

February 2017  
to April 2017  
Newsletter

# SASKATOON SPORTS HALL OF FAME



2020 College Drive Saskatoon, Sask. S7N 2W4 (306) 664-6744 [Saskatoonsportshalloffame.com](http://Saskatoonsportshalloffame.com)  
Photos of all inductees on touch screen at Field House Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame on Facebook



## Keith McLean Hall of Fame president

Builder inductee, 2006

Greetings from our board of directors of the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame. Our 2016 induction dinner was a resounding success. Close to 600 people were in attendance for the dinner Nov. 5. Thanks to all of you who came out to celebrate with their friends and relatives. As well a large thank you to former inductees who continue to support our Hall with their attendance at the dinner.

Again a very large thank you to Bob Florence, Simon Hiatt, Kevin Vaughn and Mark Tennant for making our newsletter, banquet program and the dinner the success they have always been.

I encourage you to consider nominating a deserving individual or team. There are many athletes and builders who deserve to be in the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame. We must ensure these people are

recognized. Nomination forms are available at the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame office at the Field House or on our website:

[Saskatoonsportshalloffame.com](http://Saskatoonsportshalloffame.com). Deadline for nominations is April 1.

We have been fortunate to have great volunteers serve on our Board of Directors. Thank you to Allan Few and Ian Mirtle who are retiring from our board after six years of service. I welcome new board members Eugene Hritzuk and Anna-beth Zulkoskey.

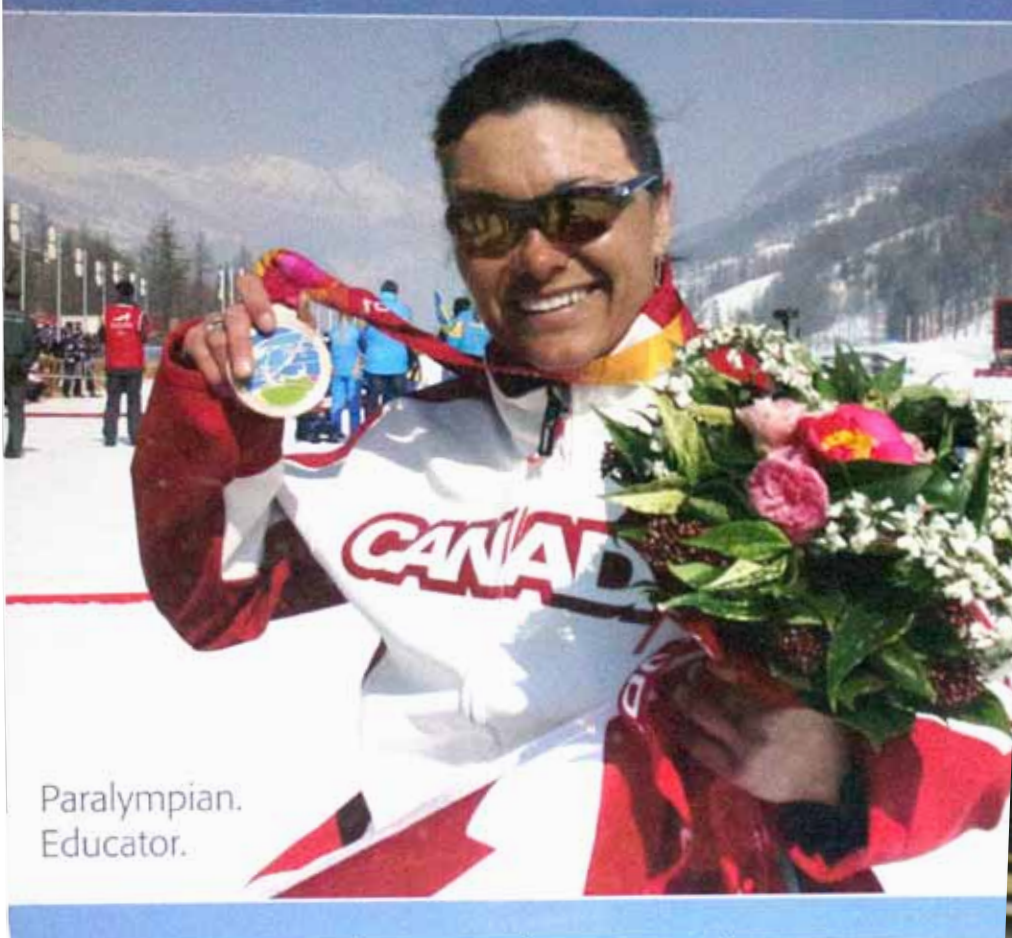
Thank you to returning board members Jerry Shoemaker, Don Cousins, Ken Gunn, Dana Kidd, Mary Green, John Neufeld, Jacki Nicol, Bob Reindl, Ron Walsh and Ron Woodley.

