

LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME

A CELEBRATION OF SPORT



INDUCTION CEREMONY

2026

40TH EDITION

May 8, 2026

**LETHBRIDGE TRADE & CONVENTION CENTRE
LAKEVIEW SALON**



CONGRATULATIONS!

On behalf of the University of Lethbridge and Pronghorn Athletics and Recreation, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2026 and the Kinsmen Sportspersons of the Year.



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CHAIR'S MESSAGE

TOBY BOULET *Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame Board Chair*



On behalf of the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors, it is my honour to congratulate the 2026 inductee class and the Kinsmen Sports Persons of the Year for 2025/2026. It is not merely about recognizing the individual achievements of these distinguished individuals but rather acknowledging the time, energy, dedication, and passion that they have invested.

The class of 2026 is special to me in that I really do know almost all the inductees!

I was fortunate to teach our Stanley Cup winner, Kris Versteeg, during his time at Churchill. If you couldn't have fun with Kris in your school, then, really, you missed out. An awesome person with the amazing ability to connect with anyone! He always had time to chat with our family, and I don't think he knows how special this is.

Ross Bekkering displayed his basketball magic as a WR Myers Rebel in the Churchill gym ... way too often. But I got to know Ross when he was a student teacher at Churchill. With his infectious smile and always wanting to be part of the group, he fit right in.

Al Poytress and I have literally travelled over half the globe together as Al was our appointed athletic therapist on international rugby tours to New Zealand, Argentina, Scotland, England and Wales. Al is a wonderful friend and storyteller. He certainly will make Paul Kingsmith work during the panel.

The Ralph Family is known to so many in Alberta and beyond. I'm pretty sure that Dustin, Brock, Brett, Kenzie and Jimmy all had their way in the Churchill gym playing basketball or on the old Sportsplex football field. Kenzie ripped up Sherring Field and the LRC pitch as a Comet and a Pronghorn, while Jimmy helped break in the U of L stadium. I never had the chance to know Jade, but I am looking forward to her story tonight. Shelly and Jim are way too humble, and I love to visit with both. It just seems that Jim is always talking and never gives me a chance for a word!

Our National Championship Kodiak Women's Basketball Team (2016-17) has many players and coaches that I know, but Leah Ekubazgi is a Churchill grad and a wonderful friend of our family! I tried to make her a rugby player as she played one year but was always too cold outside! Seriously, she only wanted to play basketball and volleyball – boo! Probably a good choice for her as she will always be a National Champion in the Hall of Fame!

I have always wanted to meet Wacey Rabbit. He has built a legacy of hard work, skill, dedication, kindness and honouring his Kainai people. Wacey's story has edge, which makes it real. He has told me that he wants to be remembered as more than a hockey player, and I have no doubt that he will. I am excited to hear him on the stage tonight telling parts of his story!

Historical inductee Pearl Violet Borgal literally did it all for our city. A conversation with Pearl would reveal her mantra, "Nothing is impossible, if you set your mind to it", as she was a central figure of the sport histories of swimming, figure skating, girls rodeo, ice hockey, basketball, and golf, and she became the first woman sports caster in Canada working for CKXL Radio in Calgary. I looked, found, and drove the street named after her in Legacy Ridge – so cool!

Another Churchill grad is Coby Iwaasa, who just happens to have the same skill set as Kris and Leah – he likes to talk and that makes him special to me. Sure, he could play badminton at Churchill, and he always wanted to work me over in PE class. But it is his kindness that makes him (and all three of these Churchillians) extraordinary to me.

Shannon Clark, I, unfortunately, don't really know, but I do know her papa. But really, who doesn't know Terry? Enough about Terry as Shannon was a stellar soccer star growing up in Lethbridge and then carrying on as a Pronghorn. You will hear her story tonight as it is in the MMA ring where she took control!

I am proud to be able to share only a snippet of my connection to each of our 2026 Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame inductees and 2025 Kinsmen Sportspersons of the Year. Sharing stories allows us to build our foundation of knowledge. It is a simple way to keep history alive, transitioning from generation to generation. The Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame is a keeper of many amazing stories of sport in Southwestern Alberta. The passion, determination, tears of joy along with pain, and, of course, humility have given future generations aspirations to participate and succeed. I encourage you to take time and read some of the many stories we have been given the honour to preserve at our permanent display in the Cavendish Farms Centre and on our website.

Please have a chat with past or present inductees or sportspersons of the year. Thank you to Dale Woodard for carefully crafting the biographies of each honoured guest. I want to thank the entire Board of Directors, as it is their passion to keep our collective sport communities' stories alive, making this evening of celebration so very special.

Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame congratulates all this year's honourees and salutes our magazine sponsors, many of whom are long-time supporters.

Thank you also to the City of Lethbridge for their continuing support hosting our permanent display area in the Cavendish Farms Centre.

LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Back row L to R: Dori Rodzinyak, Knud Petersen, Keegan Brantner, Dave McMurray, Susan Eymann,
Front row L to R: Jamin Heller, John Livingstone, Toby Boulet, Blake Tamayose. Missing: Sara Peters, Marnie Hope
www.lethbridgesportshalloffame.ca

The Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame was established in 1985, the City's Centennial Year, for the purpose of recognizing the outstanding achievement, in sport, of individual athletes, teams, builders and special award recipients. The Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame identifies and honours, not only contemporary individuals, but also those who have excelled in sport at some time since the founding of Lethbridge.

In its inaugural year, the Sports Hall of Fame was adopted by the Lethbridge Elks Club as its Centennial Project.

The Sports Hall of Fame is administered by a Board of Directors-volunteers representing various sectors of the sports community.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



On behalf of Lethbridge City Council, I am thrilled to welcome everyone to the 2026 Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame Induction Banquet.

Thank you to the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame for hosting this wonderful event – the 40th LSHOF Banquet and Induction Ceremony – and for their efforts toward preserving the legacy of sport in our city. As I have said before, for a city our size we have produced an incredible number of amazing athletes, coaches, builders, Olympians and this year specifically, a two-time Stanley Cup champion.

The 2026 induction class includes representatives from a wide variety of sports. Congratulations to Ross Bekkering, Wacey Rabbit and Kris Versteeg as athletes, the 2016-17 Kodiaks National Championship women's team, Dr. Alan Poytress as a builder, the Ralph Family for a special award, and Pearl Violet Borgal for her historical award.

Congratulations also to the 2026 Kinsmen Sportspersons of the Year: Mixed Martial Artist Shannon Clark, who became the Legacy Fighting Alliance Women's Flyweight Champion, and racquetball player Coby Iwaasa, who won gold in men's singles and doubles at the 2025 Racquetball Canada National Championships, as well as bronze in mixed doubles at the 2025 World Games in China.

Lethbridge is the Gateway to Opportunity. We are the agricultural, commercial, financial, transportation, industrial – and sporting – Centre of southern Alberta. Let's continue to make sure everyone knows it!

Blaine Hyggen
Mayor of Lethbridge

CITY OF
Lethbridge



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME
~ 2026 ~

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MASTER OF CEREMONIES

MC MARNIE HOPE



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME
~ 2026 ~

Miisomii'kitsikaakii (Long Time Offering Woman), also known as Marni Carlson, comes from the Siksikaisitapi (Blackfoot) community of the Kainai Nation. An educator, athlete, and community leader, Marni's journey reflects resilience, connection, and a lifelong commitment to movement, learning, and wellness.

Movement has always been central to Marni's life. Her athletic path began with competitive basketball at SAIT and cross-country running at Trent University and has evolved into a sustained commitment to physical challenge and exploration. She gravitates toward experiences that build endurance, focus, and adaptability, remaining active through a range of training and outdoor pursuits. Most recently, she has begun exploring scuba

diving, extending her relationship with movement into new environments and ways of learning.

Professionally, Marni serves as the Core Programs Manager for Luminary and works as a post-secondary instructor. Her work is grounded in land-based learning and Indigenous ways of knowing, emphasizing the relationship between movement, land, story, and community wellbeing.

Marni is a proud mother of three and values time spent supporting her children in sport, being on the land, and staying connected with family and community. She currently lives in Calgary and is honoured to once again serve as Master of Ceremonies for the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony.



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Congratulations Kris

Dr. Alan Poytress, Builder



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME
~2026~

Dr. Alan Poytress has been the driving – or in this case, swimming, biking and running – force behind the Fort Macleod Triathlon for more than two decades since he founded the event in 2003. From its beginnings, the Fort Macleod Triathlon has become a highlight of the summer season in the community, providing a physical challenge for athletes as well as serving to draw people from across Alberta to Fort Macleod, where they experience everything the community has to offer. The community took notice and in 2014, the Fort Macleod Chamber of Commerce recognized the triathlon's contributions by awarding Poytress the Community Enhancement Award.

