

Gridiron Gazette : Record Breakers!

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Taking a different slant this month, the Gazette take a flick through the NAF book of records to look at some of the best (and worst) performances on the Blood Bowl pitch.

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Jeremiah Kool

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These boots were made for stompin'!

Record-breaking break down

A summary of all the record holders in the book of NAF



Ultra Kool

Jeremiah Kool is credited with developing the Runner position and turning his back on the purely throwing game. That isn't to say he stopped passing the ball though and while he was playing he smashed most of the passing records in existence.

Over time, most of those records have been reclaimed again by more purist throwers. One of the more unlikely figures to stamp his own place in the history books is Harg Vainkill, star thrower on the Gouged Eye team. Harg had a golden 2489 where he beat Kool's record of 160 passes in a season and most passing yards, set at 2122. An Orc in a team designed to bash and maim cuts an unlikely figure in the passing records, but it just proves that given the right tools, any team can adapt.

The one record Kool retains however is most passing yards in a career. It currently stands at 32,407 yards, it's not expected to be beaten ever, dwarfing the figures of other premier passers like Soaren Hightower and Valen Swift.

Safe Hands

Speaking of Valen Swift, he still holds the record for most consecutive passes without being intercepted at an impressive 65.

On the Ball!

- By Dolf Ungerhaagen

Passing stats matter; in ale houses all over Altdorf and across the land, friendly arguments rage as to who is the greatest passer of the ball. Many would point to Landir Yvrace the High Elf, who holds the record for most Long Bombs in a single match with seven. However, not all passing and catching records sit with Elf coaches as one may think, a few have more unlikely owners.

Cannons

The record for longest cannonball shot ever (where the 'ball' is a player fired out of a cannon on the pitch) is held by 'Bullethead' Sprecher of the Dwarf Warhammerers. Alas Sprecher is no longer with us in person after being shot out of a cannon in a 2486 match against the Athelorn Avengers. The cannon was overloaded and Sprecher was fired out of the stadium and into orbit!

Trivia fan will note that Sprecher's spiked helmet finally fell to earth a year later in the rematch between the 2 teams. The helm killed Warhammerer Gruff von Linenkugel in the Avengers endzone but as last years ball was wedged in the helmet, a touchdown was duly awarded!

Interceptions

The Avengers were on the receiving end once more, when the record for most interceptions in a single match was smashed. Dwarf blitzer Obler Stonewield, of the Firebrand Ingots, intercepted the ball eleven times due to wearing magnetised armour and surreptitiously stuffing the ball with chunks of iron. Clever!

Most interceptions in a season and most interceptions ever were held by Jeremiah Kool (again!). He broke the record for interceptions during his first year as Darkside Cowboys captain. However, since his retirement both records were taken by Lottabottl "The Leaper". His grip on most interceptions in a season record was only brief, Hubris Rakarth then won it back for the Darkside Cowboys in 2485.

Catching

The record for most catching yards in a game was made when the Gouged Eye took on the Vynheim Valkyries in a particularly snowy match at the Longship Stadium. The 'Eye were fielding Osgar Vilechuck, who unusually for an Orc, played as a catcher. That day he caught 6 long bombs and finished with a tally of 241 receiving yards.

Why did he manage to score so freely . . . ? Vilechuck is an albino and the Valkyries complained bitterly that they couldn't see him in the blizzard!

Holding the most balls at once!

Pinespite Venge of the Dark Renegades was blessed with an unusual mutation where his skin excreted a glue-like substance. Whenever he touched a ball it would stick to him. Against the Bright Crusaders in 2485 he finished the match with 19 balls glued to various parts of him. The same blessing ended up killing him sadly, when he found Lizardmen skin also stuck to him and he became ensnared in a lethal Lustria Croakers pile up!



Morg in his rookie year smashing yet another casualty.

Most kills in a single game

If you ever wanted proof the game is now more violent than ever, then this is the record for you. Jeremiah Kool used to hold this record at 3 kills in a game.

We know that Mad Bull Chainspleen once killed all 16 of the Phoenix Snotlings in a single blow (and so also holds the record for Most Devastating Single Block ever) which easily trumped Kool's efforts.

