

The curtamous page

MARch 2006 Archived Notes

[[Home](#)] [[OCT13](#)] [[SEPI3](#)] [[AUG13](#)] [[JUL13](#)] [[JUN13](#)] [[MAY13](#)] [[APRI3](#)] [[MARI3](#)] [[FEB13](#)] [[JAN13](#)] [[DEC12](#)] [[NOV12](#)] [[OCT12](#)] [[SEPI2](#)] [[AUG12](#)] [[JUL12](#)] [[JUN12](#)] [[MAY12](#)] [[APRI2](#)] [[MARI2](#)] [[FEB12](#)] [[JAN12](#)] [[2002_Notes](#)] [[2003_Notes](#)] [[2004_Notes](#)] [[2005_Notes](#)] [[2006_Notes](#)] [[2007_Notes](#)] [[2008_Notes](#)] [[2009_Notes](#)] [[2010_Notes](#)] [[2011_Notes](#)]

[Mar 06, 2006](#)

[Mar 13, 2006](#)

[Mar 20, 2006](#)

[Mar 27, 2006](#)

March 27, 2006 - *Jak se Maj! HAPPY MONDAY!!! ME? I'm tired! Big work weekend around home, that's for sure. I spent 12 hours on Saturday painting. 12 freaken hours! Painted the newly vacated upstairs, stairway, and lower hallway in preparation for the Chief Inspector moving upstairs. I could barely move my arms Saturday night. Then, to top things off, my beautiful bride thought it would be a good idea to shampoo the carpets up there before the Chief moved all his stuff. The worse thing was, she was right. So I spent 3 hours cleaning carpets on Sunday. That "should" keep me in good graces at home... It won't, but it should...*

Spent the rest of Sunday watching the Badger hockey game and doing Pop's taxes. Luckily, the taxes only took one period, and since the score was 0-0 after regulation, I didn't miss any goals. I DID watch the entire game, right up to the winning goal by the Badgers in the 3rd overtime. When they finally scored, I actually paused, not quite believing it after so long a game with no goals, but then let out a load "GOAL!", which impressed my sleeping wife. So much for painting keeping me in good graces... It was a great game, great defense and awesome goaltending for both teams. To top it all off, the Badger women's hockey team won the NCAA Championship, beating the hated Gophers in Minnehaha! Wouldn't it be great if the men's team won it all too! Can't wait for the Frozen Four!

Got this from the FDA Chair. I need this for when I'm watching hockey too...



As great as the hockey was this weekend, (I watched about a half of the Badger's 4-0 win over Bemidji State Saturday, and maybe a 3rd of the CC-Cornell game) I haven't watched hardly any basketball. I'm not sure why. Usually I'm really into March Madness, but this year, zippo. Maybe it was that I didn't fill out a bracket, or that the Wisconsin teams all lost early, or the Badgers getting crushed in the opener. Not sure, but I'm not even interested... Maybe next year...

Got a whole list of great billboards... here's a couple...



Hmmm... Good Kessler's Sign...



Good work for junior membership...

Well, its the end up this week's diatribe, and still no update from the other side of the planet. Maybe he's busy packing. SEC-W/M is scheduled to be back in Green Bay Wednesday night around 8pm. With all the time change and crap, I guess that means he could be on the plane coming home already. Well, safe trip home! It'll be good to see you...

Well, its not much, but its all I have for this week. Lent is half over, so I got that going for me... Newsletters are ready for shipping, so I should have them out this week... I hope... I'm on call "this week" now, as I ended up having to trade last week for this week. I REALLY, REALLY, REALLY hope its a quiet week.

Oh yeah, I saw Eric at church on Sunday, and we're all set to use the cabin on Nelligan Lake for opening weekend. I CANNOT WAIT!!!

Well, I'm also alone at work this week, so I better get to it..... But before I go, a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"You miss 100% of the shots you never take." -- Wayne Gretzky

That goes for everything in life...

Until next time, take care...

As Red would say, "Keep your stick on the ice!"

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March 20, 2006 - Jak se Maj! How's everyone doing? I hope all is well! Busy week ahead, so lets get right into it...

The highlight of the week? The Larsen wedding!!! Chuck and Amanda were married on a beautiful Friday afternoon. We met them after the ceremony on the outskirts of Kiel for a dinner celebration. A beautiful affair! Wonderful food, good drinks, and Chuck married into a wonderful family. (Yes, drinks! I got special dispensation to "celebrate"!) The lovely couple heads back to the east coast today, and I and all of the BBC want to wish them the best of everything and long and happy life together!

This week had a close second for the highlight of the week. The SEC-HSS finally moved out! He and a buddy have a very nice bachelor pad on the east side, and we got them moved on Friday and Saturday. The SEC-Transportation even had the racing trailer out to help move, and his lovely girl, who works out, even helped. Nice time moving and I hope things work out well for them! Good luck!

