

Gridiron Gazette :

Amazons

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For the final time we head off to the tropics of the Lustrian continent and assess the Amazon teams. Although they have been playing the great game secretly for decades, it's only in recent years that they have introduced themselves to the wider world.

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Nikita de Bresson

The signing of Nikita got a lot of press attention for a number of reasons, not just because she wasn't an Amazon by birth.

She ran away from her family to fulfil her dream of playing Blood Bowl. Being the traditional sort, they had very fixed views on what a noble woman should or shouldn't do and so backed up their objections with direct actions - they kidnapped her back!

The All-Stars weren't about to abandon a sister under contract. They stormed the de Bresson castle and rescued Nikita in a daring but brutal raid. Amazonian war parties are justly feared in Lustria and the team proved why this was. After the rescue, the family gave up any further claims on her.

Lucy Luc

While travelling between games, the All-Stars happened upon a band of poachers who had ensnared a unicorn for its valuable horn. The All-Stars dealt with the poachers and freed Lucky Luc the unicorn. In thanks, Luc joined the team as a star Blitzer and soon gathered the reputation for being a menace on the field; being charged by the horn was no laughing matter!

Nikita de Bresson has been known to ride Luc in popular pre-match displays.

Amazon All-Stars

- By Dolf Ungerhaagen

Of all the races, Amazons are one of the more recent converts to the great game. Amazon scouts watched Dwarf and Human settlers settling a dispute via a game of Blood Bowl. They took notes back to the Amazon havens and all female teams soon started to appear!

History

Before the collapse of the NAF, Amazon teams didn't play in the world's premier competition, the Blood Bowl itself. Lustria as a whole was woefully underrepresented, as only one Lizardman team took part. With the collapse of the NAF the door of opportunity was thrown open for the Amazons to right this wrong.

2494 - After the disaster of the Feathered Jaguar team, rather than a host of other Amazon outfits sailing over the seas to the old world, the Amazons decided to be a little more organised. They formed a single team of the best players from all the Lustrian leagues with a bid to taking the Blood Bowling world by storm.

They start their career in the old world with a bang. The All-Stars reach the semi-finals of the Luccini Open, one of the more significant trophies outside of the majors. Although they lost to the Evil Gits, they destroyed the renegades to such an extent they were forced to forfeit the final.

2495 - The All-Stars popularity is booming and so they open their own fan club using the mantra "Men are from Middenheim, women are from Vynheim". It is hugely popular with all races and genders and swiftly becomes the world's largest fan club, surpassing even the Reikland Reavers own club.

2497 - This proves to be the All-Stars best season so far as they reach the Chaos Cup final. However, they lose against the Darkside Cowboys in part thanks to issues with the ball - it seemed insistent on growing legs and wings and trying to escape being held!

2499 - The first non-Amazon joins the All-Stars. The signing of Bretonnian catcher Nikita de Bresson causes a ruckus.

Management

Despite their popularity, the Amazon All-Stars have maintained a policy of keeping their distance from both the fans and opposition players. Therefore little is known about team owner Geramane Gweer and Head Coach Dianna "Mistress of Pain" Thunderlash. For the latter, we do know that the name was well earned which is probably why the All-Stars are such a well drilled team!



Feathered Jaguars

- By Gerhardt Schtumpf

The Jaguars decided to recruit from outside of their ranks. It was briefly glorious but ended in terrible tragedy!

Ithalea, head coach of the Jaguars wanted to put a little more bite in her scrimmage line. She was aware of the wild Kroxigor that lurked on the edges of her teams territory and so in 2482 set about ensnaring the brute and training him for the pitch. Glotl Stop, as he became known, was not the easiest pupil! He managed to eat 32 Jaguar coaches and numerous players were injured but by 2484 was finally ready for his debut. For the next 2 seasons the Jaguars were a force to be reckoned with, beating all comers.

