

BOATMAN

Official Newsletter of the Toronto Argonauts Alumni Association

Edition 16 - 2

Toronto Argonauts Alumni Association

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Toronto Argonauts Alumni
Association

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hope everybody is getting into summer and looking forward to the 2016 CFL and Argonauts seasons. The Argos preseason kicks off June 11, 2016 as the team hosts their rivals Hamilton Tiger-Cats at BMO Field. At training camp, the team hit yet another gear in competition and tempo as players worked to secure playing time in the upcoming game. The Association kicked-off its season with the 5th Annual Reunion Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at Royal Woodbine Golf Course in Toronto. Thanks to all that came out making it another successful evening. Also, our 18th Annual Golf Fun Day Tournament teed-off at Eagle Ridge Golf Course, Ridge Golf Club, one of Club-Link's finest courses in the GTA. Another sell-out! The reunion and golf tournament provided alumni with a terrific opportunity to catch-up with former teammates, as well as meet and hear from Michael Copeland, President and CEO of the Toronto Argonauts Football Club.

Mike provided an update on how things are progressing on and off-the field as the club gets ready for the club kicks-off its home opener at BMO Field June 23, and how the alumni will be involved in the Argos game-day experience including the newly-announced Tailgate Parties during the club's inaugural season at BMO.

The Toronto Argonauts Alumni Association Support Fund (TAAA) is set-up to help alumni that may not be able to help themselves by offering short-term financial assistance, and will continue to be a key initiative of the Association this year. Proceeds from our golf tournament are earmarked to bolster the fund.

It is membership time again. Thanks to those that have paid their dues already. If you have not paid your dues yet, would you please take a few minutes and send in your dues. Further membership information is noted inside the newsletter.

We will continue to ramp-up communication with former Argos, continue to focus on ways that provide alumni

with opportunities to get together with each other and push membership. If you haven't done so yet, please check-out argosalumni.com, our new website.

Again, special thanks to Crista Bazos for all her efforts and hard work and keeping everyone up-to-date on all things Double Blue.

The Association is always looking for younger faces with new ideas on hand ready and waiting to fill our roles on the Board. If you are interested in getting involved in some way, please let me know e: argosalumni@rogers.com and one of us will be glad to talk more over a coffee or lunch.

Thanks again for your support. Hope to see you at BMO field this season!

Cheers,

Stace Coray

www.argosalumni.com

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!

TAILGATING COMES TO TORONTO!



Toronto Mayor John Tory flipping burgers with Argos President & CEO Michael Copeland



The Toronto Argonauts announced they are bringing tailgating to every Argos home game at BMO Field this year.

<http://www.argonauts.ca/tailgating/>

CFL, adidas find synergy in lifestyle wear

Justin Dunk CFL.ca

The Canadian Football League's partnership with adidas means not only new uniforms for teams and players, but also fresh threads for passionate followers of the three-down game.

When the CFL presented a plan around branding and who the league wanted to reach, it really aligned with adidas' strategy. The targeted person that the CFL is going after – the millennial – forms the same group that adidas wants wearing its gear.

"There's a great synergy where adidas and the CFL are going," Chris Pittman, adidas product line manager, says.

Influential figures like Andrew Wiggins, Connor McDavid, Aaron Rodgers, Simoni Lawrence, Kris Bryant and Lionel Messi are all with adidas.

"We're going after that aspirational athlete," adds Jeff McDonell, adidas director of sports marketing.

Lots of big-time NCAA football programs rep the adidas brand: Miami, Louisville, Mississippi State, Nebraska, Texas A&M and UCLA. That allows adidas to tap into the technology being developed in the United States and bring better products to market for the CFL.

"Under Reebok the CFL was the only football element of Reebok," Pittman says. "It was really in Canada and one small segment was making football product. adidas is that authentic football brand."

There will be everything from sideline apparel, t-shirts, pants, hoodies, jackets, head wear and winter gear with CFL and team logos on it. Even CFL-styled adidas Originals clothes will be available this

season.

"adidas is at a very high point with the lifestyle wear and is reaching that younger consumer," Pittman says. The goal for adidas is to get kids wearing their brand at a young age and carry that on through high school, university and now the CFL.

The CFL and adidas [launched the full 2016 collection back on May 12](#), including new home and away uniforms for all nine CFL teams along with sideline apparel and a fan-friendly adidas Originals clothing line.

All of the new gear [is available on CFLShop.ca](#).

To watch the behind the scenes adidas video with 52 CFL players, visit: <http://www.cfl.ca/2016/06/02/cfl-adidas-find-synergy-lifestyle-wear/>





TORONTO ARGONAUTS

2016
SEASON
SCHEDULE

PRESEASON

SATURDAY, JUNE 11  **HAMILTON** **4:00 PM**

FRIDAY, JUNE 17  **AT MONTREAL** **7:30 PM**

REGULAR SEASON

THURSDAY, JUNE 23  **HAMILTON** **7:30 PM**

THURSDAY, JUNE 30  **AT SASKATCHEWAN** **10:00 PM**

THURSDAY, JULY 7  **AT BC** **10:00 PM**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13  **OTTAWA** **7:30 PM**

MONDAY, JULY 25  **MONTREAL** **7:30 PM**

SUNDAY, JULY 31  **AT OTTAWA** **7:30 PM**

BYE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12  **WINNIPEG** **7:30 PM**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20  **EDMONTON** **4:00 PM**

BYE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31  **BC** **7:30 PM**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5  **AT HAMILTON** **6:30 PM**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11  **HAMILTON** **4:30 PM**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17  **AT WINNIPEG** **2:00 PM**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23  **AT OTTAWA** **7:00 PM**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2  **AT MONTREAL** **1:00 PM**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10  **CALGARY** **4:00 PM**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15  **SASKATCHEWAN** **4:00 PM**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21  **AT CALGARY** **10:00 PM**

BYE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5  **AT EDMONTON** **4:00 PM**

• HOME • AWAY *ALL TIMES ET

FOR TICKETS VISIT ARGONAUTS.CA OR CALL 416.341.ARG0 [2746]



A SPECIAL THANK YOU



TORONTO ARGONAUTS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 18TH ANNUAL GOLF FUN DAY

Monday June 6, 2016

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

The Toronto Argonauts Alumni Association would like to thank the following for their contribution to the success of this year's tournament.

