

MANITOBA HOCKEY HALL OF FAME

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2009



Twelve individuals including first woman and four teams to enter **Hockey Hall of Fame in October**

Two veteran goaltenders and the first woman head the group of six players, six builders and four teams entering the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame at the 2009 induction dinner to be held at Canad Inns Polo Park in Winnipeg, October 3.

Ed Belfour played 963 regular season NHL games for Chicago, San Jose, Dallas where he won a Stanley Cup and Toronto. Ken Wreaget was in the nets for 575 NHL games with Toronto, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Calgary and Detroit plus a final season with



Ken Wregget

the Manitoba Moose. Wregget was on a Cup winner in Pittsburgh. Belfour was born in Carman, Man. while Wregget, like a number of former big league goalkeepers, hails from Brandon.

Two former Winnipeg Jets are members of the class of 2009. Bill Lesuk, a two-way player, was valuable as a shut-down forward on the Jets Avco Cup winning teams of 1976, 1978 and 1979. Ray Neufeld, who was born in St. Boniface, played junior for the Flin Flon Bombers and suited up for 595 NHL games including four seasons with the Jets.

A solid minor leaguer, Murray Wilkie played

all over North America, but logged a lot of time locally playing junior with the Brandon Wheat Kings, senior with St. Boniface Mohawks, intermediate with Minnedosa and Neepawa, pro with the Western Hockey League Winnipeg Warriors and Brandon Regals and oldtimers for a great many teams.

Bruno Zarrillo scored 119 goals in two seasons for the River East Royals of the Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League and then



Bruno Zarrillo

a top scorer and a member of Team Italy in several World and Olympic championships. It would be difficult to find a better candidate than Jill Mathez to be the first woman to be inducted into the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame. She will enter as a builder along with five others with impressive credentials. A first-class player who was named MVP of the Winnipeg Women's Hockey League, Mathez had success coaching midget, senior and college hockey at the University of Winnipeg.

played 16 seasons in Europe where he was

Continued on page 3... 2009 Inductees

Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame **Induction Dinner**

Date: October 3, 2009

> Cocktails 5 p.m., Dinner 6 p.m.

Location: Canad Inns Polo Park

Winnipeg

\$100 with a \$60 charitable tax Tickets:

receipt.

Table of 10 - \$950

Tickets and tables can be ordered from:

Jerry Kruk

c/o 987 Arena Road Winnipeg, MB R3C 2Z3 Phone: 204-668-0900 email: jerrykruk@shaw.ca

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Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame Inc. 13-677 St. Anne's Road Winnipeg, MB **R2N 4C4**

Mission Statement

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

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This newsletter is published by the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame. Editors: Ted (Dutch) Holland Kent Morgan

Contributors: Larry Evans, Tom Gill, Martin Harris, Laurie Langrell, Barry

Swanton

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Submissions should be sent via e-mail to tkmorgan@shaw.ca, by fax to (204)-489-6641 or mailed to the above address. Office Telephone: (204)-253-6982

Hockey Hall of Fame News

A Message From President Gary Cribbs

This has been a most active year for the Manitoba Hockey Fall of Fame and Museum. As mentioned before, we did have a name change; we carried on with a number of programs from the past years. We continued with the scholarship and referees awards; the extension of the Wall of Fame at the MTS Centre. We also introduced three new members to the Board of Directors, and we wish to thank them for their immediate involvement.

The various committees really worked hard and have achieved great results. The Reunion afternoon on Sept. 28 was a success and the 50-plus who attended enjoyed themselves reminiscing. I would be remiss if I did not thank the committee who worked, and continues to do so, on the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) program. As a result of contact with the City of Winnipeg, other communities and provincial sports, recreational and health groups and coordination with the Heart & Stroke Association of Manitoba. AEDs are now in the majority of rinks in Winnipeg and numerous facilities throughout the province. We congratulate Kent Morgan and his group for all their hard work.



This is the year of inducting new members in the Manitoba Hall of Fame, Frank McKinnon and his committee has collected, agonized over. and had to make some tough decisions for the Class of 2009. And now Jerry Kruk is working hard in formulating the ticket sales and the arrangements for the dinner. Oct. 3, at the Canad Inns Polo Park.