Each year, Poytress marshals a team of volunteers to stage the family-friendly triathlon, which is geared for athletes of all ages and abilities. This triathlon isn't just about who crosses the finish line first. It's about promoting health, personal achievements and community involvement. Every finisher receives a commemorative medal and participants can expect an encouraging environment created by volunteers, spectators and local supporters.

Each year draws more than 100 people who enjoy the welcoming atmosphere of the triathlon and the Fort Macleod Community.

An accomplished triathlete, Poytress has served as an inspiration and mentor to other people, encouraging them to train and participate in the local triathlon as well as other events in the communities. Some have gone from participating in one of the low-distance events in Fort Macleod triathlon to participating in an Ironman triathlon.

A chiropractor, Poytress moved his family to Fort Macleod in January of 1984, where he runs his own business, Fort Macleod Chiropractic. With the Fort Macleod Triathlon encouraging athletes to test themselves in all three events, Poytress has competed across the globe.

In 2011, Poytress competed in the Ironman New Zealand Triathlon, one of the world's most demanding and oldest triathlons where he swam 3.9km, biked 180km and ran 42km, completing the event.

As one of the final remaining triathlons in the region, the Fort Macleod Triathlon is proud to keep the tradition alive.

Congratulations
to all 2026
Inductees and
Kinsmen
Sportspersons of
the Year!



Logan Boulet Endowment Fund supports the community by annually donating to: Youth Sport, Youth Fine Arts, Special Olympics, and Organ/Tissue registration awareness, research, patient support, and transplantation.

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TO ALL OF THE
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Ralph Family, Special



Whether it's on the baseball diamond, basketball court, football field, the rugby pitch or clogging on the dance floor, the Ralph family have put their permanent mark on the southern Alberta sports scene. That has landed the Ralph family – Brock, Brett, Kenzie, mother Shelly and father Jim, Jade, Jimmy and Dustin – in the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame.

DUSTIN was a provincial champion in football as a bantam player in 1993 and as a high school player (Tier 1) in 1996. In 1995 Dustin represented the Team Alberta basketball team and in 1997 was the number one-ranked point guard in Alberta as selected by Cage Basketball Canada. In 1997, Dustin played Division I football for the BYU Cougars before transferring to the University of Wyoming to play for the Cowboys from 1999 to 2001, where he made the Mountain West All Conference Academic Team in 2000 and 2001. From 2002-2004, Dustin played for the University of Alberta Golden Bears, where he made the CIS All-Canadian Academic Team in 2004. For 3 consecutive years (2008, 2009 and 2010) Dustin was the Tier 1 Frank Morris High School Football Coach of the Year, guiding the team to three High School Football Tier 1 provincial championships. In 2010, Dustin won the Norm Kimball Football Alberta Coach of the Year Award and in 2011 was inducted into the Alberta Schools Athletic Association Hall of Fame as the Ralph Family.

BROCK excelled in football, track and field and baseball, winning Tier 1 provincial football championships in 1996 and 1997. In 1996, he won the high school provincial track and field gold medal in the triple jump and in 1997, won provincial gold in the 100m dash and triple jump. Brock played four years at the University of Wyoming before being drafted by the Ottawa Red Blacks. Brock won a Grey Cup with the Eskimos in 2003. He played in the CFL for nine years while playing for the Eskimos, Tiger-Cats and Blue Bombers. On the ball diamond, Brock was drafted by the Baltimore Orioles in 1998 in the 43rd round and was drafted again by the Orioles in 1999, selected in the 15th round. In his football coaching career, Brock won the Norm Kimball Football Coach of the Year award in 2019 and his team has won three Tier I championships.

BRETT also excelled in football, track and field and baseball. In

1997 and 1998 he was a High School Tier I Provincial football champion and in 1998 and 1999 won the High School Provincial Championship gold medal in the long jump. As a professional in football, he played for the Calgary Stampeders from 2005 to 2009, winning the Grey Cup Championship in 2008 while catching a touchdown pass. Brett played shortstop for Team Canada at the World Championship in 2000 and turned down offers from Bill Bychowski to turn pro with the Toronto Blue Jays. In 1999 Brett played with the Lethbridge Elks baseball team, winning the American Legion Montana State Baseball Championship. Brett played as a freshman at Wyoming with Dustin and Brock before transferring to Boise State. He was a member of the Boise State Broncos that won the Fort Worth Bowl in 2003.

As a dancer, JADE was a member of the United States America Onstage Intermountain Clogging Team in 2001. Jade coached several teams that took first place in the Intermountain Clogging Championships.

KENZIE played at the Canadian Rugby Championship in 2007-2008 as a member of Team Alberta. She was also a member of the University of Lethbridge Pronghorn women's rugby teams, winning Canada West and CIS National Championships in 2008 and 2009. Kenzie earned Canada West All Star recognition in 2009 and her Pronghorn teams were later inducted into the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame (2011), the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame (2015), and the Canada West Hall of Fame (2019).

JIMMY also starred in football, baseball and basketball. In addition to being one of the best point guards in Alberta. He was a member of two 4A Provincial Basketball Champions in 2009 and 2011, scoring 68 points in one game. Jimmy also played wide receiver and QB for the Raymond High School Comets, coached by his brother Dustin while winning three consecutive Tier I Provincial Football Championships 2008-2010. Jimmy played middle infield for the Team Canada Junior Baseball team at the World Championships in 2009. He played football for the University of Alberta Golden Bears in 2014 and 2015, becoming a Canada West All-Star and CIS All-Canadian Champion. Jimmy's CFL career took him to Toronto, where he played for the Argonauts from 2017 to 2019, winning the Grey Cup in 2017. Jimmy was awarded the Football Bantam Coach of the Year in 2025.

As a coach, SHELLY led her teams to provincial cheerleading championships in 1988, 1989 and 1990.

In 1975-76, JIM was an Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC) and Four West champion as a player before placing third at Nationals. In 1976-77, he won a second ACAC Championship. In 1989, Jim was the head coach of the 4A provincial basketball championship team. In 2002, he was the coach of the Prairie Little League baseball champions. Jim spent over 20 years coaching Senior and Junior high Football and Basketball as well as Little League Baseball, and he was part of many Provincial Championship teams. Additionally, Jim has been Race Secretary and Starter at Rocky Mountain Turf Club for nearly 30 years, and his family members have been valuable helpers during races, both on the track and in the paddock.

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**Congratulations
all 2026 Inductees!**

Pearl Violet Borgal, *Historical*



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME
~ 2026 ~

In sports, Pearl Borgal was a little bit of everything. "She was a swimmer, rodeo star, pioneer sports broadcaster and tireless volunteer for her community." is how she was described upon her passing in 1993. Sports were an essential part of Pearl Borgal's life, and she played a wide number of sports.

Born in Swift Current in 1910, Borgal was Alberta's first Junior Swimming Champion. Borgal actively participated in the saddle club, speed skating, swimming, hockey, basketball and golf. She was a swimmer, rodeo star, pioneer sports broadcaster and tireless volunteer for her community.

Borgal moved to Calgary as a teenager and came to Lethbridge in 1936 as a newlywed. Upon her arrival, she and her husband, Ev Borgal, had an almost immediate effect on the sport of swimming in Lethbridge. Competitive swimming started in Lethbridge in the late-1930s when Ev and Pearl organized two swim clubs, the Penguins for the girls and the Tarpons for the boys. Because of a lack of facilities in Lethbridge, the clubs had to use facilities in Raymond and Waterton. In 1939, the two groups were united into one team, the Tarquins.

The Second World War brought a break to competitive swimming in Lethbridge, during which Borgal served as an officer in the Canadian Auxiliary Territorial Services and was president of the Officers' Wives Club at Lethbridge. Following the War, she helped start the Lethbridge Figure Skating Club in 1948 and worked with the club until 1951.

In 1952, Pearl returned to Calgary. There, she had a daily sports program on CKXL radio. It is reported that her sports program was the first in Canada hosted by a woman. In 1955, for Alberta 50th anniversary, she organized and served as Parade Marshall for the Jubilee women's parade.

Borgal returned to Lethbridge in the early 1970s, where she was part of the successful campaign to bring the Calgary Wranglers to Lethbridge where they became the Hurricanes. She managed publicity for the Lethbridge Exhibition for several years and was also on the Lethbridge planning commission, advocated for a senior citizens' home to be constructed and was a member of the Home and School Association.