However, the true answer is lost in the blood bath that was the infamous match between the Asgard Ravens and the Greenfield Grasshuggers. On the fateful day in 2482, the Ravens squished 743 'Huggers in one mighty effort. The body count was so high that the scribes lost the tally of exactly how many kills each Raven had. Assuming they brought their reserves on to give some of their players a breather, they would have averaged just over 46 dead Halflings per Norseman!

Most kills in a season

Engel von Evilstein of the Chaos All-Stars in one season managed to kill a truly impressive 259 players - more than most of today's top stars have managed in their whole careers.

In von Evilstein's case it helped that in that season they played the Shiretown Stuffers 3 times which boosted his figures by quite a lot.

Why have the scribes given the number in Evilstein's case? Him being dead already may be a factor, it lessens any chances of retribution!

On a need to know basis!

- By Gerhardt Schtumpf

Blood Bowl is a celebration of violence loosely dressed in a wafer-thin veneer of respectable sporting achievement. It's not just the opposition that the top-rated killers instill fear in . . .

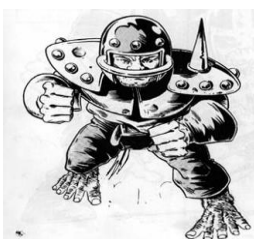
The record keeping scribes are clearly nervous about the kill records. They frequently note who holds which records but rarely how many kills or casualties are associated with them. Morg 'n' Thorg for instance we know holds the record for most kills in a rookie season . . . but we've no idea how many it was.

We also can read that Ramtut III owns the record for most cheerleader kills, but quite how many of the pretty young things he has strangled the life out of is mystery, even he doesn't know.

Not quite killing, but the Mighty Zug has the achievement of most players bitten in a match. Again, we don't know how many of the Darkside Cowboys he bit in the 2485 Blood Bowl final . . . but probably safe to assume it was all of them . . . several times each!

When you look at who holds these records the reason for the scribe's reluctance to give figures for other players to aim at becomes clear. Would you want to be the one who tells Morg, Ramtut or Zug they no longer hold the record?

No, I didn't think so, me either.



Killer Halflings!

The killing of hordes of Halflings has been the underpinning factor in most of the casualty records somewhere, but don't for a second think it is all totally one sided. Ernald Spiritburner, the low-blow bruiser from the Grasshuggers, still holds the records for most kills by a Halfling in a game (10!) and most kills in a career (162!). He hasn't retired yet so expect that number to rise!

Eating Records!

Believe it or not, Blood Bowl has a whole feast of eating records.

One of the most prolific record breakers when it comes to food is Fang the werewolf. The ever-hungry howler currently holds 3 different records. They are:

- Most balls eaten in a game
- Most dog biscuits eaten in a game
- Most Halflings eaten in a game

For the last one, Fang got into the crowd and scoffed 105 of them before he felt full - that's some metabolism!

Hamshaw Whitecake the Halfling isn't too far behind with a couple of records to his name as well. They are:

- Most sittings of food before a kick-off - 18 in total!
- Most mid-game snacks eaten during a season - he hit 1000!

The top eater has to be Rumble-Gut Rockbelly the troll. Always hungry, he got a little confused as to which side he was on and in that confusion scoffed his entire team, the coach, all of the cheerleaders, the mascot and 120 fans unable to escape out of the south stands. It will surprise no-one to learn therefore that Rockbelly holds the record for Most players eaten on own team!

Fan-tastic Records

- By Rusty Hoelle

The record books don't just sing the praises of the players and teams who take to the hallowed turf, the fans themselves have their own section as well.

Biggest Fan Club

Most would assume it's the Reikland Reavers, driving up numbers with the relentless mailing of Reavers Digest . . . but they'd be wrong. Instead, it's the Amazon All-Stars whose fan club only started in 2495. For some reason an awful lot of men signed up instantly . . .

Most Fans at a game

This record was set in 2486 when the Champions of Death took on the Chaos All-Stars in an AFC Semi-final match. There was huge demand for the match and although the stadium could hold an impressive 140,000 fans, it was still wasn't enough. To get around this, many of the All-Stars fans used mutations to merge themselves together, allowing lots of them to squeeze into a single seat. The Undead fans took a clever approach and only sent their heads to the game so they could be easily piled up. Space saving at its best!

