

SASKATOON SPORTS HALL OF FAME

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September 2010
to November 2010

Newsletter

saskatoonsportshalloffame.com

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



Special invitation to each of you

I bring you greetings from the board of directors and welcome to this edition of our newsletter.

Our annual induction ceremony and dinner is set for Saturday, Nov. 6 at TCU Place. This marks the 25th anniversary of our induction proceedings and we extend an invitation to all past inductees and board members to come out to honour the inductees for this year.

Those being inducted this year have contributed to their sports at the local, provincial, national and Olympic levels. We are proud to recognize their achievements and contributions to the Saskatoon sporting community.

The proceedings of Nov. 6 are a special evening for the inductees, their family and friends. Please join us in making this a special evening for them as we honour their accomplishments and give them great memories of their induction.

Touching base

Ralph Schoenfeld (builder inductee 2005) was a quarterback and punter with the CFL's Winnipeg Blue Bombers in 1967 and 1968. As a high school athlete, he won provincial basketball championships as a player with the Aden Bowman Bears in 1961 and 1962. He added two more provincial high school basketball titles as coach of the Bears in 1988 and 1989. He also coached the Bedford Road Redmen at the annual BRIT basketball tournament. Schoenfeld was on the coaching staff for both basketball and football with the University of Saskatchewan Huskies and with the Saskatoon Hilltops. Schoenfeld is now a board member with the Hall...

Dan Servetnyk (athlete inductee 2003, football and wrestling; team inductee 1986, Hilltops) organized a sports dinner that was held in July in Saskatoon. Money from the event helps build a wheelchair accessible playground and sensory station for children with autism at Prince Philip Elementary School. Guest speakers at the dinner were Hall of Fame inductees **Colette Bourgonje, Dave King, Bill Seymour** and **Jerry Shoemaker**...



Schoenfeld

Jerry Friesen (athlete inductee 2008, football; team inductee University of Saskatchewan Huskies football, 2000) was a guest coach at training camp this year with the CFL Saskatchewan Roughriders. "I look at what I can glean off coach (Ken) Miller and the way he operates his football team and what I can learn about the Saskatchewan Roughriders and take that back to Alberta," Friesen told the Saskatchewan Valley News newspaper, based in Rosthern. Friesen is in his ninth season as head coach of the University of Alberta Golden Bears.

Former NHL forward **Brett Hull**, inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame, is the guest speaker for the annual lunch for the U of S Huskies hockey team. Off the Lunch is Oct. 15 at Prairieland Park. Money goes to support the Huskies men's hockey team. For tickets, phone Tammy at 665-3244. The head coach of the **Dave Adolph** (team inductee 1999, Huskies hockey) ... **Cliff Korol** (athlete inductee 1991, hockey) lives in Chicago and goes to most of the home games of the Blackhawks, who are the reigning Stanley Cup champions. Korol played right wing in the NHL for Chicago from 1969-70 to 1979-80. He was with the Blackhawk Alumni Association when it began in 1987 and later served as president of the group ... **Mark Tennant** (team inductee 1992, U of S women's volleyball) was on international assignment this summer. Tennant was in Alanya, Turkey as supervisor for the men's and women's world university beach



Hull

ACE OF CLUBS
Five members of the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame are among the inaugural inductees into the Saskatchewan Golf Hall of Fame

ATHLETES
Barbara Danaher Inducted into Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame in 1988
Pat Fletcher (inducted 2007)
Jim Scissons (inducted 1986)
Gerry Street (inducted 1988)

BUILDERS
Dr. Jack Leddy (inducted 1987)
Peter Semko (inducted 2000)

volleyball championships. He also met with organizers of the 2013 Summer Universiade in Kazan, Russia. Tennant is a former member of the board with the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame and continues to volunteer with the organization ... **Dane Pischke**, who is a son of **Cindy Pischke** (team inductee 1992, U of S women's volleyball) and longtime University of Manitoba Bisons men's volleyball coach **Garth Pischke**, is the provincial male volleyball player of the year in the 20U age class in Manitoba, as selected by the Manitoba Volleyball Association. Dane receives the Mark Tennant Award. Tennant is a native of Miniota, Man.