HOLE SPONSORS

Gerald Sternberg	Caponi Financial	Active Green + Ross
AFA Forest Products	CBM Aggregates	Freshouse Foods
Investors Group	IPL Plastics	Manulife
Black Bull Tavern	Ed Learn Ford Lincoln	Zeke O. Connor Ent.
Whiteoak Ford Lincoln	The Naz and Wally Show AM 740	
Graham Bros Construction	Hydropool Hot Tubs	

PRIZES AND GIFTS

ClubLink	Hershey Canada	Metro Supplies
Wilsons Sporting Goods	SportChek	HP
Toronto Argonauts	Media Edge	Holcim
Whiteoak Ford Lincoln	Labatt Breweries	Active Green + Ross
AFA Forest Products	Hydropool Hot Tubs	Brayley Financial Advisors





GOLF RESULTS



TORONTO ARGONAUTS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 18TH ANNUAL GOLF FUN DAY

Monday June 6, 2016

RESULTS

*Many thanks to the 140 golfers who attended***1st Team (59)**

Garry Silliker

Tony Redda

Georgio Carloni

Loretto Capabinaco

2nd Team (59)

Gord Knowlton

Sunil Sachdeva

Todd Gray

Rod Strutt

3rd Team (61)

Jack Casselman

Paul Skidmore

Ed Casselman

Scott McDowell

Most Honest Team (82)

Greig Scheifle

Dave Hutton

Bill Clausen

John Lesko

Oldest Team (300 years)

Gord McTaggart

Peter Warren

Bill Blair

Mike Kirkpatrick

Closest To The Pin

Daniel Gallagher

Vic Juzenas

Craig Marshall

George Housh

Luke Antonelli

Longest Drive

Jeff Benedict

18TH ANNUAL GOLF FUN DAY



18TH ANNUAL GOLF FUN DAY



18TH ANNUAL GOLF FUN DAY



18TH ANNUAL GOLF FUN DAY



For all Golf photos visit the Argo Alumni webpage—<http://argotalumni.com/2016-golf-fun-day-gall/>

18TH ANNUAL GOLF FUN DAY



All CFL & Argos Alumni Group shot pre-tee-off

Mark the 1st Monday of June in your calendar in 2017!



A great big **THANK YOU** to Pete Martin who organizes the golf tournament all on his own. It is always sold out and a great day out. Your efforts are appreciated by all!

For all Golf photos visit the Argo Alumni webpage—<http://argotalumni.com/2016-golf-fun-day-gall/>



**International CFL
Broadcast Schedule TBD
(NOT RELEASED YET)
CHECK BACK ON
ARGOALUMNI.COM**



ARGOS HOME OPENER

Thursday, June 23rd

7:30PM—BMO FIELD



LOCAL ALUMNI WANTED TO SPEAK TO HIGH RISK YOUTH



Do you have a story you want to share about an addiction, being in a gang, growing up in a tough neighbourhood or you yourself have had run-ins with the law? If you can donate 2-3 hours of your time to speak to high risk youth on how to focus and coping strategies. Please contact Crista to let her know your availability. The location will be on the Danforth.

TRIVIA QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS

1. What did the groundskeepers do in 1939 to improve the state of the frozen football field in Ottawa for the Grey Cup game?
2. What is the earliest archived recording of a CFL game by the CBC?
3. During WWII, 3 Grey Cup games were played by military. (1942-1944). What were the 3 Teams that won?
4. Some of you would say... figures... but what caused the delay of the 1912 Grey Cup game between Toronto and Hamilton?

*** Answers can be found on page 15 ***

FOOTBALL WORD PUZZLE

A	L	N	C	F	P	J	A	M	S	C	Q	T	F	O	S	V	N	Y	F	R	I	E	L
E	P	L	E	M	O	N	D	O	O	W	T	S	E	W	I	L	M	R	P	D	O	Y	K
H	N	A	G	A	H	R	E	Y	F	G	A	J	U	E	S	G	I	A	G	K	S	L	O
B	O	U	S	Q	U	L	F	S	Y	E	B	L	F	P	G	O	R	R	E	L	L	M	S
M	J	A	C	S	S	O	N	F	M	G	R	N	Q	F	A	U	H	J	M	V	N	C	B
G	S	V	N	I	A	J	B	G	Z	U	I	U	V	C	M	Z	V	O	I	L	U	C	A
I	Y	P	C	T	I	G	A	I	A	K	J	P	O	Z	U	T	K	A	L	Z	J	A	L
F	M	T	K	U	X	P	L	B	L	O	C	H	F	T	P	D	M	L	A	I	G	L	D
J	O	A	O	F	C	A	H	I	L	L	B	H	G	X	F	A	V	X	N	U	S	L	I
L	U	D	R	J	U	Y	S	N	A	L	O	D	U	J	K	F	M	M	O	R	R	U	S
A	Q	X	U	N	H	Z	M	T	Q	G	J	V	R	C	L	Q	O	K	V	O	B	M	T
J	K	A	G	R	K	N	A	P	S	R	P	U	I	E	T	L	G	Q	L	G	J	Y	O
D	I	Y	O	B	K	L	S	O	L	L	I	V	A	C	B	O	U	T	A	H	F	E	N
F	K	T	H	Z	S	F	U	X	M	R	T	G	N	K	H	T	L	E	N	U	P	N	B
P	S	T	T	O	I	L	L	E	K	R	O	I	C	T	S	P	O	D	C	N	V	R	J
L	W	F	P	V	L	C	L	P	F	H	U	Y	S	X	E	U	I	L	A	J	S	O	Y
E	O	R	C	B	U	M	E	B	U	F	T	S	B	A	O	Y	N	A	S	O	B	N	F
N	K	A	G	D	Z	A	V	I	N	R	C	P	M	T	J	H	T	A	T	O	X	N	V
M	R	O	I	F	V	G	W	N	O	X	Y	K	S	L	Y	P	N	L	E	G	N	O	T
G	I	D	L	K	G	A	G	L	A	Z	E	B	R	O	O	K	U	T	R	C	G	C	D
A	W	Y	Q	B	J	G	U	X	R	T	U	P	Y	E	Q	V	S	I	Z	R	M	O	N
A	L	L	E	N	I	A	E	M	J	B	L	H	A	S	J	F	L	P	K	A	Q	F	B