Borgal was president of the Ladies' Organization for Civic Improvement, vice president of the Lethbridge Community Council and helped to spearhead the building of the Civic Centre. Borgal was the founder of the Young At Heart Seniors Group. She was also a member of the Lethbridge and District Horticultural Society, Lethbridge Heritage Seniors Club, the Lest We Forget Committee, and president of the Canadian Girls Rodeo Association.

In 1983, she established the Keep-In-Touch Society to connect elderly people through a telephone network. Borgal was also honoured by the Sarcee Band which gave her the name of Morning Star, while the City of Lethbridge named a street in her honour. In recognition of her achievements, Pearl was named to the Lethbridge Community College Hall of Fame and given a Scroll of Outstanding Service from the City of Lethbridge.



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TO THE 2026 LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES AND THE KINSMEN SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR

For 40 years, the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame has celebrated excellence in sport. The Lethbridge Sport Council is proud to recognize our Board of Directors—past and present—who have also been honoured as Hall of Fame inductees.



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME BANQUET & INDUCTION CEREMONY

40th Edition May 8, 2026

AGENDA

Theme: 40 years of LSHOF

5:30 – 6:10 pm: Doors open & refreshments

6:10 pm: Welcome & Land Acknowledgement by MC Marni Hope

6:15 pm: Opening Prayer by Chief Traveller Plaited Hair

6:20 pm: Opening Remarks by Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame Board Chair Toby Boulet

6:25 pm: Canada's National Anthem by Zina Umeh

6:30 pm: Dinner

7:30 pm: Inductee Roundtable Discussion hosted by Paul Kingsmith

8:15 pm: **Inductees:**

Pear Violet Borgal (Historical)

Ralph Family (Special)

Dr. Alan Poytress (Builder)

Wacey Saapaata Rabbit (Athlete)

Ross Bekkering (Athlete)

Kris Versteeg (Athlete)

2016-17 Lethbridge College Kodiaks WBB (Team)

9:15 pm: Sportspersons Roundtable Discussion hosted by Paul Kingsmith

9:30 pm: **Kinsmen Sportspersons of the Year:**

Shannon Clark (Mixed Martial Arts)

Coby Iwaasa (Racquetball)

9:45 pm: Closing Remarks: Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame Board rep Marni Hope

Wacey Saapaata Rabbit, *Athlete*



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME
~ 2026 ~

From rodeo roots to success at the highest levels of hockey, Wacey Saapaata Rabbit's journey reflects resilience, leadership and a lifelong commitment to excellence. Wacey Coleman Saapaata Rabbit was named after World Champion bull rider Wacey Cathey and legendary saddle bronc rider Mel Coleman. While his rodeo career was brief, it was not without distinction with his lone competitive victory coming during Lethbridge Whoop-Up Days in mutton busting.

Saapaata Rabbit began playing minor hockey in his home community with the Kainai Minor Hockey Little Braves and played three seasons with Lethbridge Minor Hockey. Saapaata Rabbit was drafted by the Saskatoon Blades of the Western Hockey League in 2001. In his rookie season in 2002-2003, he emerged as one of the league's top scorers, earning him a place on Team Alberta at the 2003 Canada Winter Games. There, he was chosen by his peers as the team's flag bearer. Team Alberta went on to win the gold medal. At the Winter Games, Saapaata Rabbit was invited to the Team Canada U18 camp in Calgary and was named to the roster to compete at the U18 World Cup tournament.

In four seasons with the Blades, Saapaata Rabbit was named Rookie of the Year and twice earned the Top Defensive Forward award. He was also recognized with the WHL's Humanitarian Award in honour of Doug

Wickenheiser. Saapaata Rabbit concluded his junior career with the Vancouver Giants, contributing to the team's Memorial Cup Championship season in 2007.

Saapaata Rabbit was selected in the 5th round at the 2005 NHL Entry Draft by the Boston Bruins. While he did not appear in an NHL game, he played a key role in the Bruins organization, contributing at the American Hockey League level with the Providence Bruins. He also played internationally, competing in several European leagues with stints in Norway, Croatia and Italy. He spent another season in the Asia League playing for the Koshiro Paper Clips, a Japan-based team. Saapaata Rabbit returned to the WHL in 2021 when he joined the Blades coaching staff. As their defensive coach, the team set a new WHL record of allowing the fewest power-play goals during the 2022-23 season. He is currently coaching the Giants in Vancouver.

Saapaata Rabbit has remained deeply connected to his Siksikaitsitapi roots. Each summer, he returns to attend ceremony, learning from trusted Elders and Spiritual Leaders who continue to guide his personal and professional life. Saapaata Rabbit is frequently invited into First Nation communities as a role model and motivational speaker, where he shares his experiences to inspire youth and community members.



KAINAIWA

On behalf of all the Blood Tribe (Kainai), the Blood Tribe Chief and Council and Administration would like to congratulate "Saapaata" Wacey Rabbit for his induction into the 2026 Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame.

The Blood Tribe is proud of your hockey career and all of the accomplishments you earned since entering the sport as a young boy playing for our Kainai Little Braves.

Wacey, you are a great inspiration and role model for our youth, showing them that they, too, can make it to the professional leagues, as long as they exemplify hard work and dedication, as you did.

Congratulations Wacey!

Ross Bekkering, Athlete



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME
~ 2026 ~

Ross Bekkering is one of southern Alberta's most accomplished basketball athletes whose career spans elite university competition, international professional play and Olympic participation, all while keeping a continued connection to the Lethbridge sport community.

A native of Taber and of Canadian-Dutch descent, Bekkering – who attended W.R. Myers High School – has lived and worked in Lethbridge as a high school teacher at Lethbridge Collegiate Institute, while continuing to compete and represent Canada and the Netherlands at the highest levels of international basketball. Bekkering enjoyed an outstanding university basketball career with the University of Calgary Dinos from 2005 to 2010. On the international stage, Bekkering represented Canada at the Summer Universiade on two occasions, earning a bronze medal at the 2007 Games in Bangkok, Thailand and competing again in 2009 in Belgrade, Serbia.

He later played professional five-on-five basketball for six years in the Netherlands before transitioning to the emerging sport of 3x3 basketball. He reached the pinnacle of his athletic career in 2021 when he competed at the Tokyo Olympic Games as a member of the Netherlands Men's 3x3 Basketball Team.

In his five seasons with the Dinos, Bekkering was a two-time Canada West all-star, a two time CIS Second Team All-Canadian and was named the University of Calgary's Male Athlete of the Year in 2008–09. Standing at six-feet-eight-inches, Bekkering played as a forward and became the Dinos' all-time leading rebounder with over 681 career rebounds. He averaged 17.0 points, 9.7 rebounds and 2.0 assists per game in his time with the Dinos.

Transitioning to professional play, Bekkering

competed primarily in the Dutch Basketball League from 2010 to 2016, suiting up for teams including ZZ Leiden, Nijmegen Magixx and Donar Groningen, where he achieved career-high averages of 13.4 points, 10.5 rebounds and 2.5 assists per game in the 2015–16 regular season. In his six years playing professionally in the Dutch league, he was a 4 time Dutch League Champion, 2 time NBB cup winner, 2 time Dutch Supercup winner and 5 time All-Star. He was voted to the All-DBL team twice, DBL All-Defense team twice, and became the DBL Statistical Player of the Year in 2015-2016 in his last season overseas while leading the league in rebounding.

He also participated in 14 FIBA Europe Cup games with 10.6 points and 6.3 rebounds per contest. His international highlight came in 2021, competing for the Netherlands in the debut Olympic 3x3 basketball event at Tokyo 2020, marking his sole Games appearance. Playing alongside teammates Arvin Slagter, Jesse Voorn, and Dimeo van der Horst, the Netherlands compiled a 4–3 record in the pool stage with wins over the Russian Olympic Committee (18–15), Japan (21–20), China (21–18) and Poland (22–20 in overtime) while suffering narrow defeats to Serbia (15–16), Belgium (17–18 in overtime) and Latvia (18–22). The team advanced to the quarterfinals but fell 19–21 to the Russian Olympic Committee, finishing fifth overall in the eight-team field.

Bekkering continues to contribute to sport in southern Alberta by mentoring young athletes and speaking at school and community sport events throughout the region. His journey, from southern Alberta gymnasiums to the Olympic stage serves as a powerful example of what is possible through dedication to sport and education.