News from the other side of the planet:

Happy Tuesday all!

Wow, what a week we just had. As the days are counting down, things seem to be

getting a little bit busier around here. Sunday started off with something I have never been a part of before, an earthquake! Just a small one though, 4.6 on the richter scale. I was sleeping and barely woke up for it, it when I realized what was going on, it was pretty neat. They said they are due for a good sized one around here. I hope it waits until after March 29th.

The week carried on with training and training and more training in preparation for the National tournament this week. The expectations are high, but we will be seeing the best of the best from this country. We have the element of surprise on our side along with the best pitching staff in the tournament. Out side of our pitchers, our team is virtually unknown, so that should work in our favor!

Saturday night brought us to the Tamatea Softball and Cricket prize giving. I was a nice gathering with a great spread of food and beer. Awards were handed out and kind words were said by many people. The cricket team even bought us \$50 worth of beer. They can't be that bad if they would do that!

Sadly, this is the second to last update that will be coming from this side of the world. If all goes right, I will be closing out my trip with a New Zealand national championship in hand. Until next week, giddyay!!

**Cheers
Ric**

Happy Tuesday? I suppose it IS Tuesday on the other side of the planet, so we'll go with that. Hard to believe the boy's been gone for so long, but we all are looking forward to having him back on OUR side of the planet. Its just been too damn quiet without him! I hope he has a good week of ball and a safe trip back... One more update and he'll be on the plane...

Busy week for sports. Badger hockey team took 3rd in the WCHA tournament, beating Minnehaha in the 3rd place game, but ended up seeded first anyway in the NCAA tournament and will open up in Green Bay. Should be great. WIAA high school boys basketball tournament over the weekend... that's always fun to watch. The NCAA tournament wasn't so great as all the Wisconsin teams pretty much flopped... Oh well...

The last big news was the wife coercing me into getting her a new couch... She gave the eldest our couch when he moved out, so we had a big whole in our living room. Damn things aren't cheap, AND they wanted \$50 to deliver the damn thing, so I hadda borrow Zumbo's trailer and go pick it up. Major pain in the ass, but hopefully the Missus is happy for a few hours... Actually, she's not... Now she wants to paint the damn upstairs, and SHE WANTS TO HIRE SOMEONE TO DO IT! OK, now I'm getting cranky...

Well, I'm on-call this week, so I better wrap this up. Oh yeah, the newsletter is almost ready for shipping, and I hope to get it out this week. Hope... we'll see how that goes... Turkey hunting is sneaking up on us, which means Fish Camp 2006 isn't far behind... All sorts of good stuff to look forward to...

Better go... But before I do, a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"You are successful the moment you start moving toward a worthwhile good." - Charles Carlson

The President is VERY successful!

Until next time, take care...

As Red would say, "Keep your stick on the ice!"

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March 13, 2006 - Jak se Maj! Happy Monday everyone! Kind of a weird update today. Not much going on last week, but I seem to have quite a bit coming up this week. The weekend was strange as well... I really didn't have anything planned all weekend. So I didn't do much... It was AWESOME! I did do my taxes, take care of a bunch of bills, cleaned the basement, etc. But nothing big. It was great!

The weather this weekend sure was great as well. Certainly "seemed" like spring! Thank goodness we woke up this morning to cold and wet to remind us that its not quite that time yet. But it is close...

Well, just because I had nothing going on the last week, doesn't mean there wasn't anything going on around the other side of the planet:

Kia Oroa,

Wow! This is getting old! Tamatea wins again!! We went out this weekend and won the Cook Trophy. This is another local trophy that we have again captured. Going 6-2 on the weekend gives us the trophy. This was also the debut of our pitcher, Paul Algar, who did as expected. We did have our struggles at the plate at times throughout the weekend, we did get the runs when needed. It is good to see another piece of hardware on the mantel, not to mention that along with the trophy, we did also receive 10 cases of beer for our reward. Who needs the trophy when you have that?!?!?! We were kind enough to share with the losing team, as they shared their prize, 4 bottles of wine! Good tournament by all!

Friday, I made the trip to another beautiful part of the country, Wellington. That was the highlight of the week until the tournament. It seems that a lot of the big cities around here are like the Fox Valley, a lot of smaller cities that you enter by crossing a street from another city. Nice trip nonetheless. Can never see too much of this country!

I would like to take a moment to wish my eldest cousin the best of luck on Friday and many years of wedded bliss! I wish I could be there, unfortunately, the Navy could care less. I will make it for the Big Show when it happens. There is no way I would miss that. Best of luck and have a drink on me!! (to the married couple that is!!!)

