



# MANITOBA HOCKEY FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Fall 2007



## Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame Induction Dinner

Date: October 6, 2007  
Location: Canad Inns Polo Park  
Winnipeg

Tickets: \$85 with a \$50 charitable  
tax receipt

Contact dinner chair Jerry Kruk at (204)  
668-0900 or at [jerrykruk@shaw.ca](mailto:jerrykruk@shaw.ca).

Tickets can be ordered by mail from:  
The Manitoba Hockey  
Hall of Fame  
c/o 987 Arena Road  
Winnipeg R3C 2Z3

## 2007 Grey Cup Draw Tickets

Grey Cup draw tickets priced at \$5.00 are now available from Foundation board members. Numerous opportunities to win with score changes, quarter scores, reverse scores, and what President Gary Cribbs describes as "the big one," the final score.

Tickets also will be on sale at the induction dinner Oct. 6.

Names of those holding winning tickets will be published in the Winter newsletter.

## An Evening of Wonderful Memories and Plenty of Hockey Talk

October 6 is one night no Foundation member or hockey supporter will want to miss. The Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame will welcome its 2007 inductees into the provincial shrine at an induction dinner at the Canad Inns Polo Park in Winnipeg. Eight players, four builders, one official, one member of the media and two teams will be honoured during the evening.

Dinner chairman Jerry Kruk anticipates a large crowd on Oct. 6. He also stresses that that you still have time to purchase tickets for the dinner. Arrangements can be made to accommodate individuals and small or large groups.. It's the perfect time to get together former teammates and friends for a night of memories and plenty of hockey talk. A reception with a cash bar starts at 6 p.m. with dinner served at 7 p.m.

Four player inductees, Reg Abbott, Dan Bonar, Perry Miller and Gord Stratton, have confirmed their attendance. So have builders Don Baizley, Elmer Hildebrand, Bill Maluta and Morris Mott. Buffalo Sabres assistant coach James Patrick, the fifth living player inductee, is booked elsewhere as the Sabres play their home opener against the New York Islanders that evening. But there's always hope that head coach Lindy Ruff will release Patrick from his coaching duties to attend.



Reg Abbott

Players Danny Johnson, Bill Kendall and Tom Rendall along with official Perry Allan and *Portage Daily Graphic* sports reporter Moe Cartman will be inducted posthumously. They will be represented by family or friends.

The 1964-65 Canadian Inter-collegiate Athletic Union champion University of Manitoba Bisons team expects to have most of their line-up ready to be honoured at the dinner. Several of the Herd have relocated to other provinces, but assistant coach Gibb Pritchard managed to track them down. The 1948-49 Western Canada junior champion Brandon Wheat Kings is the second team being inducted. Along with Abbott, Bob Chrystal, Angus Juckes, Glen Sonmor and Mac Beaton are expected to attend.



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### **Mission Statement**

The Manitoba Hockey Foundation is an incorporated, non-profit organization dedicated to Manitoba's hockey heritage, past, present and future,

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President: Gary Cribbs  
Vice-President: Jerry Kruk  
Secretary: Pat McKinnon  
Past President: George Depres

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Frank McKinnon, Kent Morgan, Len Morrow,  
Walter Mueller, Don Raleigh,  
Ed Sweeney, G.R. (Jeep) Woolley

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Wayne Hawrysh—The Pas  
Gerry Liske—Beausejour  
Keith McCallum—Brandon  
Grant Moffat—Carroll  
Morris Mott—Brandon  
Rick Olsen—Selkirk  
Red Sangster—Thompson

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Manitoba Hockey Foundation Inc.

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Photos: Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame,  
Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame,  
Society for International Hockey  
Research, David Square

Printed by: Docuprint

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6641 or mailed to the above address.

## **When Falcons Fly**

Most local sports fans know that the Winnipeg Falcons won the first Olympic hockey title in 1920. The team has its own exhibit in the MTS Centre and a large mural on a wall at Portage Ave. and Furby St. Fans may not know the earlier story of how a group of mostly Icelandic Canadian boys overcame a series of obstacles including racial prejudice en route to Olympic gold.

In his new book, *When Falcons Fly* (Poppy Productions \$15.95), Eastman author David Square uses the vehicle of historical fiction to tell the full Falcons story.



**David Square**

"About 90 percent of the book is fact," Square said in a recent interview with *The Prime Times* newspaper. "Incorporating some fiction allowed me to bring the story alive and create tension. Also no one really knows if many of the anecdotes about the Falcons are true."