Buoyed by this, in 2490 they set sailed for the old world and to conquer new territory. A match in Altdorf proved Glotl's destructive capacity as he smashes the opposing teams into fleshy puddles before breaking out of the stadium. Two regiments of elite Reiksguard were lost recapturing him.

Glotl Stop was to be the team's undoing in 2492. Forced to switch uniforms as their kit was too similar to their Lightfoot opposition, Glotl got very confused. He set about eating both teams to be sure and so the poor Jaguars came to a very bloody end indeed!



Lustrian Queens

Long have the Queens had to endure vicious whispers. It reached a point where Head Coach Lilleth Savage and team captain Julia Claree issued a threat to the press. If anyone carried on printing the scurrilous rumors then the Queens would sue them.

What were the gossips talking about . . . ?

Having taken legal advice, its safe for us to say that the following has in no way proven to be true, they are likely the result of the bruising style of play the Queens employ on the pitch. Apparently, so other people (not us) have been saying, the Lustrian Queens are in fact all men!

Lustrian Lusties

Although Lustria is more open to the world now than it has ever been, this is a relatively new development. For many years it was a self-contained continent where only the bravest old world adventurers would set off to explore.

This means it's not uncommon to find isolated competitions where a small number of teams play each other over and over again.

The Lusties are an Amazon team with a long history of dominating the Tobazco Bowl. Only 4 teams ever took part and so they routinely faced off against Skaven, Lizardmen or Pygmies. This was all turned on its head the year the Bad Bay Hackers, a human team, entered.



Wild Women of Wamatooma

The Wild Women are unusual in that they are one of the few Blood Bowl teams to have an all-male cheerleader squad. Cheering for them is considered a great honour by the male Amazon house servants. Arguably, being so unusual has made the cheerleading squad surprisingly popular. They have released their own music and have had popular hits with toe tapping classics like "I'm too sexy for your pom-poms" and "Look at those big (foot)balls". The mind boggles . . . not this writer's choice in music, but each to their own!

Sonia Redwulf

Sonia currently plays for the Amazon All-Stars and has been a big hit since her arrival in the old world.

She has been a boon for the gossip columns as well which has helped sell thousands of papers. Recently she has been dating Griff Oberwald, the pair were spotted at Sting-Fellas tavern in Altdorf. Wife number 6 for Griff. . . ?

Zena Blackmane

This Amazon Blitzer won't be too popular back in Lustria. She sailed over with the other All-Stars and then left them for the Norsca Rampagers. If her first game is anything to go by, it was a brilliant signing by the Norse as she scored 2 touchdowns on her debut.

Estelle le Veneaux

Its hard to pin Estelle down. She takes to the pitch covered in frogs and other critters and is known for her baleful hexes. In theory spell casting is illegal in Blood Bowl, but who wants to risk telling her that? Everyone remembers the fate of Theodore Hogcaller who she turned into a toad!

The Baroness of the Bayou doesn't really do contracts, or interviews. . . or even sports really. She just sort of turns up at games and takes part punishing the opposition for some wrong she believes they have done. Nurgle teams especially beware!

Sisters are doing it for themselves!

- By Rusty Hoelle

In honour of the Amazon teams, the Gazette takes a look at some of the most significant female players across the league who haven't already graced our fine pages!

Bertha Bigfist

You don't really see Bertha on the play anymore. . . she hasn't officially retired but her business interests tend to keep her too busy for much gridiron action. It's a shame because nobody delivers extreme violence but with a feminine touch like everyone's favourite damsel of destruction.

Since reducing her pitch time, Bertha has put more time into her other interest - farming. In particular she breeds Minotaurs fit and ready for the pitch. Its known that Big Bertha's Bovine Breeders have been working with a stud bull for a while. Maybe. . . and there is no official wording on this, it's just supposition you understand. . . this may explain why we Zynox hasn't been part of the Chaos All-Stars line up for a while. Perhaps he has been lured off the pitch to "support" the game in other ways?