This week is the last week before the Club Nationals. This week will be dedicated to fine tuning the machine that is Tamatea!! Three nights of training and off nights in the gym! The week is finished with the Tamatea Club prize giving, sure to be a good time of food, folks and fun!

Only two weeks left and then back to the real world!!! See you soon!

**Cheers
Ric**

Again... No personal stats, but the team is doing well. Is there a pattern here? When sightseeing is the second topic in the weekly update, you have to wonder... I'll admit, I think everyone is looking forward to having him back on this side of the planet. I wonder if he's homesick at all?

No hint of it in his updates, but I certainly would think so... Well, good luck to him and his "Tamatea Machine"!!!

That brings us to the coming week. The big highlight; The Captain's Wedding!!! Chuck and Amanda will be wed Friday afternoon, St. Patty's Day, around 4pm, and head to the big city for reception and meal. Chuck will be the first of that generation to tie the knot, and we all wish the couple the absolute best. Chuck's boat made landfall sometime on Saturday and was met by Zumbo and his beautiful bride, and of course, The Captain's bride to be. After that long on board, do you think The Captain even noticed his parents? Hmmm... I wonder... The crew should be heading back today or tomorrow from the right coast, hopefully in plenty of time to finish preps for the wedding... Hope all goes well. From all of the BBC to the couple; THE BEST OF LUCK!

We also have a few birthdays this week. Tomorrow the FM and SEC-D'Fence share a birthday followed by the FDA Chairman's birthday on Wednesday. Pretty busy week if you ask me. If you see any one of these gents this week, be sure to wish them a HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

Well, the eldest son is more or less ready to hit the road. He'll start moving out on Friday and we'll get the rest of his stuff moved on Saturday (hopefully with a wedding hangover). He's pretty excited, but his mother is quite upset. It's my first experience with this, but I'm sure all mothers are like that. Me, I'm a little envious... he'll do fine...

The best news of last week is that I received special dispensation from our priest to not only eat meat this Friday (St. Patty's Day AND Chuck's wedding) but was also told not to fast on such a celebration. Do we have a GREAT priest or what? He's AWESOME!!! Anyway, this will be the first time I've had a drink on St. Patty's Day since I remember... But, as our priest recommends, I should further fast on another day... I'm guessing Saturday I'm not going to feel like eating or drinking much, so it should all work out... :-))Speaking of Lent... here's a good one from the Jack and Ass team:

A new young monk arrives at the monastery and as with all new monks he is assigned to help the other monks in copying the old canons and laws of the church. He notices, however, that all of the monks are copying from copies, not from the original manuscript.

So, the new monk goes to the head abbot to question this, pointing out that if someone made even a small error, that error would be continued in all of the subsequent copies.

The head monk, says, "We have been copying from the copies for centuries, but you make a good point, my son." So, he goes down into the dark caves underneath the monastery where the original manuscript is held as archives in a locked vault that hasn't been opened for hundreds of years.

Hours go by and the young monk gets worried and goes down stairs to look for him. He sees him banging his head against the wall, and wailing, "We forgot the "R"! "We forgot the "R"! "We forgot the "R"! "We forgot the "R"!"

His forehead is all bloody and bruised and he is crying uncontrollably.

The young monk asks the old abbot, "What's wrong, father?"

With a choking voice, the old abbot replies, "The word is CELEBRATE!"

Oh, that's an oldy, but a goody!!!

Couple last notes... Saw The President yesterday at the local store. He's doing well, and as busy as always. It was his 2nd trip to the store, and after we parted and I went in to get my stuff, he came back in. THE FORGOT his wife's BEER!!! Holy CRAP! Anyway, with lent and all, I've been avoiding him a little, but he's as feisty as ever...

The newsletter is DONE! Mostly, because I'm sick and tired of proofreading the damn thing. No idea when I'll finish production, but I'm working on it. It actually takes quite a while to get the damn thing printed and labeled and sent out... But we're working on it...

I think that's it... Hope I didn't forget anything... Before I go, a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

**"If ya always do what ya always did, you'll always get what ya always got..." -
- Unknown**

Sounds like a quote from The President to me...

Until next time, take care...

As Red would say, "Keep your stick on the ice!"

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March 6, 2006 - Jak se Maj! (The correct response is "Dubje") Welcome to a snowy Monday. Pretty nice out there actually. I wish we would have had this over the weekend. Then I could have played with the old snow blower a little bit. Maybe if it keeps snowing I can do that tonight...

First off, I missed wishing Zumbo a happy double-nickel in my original diatribe last week, so it staying up another week. Happy birthday Zumbo!

While we're on the "Zumbo" topic, he's got ANOTHER offspring getting married. The Captain is getting married a week from Friday, and now his oldest sister announced her impending nuptials. Now all we need is for The Big Guy to buy a rock for Zumbo's "littlest" daughter and they'll all be married off... They'll have a busy year coming up! Congrats to all!