SEARCH FOR MOST GAMES PLAYED

(Last Names only)

PASSAGLIA (Lui, 408)
 ALLEN (Damon, 370)
 McCALLUM (Paul, 339)
 CAVILLO (Anthony, 329)
 GORRELL (Miles, 321)
 OSBALDISTON (Paul, 304)
 MCMANUS (Danny, 298)
 WESTWOOD (Troy, 293)
 LANCASTER (Ron 288)

2016 MEMBERSHIP

It is time to renew your membership again

We look forward to everyone's continued support and hope to see you at our events during the season.

2016 MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS & ENTITLEMENTS

1. Copy of BOATMAN, the Association's official newsletter; published four times annually
2. Invitation to Association events i.e. Annual Alumni Reunion & Golf Tourney
3. 50% off 2 Argos season tickets in selected areas
4. 25% off Argos single game tickets
5. Official Toronto Argonauts Alumni Association Membership Card
6. Argonauts Alumni Certificate sent once to new members
7. Automatic membership in the CFLAA and entitled to all associated benefits

Entitled to vote for All-Time Argo

Membership fee for 2016 is \$35 CDN. Dues can be paid in one of the following three ways:

1. PayPal <http://www.argonauts.ca/page/alumni-membership>
2. Email (for Canadian bank transfers ONLY): Electronic banking payment transfers of \$35CND can be emailed to argosalumni@rogers.com
3. Mail cheque for \$35 CDN payable to Toronto Argonauts Alumni Association to:
c/o Toronto Argonauts Alumni Association
54 Legault Crescent, Cambridge, ON, N3C 3T4

50% OFF SEASON TICKETS & 25% OFF SINGLE GAME TICKETS FOR PAID ALUMNI

The Argos Team is very supportive of the Argos Alumni and this year, **fully paid Alumni members only**, may purchase two (2) season tickets at 50% off most seats at BMO and any additional season tickets are at full price. As well, enjoy 25% off single game tickets.

Argos Alumni may purchase season tickets at the discounted rate by contacting Harris Greenberg at hgreenberg@argonauts.ca or call at 416-341-2729. Harris has a complete list of paid Alumni members .



Argos... EAT 'EM RAW!!!!

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. The groundskeepers lit 400 gallons of gasoline on the field. But... sub-zero temperatures rendered the field a frozen block by morning. The playing conditions were so bad at the 1939 Grey Cup, Ottawa was not allowed to host the championship again until 1967. Winnipeg 8, Ottawa 7



2. The earliest archived recording of a CFL game is the December 10th, 1938, Grey Cup game between the Argonauts and the Blue Bombers.
3. 1942 - Toronto R.C.A.F. /



Read more on the RCAF

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/entertainment/movie-guide/Documentary+looks+1942+Grey+champs/7527004/story.html>



1943 – Hamilton Flying Wildcats



and 1944 Montreal St. Hyacinthe-Donnacona Navy

4. The 1912 Grey Cup game between Toronto and Hamilton was delayed for an hour while officials frantically searched the stadium for a football to play with. Eventually a locker room door was kicked in to come up with one.

“CONCUSSION”

By Larry Robertson

CFRS Founding President and

Past Chair of ACTRA Toronto Apprentice Caucus



On a foggy, steel gray Saturday in September 2002, Bennet Omalu arrived at the Allegheny County coroner's office and got his assignment for the day: Perform an autopsy on the body of Mike Webster, a professional football player. Omalu did not, unlike most 34-year-old men living in a place like Pittsburgh, have an appreciation for American football.

He was born in the jungles of Biafra during a Nigerian air raid, and certain aspects of American life puzzled him. From what he could tell, football was rather a pointless game, a lot of big fat guys bashing into each other. In fact, had he not been watching the news that morning, he may not have suspected anything unusual at all about the body on the slab.

*On December 13, 2006, seven years after the initial filing and four years after Webster's death, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit upheld the ruling that Webster had been totally and permanently disabled as a result of brain injuries from playing professional football. The ruling, a 3-0 decision, resulted in an award of more than \$1.5 million to Webster's four children and former wife.

In the summer of 2007, Roger Goodell, the new NFL commissioner, convened a meeting in Chicago for the first league-wide concussion summit. They did not ask Omalu. The NFL called another meeting, much smaller than the Chicago summit, in May 2009, to talk again about concussions and the progress of the MTBI committee's work... GQ men's magazine.

Someone said, 'It's a nice movie...but it doesn't tell the true story...a lot things were left out...it's JUST a MOVIE! ' Yes, it's a movie, but you can only tell so much in a two-hour time frame, however, it is “based on” a true story..

