



# Taking it to the street

**\*Michael Linklater** a key player in Saskatoon's new outdoor basketball court

**\*Michael Linklater** started playing basketball at age 12 on the outdoor court at St. Mary's Elementary School in Pleasant Hill.

With his Hoist the Hoops campaign and initiative, Linklater is getting a new generation in the game.

Called Pawâtêtân Court — Cree for *Let's Dream Together*; Linklater is Cree — the court is in Victoria Park in River Landing near Spadina Crescent and Avenue C. There is a full court, two half courts and five practice courts, all covered with an acrylic surface, plus bleachers.

Canadian Tire Jumpstart charities helped to make this happen.

Hoist  
the  
HOOPS



Michael Linklater played for the Mount Royal Mustangs, the Canadian champion University of Saskatchewan Huskies, the CEBL champion Saskatchewan Rustlers and for Canada on the 3-on-3 World Tour

## Lang has the world at her feet

**\*Alison Lang** of Saskatoon was inducted as an athlete into the Canadian Basketball Hall of Fame this summer.

Lang played high school basketball for four seasons with the Walter Murray Marauders.

At the University of Oregon in Eugene, she was named the Ducks' MVP three times from 1982 through 1984. She still holds the Oregon record for scoring average in a season, at 23.9 points per game, career, at 19.2 points per game, and blocked shots in a season, with 140.

Lang was 18 when she was selected for the Canadian national team.

Alison's younger sister, **Judy Lang**, played for the University of Saskatchewan Huskiettes for two seasons, 1981-83.

Alison's son, **Ryker Wuttke**, is in his fourth season with the Huskies.

### Lang on Canadian national team

1979 World championship.....	Seoul, South Korea	3rd
1979 Pan-American Games.....	San Juan, Puerto Rico	3rd
1981 World University Games ...	Bucharest, Romania	6th
1983 World championship.....	Brazil	9th
1983 Pan-American Games.....	Caracas, Venezuela	4th
1984 Olympics .....	Los Angeles, U.S.	4th

Two other inductees in the Canadian Basketball Hall of Fame have connections to Saskatoon:

### Athlete **\*Pat Lawson**

Lawson played for the University of Saskatchewan Huskiettes that won the Western Intercollegiate title in all four of her seasons with the team, coached the Nutana Collegiate Blues to the high school senior girls provincial title in 1954, coached the Huskiettes to the league title four times, played for the Saskatoon Adilman Aces that won the Canadian senior championship in 1959 and played for the Canadian team that finished fourth in the 1959 Pan-American Games.



— Greystone yearbook

**Pat Lawson**

### Coach **Paul Thomas**

Thomas, who is from Niagara Falls, ON., was the head coach of the University of Saskatchewan Huskies in 1954, 1955 and 1957.

Thomas was the coach of the Canadian national team that finished 13th in the 1952 Olympics and fourth in the 1974 World University Games.



**Kevin Harbidge**

**Kevin Harbidge**, a teacher at Holy Cross High School, is the recipient of two awards for high school sports.

Harbidge was given the Saskatchewan High School Athletic Association Service Award for leadership and promotion of high school sport.

He also received a Coaching Merit Award from the Saskatoon Secondary Schools Athletic Directorate for coaching for 20 seasons or 15 years.

Harbidge played for the Holy Cross Crusaders in the late 1970s.

He's gone on to coach frosh, junior and senior teams at Holy Cross, as well as community basketball. He was coach of the Crusaders senior girls team that won the provincial title in 2010 and 2011 and the Crusaders senior boys team that finished second at provincials in 2013 and 2014.

Harbidge has always made a point to platoon, switching all five players on the court so everyone gets in the game.

"I remember watching him getting all players a chance to play by switching up all five players every three minutes," said **\*Dave Elder**, a teaching colleague of Harbidge. "Holy Cross was losing in a provincial high school final and he stayed true. The team went on to win that game and a provincial championship. That was him doing the right thing. Good on Kevin."



