



cover design by Cybereyes Images, logo design by Design One Graphics Group Inc.

photos by: Dan Brodie

By: Teddy Jenner and LacrosseTalk Staff

Hollywood couldn't have scripted this game any better if it tried! If a full arena was an indication of success, professional lacrosse would have a home back in the lower mainland. Up until game time there were many questions as to whether or not the BC lacrosse community would support the return of the National Lacrosse League after a seven-year absence. While nothing had been built, they did come.

The nearly 5,000 fans at the sold out Langley Events Centre on December 10th were treated to an amazing exhibition of what the NLL has to offer. To say the least, the Washington Stealth and Toronto Rock wowed diehard lacrosse fans of BC, whetting their appetites for a return of pro lacrosse out west.

Project Coordinator, Paul Dal Monte, a key cog in bringing the game to BC, was excited about the return of the pro lacrosse and how well the event was received by the BC lacrosse community.

"There definitely was a buzz at the Langley Events Centre," stated ex-Vancouver Raven Head Coach Paul Dal Monte. "The weekend can only be seen as a huge success, which was evidenced not only by the great crowd that witnessed the thrilling OT game, but also in the sold out player clinics and the several hundred fans who stayed around for the post-game autograph session."

Local lacrosse players peppered the rosters of both Toronto and Washington and while it was obvious the Stealth were the fan favorites, in the end everyone left with a smile on their face after an outstanding 14-13 overtime victory for the Stealth.

The game opened at a frenzied pace as the Stealth jumped out to a 3-1 lead midway through the first frame. The Rock answered with three straight goals to end the quarter giving the defending champs a 4-3 lead after fifteen minutes.

The preseason rust was evident with sloppy plays and uncharacteristic passes. Some of these athletes last saw game action over three months ago in their summer

box loops, but the true talents and athleticism of these pros took form and made for an action packed match, even if this was the first day of training camp for the Stealth.

"All things considered, I thought we played reasonably well, perhaps a little luck on our side to be able to dig up a win late in the game," commented Head Coach Chris Hall. "We had a chance to look at several new players in a game situation, against last year's best, which was a good measuring tool."

Victoria's Rhys Duch scored twice in the first half, as the two teams traded goals in the second quarter and Toronto went into the locker room with a narrow 8-7 lead.

The third frame was a penalty-ridden affair with six penalties called, four of which came against the Stealth. The Rock took advantage with their potent power play and outscored the Stealth 3-1 in the quarter, all of their goals power play markers.

Six minutes into the fourth quarter, the Rock scored an empty net goal to take a 12-9 lead following a Stealth turnover with rookie goaltender Chris Seidel pulled for an extra attacker. The Stealth dug down and replied as Paul Rabil, Craig Conn and newcomer Jamie Rooney each scored goals in a two minute span to tie the game at twelve with just over three minutes left. Rhys Duch took the game on his shoulders and notched the game at 13 with just over 30 seconds remaining to force overtime.

Lewis Ratcliff took a Bobby Snider faceoff win just 31 seconds into sudden victory overtime and buried it past ex-Stealth goalie Matt Roik for the overtime win. Rhys Duch led the Stealth netting 3 goals while Ratcliff and Paul Rabil each had a pair.

Stealth faceoff specialist, Bobby Snider, was a force at the faceoff dot maneuvering draws to gain early possessions forcing the Rock to play plenty of the game on the defensive side of the floor. But it was rookie goaltender, Chris Seidel, a Maple Ridge Burrard product, who drew much praise for his steady play making 24 saves in securing the victory.

"Well, I don't really think anyone surprised me as we were pretty confident as an organization that everyone at camp was capable of making the team," stated Hall. "However, I must say that goalie Chris Seidel put on an amazing show in the second half which seemed to inspire everyone to get us back in the game late."

Toronto, playing in their second exhibition game, were arguably in mid-season form with all their stars dazzling the LEC fans. The Rock was paced by captain Colin "Popeye" Doyle with a hat trick. Blaine Manning, Stephan Leblanc and Dan

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BCLA AGM Merit Awards



Photo: Jeff Gombhar

The Goss Family of New Westminster was select for the 2011 Fridge Family Award.

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

The British Columbia Lacrosse Association (BCLA) held the Annual General Meeting October 14-16, 2011 in Whistler, BC. Every year, this event includes meetings for various directorates, a lacrosse trade fair, a hospitality social gathering and the annual merit awards banquet. Over 250 delegates were registered for the meetings and 470 participants attended the BCLA Annual Merit Awards Banquet.

This year's "Hawaiian" theme proved to be a radical hit. This AGM was a year in the making, and by all reports from our members, a resounding success!

"The BCLA staff planned another memorable AGM," stated BCLA President Sohen Gill. "There were delegates in attendance I had not seen in a number of years; this was great to see!"

The 2011 BCLA Executive was named. They are as follows: President - Sohen Gill, Treasurer - David Soul, Secretary - Myrna Cable, VP Administration - Gerry Van Beek, VP Operations - Greg Toll, VP Performance

Programs - Ron McQuarrie, VP Development - Terry Mosdell and Director at Large - Dave Jenkins.

On Saturday October 15, the BCLA hosted the annual buffet breakfast for the delegates, families and sponsors. Over 350 people attended the breakfast in preparation for meetings and the afternoon AGM.

In the evening, the gala BCLA Merit Awards Banquet took place on the main stage at the Whistler Conference Centre. The Hawaiian theme was apparent with many people dressed up in beach wear, colourful Hawaiian apparel with numerous leis around their necks. The guests were welcomed at the entrance by Hawaiian hula dancers and our hosts, Mr. Roarke, his sidekick Tattoo and the crazy Maori dancer. Numerous banquet participants dressed up in costumes to celebrate the achievements of the volunteers; none more apparent than the three tables of Super Salmonbellies in matching red, white and blue grass skirts.

The evening was emceed by a laid back Dave Evans and his cool sidekick Pete Quevil-

lon. The banquet crowd was entertained by the antics of Fantasy Island's Mr. Roarke, Tattoo and the wild Maori man Ugamakakakaoga who donned a long pole staff of power. The ever-flamboyant Paul Layda, and his Hawaiian hula dancers, taught our members the hula and topped off the show with an incredible fire dance. Once again, Paul Winterton created an incredible year-in-review DVD that wowed the crowd.

The BC Lacrosse Association annually presents the BCLA Merit Awards to the many lacrosse volunteers who commit their free time to the sport of lacrosse. Nineteen Merit Awards were handed out during the 2011 Merit Awards Banquet held Saturday October 15 at the Whistler Conference Centre.

