



Far & Wide

The presence of the Griffiths family is vast.
It's more than Joe coaching.
It's sports and more.

*Enshrined in Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame

Joe Griffiths in sports

Basketball — Started the Ham & Egg intramural league at the university for students new and green to the sport. The U of S basketball team said it was undefeated at home when one of its players ruffled Griffiths' hair before the game.

Boxing — Announcer in the Assault at Arms university competition.

Fencing — Judge for provincial championships; president Saskatchewan Fencing Association.

Gymnastics — On national committee.

Lawn bowling — Helped to build the Nutana Lawn Bowling Club.

Soccer — Goalie on Saskatoon Sons of England.

Speed skating — Timer for Saskatoon city championships.

Swimming — Coach, official.

Track & field — Coach, official.
In 1922, started the first Saskatchewan high school championships.

Volleyball — Sport played by youth at Camp Wakonda; Griffiths was a founder of the annual summer camp in Wakaw.

Making music and more

Joe an original member of Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra; played trumpet, French horn.

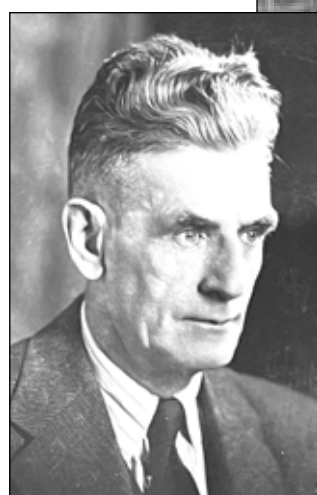
Business manager Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra.

Singer in Knox United Church choir.

Led students in singing school cheers in an annual fall event at the University of Saskatchewan.

Served on Saskatoon School Board.

Member of Saskatoon Playgrounds Association.



*Joe Griffiths



— University of Saskatchewan, University Archives & Special Collections A-1120

Joe Griffiths, the director of Physical Education at the University of Saskatchewan, leads students in exercise on campus in 1942

Among the athletes coached by Joe

***Bob Adams**..... 1952 Olympics decathlon, 19th

***Ethel Catherwood**..... 1928 Olympics high jump, gold

Doreen Dredge..... 1948 Olympics, high jump, fourth

***Clarence Garvie**..... 1934 Canadian swimming championships, 100 freestyle

Margaret George..... 1956 Olympics, javelin, 16th

***Stan Glover**..... 1928 Olympics, track & field 4x400, bronze

Phyllis Haslam..... 1934 British Empire Games, swimming 3x100 medley, gold; 200 breaststroke, silver

***J.B. Kirkpatrick**..... 1938 Canadian track & field championships, high jump, second; shot put, javelin, hammer, third

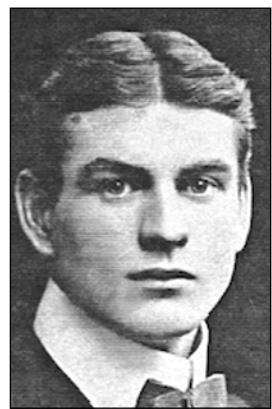
Geraldine Wilson..... 1939 Canadian track & field championships, 220, second

Varsity Stadium officially opened Oct. 3, 1936 with a university football game between Saskatchewan and Alberta. The name was changed to Griffiths Stadium in 1937.



— Collection of the University of Saskatchewan. Gift of Grant McKay, 1919

Saskatoon in 1914; University Bridge is a piece painted by William Gordon Griffiths



Gordon Griffiths

Joe's brother

Gordon Griffiths

Work that Gordon Griffiths did with his hands a hundred years ago is seen today.

Gordon was a mason. He did stonework on buildings at the University of Saskatchewan, including Qu'Appelle Hall. His brother Joe's office in the Hall, Room 104, was a place where students gathered for decades.

Gordon was a painter. The U of S has seven of his works in its collection: Five at the President's Residence, one in the Dean's Office in the Engineering building and one at the Diefenbaker Centre.

One of the pieces on campus was donated by **Jean Murray**, a history professor at the university and a daughter of the University of Saskatchewan's first president, **Walter Murray**. It's said Walter Murray encouraged Joe Griffiths to be its first director of physical education in 1919. Gordon Griffiths is **Kristin Vignal's** great-uncle.