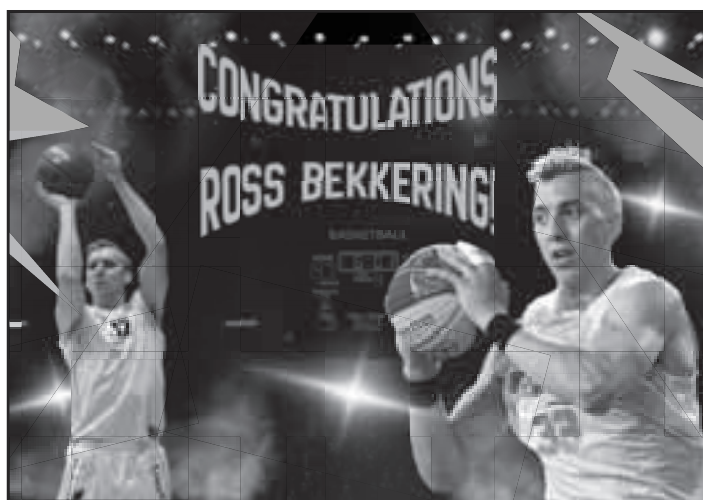
CONGRATULATIONS

Ross

In your induction to the
Lethbridge Sports Hall of
Fame.

You are a gifted athlete but
even more a loving husband,
father, brother, family
member and friend.

Love: Extended Bekkering Family



On behalf of the LCI students, staff and alumni, we would like to congratulate
Ross Bekkering on his outstanding athletic career.

A proud product of Taber, Alberta, Ross built an exceptional legacy through his collegiate success at the University of Calgary, where he earned national recognition, as well as through his professional career in Europe—highlighted by multiple league championships, participation in the 2020 Olympic 3x3 competition, and numerous individual honors.

As he continues to be recognized for his achievements and contributions to sport, we would like to express how proud we are of all that he has accomplished both on and off the court. We would like to extend our congratulations to all the inductees of the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame for their incredible achievements and lasting impact on the Southern Alberta sporting community



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*Best Wishes to
all Inductees*

REFLECTIONS ON 40 YEARS OF THE LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME

In celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame (LSHOF), we asked three past Chairs along with our incoming Chair, to share reflections from their time on the Board of Directors. The past Chairs are: **Mal Clewes**, who served as the LSHOF's first Chair (1984-1986), **Mike Spencer** (2006-2009), **Rob Kossuth** (2013-2017) and **Keegan Brantner** (2026-?).

How did you become involved on the Board?

Mal: I was part of a small committee established to include sport as part of the City of Lethbridge 1985 Centennial celebrations.



Mike: I was asked by a former chair, Cliff Nelson and by my good friend Knud Petersen.

Rob: I formally joined the LSHOF Board in March 2013, although I had been involved with the LSHOF helping to write local sport histories for the banquet program in previous years. It was Knud Petersen, in his firm yet kind way, who 'suggested' I join the Board. Before I knew it, I was nominated to become Chair in November of my first year.

Keegan: I joined the board in 2021 when Susan Eymann asked if I would be interested after working with her at Lethbridge Sport Council. I love sports and it felt like a group that I wanted to learn from and contribute to!

If you were to summarize what the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame brings to our community, what would you say?

Mal: The Hall provides a showcase for residents of Lethbridge and district who have achieved excellence in sport as athletes or builders. It celebrates the development and diversity of sport and inspires young and old to participate in an active and healthy lifestyle.

Mike: The LSHOF celebrates a wide range of tremendous sporting achievements and initiatives in our community that might otherwise go unnoticed to the general public. During my time with the LSHOF board I learnt a great deal about Lethbridge's excellence in many, many sports and the deep history of its sporting community. In turn I expect that most residents of our area eventually have a connection to an athlete, a builder or a Sportsperson recognized by the Hall. These connections inspire us and foster pride in our community both sporting and otherwise.

Rob: There are a number of Alberta communities that have local sports halls of fame. I believe the LSHOF was one of the first to organize in 1985, and the Hall is and remains a continuing presence within the fabric of the city and surrounding region. Selection to the Hall provides a way to celebrate individuals and teams who have contributed to sporting excellence in the community and beyond.

The community largely know about the LSHOF, and the LSHOF's ongoing commitment to telling the stories and preserving the memory of those who have achieved in the world of sport remains relevant.

Keegan: I think that the LSHOF reminds us that even as a small city we can achieve great things! Every year, we celebrate Olympians, legacy builders, world champions, professional athletes, successful teams, decorated coaches, and local heroes – it is a really special celebration for those who have dedicated so much to sport.

During your time as Chair, what challenges did the Board face and what milestones were achieved?

Mal: Our initial tasks were to assemble a Board of Directors, establish operational guidelines, develop induction criteria, plan the induction ceremony, design a logo and build a portable exhibit.



Mike: By the time the early 2000s came along, our portable displays with inductee photos and bios were beginning to show their age. That being the case, the Board made the decision to redesign the displays to be fresher, more engaging and more portable. This gave the LSHOF the opportunity to recognize its inductees in a more attractive way, and at many more events and venues.



Rob: Our two main achievements were the renewal process that began in 2014 that included updating the Bylaws and operating procedures, and, working with the City of Lethbridge and partners to create/build our first permanent site in the then ATB Centre (now the Cavendish Farms Centre).

In 2014, at a retreat led by an external facilitator, the Board began the process of revising and updating the LSHOF Director's Handbook and Bylaws. This process took several years and provided the Board with better direction in terms of delivering on the core activities of the organization—inducting athletes, builders, and teams.

REFLECTIONS ON 40 YEARS OF THE LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME

The idea of building a permanent site for the LSHOF had been a goal of the Board for many years. For myself, I recall meeting with Ashley Matthews when extensive renovations to the Enmax Centre (now VisitLethbridge.com Arena) were underway about finding space for our permanent site. This did not happen, however, with the city planning to build a new aquatic centre and rink complex (hockey and curling) on the westside, the Board refocused its efforts. The next step in this process was to present our vision and plan for a permanent site to Lethbridge City Council on April 28, 2014. Council was supportive and moved our request to be included in the project where it was decided the permanent site would become part of the art and cultural elements of the new facility. Working with the City and the Allied Arts Council, an artist, Colin Zipp, was selected in March 2019 to design and construct the new permanent site. The site was supposed to open in early 2020 but Covid pushed the official Grand Opening to April 4, 2022.



What do you think the future holds for the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame?

Mal: I would hope that the Hall continues to be supported by the community for decades to come.

Mike: As long as the LSHOF Board continues to attract dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers and our local media remains engaged I believe it will always be sustainable. Lethbridge has consistently produced fantastic athletes, builders and Sportspersons and if there are people willing to put in the work to honour them, the future will be bright!!!

Rob: The LSHOF will, I believe, continue to adhere to its core activities including the yearly induction banquet and operating the permanent site. However, I can see the virtual footprint to the LSHOF expanding in the future where the rich database of inductees and local sport histories will be made available to future generations. As they say, as much as things change, they remain the same; sport achievement will continue to be valued and considered worthy of celebration as it has been in the past.

Keegan: The future of Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame will continue the tradition of celebrating the incredible people, teams, programs, and legacies who have roots in Lethbridge. While also finding new ways to tell the stories of our inductees, expanding our impact. We have a great working team and amazing inductees waiting for their moment – the future is bright!

Are there any other reflections or stories that you want to share?

Mal: I am delighted that the enthusiasm and dedication of the original Board has continued for four decades.

Mike: My absolute favorite Guest Speaker (and MC) was Jim Barker, at the time the General Manager of the Calgary Stampeders. Jim had car troubles on the way from Calgary and was delivered to the 2007 Banquet by a tow truck just as the doors were opening. On top of that, his eyesight didn't allow him to read the bios of the inductees from the program. That led to Jim and I transcribing them to a much larger format while the other attendees had dinner. Needless to say, all of this could have gone sideways in a hurry except that Mr. Barker was full of charm and self-effacing humour that allowed the audience to forgive him for any misstep he made while on stage.

Rob: My main reflection when I think back to my time as a LSHOF Board Member and Chair are the incredible people who volunteered their time skills to make the organization work. Of course, the driving force behind the LSHOF during my time was Knud Petersen who always managed to be there to 'help out' with the many tasks required to stage an induction banquet or make sure the old movable displays were set up in city hall or another community venue.

Keegan: Only a huge thank you to our unofficial leader, Knud Petersen, who continues to dedicate so much time, effort, and energy to our sport community in Lethbridge! Thank you for everything you do!

Kris Versteeg, Athlete



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME
~ 2026 ~

As a hockey player who always hit the ice with a chip on his shoulder and with hands that could stickhandle in a phone booth, Kris Versteeg represented the best of what being from Lethbridge is all about.

When his NHL career took off, the north-side Lethbridge product never forgot his roots, taking two Stanley Cup championships back to his hometown. Developing his hockey skills in Lethbridge, Versteeg scored over 100 goals in his second Atom AA season. The stick in which he scored his 100th goal remains in his Lethbridge basement today. In his second year of bantam Kris played for the Lethbridge Val Matteotti Golden Hawks, leading his team in scoring with 62 points in 36 games.