The 2011 BCLA Merit Award recipients were as follows: Ted Fridge Family Spirit Award (presented annually to a family deemed to have contributed to the development and promotion of lacrosse locally and/or provincially) - The Goss Family (Warren, Shawna, Emily & Hayden), of New Westminster; Hugh Gifford Merit Award (Box & Field Lacrosse-accomplishments of instilling sportsmanship in their players, their leadership and contribution toward improving the image of lacrosse) - Box Lacrosse: John Lee (Burnaby Lakers Intermediate & Junior A) and Field Lacrosse: Marnie Evans (North Island Field Lacrosse); Tom Gordon Plaque (an individual who has done the most for lacrosse in the past year; British Columbia's Mr. or Mrs. Lacrosse) - Deb Stocks, Vice Chair and Chair BCLA Field Lacrosse Directorate; Ruth Seward Merit Award (Box & Field Lacrosse-award to recognize an individual at the local level for their voluntary, extraordinary contributions to an association or team) - Box Lacrosse: Susan Kirkby (Burnaby Minor Lacrosse Association) and Field Lacrosse: Julia Christianson (Pacific Rim Youth Field Lacrosse); Norm Wright Merit Award (award presented to member of the media who is deemed to have contributed to the promotion of lacrosse) - 99.7 FM-The River, Warren Andrews (Campbell River); Jimmy Gunn Merit Award Senior Official: Gord Patrick (BCLOA); Jimmy Gunn Merit Award Minor Official:

Brian Horning (Prince George); Jimmy Gunn Merit Award Field Official: Rob Cook (Victoria Youth Field Lacrosse); John Cavallin Merit Award Senior Coach: Rod Jensen, Langley Thunder Senior A; John Cavallin Merit Award Field Coach: Scott Browning (Team BC U16 Field Lacrosse Program); Bill McBain Merit Award Minor Coach: Gerald Stanhope, Kelowna Minor Lacrosse Association; Art Daoust Merit Award (Box & Field Lacrosse award toward fostering and promoting the game, improving the image and stature of lacrosse at their level and provincially) - Box Lacrosse: Beth McLucas (Lower Mainland Minor Lacrosse Commission) and Field Lacrosse: Dirk Rachfall (U19 and U16 Field Nationals/PCFLL); Dal Martin Merit Award (Trainer of the Year) - Steve Mah & Jason Coolen (New Westminster Salmonbellies Senior A); Leon Hall Merit Award (Minor Box Lacrosse Association of the Year) - New Westminster Minor Lacrosse Association; Leon Hall Merit Award (Minor Field Lacrosse Association of the Year) - Langley Field Lacrosse Association; and the Irvine-Calder-Nevard Merit Award (award is a testimonial for outstanding public service made by firms, organizations or individuals through lacrosse sponsorship) - CKNW Radio and DBL Disposal (Nanaimo).

And the most prestigious BCLA Merit Award an individual can receive, the Tom Gordon Plaque given to an individual who has done the most for lacrosse in the past year, was given to longtime field lacrosse volunteer, Deb Stocks. She has guided Field Lacrosse both locally and nationally to new levels sitting on the BC Field Directorate and CLA Field board for many years.

"Wow, I didn't really think I'd win this incredible award knowing the other nominations have done so much for lacrosse," mentioned Nanaimo's Deb Stocks.

Congratulations to all merit award recipients, President's Award winners and executive members for their continuous hard work in making lacrosse one of the greatest sports organizations in BC. In the SPIRIT of the game, we thank you!



Photo: Jeff Gombhar

BCLA Presidents' Award Recipients

The 2011 BC Lacrosse Association Presidents' Award winners are as follows:

Rich Zecchel (Thompson-Okanagan Junior B League), Frank Geyer (BC Intermediate Lacrosse League), Heather Appels (Burnaby Minor Lacrosse), Doug Robinson (North Island Youth Field Lacrosse), Cristina Stroup (Coquitlam Minor Lacrosse), Sheri Golia (Cowichan Valley Minor Lacrosse), Sam Thauli (Delta Lacrosse), Rob Smith (Kamloops Minor Lacrosse), Alisa Brownlee (Kelowna Minor Lacrosse), Laurie Pearson (Langley Minor Lacrosse), Jason Kump (Langley Field Lacrosse), Brian Boas (Nanaimo & District Lacrosse), Tammy McDougall (Nanaimo Youth Field Lacrosse), Richard Catton (New Westminster Minor Lacrosse), Sarah Jones (New Westminster Girls Field Lacrosse), Harold Mann (North Okanagan Minor Lacrosse), Doug Passmore (Peninsula Lacrosse), Fred Lach-

lan (Port Coquitlam Minor Lacrosse), Gord McFarland (Port Moody Minor Lacrosse), Jordan Kelly (Richmond Lacrosse), Rob Wicks (Saanich Lacrosse), Cal Davies (Surrey Minor Lacrosse), Michael O'Connor (Vancouver-Killarney Minor Lacrosse), Dr. Don Hedges (Western Lacrosse Association), Patricia Scott (Prince George Senior Lacrosse League), Ken Morrison (Pacific Northwest Junior B League), Tobey Eilertsen (Victoria Women's Field Association), Joe Whyley (Campbell River Minor Lacrosse), Jeff Zelenick (Semiahmoo Minor Lacrosse) and Robin Hoffos (Williams Lake Minor Lacrosse).

Each individual was honoured at the 2011 BCLA AGM in a short ceremony during the merit award banquet and received a nice watch from a representative of their league or association to commemorate their volunteer achievements. Thank you for all you do for lacrosse.

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

The BC Lacrosse Association recognizes more volunteers in the lacrosse community. Thirty BCLA Presidents' Award recipients were announced at the 2011 AGM over the October 14-16 weekend.

The Presidents' award promotes and celebrates the spirit of volunteerism by annually

giving BCLA organizations an opportunity to acknowledge and thank an individual who has demonstrated outstanding dedication and commitment to lacrosse within their organizations. Each nomination is the selected winner for their local community senior league or minor box lacrosse or youth field lacrosse associations.

2012 BC Box Lacrosse Masters

The Port Coquitlam Masters will be hosting the 2012 BC Masters year end tournament this season. Work is already under way and details should be released in the coming months.

The tournament will be held in Port Coquitlam. With the increase in Grand Masters in 2011, there may be two divisions along with the usual Masters Divisions of A, B and C. Watch for news in the months ahead or contact Betty Selezinka at bboop44@telus.net.

The Lower Mainland Masters Lacrosse League (LMML) completed a successful inaugural season in 2011. Four teams battled it out every week in a very competitive atmosphere. The feedback has been terrific and everything was positive.

LMML AGM was held December 2011. The executive will be communicating more in early January about the upcoming season.

Some dates to remember are for registration nights on February 5 and February 19. The season will get underway April 15 (a pre-season drop-in will be held beforehand) and will wrap up by end of July. If registrations warrant adding two more teams then the league will expand to six.

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BCLA Aboriginal Development Hits North Terrace, Kitimat, New Aiyansh, Smithers, Hazelton and Houston

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

A recent trip was undertaken by a BC Lacrosse Association Development Team to three areas of Zone 7 in the province of BC. The purpose of the trip was twofold. The first objective was to kindle a renewed interest in the area to promote the establishment of an association in order to continue to compete in the BC Summer Games for lacrosse. The second objective was to instill some pride and honour in the Aboriginal youth in the area to perpetuate the Creator’s game and to keep the youth active in the sport of lacrosse.

The development team consisted of Bryan Baxter, Naomi Walser and Dan Wray. Dan and Naomi travelled to Terrace on October 4, 2011, picked up the sticks at the hotel and prepared for the next day’s activities.

The first stop was at Nechako Elementary School. An Inter-crosse program was delivered to 80 students. The Inter-crosse program consists of a short history lesson followed by the demonstration of the four basic skills of lacrosse (scoop, cradle, pass and catch). Students are encouraged to try all four skills during the lesson. The program concludes with a presentation on the opportunities for education through athletic scholarships. In the afternoon, Dan and Naomi continued with the program at Kildala Elementary School where they introduced Inter-crosse to 63 students.