AED at Billy Mosienko Arena with HOF donation plaque.

As usual, we do appeal to you to continue to belong to the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame. Please send in your membership pledge of \$15.00 per year, or for \$100 a lifetime patron membership. We encourage you to promote membership to others as it's important to expand our numbers. This money assists us in carrying on the programs as mentioned above. We strive to maintain our Mission Statement of dedication to Manitoba's hockey heritage, past, present and future.

2009 Inductees (continued from page 1)

Murray Williamson grew up playing hockey in Winnipeg, attended the University of Minnesota on a hockey scholarship, and went on to coach two US Olympic and several US national teams. Greg Lacomy played junior for the Winnipeg Monarchs and was a member of a NCAA national champion Denver University squad. He coached at a variety of levels in Manitoba from the Mustangs tournament team to several years with the University of Manitoba Bisons.

Two builders will be inducted posthumously. Patty Ginnell coached junior hockey for 14 years and while at the helm of the Flin Flon Bombers earned WHL coach of the year honours three times. Heavy Evason was involved in junior hockey across Canada for 20 years as a coach, manager and scout and also coached in England.

Entering the Hall in the team category will be the Canadian National Team that was made up of players from across Canada, but was based in Winnipeg in the 1965-1970 time period and the 1952-53 St. Boniface Canadiens that won the Western Canada junior championship. Canadiens were defeated in the Memorial Cup final by Barrie Flyers.

The Hall of Fame selection committee also recognized the grassroots of Manitoba hockey by selecting for induction two intermediate teams from 1956-57. Pine Falls Paper Kings won the provincial intermediate AA championship and then the Edmonton Journal Trophy emblematic of Western Canada intermediate AA supremacy. Poplar Point Memorials had powerful teams for a decade in the intermediate B division. However, the 1956-57 edition of the club challenged and defeated Winkler, the Manitoba intermediate A champs.

The Ultimate Father-Son Road Trip

Winnipeg lawyer Curtis Unfried knew that the Anaheim Ducks invited their players' dads along on a road trip each year. He liked the idea and told his father Bruce Unfried that they should have a similar father/son outing some time. He decided that there could be no better opportunity than the New Years Day outside hockey game at Wrigley Field with Chicago Blackhawks hosting Detroit Red Wings. Curtis thought it was one of those things that "If you don't do it now, you may never do it." The first move was to obtain tickets, which he was able to do through a draw even though season ticket holders had first chance and there were 250,000 requests for the remaining seats. Next they booked the Sheraton Hotel downtown and also picked up Chicago Bulls basketball



Bruce Unfried and Ted Lindsay

tickets. On game day they hopped on the subway at 9 a.m., wanting to have lots of time to absorb the atmosphere before the puck was dropped at noon. Bruce said they had a chance to chat with Stan Mikita and Ted Lindsay.

"There used to be a tough guy in the NHL from Winnipeg, his name was Bill Juzda," Lindsay said. He wasn't aware that Juzda passed away last year.

"Then I met a woman who said her dad used to play," Bruce said. She was the daughter of former Red Wing and Toronto Maple Leaf star Red Kelly. Bruce told her that he recalled that her dad was an MP, which resulted in a brief political discussion since, like Kelly, he was a hockey player (Winnipeg Monarch juniors) and a politician (Mayor of The Pas from 1980 until 1992).

Meanwhile Curtis spotted Bobby Hull hurrying to an interview and yelled, "I'm from Winnipeg and with the same firm as your lawyer Telly Mercury." This stopped Hull in his tracks and he came over to chat. The Unfrieds' seats were in the stands behind home plate, not too close to the ice, but the fans were handed small binoculars so they could follow the action.

"When they played the anthem and everyone was singing, the hair stood up on the back of my neck, " Bruce said. "Everyone stood for the entire game and it was a real hockey/baseball day. Lindsay, Mikita and Hull led the crowd singing Take Me Out to the Ball Game."

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 to 2001. They now write the "The Sporting Life" column for the *Prime Times* newspaper that is published every second Thursday.

*Date in brackets indicates year inducted into the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame.



