



# Touching base

With inductees  
in Saskatoon  
Sports Hall of Fame

*\*Enshrined in Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame*

**\*Dan Dewar** was honored as the special guest at the 56th annual Bedford Road Invitational Tournament (BRIT). In addition to being a basketball player and official, Dewar has coached the sport for more than 40 years, from minor basketball to high school to university . . . The board of governors with the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame has two people with a Saskatoon connection: **\*Diane Jones Konihowski**

and **Tom Thompson**. Jones Konihowski was a pentathlete/heptathlete and a multi-events coach in Saskatoon. Thompson was the Sports Information Director, the Athletics Director and head coach of the men's basketball team at the University of Saskatchewan . . . A rink skipped by **Rylan Kleiter** finished second and a rink skipped by **\*Steve Laycock** was third at the SaskTel Tankard in Melville in January. Kleiter has been to the Brier once and Laycock 10 times. Kleiter was a kicker/receiver with the Saskatoon Hilltops for four seasons . . . **\*Colette Bourgonje**

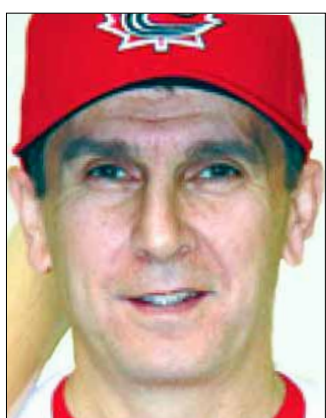
is being inducted into the Canada Games Hall of Honour as a builder. The Canada Games Council calls her innovative in her training and equipment for wheelchair racing and para nordic skiing. Bourgonje was a coach and manager for Saskatchewan athletes at the Canada Games in 2015, 2017 and 2019 . . . **\*Jason Weber** is the strength and conditioning coach with the Canadian female U18 hockey team that finished second at the International Ice Hockey Federation world championship in Nova Scotia in January. The United States defeated Canada 2-0 in the final. Weber works for the College of Kinesiology at the University of Saskatchewan. Also on Canada's team at worlds were **Sheldon Goertzen**, who is the goaltending coach with the U of S Huskies women's team, and Saskatoon forward **Alida Korte**. In six games, Korte had four goals, five assists and was +16.



Tom Thompson



Jason Weber



Jim Baba

## National honours for Baba

**\*Jim Baba** will be posthumously inducted into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame at its home in St. Mary's, ON., on June 20. Baba was the coach and manager of the Canadian men's team at the 1991 Pan American Games, 1993 World University championship and the 1994, 1998 and 2005 Baseball World Cup. In his 21 years as Executive Director of Baseball Canada, his lineup included girls baseball, Winterball for ages 6-12 and long-term athlete development . . . Three people with a Saskatoon connection are in the Top 10 in the Western Hockey League for career regular season wins by a coach: **Lorne Molleken**, who was coach of the Blades for 13 seasons, is fourth all-time in career coaching wins, **Marc Habscheid**, who played for the Blades for three seasons,

## Peter's place

You'll find **\*Peter Semko** on golf's leaderboard.

He was a caddy. He was a golfing pro. He was a course architect. He owned a course. He was a big name in the game in Saskatchewan.

The late Semko was a recent inductee into the PGA of Canada Hall of Fame as a builder.

**\*Pat Fletcher** was inducted into the Hall in 2014 as a golfer.

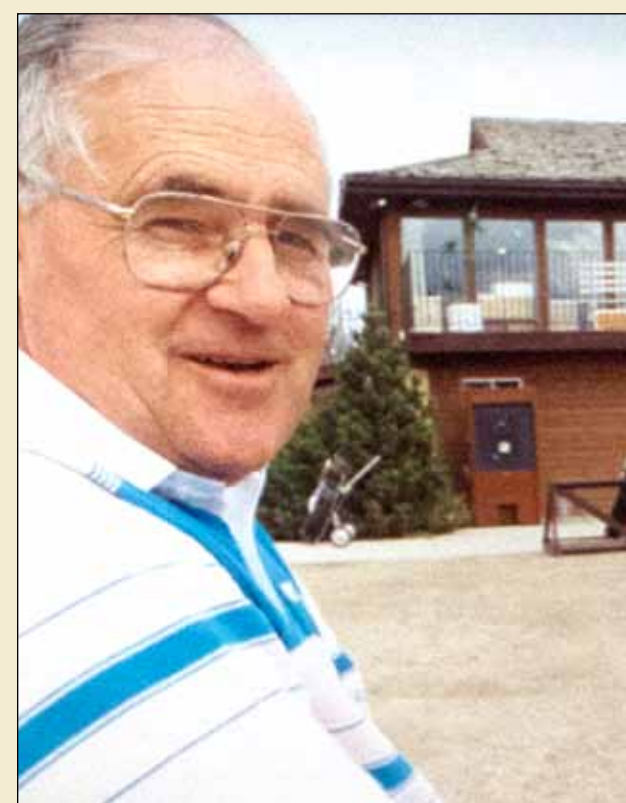
Semko was an assistant pro to Fletcher at the Saskatoon Golf and Country Club and Royal Montreal Club in the 1950s.

Semko was the head pro at the Holiday Park Club when it first opened in June 1962. He was at Holiday Park for 18 years.

Then came Greenbryre.

On land he owned on the eastern outskirts of the city, Semko designed and developed the Greenbryre Country Club.

"I [and wife Sherrill] would wander through the wheat field



—StarPhoenix

## \*Peter Semko

imagining where the golf course was going to be," Semko said for an article in The StarPhoenix. "A golf course should be like a piece of music. It should flow and then when you get to the end you should have enjoyed yourself."

