1 (7) at the World Rowing Championships; **Golf** – Argentina's Angel Cabrera won The Masters and Tiger Woods is top money leader with \$11 million; **Athletics** – the USA won 10 gold, 6 silver and 6 bronze medals (22), followed by Jamaica 7 – 4 – 2 (13), and Kenya 4 – 5 – 2 (11) at the 12th IAAF World Championships in Athletics in Berlin, Germany.

Of course, there were all the results of Chikopi's sporting events which were all listed in last month's Chikopi Chant.

Joe's Perspective

Old Value #2: We will understand one another before we start camp - By Joe Menter

For anyone who has spent a week at Chikopi in mid June building the pool, cutting grass, opening buildings, sneaking in an evening game of volleyball and performing any other odd job that needs to be done in order to get camp into paradise form...remember OV #1...they know exactly what this old value is all about. All of the energy that goes into putting camp together for the summer isn't just about work itself, it is the foundation for learning about each other.



During counselor week each person's strengths are discovered and made the most of; each person's weaknesses are exposed and improved. We don't laugh at each other, but we do laugh with each other. We forge friendships and gain respect for each other all while performing camp projects that anywhere else might be considered crazy or impossible. The energy that each individual counselor puts into getting camp ready ultimately goes into a greater energy that we all fall back on and take advantage of at some point during the summer.

And for you campers, while you may not have the fortunate opportunity that the counselors do (hopefully you will some time soon), you have a whole summer to learn about and understand each other. Camp rules, cabin rules, these are guidelines to help you become a better Chikopi man. After a few days in a cabin with 9 or so other boys you know what makes each other tick. You know what kind of music your bunkmate likes, where they are from, how many brothers and sisters they have, what their favorite game is and you have probably borrowed a pair of their shorts or a shirt. You learned what gets each other fired up too. Although you might be relaxing at the beach with them during elective time or giving them a hand during inspection, you know that come competition time you are going to try and whoop their butt. And the whole time you are trying to whoop his butt and he is trying to do the same to you, you are making each other a better athlete and man. But you also know that when the competition is over and you left it all in the water or on the field, you are going to sit down next to them, share a meal, and have a blast doing it all again tomorrow. Above all, by the end of your time at Chikopi you will have at least gained more respect for everyone at camp.

Wes's Way

Friendly Competition the Chikopi Way – By Wes Greig

Another summer has come and gone, but the friendships made this summer will last a lifetime. Chikopi has always been a very competitive camp and the respect gained for each other from this competition forms the basis for strong relationships. Just last week I was racing at Canada Cup and I ended up in the same heat as a long time camp friend, Sean Bell. As always the Chikopi competitive spirit brought out the best in both of us and we both swam great races, finishing first and second in the heat with both of us qualifying for our first national final where we were once again head to head. It had been many years since we had last raced each other but we still felt that respect and that desire to win. It can only be the experiences we shared at Chikopi that developed this strong bond. You never know when you're going to run into an old camp friend, or under what circumstances, but one thing is certain: they will bring out the best in you and doubtless you will do the same for them. Your relationship will grow stronger because of it. Here's to friendly competition that lasts a lifetime.

Until next time, Wes



Blair's Experience

Canoe Tripping - By Blair Dolman

Out of all the experiences at camp, one of the most memorable experiences is the canoe trip. The wonderful Canadian wilderness, the bond between friends, and the workout you get when paddling are phenomenal. This past summer was no exception. Whether you were going to Algonquin Park, French River or staying on the Magnetawan River, the trip to your destination always gets your blood pumping to get you ready to get out there and have some fun. Paddling in the rain and hoping you didn't wake up in a puddle of water added to the full experience.



With all the rain, this past summer, it was hard to make a good fire when all the wood was wet. But living through the great Chikopi traditions and the old Chikopi Proverb "nothing easy is worth doing" the campers were able to make the most of the situation and still have fun. However, at the end of the trip everyone was ready to get back in their nice warm bunks and have a roof over their head again.