In 2002-2003, Versteeg walked on to a Bryan Maxwell-led Lethbridge Hurricanes club and made the Western Hockey League team as a 16-year-old undrafted player. In Versteeg's NHL draft-eligible 2003-2004 season, he led the Hurricanes in scoring and played in the Canadian Hockey League's top prospects game in the Canada vs Russia Series. He also represented Canada in the U18 Championships in Belarus.

Versteeg was selected by the Boston Bruins in the 5th round and 134th overall in the 2004 NHL Entry Draft and made his professional debut in 2005-2006, playing in the final 13 games of the season with Boston's American Hockey League affiliate Providence Bruins. During the 2006-2007 season while leading the AHL in rookie scoring, the Bruins traded Versteeg to the Chicago Blackhawks on Feb. 3, 2007.

Versteeg made his NHL debut November 7, 2007 against the Calgary Flames at the Saddledome. On

January 3, 2008, against the Phoenix Coyotes Versteeg scored his first NHL goal. In his first full NHL season in 2008-2009, Versteeg tallied 22 goals and 31 assists for 53 points, scoring the first ever goal at Wrigley Field during the 2009 Winter Classic against the Detroit Red Wings. That year, he was also nominated for NHL Rookie of the Year and made the NHL All Rookie First Team.

In 2009-2010, Versteeg scored 20 goals and 48 points and added another 14 points in 22 playoff games, helping the Blackhawks to a Stanley Cup title, defeating the Philadelphia Flyers in six games. That summer Versteeg brought the Stanley Cup back to Lethbridge to celebrate with everyone in the city.

After stints with the Maple Leafs, Flyers, and Florida Panthers, Versteeg returned to Chicago in 2013-2014. That season, he scored a goal at Soldier Field, the 100th of his career, becoming the first and only person to score a goal at all three legendary Chicago sports venues. The 2014-2015 season saw Versteeg win his second Stanley Cup with the Blackhawks, which he once again brought back to Lethbridge.

In total, Versteeg laced up in 643 games, posting 149 goals and 358 points, while playing 93 playoff games, scoring 48 playoff points. After his NHL career, Versteeg had stops in Russia, Sweden and back in AHL Rockford before winning the 2019 Spengler Cup with Team Canada.

In April 2020, Versteeg transitioned into business and media. He co-founded Klevr.ai, a sports technology app, and hosts the VersSet Skills Camp in Taber. He has also worked as a hockey analyst, contributing to SportsNet and other media outlets.

CONGRATULATIONS KRIS



KLEVR



ONE SPORTS

Would like to congratulate Kris Versteeg
and his family on his professional career
and this induction into the
Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame!

**CONGRATS
KRIS!**



CONGRATULATIONS, KRIS!



**LETHBRIDGE HURRICANES ALUMNUS
(2002-2005)**

KINSMEN

2026 SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME
~ 2026 ~

SHANNON CLARK

FEMALE SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR - MIXED MARTIAL

It was a picture-perfect 2025 for the MMA Barbie. Lethbridge mixed martial artist Shannon Clark won both her MMA bouts in 2025 to improve her professional record to 7-1-0.

In her most recent fight Nov. 7, the 33-year-old traveled to Ginásio Nilson Nelson in Brasília, Brazil where she faced local talent Beatriz Consuli in LFA 221 for the women's flyweight title. With the fight serving as the main event on the card, Clark won by unanimous decision in five rounds to improve her record to 7-1-0. It was also Consuli's first loss, dropping her to 6-1.

Clark's first MMA bout of 2025 took her to Prior Lake, Minnesota for LFA 200 Jan. 25 where she took on Cheyanne Bowers for the LFA Flyweight Championship for 125lbs. In a bout that went five rounds, Clark earned the win via a split decision. Of Clark's seven wins since turning professional in 2022, three have been KO/TKO, two by unanimous decision, one by split decision and one by submission. Her sole loss was by TKO. Clark has won the LFA flyweight belt three times, leading her to move onto higher levels. In February 2026, Clark signed with PFL (Professional Fighting League), which is one of

the highest ranked professional organizations in the world.

Clark began her amateur fighting career on Oct. 19, 2019, at Rumble In The Cage 62 which took place at the Servus Sports Centre in Lethbridge. After going undefeated in three fights as an amateur, Clark became a pro fighter on Oct. 1, 2022. In her time as a professional, she has won four fights on the Legacy Fighting Alliance circuit. The LFA is viewed as a top developmental organization for the Ultimate Fighting Championship.

Back home in Lethbridge, Clark works as a financial advisor at Terry Clark Financial alongside her father, Terry Clark. She has a husband and two children: Rosalee and Kuyler (ages 4 and 5). She trains mostly at the Lethbridge Police Station under her coach Joel Odorski, while also training at the Lethbridge Boxing Club under coach Rick Duff. Before Clark became an MMA fighter, she attended the University of Lethbridge and graduated with a Finance degree. While attending the University, she was a member of the Pronghorns soccer team, captaining it for her last 3 years.

KINSMEN

2026 SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME
~ 2026 ~

COBY IWAASA

MALE SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR - RACQUETBALL

Coby Iwaasa continued serving up a medal haul in 2025. The Lethbridge racquetball athlete struck double gold at the 2025 Racquetball Canada National Championships in Burlington, Ontario in May in men's singles and doubles. The medal count didn't stop there and Iwaasa had to travel a bit farther to get the next one as the local athlete won the bronze medal in mixed doubles at the 2025 World Games in Chengdu, China Aug. 7-17.

But first was double gold on Canadian soil. Iwaasa, alongside Kurtis Cullen from Brandon, Manitoba, took home the gold medal in the Men's Doubles event, beating Leyton Gouldie and Asher Pocsai 11-7, 11-4, 9-11, 11-5. Iwaasa then defeated Samuel Murray, 11-6, 3-11, 11-4, 11-4, in the singles final to cap off the double gold, which was Iwaasa's second singles title and fifth doubles title.

Iwaasa's Nationals results earned him a spot in the 2025 World Games in Chengdu, where he played singles and mixed doubles with Frédérique Lambert. The duo battled their way to the

semifinals before losing to the USA's Jake Bredenbeck and Naomi Ros, 9-11, 11-5, 8-11, 11-9, 11-9. But Iwaasa and Lambert regrouped with the bronze medal on the line to defeat Japan's Michimune Kono and Harumi Kajino, 11-3, 11-7, 7-11, 11-4. Iwaasa and Lambert's bronze medal marked the first time in 16 years that Canadian racquetball players had medaled at the World Games. Iwaasa also placed fifth in men's singles at the World Games.

Iwaasa has played for Team Canada numerous times, twice winning gold. His first was in Men's Doubles at the 2022 Pan American Racquetball Championships with Murray and his second also with Murray in Men's Doubles at the 2024 World Championships. He also earned two silver medals at the 2023 Pan American Games. On Canadian soil, Iwaasa has won seven Canadian Championships, two in Men's Singles in 2015 and 2025 and five in Men's Doubles in 2013 and 2015 with Mike Green, one in 2018 with Murray and two more in 2023 and 2025 with Cullen.

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**Kris Versteeg and all the past &
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Fame inductees & Kinsmen
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Winston Churchill High School

congratulates our incredible alumni:
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on their induction into the

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KINSMEN SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR AWARD



The Kinsmen Club of Lethbridge is pleased to sponsor the
SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR AWARD.

The club has sponsored this award since its inception in 1995. These awards acknowledge individuals for their outstanding performance or participation in sports while representing Lethbridge.

In 2007, these awards were adjusted to include both a female and male recipient.