Semko was at Greenbryre for 28 years.

is sixth in coaching wins, and **\*Willie Desjardins**,

who played for the University of Saskatchewan Huskies

and was coach of the Blades for part of one season, is

eighth . . . Forward **\*Larry Gaucher** is being in-

ducted into the **Ted Knight** Saskatchewan Hockey

Hall of Fame with the Moose Jaw Generals, winners of

the Hardy Cup in 1985 as Canadian senior champions

. . . **\*Jacquie Lavallee** is an assistant coach with

the Saskatchewan Huskies women's basketball team that won the Bronze

Baby in Quebec City in March as U SPORTS Canadian champions. The Hus-

kies were 24-1 in regular season and playoffs. They led the Canada West

conference in scoring and had the fewest points against

. . . The 2025-26 school year is the 38th for

**\*Jerome Linnell** as a high school coach. Melfort

Comets, coached by Linnell, finished third in boys 4A

volleyball at the Saskatchewan high school champion-

ships in November . . . **\*Karlyn Wells** of the Sask-

atchewan Huskies was named U SPORTS assistant

coach of the year in women's track and field for 2025-

26 . . . **\*Catriona Le May Doan** was the moderato

for Storytelling Series: Celebrating Olympic and Paralympic Sport Heroes, a

national livestream in February presented by Canada's Sports Hall of Fame.

Wheelchair curler **Sonja Gaudet**, Para-alpine skier

**Mac Marcoux** and cross-country skier **Beckie Scott** talked

about values in sport and society.



Jacquie Lavallee



Catriona  
Le May Doan

## Look at them now Sports people in the news



### Thulir Hector

Table tennis

Thulir Hector, 14, of Saskatoon was the first medallist from Canada at the Youth Parapan American Games in Santiago, Chile last fall. She won bronze in table tennis.

Hector won both of her matches in the preliminary round, defeated an athlete from Mexico in the quarterfinals and was defeated by an athlete from Brazil in a semi-final.

**Lucas Floer** was an athlete and **Jared Sajtos** an assistant coach on the Canadian 5x5 wheelchair basketball team that won gold. Floer and Sajtos are from Saskatoon.

Canada was 5-0 in the preliminary round, defeated Brazil 79-49 in a semi-final and Argentina 61-54 in the final.



### Scott Cyr

Hockey

Scott Cyr of Saskatoon was a physiotherapist on the Canadian men's national hockey team that competed at the annual Spengler Cup in Davos, Switzerland in December.

Canada was 1-1 in the preliminary and defeated by HC Sparta Prague of the Czech Republic 5-1 in a quarterfinal.

Cyr is currently a rehab physiotherapist with the NHL's Calgary Flames. He was a trainer and equipment manager with the University of Saskatchewan Huskies men's hockey team for five years.



### Elle Douglas

Rugby

Elle Douglas of Saskatoon was on the University of Victoria Vikes women's rugby team that finished second at the U SPORTS Canadian championship in Vancouver.

UBC scored a try in the final minute to defeat Victoria 15-13 in the final.

Victoria was the Canada West conference champion.

Douglas is a fly half/centre in her third season with the Vikes. She is studying in the Faculty of Humanities.

Waldheim's **Carissa Norsten**, who plays fullback for Victoria, was named U SPORTS rugby player of the year.



### Les Lazaruk

Media

Les Lazaruk of Saskatoon is the 2026 recipient of the **Bob Ridley** Golden Microphone Honourarium.

The award is given by the Western Canada Professional Hockey Scouts Foundation to recognize contribution to hockey by people in radio, television and print media. Ridley called games on radio of the WHL's Medicine Hat Tigers.

Lazaruk has done play-by-play of the WHL's Saskatoon Blades on CJWW radio since September 1994.

Before Saskatoon, Lazaruk worked for CKLQ radio in Brandon, CJOB radio in Winnipeg, The Manitoban newspaper at the University of Manitoba, the Winnipeg Free Press and the Winnipeg Tribune.



### Azra Benic

Judo, wrestling

**Azra Benic** of Saskatoon won silver in the cadet female -70 kg division at the Junior PanAmerican Cup judo competition in November in Montreal.

She won bronze at the U.S. Open in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Benic's coach with the Saskatoon YMCA Judo Club is **Greg Cooper**.

In wrestling, Benic won the title in the 73 kg division in the recent Saskatoon high school championships.

She finished fourth at the 2025 Canada Summer Games in St. John's, NL.

Her coach with the Jr. Huskies Wrestling Club is **Laryssa Barry**. Benic is a student at Walter Murray Collegiate.



# You heard it from me

They not only report the news, they make the news

\*Enshrined in Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame



## Vern DeGeer Newspaper columnist, editor

- Sports reporter, sports editor Saskatoon Phoenix; covered 1925 World Series
- Manager University of Saskatchewan hockey team; finalists 1924 Allan Cup Canadian senior championship
- Referee Saskatoon Church Rugby (football) League
- Coach Saskatoon Hilltops junior rugby (football)
- Sports reporter, sports editor Windsor Border Cities Star

In 1936, the Star arranged for Jack Longman to go to Detroit on his 18th birthday and see the reigning World Series champion Tigers play the New York Yankees.

"Vern DeGeer was our host," said Longman. "He arranged for Tiger manager Mickey Cochrane to come over to our box before the game and talk to me and present we with a baseball autographed by all of the Tigers. Can you imagine what a day this was for a boy who had never been to a ball game and in fact had been a shut-in either at home or hospitals? Because of many bone fractures, I was a shut-in during almost all of my boyhood."

- Official timekeeper Kenilworth Park horse racing track Windsor, ON.
- Sports reporter, sports editor Toronto Globe & Mail
- Sports columnist Montreal Gazette

### Athlete

- Road running
- Basketball Nutana Collegiate, University of Saskatchewan
- Rugby (football) quarterback, captain Saskatoon Saskwanis
- Curling, golf