This year will be our 32nd induction ceremony and dinner. I hope all of you will attend to celebrate this anniversary. The date is Saturday evening, Nov. 4 at TCU Place.



## Making their mark

### COLETTE BOURGONJE SCHOOL Rosewood



Two inductees in Sports Hall of Fame  
have new public schools in their name

### SYLVIA FEDORUK SCHOOL Evergreen



## fast facts

### Colette Bourgonje

- **Home:** Porcupine Plain.
- **First teaching job:** Phys ed and health, Silverwood, 1989-90.
- **Sports in her youth:** Basketball, cross-country running, hockey.
- **Recent pursuits:** Kayaking, sailing, water skiing.
- **On the wild side:** Was a research assistant for a study of grizzly bears in Glacier National Park in Montana.
- **Leading the way:** In 1984 at the University of Saskatchewan, she was the first female student in a wheelchair in Canada to graduate from a university physical education program. She soon added a degree in education.
- **On the double:** Competed in both the Winter and Summer Paralympics in 1992, sit skiing at the Winter Games in Tignes, France and wheelchair racing at the Summer Games in Barcelona, Spain.
- **Look out world:** Competed in a total of seven Winter Paralympics and three Summer Paralympics from 1992 to 2014.
- **Home won:** First Canadian to win a medal on home soil in the Paralympics with a silver in cross-country sit skiing at the 2010 Games in Whistler, B.C.

In the 1940s, Sylvia Fedoruk was offered a chance to play in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League. She declined.

### Sylvia Fedoruk

- **Home:** Canora.
- **Field day:** Won 12 titles in Western Canada with the University of Saskatchewan in basketball (5 titles), volleyball (3), golf (2) and track and field (2).
- **For the record:** Broke the Canadian record in winning gold in javelin at the 1947 Women's Canadian track and field championships in Edmonton.
- **Very clever:** "She is an intellectual giant and one of the most brilliant graduates of the University of Saskatchewan," said Joe Griffiths, a professor and coach at the university.  
Fedoruk received the Governor General's Medal as the most outstanding grad at the University of Saskatchewan in 1949.
- **Breakthrough:** In 1951 at the Saskatoon Cancer Clinic, Fedoruk was a member of the first team in the world to successfully treat a cancer patient with Cobalt-60 radiation therapy.
- **Ice age:** Joyce McKee, a teammate of Fedoruk's in softball, encouraged Fedoruk to try curling. In 1960, they were on the first rink to win the Canadian women's championship, defeating an Eastern rink from Quebec 2-0 in a best-of-three series. In 1961, when the Canadian curling championship featured all 10 provinces for the first time, McKee's rink won the title again.
- **First pace:** First woman on the Atomic Energy Control Board of Canada. First woman chancellor at the University of Saskatchewan. First woman to be Lieutenant-Governor of Saskatchewan.

## Thank you sponsors



- Al Anderson's Source for Sports
- Cherry Insurance
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- Kinsmen Club of Saskatoon
- Realty Executives Saskatoon
- Travelodge Hotel

## Hall directors

- President Keith McLean
- Past president Jerry Shoemaker
- Vice-president Dana Kidd
- Ken Gunn, treasurer
- Don Cousins, secretary
- Mary Green
- Eugene Hritzuk
- John Neufeld
- Jacki Nichol
- Bob Reindl
- Ron Walsh
- Ron Woodley
- Anna-beth Zulkoskey

### Members at large

- Gerry Heskett
- Walter Mudge
- Mark Tennant
- Bob Florence



Hilltops' current clubhouse (left) and original clubhouse in 1950 (above)

## Hammer time for Hilltops

The Saskatoon Hilltops expect to move into their new clubhouse on Kilburn Avenue this fall.