Bryan met up with the team after the Kildala session and was briefed on what had taken place. After a quick bite to eat, the group headed back to Nechako Elementary School to deliver an evening session to about 15 returnees. At this session, the participants were given the opportunity to play a game of Inter-crosse. Naomi and Bryan entertained the youth while Dan talked to the parents about how to go about forming and maintaining an association. He let them know of the many resources available from the BC Lacrosse Association to help them establish their association.

The team split up on Thursday in order to accommodate more students. Naomi headed north to the village of Greenville in the Nisga’a Territory, while Bryan and Dan attended at Thornhill Elementary School in Terrace. In addition to demonstrating our sport to 51 students at Greenville (all Aboriginal), Naomi had the opportunity to attend a homecoming feast for Nisga’a returnees who were residential school attendees. We left equipment at Greenville due to the heightened interest from their principal and Alvin Wright, the Recreation Coordinator for New Aiyansh. In the meantime, Bryan and Dan attended Thornhill Elementary and introduced lacrosse to 187 students during the course of a whole school day. Our contact at Thornhill Elementary was the principal Debbie Koehn. She was very helpful in arranging gym time for the evening session from 6:00-8:00 PM. The 21 students that returned had a great time and were very enthusiastic about playing the game of Inter-crosse. So enthusiastic that one of the grade four students took out Bryan with a slide tackle that would rival anything in the soccer Premiere League. Dan again took care of the small parent group in attendance and was confident that there will be a core to go forward in the spring.

After a very busy day, the group headed back from their various venues for a good night’s rest. On the last day, all three headed out early to New Aiyansh for sessions at NESS (New Aiyansh Elementary and Secondary School) where Bryan and Naomi delivered sessions to all of the students at NESS. In total there were 156 students in attendance at the school, all Aboriginal. It is sometimes difficult to hold the interest of the older students as they do not want to look foolish but Naomi had such a great connection with these older students that participation was not an issue nor was their attention. During the Inter-crosse sessions, Dan was in conversation with Alvin Wright, the Recreation Coordinator for New Aiyansh. In the course of the conversation there were promises of a continuation of the program and the formation of house teams and a possible travel team to Terrace.

In early November, the Development team was back at again visiting Smithers, Hazelton and Houston.

The team flew together to Smithers and planned the next day trip to Hazelton in the morning.

The first stop was Hazelton’s John Field Elementary. During the course of the day, seven sessions were delivered to 135 students at the school. Naomi and Bryan took care of the lesson delivery while Dan canvassed the town and dropped off information at various venues informing people about the Inter-crosse session and to engage parents who would be interested in perpetuating the game.

There were 21 students who showed up for the evening session along with some parents. There were some great questions asked and a fairly strong interest from the parent group in terms of starting an association. One of the local firemen was genuinely interested and efforts were to keep in contact with the parents and follow up with information regarding coaches and referees accreditation.

The next day the team headed to Houston with stops at Twain Sullivan School and Silverthorne Elementary. The day was a great success as Naomi delivered five sessions for 97 students at Twain Sullivan and Bryan delivered seven sessions for 129 students at Silverthorne. Dan Wray was back and forth supporting Bryan and Naomi as well as visiting recreation centers and sports stores to post information regarding our session at Silverthorne that evening.

The evening session was rousing success with 42 students in attendance, even though there were only a few parents. The gym was packed with enthusiastic youngsters anxious to show their coaches and parents the skills they had learned that day. A second set of equipment had to be opened to satisfy all of the students with sticks and balls. Although there was no plan for this many students, the team managed to keep the group interested and ended with a game that included 7 teams. The team was ecstatic on the return trip to Smithers and could not stop talking about the day’s events. Dan made some great contacts and is convinced that this will be a viable place for a future association.

The final day concluded in Smithers at Lake Kathlyn and Walnut Park. Naomi conducted three sessions with a total of 51 students and Bryan conducted four sessions with a total of 95 students. After the sessions the team prepared for the evening session.

The team arrived to Muheim gymnasium with five students waiting outside to attend. This final session was very exciting and well attended making two teams for 27 students. Karen Nyce the new Sport & Physical Activity Coordinator for the Northwest Region, attended and was impressed with the program. Dan confirmed Karen Nyce will be the contact and resource person for the Development Team to establish an association in Smithers.

The trips for the development team went well and there appears to be a lot of interest in the continuation of lacrosse programs in all of the areas visited. This has been a great experience for the BCLA and the BC Aboriginal Communities. With the exposure of lacrosse to the students and community leaders in these regions it will have a positive and lasting impact on the popularity of the sport for many years. Dan is already busy setting up coaching and referee clinics for these areas in the spring of 2012.

Equipment used was left as a legacy in selected areas, with each receiving a bag of Warrior sticks and balls accompanied with copies of the history of lacrosse book, the DVD for Inter-crosse Instruction, as well as, the Inter-crosse Instruction Manual. In total, nearly 1200 students were introduced to lacrosse during both development trips.

The BCLA Development Team is planning further development programs in all corners of BC in 2012.

**Continued from Cover Article:
NLL Returns to BC - Stealth Battle Rock**

By: Brad Challoner

Carey each tallied two goals apiece in a losing cause.

Since the Stealth arrived in the Pacific Northwest, lacrosse fans in BC have been making the two hour trek south to the Comcast Arena to help support the team and watch the BC talent -- that alone is an indicator that a team could survive in Vancouver.

It was only fitting to have the two previous Champions Cup winners pitted in this friendly game with the hopes of raising the interest of pro lacrosse to one day make a return to Vancouver. Also showcasing the professional game to a fan-base that experiences the best of the best during the summer months was a real treat. “Of course we’d love to use this game as a launching pad to bring a team back to Vancouver, it’s a market we’ve wanted to come back to for years,” commented NLL Commissioner George Daniel “but we have to make sure we do it properly.”

That seems to be the most important issue in a possible resurgence. The first coming of the NLL here was under the gun from the get go after experiencing financial issues. Vancouver (and BC) is known as a Canadian lacrosse hotbed and should have had one of the strongest NLL teams, but ended up without one at all. It would be remiss to think that the 2nd largest lacrosse market couldn’t support a pro lacrosse team but as Daniel said, it has to be done properly to avoid another situation like the ones that hurt the Ravens or teams that have failed in other markets such as Anaheim, Portland, Arizona, Orlando, Boston, Chicago, Montreal and Ottawa.

Paul Dal Monte agreed the lacrosse fans of BC are interested in the NLL product, but the model has to be right for long-term success.

“The success of the weekend clearly demonstrated an appetite for pro lacrosse in Vancouver,” mentioned Dal Monte. “Discussions have already begun around hosting another NLL weekend in 2012. Looking beyond that and the possible return of an NLL franchise to Vancouver, it seems logical, however, the timing and opportunity has to be the right fit. Given the rich history of lacrosse in BC and having a team in the lower mainland provides the NLL with a national footprint which may be used to garner stronger broadcast support. Beyond that, the potential to work in partnership with the BCLA and grow the game in our province is also key.”

The recent exhibition game on December 10th at the Langley Events Centre proved to the National Lacrosse League executives that their desire to be back in BC won’t go unnoticed and the fans were treated to a classic match-up between two of the best teams in the league. Could it be long before the highest pro league comes back to Vancouver? “We hope to be back in the next three to five years,” reiterated Daniel. “The fans here are awesome and we really want to come back here permanently.”