—Saskatoon Library Local History PH-96-49-4



Enshrined Canadian Football Hall of Fame: Newspaper reporter

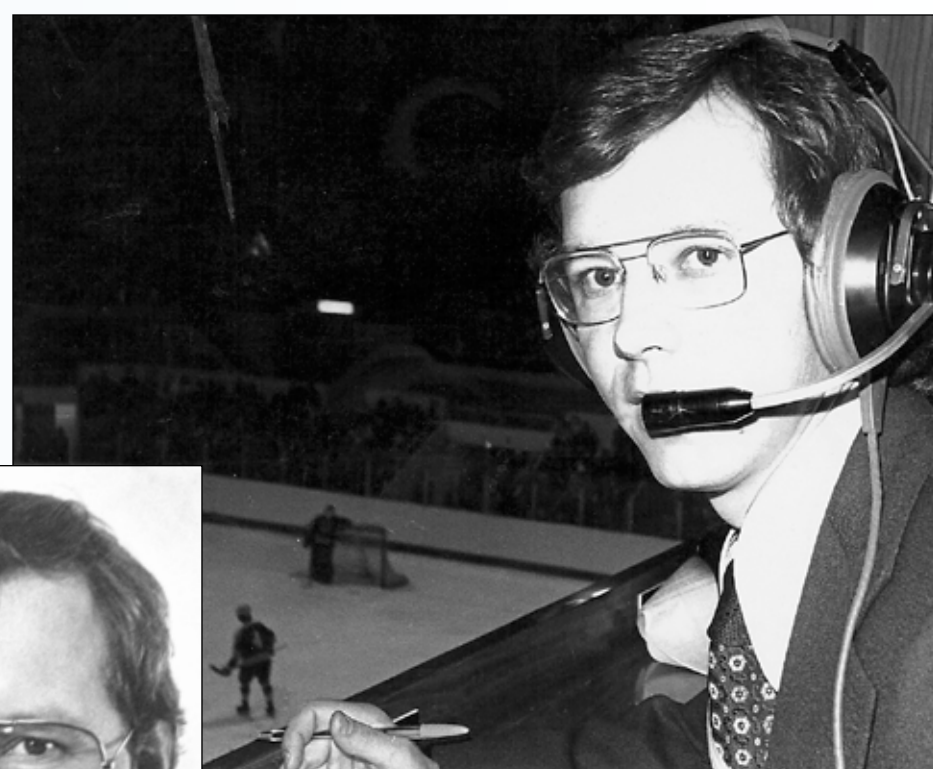
Enshrined Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame: Team 1922 Saskatoon Saskwanis rugby (football)

## Dennis Beyak Radio, TV sportscaster, commentator

- Play-by-play Flin Flon CFAR radio Bombers Western Canada Hockey League
- Radio play-by-play, team public relations Victoria Cougars WCHL
- Sports director Saskatoon CFQC TV & radio
- Radio play-by-play Saskatoon Blades WHL, BRIT basketball, Hilltops football, Saskatchewan Winter Games, horse racing, softball
- Assistant general manager Saskatoon Blades WHL; Chair organizing committee 1989 Memorial Cup Saskatoon; Blades 1989 Memorial Cup finalists
- Assistant GM, GM Seattle Thunderbirds WHL; Chair 1992 Memorial Cup Seattle; Thunderbirds 1992 Memorial Cup semifinalists
- GM Tri-City Americans WHL
- Edmonton Oilers NHL commentator Edmonton CFRN TV
- Toronto Maple Leafs NHL commentator Toronto 640 radio
- Toronto Marlies American Hockey League commentator Leafs TV
- Winnipeg Jets & NHL commentator TSN
- Commentator world hockey championship, world junior hockey championship, Royal Bank Cup Canadian junior A hockey championship TSN
- Board member Western Canada Professional Hockey Scouts Foundation

### Athlete

- Softball, pitcher Colts, Amok Bluebatts, Will Inns Saskatoon Amateur Softball Association
- Golf
- Hockey senior rec



\*Lloyd Saunders Memorial Trophy Western Hockey League Executive of the Year Ace Bailey Award for contributions to hockey



Enshrined Regina Sports Hall of Fame: Builder, hockey

## Bob Strumm Newspaper columnist, editor

- Manager Aden Bowman Bears senior boys basketball team 1964 provincial champions
- Coach Saskatoon bantam football team
- Coach Aden Bowman juvenile hockey team
- Highest academic marks among first-year students at University of Saskatchewan
- University of Saskatchewan sports information director
- Sports reporter, sports columnist, sports editor Saskatoon StarPhoenix
- Executive assistant Western Canada Hockey League; compiled league's first record book
- General manager Billings Bighorns Western Hockey League; 1978 league finalists
- GM, coach, part owner Regina Pats Western Hockey League; 1980 league champions



- GM Team Canada 1982 world junior hockey champions
- GM Spokane Chiefs Western Hockey League
- GM, coach Las Vegas Thunder, International Hockey League
- Pro scout, director pro scouting Columbus Blue Jackets NHL
- Administrative assistant Detroit Red Wings NHL
- Chief hockey officer Avenue Sports

### Athlete

- Queen Elizabeth, Nutana Saskatoon Playground Hockey League
- Red Wings Saskatoon Pee Wee Hockey League, 1960, 1961 league champions
- John Lake Saskatoon Public and Separate Schools Hockey League
- Red Wings Saskatoon Bantam Hockey League; 1961 provincial A champions
- Saskatoon Macs junior B hockey
- YMCA junior basketball
- Alouettes Saskatoon Minor Football Association
- Senators junior Sandlot Baseball League



Savannah Sutherland



Margo Erlam

### Female Athlete of the Year 2025

\***Savannah Sutherland**... Borden ..... Athletics  
1st 400 metres Canadian championships  
1st 400-m hurdles NCAA championships; Canadian, NCAA record

**Margo Erlam** ..... Saskatoon ..... Diving  
20th 3-metre springboard world championships

**Gage Grassick** ..... Prince Albert ... Basketball  
First Canada West conference assists, steals, second points  
Gold 3x3 Junior Pan American Games



Taylor Barth



Blake Lamontagne



Jonathan Podbielski

### Male Athlete of the Year 2025

\***Taylor Barth** ..... Regina ..... Special Olympics  
alpine skiing  
Two gold World Winter Games

**Blake Lamontagne** ..... Wawota ..... Disabled wakeboard  
Two silver, one bronze world championships

**Jonathan Podbielski** ... Regina ..... Athletics  
Seventh 1,500 metres World University Games



Ali Diehl



Clara Milleker Shyiak

### Youth Female Athlete of the Year 2025

\***Ali Diehl** ..... Prince Albert .... Para swimming  
One gold, one silver, two bronze world championships