Blaine Knoll (team inductee 1987, Merchants softball; builder inductee 2010, multiple sports) stepped into the spotlight as a junior baseball player in Yorkton. A touring team from the U.S. was going to play a senior club from Yorkton in a feature exhibition game. Instead the Yorkton juniors played the **Satchel Paige All-Stars**, led by Paige who was a star pitcher in the Negro Leagues and later the majors. Knoll, a teenager, stepping to the plate against a pitcher who relieved Paige that day, hit a home run ... **Drew Burko** of Aden Bowman was named the all-star quarterback at the annual Canada Cup of football, won by Saskatchewan this summer in Wolfville, N.S. The event, for provincial all-star

teams, features players under 18. Drew is a son of **Darrell Burko**, who was inducted into the Hall of Fame as an assistant coach with the U of S Huskies football team in 2004 ... **Tom Graham** (team inductee 2006, U of S men's volleyball) was coach of the Saskatchewan under-19 men's volleyball team that finished sixth at the National Team Challenge Cup in Toronto this summer. The NTCC features provincial all-star teams and identifies players for the Canadian program ... **Jacqueline Lavallee** (athlete inductee 2008, basketball/soccer) was head coach of the Canadian team which finished 11th at the inaugural world under-17 female basketball championship this summer in Toulouse and Rodez, France.

MAKING THEIR MARK

Among places in Saskatoon named in honour of inductees into the Hall of Fame



COBEN CRESCENT
Muriel Coben, athlete inductee softball 1986



RON ATCHISON FIELD
Home of Hilltops clubhouse and the team's practice field
Ron Atchison, athlete inductee 1987, football



HASLAM ROADS
Eleanor (Haslam) Jensen, athlete inductee track and field 1988

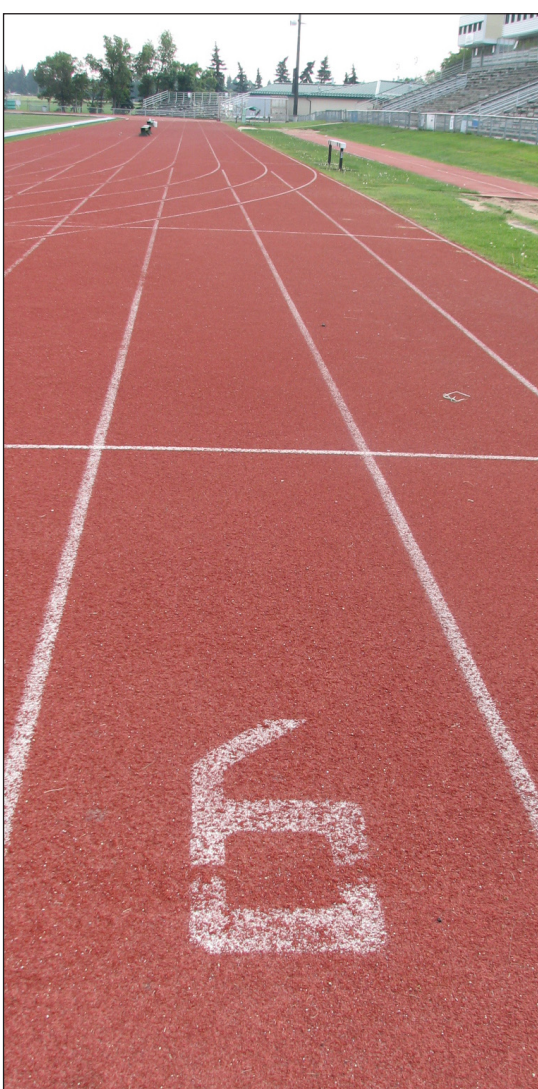


KONIHOWSKI ROAD, MCWILLIE AVENUE
Road named after Diane Jones Konihowski, athlete inductee, track and field 1986
Her husband John Konihowski is also an athlete inductee for football, track and field 2004
Gene McWillie, athlete inductee softball 1986



REVER ROAD
Maureen (Rever) DuWors, athlete inductee track and field 1986

If you know of other places which honour Hall of Fame inductees, contact bflorence@sp.canwest.com



PEZER ROADS
Vera Pezer, athlete inductee, curling, softball 1986



LAYCOE ROADS
Hal Laycoe, athlete inductee hockey 1986



CLARENCE DOWNEY OVAL
Clarence Downey, builder inductee, speed skating, 1986

GRIFFITHS STADIUM
Track and field facility, football stadium
Joe Griffiths, builder inductee 1987

Gina Smith (athlete inductee 1989, equestrian) is the assistant Chef d'equipe of the Canadian dressage team for the World Equestrian Games, Sept. 25 to Oct. 10 in Lexington, Ky. Smith, a native of Clavet now based in Brockville, Ont., competed in dressage in the 1984 and 1988 Olympics. She won a bronze medal in the dressage team event with Canada at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul.



—Equine Canada photo

CATCHING UP

with **BRENDA STANIFORTH**

■ **Brenda Staniforth**, a native of Lashburn, won the Canadian senior women's softball championship as a pitcher with the Saskatoon Harmony Centre in 1978 and 1980. She was inducted into the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame with the Harmony Centre teams in 1991. She competed for Canada at three Pan American Games, starting with Puerto Rico in 1979. She coached on the Canadian national team at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, finishing fifth, and the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia, where Canada was eighth. She is assistant principal at Banded Peak elementary school in Bragg Creek, Alta.