Sponsors Support AGM Lax Fair

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

Every year during the BC Lacrosse Association Annual General Meetings, the BCLA hosts a fun and interactive lacrosse fair trade show to connect the lacrosse community with BCLA sponsors, partners and friends of lacrosse.

The Western Lacrosse Association annually sponsors the enjoyable Hospitality Suite during the BCLA Lacrosse Fair trade show at the Delta Whistler Village Suites. The Friday evening event offers the participants a social event to connect with other lacrosse people while the displayers meet important decision makers representing teams, associations and leagues across BC. Everyone is treated to refreshments provided by the WLA and BCLA.

Fourteen companies were represented at the event and met the lacrosse community forging new business connections.

“It’s great to offer such a quaint event to introduce sponsors, partners and retailers to our lacrosse community,” said BCLA Marketing Director Jeff Gombar. “We have a great mix of returning displayers as well as new ones.”

The 2011 lacrosse fair displayers included: Langley Events Centre-NLL Game (Paul Dal Monte), Sportsphere (Jack Badge), Big Kahuna Sport Company (Dean Longstaff), Levy’s Source for Sports (Chris Levis), Scoff’s Hockey Shop (Jason Scoffins), GAIT Lacrosse (Greg Hanson), Sport Teams Accommodation (Neville Devir), Team Pages Inc.(Derek Story and Mike Tan), Mountain Edge Lacrosse (Mike Critchley), Warrior Sports Canada (Jason Ryan), Odd Squad Productions (Matthew Black), Firstar Sports Inc. (Doug Thom), Textile Innovations (Darren Wood) and newcomer Dean Whitson of Silver Ridge Promotions.

“It was a great opportunity to meet the BCLA family and network connections for my business,” stated BCLA apparel partner Whitson. “The people love our apparel and give me great ideas on new products to try at future events.”

People are already planning for the 2012 Lacrosse Fair and reserving their displays. The BCLA AGM Lacrosse Fair occurs once a year at the Annual General Meetings in Whistler. For additional information for the October 12, 2012 event, please contact Jeff Gombar, BCLA Marketing Director, at jeff@bclacrosse.com or 604-421-9755 (Ext. 3).



Prime Minister Stephen Harper holds the Minto Cup during a Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame visit in November.

By Grant Granger - New Westminster News Leader

Many New Westminster residents don't know their city is home to the Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame, or if they do they don't know where it is.

Stephen Harper does.

In Late November, Chuck Puchmayr, one of the hall's governors, was going about his business when he got a call from the Prime Minister's office. The PM was out for the Grey Cup festivities and had a couple of spare hours between events and he wanted a private tour. Even though Puchmayr is a former NDP MLA, he was happy to oblige. But he did have to keep his mouth shut.

"It was top secret. I was not allowed to tell anybody," said Puchmayr. "The place was crawling with people in black suits wearing ear pieces."

Puchmayr said Harper is writing a hockey book and a couple of his subjects had lacrosse connections he wanted to check out. Among them were hockey legend Edouard (Newsy) Lalonde, one of Canada's best lacrosse players in the first half of the 20th century. The hall and

Prime Minister Harper Visits Lacrosse Hall of Fame in New Westminster

the prime minister will be exchanging research on the players.

During Harper's hour-long visit to the hall, which is tucked into a room at the Centennial Community Centre, he also saw pictures of former Liberal prime ministers Pierre Elliott Trudeau and Lester B. Pearson in their lacrosse-playing college days. Lacrosse, though, was the only topic of conversation between Puchmayr, Harper and a prime ministerial aide on Friday.

"It was not political at all," said Puchmayr. Puchmayr and the hall have been working with Heritage Minister James Moore, an Adanacs fans since he grew up in Coquitlam and now lives in Port Moody, to tap into some funding for a pending move to the new Downtown civic centre, slated to open in 2013.

Currently the hall is only open by request, but at the civic centre it will be open at the same time as the other facilities there. Having it there will also allow for school tours.

"It's kind of been a secret that people don't know about," said Bob Stewart, who was inducted into the hall as a builder in 2010.

The Canadian Lacrosse Foundation (CLF) has kicked in \$40,000 to help the hall with the transfer. Puchmayr said the hall will easily be able to raise the rest of the \$80,000 needed for a bare-bones move.

On the move

The new hall will be about 1,400 square feet, slightly larger than now, but with an additional area for preparing items. However, the hope is to find a little more money to pay for computer

kiosks to tell stories and to get some cases that will facilitate rotating displays.

"Because the square footage isn't much, we have to be selective in how we display our stuff," said Puchmayr. "We're going to make it work."

The glass on the new displays will also drastically reduce the light reflection and glare that make it difficult to get a close look at many of the hall's current displays. It often takes several different head angles to read some of the handwritten names on photographs or small print artifacts.

Puchmayr said the hall will be able to work off of the synergy of being together with the New Westminster Museum and Archives and a civic art gallery.

"Everything will be modern and digitized and yet still preserve the legacies," said Puchmayr, who will be resigning as a governor next week when he is sworn in as city councillor, to avoid any conflicts.

"I wouldn't want to excuse myself from every decision that has to be made on the civic centre."

On display

The current displays include the original Mann and Minto cups, emblematic of Canadian senior and junior lacrosse supremacy. There's also a 19th-century lacrosse stick, one of only two known to exist. Another governor, David Soul, wore archival white gloves when he brought out a little green book simply entitled Lacrosse with a gold-embossed stick on the cover. It was published in 1869 and contains the rules and instructions on how to play the game.

The title page, as Soul pointed out, declares Lacrosse: The National Game of Canada.

A new addition to the displays will be a special one-kilogram Royal Canadian Mint silver coin to honour the 375th anniversary of the first European observation of lacrosse in 1636. On one side it depicts First Nations lacrosse in the early days.

Five of the coins were set aside for the Canadian Lacrosse Association (CLA) and the hall was able to obtain one thanks to the CLF. After receiving it at a recent meeting Soul was petrified to let out of his sight on his return trip from Montreal. He even talked airport security into letting him watch the screen as it was X-rayed on the conveyor belt before boarding.

"We're just going to cash it and go to Vegas," Puchmayr joked as he held up the heavy coin that is 10 centimetres in diameter and 99.99 per cent silver. "[Harper] didn't even know Canada had minted the coin."

Before the PM left, Puchmayr made Harper an honorary inductee, although Harper's athletic exploits never went much beyond playing pickup hockey as a youngster. "He's a self-proclaimed non-athlete," said Puchmayr.

Harper wrote in the hall's guest book "Thanks for the tour and for preserving an important part of our national history! Stephen Harper November 25, 2011."

It was the first entry in a new guest book that Puchmayr, Soul and Stewart know will fill up quickly when the hall moves Downtown because so many more people than just the Prime Minister will know where it is.



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In Memory of Jack Crosby "Mr. Lacrosse"



The BC Lacrosse Association (BCLA) Members have created the Jack Crosby Endowment Fund in honour of the man whose name is synonymous with Lacrosse in the City of Burnaby, throughout British Columbia, and across Canada. As an athlete, coach, volunteer, and mentor, Jack has touched many lives within the lacrosse community and beyond.

The Jack Crosby Endowment Fund will provide a sustainable future for the lacrosse community who play, coach, volunteer, referee and enjoy the game of lacrosse throughout BC. Charitable donations will be invested in the principle of this trust fund. These donations will never be touched and will be a growing investment managed by the Vancouver Foundation. Interest of 5% per year will be allocated to the BCLA

and these funds will be used to support Innovative projects and programs that will address the needs of BCLA members.