**Sasha Krakowka** ..... Saskatoon ..... Target shooting  
Two silver First Americas championships

**Clara Milleker Shyiak** ... Regina ..... Water polo  
Silver 15U, silver 17U Pan American championship



Kash Tarasoff



Kian Poitras

### Youth Male Athlete of the Year 2025

\***Kash Tarasoff** ..... Saskatoon ..... Diving  
Bronze three international competitions

**Brady Goldfinch-Bali** ... Saskatoon ..... Target shooting  
Three gold Canadian junior championships

**Kian Poitras** ..... Muscowpetung First Nation ... Softball  
Bronze Pan Am championship, first in RBIs, second in batting average



Mary Carroll



Hazem Hussein



Lisa Thomaidis

### Coach of the Year 2025

\***Mary Carroll** ..... Saskatoon ..... Diving

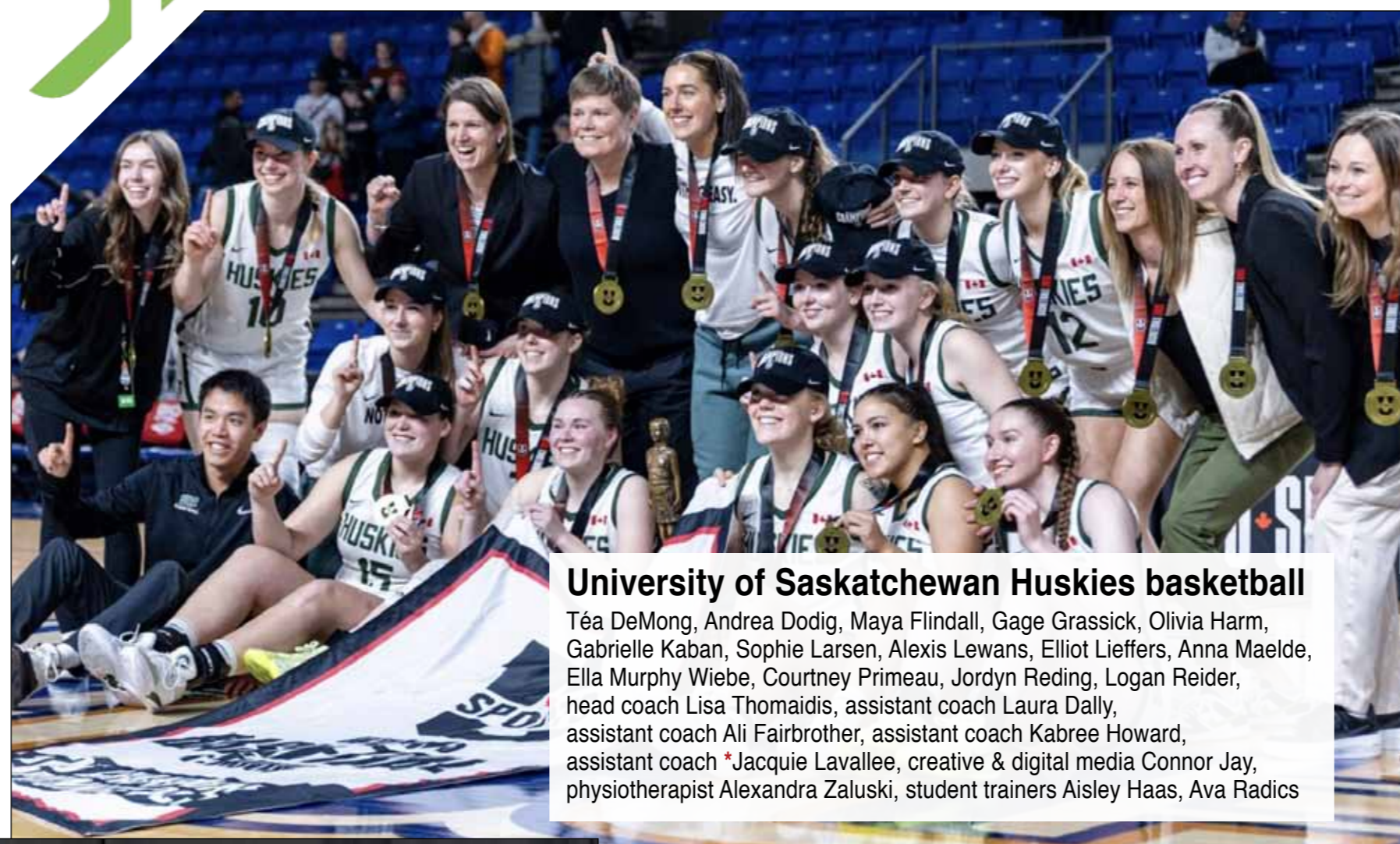
**Hazem Hussein** ..... Prince Albert ..... Swimming

**Lisa Thomaidis** ..... Saskatoon ..... Basketball



# Saskatchewan Sport Awards

\*Winner and finalists  
\*Enshrined in Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame



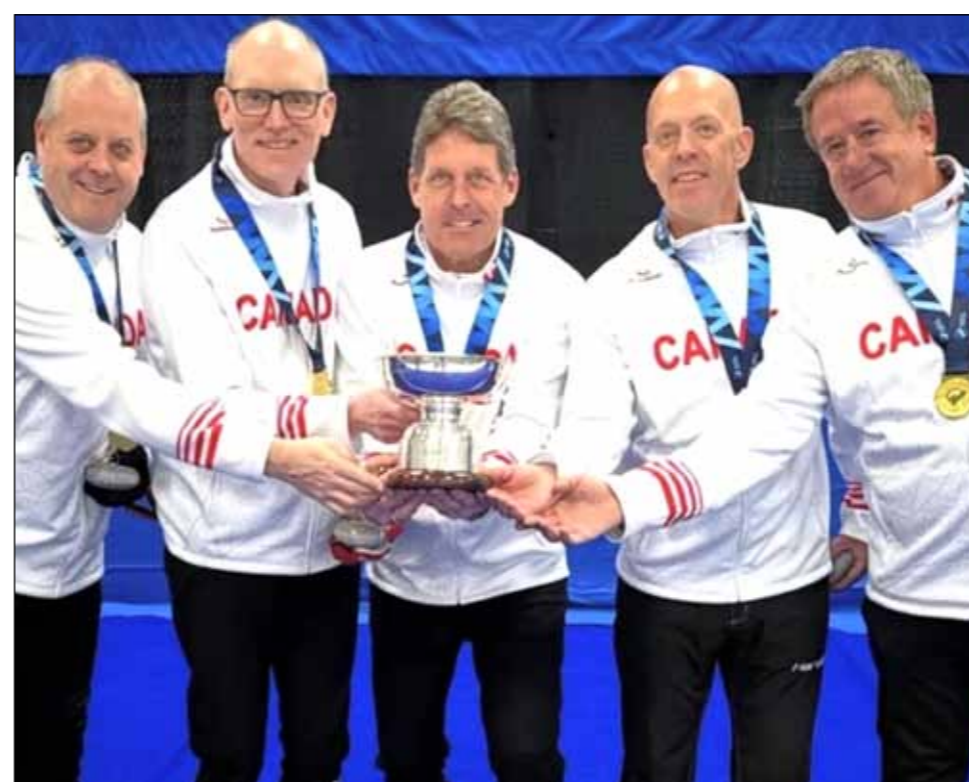
### University of Saskatchewan Huskies basketball