— Saskatoon StarPhoenix  
**Alison Lang**

## Hall inductees who've been league scoring leader

**Barb (Drake) Wilson**.....Evan Hardy Souls, Saskatoon High School Basketball League 1968-69

**Dean Faris**.....Regina Thom Trojans, Regina High School Basketball League 1970-71  
University of Saskatchewan Huskies, Canada West University 1973-74

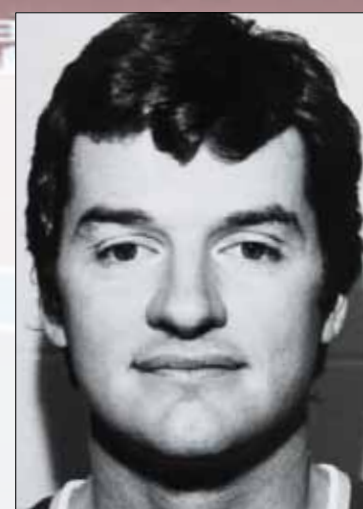
**Alison Lang**.....Walter Murray Marauders, Saskatoon High School Basketball League 1978-79

**Gene McWillie**.....Tech Tigers, Saskatoon High School Basketball League 1966-67

**Jacki Nichol**.....E.D. Feehan Troys, Saskatoon High School Basketball League 1989-90

**Judy (Holt) Vance**.....Saskatoon Aces, Saskatoon Basketball Association 1957-58

**Heather Witzel**.....University of Victoria Vikettes, Western Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Association 1968-69  
University of Saskatchewan Huskiettes, Western Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Association 1970-71



**Dean Faris**

# Thank you Hall of Fame sponsors

- Al Anderson's Source for Sports
- B & B Tree Service
- The Bob Adams Foundation
- Brow Down Beauty Bar
- Cherry Insurance
- DCG Philanthropic Services Inc.
- Discover Saskatoon
- Dive Sask
- Holiday Inn, Holiday Inn Express
- Hunter's Bowling
- Ken Cheveldayoff, MLA
- Kinsmen Club of Saskatoon
- Realty Executives Saskatoon
- Saskatoon Blades
- Sask Lotteries



# Hall directors

- Lisa Down
- Dave Elder
- Bob Fawcett
- Kelsie Hendry
- Dana Kidd
- Dave Moore
- Bob Reindl
- Kerry Tarasoff
- Jim Wilson
- Phyllis Wilson
- Dale Yellowlees

Members at large  
Mary Green  
Keith McLean  
Jerry Shoemaker  
Jacki Nichol  
Bob Florence

# On with the throw

Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame inductees who've been quarterback

## High school, junior, university, pro and national team

- Ron Adam**.....City Park Maroons, Saskatoon Hilltops, Saskatchewan Roughriders  
**Mark Andrews**.....Moose Jaw Peacock Tornadoes, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Todd Baker**.....Walter Murray Marauders, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Sheldon Ball**.....Holy Cross Crusaders Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Jeff Balzer**.....Walter Murray Marauders, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Trevor Barss**.....Walter Murray Marauders, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Bob Belak**.....Nutana Blues, Saskatoon Hilltops. B.C. Lions halfback  
**Colin Belsher**.....Moose Jaw Peacock Tornadoes, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Steve Bilan**.....E.D. Feehan Trojans, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies, Team Canada flag  
**Chase Bradshaw**.....Evan Hardy Souls, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies, Team Canada flag  
**Jason Crumb**.....Okanagan Sun, Dickinson State Blue Hawks, University of Saskatchewan Huskies. B.C. Lions defensive back  
**David Earl**.....Aden Bowman Bears, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Dean Faris**.....Regina Thom Trojans  
**Jon Farthing**.....Holy Cross Crusaders, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Mark Feader**.....Evan Hardy Souls, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Rich Gabruch**.....E.D. Feehan Trojans, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Tony Gagnon**.....Evan Hardy Souls, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Gregg Galan**.....Regina O'Neill Titans, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Clayton Garnett**.....Aden Bowman Bears, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Byron Harvie**.....Bedford Road Redmen, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Doug Humbert**.....Evan Hardy Souls  
**Tim Irvine**.....Nutana Blues, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Tyrell Kerpan**.....Loreburn Aztecs, Saskatoon Hilltops, Vancouver Island Raiders  
**Orest Kindrachuk**.....Nutana Blues  
**Tyler Knudsen**.....E.D. Feehan Trojans, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Keith Magnuson**.....Aden Bowman Bears  
**Bill Mathison**.....City Park Maroons, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Tom McClocklin**.....City Park Maroons, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Rob Moore**.....Regina Rams, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Ron Morris**.....Bedford Road Redmen, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Jace Muggli**.....St. Joseph Guardians, Saskatoon Hilltops, Team Canada flag  
**Miles Murray**.....City Park Cowboys, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Garrett Oliver**.....Evan Hardy Souls, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Jordan Penner**.....Bedford Road Redmen, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Dave Pickett**.....Regina Champion Maroons, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Ryan Reid**.....Coldstream, B.C. Kalamalka Lakers, Sacramento, CA., American River College Beavers, Okanagan Sun, University of Saskatchewan Huskies, Carolina Cobras, New Haven Ninjas and Charleston Swamp Foxes, all three in Arena League  
**Shane Reider**.....Moose Jaw Central Cyclones, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Dave Reidy**.....Moose Jaw Vanier Vikings, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Tom Sargeant**.....Aden Bowman Bears  
**Brent Schneider**.....Walter Murray Marauders, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Ralph Schoenfeld**.....Aden Bowman Bears, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Manitoba Bisons, Winnipeg Blue Bombers  
**Parker Siemens**.....Aden Bowman Bears, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Henry Strelloff**.....Bedford Road Redmen, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Doug Tastad**.....Walter Murray Marauders, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Bret Thompson**.....Walter Murray Marauders, Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Saskatchewan Huskies  
**Ken Wasden**.....Aden Bowman Bears, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Aaron Wignes**.....Evan Hardy Souls, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Brad Williamson**.....Marion Graham Falcons, Saskatoon Hilltops  
**Sean Zaychowsky**.....Saskatoon Hilltops, University of Alberta Golden Bears