“Will Smith (amazing Nigerian accent) stars in “Concussion”, a dramatic thriller “based on” the incredible true David vs. Goliath story of American immigrant Dr. Bennet Omalu, the brilliant forensic neuropathologist who made the first discovery of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE), a football-related brain trauma, in a pro player and fought for the truth to be known. Omalu's emotional quest puts him at dangerous odds with one of the most powerful institutions in the world...the National Football League.” Written by Sony Pictures Entertainment

When a film is “based on” actual events, the balance between fact and fiction is shifted in the other direction. In many cases, the names of people and places are retained. Unlike in documentary filmmaking, where some degree of accuracy is usually expected, in a story based on reality, liberties will generally be taken with details: several minor or tangential figures pressed into an amalgamation, passage of time being compressed or extended, and so on. Nonetheless, the core elements, such as the events, the themes, and the main personae, serve as representations of themselves.

Continued...

.... *continued*

The bottom line; "Concussion" gets its point across...while National Football League...comes across at the same time as both a dinosaur and an ostrich with its head stuck in the sand.

The major failing I have with the movie, and I watched it twice, with my wife, and my son, who is a Dr. of Dental Surgery, was that there was never any acknowledgement of the progressiveness of the Canadian Football League Alumni Association, and its Executive Director Leo Ezerins of Hamilton, and their quest to treat and control CTE.

In a July 2011 report published by the University Health Network which has grown out of a series of mergers between current hospitals stated that "preliminary results from the first four brains donated to the Canadian Sports Concussion Project at the Krembil Neuroscience Centre, Toronto Western Hospital, reveal that two of the four former CFL players suffered from a brain disease known as Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE), while two did not show signs of CTE.

Bobby Kuntz, a former Toronto Argonaut and Hamilton Tiger-Cat, and Jay Roberts, an Ottawa Rough Rider both had a history of repeated concussions during their careers and showed the characteristic signs of CTE, an abnormal build-up of a protein called Tau in the brain, and other degenerative changes. CTE can result in memory impairment, emotional instability, erratic behavior, depression, and problems with impulse control.

Peter Ribbins a former Winnipeg Blue Bomber, passed away in December 2010, at age 63 of Parkinson's disease. Tony Proudfoot, a CFL allstar defensive back with the Montreal Alouettes, died at age 61 in 2011 of Lou Gehrig's disease (a neurodegenerative condition also known as ALS). Autopsy results showed that neither player showed signs of CTE. Both players were in the League at a time when it was common to spear tackle with the crown of the head.

According to the CFLAA, Proudfoot experienced repeated head trauma as a hard-hitting defensive back throughout his 12 CFL seasons.

Ezerins, a former CFL player, is a member of the Project Team. It has been because of the joint efforts of the CFLAA and the research team that these four donations were made possible. The Association became deeply involved with the Krembil Neuroscience Centre at Toronto Western Hospital in 2010. Roberts' brain was the first one that was donated.

Dr. Lili-Naz Hazrati, a neuropathologist in the Laboratory Medicine Program at the UHN performed the autopsies. According to Dr. Hazrati that while CTE may eventually progress to full-blown dementia, she emphasizes that the precise relationship between concussions and neurodegeneration remains to be demonstrated by future research.

In closing consider this. On December 11, 1909, one week after the first Grey Cup Game, the Hamilton Tigers and Ottawa Rough Riders, at the invitation of the New York Herald newspaper, played a game in Van Cortland Park in New York City to demonstrate the safeness of the Canadian game compared to the American version. This was at a time when **US President Theodore Roosevelt** was campaigning to close down American football because of its brutality.

Four years later, the first reported incidence of a concussion was reported by The Hamilton Daily Times newspaper in the third quarter of the 1913 Grey Cup Game when the Daily Times reported that Toronto Parkdale's "Birnie was knocked out when tackled." And where is the NFL in all of this...

ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION



The night was filled with smiles, hugs and stories of the good old days



For more reunion photos: <http://argosalumni.com/2016-reunion/>

ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION



For more reunion photos: <http://argoalumni.com/2016-reunion/>

ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION

Ummmm, Beer was also involved as was grub and that is pretty much the only time the hugs stopped....



Danny swears he wasn't doing the jig



Steve Del Col was checking out the wine O'Bee won

ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION



**Present Argo James Yurichuk joins
former teammate Joe Eppele**



**No hugs boys???? Oh yeah... Leo
is a former TiCat!**



SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

3rd Wednesday in April. Mark it in your calendars NOW!

For more reunion photos: <http://argosalumni.com/2016-reunion/>

ORDER YOUR JOSTENS RING TODAY



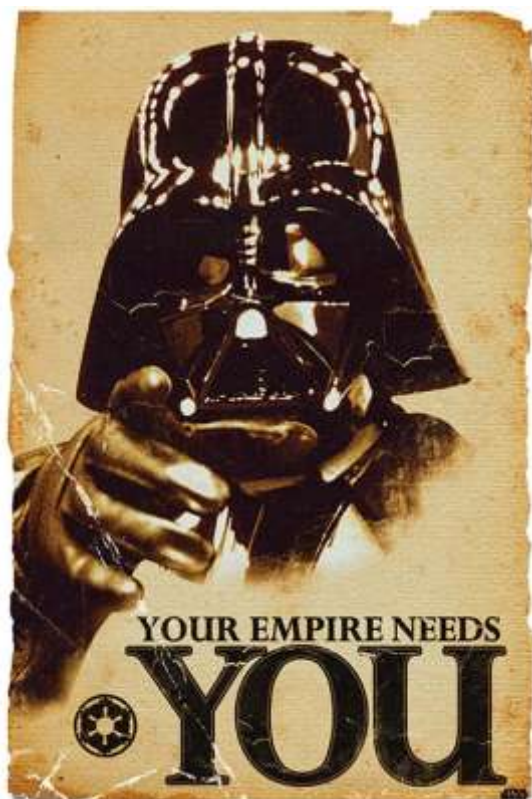
For more information contact Paul Robinson
ph. 647-409-7285
email: paul.robinson@jostens.com



The Association is continuing its partnership with *Turning Point Youth Services*, a Toronto-based, ac-credited children's mental health centre that provides a wide range of programs and services to youth aged 12 - 24 and their families.