Téa DeMong, Andrea Dodig, Maya Flindall, Gage Grassick, Olivia Harm, Gabrielle Kaban, Sophie Larsen, Alexis Lewans, Elliot Lieffers, Anna Maelde, Ella Murphy Wiebe, Courtney Primeau, Jordyn Reding, Logan Reider, head coach Lisa Thomaidis, assistant coach Laura Dally, assistant coach Ali Fairbrother, assistant coach Kabree Howard, assistant coach \*Jacquie Lavallee, creative & digital media Connor Jay, physiotherapist Alexandra Zaluski, student trainers Aisley Haas, Ava Radics



### South Saskatchewan baton

Front: Malia Briere, Elise Augustin, Brynn Hicke  
Middle: Ajok Atem, Hanne Rohrmann, Akuol Achen  
Back: Gabriella Buchko, Sophie Harazny, coach Elan Paluck, Svea Thorsteinson, Alice Grainger



### Team Bryden curling

Randy Bryden, Troy Robinson, Russ Bryden, Chris Semenchuk, Glen Hill

### Team of the Year 2025

\***Team Bryden** ..... Regina ..... Curling  
World senior men's (50+) champions

**South Saskatchewan High Performance team** ..... Regina ..... Baton  
One gold, one silver International Cup

**University of Saskatchewan Huskies** .... Saskatoon ..... Basketball  
U SPORTS Canadian women's champions



## Sasha Krakowka



## Brady Goldfinch-Bali



## Gage Grassick



Melissa Lock



Mark Lord



David Wassill



Harvey Weber

### Coach Dedication Award

**Melissa Lock** ..... Regina ..... Handball

**Mark Lord** ..... Saskatoon ..... Soccer

\***David Wassill** ..... Saskatoon ..... Adaptive waterski

\***Harvey Weber** ..... Saskatoon ..... Athletics



Darin Degenstein



Dave Elder



Allyson Senecal

### Volunteer Dedication Award

**Darin Degenstein** ..... Regina ..... Ringette

\***Dave Elder** ..... Saskatoon ..... Athletics

**Allyson Senecal** ..... Rosetown ..... Figure skating



DIVE SASK



Anshul Malik

### Inspire Through Sport Award

**Dive Sask Provincial Team**

**Anshul Malik** ..... Saskatoon ..... Target shooting

—Cam Krakowka



— CBC Gem above and background

# Winter takes it all

Saskatchewan on world stage at Olympics & Paralympics in Italy



— CBC Gem



— CBC Gem

Saskatoon  
**Maia Schwinghammer**

Freestyle skiing: 5th moguls  
Defeated 1/8 finals dual moguls

— CBC Gem



Prince Albert

**Brittany Hudak**

Para cross-country skiing 10 km interval start classic, standing: Bronze  
Para cross-country skiing 20 km interval start free, standing: Did not start  
Para biathlon individual, standing: 5th  
Para biathlon sprint, standing: 6th  
Para biathlon sprint pursuit, standing: 9th



Kipling

**Gilbert Dash**

Wheelchair curling mixed team: Gold

Regina

**Ben Hebert**

Curling: Gold



Saskatoon

**Brandon Hagel**

Hockey: Silver (forward)



Saskatoon

**Darcy Kuemper**

Hockey: Silver (goaltender)