This is the 99th year  
for high school football  
in Saskatoon

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



**Landon Kennedy**  
Swimming

Landon Kennedy of Saskatoon won nine medals in swimming in the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) in Halifax in July.

Kennedy, who is Métis, competed in the 14U age class, winning four silver and two bronze in individual events and two gold and one silver in relays.

Kennedy's coach with the Goldfins Swim Club is **Jennifer Robinson**.

Among other Goldfins swimmers: **Max Thille**, 14U boys, won six medals: five gold, one silver.

**Landon Dubiel**, 16U boys, won six medals: two gold, two silver, two bronze.

**Jacob Cameron**, 19U boys, won three medals: one silver, two bronze.

**Victoria Darling**, 16U girls, won seven medals: three silver, four bronze.

**Elena Park**, 19U girls, won one silver medal.



**Myah Phillips**  
Wrestling

Myah Phillips of Saskatoon won silver at the junior (U20) Pan-American wrestling championships in Santiago, Chile in July.

Phillips had a 3-1 record in the 76 kg class, the heaviest division in the event for women. She is a member of the Saskatoon Wrestling Club (SWC) and the University of Saskatchewan Huskies.

Phillips finished 12th at the world U20 championships in Jordan in August.

**Caitlin Clatney** of the SWC/Huskies was sixth in the 59 kg class at Pan Ams and 11th at worlds.

Phillips and Clatney qualified for the Pan American championships by winning the Canadian junior title in their weight class in March in Waterloo, ON.

**Shane Bradley** of the SWC/Huskies was a coach on the Canadian team at worlds.

**Curtis Leung** of Regina was an official.



**Josh Nagy**  
Golf

Josh Nagy of Saskatoon won the Saskatchewan Amateur men's golf title in July at the North Battleford Golf & Country Club.

Nagy shot par 72 on his first two rounds, 67 on his third round and 68 on his final round to finish at 9 under. Nagy is a member of the Saskatoon Riverside Country Club.

Nagy finished 39th at the 118th Canadian Men's Amateur in August at the Pulpit Club in Caledon, ON. He shot 11 over 295 through four rounds. **Ashton McCulloch** of Ontario was the winner at 7 under 277.

Nagy won the Saskatchewan junior title in 2016 and 2020. He is going into his fourth year at Robert Morris University in Pittsburgh, majoring in finance.

**Chase Pochylko** of Riverside was second in the 2023 Saskatchewan Amateur at 3 under.

**Arcin Franklin** of the Riverside Club won the Saskatchewan bantam (13-14) boys title at 8 over.



**Dalena Juarez**  
Gymnastics

Dalena Juarez, the founder of Ritmo Gymnastics in Saskatoon, was with the Canadian delegation for the World Gymnaestrada this summer in Amsterdam.

The non-competitive event has been held every four years since 1953, featuring performances in dance, aerobics and gymnastics by youth and adults.