The football team has had a clubhouse and practice field on Kilburn since 1950. Before that, the Hilltops practised at Cairns Field on Avenue A, on Tech Collegiate grounds and in Kinsmen Park. For a dressing room at the start, the team used a variety of places, from the downtown Arena to the HMCS Unicorn, from the YMCA to Cairns Field and the Baldwin Hotel.

Sod turning for the clubhouse on Kilburn Avenue was done in spring of 1950, with renovation and expansion to the clubhouse in 1967, 1976 and 2003. A new clubhouse is being built on the site.

The Hilltops have been Canadian champions 19 times.

Twelve Hilltops teams are enshrined in the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame: 1953, 1958, 1959, 1968, 1969, 1978, 1985, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2002 and 2003.

# Touching base

With Saskatoon Sports Hall inductees

## Sebestyen goes far in gymnastics

**Patti Sebestyen\*** has received a lifetime achievement award from Gymnastics Saskatchewan. Sebestyen won the Canadian junior title with the Saskatoon Marian

Club and later was a coach of the club. She has been a judge in international meets ... **Ben Cookwell** was a tailback for the Saskatoon Hilltops and the University of Saskatchewan Huskies and a sprinter on the Huskies athletics team. **Keenan MacDougall** was a defensive back with the Huskies. This season, Cookwell and MacDougall are competing on the World Cup bobsleigh circuit. Cookwell has been with Bobsleigh Canada since 2012. This is MacDougall's first year in bobsleigh ...

**Dr. Klaas Postma**, who died in January, was a charter member of the Saskatoon Sailing Club in 1965 and active in the Saskatoon Community Hockey Association.

## Konihowski added to Moose Jaw Hall

**John Konihowski\*** and **Dylan Barker** were enshrined into the Moose Jaw Sports Hall of Fame in November. Konihowski, a graduate of Moose Jaw Riverview Collegiate, was a receiver in football and a hurdler in athletics for the Saskatchewan Huskies. Barker, an alumnus of Moose Jaw Central Collegiate, was a safety on the Huskies. Said Konihowski: "I had the privilege of training under some pretty amazing coaches (including) **Lyle Sanderson\***." Said Barker: "**Brian Towriss\*** and **Ed Carleton\*** helped me take all the basics that was I was so fortunate to learn (in Moose Jaw) and they expanded on that." ... Also enshrined in the Moose Jaw Sports Hall was wrestler **Terry Paice**. In his induction speech, Paice said his first wrestling competition was the provincial open when he was 13. "I wrestled **Gord Garvie\*** in the final," Paice said. "I would never have known that five years later he would be my coach at (Lakehead) university (in Thunder Bay) and the Canadian team coach for the

Pan-American Games, Commonwealth Games and Olympic Games." ... **Gil Wist\***, a friend of Paice's, was at the induction in Moose Jaw. Wist and Paice both competed in wrestling on Saskatchewan's team at

## Distant replay: 1932

For the first time in the history of amateur hockey in Saskatoon, a junior game in 1932 between the Saskatoon Wesleys and Winnipeg Monarchs is a sellout at the Arena.

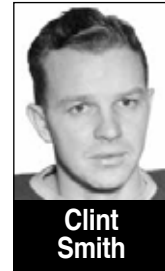
**Clint Smith**, a 5-foot-7 centre, scored the only goal as the Wesleys won 1-0. **Winnipeg took the two-game Western final. Earlier, Smith's slick pokechecking frustrated the Regina Pats in the provincial final, the Calgary Jimmies in the Saskatchewan-Alberta series and the Trail Smoke Eaters in the Western final.**

**Smith, a native of Assiniboia, graduated to the Saskatoon Crescents senior team and led the league in scoring with 19 goals in 18 games.**

**He became a key player with the New York Rangers in the NHL, winning a Stanley Cup with the team in 1940. After six seasons with the Rangers, he joined the Chicago Blackhawks, centring a line with Bill Mosienko and Doug Bentley and setting the NHL record for assists in a season, with 49.**