Aaron's Advice

Chikopi Family – By Aaron Fewkes

After leaving camp this summer I had a very relaxing month (or maybe more) off before University started back up for me. Sam didn't get home for another few weeks so I took that time to be at our family's cottage with friends and family – of course – relaxing, doing water sports, tanning, etc. Sam arrived home at the end of August from her full summer at Ak-O-Mak and from there it was pretty much right back to school!

I am back at Wilfrid Laurier University for my third year of five and I am loving it more than ever. I am currently teaching a grade 7/8 science class which comes with its challenges but is very rewarding as well. My grades are higher than ever which I am very excited about and I continue to get myself involved in lots of activities on campus and in my community back home. My next big ventures are going to be exactly that; BIG. I am thinking of running for a councilor position with my local government in 2010 and am hoping to also get myself involved in some curriculum re-development for Ontario. Who knows what I will get myself into next, right?

As many of you may recall I had won a fairly large scholarship while at camp this summer. The foundation that awarded this scholarship also sent all of their laureates to a regional leadership conference this November, and boy, was it ever amazing. I learned so much, have met so many people, and am starting new initiatives because of my experience at this conference. It was an amazing feeling to be in a theatre full of the most energetic, best student leaders from across Ontario – something I think everyone should have the opportunity to experience.



My experience at Chikopi this summer was a lot of fun and way surpassed my expectations! The atmosphere among campers and counselors was exceptional and I continue to think often about the people I met this summer. The friendships made will continue on for years.

"It's not whether you win or lose - except during the soccer match against Ak-O-Mak - it's how you play the game." – Grantland Rice edited by Aaron Fewkes

I wish you and your families a safe and joyous holiday season!

Mo's Adventures

A Chikopi Dive Team Story: Finding The Old Mail House – By Mauricio Rovira

Perhaps amongst my most memorable experiences at Chikopi is the creation of the Dive Team. In spite of the fact that it has become more of a joke between the people that were there when it all began, it is still one of the things that I will cherish forever about Chikopi. I've always loved water, perhaps due to the fact that my body physiology doesn't allow me to do much on land, or anything that takes place on or in it. Amongst those many things, one of the favourites is free diving. It is a sport that is popular as a dare, however it is extremely challenging, and it enables you to push the boundaries of your own body. I've performed several free dives, using only a mask and snorkel, outside of Chikopi, the most important for me being last December. During a snorkel trip in Cozumel, Mexico, I broke my free dive record of 5 meters, (16'), (which I did when I was like 10), by achieving a whopping 10meters, (32'). The experience was unbelievable, but it will never match the dives that I have done at Chikopi.

Having dived several times at Chikopi, perhaps it is only fair that I explain what the bottom of Ahmic Lake is like on our side. Skipping the not so pleasant part of the murky lake-bed that gets stirred up with the slightest kick, it actually holds a lot of interesting things, should one care to look for them. The area that goes from the Chikopi Main Dock all the way to Second Beach, passing by Gull's Island holds artefacts (if we use the fancy term) of times long past. There are golf balls galore, a couple of five year rings, remains of the old Chikopi pool, and the old mail house. Those familiar with Chikopi lore will remember that at the Point, (which, by the way, is where most of the golf balls are), once was the home of the old Chikopi mail house. For some unfortunate reason, it slid down into the water, where it can still be found today.

It was during an Early Bird swim that I became aware of the fact that there was a big structure lying in the bottom of the lake. As the morning light shone in the still waters of Ahmic, I distinguished the faint outline of a figure. I was intrigued by it, so I decided to investigate. During elective time that same day and while accompanied by a counsellor, I dove into the warm water. After swimming for some time and not being able to find it, I began swimming back. As I placed by head back in the water after my breath, I saw it again. I was excited, since I had managed to find it again. I dove once more and I found the remains of the mail house.

After years and years of being under the water, it was still reasonably preserved, considering the amount of rocks that appeared to have been sliding since it sunk. The logs were still placed in their original positions, and even though it is half buried in sand, rocks and mud, you can give yourself a reasonable idea of the house's original size. I returned just in time for the dinner bell, feeling really excited by my discovery, which I promptly announced during the evening announcements. Now, the other part of the tale, which I cannot remember very well, (you would have to ask Jimmy about it), is how the Dive Team call was created. This has eventually transformed into another Chikopi "tradition" so to speak.



