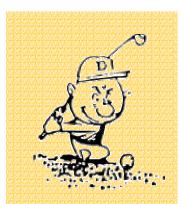
# Doodlebug Times 1999



Speaking of Doodlebuggers and finding oil, here's the oil patch news of 1999:

- Sable Island gas production starts
- Significant discoveries in Fort Liard area
- Oil prices bottom out in low teens, then rebound to mid 20's; gas prices surge



#### 1999 Highlights:

- Y2K preparations build – computer concerns – entire industry created preying on peoples' millennium fears
- Bill Clinton
  acquitted in US
  impeachment Trial
- Toronto paralyzed by snow storm
- High school killings in Littleton, Colorado and Taber, Alberta

## **Doodlebug moves to Jasper**



Faced with growing indifference and rapidly escalating costs at the Banff Springs Hotel, 1999 Doodlebug Chairman Gordon Dyck and his committee were faced with some tough decisions: stay in Banff and cut back drastically, or break with 46 years of tradition and move the tournament?

The decision was made – take the tournament to Jasper – and the weekend was a huge success, with most attendees saying it was the best yet.

To be fair to the Banff Springs, their hotel and golf course are increasingly popular among international travelers, particularly those from Japan and the States. This means high demand for rooms and tee times, well into the fall, by people whose currencies make ours seem like Canadian pesos!

Jasper, while experiencing



The Jasper Park Lodge Golf Course is consistently rated one of the best golf courses in the world

the same factors somewhat, is a bit off the beaten track, and slows down after Labour Day weekend. This means they welcome the tournament with open arms.

Jasper's more laid back environment also seems more conducive to socializing and relaxing, important components of the Doodlebug. Add in some hard work by the Committee, and you have an all round excellent weekend.

Many thanks to Gordon and his committee!



## What else happened this year?



American males finally appreciate soccer, when Brandi Chastain whips off her shirt as the US team wins the World Cup.

- NATO Begins Bombing Yugoslavia
- August, one of the most powerful and deadly earthquakes of the century strikes Turkey, killing 13,000
- Over 10,000 people protest the WTO in Seattle, Washington, shutting down the city and leading to hundreds of arrests
- Pokemon fever grips the US
- Pamela and Tommy divorce







#### Woodstock 1999

Woodstock '99 took place in New York. It was a 3 day concert featuring Limp Bizkit, Kid Rock, Red Hot Chilli Peppers, KoRn and many other superstar status bands and singers! There were rapes, mud wars, and fires during the concert. Nobody was seriously injured. A sorry but fitting end to the millennium.



### Chairman Dyck recovers stolen identity

Already a sensitive, fragile soul, 1999 Doodlebug Chairman Gordon Dyck well remembers the events that would send him into a 10 year downward spiral of confusion and despair, and then 5 years of therapy as he clawed back to where he is today. Speaking to the man, one gets a sense of incredible inner strength, and appreciates how being Chairman is more than an honour to Gordon - it's the final step in his fight to win back his sense of confidence and self.

"I was pretty new to the industry, and getting accepted into the Doodlebug Tournament meant a lot to me – I'd had a rough time of it as a teenager- acne, no girlfriends, bad marks....the works - and was just beginning to believe in myself. I remember it crystal clear, like yesterday; I received my Roster Book, and of course, I showed it to my mama right away, she'd come along as she usually did if I had to stay overnight out of town."

What happened next might seem innocent enough, but dealt a crippling emotional blow to young Gordon. "Anyway, she flipped through to find my name, and she starts laughing. I didn't know why yet, but she just said, 'If only I was so lucky', threw the Roster on the floor, and then headed down to the bar."

"I picked it up, and when I saw the wrong picture, I just crumpled up into a fetal position and sobbed uncontrollably. For over a year they were merciless at work.



Gordon Dyck



**Gordon Dyck** 

The "handsome" Gordon Dyck (left), and the real Gordon Dyck (right).

The shipping and receiving girls would say stuff like, 'We had no idea you were so handsome, and stuff like that. Really mean.'"

"I don't know how I made it through the year, and how I ever got up the courage to return to the Doodlebug the next year, I'll never know. But it was 1986 and I had to keep my job. Appearances are everything in this business, and what with mama's drinking and all..."

That first year perhaps it was a mistake, Gordon will never know, but when again the next year the wrong photo was inserted, he knew he was being singled out by the cruel pranksters on the committee. He plunged into an emotional crisis of confidence that would have broken most men. "I was a wreck – moustache, no moustache, moustache, no moustache – I was totally mixed up. Some days I just didn't want to get out of bed; I couldn't face the world."

One day, in the depths of despair, he listened to an old Boy George album, a personal favourite. The deeply touching lyrics were like a hand reaching down to pull him out of the abyss. He resolved to fight back and become the man he always wanted to be – the back-slapping, cigar-smoking king of the club house.

Now, 15 years later, Gordon Dyck is closing the book on a 15 year hell, and starting a new life as "Gordo", Doodlebug Chairman, and Real Man. And what happened to the other guy? We're not sure, probably sitting in a hot tub somewhere, soothing his aching old body, feeling sorry for himself.....

1999 Doodlebug Chairman Gordon "Gordo" Dyck



LINDA SMITH