Juarez lives in Regina and is the operations manager for Gymnastics Saskatchewan.



**Keiran Dyck**  
Swimming

Keiran Dyck, 15, of the Saskatoon Goldfins Swim Club won the 400 metre individual medley in the 14-15 age class at the Speedo Canadian swimming championships in Toronto this summer.

Dyck competed in seven other races, finishing fourth in the 200 IM and 400 freestyle, fifth in 800 freestyle, seventh in 100 breaststroke, ninth in 50 breaststroke, 11th in 100 freestyle and 13th in 200 breaststroke.

Seven other Goldfins were at nationals:

**Jayden Bilous**, 20  
**Abigail Gebhardt**, 17  
**Brayden Hemeon**, 21  
**Ethan Hemeon**, 20  
**Holden Lees**, 17  
**Minh Nguyen**, 16  
**Bryce Tierney**, 17

**Steven Hitchings** in the head coach of the Goldfins Club.

**Gary Cheung** is the head coach of the Goldfins' age group program.

## Passings

**John Devison**  
1935-2023, age 88  
Boxing

At 24, John Devison won a Canadian boxing title. The bantamweight bout was in November of 1959 in Quebec City. Devison, 117½ pounds from Glace Bay, N.S., met **Marcel Gendron**, a 114-pound fighter competing in his home town.

In the early rounds, Gendron jabbed. Devison weaved.

In the middle rounds, Gendron connected with straight lefts to Devison's stomach.

They went toe-to-toe in the eighth. Advantage Devison.

They went the distance, going 12 rounds without a knockdown. Devison scored a split decision.

Devison retained or regained the Canadian championship three more times in the next five years. He had a career record of 14-10, with five of his wins by knockout.

Devison became a coach in Halifax in 1965, later moving to Saskatchewan to be the fulltime coach at the Saskatoon Hub City Boxing Club and securing its bid to be a national training centre.

Devison was the technical director and coach on the Canadian boxing team at the world under-19 championships in Montreal in 1992.

He was a coach on the Saskatchewan boxing team at the 2007 Canada Winter Games in Whitehorse, Yukon.

He coached Big River's **Stuart Twardzik**, the middleweight gold medallist in the 2008 Youth Commonwealth Games in India.

John's son, **John Devison Jr.**, finished second in the lightweight division at the Canadian junior boxing championships in Regina in 1979.



**John Devison**



— Saskatoon StarPhoenix

**Kevin Frey**

## Complete game for Frey

**\*Kevin Frey** was inducted into the Baseball Saskatchewan Hall of Fame in Battleford this summer.

Frey is in the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame with the 1982 Liners. A left-handed pitcher, he was in his first season with the Liners, who finished second at the Canadian senior championship.

Frey also played for the Saskatoon Cardinals bantams, the Saskatoon Astros midgets, the Saskatoon Nationals seniors, the Rempel Bros. Cubs seniors and on Saskatchewan's team in the 1981 Canada Summer Games.

Other inductees in the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall included **Ralph Mabee**, who was the manager of the Saskatoon Gems in the 1950s, pitcher **Glen Shockey** of Saskatoon, pitcher and coach **Brian Peters** of Saskatoon and the **1972 Saskatoon Midget Raiders**, who hit a championship triple, winning the midget title in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and Western Canada.

# Touching base

With inductees in the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame

## One more time for Robison

**Ron Robison** said the 2023-24 season will be his final year as commissioner of the Western Hockey League. This will be Robison's 24th year with the league. **\*Ed Chynoweth** was president of the WHL for 21 years. Robison played for the University of Saskatchewan Huskies in 1973-74 and was an assistant coach from 1979-81 . . . The McEwen brothers from White-wood are Stanley Cup champions. **Brent McEwen** was an amateur scout with the Los Angeles Kings when they won the NHL title in 2012 and 2014. **Brad McEwen**