PAST & PRESENT RECIPIENTS OF THE KINSMEN SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR AWARD

1995 - Nicole Petersen	2009 - Ashley Patzer Jim Steacy	2018 - Tyler Wong Casey & Jessie Scheidegger	2025 - Apollo (Fox) Hess Keyara Wardley
1996 - Gary Bowie	2010 - Ashley Patzer Willy Kimosop	2019 - Rob Klinkhammer Sandra Latrace	► 2026 - Shannon Clark Coby Iwaasa
1997 - Knud Petersen	2011 - Heather Steacy Mike Hansen	2020 - Nico Pasquotti Evelyn Beaton	
1998 - Don Gatto	2012 - Jody Meli Bob Bartlett	2021- Hailey Driscoll Christine Moser Dylan Cozens	
1999 - Sarah Joly	2013 - Deb Williams Coby Iwaasa	2022 - Kacie Bosch & Paige Crozon Taylor Austin	
2000 - Bruce Drewry	2014 - Taylor McDonald Aaron Hernandez	2023 - Jinaye Shomachuk Ridly Greig	
2001 - Mike Mezei	2015 - Kim Veldman Jim Steacy	2024 - Kacie Bosch & Paige Crozon Conner Cook	
2002 - Trevor McAlpine	2016 - Rachel Nicol Kris Versteeg		
2003 - Nicole Stratychuk	2017 - Ashley Patzer- Steacy Zack McAllister		
2004 - Jim Steacy			
2005 - Brent Seabrook			
2006 - Jim Steacy			
2007 - Ashley Patzer Jim Steacy			
2008 - Lethbridge Curling Club - Foster Rink Zach Boychuk			

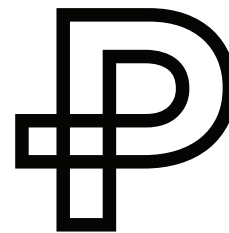


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& KINSMEN SPORTSPERSONS OF THE YEAR

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LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME

INDUCTEES

BUILDERS

1985

Tony Bogusky (Boxing)
Edmond Bruchet (Multi-sport)
Stan Carmichael (Multi-sport)
Peggy Currie (Figure skating)
A.G. "Addie" Donaldson (Soccer, Hockey)
Jack Emery (Boxing, Track & field)
George Gemer (Track & field)
Dick Gray (Hockey)
Syd Hall (Hockey)
Harold "Babe" Harris (Multi-sport)
Yvonne "Sonja" (Currie) Jacobson (Figure skating)
George McKillip (Multi-sport)
Frank Miles (Boxing)
Hector Negrello (Baseball, Hockey)
Steve Pedersen (Multi-sport)
William Rea (Curling)
Yoshio Senda (Judo)
Stan Siwik (Swimming)
Carl Trentini (Hockey)
Henry Viney (Multi-sport)

1986

Dave Allen (Multi-sport)
Leo Harrold (Hockey)
Bill Kucheran (Baseball, Hockey)
Frank Leffingwell (Marksmanship)
Jim Whitelaw (Multi-sport)
Miners' Library Club (Multi-sport)

1987

Ron Boyce (Motor sports)
Les Colwill (Hockey, Baseball)
Doug Frier (Baseball)
Jack Kerr (Baseball, Hockey)
Sam Serbu (Baseball)
Lethbridge Elks Lodge #37 (Multi-sports)

1988

John Pahara (Boxing)
Mike Wyrostock (Softball)
Jim Gunn (Multi-sport)
Gordon Kay (Weightlifting)
Aldo Nechich (Soccer, Broomball)

1989

Doug Clark (Basketball)
Dr. Gary Bowie (Multi-sport)
Irene Karia (Multi-sport)
Reno Lizzi (Baseball)
Jim Szucs (Baseball)

1990

Thelma Coutts (Multi-sport)
Ralph "Lefty" Eshpete (Multi-sport)
Marilyn Snedden (Multi-sport)

1991

Marge Clark (Basketball)
Reed Spencer (Baseball)
George Swedish (Multi-sport)

1992

Ralph Guzzi (Multi-sport)
Dr. Richard King-Brown (Squash)
Bernie Ontkean (Rugby)

1993

Dan Bodell (Hockey)
Pat Hamilton (Motocross)
Peter Lewko (Multi-sport)

1994

Fritz Heinrich (Soccer, Broomball)
Joe Lakie (Multi-sport)
Jake Van Dyk (Multi-sport)

1995

Gordon Hoselton (Multi-sport)
Lewis Kennedy (Football)
Elwyn "Bush" Williams (Golf)

1996

Enso Baceda (Curling)
Don & Ethel Higgins (Figure skating)
Brent & Nancy Thorburn (Soccer)

1997

Gloria Gouthreau (Multi-sport)
Dr. Jan Harvey-Kilam (Swimming)
Dan Niehaus (Gymnastics)
George Yoshinaka (Baseball)

1998

Robert "Bob" Bartlett (Hockey)
Ed Henderson (Multi-sport)
Harold "Ted" Major (Multi-sport)

1999

Colleen Gunnlaugson (Figure skating)
John McLellan (Multi-sport)
Darryl Medoruma (Alpine skiing)

2000

Wally Pickett (Hockey)

2001

Gene Eisler (Soccer)
Ed Martyna (Badminton)
Wayne Petersen (Golf)

2002

Steve Arisman (Multi-sport)

2003

Tim Tollestrup (Multi-sport)

2004

Dawn (Fry) Keith (Basketball)

2006

Kevin Wiber (Football, Baseball)

2007

Sheila Buelow (Ringette)

2008

Bertril Johansson (Cross Country Running)
Blair Kubicek (Baseball)

2009

James Murphy (Tae Kwon-Do)
Daniel Shapiro (Tennis)
Don Chandler (Curling)

2010

Mal Clewes (Multi-sport)
LAA Pioneers (Hockey)
Florence Senda (Judo)
Sharon Chmielewski (Curling)

2011

Ron Jacobson (Football)
 Bob Tinordi (Broomball)
 Lethbridge Lacrosse Association Pioneers

2012

Brad Brown (Football)

2013

Kurt Berndtsson (Marksmanship)
 Terry Hanna (Basketball)

2014

Mary and John Schwengler (Triathlon, Running)
 John Lavorato (BMX)

2015

Pius Labolevech (Basketball)
 Cal O'Brien (Multi-sport)

2016

Lawrence Steinke (Track & field)
 Neil Langevin (Rugby)

2017

Morgan Munroe (Multi-sport)

2018

Duane Konynenbelt (Multi-sport)
 Steve Wilson (Volleyball)

2019

Ard Biesheuvel (Volleyball)
 Bernhard Pohl (Mixed Martial Arts)

2020

Howard Rasmussen (Volleyball)
 Eunice David (Figure Skating)
 Cliff Nelson (Multi-sport)
 Dr. Mary Dyck (Multi-sport)

2022

Scott Oikawa (Baseball)
 Errol Smith (Soccer)

2023

Mitch Ball (Baseball)
 Brian Donaldson (Wrestling)

2024

Randy Bardock (Soccer)
 Mike Tamura (Judo)
 Cooney Family (Speed Skating)

2025

Hurricane Group (Hockey)
 Kevin Kvame (Baseball)

2026

Dr. Alan Poytress (Triathlon)

ATHLETES

1985

Glen "Jinx" Anderson (Multi-sport)
 Robert "Scotty" Armit (Soccer, Track & field)
 Harry Blacker (Basketball)
 Jim Furlong (Football)
 Earl Ingarfield (Hockey)
 Enid (Dowdle) Pepper (Multi-sport)
 Marie Popson (Archery)
 Tom Sindlinger (Basketball)
 Vic Stasiuk (Hockey)
 D. Logan Tait (Basketball, Racquetball)
 Katie Wilson (Multi-sport)
 Kai Yip (Boxing)

1986

Robert "Bobby" Dunlop (Multi-sport)
 Sydney Emery (Boxing)
 Eddie Foychuk (Softball)
 James Freel Sr. (Multi-sport)
 William "Billy" Gibson (Hockey)
 Glen Hamilton (Multi-sport)
 Barbara Horne (Golf)
 Bus Murdoch (Multi-sport)
 Richard Steadman (Badminton)
 Gerald Ward (Track & field)

1987

Lavern Dzuren (Racquetball)
 John Eccleston (Track & field)
 Thomas Green (Multi-sport)

Marvin Kirchner (Multi-sport)

Evelyn Leffingwell (Marksmanship)
 Allan "Chick" MacIntosh (Multi-sport)
 Marty Maxwell (Baseball)
 Stan Maxwell (Hockey, Baseball)
 Charles "Bud" McKillop (Multi-sport)
 Dianne Violini (Bowling)

1988

Joe Meli (Judo)
 Steve Odney (Baseball)
 Harvie Pocza (Multi-sport)
 Natalie Reimer (Figure skating)
 Matthew Slavich (Baseball)
 Bill "Iron Man" Eagleson (Baseball)
 Carole Gerner (Track & field)
 Robert "Bob" Kastings Jr. (Swimming)
 Jack Lilja (Basketball)

1989

Doug Barkley (Hockey)
 Jody Fry (Racquetball)
 Tom Greenway (Judo)
 John Klem (Baseball)
 Ed Schwartz (Golf)
 Jack Smeed (Bowling)
 Alvin Tietz (Soccer)

1990

Rick Duff (Boxing)
 "Aut" Erickson (Hockey)
 Tim Filuk (Racquetball)
 Harold Mandeville (Rodeo)
 George Santoni (Baseball)