Joe Griffiths is Kristin's grandfather. One of Joe's daughters, **Mary Thorson**, is Kristin's mother.

Kristin is currently a contemporary artist in Calgary.

Joe's brother

Wyn Griffiths

Indoors and out, in any and every season, where there's sport there's Wyn Griffiths.

He played for the Sons of England soccer team.

He was a slick-passing player and coach on the Maroons basketball team.

He was a centre half and the best kicker on the City Rugby Club, winning the Saskatchewan championship in 1921.

He was a trainer with the Saskatoon Berry's hockey team.

Boxing wasn't a good idea. In a bout against **Ted Plaunte**, who was a contender for the Saskatchewan middleweight title, Wyn took more than he gave.

In 1912, a man in Prince Albert issued a challenge to anyone in the province who'd race him in a bridge-to-bridge challenge, with \$100 going to the winner.

Joe Griffiths responded. He said Wyn would race under one condition, that the prize was a cup or a medal.

"As my brother is strictly an amateur and wishes to remain such, he will not swim for money," Joe said.

It's not known if the race happened.



— StarPhoenix

Wyn Griffiths



— University of Saskatchewan

Pat Griffiths

Joe's daughter

Pat Griffiths

Pat Griffiths was a jewel in the pool.

She scored a double in the Saskatoon Playgrounds Association's wrap-up to the summer of 1939, winning the girls under-12 and under-14 diving titles.

She finished second in the 50-yard breaststroke with the University of Saskatchewan team at the Western Canadian intervarsity championships in 1947.

She was a forward on the U of S basketball team.

In 1949, the Saskatchewan High School Athletic Association took over the running of the provincial track and field championships, a meet that Joe Griffiths started 27 years earlier. Pat, Joe's daughter, was an official at the 'new' provincials.

Pat and **Bill Dryden's** son, **Steve Dryden**, was Editor in Chief of *The Hockey News* from 1991-2001, then a Senior Managing editor with TSN, The Sports Network.

In 2022, Steve was appointed a director with the Hockey Hall of Fame for statistical analysis and data services.

Joe's wife

Mary Griffiths

Mary Byers met Joe Griffiths when she was a basketball player and captain of the Saskatoon YWCA team. They married on Christmas Day in 1920.

Mary Griffiths won provincial titles in lawn bowling and tennis.

She served with the Buena Vista Home & School Association and the Knox United Church Choir Association.



Mary Griffiths

Joe's niece

Margaret Rae MacKay

Margaret Rae MacKay made her mark in science and art. A daughter of Joe Griffith's sister **Netta MacKay**, in 1938 Margaret was the first woman to get a Master of Science at the University of Saskatchewan with a major in entomology, the study of insects.

She worked for two years in London at the British Museum of Natural History, doing detailed drawings of insects in pen and India ink.

During her career she was known around the world as an expert on moth larva.

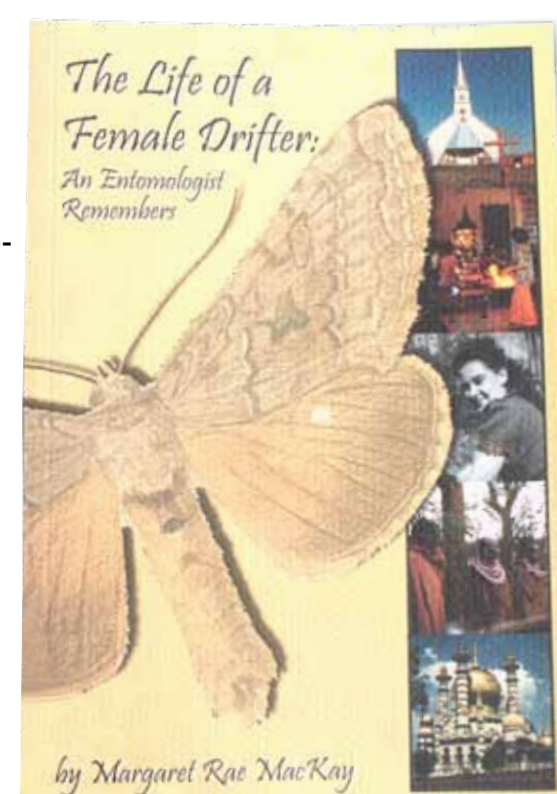
She had her own research papers reviewed and published. She served as the editor of the Canadian Entomologist, a scientific journal.

