

# SASKATOON SPORTS HALL OF FAME

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June 2011  
to August 2011  
Newsletter

saskatoonsportshalloffame.com

## Sport's Hall of Fame president's message by Ed Bryant



On behalf of the board of directors of the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame, I welcome you to this edition of our newsletter. We extend our congratulations to those individuals selected for induction as builders, athletes and team members for 2011. Our banquet and induction ceremonies will be held Oct. 29 at TCU Place.

Our inductees for 2011 have made outstanding contributions to the sporting community in Saskatoon and have represented our great city at provincial, regional, national,

international and Olympic levels. They are indeed most deserving of the honour that is to be bestowed on them. These individuals achieved great successes, accomplishments and personal bests in their sports due to their dedication and commitment to excellence.

The Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame extends an invitation to all past inductees and past board members to attend the induction ceremonies to honour our inductees for this year.

## Meet the 2011 inductees 26th annual induction banquet Oct. 29 at TCU Place

### Builder: Len Bell baseball

Len helped form the Saskatoon District Umpires Association and served with the Saskatchewan Baseball Association, being supervisor of umpires for six years. Len has been an umpire at 11 national baseball championships, as well as being on the umpire crew at the 1984 World Youth championship in Kindersley and the 1987 Pan-American Games in Indianapolis. In a five-year run with Baseball Canada, he was part of the team which developed a national training program for umpires.



### Builder: Kelly Bowers basketball, football, wrestling

From coach to official, organizer to colour commentator, Kelly is all over the place in sports. He coached Bedford Road to a provincial high school football championship in 1998 and was also on the staff of the Hilltops for national titles in 1991 and 1996. After being a high school teacher, he became the consultant with the Saskatoon Secondary Schools Athletic Directorate.

Kelly is part of the annual BRIT basketball tournament at Bedford and is a fixture in the Kinsmen Tackle Football League.

### Builder: Vic Ferrer Sikaran martial arts

Vic started Filipino martial arts in 1966. In Saskatoon, he has developed 50 athletes who have been certified as black belts. He has been named Master Instructor of the Year by the Society of Federated Martial Arts.

Vic was the master instructor of seven international champions at both the 1998 and 2010 international Sikaran championships in the Philippines.



### Builder: Cedric Gillott soccer

Cedric was head coach of the Huskies men's soccer team at the University of Saskatchewan for nine years. He also coached youth teams, including Brunskill, Renegade, the Express and Titans-Trojans. Cedric coached the Saskatchewan team at the 1977 Canada Games in St. John's, N.L., and was an assistant coach at the 1993 Canada Games in Kamloops, B.C. He was president of the Saskatoon and District Soccer Association and the commissioner for boys divisions.

### Athlete: Tracy Kelly cross-country, track and field

Tracy, in 1981, became the first female from Saskatchewan to win the Canadian senior cross-country running championship.

A member of the University of Saskatchewan Huskies, she was also third in the Canadian university cross-country championships in 1981.

Tracy's time in the 3,000 metres in track and field, set in 1982, still stands as the club record for the Huskies.

She went on to represent Canada at the world cross-country championships in Rome and the world university cross-country championships in Dormstadt, Germany.

Tracy is now a physiotherapist in Kamloops, B.C.



### Athlete: Heather Kuttai shooting

Heather won three medals on Canada's team for the Paralympics, with two silvers in air pistol in Seoul, South Korea in 1988 and a bronze in the event in the 1992 Games in Barcelona, Spain.

Heather took up the sport at age 15, coached by her father George Kuttai, and made her first national team at 17.

She is the founder of Disability Services for Students at the University of Saskatchewan and is the author of Maternity Rolls: Pregnancy, Childbirth and Disability.