That tension is there right from the opening chapter set in 1909. A bunch of young "Goolies" from around Sargent Ave. and Victor St. battle a "WASP" bunch in a pickup hockey game on the Assiniboine River. The river was considered to be a boundary between Little Iceland on the north and the Anglophone community in the River and Osborne area. The reader is immediately pulled into the story when a fight breaks out between Falcons leader Frank Frederickson and tough Huck Woodman.

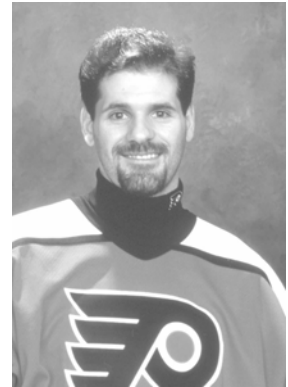
The decision by Square to write *When Falcons Fly* as a novel allowed him to incorporate dialogue into the story and develop the main players as more than faces in photographs and names in newspapers. The focus is on future Hockey Hall of Fame member Frederickson, who states that "quit is not in our Goolie vocabulary." Woodman recognized that on the day of his fight and later accepts an invitation from Frederickson to join the Falcons. For several years, the team battles the Manitoba hockey establishment for acceptance and regroupes after a hiatus while several players serve their country in World War I.

Square is pleased with the initial response to his book. He signed copies at the Icelandic Festival in Gimli on the August long weekend and figures about 50 copies were purchased by Icelandic visitors. On Sept. 10, *When Falcons Fly* had its official launch at McNally Robinson Booksellers Grant Park. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the book will be donated to the Kelty Patrick Dennehy Foundation.

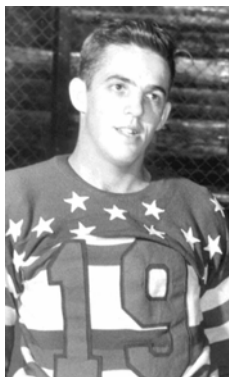
## Name-Dropping by Toast and Coffee

Editors Ted and Kent were labelled Toast and Coffee when they wrote a sports column under that title for the *Winnipeg Sun* from 1997—2001. They now write the bi-weekly “The Sporting Life” column for *The Prime Times* newspaper.

**Ron Hextall** will be inducted into the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame as an athlete and the late **Gordie Kerr** inducted as a builder on Nov. 17. Hextall played for the Brandon Wheat Kings before embarking on a long pro career that saw him win both the Vezina Trophy and the Conn Smythe Trophy while tending goal for the Philadelphia Flyers. Kerr served as MAHA referee-in-chief for many years and officiated in the 1972 and 1976 Winter Olympics. Kerr, who passed away last December, was inducted into the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame in 1990 while Hextall became a member in 2001...Board member **Don Kuryk** also will go into the Sports HOF this year as a member of the St. Vital Bulldogs football team that won the Canadian senior championship in 1968 and 1969. Kuryk was inducted into the Hockey HOF as an official in 2003. The 28<sup>th</sup> annual dinner will be held at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg...Executive director **Rick Brownlee** reports that the Sports HOF has received a grant extension from the Province of Manitoba to allow **Matthew Komus** to continue to catalogue the Hockey HOF collection until the end of October...Foundation board member **Frank McKinnon**, who headed the CAHA many moons ago, had the honour of handling the official face-off on Sept. 4 at the Canada/Russia junior game held at the MTS Centre. Frank claims he dropped the puck perfectly in the “old-style” flat manner rather than slam it down between the sticks...While enjoying an evening at Assiniboia Downs with board member **Ralph Berger**, McKinnon spotted a familiar face sitting nearby. It was 1989 HOF inductee **Butch Goring**, who was in the city to visit with his family. The former NHL star is the head coach of a minor hockey system in the New York City area, a job father Bob says Butch enjoys very much...The busy McKinnon and his full-time admin assistant (read wife) Pat were in the Twin Cities in August to visit his son Kevin and family and do some babysitting. Before settling in Minnesota, Kevin, a UND grad, played for the Baton Rouge Kingfish, Mississippi Sea Wolves and Colorado Gold Kings. Frank contacted Minnesota Wild assistant GM **Tom Thompson** in regard to the team purchasing an ad in the induction dinner program. During the discussion, they discovered that the two former Manitoba hockey types live about a mile from each other in St. Paul...**Glen Sonmor** was named as a winner of a 2006 Lester Patrick Award for outstanding service to hockey in the United States. He has spent more