Quinn Grose and Danielle DeGraeve

Quinn Grose from Stonewall is the winner of the 2009 Ken (Friar) Nicolson Award that is presented by the HOF to the male high school player exhibiting success on and off the ice. A goalie from Portage, Danielle DeGraeve won the female award and the Sami-Jo Small Scholarship. Both are worth \$1,000. Forward Calin Wild of the U of M Bison men and goaltender Stacey Corfield of the Bison women were the 2008-09 recipients of the \$1,000 R.A. (Sam) Fabro Scholarships. The HOF will present the 2009-10 awards in the fall...Director Jeff Hnatiuk, the CEO of Sports Manitoba, was named Ukrainian Sportsman of the Year at the St. Nicholas Parish Men's Club annual banquet May 8...Director Laurie Langrell advises that the 1959 Memorial Cup champion Winnipeg Braves will hold a 50th anniversary reunion

on June 12&13. On the Friday the Braves will be at Assiniboia Downs where a race will be named in the team's honour. The next day they will golf at the Transcona Golf and Country Club and then enjoy dinner. Hall of Fame members **Ted Green** *(1985), **Bobby Leiter** (1986), **Ernie Wakely** (1992), **Wayne Larkin** and **Howie Hughes** (1995) and **Gary Bergman** (1997) played for the Braves. **Bill Allum** (1990) was the coach, **Bill Addison** (1985) the manager and **Jack Perrin Jr.** (1990) team president. See page 8 for the Skating Down Memory Lane story on the team's road to the Canadian junior title...The Hockey HOF won a shoot-out during the annual Ray Frost Ball Hockey Tournament April 16&17. Perry Miller (2007), Don Kuryk (2003) and 2009 inductee Ray Neufeld scored while the "real" ball hockey players were shut out...The Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. As part of Sport Manitoba's Gala on May 21 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre, the HOF inducted 10 veteran athletes and builders and six teams. **Frank Mathers** (1987) entered in the all-around category for his athletic

ability on the ice and the football field and his years of success with the Hershey Bears of the AHL as

coach, GM and president. Art Coulter (1985) and Wally Hergesheimer (1987) are the newest hockey players in the shrine. Director Sam Fabro (1990) and T&C served on the veterans selection committee that considered athletes and teams from at least 40 years ago... Cliff Lennartz advised that his 1957 Memorial Cup champion Flin Flon Bombers will be inducted into the Saskatchewan Sports HOF on June 13. Bombers played in the SJHL the year they won the Canadian title. The northerners already are in the Manitoba Sports and Hockey shrines... Former Winnipeg Jets defencemen Dave Babych will be inducted into the BC Hockey HOF on July 19. Babych is currently the president of the North Shore Minor Hockey Association. Father David Bauer, the architect

of the Canadian National Team when it was based in Winnipeg, will be inducted posthumously at the ceremony in Penticton...Did the late **Gary** (**Boomer**) **Blaine** actually chase **Don Cherry** of the Barrie Flyers around the ice during the 1953 Memorial Cup final at the Amphitheatre? Don't expect that bit to show up in the movie being made in Winnipeg about Cherry's life as a player and a coach that will run on the CBC as a mini-series in 2010. Maybe you can find out more about the Boomer/Cherry incident from



Blaine's St. Boniface Canadien teammates when they are inducted into our HOF on Oct. 3...Helmets off to Winnipeg Police Service **Const. Scott Wiley**, who is the school resource officer for grades 7-12 in the city's North End. Wiley started a varsity hockey program at St. John's High School and then a developmental program for boys and girls in grades 7 and 8. Almost all were aboriginal students who had the opportunity to play after Wiley scrounged up equipment and some free ice at the Old Ex...Kudos also to president **Dan Wuerch** and the players in the Charleswood Men's Hockey Association. Anyone who has

Manitoba Hockey Connection at 2009 Tom Gill Canada Golf Classic in Arizona See if you can identify the hockey people who golfed on March 4 in Mesa, Arizona...*