— CBC Gem

— CBC Gem



Regina

**Mark McMorris**

Snowboard: 8th slopestyle  
Injured in training, did not compete Big Air



Regina

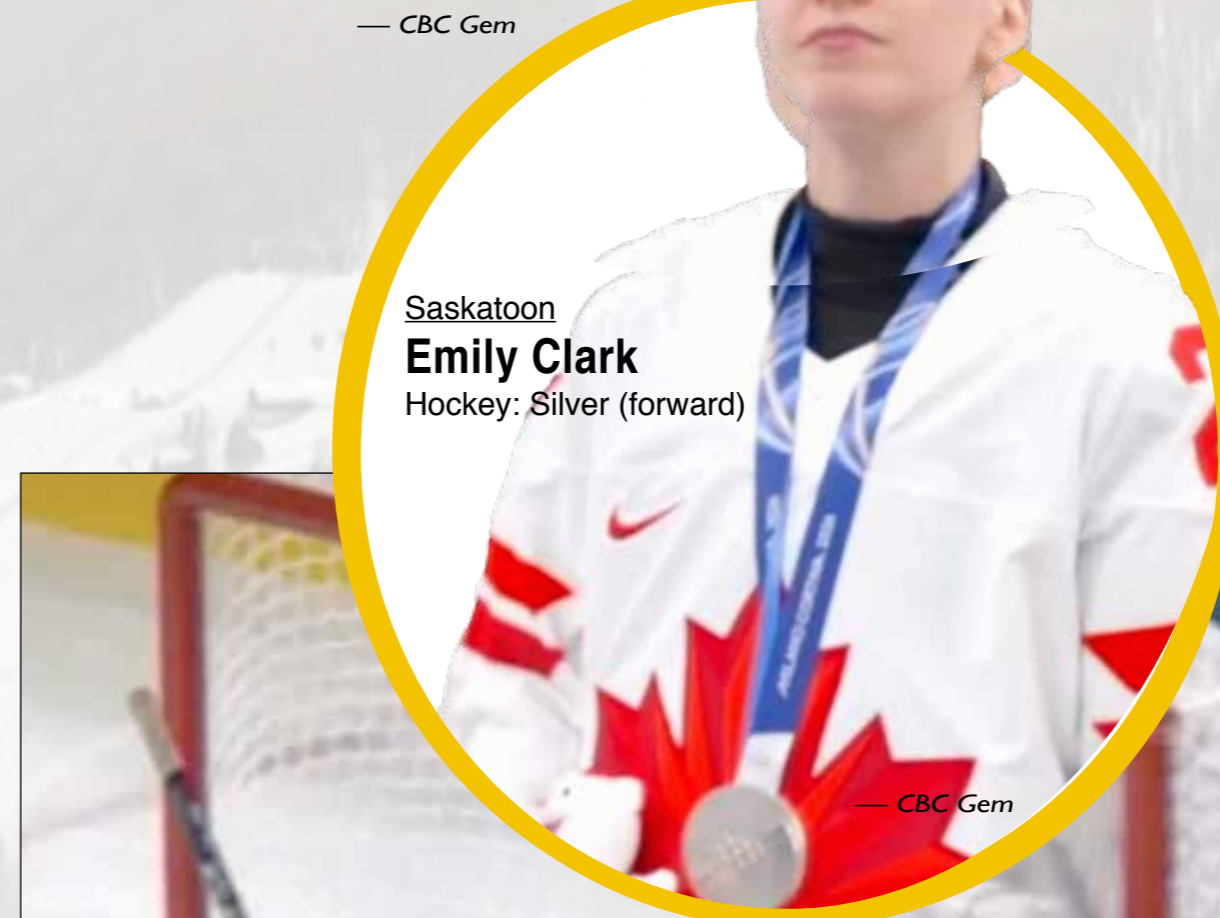
**Logan Pletz**

Biathlon: 17th men's 4x7.5 km relay  
53rd 12.5 km pursuit  
55th 10 km sprint  
77th 20 km individual

Regina, Saskatoon

**Kurt Oatway**

Para alpine skiing  
Downhill, sitting: Bronze  
Slalom, sitting: 8th  
Combined, sitting: Did not finish  
Giant slalom, sitting: Did not finish  
Super-G, sitting: Did not finish



Saskatoon

**Emily Clark**

Hockey: Silver (forward)

— CBC Gem



— CBC Gem



**Adam Burwell**



**Alex Clarke**



**Chris Dornan**



**William Dutton**



**Ryan Getzlaf**



**Lisa Hoffart**



**Karen Howard**



**Michele McKenna**



**Cianna Murray**



**Stephanie Pepler**



**Jodi Perras**



**Laine Peters**



**Lyndon Rush**



**Dean Seymour**



**Moyca Stoffel**



**Kaspar Wirz**



**Tarrington Wyonzek**

## Behind the scene

**Adam Burwell** ..... Regina ..... Snowboard coach  
**Alex Clarke** ..... Drake ..... Women's hockey linesperson  
**Chris Dornan** ..... Saskatoon ..... Media attaché  
**William Dutton** ..... Humboldt ..... Long track speed skating coach  
**Ryan Getzlaf** ..... Regina ..... Men's hockey player relations advisor  
**Lisa Hoffart** ..... Regina ..... Mission staff; mental health  
**Karen Howard** ..... Regina ..... Figure skating judge  
**Michele McKenna** ..... Moose Jaw ..... Women's hockey referee  
**Cianna Murray** ..... Cudworth ..... Women's hockey referee

**Stephanie Pepler** ..... Regina, Saskatoon ..... Paralympics snowboard physiotherapist  
**Jodi Perras** ..... North Battleford ..... Cross-country skiing massage therapist  
**Laine Peters** ..... Carrot River ..... Mixed doubles curling coach  
**Lyndon Rush** ..... Humboldt ..... Bobsleigh technical driving coach  
**Dean Seymour** ..... Saskatoon ..... Paralympics hockey skills and video coach  
**Moyca Stoffel** ..... Saskatoon ..... Long track speed skating assistant referee  
**Kaspar Wirz** ..... Saskatoon ..... Paralympics nordic skiing coach  
**Tarrington Wyonzek** ..... Yorkton ..... Women's hockey linesperson

\***Louise Vawter's** day in the park went longer than she expected.

A rookie in the Saskatoon Ladies Fastball League, Vawter pitched 11 innings as the Flyers defeated the Lions in a regular-season game at Cairns Field, winning the game on a double by \***Mabel Mainland**, who went 4-for-5, including a home run.

Vawter played senior ball for 14 years. She won the Western Canadian title with the Grey Cab Ramblers in 1946 and 1947. She was third at Westerns with the Ramblers in 1948.

She won the provincial title with the Saskatoon Vanguardians in 1954.

She won the **Dr. Bill Waite** Trophy as the MVP in the Saskatoon league in 1955.

She played in the provincial final with the Saskatoon Diamonds in 1956, her final season of senior ball.

Vawter went on to curl in the Saskatoon ladies bonspiel and golf in the Saskatchewan Open.



\***Louise Vawter**

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## Hall of Fame directors

● Dave Elder  
● Bob Fawcett  
● Kelsie Hendry  
● Dana Kidd  
● Bryan Kosteroski  
● Dave Moore

● Jacki Nichol  
● Bob Reindl  
● Brian Shalovelo  
● Kerry Tarasoff  
● Jim Wilson

**Members at large**  
Jerry Shoemaker  
Mary Green  
Dale Yellowlees  
Bob Florence

## Passings

\*Enshrined in Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame

\***Arlene (Slowchek) Diduck**  
1933-2025, age 92

**Team: 1959 Adilman Aces senior basketball**

Arlene (Slowchek) Diduck and excelling are two of a kind.