**Ron Robison**

is an amateur scout with the Vegas Golden Knights, who won the Stanley Cup this year. Brent McEwen's bio includes being a forward, assistant coach and head coach with the University of Saskatchewan Huskies and the general manager of the WHL's Saskatoon Blades . . . The Warick family from the Top Notch Masters Club in Saskatoon competed in the Canadian masters track and field championships for ages 35 and over in Langley, B.C., in August. **\*Judy Warick** was in the 200 and 400 metres and discus, husband **\*Randy Warick** in the 100, 200 and 400 metres and son **Jason Warick** in the 1,500 and 5,000 metres . . . **Nicole Ostertag** of the Saskatoon Track and Field Club/U of S Huskies won the heptathlon title in the Athletics Canada Bell Canadian track and field championships in July in Langley, B.C. Ostertag was first in the field in the 100-metre hurdles, 200 metres and shot put. Athletic Canada's qualifying standard for the world championships later this summer in Budapest, Hungary was 6,480 points; Ostertag scored 6,019. The top 14 at worlds this year broke 6,000 points. Nicole's mother **Lesia (Phillipow) Ostertag** finished seventh in pentathlon at nationals in 1980 Sherbrooke, QC., in 1980. Her father **\*Dave Ostertag** won gold in decathlon in the 1985 Canada Games in Saint John, N.B. . . . Three other Saskatchewan athletes have won the Canadian senior pentathlon/heptathlon title: **\*Diane Jones Konihowski** of Saskatoon, **\*Janet (Scott) Gattinger** of Saskatoon and **Briane Theisen Eaton** of Humboldt. **Karen Page** of New Zealand and **Linda Spenst** of B.C., both trained in Saskatoon with multi-event coach **\*Lyle Sanderson**. Page and Spenst both won a Canadian pentathlon title . . . **Michelle Harrison** of the Saskatoon Track and Field Club won the 100-metre hurdles title at the recent nationals. At the world championships in Budapest, Harrison was 20th in the semifinal round, based on times. Eight women advanced to the final. Harrison's coach is **\*Jason Reindl**. Harrison's previous coaches include **\*Todd Johnston** and **\*Ivan Tam**. **Savannah Sutherland** of Borden was 16th in the semifinals in the 400-metre hurdles at worlds. Sutherland went to Bishop James Mahoney High School in Saskatoon in Grade 11 and 12. Her coaches in the Saskatoon Track and Field Club were Reindl and **\*Lee Wolfater**. In 2021, Sutherland broke the Saskatchewan record in the 400-metre hurdles that was held by **\*Gwen Wall** for 39 years.

## Award for Stroh, Brinklow

**\*Brandon Stroh** received a Service Award from the Saskatoon Secondary Schools Athletic Directorate this year. Stroh has coached high school football. He is the principal at Holy Cross High School. **\*Scott Brinklow** received a Service Award from the Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association for the North East District. Brinklow is a teacher at Tisdale Middle and Secondary School. He has coached high school basketball, track and field and volleyball and officiated high school football and volleyball . . . **\*Pat Barry** is the head coach and **\*Michelle Duchene** the general manager of Saskatoon Valkyries, who won the Western Women's Canadian Football League title this season. The Valkyries went 6-0 in the regular season and playoffs, outscoring their opponents by 179 points. The Valkyries' defensive co-ordinator is **Wyatt Carleton**. Wyatt's father **\*Ed Carleton** is enshrined in the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame. Three other Valkyries have parents in the Hall of Fame: Equipment manager **Cori Thorstad** and receiver **Reed Thorstad**



**Brandon Stroh**



**A** Celebration of Life of **\*Al Ledingham** was held at the Gordie Howe Sports Complex in September.

Ledingham played football for the City Park Maroons and the Hilltops and coached high school, the Hilltops and the University of Saskatchewan Huskies.

## Notes & quotes from Celebration of Life

Guitarist and singer **\*Darrell Burko** sang *Michael Row the Boat Ashore* and *Will the Circle Be Unbroken*.

"Right behind us, where some young children are playing football, there is a youth football team named after Al."

— Celebrant **Jeff Marshall**

"He loved the game. He coached the game. He taught the game. He was always looking for a challenge; always looking to improve something."

— **Bob Brennan** played on a Huskies team coached by Ledingham

"Assiduous. Scrupulous. Conscientious. Meticulous. These are all perfect descriptors of the character of Al Ledingham. Who else do you know who painted at least part of his house every summer?"

"Al's leadership ability was quickly apparent. He immediately became known for his classroom management, academic brilliance, and firm yet friendly relationships with students and teachers alike

"When he became a principal he supported the activities of students of all interests. He knew the benefits of stretching one's interest beyond the classroom, so he was fully behind efforts in pursuit of music, theatre, art and literature."