Brenda Staniforth
softball pitcher, 1980

How would you explain the success you've had as both a player and coach?

Brenda: I think I had some great opportunities to fill my lap. We played in junior nationals (for Lashburn) when it was held for the first time. Then I went to Harmony Centre and we were fortunate to go to senior nationals my first year. We got to go to Pan Ams when for the first time a club team qualified (to represent Canada). Then I got involved in coaching when softball became an Olympic sport. It was hard work, but I'd say good fortune at the same time.

What does being inducted into the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame mean to you now?

Brenda: I'm indebted. I've been added to three halls — Saskatoon Sports, Saskatchewan Sports and Softball Canada — and they are all very significant to me. When I think of Harmony Centre it's a part of life where people believed in me probably more than I did in myself.

What do you make of women's softball being taken out of the Olympics?

Brenda: It's real unfortunate. You have eight teams (at the Games) and they're all competitive. The top four may be better, but no one runs away with any game. (Having softball) in the Olympics is great incentive.

What would people who know you be surprised to hear about you?

Brenda: In terms of the people who played me, I hope who they saw in sport is the person they know I am. I think of myself now as an administrator. I try to coach, whatever the sport, by emphasizing team building and people skills, learning those things I learned so many years ago.

Are there lasting images or memories from when you were a player?

Brenda: I remember a definitive moment from my first senior nationals. In a round-robin game against Ontario they had a bit of a heyday against me. I learned from that. I had to get smarter in a hurry. When we played them again (in the 1978 final), I knew I couldn't throw the ball past them. I wasn't particularly one of the fastest pitchers in the land. I did practise a lot. The dropball was my forte.

Your coach with Harmony was Bob Stayner. Do you have stories about him?

Brenda: I have a lot of great memories about Bob — the confidence he showed in me, the opportunities he gave me. My dad always said Bob was the best coach I ever had. I still keep in touch with a lot of the Harmony Centre people. I think of those days in Saskatoon and those people. I so much wanted to be a member of that team. They were classy, worked hard. I learned a lot of lessons.

A friend saw Ron Atchison develop as a football player

He remembers being around Ron at a yard in a house in Saskatoon as Atchison practised doing long hikes.

Line up against the garage, Atchison said, and face me. "I'll hike to you."

After taking a couple of snaps from Atchison, the friend had seen enough.

"I'll move out of the way," he told Atchison. "Just hit the garage. It'll save me from the bruises."

Ron played 17 seasons with the Roughriders following two years with the Saskatoon Hilltops in the late 1940s. He was durable and dependable. For someone who liked to think of himself as just one of the guys, he was distinguished.

Although he was an all-star on the defensive line, he sometimes played centre. These were the days of two-way players in the CFL.

He'd tell the story of being centre for the Riders one game. By the time the game was done he had a black eye and a split lip. Being Atchison, he'd tell the story with a smile. For someone so rugged, he was big on smiling.

When Ron came to his first practice with the Hilltops he was wearing rubber boots. Throughout his CFL career he sometimes played in Hush Puppies.

In 1963, he played for the Riders in a Western semifinal that people still talk about. After losing the first game to the Calgary Stampeders 35-9 in the two-game, total-point series, the Riders looked they were finished.

Saskatchewan not only took Game 2, but with a win by 27 points, they won the semifinal.

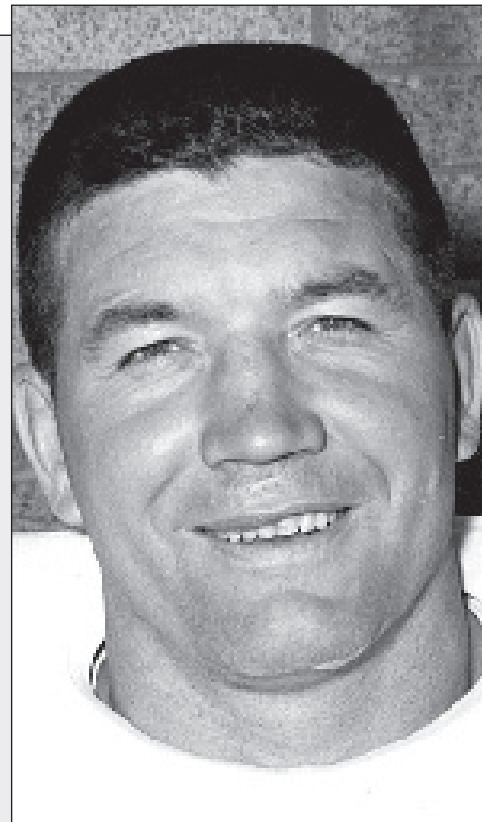
Ron was on the 1966 team that won the Riders' first Grey Cup. In his 17 years with the Riders, he travelled with the team sometimes by train. Sometimes he played in mud.