On a field trip in 1969, MacKay found the head capsule of a moth larva in a piece of amber from the tailings of an Alberta coal mine. This was positive evidence that moths existed more than 72 million years ago, 20 million years earlier than anyone thought.

"It is said that each of us has fifteen minutes of fame," she writes in her book, *The Life of a Female Drifter*. "My long association with those wiggly little worms had paid off."



Margaret Rae MacKay



— Thams Photo/StarPhoenix (left)

Under one roof

The biggest game in town is at Exhibition Stadium on Lorne Ave. & Ruth St.

**Enshrined in Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame*



—Saskatoon Library Local History CP-5758-B-1



—Saskatoon Library Local History B-10281

Completed in 1930 and known then as the Winter Fair Building, Exhibition Stadium stood until 1997. On an evening in early spring in 1960, the Stadium drew the largest crowd that Saskatoon had ever had in a building as 8,500 people went to see the Massey-Ferguson Farmarama machinery show and hear Don Messer's Jubilee, a music variety show.



—StarPhoenix

Nettie Thompson

Basketball

Edmonton Grads defeat Saskatoon Commercial Grads 116-15 in an exhibition women's basketball game at Exhibition Stadium in 1935. The Edmonton team is on its way home after winning its 12th consecutive Canadian senior title. Saskatoon had practised on the new floor in the Stadium two nights earlier. Edmonton's leading scorer is **Noel MacDonald**, a native of Mortlach, SK, with 32 points. Saskatoon's lineup features forwards **Nettie Thompson** and **Jean Gunning**, charter members of the club since 1933, and as of 1935, three-time provincial champions. Saskatoon's coaches are **Roy McKenzie** and **T.C. 'Mitt' White**. White was a player for the senior Quakers football team, coaches football with the Hilltops and at Tech Collegiate, serves on the board of directors with the Wesley hockey team and is a track & field official.



—StarPhoenix

***Cathy Wedge**

Equestrian

***Cathy Wedge** joined the Saskatoon Pony Club in 1959. She competed in the Saskatoon Light Horse Show in Exhibition Stadium in the U11 class in the spring of 1960. She kept coming back for more. Her breakout year is 1968. Her horse, Cloud Nine, is a gelding from the United States who raced on the circuit in Western Canada. Wedge bought Niner for \$900, turning a racer into a jumper. Together, they're good as gold, getting four first-place finishes in Saskatoon's Light Horse Show in '68. Wedge goes global. She is on the Canadian team that wins the three-day event at the 1971 Pan-Am Games in Cali, Colombia. Her horse, Sumatra, is from Graham Ranches, a stable in the hamlet of Millarville, south of Calgary, run by **Monica 'Nicky' Graham** and **Ewen 'Pip' Graham**, the First Family of eventing in Canada. In 1976, one of Wedge's horses in the Canadian trials for the Montreal Olympics is owned by her grandfather, the Honourable **Emmett Hall**, a Supreme Court judge. At the Games, Wedge rides City Fella, a former racer owned by Wedge's friend, **Connie Dorsch** of Weyburn. Canada finishes sixth. In 1978, Wedge tears ligaments in her left knee. She can't even train for 10 days. Two of her horses are injured. She has only a couple of weeks of training on her new mount, Abracadabra, for the world championships in Lexington, KY. Wedge is on the first Canadian three-day event team to win worlds.



***Brian Claypool**

Rodeo

***Brian Claypool** is a Saskatoon rough rider. At 14, he is tossed by a steer almost as soon as gets out of the chute, a warm-up event before the big boys compete in the indoor rodeo in Exhibition Stadium in 1968. In 1973, Claypool is a pro at the Exhibition rodeo. He goes the distance, making the maximum eight-second ride in saddle bronc, bareback and steer riding. It's only because his stock is not as nasty as others that he isn't given higher scores. The Exhibition rodeo in 1979 is showtime, Claypool draws Walter, Canada's bull of the year. Claypool wins, hands down. Claypool is twice Canada's bull riding champion.