**Smith was the first player in NHL history to score an empty net goal.**

**He twice won the Lady Byng Trophy as the most gentlemanly player in the NHL. He was enshrined in the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1991.**



Clint Smith

the 1971 Canada Winter Games in Saskatoon, Paice winning gold and Wist silver ... **Brian Towriss\*** said it's game over after 33 years as head coach of the Saskatchewan Huskies football team. Towriss holds the Canadian university record for wins as a football coach with 196 in the regular season and playoffs. He led the Huskies to the Vanier Cup national title three times and the Hardy Cup league title 11 times. The Huskies have appeared in the Vanier Cup nine times since Towriss became head coach in 1984.

## Softball honors Dutiaume, Wallin

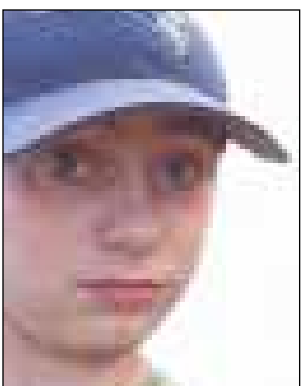
**Randy Dutiaume\*** and **Terry Wallin\***, who both

played for the Rempel Bros. senior team, are being enshrined as athletes into the Manitoba Softball Hall of Fame in May ... **Jim Baba\*** was named to the top 100 list of the most influential Canadians in baseball in 2016. Baba is the director general of Baseball Canada. The annual list is compiled by journalist **Bob Elliott** of Toronto ... **Jason Sulz\*** was the receivers coach on Canada's 18U football team that was defeated by the U.S. at the inaugural North American championship in Orlando in January ... **Jeff Yausie\*** is head coach of Canada's team for the International Federation of American Football women's championship this summer. Included on staff from Saskatoon are offensive line coach **Chris Hengen-Braun** and linebackers coach **Cody Halseth** ... *Track and Field News* calls itself the bible of the sport. The publication posts an annual top 10 list for each event in athletics, with rankings based on performances for the year. Three Sask. women have made the select club: **Diane Jones Konihowski\*** of Saskatoon in heptathlon from 1975-80, **Lynn Williams** of Regina in the 1,500 metres in 1988 and heptathlete **Brianna Theisen-Eaton** of Humboldt from 2012-16. Theisen-Eaton said in January she is retiring.

\*Enshrined in Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame

## Look at them now

Sask. athletes, coaches, volunteers make news



### Ian Frattinger

Racquetball

Ian Frattinger of Martensville and the Saskatoon River Racquet Club finished third in boys 14U doubles at the world junior racquetball championships in San Luis Potosi, Mexico in November.

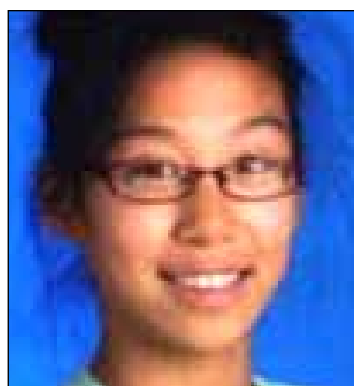
Frattinger and Sean Sauvé of L'Assomption, QC, competed in a 10-team event.

Frattinger was the Canadian champion in 2016 in 14U singles and also in doubles with Graham Frattinger.

Cassie Prentice of MacRorie and the River Racquet Club was defeated in the first round of girls 14U singles at world juniors.

She was also defeated in the first round of doubles with Juliette Parent of Saint Jacques de Montcalm, QC.

Prentice was the Canadian 14U singles champion in 2016.



### Alanna Liu

Figure skating

Alanna Liu of the Saskatoon Figure Skating Club finished 13th in the novice women's event at the Canadian championships in Ottawa in January.

Liu is coached by Sandy Nicholat. This is the second time Liu has qualified for nationals. She was 18th in 2016.

Liu won gold in the 2014 Saskatchewan Winter Games in Prince Albert and was ninth in the 2015 Canada Winter Games in Prince George, B.C.

Liu has placed first in piano in the annual Saskatoon Music Festival.



### Lawrence Beatty

Softball

Lawrence Beatty of Saskatoon received the Rose Hodgson Award as Softball Canada's volunteer of the year in 2016.