For decades, the Toronto Argonauts Football Club and its players have impacted the community through the club's long-standing programs to promote youth wellness. As former players who have transitioned into retirement from the game, we are continuing our commitment to the local Toronto community through a partnership between the Association and Turning Point Youth.

We are looking for alumni that are interested in attending the event to share stories with the youth, have some fun and help-out a bit. If you are interested and want to know more now, please contact Crista email: crista_bazos@yahoo.ca



STAY CONNECTED!

Alumni from all over can get involved with the Alumni Association.

A few hours every month or a few hours a year. We can personalize your involvement to your schedule. For further details contact Crista

C A T C H I N G U P W I T H Z E K E O ' C O N N O R

If you are looking for inspiration today or a small kick to get moving on something you have been putting off for quite some time, this 90year old Argonaut Alumni's life will certainly do that for you!

Born in New York City on May 2nd, 1926 as William Francis O'Connor Jr to a very large Catholic family (but now known as Zeke), the O'Connor's moved to the Bronx and Zeke started playing football in high school. At 6'4, he was a highly sought after football player and this tall athlete chose Notre Dame for his college career where he started as an End in his freshman year. O'Connor left half way through the 1944 year during WWII to join the Navy Team, but eventually returned to Notre Dame in 1946.

In 1948 Zeke was drafted in the fourth round by the Buffalo Bills that were part of the All-American Football Conference and was later traded to the Cleveland Browns who ended up winning the 1949 AAFC Championship. In 1951 Zeke moved on to play for his home town New York Yanks, an NFL team. With the money he earned he enrolled back at University and earned a Masters degree from Columbia University in Business Communications.

In 1952, when the Yanks sold to Dallas, Zeke made his way north of the border to join the Toronto Argonauts. That year, the Team had a 7-4-1 record and were the underdogs going into the first ever televised Grey

Cup game. QB Nobby Wirkowsky threw a late TD pass to Zeke in the 4th quarter securing the Argos win against the Eskimos 21-11. Life was great and that legendary pass would be replayed many times over in the years to come.



The season didn't go without it's challenges for Zeke. When O'Connor first arrived to Toronto, he was fortunate to have had Nobby spend a little more time with him, passing to him and really teaching him the game. Zeke found the field to be an odd size and it felt large to him. The rules and number of players certainly took a while to get used to and he empathises with all the American players that come up to play in the CFL that have never watched the game. Zeke chuckles as he recalls continuously talking to himself during the games reminding himself not to block downfield to avoid getting a penalty.

Zeke loved playing for the Argos because the Team was made up of a great bunch of guys with team spirit and an affinity towards each other. They were a family. They would eat dinner together and would head to varsity stadium as a team. These gentlemen became lifelong friends.

As this Ends playing career was coming to an end he needed a job and was thinking of his future. He was familiar with a U.S. company called Sears which just merged with Simpsons. Zeke jumped at the opportunity to start working as a trainee and learn a few things before moving on to another company. 63 years later, Zeke is still with Sears. Unheard of these days. Sears has been very good to the engaging and tenacious Zeke. He moved up the ranks because of his loyalty and steadfastness. After working as a trainee he became an assistant buyer, followed by a sales manager, then buyer, continued to move up until he became a VP of Public Relations where he retired in 1983.... sort of...He has spent the next 30+ years running the Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation which he founded. In the early 1970s on a trip to Ottawa, Zeke met and became friends with Sir Edmund Hillary who was the first person to summit Mt. Everest. Zeke was drawn to what Hillary was involved with in Nepal and established the Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation in Canada. Sears too was impressed with Zeke's inspiration and provided him with an office to run the foundation to help build schools and hospitals for the Sherpa people. What captivated Zeke the most was the Sherpas



C A T C H I N G U P W I T H Z E K E O ' C O N N O R

appreciation for any little thing that was done for them. The Sherpas are Buddhists and education is extremely important to them. They want their children to progress like the Western world. They lead a simplistic, selfless life. A very proud culture. The Sherpa people received the funds to build the schools but the entire community helps to build the school. The philosophy is to let us help the Sherpas in order for the Sherpas to help themselves. And they do. Zeke stresses he has never met one lazy Sherpa. Everyone is willing to do something

Zeke is Founder, Past President & now Executive Director of the Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation. In the years after he retired from Sears, he was offered several great paying employment opportunities, but he chose to stay with the Foundation as that is where his heart belongs. It was his calling.

This philanthropist spearheaded the production of the well known Yeti doll which has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for several organizations such as the Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada as well as the Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation. Sears had the exclusive rights to the Yeti sold through their catalogue and over 353,000 Yeti dolls were purchased. Even when pouring his heart and soul into the foundation, football is never far from Zeke's thoughts. In fact he produced a football Yeti which has accompanied

him to many book signings and Argo Yeti has made his way to the Rogers Centre too.



Zeke is a busy man. Always has been. Give work to a busy person and it gets done. He was a well known Grey Cup colour commentator from 1956 – 1981. He also found the time to publish a memoir in 2012 called "Journey with the Sherpas: The Story of Zeke O'Connor and the Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation.