This is an investment for our lacrosse community to become self-reliant; a fund that will benefit our grandchildren's children; a legacy that will continue to "pay it forward" forever; a future for lacrosse that we feel Jack would be proud to support.

To make a charitable donation to this fund, please make cheques out to Vancouver Foundation referencing the BCLA Jack Crosby Endowment Fund in the memo line.

The BCLA members will strive to build this Endowment so that we who share the passion for Lacrosse today will leave a lasting legacy for the game of lacrosse throughout British Columbia.

Jack Crosby Endowment Fund Donations can be sent to:
The Vancouver Foundation
(BCLA Jack Crosby Endowment Fund)
Suite 1200-555 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 4N6

Gait Twins Enter BC Sports Hall of Fame

By: Jason Beck, Curator of the BC Sports Hall of Fame

When discussing the greatest athletes in any given sport, usually only a select few individuals enter the discussion. Even rarer are those legendary athletes who transcend their respective sports with matchless combinations of astonishing skill, uncanny scoring prowess, and a heap of championship hardware to back it all up. Athletes who changed their games forever: Babe Ruth, Pele, Wayne Gretzky, Michael Jordan, Jerry Rice, Tiger Woods.

Add Victoria's Gary Gait to this illustrious list. Simply put, Gait is the greatest lacrosse player the world has ever known. If anyone cares to dispute this claim, please read on.

With his twin brother Paul, likely the closest competition to his crown as the game's greatest player, Gary played any sport that was available from a young age—soccer, basketball, and of course lacrosse, at age four. The Gaits' next door neighbours also happened to be a set of twins the same age: Greg and Grant Pepper. The four became partners in crime in any sport they could get involved in. In the end, lacrosse was their chosen path.

They chose wisely.

To start, Gary Gait has won every possible major lacrosse title a player can win, an achievement that is unmatched by any other player ever to play the game. It began in 1979 with a Canadian peewee championship, followed by a bantam national championship, then a midget national title and a U-19 Canadian field championship. The Junior A national championship might have been the toughest—it took six tries, but it, too, was captured in Gait's last year of eligibility. In four years at Syracuse University beginning in 1987, the Gaits led the Orange to three NCAA championships with Gary picking up 1988 NCAA player of the year.

On to pro and the success only continued: three Mann Cups (two with the WLA's Victoria Shamrocks), three Major League Lacrosse titles, three MILL/National Lacrosse League titles, the 2004 Heritage Cup, and the 2006 World Lacrosse Championship representing Canada.

Individually, Gait won the NLL MVP award a record six times, the MILL championship game MVP twice, and 2005 MLL MVP. He retired as the NLL's all-time leader in goals (634), assists (526), and points (1160) and remains amongst the all-time leaders despite being passed by a handful of longer-serving players. He added sixty-six goals in twenty-two career playoff games.

Perhaps the Gait brothers' greatest contribution however is the way they revolutionized the way the modern game is played and helped usher in the current professional game's popularity across North America. It was in university with his brother Paul that Gary devised the aerial maneuver around the goal crease that came to be popularly known as the "Air Gait." It proved so effective rules were

made to restrict it. Other Gait innovations such as behind-the-back passing and shooting confounded opposing coaches and defenders alike. These "trick shots" are now an accepted and effective part of the modern game.

Only the second player in NLL history to have his jersey number retired, Gary Gait has been inducted into the US Lacrosse National Hall of Fame and was a charter inductee into the NLL Hall of Fame.

Ask Paul Gait about the biggest surprise of his storied lacrosse career and he's likely to tell you it's the fact both he and his twin brother Gary are likely the first two professional lacrosse players to make their entire living from the game.

"Lacrosse chose us," he says.

As boys they excelled at anything that could be played—soccer, basketball, rugby, track and field. Take your pick, there's a good chance they could have taken it pro. Yet, in the end it was lacrosse. First as players, then coaches, then equipment distributors, and from here, who knows. In today's world of multi-million dollar contracts and ballooning endorsement deals for athletes in other major sports, it doesn't sound like much of a statement—"to make your entire living from the game"—but first consider where they came from, where the game of lacrosse was, and where Paul Gait went with it.

Born in Victoria, Paul learned the game beside his twin brother Gary and next door neighbours Greg and Grant Pepper, also twins their age. Their father Fred and Greg and Grant's father, Bob, first introduced them to lacrosse and coached the boys until age eleven. Looking to take their play to another level, the dads hired former Victoria Shamrocks player Ron McNeill as coach. Both Gaits attribute much of their success to McNeill now, ahead of his time in terms of teaching young kids technical skills and visualization, meditation, interval training, and nasal breathing techniques that just weren't taught at that time.

In 1986, Paul won a full scholarship to New York's Syracuse University and with brother Gary led the Orange to three national championships in four years. Three times Paul earned All-American standing and was named MVP of the 1989 NCAA Championship tournament.

Upon graduation, professional lacrosse was just taking hold in the US. A Kansas entertainment company specializing in monster trucks had established a fledgling indoor professional lacrosse league and needed star power. Enter Paul and Gary Gait. Over Paul's thirteen-year pro career he won nine championships: one Minto Cup (with Esquimalt-Victoria Legion), four Mann Cups (one with Victoria), three NLL championships, and one MLL title.

The only player whose team and individual accomplishments rival those of his twin brother, it's not difficult to see why Paul's name enters the discussion for greatest lacrosse player of all-time early and



Photos: BC Sports Hall of Fame



Photos: BC Sports Hall of Fame

Victoria's Gary Gait (above) and Paul Gait (below) were inducted in the 2011 class of the BC Sports Hall of Fame.

often. Four times he led the NLL in goal scoring, eight times was named to the First-Team All Pro, and in 2002 he won the league's MVP award. Paul currently ranks as the NLL's third all-time goal-scorer (410) and eighth in points (712). Lacrosse Magazine and the NCAA named him to its All-Twentieth Century Team and 25th Anniversary Team respectively. Four times he represented Canada at the ILF World Championships, earning All-World honours in 1994.

Like Gary, Paul is also inducted into the US Lacrosse National Hall of Fame and the NLL Hall of Fame. Currently, Paul remains heavily involved with the Gaits' own brand of lacrosse equipment, Gait Lacrosse based in Syracuse.



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Canada Rising—2011

Ranking Canada’s Up and Coming High School Lacrosse Stars

By: J.P. Donville

The game of field lacrosse continues to evolve in Canada. As Inside lacrosse Magazine recently noted, the “Gold Rush” to recruit Canadian lacrosse players is well on its way and the number of Canadian men playing in the US could very well broach the 300 player level in 2012. This continued surge in the aggregate numbers of Canadians playing lacrosse in the US is the most obvious statistic that describes the changing face of Canadian lacrosse. However this “tidal wave of talent” is in itself evolving and there are really two components to this evolution that are worth noting. First, the expansion of the field game beyond Ontario and BC is producing some outstanding lacrosse talent in “under prospected” areas. Second, the development of players on the defensive side of center is significant as the depth at the defensemen and goalie positions in Canada is unprecedented. For US coaches who think they have missed the gold rush – look again. There is still plenty of undiscovered gold in the Canadian lacrosse world and the 2011 edition of Canada Rising is here to make that job a little easier.