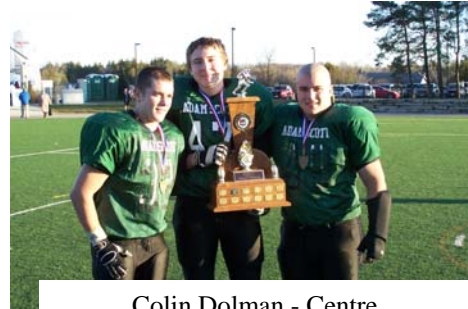
Each year since then, I go down and try to find the old mail house again. Some times I don't find it, but other times I do. It is a way of looking back to the time when I was younger, and to feel again the rush of excitement of finding what I had considered a legend.

Swimming World Magazine

This year Swimming World magazine is helping focus swimmers' attention on the value of Swim Camp by running a "Why I want to go to Summer Camp" contest. Swimming World Magazine will pay for two winners to attend the camp of their choice next summer. Send your 200 words or less by snail mail or email to Swimming World, P.O. Box 20337, Sedona, AZ 86341 USA, or, campcontest@swimmingworldmagazine.com. Must be postmarked no later than January 20, 2010. One entry per contestant.

News In Brief

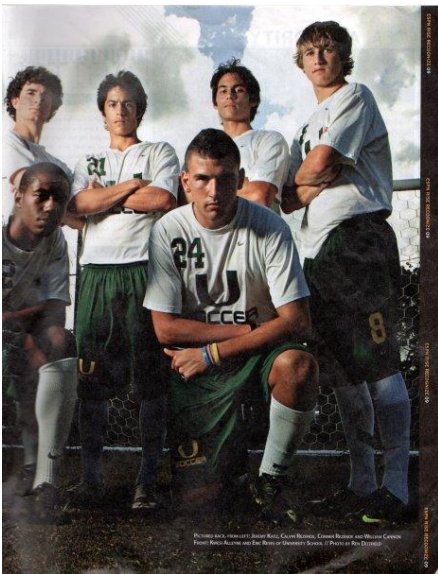
Colin Dolman - Colin's team won the National Capital Senior Football Bowl, beating a team from Ottawa 61-15. It is the third year in a row that they have won the championship as well as their third undefeated season. What a powerhouse. Way to go, Colin!



Colin Dolman - Centre

Chris Manning – Chris will be attending Auburn University on a swimming scholarship. Last year Auburn was NCAA National Champions. Congratulations, Chris.

<http://auburntigers.cstv.com/sports/c-swim/spec-rel/111809aab.html>



Wil Cannon – Standing, right

Wil Cannon (2003) – Will has been recruited by and will attend San Diego State University on a soccer scholarship. He is finishing his last year of high school in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and coaches Teagan's little kids soccer team.

Evan Carey –Evan has signed on with University of Maryland Baltimore County, (UMBC). Evan will be swimming for Chikopi's former Swim Coach and Program Director, Chad Cradock. Evan will be attending classes at one of the states newest and most prestigious major universities.

2010 Chikopi Summer Registration

Pass This On To Your Parents

Your 2010 registration form and information package is attached to this email. This years Early Bird special is that there are no Tuition increases, a big yehhhh from your parents! In addition to no increase if you pay your invoice in full by January 31st 2010 you will receive a 10% discount off the Tuition Fee. Bad news for late registrations: The Ontario Government is combining the Goods and Service Tax & Harmonized Service Tax on July 1st. The discount summer camps usually receive will be gone and anyone who pays their invoice or registers after July 1st, 2010, will be subject to the new tax, an increase of 5%. Take advantage of early registration and receive every discount possible.

Chikopi Web Site

Chikopi's new web site is currently under construction. Look for photographs, updates and news coming weekly to the new site: www.campchikopi.com

Because

On the new site we would like to post blurbs from our campers and parents, each one is to start with: "Because of Camp Chikopi" Please email us your submission to post on the new site and enter in the January Newsletter.

January Newsletter

Any news to share? Send it in via email with a photo, if you have one, and it will be included in January's issue. Submission deadline January 15th.