Zeke has a positive spin on everything in life. He has had several disappointments in life, but shares these words of wisdom "All great things for me have come out of my biggest disappointments. You can't let the obstacles and disappointments get you down. Dust yourself off and move on".

When asked what football has done for Zeke, he says football shaped his life. Without sports his father who was a Sergeant with the

West Point NYPD would never have been able to send him to school – his full athletic scholarship paid for his schooling. Playing for the Yanks helped Zeke pay for Columbia University. He met his lifetime friends at the Argos and if it weren't for the Argos cutting him, he may never have taken the trainee position with Sears.

On page 27 you will see the list of accomplishments of Zeke and the Sir Edmund Hillary Fund. Zeke doesn't like to boast of what he has done personally, but the Sherpas certainly know what Zeke's efforts have done for them and how their lives have been enhanced.. In fact this May was the 50th Anniversary of the building of the Kunde hospital and Zeke was an honorary guest. There was a planned unveiling of an outdoor rehabilitation garden and Helicopter landing pad which are being built behind the Kunde Hospital, in Zeke's honour. Unfortunately due to weather Zeke was unable to fly into the base of Mount Everest on May 28th for the celebration. However, the next day, Zeke at 90, got into the helicopter and made his way down the village with his two canes on his own. When the elevation got to be a bit much, the People carried Zeke. He was adorned with love, scarves and many speeches. "The Sherpas wish to recognize Zeke who, thru the SEHF has, over the past 40 years, helped to significantly improve the lives of the Sherpa people living in the region

C A T C H I N G U P W I T H Z E K E O ' C O N N O R

Although the hospital was built by Sir Edmund Hillary and the Himalayan Trust Nepal 50 years ago, 40 out of the 50 years of the hospital's operations were supported by Zeke's Foundation --- 'The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation' (SEHF). The planned recognition will be a great honor for Zeke to receive. The ambitious plans for the Zeke O'Connor Beyul Garden (the first and only in the region) are to include:

- Helipad with stretchable path to hospital
- Small outdoor fitness area/ with equipment such as
 - o Taichi standing spinner
 - o Shoulder standing wheels
 - o Waist and back massager
 - o Double air skier
 - o U air walker
 - o Air walker
 - o Elliptical cross trainer
 - o Sherpa cultural and religious artifacts including:
 - o Statue of medicine Buddha
 - o Kani
 - o Mani
 - o Naasa
 - o Lhasu
 - o Saamba etc
- Sherpa style trail inside the forest Greenhouse etc" (Jeanne Cornacchia). Zeke becomes very emotional when the focus is on him. He is quick to deflect the attention to others, but the Sherpas recognize this and ensured they showered him with their appreciation on May 29th.

Zeke states this all happened be-



cause of the doors football opened for him. It was recognizing opportunities in the midst of disappointment and really doing what you love to do. Zeke can't put into words how much helping the Sherpa people does for him. He gets more from the Sherpas than he can ever do for them.

Zeke has been recognized over the years many times. Most recently he was the recipient of the Sandy Hawley Community Service Award, from the Ontario Sports Hall of Fame.

One honour he cherishes is being the first non-statesman to represent Canada at Sir Edmund Hillary's funeral. He has also met the Queen of England and had tea with the Dali Lama. "These opportunities were all possible because I played football".

According to Zeke, the two things in life that are important are trust and



respect. Self trust and self respect and in this great country and in the US anything is possible. We can live a comfortable life, we need to respect education and the more education one has the more chances one has of advancing, but with that you need hard work and perseverance.

Zeke cherishes his football memories. He had a wonderful Argos team and family. These men are so important to him. For years these teammates would get together at a restaurant once a month to socialize and exchange football stories. During this get together, the charitable men would put money into a pot and would give it to a family at Christmas and of course include a Yeti. Something they all looked forward to. Sadly many members have died and others are unable to meet any longer. The telephone ensures those remaining still stay connected.

Today, Zeke's daughter Karen is the President of the Foundation. Dad couldn't be prouder. Zeke remains involved and will continue to do so. He is the loving father of 3 children, 7 grandchildren and 5 great grandkids and makes time for everyone. His kindness and generosity is a gift to society. His age and altitude doesn't stop him from tackling any project. It is certainly a privilege we can call Zeke our football brother!

Watch the Kunde
Hospital Golden
Jubilee

<https://youtu.be/Outf3q5LGQI>

THE SIR EDMUND HILLARY FOUNDATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS 1974-2015

DOCTORS	Dr. Kami Temba Sherpa, Chief of Medicine, Kunde Hospital Mingma Temba Sherpa, Chief Paramedic and Chief Financial Officer, Kunde Hospital Nepali Medical Doctor Assisting Dr. Kami	
MINGMA NORBU SHERPA MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIPS	2005 Dr. Mingmar Chhiring Sherpa 2007 Dr. Tshering Wangdi Sherpa Dr. Kami Temba Sherpa, University of Fiji Medical School 1 Student at Kathmandu University Medical School 1 Student at Medical School in China 1 Community Medical Assistant	
HOSPITAL STAFF	Sherpa Hospital Assistants Village Health Workers in each Medical Clinic	
HOSPITAL	Kunde Hospital – Fully funded from 1976 Kunde Hospital Children's Wing – 1981	Renovated Addition
13 VILLAGE MEDICAL CLINICS	Khumjung Thami – 2 Chaunrikarka Gumila Jumbesi Kharikola Solu Khumbu Villages	
17 SCHOOLS	Balanje School Beni School Chaunrikarka – 2 Gumila School Gysoa School Kharikola School – 2 Khumjung High School – Middle School - Adult Education Building and Teacher's Hostel Manedingma School Namche Bazaar Phorste School Tengboche School Thami School – 2 Thamo School Zeke O'Connor High School <i>Rex Hillary was head builder of most building projects</i>	Repairs Addition Expansion Repairs Addition Built Addition Rebuilt Extension Built Built Built Built Built
EDUCATION	Community-Based Health Education	
LITERACY	Adult Women's Program	
FORESTRY SCHOLARSHIP	Sagarmatha Forestry Project 1979 – 2012 The late Mingma Norbu Sherpa – Masters Degree in National Resources Management, University of Manitoba	Planted over 3 million seedlings
MONASTERY	Tengboche – Thami	Rebuilt
TEMPLE	Taksindu Gompa	Rebuilt
BRIDGE	Phakding	Rebuilt
WATER SYSTEM	Solu Khumbu area	