Speed skating

The Saskatchewan indoor championships in 1969 in Exhibition Stadium are a trip to bountiful for the Saskatoon Lions Speed Skating Club. **Dave Tosh** goes 4-for-4 in races in the junior boys division. **Maureen Musgrove** and **Colin Green** each win three events in the bantam class. **Greg Murtland** is tops in juvenile boys. **Sandra Nase**, who won the Canadian outdoor title earlier in the winter, is first in midget girls. In 2018, 49 years later, Nase sets a world record for masters women in weightlifting.

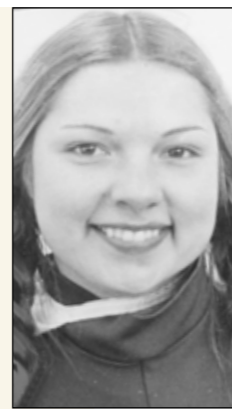


—*Henrietta Goplen

Sandra Nase

Broomball

Saskatoon teams make a clean sweep at Exhibition Stadium in the 12th annual Gold Broom, the largest broomball tournament in Canada. Dog 'N Suds Kings win the men's event and Bar K Konnection the women's Royal Broom. Dog 'N Suds and Bar K score a double, also winning the provincial championship, as the Kings defeat Saskatoon Double L Masonry 3-1 in overtime and the Konnection defeat the North Battleford Jets. Dog 'N Suds finishes fourth at nationals in Cornwall, ON., led by **Daryl Friesen**, **Perry Stradeski** and goaltenders **Doug Felix** and **Wes Maroniuk**. Prime time players for Bar K are ***Irene Kokotailo**, **Lynn Lacroix**, **Holly Malinowski** and **Fay Morar**.



—StarPhoenix

***Irene Kokotailo**

Hockey

Due to a strike by civic inside workers, the Saskatoon Blades are elbowed out of the old downtown Arena in February of 1981. The even older Exhibition Stadium is their new home. Late in the regular season, the Blades add **Roger Kortko**, a centre with the Humboldt Broncos in the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League. Kortko has one goal and one assist in two games, both at Exhibition Stadium. The Blades miss the playoffs. The next season, 1981-82, with the Blades back in the Arena, Kortko has 84 points. In 1982-83, Kortko has 62 goals. He leads the team in assists, 99, and points, 161. The Blades have 52 wins; only the 2010-11 Blades, with 56 wins, have more.



—StarPhoenix

Roger Kortko



—StarPhoenix

***Merv Mann**

Curling

Exhibition Stadium in 1964 is the site of the first Masters World Series of Curling. The event has the Brier champion from nine of the previous 10 years. There's **Ernie Richardson** of Regina and Edmonton's **Matt Baldwin** and **Hec 'The Friendly Giant' Gervais**. There's **Moe Valade** of Saskatoon and **Hersh Lerner** of Winnipeg. There's **Bob 'Pee Wee' Pickering** of Avonlea. Although Pickering's backswing delivery is so high it has spectators ducking for cover, it's business as usual for his lead **Garnet Campbell**, second **Stan Austman** and third **Jack Keys**. Pickering defeats **Harold Worth** of Delisle 8-6 to finish undefeated in the eight-rink round robin and win the \$500 first prize. Pickering's closest game is against ***Merv Mann** of the Saskatoon Hub City Curling Club, winning 11-10 with a steal of one in an extra end.



—StarPhoenix

Charlie Mason

Lacrosse

Ab Kellough scores the winning goal on a long shot in overtime as the Saskatoon Shamrocks win the first annual box lacrosse tournament in Exhibition Stadium in the summer of 1932. Saskatoon, which trailed by two goals, defeats a team from Lawson, a hamlet in south central Saskatchewan, 4-3 in the final of the nine-team event. **Tony Hemmerling**, **Clarence Shillington** and **Charlie Mason** score the other goals for Saskatoon. Mason is a right-winger in the NHL with the New York Rangers, Detroit Red Wings and Chicago Blackhawks. He has seven goals and 18 assists in four seasons.