Ron Hextall



Glen Sonmor

than a half century playing, coaching, managing, scouting and promoting the game, mostly in Minnesota. Sonmor will be inducted into the Manitoba Hockey HOF as a member of the 1948-49 Brandon Wheat Kings. You can read an excellent story about him titled “Sonmor found a way to win at life” on the Internet site nhl.com...Board member **Laurie Langrell** got together with his old team-mates from Warren on Aug. 8&9 to relive winning the Winnipeg Juvenile Baseball League championship fifty years earlier. Warren won the title in six games over Crescentwood. In the sixth game that went 16 innings, Langrell led Warren at bat with four hits. The losing pitcher was 2005 HOF inductee **Cliff Pennington**, who pitched 10 innings in relief. In the spring of 1959 on the hockey ice, they met again. Langrell and the Winnipeg Braves eliminated Pennington and the Flin Flon Bombers in the Western final and went on to win the Memorial Cup...On June 2 in Morden, Neepawa’s **Pat Angers** of the 1959 Braves was inducted into the Manitoba Baseball HOF as a player. **Gordon Hunter** of Nesbitt was inducted as a player/builder. On the ice, Hunter played goal for the Brandon College Caps, Brandon Wheat Kings and Souris Elks...**Harry Bueckert** aka The Gretna

Garbagegeman was inducted into the Manitoba Softball HOF on May 26 as a member of the 1973 Winnipeg Colonels fastball team. His hockey resume includes stints with the Winnipeg Rangers, St. Boniface Mohawks, Warroad Lakers and Altona Maroons. **Grant Skinner**, **Dave Shyjak** and **Peter Weston**, who came from the Philippines, are other Colonels with hockey connections...2001 HOF media inductee Steady **Eddie Dearden**, who covered the WHA Jets for the *Winnipeg Tribune* and CJOB, will be inducted into the Manitoba Golf Hall of Fame on Sept. 24. So will **Ralph Bagley** who covered some hockey during his years with the Trib and the *Winnipeg Free Press*... (continued page 4)

## Name Dropping by Toast and Coffee (continued)

When you researching a specific sport subject in the daily newspapers at the library, you often get side-tracked by articles about other events. This happened again last month when we were tracking down information in the September 1957 papers. The storyline about a senior lacrosse final played at the Olympic Rink between St. Boniface Kiewels and Olympics was too good not to pass on when several of the culprits are well known to readers. In game five of the best-of-seven series, Olympics beat St. B 12-11. Board member **Bryan Derrett** led 'Pics with six goals including the winner. **Ralph Lyndon**, earlier described as "the hottest piece of artillery since gunpowder" by an unidentified *Winnipeg Tribune* reporter, scored his 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> goals of the series for the losers. He also spent seven straight minutes in



Ted Harris

the sin-bin for "checking and slugging **Gord Horner**." Near the end of game six, which St. Boniface won 5-4, Derrett got into a mix-up with **Al Smallwood**. Then after the game during the playing of the national anthem, Smallwood provoked a brawl when he kicked Derrett's glove away from him. Derrett went after Smallwood and former Winnipeg Baron **Ross Fargey**, who was injured, "jumped into the fray and started tossing punches with (1985 HOF inductee) **Ted Harris**." As an aside, Fargey later became a polo impresario while Harris became a top NHL heavyweight. No mention of Lyndon when pandemonium broke out so further research clearly was necessary. It turned out that he missed the game because he was in Grand Forks attending UND and playing hockey. Derrett immediately was suspended by senior league president **John Arondeus** and the Manitoba Lacrosse Association honoured it, which meant he had to sit out the rubber match. Lyndon conveniently forgot some books in Winnipeg so he drove home to pick them up and stayed for the game. The trip was worth it as Lyndon scored five times in the Saints 9-8 victory. **Ray Hoskins, Barry McQueen, Lionel Merrick** and **Harry Nightingale** also