MINGMA NORBU SHERPA MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIPS PROVIDED BY THE SIR EDMUND HILLARY FOUNDATION

Students	University Attended	Year Graduated	Years Served at Kunde Hospital
Dr. Kami Temba Sherpa M.D.	University of Fiji Medical School	2001	2003 to Present, Chief of Medicine
Dr. Mingmar Chhiring Sherpa M.D.	Kathmandu University Medical School	2006	2008
Dr. Tsering Wangdi Sherpa M.D.	Kathmandu University Medical School	2007	2009 & 2010
Dr. Eliza Bajracharya Rai M.D.	China University Medical School	2007	2011 & 2012
Dr. Mingma Tshering Sherpa M.D.	Interning in Kathmandu Hospital	2010	2015
Mingma Kanchi Sherpa MD	Interning in the Philippines	2014	2015 & 2016
Tshering Tashi Sherpa	Nepal Medical College, Kathmandu	2016	Pending
Lhakpa Thendu Sherpa	Chitwan Medical College	2016	Pending
Alina Bajracharya	Qingdao University, China	2017	Pending
Tshering Thendu Sherpa	Laboratory Training, Kathmandu	2013	2013 & 2014
Nima Ongchuk Sherpa	Manila Central University	2021	Pending

All Proceeds to assist the people of Nepal (Health, Education and Reforestation Programs)

BEGINNINGS



Zeke's initial meetings with Sir Edmund on a camping trip to LaVerandere park - 1972



Helping with the build of the Khumjung high school - 1984



Sir Edmund directing the building of a school in village of Khumjung



Opening ceremonies at Khumjung High School, thanks from the Sherpa community - 1984



Campsite shower at a building site in Chaunrikarka Nepal - 1978



Destroyed and being rebuilt because of the Earthquakes



Damaged and being repaired because of the Earthquakes

HEALTH CARE



Immunization Clinic at Kunde Hospital



First Canadian Doctors at Kunde Hospital, Dr. Penny Dawson (L) and Dr. Jamie Ulrich 1981-83



Dr. Kami Temba Sherpa (MD), receives Medical Degree from University of Fiji - Scholarship provided by SEHF



Village of Namche Bazaar - considered the major village in Khumbu area of Nepal

*To make a donation or for more information on
the Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation*

www.thesiredmundhillaryfoundation.ca 416-941-3315

<https://www.facebook.com/thesiredmundhillaryfoundation>

HEALTH CARE



1974 - 1975
First Foundation Project



Hospital construction
Long Stay Ward



1985 - 1995
Kunde Hospital



Rainbow over Kunde



Kunde Hospital before the Earthquakes

DOCTORS



The Hayden Family



Dr. Robert Zimmerman & daughters



Dr. Mingmar Cherring
Mingma Norbu Scholarship
Graduate



Dr. Kami Temba
with hospital staff



Dr. Kami examining a young patient



Dr. Kami with his children

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EDUCATION



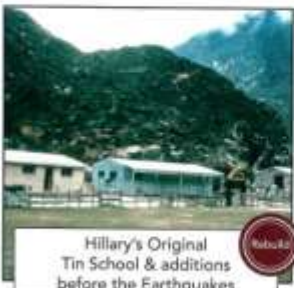
Sir Edmund Hillary
admiring C.I.D.A. Plaque



Thami School & Clinic
before the Earthquakes



Thamo 1 room school
before the Earthquakes



Hillary's Original
Tin School & additions
before the Earthquakes



Beni Primary School
before the Earthquakes

EDUCATION



Kharikola school expanded from the original 8 room building adjacent
to new medical clinic built by TSEHF



Opening ceremonies at the
ZOC Community High School
in Phafu, Nepal



Women's Literacy Programs
developed and funded by TSEHF
in Solo Valley near Phafu Nepal



Typical classroom setting and
class size for TSEHF Woman's
Literacy Program



Graduating class, Women's Literacy
Program for women over the
age of 35

*To make a donation or for more information on
the Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation*

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<https://www.facebook.com/thesiredmundhillaryfoundation>

THE ENVIRONMENT



Mendelphu East Plantation before & after TSEHF's involvement



Forestry Workers



The hills above Namche Bazaar, green with trees planted through the Sagarmatha SEHF Nursery programs



Phurte Nursery before the Earthquakes



Sir Ed & Zeke planting a tree



The Late Mingma Norbu - 2000 First Warden of Sagarmatha

EARTHQUAKE DEVASTATION



Outside Long Stay Ward at Kunde Hospital



Temporary Thami Clinic



Earthquake damage at Kunde Hospital



Doctors quarters after Earthquakes



Village of Thami before the Earthquakes



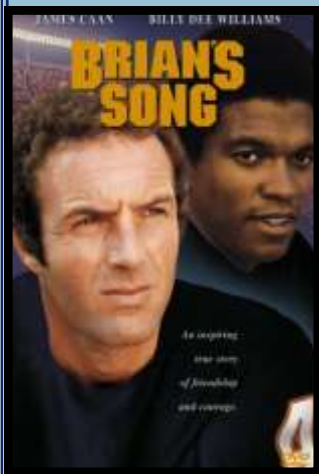
Village of Thami after the Earthquakes

*To make a donation or for more information on
the Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation*

www.thesiredmundhillaryfoundation.ca 416-941-3315

<https://www.facebook.com/thesiredmundhillaryfoundation>

List of Football movies



Nothing to do on a Friday night or trying to remember a football movie to show the team you are coaching? For your convenience, below is a link that will provide you with a list of football movies up until 2015