Most Riots

The Underworld Creepers hold the record for starting more riots than any other team in Blood Bowl. They usually tend to all start the same way. A fight will break out in the dug-out and as it escalates, members of the crowd find themselves being drawn into it as well to attack / defend their favourite star or because one of the fighting players has managed to wallop one of them by accident. Whatever the cause, the Creepers fans have been involved in more riots than any other team fans.

Quickest stadium clearance

The record for the fastest time all of the fans have been cleared from a stadium stands at 4 minutes and 11 seconds. Technically the record belongs to Gretchen Wachter and her howling banshee scream rather than the terrified and deafened fans themselves. Still, the fans were involved . . . so it still counts as a fan records, sort of!

Most consecutive games with a full stadium

Dark Elf team, the Deadly Nightshades, hold the record for most consecutive sell out games wherever they play.

Interestingly, they were the first team ever to field an all Witch Elf roster who have a tendency to play with little on. What they do wear is tight fit and made of leather.

Are these two facts in any way connected do you think . . . ? It doesn't seem much of a stretch does it?



How long ?

- By Lastiges Weisschen

The record books aren't just filled to burst with stand-out performances from individual players or teams. Sometimes there's an aspect of the game itself which is remarkable.

The shortest game ever is easy to record. The Archmage's College of Temporal Magic team used a cunning ploy against opponent's they didn't like the look of. They would hop back in time 3 days and win the game before the opposition team had even arrived. Even the NAF conceded this was counter to the spirit of Blood Bowl and slapped the Archmage's with a ban.

In terms of the longest game ever . . . well there are two contenders for that crown as both games are still, technically, being played. The first potential winner is a match involving the Fester Spike Hurricanes in the Grey Mountains Champions Cup. A wayward pass went deep into the highest foliage of Timber Staunchtrunk, a Treeman on their opponents' team. Timber had taken root in the center of the pitch and fallen asleep. Every attempt to wake him up or retrieve the ball failed and so eventually the players left the pitch. The game however was never officially ended and so after 10 years, Timber is still in possession!

The second contender to the title is between the ethereal Frozen Phantoms and the Dark Elf team, the White Bay Arrows. In order to fit the 90,000 Arrows fans and the team into the cavern where the Underworld League match was being played, they were also made ethereal. The game started almost 10 years ago and is still being played as nobody (well . . .no-spirit) can pick up the ball which has long since deflated!



Worst Team ever

What does a team need to do in order to be considered the worst team ever? Some would argue it's the Hobgoblin Team who have abandoned more games than any other for all manner of reasons, all of them inherently stupid and utterly avoidable.

The real winner has to be the Deadbeats however, led by the Necromancer Galbash the Black. His zombie only outfit were the first and only team to lose 1000 games in a row. The main cause was the limited necromancy skills of Galbash himself. He has yet to master the art of casting 'Raise the Dead' and getting it to last for a full game. No matter how the team is doing, they literally fall apart before the final whistle! Which is worse? You decide!

Longest half time drinking session

This occurred in a match between arch-rivals the Dwarf Giants and the Dwarf Warhammerers. What was meant to be a tension soothing shared pint in the mid-point break of a not-so-friendly match turned into a hard-fought drinking contest. Neither team was willing to back down in order to prove who could hold the most ale. History failed to record which of the teams actually won, but play didn't resume for 2 weeks after which 341 barrels had been drained dry!

This isn't the longest half time ever however, that record is held by . . .

Longest half time ever

The Erengard Undertakers are only able to play their games at night. All home matches start at midnight on the full moon. Their half time ceremonies are long . . . ridiculously long. It can be so time consuming in fact that the sun frequently dawns before the ceremony is finished. The outcome of that? The game is put on hold until its full moon the following month and the teams can kick off again.

Undertaker fans need patience!

Biggest Fireworks Display

This took place after a Branislav Bloodsuckers games. The vampires were so captivated by the fireworks they lost track of time. The sun rose and they all burst into colourful flames too!