scored for St. Boniface...Kent travelled to The Pas to give the eulogy at the funeral of **Ron Cox**, who played defence for the intermediate Huskies during the 1950s and 1960s and served as team captain. After the Apr. 30 service, he had a short visit with associate director **Wayne Hawrysh**. Kent was a linesman in the WCJHL when Hawrysh played for the Fliin Flon Bombers in the late 1960s...What happens to officials after they retire? In the case of **Len Cowie**, he took up whist and he and wife Edith won silver medals in the Manitoba Society of Senior Games in June...**Don Barton**, one of the founders of high school hockey in the city, has been recognized for his contributions to high school football in St. James. The retired educator is now a member of the Sturgeon Creek Collegiate Schooner/Husky Hall of Fame...Winnipeg Falcons star forward **Harold Halderson** was best known as Slim, but did you know his other nickname was The Human Hockey Stick? And no one seems to agree on the proper way to spell his surname. According to our historian **Ed Sweeney**, it was spelled Halldorson when Slim was inducted in the Manitoba HOF posthumously in 1987 because that's the version family members wanted. For his book, *When Falcons Fly*, author **David Square** said he decided to stick with the common spelling of Halderson. Then a few weeks ago a clerk in Tergesen's store in Gimli told us that she worked with Slim for years and was related to the family and that Halldorsson with an extra "s" was the original spelling. As for his given name, we've seen Haldor and Halldor along with Harold. No matter what, he was great player who won an Allan Cup, a Stanley Cup and an Olympic championship...Did you know that they played ice hockey in the Winnipeg Roller Rink in the early days of the facility at Langside and Portage? That's the word from Sweeney. Roller hockey became popular after World War II. **Doug McGhee**, who worked down the street at Baldy Northcott's Sporting Goods and served as equipment manager for the 1964 Allan Cup champion Winnipeg Maroons, was one of the top scorers...It will be good news for those people who think induction dinners are too long if the 1964-65 U of M Bisons chose someone other centre **Leo Duguay** to serve as their spokesman Oct. 6. Since his career as the Member of Parliament for St. Boniface ended some years ago, the loquacious Leo has been working as a lobbyist in Ottawa.



Slim Halderson

## The Final Face-Off

Since our last newsletter in April, the hockey community has lost a number of Manitobans and others with a connection to hockey in our province. Information below was compiled from obituaries and other sources such as the Internet. Obituaries for many of the following can be found in the *Winnipeg Free Press* by searching the online archives. Individual members of the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame are noted with an asterisk\*.

May 14 in Winnipeg – **Chuck Badcock, 79** – Athletic therapist who served as Winnipeg Jets trainer from 1980 to 1991. Worked the 1982 and 1986 NHL all-star games. Inducted into the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame as a builder in 2006.

May 20 in Winnipeg – **Lin Davies, 86** – Spent many years involved in hockey from peewee to serving as the president of the junior St. James Canadians.

May 23 in Kelowna – **Adam Kell, 86** – General manager of the 1974 Centennial Cup champion Selkirk Steelers team that was inducted into the Manitoba Hockey HOF in 2005.

May 29 in San Diego – **\*Ron Oakes, 73** – Winnipeg-born broadcaster who was the voice of hockey in San Diego and did play-by-play for the LA Kings, St. Louis Blues and Chicago Blackhawks. Inducted into the Manitoba Hockey HOF in 2001.

June 2 in New Bothwell – **Vern Penner, 65** – Played for New Bothwell Flyers of the Hanover Tache Intermediate League during the 1960s and served as president of the Hanover-Tache Junior League.

June 5 in Brandon – **Mike Jones, 49** – Sports editor of the *Brandon Sun* who covered the Wheat Kings for many years.

June 18 in Winnipeg – **Eldon Salter, 74** – Played for the Portage Terriers of the MJHL.

June 18 in Stonewall – **Al Cooke, 81** – Played goal for Vince Leah's Winnipeg Excelsiors and senior for several years. Coached in Silver Heights and Stonewall for more than 40 years. Involved with GWMHA where he prepared a brief on tiered hockey that led to the development of AA and AAA in Winnipeg.

June 20 in Winnipeg – **Ken Nieman, 66** – Outstanding all-around athlete who was a highly rated goalie in minor hockey recording 14 shutouts one season and signed by the Boston Bruins. Played oldtimers for Sir John Franklin and the Winnipeg Oldenboys.

June 29 in The Pas – **Harold Wells, 79** – Played for The Pas Huskies and Flin Flon Bombers. Managed the intermediate Huskies and covered sports for The Pas newspaper.

July 3 in Winnipeg – **George MacDonald, 85** – Played goal for the Cameron Highlander team that twice won the Canadian Army hockey championship during World War II.

July 3 in Prince Albert – **Mike Kardash, 69** – Defenceman with the 1956-57 Memorial Cup champion Flin Flon Bombers. Ten-year pro career included the 1960-61 season with the WHL Winnipeg Warriors.