— **John Mooney** and Ledingham

were colleagues on staff at Evan Hardy Collegiate

are daughters of **\*Brian Thorstad** and quarterback **Alex Eyolfson** is the daughter of **\*Jay Kost** . . . Athlete **\*Jeff Adamson**, builder **\*Bill Seymour**, the **\*1998 Huskies football team** and the 2004 Huskies men's volleyball team coached by **\*Brian Gavlas** are among the 2023 inductees into the University of Saskatchewan Wall of Fame . . . **\*Dan Farthing** was the strength and conditioning coach and **\*Graeme Bell** a fullback with the CFL's Saskatchewan Roughriders that won the Grey Cup in 2013. The team is being added to the Rider Plaza of Honour this season. Farthing is a former Huskie, while Bell played for the Saskatoon Hilltops and the Huskies. Four other Huskie alumni played for the 2013 Roughriders: offensive lineman **Ben Heenan**, receiver **Scott McHenry**, defensive lineman/long snapper **Levi Steinhauer** and defensive back **Paul Woldu** . . . **\*Tom Graham's** sons, **Robert Graham** and **Emmett Graham**, won the senior men's title at the Saskatchewan beach volleyball championships in August in Regina . . . Ice dance partners **Tessa Virtue** and **Scott Moir** of London, ON., were inducted into the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame in October. In her acceptance speech, Virtue mentioned a Saskatoon sports physiotherapist. She said: "**Bruce Craven**, thank you for changing the way we approach sport and for introducing me to a world with less leg pain." Also inducted in the Hall was the **Randy Ferbey** rink from Alberta. In a five-year run from 2001 through 2005, Ferbey, lead **Marcel Rocque**, second **Scott Pfeifer** and third **David Nedohin**, who threw skip stones, won the Brier as champions of men's curling in Canada four times. In the 2004 final in Saskatoon, **Mark Dacey**, a native of Saskatoon skipping the rink from Nova Scotia, scored three in the 10th end to defeat Ferbey 10-9.



**Mark Tennant**

1944-2023, age 79

Team inductee: 1978-79, 1979-80, 1980-81 University of Saskatchewan Huskiettes volleyball

Builder inductee: Volleyball

# College of knowledge

Tennant's volleyball presence began as a high school student in the '60s

Mark Tennant won the Manitoba provincial high school volleyball title in 1962, playing for the Vincent Massey Collegiate Trojans of Winnipeg.

There was more to come.

He was a setter with the Manitoba Bisons, who won the Canadian junior championship in 1965, and with the university Bisons, who won the Western intercollegiate title in 1968.

Moving to B.C. to continue his education, he played for the Vancouver Marcs, who were second in the 1969 Canadian senior club championships.

In 1971, Tennant came to Saskatoon to teach in the School of Physical Education at the University of Saskatchewan and coach the Huskiettes women's volleyball team.

Tennant coached the Huskiettes for 26 years, winning the conference title seven times, going to nationals 10 times and winning the Canadian university championship three times.

Talk about home grown: 21 of the 24 Huskiettes student-athletes who won a Canadian championship were from Saskatchewan.

Volleyball became a sign of spring in Saskatoon in 1973; Tennant started SuperVolley. The annual event grew into the largest volleyball tournament in North America, drawing men's and women's teams

from across Canada as well as the United States and Mexico.

The Canadian men's and women's national teams played feature matches at SuperVolley.

International volleyball was not just a once-a-year thing. National teams from Japan, the Netherlands,

West Germany and the Soviet Union played in Saskatoon, thanks to Tennant.

Saskatoon and Edmonton were the hosts for the world junior women's volleyball championship in 1999. Tennant was chair of the organizing committee.



The Huskiettes had an ongoing exchange with Japan because of Tennant



Japan was the first country to win gold in women's volleyball in the Olympics, outscoring opponents 238-93 in five matches at the 1964 Games in Tokyo.

Tennant thought training with and playing against a club from Japan would be an education for the Huskiettes. He made it happen.

Consider the fall of 1983. Japan's national university champions, Nittaidai, came to Saskatoon.

In 1984 the Huskiettes went to Japan.

The exchange continued for years.

Tennant said it was about more than volleyball.

"(We) provide opportunities that require a great deal of dedication, but pay off tremendous dividends in terms of individual growth," he said.

The World University Games are big stuff. Held every two years in both summer and winter, the Games include dozens of sports, from alpine skiing to wrestling.