It's Official! Referee records

- By Pierce d'Organ

The players aren't the only ones to have all the fun you know! Sometimes the boys in black and white also want to get in on the action! Argue the call with these guys at your peril!

The most famous Referee of them all, has to be ex-Reavers Blitzer Max "Kneecap" Mittlemann. Known for not actually having read the rules, Max officiates with a 'get them before they get you' policy. On the field he revels in being judge, jury (what are they?) and executioner. Two of the records he holds are . . .

Most player dismemberments by a Referee

Max frequently takes a chainsaw onto the pitch to dispense justice as he sees fit. However, although everyone agrees Max has chopped up more players than any other Referee, it isn't clear exactly how many. It's said that he still has a very loyal following from his Reavers days. A band of extreme fanatics actually carry out a lot of the maiming's for him. Maybe we should just count those we can see on the field of play . . . ?

Most noses broken with a whistle

In the wrong hands, even a whistle can be dangerous. In the gnarled mitts of a psychopath like Referee Max it can become a veritable weapon of mass nasal destruction. Despite retiring a while ago, Max still likes to make the odd guest appearance as he did recently. In doing so he broke his own nose-smashing record just to prove that he's not totally passed it ye!!



Most players sent off in a single game

The record stands at all 32 players from both teams combined in a potentially nasty looking match between the Dwarf Warhammerers and the Gouged Eye. At first it seemed miraculous that 2 such violent teams should just accept the ruling without any bloody retribution. Then, however, it was pointed out that Referee Hanse Kohl had caught Nurgle's Rot from his previous match. Poor Hanse died shortly after his last post-match interview (in which he infected 14 news reporters and a cabalvision cameraman). His arms fell off . . . followed by legs . . . his new tentacles didn't last long and then finally his head dropped off!

Most Officials killed in one match

This record, like so many others, is a little controversial. In the record books it stands at a whopping 47 officials killed in one game by Vurner 'Ref-Killer' Vinkler.

However, true aficionados of the game give the record to the Troll Vizgrak Pigczit, playing for the Grim Axebreakers. In a pre-season friendly match, Pigczit went on a monumental eating spree. He wolfed down -

- 9 Referees and assistants
- The official NAF statistician
- NAF Referees inspectorate
- Everyone in the NAF hospitality marquee

This brought him to 45 where his record officially ends sadly. However, 43 more referees are known to have vanished that day. They were on the annual NAF referees outing and were last seen trying to disguise themselves as priestesses. Not one of them has been seen since, so it's believed good old Pigczit scoffed them too!

Bans & Sendings Off

The player to receive the most red cards ever is Nobbla Blackwort, the goblin chainsaw looney. To date he has been dismissed 437 times!

Most lifetime bans however is owned by Kreek Rustgouger who is currently on 22!

Kick it real good!

- By Skellig Queem

Despite Blood Bowl being a sport of passing the ball, there are a surprising amount of records for kicking it too.



The longest kick-off ever took place in 2485 when the Ice Giant Cloudgirth Mountainhips launched the ball 406 yards against the Vynheim Valkyries, out of one stadium and into a neighbouring one, killing an unwitting fan it when it landed.

The record for longest kick-off landing in play isn't anything like as far or alas as deadly. This record is held by Venom of Praetia of the Darkside Cowboys and was kicked against another Norse team, the Asgard Ravens. The ball travelled an impressive 88 yards.

Related to kick-offs, there is also a record for the longest kick-off return. This took place in 2486 when the Reikland Reavers played the Elfheim Eagles. 'Fast' Ben Jansen, the Reavers catcher, took the ball and returned it 62 yards up the pitch for a touchdown, dodging and weaving his way through the Eagles team with the assistance of his team-mates blocking a clear path for him.

The most kicking fatalities on the other hand is held by kicking specialist Trok Elfsplitter of the Gouged Eye. In the 2487 season he managed 12 kills from booting!

The record for the most players kicked to death in a single game belongs to Grimwold Grimbreath, captain of the Dwarf Giants who managed to end 3 players by way of the boot.

Most seasons ever played

The obvious answer here would appear to be Ramtut III . . . but you'd be wrong! It's actually Malorek Doomgale who has managed 896 seasons of Blood Bowl.