Beatty has been in charge of statistics and games control in four world and nine Canadian softball championships in Saskatoon as well as the men's under-21 international championship.

He has been president of the Saskatoon Minor Softball League and served on the executive of the Saskatoon Amateur Softball Association.

He has coached since 1985, from minor boys to senior women.



### Willow Slobodzian

Hockey

Willow Slobodzian of Clavet scored two game-winning goals for the Saskatoon Stars (5-1), which finished second in the annual Mac's midget hockey tournament in Calgary.

The Rocky Mountain Raiders of Okotoks, AB, defeated the Stars 5-4 in overtime in the final.

Mackenna Parker had five goals for the Stars in the tournament, while Joelle Fiala added four. Slobodzian, Anna Leschyshyn and Grace Shirley each had three goals.

Hall of Fame inductee Curtis Leschyshyn is an assistant coach on the Stars.

The Saskatoon Contacts (5-2) were second in the male division of the Mac's tournament, defeated by Belarus 6-1 in the final.

Hall inductee Marc Chartier is head coach of the Contacts.



### George Marlatte

Multiple sports

George Marlatte of Calgary has served on the board of governors with Canada's Sports Hall of Fame since 2013.

Marlatte worked for more than 45 years for Scotiabank, starting in 1968 in Saskatoon when he was a commerce student at the University of Saskatchewan.

He is a member of the Riverside Country Club.

He is a director of the Calgary Flames Foundation.

**Passings**

**Leonard Breckner, 1932-2016, age 84  
Hall of Fame inductee, baseball**

Len Breckner went from minor baseball in Colonsay to the Global World Series in Milwaukee. Along the way, he was invited to a Pittsburgh Pirates camp in Regina and was a fixture in the annual Exhibition tournament in Saskatoon.



Len Breckner

Breckner, a first baseman/right fielder, was on Canada's entry in the first Global World Series in 1955, the biggest prize in non-professional baseball. Canada was represented by the Saskatoon Gems and placed third. The lineup included pitcher Jack McLeod and catcher Jim Shirley, who are enshrined in the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame.

Spero Lealos, who is also in the Hall, was Breckner's manager on the Saskatoon Commodores.

Breckner had the most hits in the Saskatoon Exhibition tournament five times, winning the team title with the Kindersley Klippers in 1960 and Neilburg Monarchs in 1966.

He later was a coach and administrator in the Saskatoon Hockey Association and Saskatoon minor softball.

**Donna Collins**

**Hall of Fame inductee, curling**

Donna Collins was the lead on a rink from the Nutana Curling Club that won the Canadian women's title in 1974.



Donna Collins

Collins, second Pat McBeath, third Linda Saunders and skip Emily Farnham — a new team — had a record of 118-2 in the 1973-74 season, winning 108 consecutive games.

Farnham scored three points in the ninth end and stole a single in the 10th to defeat Pat Buglass of Saskatoon 7-5 in the provincial final in Regina.

At the Lassie in Victoria, Farnham went 9-0 to become the sixth consecutive rink from Saskatchewan to win the women's title.

Farnham's 1974 rink is the most recent team from Saskatoon to win the Canadian women's championship.

**Keith Coviello, 1931-2017**

**Hall of Fame inductee, basketball**

Despite having only one functional arm since birth, playing baseball and hockey was the start of something big for Keith Coviello in sports.



Keith Coviello

He went on to be a member of the University of Saskatchewan Huskies in volleyball in the 1950s. Teammates with the Huskies included Howard Birnie and Lorne Aston, who both went on to become high school teachers and receive Merit Awards of Honour from the Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association.

Coviello was a statistician and manager for the Saskatoon Adilman Aces women's basketball team which won the Canadian championship in 1959 and 1963. Both clubs are enshrined in the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame.

Coviello served on the executive with the Saskatoon Lions Speed Skating Club and Saskatoon Amateur Basketball. He did public relations for the Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association. Coviello's enduring work as a volunteer was with Saskatchewan Special Olympics.

**Geraldine (Gee) Phillips, 1924-2016, age 92**

**Hall of Fame inductee, bowling**

Geraldine Gee was born in Regina, grew up in Prince Albert and settled in Saskatoon. She married Cliff Thompson in 1948 and raised three children. After Cliff died, Geraldine married Ken Phillips in 1977.