In August of 1969, with his 17 seasons with the Riders now done, the Hilltops held Ron Atchison Night on a Saturday night they played the St. James Rods. The Riders honoured him at a game in the fall, driving him and his wife Monica and their daughters Margaret and Kathy and son Gord around Taylor Field at half time of a game against the Winnipeg Blue Bombers on a Sunday afternoon. Ron was sitting in the back seat of the open convertible, wearing shoulder pads under his No. 41 jersey. He waved to the crowd.

The Hilltops' practice facility on Kilburn Avenue is called Atchison Field. Regina has Atchison Crescent.

People who saw Ron with the Riders remember not only his plays, but his character. People who did not see him play have heard stories of him.

The name continues. Ron Atchison's personality endures.



Ron Atchison 1930-2010

- Saskatchewan Roughriders defensive lineman from 1952 to 1968
- Member of 1966 Grey Cup champions
- CFL Hall of Fame 1978
- Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame 1980
- Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame 1987

Kaiser makes impact in hockey

Carl Kaiser of Winnipeg was a 24-year-old defenceman with the Saskatoon Quakers when they won the Pacific Coast Hockey League championship in 1951-52.

The Pacific Coast League became the Western Hockey League and Kasier went

on to play five seasons with the WHL's Vancouver Canucks. He was named to the Canucks' all-decade team for the 1950s.

Kaiser was inducted with the Quakers into the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame in 1992. He died in Winnipeg in April at age 83.

Passings

Carl Kaiser
1927-2010
hockey, team inductee

Jay Sim
1958-2010
softball, athlete inductee

Canadian Softball Hall of Fame inducts three from Saskatoon, Nov. 13 in Regina



Dave Moore

Saskatoon Hall builder inductee 2007

Moore has been an official at four Canadian senior men's softball championships and the women's slow pitch nationals. He was also an umpire at the International Softball Federation women's world championship in 1994. Moore is served on the executive of the Saskatoon Bridge City Umpires Association since 1977.



Noreen Murphy

Saskatoon Hall builder inductee 2008

Murphy was an assistant coach with Canada at the 1991 and 1995 ISF world junior women's championships and head coach in 2003. She has also been to two Olympics as coach. She was head coach for Canada at the Universiade in 2004 and with the 2005 elite team. Murphy led the Lorne's Lazars of Saskatoon to eight straight appearances at the national championships in midget, junior and senior women divisions. She won a Canadian championship as a player with the Saskatoon Harmony Centre in 1980.



Jacki Nichol

Saskatoon Hall athlete inductee 2005

Nichol was captain of the Canadian women's softball team at the 2000 Sydney Olympics. She is the only Canadian player to have competed in two ISF world junior championships, in 1987 and 1991. A shortstop, she was with the national team from 1998 to 2002, winning silver at 1999 Pan American Games and playing in the 2002 ISF world championship in Saskatoon. Nichol played in the Canadian championships 13 times, highlighted by a national title in 2000.

Hall of Fame nomination forms

At saskatoonsportshalloffame.com

Hall of Fame inductee plaques, exhibits

Displayed on walls, in showcases of Field House

Hall of Fame
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Past president Don Cousins
Vice-president Ralph Schoenfeld
Secretary Jacki Nichol
Treasurer Ken Gunn
Gerry Heskett
Noreen Murphy
Bob Reindl

- Bill Seymour
Jerry Shoemaker
Phyllis Wilson
Members at large
Bob Florence
Walter Mudge
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25th annual induction dinner scheduled for Nov. 6 at TCU Place

For tickets to 2010 induction ceremony and banquet phone 979-0684

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| ● Athlete inductee
Brian Gavlas, volleyball | ● Athlete inductee
Melanie Sanford, volleyball | ● Athlete inductee
Gi West, wrestling | ● Builder inductee
Blaine Knoll, multiple sports | ● Builder inductee
Ron Walsh, athletics, football | ● Team inductee
U of S Huskies, men's 2001-02 track and field |
| ● Athlete inductee
Riley Janes, swimming | ● Athlete inductee
Allan Semeniuk, wheelchair rugby | ● Builder inductee
Terry Forbes, broomball, softball | ● Builder inductee
Klaas Post, soccer | ● Builder inductee
Randy Warick, multiple sports | ● Organization of the year
Saskatoon Amateur Softball |