Spinne 'the Black Widow' Schonheit

The Black Widow learnt her craft at the Reikland Reavers and became one of the highest profile catchers in the league for a number of years. She picked up a Blood Bowl winner's medal with the Reavers before taking a gamble by joining the Bad Bay Hackers in pursuit of husband to be Dunkel Hoffnung.

While at the Hackers she was instrumental in them winning the Spike! Magazine trophy twice and the Blood Bowl once more. For the latter, she caught the winning touchdown in a match played in the realm of chaos itself against a team possessed by Khorne daemons. Talk about cool under pressure, this girl is not one to crack or quit. . . well until she did!

Spinne has now retired and has started a family with her husband. They have one son with another child on the way. With 2 players of such Blood Bowling pedigree for parents, their kids surely have the world at their feet!

Sora Ofirsdottir

This Norsewoman left the icy north and signed up with human team the Middenplatz Manglers. There she has developed quite the name for herself, in part by being one of the few team member technically still alive rather than being undead. Henna-haired Sora can be found in the thick of the most vicious scraps as the reruns of the DeathHex final will tell you. Swarmed by 4 Skaven Gutter Runners, it was assumed that Sora was about to join the undead ranks of her team when the squirming ratmen took her off her feet and attacked with their weeping blades. After a frenzied wrestling match on the floor, it was a jubilant Sora who rose from the fray, thrusting four severed Skaven tails aloft, dangling from a bloody, gore encrusted pitch.

Don't think she gives her own teammates an easy ride either. Manglers star Blitzer Marius Hurtz was killed last season in mysterious circumstances. Word coming out of the dressing room is that one or more players were involved. Did Sora sort him out?

Kara Temple Harpies

- By Gerhardt Schtumpf

What do you do when there are no more wars to fight . . . ?!

The Harpies of Kara Temple are a warrior caste who had been bred for battle. In an age when war has become obsolete and yet it still costs money to run the temple, they were forced to look elsewhere for revenue - Blood Bowl.

The Harpies play their first game in 2490 and soon rise through the ranks to become the premier Amazon side. Whenever a new touring team visited Lustria it would frequently be the Harpies who sent them packing again. They became specialists in not only dealing with outsiders but also in fending off Lizardman teams. In 2494 they won 5 games in a row against their scaled opponents and it was all going so well until a match against the Tlanxla Terradons. A very confused Kroxigor thought their feathered headdresses were parrots, his favourite snack. He set about eating and decimated the Harpies team.

It took 5 years for the Kara Temple team to recover from that mauling, but recover they did under the watchful eye of High Priestess Hypaettle Sharrpbeak. Although in this time they had a couple of high finishes in the Lustrian super league, they weren't back to their best until 2499. They then ventured outside of Lustria for the first time and built a reputation for themselves in the old world. Crunch games against the Gouged Eye, Dwarf Warhammerers and Naggarth Nightmares raised their profile enough for the big-time sponsors including Spike! Magazine. The following year in 2500, The Spike! Magazine Trophy was hosted in 4 different locations, including the Kara Temple, they had caught the attention of the majors. The temple was swiftly given a makeover in readiness, anyone caught defiling the grounds (well littering) was sacrificed to the old gods. It seemed to work as the Harpies were successful and took home the trophy, the first home team to do so for 25 years!



Snakes on the plain!

All Amazon teams are kindred with nature and avid protectors of the wild jungle realm. The Patraxi Pythons have a special relationship with all things serpentine. Opposition teams frequently find snakes hidden in their dug outs and need to pack the anti-venom as you don't know where the deadly critters will appear during a game.

This affinity hadn't helped their results though, the Pythons had struggled to make inroads in any competition they entered until Boa Kon'ssstrikr entered their ranks. The snakeman was a natural fit although there was initial resistance amongst the Pythons. He soon changed hearts and minds against the Skywatch Sentinels as he was able to coil around the ball carrier and hypnotise those around him, allowing the rest of the Pythons to take control of the game.