1991

Len Frig (Hockey)
 Eddy LeBaron (Boxing)
 Peter Slobodian (Hockey)
 Fen Tunbridge (Bowling, Golf)
 Stan Wills Jr. (Marksmanship)

1992

Stan Howard (Multi-sport)
 Jim Kotkas (Baseball)
 Marla Lawlor (Equestrian)
 Scott Maxwell (Baseball)

1993

Phil Illingworth (Judo)
 Bert Mezei (Bowling)
 Dan Santoni (Baseball)
 Joseph "Jocko" Tarnava (Multi-sport)
 Francis Wright (Multi-sport)

1994

Lori (Parsons) McArthur (Equestrian)
 Kathy McCune (Softball)
 Scott McGeoch (Soccer)
 Ken Moore (Football)
 Gary Tunbridge (Baseball, Bowling)

1995

Clark Bosch (Baseball)
 Jack Hebert (Baseball, Bowling)
 Nan Iwaskiw (Baseball)
 John MacMillan (Hockey)
 Bill Persley (Multi-sport)
 Cliff Stroh (Golf)

1996

Karen Ewashen (Powerlifting)
 Bill Koskoski (Baseball, Bowling)
 Bruce Lyon (Baseball)
 Ralph Oler (Marksmanship)
 Corrido Santoni (Baseball, Basketball)

1997

Lori Chaki-Farrington (Track & field)
 Reginald "Junior" Olsen (Combatives)
 Gary Simmons (Hockey)

1998

Sharon (Davies) Fogtmann (Badminton)
 Tara Gemer (Track & field)
 Suzanne Pecht (Track & field)
 Garth Pilling (Multi-sport)
 Guy Pomahac (Multi-sport)
 Jason Zuback (Golf)

1999

Gregory Duce (Baseball)
 Barb Halladay (Multi-sport)

2000

Don Cavers (Golf)
 Lorraine Hill (Equestrian)

Rob Roy (Baseball)
 Nick Saler (Soccer)

2001

Ian Balfour (Alpine skiing)
 Brian Rossetti (Bowling)

2002

Perry Mirkovich (Basketball)

2003

Malcolm Jones (Rodeo)
 Shawna (Molcak) Kolaczek (Basketball)

2004

Brenda Pennington (Multi-sport)
 Jamie Pushor (Hockey)

2006

Trevor Hardy (Kick Boxing)

2007

Dennis & Jude Hooey (Archery)
 Mike Marcinkowski (Weight lifting)
 Clarence Yanosik (Baseball)

2008

Charlton Weasel Head (Basketball)
 Tyler Birch (Alpine skiing, Bowling)
 Rachel Evans (Volleyball)

2009

Dori Johnson (Basketball)
 Danny Balderson (Basketball)

2010

Andrea Hlady (Basketball)
 Tom Three Persons (Rodeo)
 Bryan Maxwell (Hockey)

2011

Sarah (Joly) Nickolet (Soccer)
 Phil Tolllestrup (Basketball)

2012

Jim Nakagawa (Multi-sport)
 Gavin Edwards (Squash)

2013

Patricia Christiansen (Golf)
 Ryan Watson (Hockey)

2014

Chad Murray (Swimming)

2016

Howard Yanosik (Hockey)
 Laura Tsujikawa (Soccer)

2017

Mike Mezei (Golf)
 Stacy Roest (Hockey)

2018

Carla Pavan (Skeleton)
 Lauren Perry (Volleyball)

2019

Dawn Berry-Furtado (Golf)
 Trevor McAlpine (Judo)

2020

Jolene Watson (Schweitzer)(Soccer)

2022

Dennis Chief Moon (Boxing)
 Heather Steacy (Track & Field)
 Jim Steacy (Track & Field)

2023

Lanny Tron (Track & Field)
 Ashley Patzer (Rugby)

2024

Brad Wall (Mixed Martial Arts)
 Carmen Rinke (Boxing)

2025

Curtis Hatch (Boxing)
 Kyle McLaren (Hockey)

2026

Wacey Saapaata Rabbit (Hockey)
 Ross Bekkering (Basketball)
 Kris Versteeg (Hockey)

TEAMS

1985

Cliff Forry Rink (Curling)
1958-59 Lethbridge Broders Chinooks (Basketball)
1936-37 Lethbridge Galt Miners Senior Men (Baseball)
1950-51 Lethbridge Maple Leafs (Hockey)
Myrna McQuarrie Rink (Curling)
1932 Supina's (Soccer)

1986

1947-49 Lethbridge Native Sons Juveniles (Hockey)

1987

Betty Luco Rink (Curling)
1974-75 Lethbridge Y's Native Sons (Hockey)

1988

Barry Coleman Rink (Curling)
1979-80 Lethbridge Elks (Baseball)
Bill and Cori-Jo Petrunik (Figure skating)

1989

Wayne Bowes & Bob Daku (Racquetball)
Lethbridge All-Star Tigers (Baseball)

1990

Great West Tire Super Sam (Slo-pitch)

1991

1946 Blenner-Hassett and Smith Dodgers (Baseball)

1992

Greg & Mary Lazaruk (Darts)
Val Matteotti Suntanas (Slo-pitch)

1993

1969 Lethbridge Sugar Kings (Hockey)

1994

1969 Lethbridge Chargers (Soccer)

1995

1994 U of L Men's Pronghorns (Hockey)

1996

1989 LCC Women's Kodiaks (Basketball)

1997

1972 Lethbridge Amateur Swim Club Relay Team (Swimming)
1994 LCC Women's Kodiaks (Soccer)

1999

1977 Lethbridge Norcrest Senior Little League (Baseball)

2000

1982 Lethbridge Little League All-Stars (Baseball)

2001

1979 Lethbridge Gotschna (Slo-pitch)

2002

1990 LCI Rams (Football)

2006

1989 Val Matteotti Golden Hawks (Hockey)

2007

1963-65 Lethbridge Jr. North Stars (Fastball)

2003 LCC Women's Kodiaks (Cross-Country Running)

2008

2004 Kodiak Women's Basketball

2010

2005-06 Lethbridge College Kodiaks Men's Cross-Country Team

1971 U of L Chinooks Women's Basketball

2011

2007 LCI Rams Senior Boys Volleyball Team

2012

2007-09 U of L Pronghorn Women's Rugby

2013

1977 Lethbridge Norcrest Little League All Stars (Baseball)

2014

2011 Lethbridge Giants (Baseball)

2015

1966-1967 Lethbridge Junior College Men's Kodiaks (Basketball)

2016

1963 Lethbridge Hungaria (Soccer)

2017

1985 Lethbridge Senior Little League (Baseball)

2018

1975 Lethbridge Chargers (Soccer)

2019

2008 Senior Ladies World Curling Championship Team (Curling)
1981 Lethbridge Little League All-Stars Canadian Champions (Baseball)

2020

Schwartz Angels 1983 Canadian Slo-Pitch Champions (Slo-Pitch)

2023

1979 Lethbridge Senior Little League All-Stars (Baseball)

2025

Lethbridge Miners 1986 / Lethbridge Elks 1987 (Baseball)

2026

2016-17 Lethbridge College Kodiaks WBB (Basketball)

SPECIAL

1988

Lethbridge Labour Club (Multi-sport)
AC "Andy" Anderson (Multi-sport)

1989

Val Matteotti (Multi-sport)
Al McCann (Multi-sport)
Don Pilling (Multi-sport)

1990

Lethbridge Hockey Hounds (Hockey)

1991

George Wesley (Baseball)

1992

Royal Canadian Legion (Multi-sport)

1993

Lethbridge Oldtimers Sports Association
(Hockey)

1994

Mary Oikawa (Multi-sport)

1995

Sven Ericksen's Family Restaurant
(Multi-sport)

1996

Steve Fallwell (Multi-sport)

1997

Keith Jorgensen (Multi-sport)
Gordon Orser (Hockey)

1999

Vivien Goodrich (Equestrian)

2000

Rich Sutter (Hockey)
Ron Sutter (Hockey)

2001

Gus Herresvele (Multi-sport)

2002

Max Gibb (Multi-sport)

2003

Garry Allison (Multi-sport)

2004

Sundown Hank Markus (Rodeo)

2006

Jack Nagai (Multi-sport)
1975 Canada Games Society (Multi-sport)

2007

Ron Bain (Running)

2008

Yoshitaka (Taka) Kinjo (Karate)

2009

Southern Alberta High School Rugby League
Pioneers

2010

Bryan Jeannotte (Multi-sport)
Harry Bentley (Multi-sport)

2012

The Bascom Family (Rodeo)
Raymond Knight (Rodeo)

2014

George Virtue (Multi-sport)

2015

Colin Nonomura, Darin Gibson
(Tae Kwon-Do)
David Wells (Multi-sport)