He started off as a human Blitzter in the very early days of the rediscovery of the game. Serious injury saw him extend his career by signing a pact with Nurgle and playing 48 seasons for the Rotters. He was then killed and resurrected as a zombie for the Comeback squad and has since played for multiple undead teams at the same time, allowing him to complete numerous seasons all at once.

Worst Tackle Ever

Back in the 2480s, Valen Swift was making quite the name for himself after returning to the game for the Eagles. Dark Elf outfit, Khaine's Killers, jealous of his success planned to finish Swift off once and for all.

With a gaping hole in the Eagles defense, six of the Killers piled onto Swift and a bloody tussle ensued where the Dark Elf players kicked and stabbed at anything that moved in the pile of bodies.

After the increasingly bloody and mangled heap of players ceased moving, the Referees were brave enough to move in and start pulling them apart. As they did so, the only player left on his feet and uninjured was Valen Swift himself. Somehow all six of the Killers had taken each other out of the game and not him!

Rumours still persist to this day that Swift was never in the middle of the melee at all and it was in fact a magical projection!

Size Matters



The tallest player ever was Gurk Cloud-Scraper from the Asgard Ravens who stood as tall as 9 men. His career lasted only one match however after which he was banned for life for stepping on the opposition and squishing them flat!

The heaviest player to appear in a Blood Bowl final is Glart Smashrip in 2477. He took the record from the player who inspired his eating quest to begin with, the Minotaur Massif "Hungry" Bofine who appeared for the Middenheim Marauders in the 2469 final. Massif weighed in at 410lbs when he ran out for the Marauders, Glart was even bigger . . . but we don't know by how much!

Records in brief

The following is a list of all the records the NAF have recorded

Individual Records

Holder	Race	Record
Ardo Snakebite	Goblin Pogoer	Highest Pogo leap ever (contested)
Barry Bigbones	Skeleton Looney	Most Player kills with a Chainsaw Most times decapitated
'Bullethead' Sprecher	Dwarf	Longest Pass from a Cannon
Cloudgirth Mountainhips	Giant	Longest Kick-Off
Dag Gobguzzla	Goblin Pogoer	Highest Pogo leap ever (contested)
Dirk Heldmann	Human	Most Touchdowns in a Season
Engel von Evilstein	Human Renegade	Most Player Fatalities in a season
Ernal Spiritburner	Halfling	Most Players Casualties by a Halfling in a single game Most Players Casualties by a Halfling in a career
Evil Knut	Norse	Most traps set off in a career
Fang	Werewolf	Most balls eaten in a game Most dog biscuits eaten in a game Most Halflings eaten in a game
'Fast' Ben Jansen	Human	Longest Kick-Off Return
Glarl Smashrip	Skaven	Heaviest player at a Blood Bowl final
Gragath Sanson	Human Renegade	Most magic items used in one game
Grieg Daavos	Human	Most injuries sustained in a single match
Gretchen Wachter	Banshee	Fastest stadium clearance Most eardrums burst in a single game
Grimwold Grimbreath	Dwarf	Most players killed by booting in a single game
Gurk Cloud-Scraper	Giant	Tallest player ever
Hamshaw Whitecake	Halfling	Most meal sittings before a game Most snacks in a season
Hanse Khol	Human Referee	Most players sent off
Harg Vainkill	Orc	Most pass attempts in a season Most passing yards in a season Most passing yards in a career
Jeremiah Kool	Dark Elf	Most Life Time Bans
Kreek Rustgouger	Rat Ogre	Largest player to fit into a football
Kweequik the Kontorted	Skaven	Most Longbombs in a game
Landir Yvrace	High Elf	Most Interceptions in a Season
Lottabottol "The Leaper"	Skink #	Most Interceptions Ever
Mace-head Magee	Goblin	Most players Killed after the Final Whistle
Mad Bull Chainspleen	Minotaur	Most Devastating Block Ever
Malorek Doomgale	Human, Rotter, Zombie	Most season ever played
Max 'Kneecapper' Mittelman	Human Referee	Most Noses Broken with a Whistle Most Player dismemberments by a Referee
Mighty Zug	Human	Most players bitten in a single match
Moist Bark	Treeman	Highest Scoring Treeman Ever
Morg 'N' Thorg	Ogre	Most Fatalities caused by a rookie
Nobbla Blackwort	Goblin	Most red cards received ever
Oblar Stonewield	Dwarf	Most Interceptions in a Single Game
Oi	Gnoblar	Longest career for a Gnoblar
Osgar Vilechuck	Orc	Best individual game catching in yards
Pinespite Venge	Dark Elf	Most Balls Held at Once

Gridiron Gazette - Record Breakers!