Boa was to leave in 2500 after finding fame in a high-profile game against the Ashbane Vendettas. The opposition assassin had stabbed all the balls except one to prevent a Pythons score. Boa swallowed the last ball whole and slithered over the line to score. A later match saw Boa wrap up Mighty Zug no less and hold him in place for the whole game much to the veteran's rage. Boa had truly arrived as the wider Blood Bowl world came calling.



It's all a load of handbags!

The Genaina Javelins are under investigation for a very suspicious side hustle the team have going on. They released their own accessories brand named reptile wear which includes a gorgeous range of leather bags. One of those bags was found to have what looked like a tattoo on saying 'I heart Mom' the very same tattoo that Hak-rok the Koxigor from the Ziggart Slitherers sported. Hak-rok was last seen being treated by the Javelins apothecary in act of kindness. The apothecary apparently tried her best but couldn't save the big brute who was never seen again. Since then, the crack team of skink investigators have also gone missing . . .

Who's Who Amassing the Amazons

These are all the Lustrian ladies who have taken to the pitch as part of an Amazon team

Amazon Piranha Warrior Blitzer

Name	Team	Status
Dioyne Riverweaver	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive
Inara Swiftslash	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive
Zena Blackmane	Amazon All-Stars	Alive



Amazon Jaguar Warrior Blocker

Name	Team	Status
Araya Bleakfur	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive
Bryana Blackfang	Obsidian Ocelots	Dead
Senia Ironclaw	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive



Amazon Python Warrior Thrower

Name	Team	Status
Rhesippe Sunfang	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive
Tilene Starscale	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive



Amazon Eagle Warrior Linewoman

Name	Team	Status
Bjork Kallisto	Amazon All-Stars	Retired
Daestris Bloodbeak	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive
Elipe Grimtalon	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive
Enojada	Lustrian Lusties	Retired
Estelle le Veneaux	**Freebooter**	Alive
Haesia Feathershard	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive
Julia Claree	Lustrian Queens	Alive
Kotilipe Silvertree	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive
Lorsella Greyhawk	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive
Oleya Blacksky	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive
Sonia Redwulf	Amazon All-Stars	Retired
Vikki Skallagrimson	Amazon All-Stars	Retired
Vopadia Spikefist	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive

Other Races

These are players from other races who for various reasons have been known to play on Amazon teams.

Name	Position	Team	Status
Bertha Bigfist	Ogre	** Freebooter **	Alive
Boa Kon'ssstrkr	Snakeman	**Freebooter**	Alive
Lucky' Luc	Unicorn	** Freebooter **	Alive
Karla von Kill	Human Blitzler	** Freebooter **	Alive
Kirta Hoffnung #	Human Blitzler	Lustrian Lusties	Alive
Nikita de Bresson #	Human Catcher	Amazon All-Stars	Alive
Roxanna Darknail	Witch Elf	** Freebooter **	Alive
Rotes Hernd #	Human Thrower	Lustrian Lusties	Alive
Zara the Slayer #	Guman Blitzler	** Freebooter **	Alive

Although Amazons are also humans, Kirta, Nikita, Rotes and Zara are flagged as being a separate race as they are from the auld world and joined an Amazon team, rather than being native to Lustria and therefore a 'true' Amazon.