2017

Knud Petersen (Multi-sport)

2019

Carol Thibert (Multi-sport)

2022

Jody Fisher Meli (Curling)

2023

Rufus Goodstriker (Multi-sport)

2024

Judge John A. Jackson (Multi-sport)

2025

Malcom Kano (Multi-sport)

2026

Ralph Family (Multi-sport)

HISTORICAL

2025

Herman Linder (Rodeo)

2026

Pearl Violet Borgal (Multi-sport)



LETHBRIDGE SPORTS HALL OF FAME
~ 2026 ~

Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame (LSHOF) very much appreciates the effort of Rogers TV and Ryan Craddock for recording this evening's Induction Ceremony & Banquet. It will later be available for everyone to watch on YouTube via LSHOF's website

<https://www.lethbridgesportshalloffame.ca/>



**CONGRATULATIONS TO
ALL 2026 INDUCTEES!**

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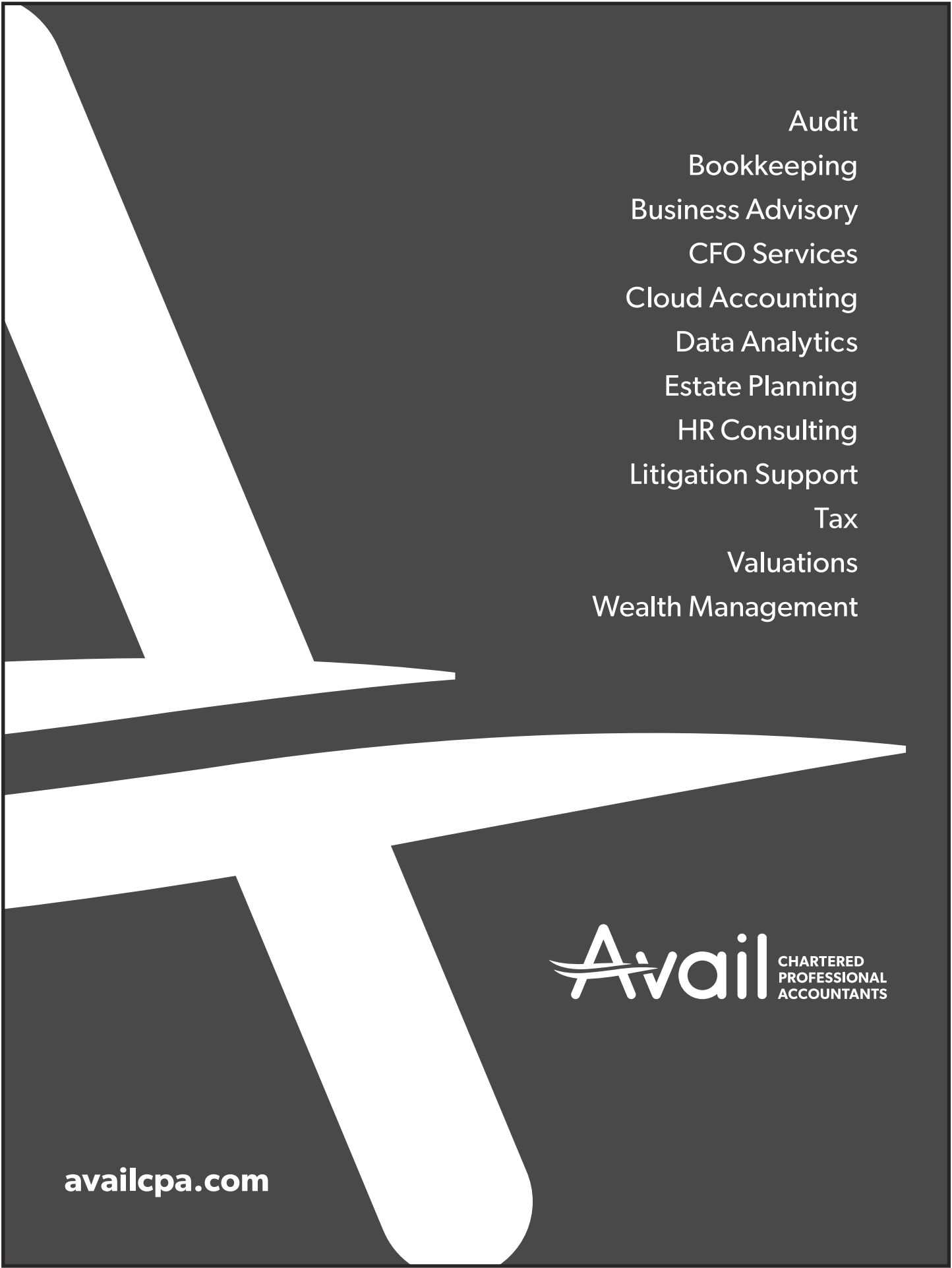
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2016-17 Lethbridge College Kodiaks WBB, *National Champion*



Back row L to R: Shantaya Strebel, Vienna Tamminen, Shayna Mathison, Brianne Hergott, John Lowry - Asst. Coach, Emma Lowry, Jaclyn Heggie, Rebecca Lowry, Deanna Dotts - Asst. Coach, Brad Karren - Head Coach, Ali Cameron - Asst. Coach and Curtis Arsenault - Athletic Trainer

Front row L to R: Amy Arbon, Hanna Strebel, Leah Ekubazgi, Logan Moncks, Amanda Lee, Jinan Daqqa, and Sunder West

The Lethbridge College Kodiaks women's basketball team was perfect during the 2016-17 Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference season. The Kodiaks went an unblemished 21-0 in the ACAC regular season before winning the ACAC provincial championship on home court. They capped off the nothing-but-net season by capturing the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association National Championship in Edmonton with an 81-57 victory over Montreal's Dawson College Lady Blues.

The championship season was capped off by personal accolades as well. Kodiaks head coach Brad Karren was named the ACAC and CCAA Coach of the Year. Also, Kodiak Sunder West was named an ACAC First Team All-Star, ACAC Tournament MVP, CCAA Tournament MVP and CCAA Tournament First Team All-Star. Teammate Logan Moncks was honoured as an ACAC MVP and CCAA Tournament First Team All-Star while Emma Lowry earned ACAC First Team All-Star, ACAC Tournament All-Star and CCAA Tournament First Team All-Star nods. The Kodiaks' dominant performance marked them as one of the greatest athletic teams in Lethbridge College history, with Karren leading them to a 73-3 record over three seasons, including the national title. In 2015-2016 the Kodiaks went 21-0 in ACAC regular season play but would have to settle for a bronze in the ACAC playoffs, failing to qualify for the CCAA.

In 2016-17, the Kodiaks dominated the competition during the ACAC regular season enroute to their 21-0 record, defeating opponents by more than ten points in all but two games. Hosting the ACAC championship at the Val Matteotti Gymnasium, the Kodiaks steamrolled past the Lakeland Rustlers in the opening round and overcame their semifinal demons from a year earlier with a convincing 66-50 victory over the SAIT Trojans. In front of a loud, capacity crowd, the Kodiaks posted a memorable 85-54 win over the St. Mary's Lightning to capture their 13th ACAC championship in program history.

The Kodiaks headed north to NAIT in Edmonton to take on the best teams in Canada at the 2017 CCAA National Championships. Entering as the third seed, Lethbridge rolled past first round opponent British Columbia's Douglas College 99-44 as West led the

way with 26 points. The Kodiaks faced their toughest test of the season in the semifinal against Quebec champion Nomades de Montmorency. After the Kodiaks jumped out to a 19-point lead in the second quarter, the Nomades rallied and eventually tied the game at 70-70, setting up an exhilarating final two minutes. In the end, the Kodiaks hit a pair of clutch jumpers and prevailed 74-70, setting up a national title match with Montreal's Dawson College.

In the national final against the Lady Blues, the Kodiaks overcame early nerves and rode West's 23 points to an 81-57 victory, claiming the fourth CCAA women's basketball championship in program history after previous wins in 1989, 1990 and 2004.



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WHAT HAPPENS NEXT MATTERS MOST.

At Lethbridge Polytechnic, we know great teams and great leaders are built through perseverance, determination and countless hours of work behind the scenes.

That commitment is reflected in this year's Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame class, including the **2016-17 Kodiaks women's basketball team** whose unforgettable season ended with conference and national championships, and one of our own Hall of Fame inductees **Pearl Borgal** whose countless historic contributions are still shaping our community today.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL 2026 INDUCTEES! WE'RE PROUD TO CELEBRATE THE PEOPLE AND TEAMS WHO MAKE SOUTHERN ALBERTA'S SPORTS COMMUNITY SO STRONG.



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