Name-Dropping by Toast and Coffee (continued)

played in the long-established oldtimers league knows that beer competes with hockey as the main priority. However, three years ago, the group began handing out two \$350 bursaries for students at Shaftesbury and Oak Park high schools and has since created a fund with the Winnipeg Foundation that has raised more than \$7,500...Ste. Anne products **Jocelyne Larocque** and **Melanie Gagnon** were NCAA women's hockey All-Americans for the 2008-2009 season. Larocque, who plays for the U of Minnesota Duluth Bulldogs, made the first team while Gagnon, who co-captained the U of Minnesota Gophers, was named to the second team. Both play

defence...Our BC correspondent **Barry Swanton** sent a Free Press newsclipping about the hockey-golf tournament at Elmhurst in 1944. **Ben Baldwin** won the Amphitheatre Trophy edging **Sgt. Dick Garrett**, who was the top armed services golfer. **Wally Stanowski** (1985) won the Olympic Trophy for golfers with a handicap of 12 and over. Hall-of-Famers in the field included **Abbie Coo**, **Jimmy Dunn**, **Pete Langelle**, **Baldy Northcott** and **Alf Pike** (1985) and **Alex Shibicky** (1986). Teenagers **Hy Beatty** (1993) and **Cam Millar**, who won a Memorial Cup two years later with Monarchs, shot 92 and 79. **Jack Wells** (1986) did not shoot his age that day, but was very honest and turned in the highest score,134. **Wally Koster**, who was a pretty decent junior player for East Kildonan before he gained greater fame as a warbler on Your Hit Parade, shot 108...A member of the Society for International Hockey Research eList on Yahoo asked about the first televised game in the United Kingdom. UK hockey expert **Martin Harris** advised that the game between Harringay Racers and Streatham was shown on the BBC on Oct. 29, 1938 and that Manitoba had a connection to the game. **Wally Monson** (1990) played for Harringay and-**Stewart MacPherson** (1986) was the commentator...Although they didn't make it for the Canada Golf Classic hockey photo op, several other players did golf in Mesa on March 4. **Butch Barkwell**, **Norm Gregoire**, **Jack Herny**, **Jack McDonald**, **Brent McLean**, **Bud Parnell**, **Marty Roy**, **Dave Shyiak** and

Kneeling left to right: Edgar Willems, Johnny Rendall, Bob Foulds, Morley Meyers, Barry Solness, Jim Benzelock, Harry Bueckert, Ron Gurba and Tom Gill. Photo: Gary Read.

^{*} Standing left to right: Bob Harris, John Wade, Ken Saunders, Reg Sanderson, Ken Esdale, Marshall Johnston, Clarke Peterman, Ralph Lyndon, Doug Overton, Ron Hopkinson, Sid White, George Sykes, Norm Rogoski and Jim Dixon.

The Final Face-off

Since the last newsletter in 2008, the hockey community has a lost a number of Manitobans and others with a connection to the sport in our province. Information below has been compiled from obituaries and other sources such as the Society for International Hockey Research and the Internet. Individual members of the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame are noted with an asterisk*.

July 13, 2008 in Winnipeg - **Bernie Bowey, 48** - Member of the Manitoba team in the 1977 Air Canada Canadian Midget Hockey Championship.

July 20 in Winnipeg - **Bernie Holton**, **84** - Active as a volunteer at Norberry Community Club and with the St. Boniface Saints and Mohawks and the U of M Bisons.

July 31 in Winnipeg - **Wayne Janz**, **61** - Rated as a top midget player in Winnipeg and a Detroit Red Wings prospect before a baseball eye injury ended any hopes for a pro hockey career.

Aug. 3 in Pickering, Ont. - **Bryan Dueck**, **36** - Morris product who played for the Pembina Valley Hawks and Eastman Selects AAA teams and for the Morris Stampeders.



Sonny Rost

Aug. 7 in England - **Clarence (Sonny) Rost, 94** - Winnipegger who played for the 1933-34 Manitoba junior champion Kenora Thistles. The defenceman played more than 1,000 games and then coached in England. Inducted into the British Ice Hockey Hall of Fame in 1955.

Aug. 20 in Winnipeg - **Ernie Whitehead, 90** - Executive member of the Winnipeg Monarchs during the 1970s.