Other Female players

Name	Position	Team	Status
Aurora Silverleaf	Wood Elf Linewoman	Athelorn Avengers	Alive
Autavic Helledon II	Witch Elf	Dark Death-Bringers	Alive
Camisa Roja	Human Linewoman	Bad Bay Hackers	Dead - Drowned sailing to Lustria
Captain Karina von Reisz	Vampire	** Freebooter **	Alive
Cindy Piewhistle	Halfling Bombardier	** Freebooter **	Alive
Gigia Mardretti	Human Catcher	Bad Bay Hackers	Dead - Crushed by jumboball
Gilda Fleshspitter	Ghoul Runner	Champions of Death	Alive
Gloriana Thunderfist	Ogre	Fire Mountain Gut-Busters	Alive
Gloriel Summerbloom	Wood Elf Thrower	** Freebooter **	Alive
Gretchen Wachter	Banshee	** Freebooter **	Alive
Hanna Drorglich	Human Imperial Linewoman	Bogenhafen Barons	Alive
Hrulda Thunorsdottir	Dwarf Troll Slayer	Dragon's Hold Drakeslayers	Alive
Julia Sowbread	Halfling Housewife	** Freebooter **	Alive
Juliana	Human Blitzler	Talabheim Titans	Alive
Kari Coldsteel	Norse Linewoman	Asgard Ravens	Retired
Kathula Lustcraft	Human Renegade	Chaos All-Stars	Dead - killed by crowd
Kharsesse Melek	Witch Elf	Har Garneth's Hell Raisers	Alive
Kristina Petrovna	Vampire Runner	Drakfang Thirsters	Alive
Lariala Vinetree	Elf Union Thrower	Kallahir Swifts	Alive
Lavesil Darkshade	Witch Elf	Naggaroth Nightwings	Alive
Maria Schergen	Human Imperial Linewoman	Bogenhafen Barons	Alive
Meriann Harakon	Witch Elf	Naggaroth Nightwings	Alive
Mimi Scream	Banshee	Middenplatz Manglers	Alive
Mordrix Hex	Witch Elf	** Freebooter **	Alive
Natasha Ilyich	Vampire Runner	Drakfang Thirsters	Alive
Rozanne Nail-Venom	Witch Elf	Naggaroth Nightwings	Alive
Sister Mary Mister	Human Linewoman	Bright Crusaders	Dead - killed in a bar room brawl
Sora OfIrsdottir	Norse Linewoman	Middenplatz Manglers	Alive
Spinne Schonheit	Human Catcher	Bad Bay Hackers	Retired
Swiftvine Glimmershard	Forest Sprite	** Freebooter **	Alive
Willow Rosebark	Dryad	** Freebooter **	Alive

Gridiron Gazette - Amazons

Staff

The below are Amazons who have worked on any team.

Name	Position	Team	Status
Dianna "Mistress of Pain" Thunderlash	Head Coach	Amazon All-Stars	Alive
High Priestess Hypaettle Sharpbeak	Head Coach	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive
Ithalea	Head Coach	Feathered Jaguars	Alive
Klara Vystis	Groundswoman	Obsidian Ocelots	Alive
Lileth Savage	Head Coach	Lustrian Queens	Alive
Madri Caliente	Groundswoman	Lustrian Lusties	Alive
Stefi Krowse	Head Coach	Unknown	Alive
The Wardens of the Temple of Kara	Team Owner	Kara Temple Harpies	Alive



Amazon teams

Amazon All-Stars
Arbour Bay Amazonians
Feathered Jaguars
Genaina Javelins
Great River Wardens
Jlaxonkill Jaquars

Kara Temple Harpies
Lustrian Lusties
Lustrian Queens
New World Warriors
Obsidian Ocelots
Patraxi Pythons

Prima Donnas
Skywatch Sentinels
Tlanxla Jaguars
Tlax Warriors
Venus Man-Eaters
Wild Women of Wamatooma

Looking ahead

The next issue of the Gridiron Gazette will be the penultimate one we produce and once more we will be looking at not one race, but two. They are two sides of the same coin - one likes to play in the hot sun, the other only comes out under the moon. We're talking Tomb Kings and Vampires of course! We'll be asking questions such as . . .

- *Count Luthor . . . the great educator?*
- *What happens when you don't pay your bills on time . . . ?*
- *What protection do Vampires wear . . . ?*
- *Where do Tomb King players get their names from . . . ?*

Final Fact!

Amazon team the Prima Donnas have been describes as being Elf like for very good reason. For them to play in a match the dressing rooms have to be just right, their standard are almost impossibly high. There needs to be copious bowls of pot pourri (with just the right aroma, spiced plum was so last year) and big soft towels as blood can be hard to shift. If the dressing room isn't up to standard then the Donnas refuse to take to the pitch.