Pancho Segura

Tennis

Jack Kramer of Las Vegas is a tennis ace. Two of his three Grand Slam titles are Wimbledon and the U.S. Open in the summer of 1946. Kramer is a showman. As a pioneer in promoting tennis, he gets top players to go on world tours. In May of 1946, Kramer and the crew come north to Exhibition Stadium. In the semifinals, **Pancho Segura** of Ecuador defeats **Bobby Riggs** of the U.S. and **Pancho Gonzales** of the U.S. defeats **Frank Sedgman** of Australia. Segura defeats Gonzales in the final. Gonzales, Riggs, Sedgman and Segura are four of the biggest names in the game. They have played on clay and grass. They played indoors and out. Turns out Kramer's equipment truck hit a pothole on a highway near Estevan. His canvas court didn't reach Saskatoon. Staff at Exhibition Stadium scrambled, putting together a makeshift court. No problem, said Kramer. "These boys can play on anything."

Wrestling

Earl McCready of Amulet, SK., defeats European heavyweight champion **Mihaly Orgovanyi** of Hungary in straight falls at Exhibition Stadium in 1933. Yes, that's pro wrestling. But even when he competed as an amateur you could have scripted McCready's finish. He almost always won. McCready is the Canadian amateur heavyweight champion four times. He is the U.S. college champion three times, going 25-0 at Oklahoma A & M. He is the flag bearer for Canada at the opening ceremonies in the 1928 Olympics. He finishes sixth. McCready is a gold medalist in the 1930 Empire Games.



—Canadian Olympic Committee

Earl McCready

American comic and entertainer **Bob Hope** performed at Exhibition Stadium in 1955

"The chief of police [Jim Kettles] picked me up at the airport. It was fantastic. We travelled 12 miles an hour. My clothes went out of style on the way to the hotel."

Touching base

With inductees in the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame

**Enshrined in Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame*

Thank you Hall of Fame sponsors

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- Kinsmen Club of Saskatoon
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PrairieLand Park



***Steve Laycock** is skip of the rink from Swift Current that reached the final at the SaskTel provincial Tankard in January in Kindersley. Laycock was defeated 8-5 in the final by **Ryan Kleiter's** rink from the Nutana Curling Club. Kleiter is an alumnus of St. Joseph High School who won the Canadian Bowl in all four years as receiver/punter/placekicker with the Hilltops from 2016-19. ***Jim Wilson** is coach of **Jessica McCartney's** rink from the Nutana Club that finished seventh among nine teams at the Viterra Prairie Pinnacle provincial women's curling championship. ***Chris Haichert** was on the Canadian rink that was defeated by the Netherlands 6-4 in the round of 8s at the world mixed championship in Aberdeen, Scotland. ***Bob Dougall** is president of the Western Hockey League's Moose Jaw Warriors. The team is giving sports a boost in Moose Jaw by selling ads at recreational facilities and giving the proceeds to the city to maintain and upgrade the Kinsmen Sportsplex, Pla-Mor Palace rink, ball diamonds and other places for sports. ***Jorgen Hus** of the Saskatchewan Roughriders is the latest recipient of the **Jake Gaudaur Veterans' Award**. The CFL award is based on strength, perseverance and contribution to communities. Hus has been a long snapper with the Riders since 2015. He was a Hilltop for three seasons. The latest class in the Softball Saskatchewan Hall of Fame is a star lineup. ***Larry Besse** was manager of the Saskatoon Rempel Brothers when they won the Canadian men's championship in 1987 and 1994. **Doug Funk** promoted softball for years, highlighted by Saskatoon securing its bid to become the first city in Canada to hold the International Softball Congress world championship, in 1987. Doug's brother ***Don Funk** was the face of the All-O-Matic A's. He was the owner and sponsor of the team when it won men's provincials for five consecutive years and finished second at the national championship in 1980 and '83. ***Wayne Wallace** was a pitcher on the Saskatoon Jacks. He also had a big bat, hitting for average and with power. **Larry Pavloff**, a first