Sept. 1 - **Bill Taylor**, **83** - Goalie who played junior for Esquires and then for the Winnipeg Navy.

Sept. 15 - **Dennis Didkowski, 48** - Played for Selkirk junior B Fishermen. Sept. 21 in Desert Hot Springs, Cal. - **George Toman, 83** - Played junior for the Wolseley Flyers and Winnipeg Monarchs and officiated in Sudbury, Ont. and Los Angeles.

Sept. 21 in Brandon - **Gerald Boycey, 74** - Received a MAHA Coaches Award in recognition of coaching minor hockey in Lynn Lake and Leaf Rapids for more than 20 years.

Sept. 26 in Toronto - **Aggie Kukulowicz**, **75** - Winnipeg native who played junior for the Brandon Wheat Kings, pro for several years and then with the 1964 Allan Cup champion Winnipeg Maroons. Russian interpreter for Canadian hockey teams who in 2004 received the Paul Loicq Award for his contributions to the International Ice Hockey Federation.

Nov. 11 in Winnipeg - Lorna (Buda) Bodanski, 71 - Played junior for the Winnipeg Barons and Braves and was a member of 1966 provincial senior A champion Selkirk Fishermen.

Nov. 15 - Winnipeg - **George Greengrass, 94** - In the late 1920s, he along with his father and brothers established the Transcona Maple Leaf Hockey Club and later the Maple Leaf Community Club adjacent to the family property.

Nov. 19 in Neepawa - **Lewis Vivian, 91** - Winnipeg-born Neepawa hotel operator who coached from bantam BB to junior B including a bantam BB provincial champion team.

Nov. 20 in Winnipeg - **Barry Thornson, 72** - Former Winnipeg Monarch junior; brother of Hall of Fame member Len Thornson.

Nov. 21 in Winnipeg - **Clarence Bemben, 91** - Western Grocers executive who served as secretary-treasurer of the Fort Williams Hurricanes Hockey Club and was instrumental in getting a Detroit Red Wings sponsorship. Also served as chair of the Fort Williams Gardens board before moving west. Nov. 22 in Winnipeg - **Harold Loster, 81** - Freelance sports journalist who for many years coached and managed the Colts and Mustangs minor teams that annually travelled to tournaments down east. Dec. 4 in Winnipeg - **Ron Cruise, 78** - Born in Pilot Mound, played for the hometown Pilots from 1947 to 1961 in the South Eastern and Big Six leagues.

Dec. 5 in Brandon - *Elliott (Specs) Chorley, 77 - Born in Winnipeg, he played junior for the Winnipeg Monarchs and pro for 12 years in the AHL, WHL and IHL. Member of the 1964 Allan Cup champion Winnipeg Maroons and coach of the Brandon Wheat Kings.

Dec. 19 in Winnipeg - **Keith Campbell, 81** - A native of Portage la Prairie who played for the junior Terriers, the intermediate Plainsmen and Poplar Point Memorials, and later the Manitoba NHL Oldtimers. A founder of the St. James Canadians juniors, Manitoba Hockey Foundation and MAHA VP.

Dec. 22 near Souris - **Chris Whitfield** - 1987 NDSU grad who won provincial championships in baseball, football and hockey including one in 1979 with the Souris juveniles. Named an all-star when his midget team played Team Sweden.

Dec. 22 in Winnipeg - **Michael Trigg, 62** - CAHA Level III coach who coached his son's team to a provincial peewee A championship.

Dec. 23 in Winnipeg - **Jim Kullman** - Passed away while playing hockey with Charlie's Angels at the Notre Dame Arena. The son of the late HOF member Ed Kullman (1990) played for the Midnight Flyers, Chicken Pluckers and several other teams.

Jan. 6, 2009 in Winnipeg - *Bill Addison, 100 - Manager of the 1959 Memorial Cup champion Winnipeg Braves and commissioner of the MJHL for more than 20 years. Served as president of the MAHA and was inducted into the Manitoba Sports HOF as a builder in 1993.

Jan. 7 in Dauphin - **Stan Chmiel, 80** - Played junior for the Brandon Elks and Wheat Kings and then senior for the Dauphin Kings, Killarney Shamrocks and the Trail Smoke Eaters.