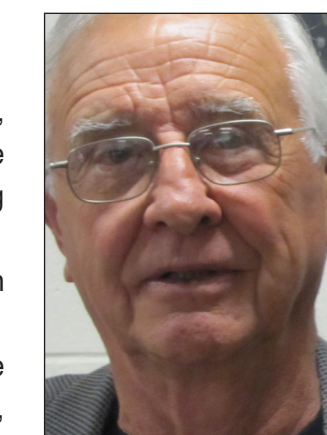
### Athlete: Rick Reelie wheelchair athletics, rugby

Rick represented Canada in the Paralympics five times, from 1988 in Seoul, South Korea to 2004 in Athens, Greece and won five gold, three silver and one bronze competing both in track and field races and throw events.

He also competed in the world championships, again producing medal results.

Rick was on the Saskatchewan team which won five consecutive Canadian wheelchair rugby championships, twice being named an all-star.

He is now the head coach of the Saskatoon Cyclones Road and Track Club and has developed Canadian athletes for the world junior and senior championships.



### Athlete: Richard Van Impe hockey

Richard played most of his minor and junior hockey in Saskatoon followed by 19 years in the pros.

At 18, he joined the Winnipeg Warriors, then played in the Western Hockey League with the New Westminster Royals and Portland Buckaroos. He celebrated league championships with Portland in 1965 and 1972.

Richard was on the highest scoring line in the Western League in 1967-68 with Art Jones and Cliff Schmautz, who are also from Saskatoon.

### Team inductee: Hilltops 2001, 2002 national champions



#### Players

|                     |    |           |
|---------------------|----|-----------|
| Paul Adisi          | RB | 2001, '02 |
| Nathan Allen        | WR | 2002      |
| Tyler Baier         | DB | 2001, '02 |
| Dave Barrett        | OL | 2002      |
| Graeme Bell         | RB | 2001      |
| Thom Bell           | RB | 2002      |
| Jason Biehn         | DB | 2002      |
| Marco Bradsema      | OL | 2001, '02 |
| Sean Brimacombe     | DL | 2001      |
| Hubert Buydens      | OL | 2001, '02 |
| Jon Campbell        | DL | 2002      |
| Derin Carter        | LB | 2002      |
| Matt Chartier       | DB | 2001, '02 |
| Cam Cooke           | DB | 2001, '02 |
| Drew Cox            | SB | 2001      |
| Jerad Davis         | WR | 2001, '02 |
| Matt Deshaye        | LB | 2001      |
| Tyler Dueck         | DB | 2001, '02 |
| Chris Eckert        | DL | 2001, '02 |
| Mark Fafard         | DL | 2001      |
| Bailey Folkerson    | RB | 2002      |
| Andrew Ford         | WR | 2001      |
| Jon Foster          | LB | 2001, '02 |
| Eric Gartner        | R  | 2001, '02 |
| Stefan Geddes       | DB | 2001      |
| Mike Gedir          | OL | 2001      |
| Andrew Ginther      | WR | 2001      |
| Brad Grenier        | RB | 2001      |
| Ryan Grieve         | R  | 2001, '02 |
| Wade Holowaty       | WR | 2002      |
| Garrett Houle       | LB | 2001, '02 |
| Curt Hundebly       | OL | 2001      |
| Brian Guebert       | DL | 2001, '02 |
| Dustin Jackson      | OL | 2002      |
| Mickey Jutras       | DB | 2001, '02 |
| Brent Keeler        | LB | 2001, '02 |
| Justin Kelly        | WR | 2001, '02 |
| Jody Kerr           | K  | 2001      |
| Tyler Knudsen       | QB | 2001, '02 |
| Avery Kober         | DB | 2001      |
| Benoit LaLonde      | DL | 2002      |
| Trevor LeFrancois   | OL | 2001, '02 |
| Gabe Mackesey       | LB | 2001, '02 |
| Joey Maniel         | DL | 2001      |
| Chris Masich        | DL | 2001, '02 |
| Brennan McFaul      | SB | 2001      |
| Ryan Michalenko     | LB | 2002      |
| Nathan Morris       | RB | 2001, '02 |
| Dan Nagy            | SB | 2002      |
| Chad Nunweiler      | RB | 2001, '02 |
| Garrett Olver       | QB | 2001      |
| Dustin Orsz         | LB | 2001, '02 |
| Ryan Peardon        | OL | 2001, '02 |
| Blair Plemmel       | DB | 2001      |
| Tyler Pokoyoway     | DB | 2001      |
| Adam Sandbeck       | DB | 2002      |
| Jeremy Sears        | LB | 2001, '02 |
| Matt Shumka         | OL | 2002      |
| Jason Siemens       | OL | 2001, '02 |
| Martin Skiffington  | OL | 2001, '02 |
| Matt Sochaski       | DL | 2001      |
| Sebastian Sosnowski | DL | 2002      |
| Mike Stone          | DB | 2002      |
| Braden Suchan       | K  | 2002      |
| Chris Sutherland    | OL | 2001      |
| Mike Sydoruk        | RB | 2001, '02 |
| Jeremy Taylor       | WR | 2002      |
| Bret Thompson       | QB | 2001, '02 |
| Paul Thompson       | DL | 2001, '02 |
| Kyle Thrun          | OL | 2002      |
| Brent Tysdal        | LB | 2001      |
| Rick Vandenameele   | DB | 2001, '02 |
| Ian Walker          | WR | 2001, '02 |
| Kurt Wallace        | OL | 2001, '02 |
| Trevor Weiss        | RB | 2001, '02 |
| Josh Wiebe          | OL | 2001      |
| Aaron Wignes        | QB | 2001, '02 |
| Lee Wolfater        | WR | 2002      |
| Matt Yausie         | DB | 2001, '02 |
| Mike Zinkowski      | LB | 2001, '02 |