Take 1951. She played guard for the City Park Collegiate team that won the title in Saskatoon Intercollegiate Basketball League, then defeated Prince Albert Collegiate in the provincial northern final. She was on the Saskatoon girls team that won the Western Canadian 5-pin bowling championship.

Diduck's only season with the University of Saskatchewan basketball team was 1952-53. On championship weekend in Edmonton, she was a standout on both ends of the court in a game against Manitoba. In a loss to Alberta that decided the Western Canadian university title, **Donalda Clark** and Diduck were 1-2 on the Huskiettes in scoring.

Next up for Diduck were the Adilman Aces, sponsored and coached by department store owner \***Jack Adilman**.

In 1954, the Aces were defeated by Calgary Wittichens in the Western Canadian senior women's semifinal.

In 1955, with a team from Saskatoon playing in the Canadian final for the first time, Diduck and the Aces were defeated by the host Vancouver Eilers.

In 1956, the Eilers defeated the Aces in a semifinal series played at the Saskatoon Airport gym and the U of S gym.

Although \***Pat Lawson** and **Glenda Hancock** were unavailable for a national semifinal in 1957, the Aces were game to compete anyway, provided their request to add two other players to the lineup was approved. No go, said the Canadian Amateur Basketball Association. The Aces didn't.

In 1958, the Aces were the host club for the five-team Canadian championship at Varsity gym. Vancouver Eilers won the title, their ninth straight.

The 1959 Canadian championship was in Calgary. The Aces and the Eilers, two teams that had a habit of running into each other, met in the final. The Aces won. Diduck was Canadian champion.



**Arlene  
Diduck**

\***Mick Graham**  
1948-2025, age 77

**Team: 1971 U of S Huskies track & field**

Remember running through the sprinkler as a kid? Mick Graham did that when he was 24. This was the 1973 Boston Marathon. Although it was the middle of April, the heat on the street was high. Spectators used garden hoses to spray racers. Graham finished 24th. He was the second fastest Canadian.

Graham started distance running when he was 17 and a student at Martin Collegiate in Regina.

He competed in the 10,000 metres in the first Canada Summer Games, in 1969 in Halifax.

In 1970, he was a first-year Huskie on the University of Saskatchewan cross-country team that finished second at nationals in Vancouver.

Graham ran a personal best to finish fourth in the one mile at the Canadian university track and field championships in 1971 in Winnipeg. Teammates \***Bob Kochan** and \***Charlie Simpson** were 1-2. The two-mile race was run less an hour later. Graham finished fourth in that race, too. The Huskies won the Canadian team title.

Graham ran everywhere. He won the Molson's Golden Marathon in Regina and the Stampede Marathon in Calgary.

He ran in the Saskatchewan Summer Games in Swift Current and the Canadian cross-country championships in Hull, QC.

He ran in the Banff Jasper Relay with the Sloth Racing Team.

He was captain of the team for the 24-hour Labatt's Lite Relay, an annual event on the September long weekend in Saskatoon to raise money in support of the Saskatchewan Abilities Council. His team's name: Graham Crumbs.

As an elementary school teacher, Graham was a youth relay coach and official.

"Our Saturday morning runs were my favourite," said **Jim Jasieniuk**, who held the record for the fastest marathon by a Saskatchewan male for 22 years. "We would count Volkswagen Beetles to see which of our chosen colour would win. What can I say? We were both competitive people. But our goal was never to defeat or beat the other, it was to push each other, so we could improve and be our best."

Graham continued to run into his 70s.



**Mick  
Graham**

\***Carole (Lambert) Josephson**  
1938-2025, age 87

**Team: 1959 Adilman Aces senior basketball**

The Fifties were fab for Carole (Lambert) Josephson.

In 1955, she scored six quick points to start the second half and Nutana Blues went on to defeat Moose Jaw Tech Toilers for the Saskatchewan high school girls basketball championship.

In 1956, she was on the sprint relay team with **Leona Friesen** of Bedford Road, **Mary Ann Lukian** of Tech and **Joyce Andres** of City Park that broke the record in high school track and field provincials at Griffiths Stadium.

In 1957, she hit the double. She won the Western Canadian university championship in two sports with the Saskatchewan Huskiettes: Basketball, coached by \***Pat Lawson**, and volleyball, coached by **Marilyn Wearing**.

1959 was the exclamation point. Josephson played forward for the Adilman Aces at the Canadian senior women's basketball championship in Calgary.

Saskatoon defeated Toronto Teamsters 61-45 in a semifinal.

In the final, Vancouver Eilers opened a 15-point lead. In the fourth quarter, three B.C. starters fouled out. Saskatoon went ahead with four minutes left.

The Aces won 55-49, ending the Eilers' run of nine consecutive titles.



**Carole  
Josephson**

**Larry Lazecki**  
1943-2026, age 82  
**Baseball, swimming**

As a kid in the village of Smeaton, Larry Lazecki was schooled in ball by his father. John was a catcher. Larry the lefty learned to pitch.

The family moved to Saskatoon when Larry was 13. In Grade 8, in his only year of elementary school here in the city, he won an academic proficiency award at Westmount.

As a student in Nutana Collegiate, Lazecki played halfback on the Blues football team that reached the 1960 final in the Saskatoon High School Football League. Bedford Road took the title, securing a 15-14 win with a blocked field goal late in the game.

Lazecki played hockey. In midget, he and linemates **Cam Kerr** and **Warren Dimer** finished among the top scorers in the Saskatoon Minor Hockey Association. A teammate of Lazecki in juvenile hockey was \***Ted Dushinski**, who went on to win the Grey Cup as a defensive back with the Saskatchewan Roughriders.

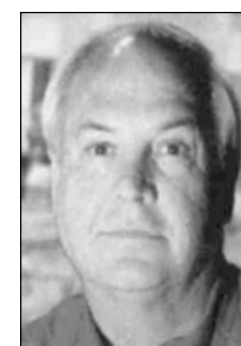
In 1961, at age 18, Lazecki hit it out of the ball park. He won the Saskatchewan senior baseball championship as the Saskatoon Ambassadors defeated the Yorkton Phillies in a two-game series.

Lazecki played four years of college ball for the Arkansas Razorbacks. He played in the summer senior circuit in Saskatchewan for more than a decade, pitching for the Saskatoon Ambassadors and the Saskatoon Commodores, for the Biggar Nationals and the Asquith Braves and the Saskatoon T-Birds.