Before we move on to the rankings it is worth noting that one of the great things about Canadian lacrosse is that once a year we bring together the top players in the country for head to head competition. This allows both fans and scouts to see which players can perform the best when challenged by the very toughest opposition that Canadian lacrosse has to offer. This year’s national field lacrosse championships in Burnaby, BC featured the largest number of teams since the tournament was changed from a club based tournament to a provincial format. It also featured two superb finals.

Team Ontario entered the 2011 National Tournament as reigning champions at both the U16 and U19 levels, although the margin of victory from the year before was a single goal in both cases. In 2011, Team BC was determined to finally wrestle away the respective cups from Ontario and put together two squads that were clearly capable of winning both championships. In the first championship final (U16) both teams battled hard with Team Ontario holding a slight lead for most of the game. However, BC slowly reeled in Team Ontario in the third quarter and entered the fourth quarter with the lead. Team Ontario fought back hard and threw a dozen shots at BC goalie Stuart Smith who was more than up to the challenge allowing, Team BC to win its first U16 championship in several years by a one goal margin.

The U19 final had a distinctively different feel than the U16 final. Team BC quickly went up 5 – 0 on Team Ontario before Team Ontario came roaring back. The game was tied 8 – 8 at halftime. The lead went back and forth in the third and fourth quarters, but clutch play by the Team Ontario midfield led by Kyle Jackson was enough to carry the day as Team Ontario hung on to a one goal margin of victory.

Besides two great finals, the Nationals once again showcased the next wave of the Canadian gold rush and no game better illustrated this point than the U19 round robin game between Team Ontario and Team Saskatchewan. On one side of the field stood Team Ontario, with most of its line – up already committed to Division I schools like Penn State, Cornell, Georgetown, Stony Brook, and North Carolina. On the other side of center stood a bunch of prairie kids with not a single NCAA Division I, II or III commit amongst them. On paper this game should have been a blowout. However, games like this are not played on paper and after one quarter Saskatchewan had the lead. At half time, Saskatchewan was still leading...it seems that someone forgot to tell these young men from Saskatoon that they didn’t have a chance against all of these NCAA bound kids from Ontario. After the third quarter, Saskatchewan was still winning and it was starting to look like one of the biggest upsets in recent Canadian field lacrosse memory. However, in the fourth quarter Ontario scored a couple of quick goals and somehow managed to claw back a 12 – 10 win. But don’t think for a second that Ontario was having a bad day. The lacrosse players from Saskatchewan were talented and well coached. Team Saskatchewan really was that good.

The other point worth noting from the Nationals was the evidence of the ongoing development of talent outside the area of the game that Canadians are renowned for, i.e. goal scoring. During this year’s nationals I had the privilege of watching the finals with a few recently graduated NCAA players from the Vancouver area and they noted that the biggest difference in the current edition of the Nationals is the play of the goalies and long poles. Many observers in Canada now consider players like Cornell long pole Jason Noble and Bellarmine goalie Dillon Ward not to be anomalies but the leading edge of the next Canadian gold rush.

Only time will tell.

About the rankings - Rankings are not without controversy – the author of this article gets it. However, in the Canada Rising

rankings a tremendous amount of effort has gone into the process of making these rankings as fair and objective as possible. In the preparation of this report, input was sought from leading coaches involved with the provincial U16 and U19 field lacrosse teams throughout

Canada. To a lesser extent input has been sought from top Canadian and US prep school coaches and from coaches running elite travel teams in Canada. The support of these coaches has been greatly appreciated while the author of this article accepts all responsibility for any errors of accuracy or omission.

Canada Rising – Senior Rankings (incoming class of 2012)

1. Warren Hill – Goalie – Six Nations/McMaster – Marquette
2. Kyle Jackson – Midfield – Sarnia/Hill Academy – Michigan
3. Cory Shires – Attack – Nanaimo/Claremont – Loyola
4. Derek Searle – Defense – Hamilton – Cornell
5. Challen Rogers – Midfield – Coquitlam – Uncommitted
6. Aaron Moroney – Defense – Oshawa/Millbrook – Towson
7. T.J. Sanders – Attack – Orillia/Millbrook – Penn State
8. Nathan Stewart – Defense – New Westminster – Uncommitted
9. Seth Oakes – Attack – Akwesasne/Salmon River – Uncommitted
10. Holden Cattoni – Midfield – Calgary – Johns Hopkins
11. Mike Morris – Attack – Oakville/Salisbury – Johns Hopkins
12. Jordan Cunningham – Midfield – Victoria/Claremont – Uncommitted
13. Korin Sunday – Defense – Akwesasne/Salmon River – Uncommitted
14. Brennan Donville – Goalie – Oakville/The Hill School – Cornell
15. Michael Messenger – Midfield – Langley – High Point
16. Nate White – Attack – Peterborough – Stony Brook
17. Ky Tarbell – Attack – Akwesasne/Salmon River – Uncommitted
18. Ty Albrecht –Midfield – Oakville/Millbrook – Cornell
19. Max Fredrickson – Attack – Victoria/Claremont – Lehigh
20. Ty Fleury – Defense – Edmonton/Hill Academy – Uncommitted
21. Austin Thorarinson – LSM – Saskatoon – Uncommitted
22. James Rahe – Midfielder – Langley – Uncommitted
23. Zack Hereweyers – Attack – London – Loyola
24. Kanattio Adams – LSM – Akwesasne/Salisbury – Cornell
25. Stu Martin – Defense – Six Nations – Uncommitted
26. Colin Bashford – Defense – Victoria – Uncommitted
27. Ryan Fournier – Midfield – Ottawa – Uncommitted
28. Steve Caswell – Attack – Saskatoon – Uncommitted
29. Max Fredrickson – Attack – Victoria/Claremont – Uncommitted
30. Jake Withers – Midfield – Peterborough – Uncommitted
31. Eric Kimmerly – Defense – Oshawa – Uncommitted
32. Ty Barrett – Goalie – New Westminster – Uncommitted
33. Dan Williams – Defense – Hamilton – Uncommitted
34. Blaine Boomer – Midfield – Kamloops – Uncommitted
35. Dan Lomas – Attack – Burlington – High Point
36. Josh Byrne – Attack – New Westminster – Uncommitted
37. Chris Kaspar – Midfield – Victoria – Uncommitted
38. Ian Mackay – Midfield – Port Elgin – Vermont
39. Robin Lowenburger – Defense – Port Coquitlam /Charles Best – Uncommitted
40. Raymond Banister – Defense – Okotoks/Hill Academy – Uncommitted
41. Davis Reksdayl – Attack – Red Deer – Uncommitted
42. Quinn Powless – Midfield – Six Nations – Uncommitted
43. Ty Kirkby – Attack – Burnaby – Uncommitted
44. Paddie Quinn – Midfield – Halifax/Halifax West HS – Uncommitted
45. Mike Fournier – Goalie – Orangeville – Uncommitted
46. Josh Oliver – Midfield – Markham/Vermont – Quinnipiac
47. Derek Mcleod – Defense – Victoria – Uncommitted
48. Drew Deans – Defense – Calgary – Uncommitted
49. Sam Martin – Midfield – Halifax/Citadel HS – Uncommitted
50. Will Glover – Midfield – Oakville/Hill Academy – Uncommitted

Canada Rising – Junior Rankings (incoming class of 2013)