#### Coaches

|                  |                   |           |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Dave Fisher      | OL                | 2001, '02 |
| Jack Nepjuk      | RB                | 2001, '02 |
| Marc Olson       | R                 | 2001, '02 |
| Kim Pasloski     | LB, special teams | 2001      |
| Shane Reider     | QB                | 2001, '02 |
| Tom Sargeant     | head coach        | 2001, '02 |
| Brett Turkington | DB                | 2001, '02 |
| Jeff Yausie      | LB                | 2002      |

#### Staff

|                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Chris Facca, trainer          | 2001, '02 |
| Dr. Bill Haver, physician     | 2001, '02 |
| Paul Litzenberger, trainer    | 2002      |
| Amanda Lloyd, equipment       | 2001, '02 |
| Beth Nepjuk, equipment        | 2002      |
| Stacey Ostertag, equipment    | 2001      |
| Bob Stucky, film co-ordinator | 2001, '02 |
| Michelle Wandler, trainer     | 2001, '02 |

#### Hilltops president

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| Lyle Hislop   | 2001 |
| Murray Little | 2002 |

#### Manager

|             |           |
|-------------|-----------|
| Ron Krieger | 2001      |
| Ron Woodley | 2001, '02 |

## Sports organization of the year for 2011

### Saskatoon Minor Hockey Association

Presented with plaque from Hall of Fame

Bill Fitzsimmons, past president of SMHA, Kelly Boes, executive director



—Photo by Greg Pender of The StarPhoenix

### Thank you Hall of Fame sponsors

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# Let's talk coaching

**DON FUNK, softball coach/manager**  
Builder inductee 2004, manager of All-O-Matics

**What makes a good coach?**  
"It's preparedness for the whole process, making sure you know what your team is capable of, but knowing what goes well for the other team, too. How can you exploit their weaknesses? Can you get someone (on your team) to lay down the perfect bunt? To make a surprise play to snuff out a rally? To get that key pitch?"  
"What did I bring? Tremendous passion, desire; to have a team that will take a challenge."