Geraldine Phillips

Geraldine was among the inaugural inductees in the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame in 1986. She bowled on a five-pin team with Martha Caudle, Beulah (Bunny) Hinch, Sarah Nykiforuk, Shirley Quayle and Marion Taylor that won the Canadian women's championship in 1967 in Winnipeg. John Robert Price was the coach and Mickey Poplack the manager.

Two years earlier, in 1965, the Saskatoon team of Caudle, Hinch, Peg McKenzie, Nykiforuk, Taylor and Thompson were second at nationals. The competition was held in the Kitchener Arena, which made the air humid and the lanes tacky. Caudle, Hinch, McKenzie, Nykiforuk, Ag Prince, Taylor and Thompson advanced to the 1965 national championship by winning the Western Canadian title in Vancouver. Thompson's high in the eight-game Western series was 378 on nine strikes and three spares.

**Ann Sawatzky, 1928-2016, age 88**

**Hall of Fame inductee, bowling**

Al Hong in 1971 had the first perfect game in the history of five-pin bowling at the KG lanes in Saskatoon. Penny Hunter had the second, also in 1971. Ann (Penner) Sawatzky almost had Nos. 3 and 4 in one evening.



Ann Sawatzky

Sawatzky was competing in a qualifying series for the TV series Beat The Champ on a Saturday night in March of 1974. In the first game, she punched the head pin with her 11th ball and scored 420. She had 12 strikes in a row in the second game — perfect — for a score of 450.

Sawatzky's three-game total of 1,134 set a Canadian record.

Sawatzky, a native of Hague, began league bowling in Saskatoon in 1965. Her Hall of Fame career included winning the Canadian women's title in 1972 with a Saskatchewan all-star team and finishing second in the team event in the 1977 Canadian masters.

**Kinsmen annual awards**

**Saskatoon athlete of the year**

Jessica Buettner, U of S Huskies athletics, power lifting

**Honorable mention**

Jared Andreychuk, Hilltops football

**Saskatoon team of the year**

University of Saskatchewan Huskies women's basketball

**Honorable mention**

Saskatchewan Rush lacrosse

Saskatoon Hilltops football

**Saskatoon sportsman of the year**

Johnny Marciniuk

Led campaign to upgrade turf, stadium, clubhouse and facilities at Saskatoon Minor Football Field



Jessica Buettner



Johnny Marciniuk

**NHL leaders from Saskatoon**

Four head coaches in the NHL this season have connections with the Saskatoon Blades and the University of Saskatchewan Huskies. **Kevin Cheveldayoff**, who is the GM of the Winnipeg Jets, is a native of Saskatoon.