baseman and centre-fielder, won senior provincials 13 times and was an all-star in the Canadian championship. ***Keleah Ostrander** has new appreciation for homeschooling. Ostrander is Vice-President, Programs and Students, at Swift Current's Great Plains College. Instead of going to the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, students can now stay at Great Plains for all four years to complete a Bachelor of Science degree in the U of S nursing program. ***Aki Georgacacos** is on the board of directors with North Point School for Boys, a private school for K-9 in Calgary. Bedford Road Collegiate has a new bronze plaque to commemorate ***Ethel Catherwood**, a student from the school who won gold in high jump in the 1928 Olympics. ***Theresa Hlady** serves on the board with the Allied Arts Council of Pincher Creek. In the history of high school sports in Saskatoon, ***Brian Thorstad** is the only one who has been the president (2001-04) and athletic consultant (2015-19) of the Saskatoon Secondary Schools' Athletic Directorate. **Bill Eng** is the Saskatoon Kinsmen Sportsman of the Year for 2024. Eng has coached minor baseball, football, hockey and softball. He was a high school football coach from 1979 to 2018, winning the provincial 3A championship as head coach of the Marion Graham Falcons in 2009. Eng was an assistant coach with the Hilltops for two years. **Keely Shaw** is Kinsmen Athlete of the Year. Shaw won cycling bronze in the C4 3,000-metre individual pursuit at the 2024 Paris Paralympics. The **Valkyries** women's football club is Kinsmen Team of the Year. The Valkyries, with head coach ***Pat Barry**, won the title in the Western Women's Canadian Football League in 2024. **Jade Unterschute** (Evan Hardy Collegiate, soccer) and **Michael Tetrault** (Marion Graham Collegiate, track & field) were awarded a Kinsmen ***Lloyd Saunders** Athletic Scholarship. ***Nancy Jewitt Filteau** is head coach of the Swift Current Judo Club. Last summer, her grading was elevated to Fifth Degree Black Belt.

1969 Replay



—Saskatoon StarPhoenix

Dale Hazell

***Dale Hazell** of the Saskatoon Figure Skating Club competes in the Canadian championships for the first time, finishing 12th in the junior men's event at nationals in Toronto in 1969. Hazell had placed second at Westerns in Swift Current. Hazell's instructor with the Saskatoon Club is **Dorothy Thomas**. He trains in the summer at the Schumacher Summer School in Ontario. A highlight for Thomas as a skater was finishing 12th in the junior women's division at nationals in 1954.

championship as head coach of the Marion Graham Falcons in 2009. Eng was an assistant coach with the Hilltops for two years. **Keely Shaw** is Kinsmen Athlete of the Year. Shaw won cycling bronze in the C4 3,000-metre individual pursuit at the 2024 Paris Paralympics. The **Valkyries** women's football club is Kinsmen Team of the Year. The Valkyries, with head coach ***Pat Barry**, won the title in the Western Women's Canadian Football League in 2024. **Jade Unterschute** (Evan Hardy Collegiate, soccer) and **Michael Tetrault** (Marion Graham Collegiate, track & field) were awarded a Kinsmen ***Lloyd Saunders** Athletic Scholarship. ***Nancy Jewitt Filteau** is head coach of the Swift Current Judo Club. Last summer, her grading was elevated to Fifth Degree Black Belt.

Hall directors

- Dave Elder
- Kelsie Hendry
- Dana Kidd
- Bryan Kosteroski
- Dave Moore
- Jacki Nichol
- Bob Reindl
- Brian Shalovelo
- Kerry Tarasoff
- Jim Wilson
- Dale Yellowlees

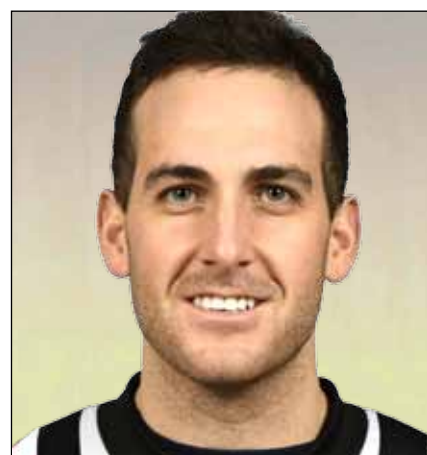
Members at large
Mary Green
Jerry Shoemaker
Bob Florence

Look at them now Athletes, coaches, officials, support staff make news



Jessica Pawlik

Multiple sports
Jessica Pawlik was on the medical staff with Canada at the Winter World University Games in Torino, Italy. Pawlik is a physiotherapist with Huskie Athletics. Forward **Liam Keeler** of the Huskies was on the Canadian hockey team that won gold in the University Games. Keeler had one goal and two assists in seven games. Canada went 6-1, defeating Japan 9-1 in a quarter-final, the United States 10-2 in a semifinal and Slovakia 3-1 in the final.