**If you're building a team, who is an athlete you want on the team?**  
"If you want to turn back the clock, Gordie Howe. There were only six teams then, only so much talent, and he was the best of the best."  
"Spin the clock forward and I'd say Tiger Woods. He's a phenomenal person to watch. He'll get back to his prime."  
"Basketball? Michael Jordan."  
"Baseball? Mantle, Maris, DiMaggio."  
"Hockey? I've had the opportunity to see Wayne Gretzky in person a number of times."  
"If I had the opportunity to spend time with a high level coach it would be with Vince Lombardi, to hear not only his philosophy of sport, but of life."

**Who has influenced you?**  
"Bill Hunter. He made things bigger than life."  
"Athletes — two stand out. Rob Guenter is one, Gene McWillie the other. McWillie is simply the best athlete I've seen compete. He had phenomenal desire and had the biggest heart of anyone I've met, no matter what stage he is on."



**JOANNE McTAGGART, Huskies track and field, and cross-country head coach**

Athlete inductee 1994, Olympic sprinter in 1976

**What do you bring to coaching?**  
"Probably my experience. I've been at this a long time and under a lot of different coaches. As a (Canadian national team) sprinter, I was with probably the top sprint coach in the world (in Gerard Mach), as well as Lyle Sanderson. What I learned about coaching was 'Do it for the athletes. Put your ego away and be there for them.'

**Say it's mid-January, minus 30 outside and you're in the Field House, coaching the University of Saskatchewan Huskies team. Do you enjoy this part, the training?**  
"Oh yeah, That's when you get to know the athletes. You find out who they are and what they do. That's fun. I love it."  
"My background is in sprints. What I'd like is to get more experience in other events."  
"I'm fortunate I have a lot of good coaches to work with. The throwers? They're the best."

**From any year, in any sport, pick an athlete you want on your team.**  
"John Konihowski (in Huskies track and field). He was such a team leader. In all the travelling we did as a team, John was always there to support everybody. He was like a big brother to me."



**BARRY RADCLIFFE, Hilltops, Huskies football assistant coach**

Team inductee with Hilltops, Huskies

**Do dressing room speeches work?**  
"Every once a while one happens and not just from a coach, but a player. He'll get up and say something. It clicks, but it works only when the time is right. It shouldn't be part of a rah-rah routine."

**What does an assistant coach bring to the team?**  
"Assistant coaches are like players, they each bring something to the table. What do I bring? I very much enjoy talking to players — not necessarily just my group (of running backs), but players all through the team. I like finding out about them when they're away from the game, getting to know the person."

**If a player comes to you and says they'd like to be a coach some day, what do you say to them?**  
"Be an official for a while first. You can't appreciate what goes into the game unless you see it from an official's point of view. I refereed a lot of basketball and it gave me a perspective of the decisions you make (as a coach) that go onto the field."

**Let's say you are a building a team. Based on your experience in sports, who would you draw on?**  
"For coaches there are two that really inspire me: Gord Currie and Al Ledingham. I've become good friends with both of them. The thing about Currie was how he expected you to treat everyone with respect. If you didn't, you sat on the bench."  
"There are two players: (Running backs) Terry Eisler and Morrie Norsten. They had fortitude, desire. Eisler was part of changing the culture of the Huskies. He wasn't just about winning, but performance, regardless of the score in the game."



## Passings

**Len Richardson 1916-2011**

Len Richardson, a local businessperson, teamed with Cam McKenzie of the Star-Phoenix to launch the Saskatoon Hilltops football team in 1947. Earlier, while he was a student, Richardson went to King George elementary school and Tech Collegiate. He became manager of the Hilltops for their first five years and was later the president of both the club and the league. In recognition of his contributions to football, hockey and softball, Richardson was named Kinsmen Sportsman of the Year in Saskatoon in 1966. He was an inaugural inductee into the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame in 1986.