Lets go right to the update from the other side of the planet:

Kai Oara,

How is everyone? First off, congrats to Zumbo's eldest (daughter)!! I have met the young gent, he seemed to be quite a guy. Anybody that buys you your first beer of the night after meeting him, can't be all bad. In all seriousness, congrats Laura and Al, all of the luck to you. I guess that means another big family party!! Can never go wrong with that!!

Now for over here. It is getting kind of old hat, but Tamatea has won their fourth local competition title this past weekend with a convincing 20-5 blowout of local rival, Fastpitch, Inc. Not much of a game really, we scored 8 runs before recording an out! Apparently, in Tamatea's young life, 2 years, they are 8 for 8 in winning the local competition! Now with two weeks of tune up ball to play, the Nationals are next! The expectations are to finish in the top 8 in the country!! Don't see why not!!

With that being said, in just 3 short weeks I will be returning home to the great

midwest. In a way, can't wait, but don't really want the dream to end!! With all of the talk about fishing going on, my return will be perfectly timed!! Have a great week all!!

**Cheers
Ric**

So Mr. SEC-W/M, how come we never get your stats from the mighty Tamatea? Maybe when you're home in three short weeks we'll get the story...

Well, its Lent everyone... Last week I made some of the SEC-State's famous chicken wings for Fat Tuesday at work. I'm pretty sure they were good, even though I only got one, but they were no where near as good as the SEC-State's. I'll keep working on it...

As you may know, during Lent, I typically forgo all beverages except water for the duration of the season. (With exceptions, of course!) Makes for a very interesting 40 days. You never realize how difficult that is until you do it. This year, I will be contacting the bishop for special dispensation for St. Patty's Day. Because I'm Irish? NO!!! Because that's the Captain's wedding day. I'll take my fast to another day, as long as that's OK with the bishop... (Bishop/FM, what do you say?)

Here's one from half of the Jack and Ass team:

A store that sells new husbands has just opened in New York City, where a woman may go to choose a husband. Among the instructions at the entrance is a description of how the store operates.

You may visit the store ONLY ONCE! There are six floors and the attributes of the men increase as the shopper ascends the flights. There is, however, a catch: you may choose any man from a particular floor, or you may choose to go up a floor, but you cannot go back down except to exit the building!

So, a woman goes to the Husband Store to find a husband.

On the first floor the sign on the door reads:

Floor 1 - These men have jobs.

The second floor sign reads: Floor 2 - These men have jobs and love kids.

The third floor sign reads: Floor 3 - These men have jobs, love kids, and are extremely good looking.

"Wow," she thinks, but feels compelled to keep going.

She goes to the fourth floor and sign reads:

Floor 4 - These men have jobs, love kids, are drop-dead good looking and help with the housework.

"Oh, mercy me!" she exclaims, "I can hardly stand it!"

Still, she goes to the fifth floor and sign reads:

Floor 5 -These men have jobs, love kids, are drop-dead gorgeous, help with the housework, and have a strong romantic streak.

She is so tempted to stay, but she goes to the sixth floor and the sign reads:

Floor 6 - You are visitor 31,456,012 to this floor. There are no men on this floor. This floor exists solely as proof that women are impossible to please.

Thank you for shopping at the Husband Store.

FOR THE MEN

A new wives store opened across the street.

The first floor has wives who love sex.

The second floor has wives who love sex and have money.

The third through sixth floors have never been visited.

Now that's about the truest story I've ever heard...

Busy week ahead as always. The eldest, our SEC-HHS, is pretty much set on moving out. He's got the apartment set, a roomy, and is working on his list of stuff to get, (His mother is working on how much stuff he will take from our house so she can buy new!) and he's pretty excited. Should be damn good for him. On top of that, I pretty much have the newsletter completed. YES!!! ITS TRUE!!! So I'll do a proof or two this week and get into production mode.

Well, that's it, but, before I go, a few words of wisdom for our junior members...

"It is better to hide ignorance, but it is hard to do this when we relax over drink." - Heraclitus, On the Universe

For junior members, its pretty hard to hide ignorance when they're unconscious, much less when they drink...

Until next time, take care...

As Red would say, "Keep your stick on the ice!"

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[\[Home \]](#) [\[Up \]](#) [\[DEC06 \]](#) [\[NOV06 \]](#) [\[Oct06 \]](#) [\[Sep06 \]](#) [\[Aug06 \]](#) [\[Jul06 \]](#) [\[Jun06 \]](#) [\[May06 \]](#) [\[APR06 \]](#)
[\[MAR06 \]](#) [\[FEB06 \]](#) [\[JAN06 \]](#)

Last Updated: Friday, January 30, 2009

Page Hits