Jan. 8 in Saskatoon - **Ron Chalmers**, **75** - While living in The Pas between 1963 and 1994, coached and refereed and served as president of the MAHA and on the board of the CAHA. Also played goal for The Pas Huskies and Flin Flon oldtimers.

Jan. 13 in Winnipeg - Jordan Mistelbacher, 19 - A member of the Winnipeg Saints juniors at the time of

his death. Also had played for the Everett Silvertips of the WHL and for the Team Manitoba under-18 squad in 2007.

Jan. 13 in Minnedosa - **Graeme Shaw, 80** - Cardale resident who played senior until he was 38 and drove 30 miles twice a week to play in the Neepawa Noon Hockey League until a shoulder injury put him out of action just before his 80th birthday. Honoured by the North Central League in 1995-96 for his years of support and by the Cardale community for his 26 years as president of the rink. Feb. 10 in LaRiviere - **Noel Later, 77** - Best-known in Manitoba as the owner of the Holiday Mountain Ski Resort, he also played hockey including one game with the Falkirk Lions of the Scottish National League in 1949-50.

March 1 in Calgary - *Alf Pike, 91 - Played for 1936-37 Memorial Cup champion Winnipeg Monarchs and won the 1939-40 Stanley Cup as a rookie with the New York Rangers. Spent six years in the NHL interrupted by two years of military service. Coached the 1951-52 Guelph Biltmores Memorial Cup champions and the 1955-56 Winnipeg Warriors that won the WHL crown and beat Montreal Royals of the Quebec league for the east-west title. Coached the Rangers in 1959-60 and '60-61.



Alf Plke

March 8 in Winnipeg - **Judge Ron Morlock**, **79** - Played junior with the Brandon Wheat Kings and the Winnipeg Black Hawks.

March 11 - **Bernie Grebinsky**, **76** - Born in Foam Lake, Sask., played four seasons with the junior Regina Pats including two Memorial Cup appearances. Pro with the Spokane Flyers and Vancouver Canucks and was a member of the 1964 Allan Cup champion Winnipeg Maroons. Coached the Selkirk Steelers in their inaugural season in the MJHL in 1967.

March 14 in Winnipeg - **Doug Turner**, **74** - Served as secretary of the Winnipeg Minor Hockey Association.

April 12 in Wasaga Beach, Ont. - Kent Douglas, 73 - Played with the Winnipeg Warriors of the WHL in 1957-58 and went on to win the Calder Trophy as NHL rookie of the year with the Toronto Maple Leafs in 1962-63. Also played a few games of pro baseball with the Goldeyes of the class C Northern League. April 20 in Winnipeg - Abe Enns, 85 - Born in Winkler, played for the Rosenfeld Hawks and helped Altona Maroons win the first South Eastern Manitoba League championship.

April 21in Wolfville, NS - **Sheila Morrison, 63** - Norwood native who served as secretary to Canada's National Team in Winnipeg from 1966 until the team left Winnipeg in 1969.

April 25 in Kenora, Ont. - **Robin (Mauchibinesse) Greene Sr., 76** - Aboriginal elder and chief of Shoal Lake who played many years for the Shoal Lake Flyers.

April 29 near Shilo - **Shane Schofield, 28** - The Shilo-based army sergeant from Nova Scotia, who served three tours in Afghanistan and one in Bosnia, played for the Wawanesa Jets in his spare time. May 3 in Steinbach - **Harold Unger, 83** - Served as coach/manager of the Steinbach Huskies during the 1950s and '60s.

Skating Down Memory Lane With Hockey Historian Ed Sweeney



When the Winnipeg Braves started out in quest of the Memorial Cup in the spring of 1959, not much was expected of them. The Flin Flon Bombers were champs two years earlier representing the Saskatchewan junior league, but the last MJHL team to take home the silverware was the Winnipeg Monarchs in 1946.

Gary Bergman came from Kenora and Al LeBlanc originally was from Hamilton, NB, but other than that the Braves were a Manitoba team. They were solid in goal with Ernie Wakely and backup Zenon Moroz. Along with Bergman, the blueliners were Doug Munro, Lew Mueller, Wayne Winstone, John Sutherland and Al Ingimundson. Up front, Bobby Leiter and Laurie Langrell played with LeBlanc while the other forwards were captain Wayne Larkin, Al Baty, Rene Brunel, Pat Angers, Ernie Bradawaski, Ken King, and Ted Knight.