Tennant started serving on the volleyball technical committee with the International University Sports Federation (FISU) at the 1983 World University Games in Edmonton.

He went the distance, going to 18 University Games. He went from Yugoslavia to England, from Spain to Thailand, continuing through to the 2019 Games in Italy.

The Fédération Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) called on Tennant for technical know-how and organizing commissions as well as being an international instructor.



Mark Tennant lends a hand at the 2013 World University Games in Kazan, Russia

## Pro/collegiate baseball in Saskatoon

Saskatoon Berry Pickers, Western Canada League.....	1910-11	Saskatoon Riot, North Central League.....	1994
Saskatoon Quakers, Western Canada League.....	1913-14, 1919-21	Saskatoon Riot, Prairie League .....	1995
Saskatoon Gems, Saskatchewan League .....	1952-54	Saskatoon Smokin' Guns, Prairie League.....	1996
Saskatoon Gems, Western Canada League.....	1955-57	Saskatoon Stallions, Prairie League.....	1997
Saskatoon Commodores, Western Canada League .....	1958	Saskatoon Yellow Jackets, Western Major Baseball League....	2002-14
Saskatoon Commodores, CanAm League .....	1959	Saskatoon Legends, Canadian Baseball League .....	2003
Saskatoon Commodores, Western Canada League .....	1960-61, 1963	Saskatoon Berries, Western Canadian Baseball League.....	2024
Saskatoon Blues, Western Canada League.....	1964		

# Mound game

## Big time baseball coming back to town

The Saskatoon Berries have joined the Western Canadian Baseball League.

They are the 11th club in the collegiate league, which already has teams in Moose Jaw, Regina, Weyburn and Swift Current in Saskatchewan, and Brooks, Fort McMurray, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Okotoks and Sylvan Lake in Alberta.



This year, teams started the 56-game regular season in May. Playoffs were in August.

The league champion wins the **Harry Hallis Memorial Trophy**. Hallis, a merchant in the North Battleford district, supported baseball in Saskatchewan in the 1950s.

The Berries' home games will be at Cairns Field. The head coach is **Joe Carnahan**, a native of Wisconsin who was a two-time batting champion and twice the league MVP in the WCBL with Swift Current. He also coached Swift Current in the WCBL and minor ball in Swift Current.

The Berries are owned by **Mike Priestner** and **Colin Priestner**, who also own the Saskatoon Blades of the Western Hockey League and the Saskatchewan Rush of the National Lacrosse League.

## Berry Pickers at the start

In 1910, **Jim Butler and Ivan Byers**, the founding partners of Butler & Byers real estate investment and insurance brokers, **Fred Kerr**, who owned Saskatoon's first real estate company, merchant **J.F. Cairns**, and **Frank Miley**, who was the manager of Daylight Theatre, bought the Medicine Hat Hatters in the Western Canada League and brought the team to Saskatoon. The club's new name: The Berry Pickers.

City businessmen said they'd give Saskatoon's best player in its first home game a bushel of prizes. **Ernie Hewer** hit two singles, a home run and starred in the outfield.

Hewer, a tailor, had moved to Saskatoon a few years earlier when the place he was working for in Toronto expanded to the Prairies. Hewer's cleaning and pressing shop was next door to Miley's theatre on 22nd Street.

Besides baseball, Hewer was a 10-pin bowler and a hockey goalie.

## Behind the plate

**Sammy Beer** of Oregon was a spitball pitcher with the Saskatoon Quakers. Beer knew that **John 'Beans' Reardon**, who'd been doing games in the Pacific Coast League in California, wanted to pursue a career as an umpire, so in 1920 Beer recommended Reardon, 23, to the Western Canada League.

Reardon was in the Western Canada League for two seasons. He went on to be a Major League umpire in the 1930, 1934, 1939, 1943 and 1949 World Series.

Umpire Reardon is on the cover of the April 23, 1949 edition of the *Saturday Evening Post* magazine in the **Norman Rockwell** illustration *Game Called Because of Rain*.

Among Beer's teammates with the Saskatoon Quakers were pitcher **Rudy Kallio** of Portland, who played three years in the majors for the Detroit Tigers and Boston Red Sox, and catcher **Roxy Walters** of San Francisco, who played 11 years in the majors for the Red Sox, New York Yankees and Cleveland Indians.