<http://www.sportsinmovies.com/football-movies.asp>

TORONTO ARGONAUTS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SUPPORT FUND

We are pleased to announce the introduction of the Toronto Argonauts Alumni Association Support Fund

PURPOSE OF THE SUPPORT FUND

The Support Fund is dedicated to improving the quality of life of Argonauts Alumni and their families by providing short term financial assistance to those who are experiencing difficulty meeting expenses resulting from a medical hardship and/or the need for assisted living. Quality of life expenses may include: prescription drugs, medical equipment and supplies, food, clothing and other comfort items. The fund is not intended to provide relief from financial difficulties associated with rent and mortgage payments, business ventures and addictions.

WHO CAN APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The following are eligible to apply for assistance:

- Former players with the Toronto Argonauts Football Club who have been on a regular League game roster and retired for at least 5 years
- Former coaches of the Toronto Argonauts Football Club
- Former head trainers and equipment managers of the Toronto Argonauts Football Club

ADMINISTRATION

The Support Fund will be administered by a 5 member sub-committee of the Argonauts Alumni Association, appointed by the Argonauts Alumni Board of Directors.

HOW TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

For more information and to obtain a confidential application form, contact: Pete Martin:

petemartin77@gmail.com or 289-837-4892

IMPORTANT DATES TO BLOCK OFF IN YOUR CALENDAR!

2016 FRIENDS OF THE ARGONAUTS CHARITY CORN ROAST



DATE: August 13, 2016

TIME: 13:00 - 17:00

PLACE: 11363 Bathurst St, Richmond Hill, ON

COST: \$15/pp

Includes:

BEST corn on the cob you've ever had & all you can eat sausages

Live entertainment

Silent auction

Player interviews

All net proceeds are donated to the Mike "Pinball" Clemons Foundation.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE LEGENDS LUNCHEON!

Grey Cup 2016 is in Toronto!

Be sure to block off ***Friday November 25th***
from 11am—3pm.

More details in September's issue!



INVESTIGATION UNDER WAY



Need a brain check-up?

The Canadian Sports Concussion Project, in association with the CFLAA, is seeking CFL alumni, with or without a history of concussion, to participate in a study investigating the effects of concussions on the brain

What's involved?

- MRI brain scan
- Testing of your thinking skills
- Testing of your motor skills

What do you get out of it?

- Assessments by experts in the field
- Feedback on your performance
- Access to programs aimed at managing symptoms and improving thinking abilities

Travel costs to and from Toronto, as well as accommodations (if required), will be provided.

For more information, our clinical contact is:

Dr. Sabrina Lombardi, 416-597-3422 x7788, sabrina.lombardi@uhn.ca

For more information on the Canadian Sports Concussion Project:

www.solveconcussions.ca

Testimonial

"As I read about the effects of concussions that occur in the sports world, I am growing increasingly concerned about what, if any damage my brain may have sustained and what measures are available that may reverse or slow down any ill-effects. Participating in this study has given me new insights and tools to strengthen and improve how my brain functions. I highly recommend investing in this worthwhile activity."

– Alumnus, Toronto Argonauts



PAID MEMBERS

Steve	Ackroyd	Joe	Eppele	Sean	McKeown
Tim	Allen	Leo	Ezerins	Gord	McTaggart
Ron	Arends	Dan	Ferrone	Mike	Mihelic
David	Azzi	Bud	Fowler	Don	Moen
Walt	Balasuk	Peter	Gabriel	Bob	O'Billovich
Chip	Barrett	Willie	Gillus	Zeke	O'Connor
Bill	Blair	Chris	Gioskos	Doyle	Orange
Bob	Bronk	Leon	Hatzioanou	Peter	Paquette
Mike	Campbell	Jeff	Howe	Dave	Pearson
Guilio	Carlin	Bob	Hudspeth	Doug	Philpott
Ernie	Carnegie	Al	Irwin	Jason	Piekarz
Samir	Chahine	Mike	Jovanovich	Jason	Pottinger
Lance	Chomyc	James	Kardash	Noel	Prefontaine
Paul	Clatney	Dave	Knechtel	Dan	Rashovich
Michael	Collymore	Gord	Knowlton	Adam	Rita
Jim	Cooper	Bob	Kotzer	Roger	Scales
Stace	Coray	Craig	Labbett	Adrian	Smith
Dave	Cranmer	Ed	Learn	Gerry	Sternberg
Rob	Crifo	Alan	MacLean	Bill	Symons
John	Crnich	Rob	Malich	Robert	Thompson
Steve	Del Col	John	Malinosky	Mike	Trenton
Fred	Dunbar	Paul	Markle	Branko	Vincic
Michael	Eben	Pete	Martin	Nick	Volpe
Darryl	Edralin	PJ	Martin	David	Watkins
Kevin	Eiben	Ken	McCarnan	Lubo	Zizakovic
Brad	Elberg	Mike	McCarthy		
Bruce	Elliott	Grant	McKee		

**IF you have NOT received your membership card, please email Crista
your mailing address and phone number**

NEXT ISSUE IN SEPTEMBER!



**WE DON'T
KEEP
CALM**



**IT'S
FOOTBALL
SEASON**

NEXT ISSUE IN SEPTEMBER!