Glen Gulutzan

—Calgary Herald photo



Willie Desjardins

—Vancouver Province photo



Todd McLellan

—YouTube photo



Mike Babcock

—YouTube photo

**Calgary Flames**

**Saskatoon Blades:**

Centre, 1991-92. One season

**U of S Huskies:**

Centre, 1992-94. Two seasons

**Vancouver Canucks**

**U of S Huskies:**

Centre, 1978-83. Five seasons

**Saskatoon Blades:**

Head coach, 1997-98. One season

\*In Saskatoon Sports Hall

**Edmonton Oilers**

**Saskatoon Blades:**

Centre, 1983-87. Four seasons

**U of S Huskies:**

Centre, 1990-91. One season

**Toronto Maple Leafs**

**Saskatoon Blades:**

Defence, 1980-81. One season

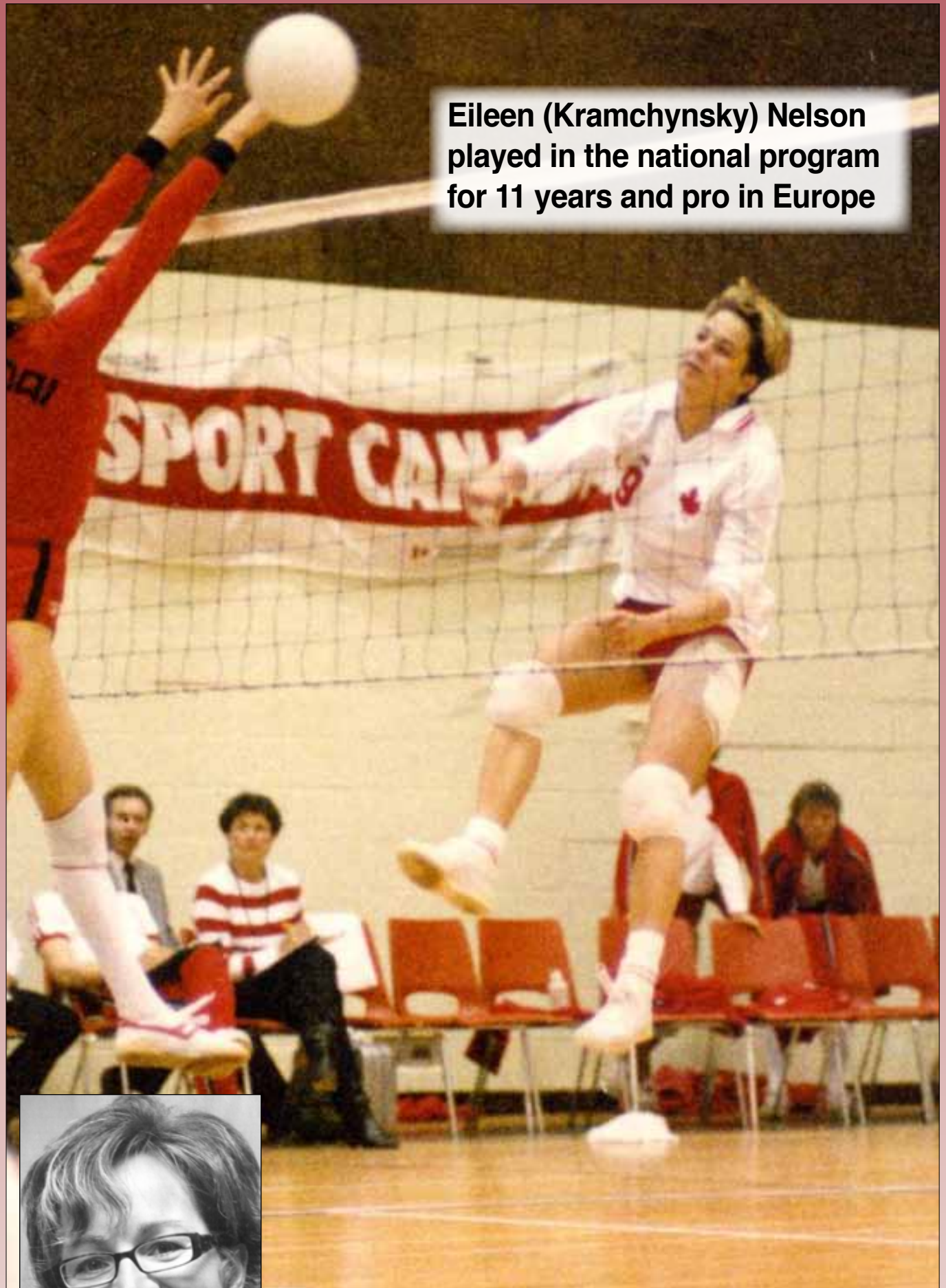
**U of S Huskies:**

Defence, 1981-82.

One season, red-shirt

**Sask Volleyball**

**Big hitters**



Eileen (Kramchynsky) Nelson played in the national program for 11 years and pro in Europe

—Copy of action photo of Nelson provided by Lorne Sawula

**Frank Enns, Eileen Nelson and Melanie Sanford**

are being inducted into the Sask Volleyball Hall of Fame in April. All three are enshrined in the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame.

Frank Enns has coached age group clubs, the provincial men's team, the U of S Huskies men's team, the Canadian men's team in the World Student Games and Canada's junior women in the world championship



Melanie Sanford won three Canadian titles with the U of S and played on the national team and pro in Japan and Italy. She has been an assistant coach at the University of Alberta and Saskatchewan and head coach in Concordia and Regina, as well as coaching Canada's junior women's team and Canada's senior women's B team