To recognize his impact on the game, the Saskatoon Senior Baseball League started the Larry Lazecki Trophy for Rookie of the Year in 1982. Winners include \***Tim Kroeker** and \***Shane Reider**.

Lazecki, who as a kid swam in a prairie pond, was an assistant coach with the Saskatoon Goldfins Swim Club. He was Goldfins president. He was a swimming official. He wrote an aquatics column for the StarPhoenix newspaper.

Then there's this: The Saskatoon Sports Council began in 1977. The idea was to promote co-operation and communication among sports clubs and associations in the city. Among the advisors on the board were \***Keith Coviello**, \***Jim McClements**, \***Vera Pezer** and **Larry Lazecki**.



**Larry  
Lazecki**

\***Jim McIntyre**  
1938-2026, age 87  
**Team: 2004-05 Contacts  
AAA midget male hockey**

The first season for the Saskatchewan AAA Midget Hockey League was 1984-85. Jim McIntyre made it happen. He was a founding member of the league.

Although it was a new league, McIntyre was a hockey veteran.

He'd played junior in 1955-56, McIntyre and his teammates on the Moose Jaw Canucks becoming Yorkton Terriers after their rink in Moose Jaw was razed by fire.

McIntyre coached the bantam Saskatoon Bruins.

He was the coach and owner of the AA midget Saskatoon Contacts. AAA midget was winter wonderland.

The Contacts won the league title five times with McIntyre.

He was the Contacts coach when they won the Mac's international tournament in Calgary in 1998.

He was the Contacts coach when they finished third at the Air Canada Cup national championship in Montreal in 2000.

He was a Contacts coach when they won the Canadian championship in Gatineau, QC. in 2005, Saskatoon outscoring its opponents by 14 goals in six games.

"It's the kids I'm concerned about, not my glory," McIntyre said.



**Jim  
McIntyre**

\***Glenn Reeve**  
1938-2025, age 87  
**Builder: Softball**

An actor on stage in his teens, Glenn Reeve grew up to become a big-time director in softball.

In 1956, Reeve was in the cast of Submerged, a production by **Grenfell** High School that was runner-up for the Saskatchewan high school drama award.

He got an education degree at the University of Saskatchewan. During his teaching career at Nutana and Evan Hardy Collegiates, he coached high school football, curling and track and field. He was commissioner of the Saskatoon High School Volleyball League. He was involved in minor hockey.

He covered the bases in softball.

Reeve played for K and K Olson senior club from its start in the early 1960s. He was K and K's coach for nine years. He was K and K's manager. He was coach of Rempel Brothers for the Canadian midget boys championship in Charlottetown, P.E.I. in 1980.

Reeve served on the board with the Saskatoon Amateur Fastball Association and the Saskatchewan Amateur Softball Association. As vice-president of Softball Canada, he helped to form the country's first national softball team.

Reeve was Canada's team leader for the International Softball Congress women's world championship in 1982 in Chinese Taipei. Canada finished eighth. Its lineup included outfielder \***Nancy Brentnell**, pitcher \***Shan McDonald** and first baseman \***Ann Tkachuck** of Saskatoon Harmony Centre and pitcher \***Brenda Stanforth** of Lashburn Bluebirds.

Reeve was with the national softball program for the 1983 Pan Am Games in Venezuela and the 1986 worlds in New Zealand.

He was Team Canada's assistant Chef de Mission at the 1991 Pan Am Games in Cuba and its Chef de Mission at the 1995 Pan Am Games in Argentina.

He was a director with Softball Canada for 18 years.

"Glenn Reeve played a vital role in the development and advancement of Softball Canada," said **Mike Branchaud**, the CEO of Softball Canada.



**Glenn  
Reeve**

\***D. Wayne Talbot**  
1937-2026, age 88  
**Builder: Curling, softball**

Wayne Talbot started his career in banking when he was 19. In business, and in sports, he was a no-frills guy.

As an athlete he played six-man football in high school. He was skip of the Wadena rink with his brother Ron at second that won districts in the provincial high school playdowns.

Wayne was on the rink skipped by **Bruce Wilson** that competed in the Saskatchewan men's northern playdowns in 1966.

He was on the rink skipped by \***Frank Scheirich** that went to senior provincials in 1988 and 1989.

As a sports administrator he was treasurer of the North Battleford Golf and Country Club. He was president of the Nutana Curling Club. He was chair of the organizing committee for the Bessborough Curling Classic. He was a volunteer at the Brier in Saskatoon in 1983 and 2000. He was on the host committee for the Canadian senior women's softball championship in 1984.

Wayne says it was four daughters who inspired him to get into coaching. Moving to Saskatoon after living in 20 other places in the province, he coached **Carrie**, **Sheriann**, **Laureen** and **Jackie** in curling and softball.

"I'm pretty quiet," he said of his coaching style. "I don't believe in all that rah-rah stuff. I want the team to demonstrate their abilities rather than use their mouths."

Wayne and his wife **Yvonne** were coaches and Laureen and Jackie were players on the Eastview softball team that won the city squirt title in 1974.

Wayne, Carrie and Sheriann Talbot won the Western Canadian midget championship with the Eastview Dodgers in 1978.

The Dodgers repeated as Western midget champions in 1979.

Wayne, Sheriann and Laureen Talbot were on the club.

As his daughters progressed in softball, Wayne went with them.

He coached the Saskatoon Blues who finished sixth at the Canadian junior championship in 1980 in Brookfield, N.S.

The Blues were fourth at the 1981 nationals in Milverton, ON.

The 1982 Blues were red hot.

Led by pitcher **Wendy Sofiak**, who Wayne had coached in midget, the junior-aged Blues defeated the senior Harmony Centre 11-3 in the third and deciding game in the First Division final in the Saskatoon Amateur Softball Association. That same summer, the Blues finished third at junior nationals in Kitchener-Waterloo, ON.

"Sports opens a lot of doors for you," Talbot said in an article in The StarPhoenix. "What I enjoyed most are the people I met."



**Wayne  
Talbot**