1. Joe French – Attack – Mimico/St Michaels – Georgetown
2. Tyler Pace – Midfield – Port Coquitlam/Blue Ridge – Denver
3. Drew Dziadyk – Attack – Saskatoon – Uncommitted
4. Brendan Bomberry – Attack – Six Nations/Hill Academy – Uncommitted
5. Stuart Smith – Goalie – Victoria – Uncommitted
6. Shane Simpson – Midfielder – Hamilton – North Carolina
7. Ryan Myles – Defensive Midfield – Orangeville – Uncommitted
8. Ty Klarner – Attack – Port Coquitlam – Uncommitted
9. Jake Bomberry – Midfield – Six Nations – Uncommitted
10. Jordan Green – Midfield – Victoria/Claremont – Uncommitted
11. Jesse Gillespie – Defense – Ridge Meadows – Uncommitted
12. Andrew Mullen – Defense – Toronto/St Michaels – Uncommitted
13. Michael Panowyk – Midfield – Whitby/Hill Academy – Uncommitted
14. Reed Hnidy – Defense – Saskatoon – Uncommitted
15. Riley Glemnitz – Midfield – Ridge Meadows – Uncommitted
16. Austin Shanks – Attack – Clarington/Brewster Academy – Michigan
17. Reece Callies – Midfield – Langley – Uncommitted
18. Nolan Apers – Attack – Oakville/Hill Academy – Uncommitted
19. Nick Nesbiit – Goalie – Burlington/Salisbury – Cornell
20. Hayden Johnstone – Goalie – Toronto Beaches/Hill Academy – Stony Brook
21. Josh Johnson – Attack – Six Nations – Uncommitted
22. Jordan Getz – Attack – Calgary – Uncommitted
23. Aaron Madaisky – Defense – South Fraser – Uncommitted
24. Dalston Day – Attack – Akwesasne – Uncommitted
25. Kyran Clarke – Attack – Port Coquitlam – Uncommitted
26. Chris George – Defense – Akwesasne – Uncommitted
27. Sean Tyrell – Attack – Calgary – Uncommitted
28. Matt Hamilton – Midfield – West Vancouver – Uncommitted
29. Zach Currier – Midfield – Peterborough/Culver – Princeton
30. Brad Hofmann – Defense – Delta – Uncommitted

31. Sam Murphy – Midfield – Saskatoon – Uncommitted
32. Gianni Bianchin – Midfield – Burlington/Trinity Pawling – Uncommitted
33. John Pearson – Attack – Langley – Uncommitted
34. Ryan Johnston – Attack – Elora/Hill Academy – Uncommitted
35. Landon Gagner – Attack – Arizona/Brophy – Uncommitted
36. Alec Tullett – Defense – Toronto/St Georges – Brown
37. Zack Miller – Midfield – Six Nations/Hill Academy – Uncommitted
38. Liam Mulligan – Goalie – Saskatoon – Uncommitted
39. Jake Archdekin – Defense – Calgary – Uncommitted
40. Jake Cullen – Attack – Victoria – Uncommitted
41. Brodie Jorgenson – Midfield – Saskatoon – Uncommitted
42. Justin Demarchi – Midfield – Mimico/St Michaels – Uncommitted
43. Eddie Renaud – Attack – Burlington – Uncommitted
44. Brett Kujala – Attack – Ridge Meadows – Uncommitted
45. Josh Sampson – Midfield – Halifax/Halifax West HS – Uncommitted
46. Connor Stroup – Goalie – Coquitlam – Uncommitted
47. Quinton Pavan – Defense – Port Coquitlam/Blue Ridge – Uncommitted
48. Jay Lindsay – FOGO – Burlington – Uncommitted
49. Paul Gabrielese – Midfield – Victoria – Uncommitted
50. Tony Tremblay – Midfield – Calgary – Uncommitted

Canada Rising – Sophomore Rankings (incoming class of 2014)

1. Connor Robinson – Midfield – New Westminster – Uncommitted
2. Riley Thompson – Attack – Orangeville/Carver Academy – Uncommitted
3. Jeremy Boshier – Midfield – Kamloops – Uncommitted
4. Matthew Gilray – Defense – Whitby/Brewster Academy – Uncommitted
5. Tyson Bomberry – Defense – Six Nations – Uncommitted
6. Dawson McKenzie – Midfield – Guelph – Uncommitted
7. Andrew Gresham – Attack – Pitt Meadows – Uncommitted
8. Marc – Antoine Pion – Defense – Montreal – Uncommitted
9. Nick Fournier – Goalie – Orangeville – Uncommitted
10. Marcus Davis – Midfield – Victoria – Uncommitted
11. Patrick Shea – Attack – Oakville – Uncommitted
12. Logan Fisher – Defense – Saskatoon – Uncommitted
13. Jordan McKenzie – Defense – New Westminster – Uncommitted
14. Thomas Bianchin – Attack – Burlington – Uncommitted
15. Nate McKenzie – Defense – Guelph/Brewster Academy – Uncommitted
16. Cougar Kirby – Midfield – Kahnawake – Uncommitted
17. Kael Naylor – Midfield – Saskatoon – Uncommitted
18. Nick Preston – Attack – Saanich – Uncommitted
19. Tanner Thomson – LSM – Toronto/St Michaels – Uncommitted
20. Ben Neeb – Goalie – Oakville/Hill Academy – Uncommitted
21. Connor Leies – Attack – Victoria/Claremont – Uncommitted
22. Wyatt Goldales – Midfield – Saskatoon – Uncommitted
23. Riley Palmer – Defense – Whitby – Uncommitted
24. Tristan Rai – Attack – Edmonton – Uncommitted
25. Sam Degroot – Midfield – Port Coquitlam – Uncommitted
26. Louis – Guillaume Lemay – Defense – St Laurent – Uncommitted
27. Jake Kelly – Goalie – Barrie – Uncommitted
28. Cody Graden – Midfield – Calgary – Uncommitted
29. Chase Malcolm – Midfield – Port Coquitlam – Uncommitted
30. Ty Cordingley – Attack – Brampton – Uncommitted

Honorable Mention – The Canada Rising rankings have been in effect for two years. Each year, a few players get over looked by factors ranging from a key – stroke mistake to reclassifications. In this context, the following players should have been included somewhere in the 2011 rankings but for one reason or another they were missed.

The following players could have been ranked anywhere between 10 and 50 for official ranking purposes can consider themselves to be tied for 25th in the 2011 rankings of their class.

Kyle Trolley – Attack – Peterborough/Culver – Notre Dame

Paul Rakoczy – Defense – Burlington/Avon – McGill

Cam Milligan – Midfield – Peterborough – Uncommitted

Jackson Hulbert – Midfield – Oakville/Hill Academy – Uncommitted

Rory Flynn – Defense – Orangeville – Uncommitted

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Helmet & Facemask Requirements for 2012 & 2013

CLA Technical Bulletin 11-06

Due to the delay in being given notice by CSA of there being approved lacrosse facemasks that meet CSA standards; And upon concluding that this notice cannot provide for all lacrosse players to acquire CSA approved lacrosse facemasks but that the notice is sufficient to supply players 16 years and under with CSA approved lacrosse facemasks;

The Canadian Lacrosse Association (CLA) issues the following directives with regard to helmet and facemask requirements:

FOR PLAYERS 17 YEARS AND OVER: Players aged 17 years and over, as defined by CLA policy 18.2.1.3* for box and 19.4.1.3** for field, are not required to use a CSA approved facemask for lacrosse until January 1, 2013. Until then players 17 years and over are permitted to use NOSCAE approved facemasks with a CSA approved helmet, provided attaching the facemask to the helmet does not alter the helmet in any way which would void the CSA approval. This means that helmet and facemask configurations that were legal as per CLA policy and used in the 2011 season may continue to be used in the 2012 season.