Adam Boski

Hockey
Adam Boski of Saskatoon is licensed by the International Ice Hockey Federation to be a referee in international competition this season. Boski has been an official at previous international events, including the bronze medal game in junior men's worlds in 2022 in Edmonton and the standby official in a quarter-final at the men's world championship in Riga in 2023. **Adam Forbes** of Saskatoon is also licensed as an international referee this season.



Alida Korte

Hockey
Alida Korte and **Ava Drabky** of Saskatoon were on the Canadian team that won the title in the International Ice Hockey Federation world-18 championship in Vantaa, Finland in January. Korte, a forward, played in two of Canada's six games and had an assist. Drabky was the third goaltender on the Canadian team and did not play. Drabky and Korte are both with RINK Hockey Academy Kelowna this season in the Canadian Sport School Hockey League.



Damien Bueckert

Figure skating
Damien Bueckert of the Saskatoon Figure Skating Club (SFSC) finished 14th in the senior men's event at the Canadian championships in Laval, QC., in January. Bueckert has competed in nationals for three consecutive years, twice in the senior division. **Rebecca Schindel** of the SFSC was 12th in junior women at the recent Canadian championships. **Azizza Kowalchuk** of the SFSC was 17th in novice women at the Skate Canada Trophy in Edmonton in February.



Brooke Patron

Hockey
Brooke Patron was an assistant coach on the New Zealand team at an International Ice Hockey Federation event in January in Latvia. New Zealand finished fifth in the women's Under-18 Division II Group A world championship. Patron is the head coach of the host New Zealand Fernz for the IIHF Division II women's world championship in April. A native of Redvers, Patron played defence for the University of Saskatchewan Huskies for three seasons. She has twice finished in the top three in points in the New Zealand Women's Hockey League.

Passings

Peter Bacala, 1928-2025, age 96 Team inductee, Merchants softball

The Saskatoon Merchants were the big shots in 1969. On the Labour Day long weekend, the Merchants played a team from Hull, QC., in the final of the Canadian senior men's softball championship at the ***Gordie Howe** diamond.

In the bottom of the first inning, ***Ed Swiderski** of the Merchants scored on a sacrifice bunt by ***Ev Wood**. Wood scored on a single by ***John Stuart**. With a 2-0 lead and ***Pete Zacharias** on the mound, the Merchants cruised to a 7-0 victory, becoming the first ball team from Saskatchewan to win the Canadian men's title. Peter Bacala helped make it happen. He was president of Saskatoon Hotel on 1st Avenue, the sponsor of the Merchants. Bacala played senior softball with the Royals and senior baseball for Grasswood. He was on ***Wally Yuzdepski's** rink that competed in the Saskatoon bonspiel in 1961. Bacala was with **Al Repski** and **Paul Barker** on **Don Delparte's** rink in 1966 that was defeated by **Ernie Vaughan** of Loreburn in the provincial Lions Club final at Exhibition Stadium.



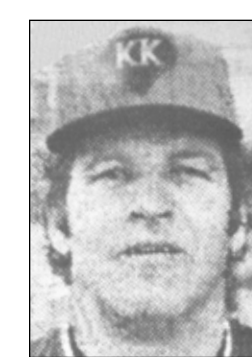
—StarPhoenix
Bacala

Keith McLean, 1944-2025, age 80 Builder inductee, softball

Keith McLean was a lineman in high school football for the Nutana Blues. He was a forward in commercial hockey with Eaton's and later a hockey referee. He was a member of the Saskatoon Golf & Country Club for more than a decade. McLean's signature sport was softball.