July 10 in Winnipeg – **\*Doug Baldwin, 84** – Member of the 1941 Memorial Cup champion Winnipeg Rangers who played in the NHL with Chicago, Detroit and Toronto. Coached Selkirk Steelers. Inducted into the Manitoba Hockey HOF in 2001.

July 11 in Windsor – **\*Jimmie Skinner, 90** – Selkirk native who played junior with the Winnipeg Rangers, senior with Flin Flon Bombers and pro in the Detroit system. Spent more than 35 years with the Red Wings in many capacities. Coached team to the Stanley Cup in 1954-55. Inducted into the Manitoba Hockey HOF in 1986.

July 14 in LaSalle, Ont. – **John Ferguson, 69** – Served as GM of the Winnipeg Jets for 10 years winning the last WHA championship in 1978-79. Won five Stanley Cups as a player with the Montreal Canadiens.

July 14 in Winnipeg – **John Chipka, 91** – Played junior for the Winnipeg Falcons from 1933 to 1935.

July 23 in Gimli – **John Lewicki, 73** – Involved with AAA hockey in Winnipeg and served as a director of the junior St. James Canadians in the 1970s.

July 28 in Winnipeg – **Bob Westmacott, 86** – West Kildonan native who was involved in minor hockey in the area and operated the junior West Kildonan North Stars, Kenora Muskies and Winnipeg Monarchs.

Aug. 18 in Winnipeg – **Ed Link, 71** – River East Minor Hockey Association executive who later served as president of the Winnipeg Minor Hockey Association.

Aug. 23 in Winnipeg – **Jack McKeag, 79** – Served as honorary chairman of the Winnipeg Jets board while Lt-Governor of Manitoba during the early 1970s. Team VP in 1975-76 and president in 1976-77.

Aug. 25 in Winnipeg – **Ronald Robertson, 85** – Played junior with the EK Bisons and then with Winnipeg Falcons from 1940 to 1942. Team's top scorer in 1941-42.

Sept. 1 in Selkirk – **John Kindrat, 78** – Managed Carberry intermediates and was a founding member of the Selkirk Steelers juniors.

Sept. 9 in Winnipeg – **Cam Black, 83** – director of the junior St. James Canadians.



## Skating Down Memory Lane With Hockey Historian Ed Sweeney



It was 75 years ago when the Winnipeg senior hockey club, Allan Cup champions the previous season, represented Canada and captured the Olympic hockey crown. The year was 1932 when the Winnipeg team journeyed to Lake Placid, New York for the Winter Olympics and returned home with the gold medal.

Canada opened the tournament with a hard-fought 2-1 overtime victory over their arch rivals United States. Harold (Hack) Simpson scored Canada's first goal and Vic Lindquist notched the winner at the 7:13 mark of extra time. Both Canada and the United States went on to post two victories apiece over Poland and Germany to set the stage between the two teams for the Olympic title.

The game turned into another nail-biter with the US squad ahead 2-1 late in the third period. With only 33 seconds left in regulation time, Romeo Rivers scored the tying goal for Canada. Both teams then battled over three gruelling ten-minute scoreless periods of overtime. As per the Olympic rules, the game then went into the books as a 2-2 draw and the Canadian club was declared Olympic champions.

Members of the Canadian team did not receive certificates commemorating their Olympic victory. The certificates were either lost or misplaced. It wasn't until many years later that the certificates were discovered in CAHA Registrar W.A. Hewitt's (Foster's father) office at Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto. A letter along with the 1932 diplomas was forwarded to Manitoba Hockey president Bob Alexander on October 22, 1964. Alexander then contacted and distributed the certificates to all members of the 1932 Olympic championship club. It boggles one's mind to think that these important scrolls lay in a desk drawer for over thirty-two years!



Front row l-r: W.J. Robertson, Jack Hughes (coach) , C.C. Robinson (mgr), Billy Bowman (trainer), J.E. Myers (sec.-treas)  
Second row: George (Tic) Garbutt, Romeo Rivers, Harold Simpson, Bill Cockburn (captain), Stan Wagner, Walter Monson  
Third row: Cliff Crowley, Norm Malloy, Hughie Sutherland, Roy Hinkel. Albert (Spunk) Duncanson, Foster Wooley, Vic Lindquist, Alston (Stoney) Wise, Ken Moore  
Back row l-r: D.G. Thomson (pres.), N.W. Leslie (vp), E.A. Gilroy (MAHA pres.)