Braves were victorious in five games both over St. Boniface Canadiens and then Fort William Canadiens. Against the Lakehead club, replacements Don Atamanchuk from the Transcona Rangers and Howie Hughes of St. Boniface scored four goals and St. Boniface defenceman Ted Green scored two. Both Langrell and Angers scored three times. The Braves next faced the Flin Flon Bombers in the Western final. The SJHL champs, led by captain Cliff Pennington and replacements Dick Meissner of the Estevan Bruins and from the Regina Pats, goalie Ken Walters and Red Berenson, a centre who actually had spent the season with Team Canada. The favoured Bombers outweighed Braves by 20 pounds per man and looked strong in winning the first two games in the northern community, 5-1 and 7-4.

Back in the friendlier Winnipeg Arena, Braves tied the series with 5-2 and 6-4 wins. Moving to the Olympic Rink because of the Home Show, Winnipeg downed Bombers 5-1. They followed up with a 3-0 win in front of 9,018 fans at the Arena, the largest crowd to see a junior game in Western Canada to that time. The goal scoring was well distributed with Langrell the leader.

It was now time to host the Peterborough Petes with 25-year-old Scott Bowman coaching in his third successive Memorial Cup final. Dennis Dejordy was in the nets as a replacement from the St. Catherines Teepees. Tough guy Barclay Plager and Jimmy Roberts anchored the defence. Wayne Connelly was their big scorer, but the pesky Braves held him in check.

Allowed three more replacements for the final, Braves added from St. Boniface, forwards Jerry Kruk and John Rodger plus Paul Sexsmith for goaltender insurance. Leading 4-1, Peterborough held on to win 5-4 in game one. Braves took the second game 5-2 led by the first of three consecutive two-goal games by Langrell. Winnipeg won the next two 5-2 and 5-3 before heading to Brandon for game five when the Shrine Circus rolled into Winnipeg. With Baty recording a hat trick, Braves downed Petes 6-2 to win the Canadian junior title. Besides Langrell's six goals, Larkin scored five, Baty four and Leiter three in the final. Bowman was not around for the finish having been ejected by referee Len Corriveau.

Coach Bill Allum said, "This team pulls together like a bar of nickel taffy." They pulled together enough to win the Memorial Cup and to earn induction into the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame in 2003. No Manitoba team has won the Canadian title since the Braves. Jack Perrin Jr. served as team president and Bill Addison was the manager.

Ted Holland is the guest Skating Down Memory Lane columnist for this issue. A slightly different version was published in the 2003 Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame induction dinner program.

Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame 2008 Grey Cup Pool Winners

Final Score \$1,000 Doug Fortier 191 Diane St., West St. Paul Reverse Score \$100 Fred David Box 52, Victoria Beach

First Quarter Winner \$200 Carl Ateah Box 30, Victoria Beach Reverse Score \$50 Jack Grobb 205-1780 Henderson Hwy, Winnipeg

Half-Time Winner \$200 Barrie Plews 214 Conway St., Winnipeg Reverse Score: \$25 Unclaimed Third Quarter Winner \$200 Gord Holloway 41-270 Roslyn Rd., Winnipeg Reverse Score \$25 Tony Messner 55 Fulton St., Winnipeg

Tie Score \$25 Barbara Cooke 211 Queensbury Bay, Winnipeg Gord Holloway 41-270 Roslyn Rd., Winnipeg

Score Changes \$25
Archie Riddell Box 2324, Swan River
Carol Cribbs 23 Carlyle Bay, Winnipeg
Doreen Strange Box 63, Manitou
Gerald Hogue Box 56, La Salle
Mike Burrows 960 Riviera Crescent, Winnipeg
Pat Maksymchuk Box 1955, Swan River
Ralph Bagley 1428-1750 Pembina Hwy, Winnipeg
Ralph Borger 101 Surfside Crescent, Winnipeg