Individual Records - continued

Holder	Race	Record
Ramtut III	Mummy	Most Cheerleader Fatalities
Rumble-Gut Rockbelly	Troll	Most players eaten on own team
Skarp Sorehead	Goblin Pogoer	Longest Sustained Pogo ever
Trok Elfsplitter	Orc	Most players killed by booting in a season
Valen Swift	Elf Union	Most consecutive passes without an interception
Venom of Praetia	Dark Elf	Longest Kick Landing in Play
Vizgrak Pigczit	Troll	Most Officials killed in one game

in an alternative reality to the one we all exist and thrive in, Lottabottl was a young Slann player rather than a Skink.



Team Records

Holder	Record
Amazon All-Stars	Largest fan club
Archmages College of Temporal	Magic Shortest game ever
Arctic Cragspiders	Most decapitations in a single game
Asgard Ravens	Most players killed in a single game
Branislav Brainsuckers	Biggest post match firework display
Champions of Death	Most fans at a game (shared with Chaos All-Stars)
Chaos All-Stars	Most fans at a game (shared with Champions of Death)
	Greatest show of fans support
Crimson Spikes	Highest score in a championship game
Darkside Cowboys	Longest game ever . . . to then be abandoned (shared with Kishargo Werebears)
Deadbeats	First team to lose 1000 games
Dwarf Giants	Longest half time drinking session (shared with Dwarf Warhammerers)
Dwarf Warhammerers	Longest half time drinking session (shared with Dwarf Giants)
Erengard Undertakers	Longest half-time ever
Fester Spike Hurricanes	Longest game ever . . . still being played
Greenfield Grasshuggers	Most kills received in a single game
	Largest sausage ever
Hobgoblin Team	Most players sent off ever
	Most games abandoned ever
Khaine's Killers	Worst tackle ever
Kishargo Werebears	Longest game ever . . . to then be abandoned (shared with Darkside Cowboys)
Middenheim Maulers	Highest score to nil in a championship game
Nightshades	Most consecutive full stadiums
Nurgles Rotters	Fewest touchdowns ever conceded
	Most unrefused games
Tjorwald Titans	Biggest gate ever
Underworld Creepers	Most riots started by one team ever

Editors note

The NAF book of records jumps around in its use of distance. Sometimes it refers to distance of a pass or a kick in paces and at other times in yards. For uniformity, the Gazette has used just yards when distances have been referenced. If you prefer to measure distance in paces welltough.

Next month's Issue of Gridiron Gazette

Next month we switch back to our team reviews and this time focus on the redoubtable Dwarfs. In the issue we will be examining such questions as -

- *Why did the NAF ban Chaos Dwarfs spoiler alert nobody knows!*
- *What goes on at the Skunk Works - sounds stinky!*
- *Who was the last man (well Dwarf) left standing . . . twice?!?!*
- *Zara the Slayer - a girl without a beard! Why is she so revered by Dwarfs?*

The biggest question of all though is . . . are Dwarfs nothing more than bearded Goblins? After all, both teams focus more on cheating with the use of secret weapons rather than playing the game. Dwarfs have been known to drive several different types of Death Roller, swing chainsaws, throw bombs, shoot cannons, strap on magnetised armour and hurl acid nets - very secret weaponry, very goblin like. Need we say more? Hopefully not - this may have already gotten us in a Book of Grudges!



Final Fact!

Guess what the Greenfield Grasshuggers did with their cabalvision money before the 2490 season? They only spent it to make the worlds largest sausage! Alas before it could be feasted on at the start of the season, someone stole half of it. The culprit was never found because it could of literally been any or all of the team maybe it was!