He started playing ball in the 1960s. He hit a home run for the Rans Construction Comets on the opening day of the season in 1967 in the Saskatoon Amateur Fastball Association. He was a player/coach with the TJs senior club in 1968. He played on the K&K Olson team that won the Merchant tournament in 1974 and was K&K's coach when it won the Western Canadian senior B title in 1979. McLean coached softball from midgets to masters, female and male. He was an umpire. He was a course conductor with the National Coaching Certification Program. He was president of the Saskatoon Amateur Softball Association.

He was the host of the official ceremonies on Minor Softball Night at **Bob Van Impe** Stadium. McLean was in charge of getting the printed program for the Canadian men's softball championship in 1980. He was manager of the diamond for the 1989 Canada Games. He was co-chair of the International Softball Federation men's world championship in 2009. He was supervisor of the Canadian slo pitch championship in 2019.



—StarPhoenix
McLean

SASKATCHEWAN SPORT AWARDS

—SaskSport Photos

For 2024

Winner and finalists

Youth female athlete of the year
 Etta Love Saskatoon Weightlifting
 Ali Diehl Prince Albert Swimming
 Lila Stewart Saskatoon Diving

Female athlete of the year
 Shelby Newkirk Saskatoon Para swimming
 Julie Kozun Melfort Sitting volleyball
 Carissa Norsten Waldheim Rugby
 Keely Shaw Midale Para cycling
 Savannah Sutherland Borden Athletics

Youth male athlete of the year
 Kash Tarasoff Saskatoon Diving
 Jordan Carroll Saskatoon Gymnastics
 Dryden Parchewsky Saskatoon Weightlifting

Male athlete of the year
 Rylan Wiens Pike Lake Diving
 Graeme Fish Moose Jaw Speed skating
 Blake Tierney Saskatoon Swimming

Team of the year
 U of S Huskies 4x800 women Saskatoon Athletics
 Kaitlyn Harrison, Craven; Attleigh Maloney, Saskatoon;
 Avery Pearson, Meadow Lake; Alyssa Roney, Moose Jaw;
 Jenica Swartz, Lacombe, AB; coach *Jason Reindl; coach *Jamie Epp

Elise Miller & Annabelle Porter ... Regina Baton twirling
 Coach Maureen Johnson

Regina Rebels U18 women Regina Hockey
 Adriana Bashnick, Balgonie; Anna Benoit, Regina; Ashley Breitzkreuz, Moose Jaw;
 Carys Cross, Regina; Kadence Dansereau, Birch Hills; Avery Gottselig, Regina;
 Addison Greve, Weyburn; Rayna Hennie, Regina; Emily Karpan, Regina;
 Ayden Kehrig, Bjorkdale; Kendal Leader, Emerald Park; Berlin Lolacher, Regina;
 Darby Marshall, Regina; Katelyn Marshall, Regina;
 Brooklyn Nimegeers, Moose Jaw; Makayla Peters, Balgonie;
 Ella Schenher, Weyburn; Emma Skolney, Regina; Cedar Swan, Saskatoon;
 Hannah Tresek, Regina; Stryker Zablocki, Prince Albert;
 head coach Kim Perepeluk; assistant coaches Laurie Alexander, Kelsie Graham,
 Rod Houk, Kai Leggett; manager Stacey Gottselig

Coach of the year
 Mary Carroll Saskatoon Diving
 Ryan Jones Saskatoon Para swimming
 Tyrell Sawatzky Saskatoon Para athletics

Coach dedication
 David Calam Regina Lawn bowling
 Denise Fernandez Saskatoon Tennis
 Carla Nicholls Regina Athletics

Volunteer dedication
 Bob Kary Regina Canoe/Kayak
 Blair Seifert Saskatoon Figure skating

Inspire Through Sport Award
 Tony Fineblanket Makwa Sahgaiehan Volleyball
 First Nation
 Sheila Leach Weyburn Rowing
 Lindsay Markwart Regina Special Olympics



Etta Love



Shelby Newkirk



Kash Tarasoff



Rylan Wiens



Huskies 4x800 relay



Mary Carroll



David Calam



Denise Fernandez



Carla Nicholls



Bob Kary



Blair Seifert



Tony Fineblanket



Sheila Leach



Lindsay Markwart