## Touching base

**Dan Servetnyk**, inducted into the Hall of Fame as a running back and special teams ace with the 1978 Hilltops in the team category, and inducted later as a football-wrestling athlete, had a weekend to celebrate this spring. Servetnyk is one of the people who have worked behind the scenes in getting a new playground at Prince Philip elementary school near Wilson Crescent and Cumberland Avenue. The playground opened in June. Dan and his wife Gayleen have an 8-year-old daughter, Hannah, who goes to Prince Philip. "I remember as a kid I was fortunate to have people doing things I was involved in," Servetnyk said. "This is a way of giving back." The playground includes slides and a climbing setup, as well as benches and picnic tables. It's wheelchair accessible. Included in Servetnyk's volunteer work was organizing a sports banquet and silent auction for the playground last summer. For guest speakers at the banquet, Servetnyk landed **Jerry Shoemaker**, **Colette Bourgonje**, **Bill Seymour** and **Dave King**, all of whom are inducted into the Hall... **Jeff Chynoweth**, a son of Hall of Fame inductee **Ed Chynoweth**, is general manager of the Kootenay Ice, who won the WHL championship this season and finished third at the Memorial Cup.



**New playground at Prince Philip School has Hall of Fame connection**

Gold then, enduring now. Some records set years ago in the Saskatoon high school track and field championships still stand. **Jay Kost**, who was inducted into the Hall of Fame as a member of the Harmony Centre women's softball team in 1991, set three track and field records which have yet to be broken. Kost, with springs for legs, set a record in the midget girls triple jump while in Evan Hardy Collegiate in 1979, in junior girls high jump in 1980 and in senior high jump in 1981. Seven other inductees in the Hall of Fame have high schools records which stand the test of time. City records are still held by **Lisa Kroll Mattern** of Holy Cross, holding five records in sprints from 1980 to '83, **Caren (Rathie) Reindl** of Mount Royal in sprints in 1975, **Diane Jones Konihowski** of Aden Bowman

in high jump and shot put in 1969, **Shannon Kekula Kristiansen** of Bowman in discus in 1984, **Louis Christ** of Evan Hardy in middle distance in 1977, **Dr.**

**Cyprian Enweani** of Bedford Road in sprints in 1982 and **Carey Nelson** of Bedford in distance events in 1981... Nelson, who went on to compete in the 1988 Seoul Olympics and the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, is one of six inductees in the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame who was added to the Saskatchewan Sports Hall in Regina in June. Other members of the Saskatchewan Hall of Fame joining the Saskatchewan Hall are **Scott Reeves** in wrestling and football, **Yoon Sang Ha** in tae kwon do, **Bob Sawatzky** as a softball coach, **Ron Walsh** as an official in both track and field and football and the 1996 **Saskatoon Hilltops**... Also added to the Saskatchewan Sports Hall in June is **Rick Reelie**. This year is a double dandy for Reelie as he is going into the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame in October. In addition to his achievements as an athlete, Reelie is putting together a highlight sheet as a coach. He started the Saskatoon Cyclones Road and Track Club and this year had three of his wheelchair athletes on the Canadian team for the world championships in Christchurch, New Zealand.

**Gene Makowsky** is still competing, so he isn't eligible for the Hall of Fame yet, but you have to think his time will come. Makowsky played for the Walter Murray Marauders and University of Saskatchewan Huskies. At 38, he is in his 17th season with the Saskatchewan Roughriders and enters the 2011 season in second place on the team in career games with 266, just five games behind leader **Roger Aldag**, with 271. Ma-

kowsky has twice been named the most outstanding offensive lineman in the CFL. He won the Grey Cup with the Riders in 2007 and has been in the final three other times... When new rinks start going up in Saskatchewan, credit an assist to **Bill Seymour**.



**Dan Servetnyk**

Seymour, an inductee into the Hall of Fame as a builder and with the 1983 University of Saskatchewan Huskies hockey team when he was an assistant coach of the Dogs, is a manufacturing rep in Saskatchewan with Sprung, a fabric building company based in Calgary and Toronto. Among the facilities Sprung has built is Edge School in Calgary, which has two hockey rinks... **Mickey Jutras**, who is going into the Hall of Fame this year with the Saskatoon Hilltops, who won back-to-back national championships when he was a defensive back, is also going into the U of S Athletics Wall of Fame this fall for his accomplishments with the Huskies in wrestling.



**Gene Makowsky**

**Rick Folk**, a Hall of Fame inductee both as an athlete and with a curling team, was the skip of the last Saskatchewan rink to win the Brier, in 1980. This year Folk was coach of **Jim Cotter's** team from B.C. that went 4-7 in the Brier... **Cam Hutchinson** is inducted into the Hall with the 1969 Merchants softball team. He was a ballboy on the team when his dad John was also on the Merchants, who were the national champions. Cam worked at the StarPhoenix for 33 years, first writing sports, later designing and laying out the sports section. When he became the paper's managing editor he continued to write a column that was on the sports pages each Saturday, not only for readers in Saskatoon, but in newspapers around Canada. He filed his column even on holidays, meaning it appeared in the paper every single weekend for the last seven consecutive years. Hutchinson is now the editor for Saskatoon's new newspaper, the Express... Hall of Fame inductees **Mark Tennant** (with 1979, '80 and '81 Huskiette volleyball teams) and **Melanie Sanford** (on Huskiette teams and also inducted as an athlete), are on assignment this summer. They are on the international technical committee for volleyball at the World Student Games in Shenzhen, China, a role they have served for years.

## Hall of Fame directors

- President Ed Bryant
- Past president Don Cousins
- Vice-president Ralph Schoenfeld
- Secretary Jacki Nichol
- Treasurer Ken Gunn
- Ian Mirtle
- Noreen Murphy
- Bob Reindl
- Bill Seymour
- Jerry Shoemaker
- Wes Smith, a new director
- Phyllis Wilson

### Members at large

- Bob Florence
- Walter Mudge
- Mark Tennant

**Hall of Fame inductee plaques**  
Displayed on walls at Field House

# History comes alive for group from Canada

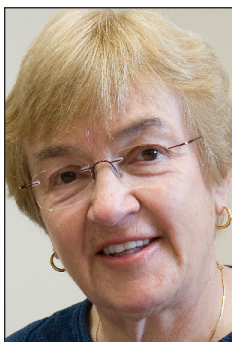
**Vera Pezer**, chancellor at the University of Saskatchewan, had a memorable spring. Vera and **Bill Waiser**, an author and historian from the U of S, led a group of 31 people on the Chancellor's Tour of First World War sites. From April 26 to May 8, this year, they went to places in Europe which have a Saskatchewan touch. "I'm interested in history, but to actually see what we read about really sticks with me," said Pezer. They saw Ypres in Belgium, where poisonous gas was first used in war. They visited Valenciennes, France, where **Hugh Cairns** of Saskatoon received a Victoria's Cross after being killed in combat and has a street named after him. At Vimy Ridge, they toured under-



—Photo courtesy Bill Waiser University of Saskatchewan

**Bill Waiser (front row far left, wearing shades) and Vera Pezer (back row, far right in red) led a tour group to Europe that visited memorable Saskatchewan places in the First World War. Here they are at a cemetery that includes Hugh Cairns, who died in service in the war and is from Saskatoon** ground tunnels and walked the trenches. is particularly memorable for the tour group. It has a Last Post ceremony every

day at 8 p.m. Pezer laid a wreath there one night on behalf of the U of S. While some in the travel group are staff, faculty and alumni of the U of S, others are not. It was a diverse collection. "What glued the group together is the common interest in the role Canada played in the world war," said Pezer, who has a fascination with history. "Many of the group have relatives buried in Europe." "Coming away from there, seeing what we saw, makes me so proud to be Canadian." Pezer is in the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame as the third with **Joyce McKee's** 1967 curling team, with the rink Pezer skipped to three national titles, as a pitcher with the 1969 Imperials softball team, and also as an athlete inductee.



"Coming away from there, seeing what we saw, makes me so proud to be Canadian."  
—Vera Pezer