Refer to CLA Technical Bulletin 11-05 for instructions on what qualifies as a legal helmet, facemask and chin cup configuration:

http://cla.pointstreaksites.com/files/uploaded_documents/357/Tech_Bulletin_11-05_Legal_vs_Illegal_Helmets_v.3_-_FINAL.pdf

The CLA warns all players 17 years and over about the potential risks of using non CSA approved facemasks and strongly recommends that players 17 years and over use CSA approved lacrosse facemasks where they are available. The CLA informs players 17 years and over who do not use CSA approved facemasks that they are

assuming any and all risks associated with the use of non CSA approved facemasks.

FOR PLAYERS 16 YEARS AND UNDER: The above exception shall NOT apply to players aged 16 years and under, as defined by CLA policy 18.2.1.3* for box and 19.4.1.3** for field. Such players must comply with CLA policy 12.4 as of January 1, 2012.

12.4. Helmets & Facemasks

12.4.1. Lacrosse is a sport with intrinsic hazards and participation in the sport implies the acceptance of some risk of injury. When used as intended for lacrosse and in accordance with the manufacturer's fitting instructions, the use of the helmet certified under these standards is intended to reduce the frequency and severity of head injuries.

12.4.2. For Box and Men's Field Lacrosse, all players are required to wear a helmet which must meet either of the following standards:

12.4.2.1. A National Organizing Committee for Safety in Athletic Equipment (NOSCAE) approved helmet and facial protector, approved as a complete unit, for lacrosse.

12.4.2.2. A Canadian Standards Association (CSA) approved for Ice Hockey helmet with the appropriate CSA approved facemask for lacrosse.

12.4.2.3. A Canadian Standards Association (CSA) approved for Ice Hockey helmet with the appropriate CSA approved facemask for hockey with the following exceptions:

12.4.2.3.1. The facemask shall be designed to cover the wearer's entire face to the lower line of the jaw, and prevent the ball or the head of the stick from touching the face of the wearer.

12.4.2.3.2. The facemask must be finished so that it does not create a risk of injury to the wearer or another person when it is used as it is intended.

Example of a NOSCAE approved helmet:



The following picture represents an example of a legal helmet based on CSA standards for Hockey:



Correctly attached and hinged, chin cup attached to the mask via straps attached to the helmet. Chin strap attached by itself to the helmet loops. It should be properly secured under the chin with a general rule of 1 finger between the strap and under the chin.

There are currently four (4) CSA approved lacrosse facemasks on the sporting goods market and these are noted on the page below.

Equipment which violates the directives contained in this bulletin will be removed from the game and, where required, appropriate penalties will be given.

Should you have any questions in regard to this bulletin, please contact the CLA Office at info1@lacrosse.ca or at 613-260-2028.

*CLA Policy 18.2.1.3: Age is determined to be the age of a player that he or she is or will be in the calendar year of the current playing season. For example, for play anytime from January 1 and December 31, 2006 inclusive, the calendar year is 2006. If a player turns 22 years old in 2006, he/she is ineligible to play Junior in 2006.

**CLA Policy 19.4.1.3: Age is determined to be the age of a player that he or she is or will be in the calendar year of the current playing season. For example, for play anytime from January 1 and December 31, 2006 inclusive, the calendar year is 2006. If a player turns 20 years old in 2006, he is ineligible to play Junior in 2006.



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Midget - TBA
July 11-15, 2012

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July 25-29, 2012

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Team BC Impresses in Maryland



Team BC U16's shown celebrating the 2011 Alumni Cup title, impressed college coaches during their Baltimore trip in November.

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

After winning the 2011 U16 Alumni Cup, the Team BC U16 program has been hard at work training towards loftier goals and exposing more athletes to US college coaches in Maryland. In early November 2011, the U16 team traveled to the Lacrosse Mecca, Maryland, to compete at the Ultimate Performance Lacrosse (UPLax) and Warrior tournaments in Annapolis and Baltimore respectively.

Coach Travis Gillespie, a graduate of Division 2 Limestone College, prepared the U16 athletes for an experience they would never forget – an experience his athletes never expected receiving so much attention from NCAA college lacrosse recruiters.

At South River H.S. outside of Annapolis on the first day, a sizable showcase of top high school talent attracted well over 125 coaches from all levels of college lacrosse. Some of the representatives in attendance were from the following schools: Army, Denver, High Point, Hopkins, Loyola, Maryland, Navy, North Carolina, Ohio State, Penn, Princeton, Syracuse, Towson, UMass, UMBC, Villanova, Virginia and Yale.

UPLax Tournament organizer Chris Gunkel is a big fan of the Canadian teams competing in their event.

“We are extremely fortunate that these teams (Canadian teams) attend our event,” stated the former Loyola College Lacrosse star Gunkel.

“Canadian teams bring a different level of toughness and are bigger physically. They are determined and take it very seriously as it’s their chance to be seen.”

It was evident that numerous recruiters were in attendance to see what the Canadian talent had to offer and Team BC did not disappoint.

“Before I got more than 100 yards on to the grounds for the first game I was stopped by three college coaches asking about Team BC players from past teams,” stated a proud Gillespie.

Team BC got off to a slow start in game one versus a select group from nearby Annapolis. Once the rust wore off, the opponents were treated to numerous bone jarring hits and a traditional display of west coast stick work. The Team BC work ethic impressed many scouts and there was a line of coaches taking note of our size, speed and athleticism.

Game two was against a team from Upstate New York. Again, Team BC over matched their NY opponents in all areas of the game and met their stiffest competition in game three.

In one of the marquee games of day one, Team BC battled the 3D Select Team from Colorado. On the main field, this matchup was a good way to end the day, pitting two Western teams against each other. While very much an up-and-down affair, neither team saw a shot they didn’t like. 3D was brought east by former Denver head coach and current ESPN commentator Jamie Munro, who runs 3D Lacrosse.

There were a bevy of standouts for Team BC, who were a bit more talented top to bottom than 3D. Offensive players were among the craftiest players at the tournament, demonstrating that all too important attribute people connect to

Canadians in being able to fake and finish on the doorstep. Team BC moved the ball well, with players like Jonathan Phillips (Delta Secondary ‘13), Blaine Boomer (South Kamloops Secondary ‘12) and Tyler Klamer (Riverside Secondary ‘13) doing a good job of depositing the ball into the back of the net. The lone goalie, junior Connor Stroup (Dr. Charles Best ‘13) was excellent. Stroup made seven saves in the second half alone, many of spectacular variety.

Team BC, started the game a little sloppy and slightly fatigued from having played two games in three hours -- not to mention the only team without a fourth long pole, spare goalie or a full line of middies. The ability to turn a game around and take command was incredible, even being shorthanded.

“It’s interesting how Canadian teams can turn it on when they need to,” explained UPLax’s Gunkel. “The capacity to drive the pipes, protect the stick, draw a foul and ultimately score with people on them and at various angles is incredible.”

Day two, Team BC travelled north to the idyllic St. Paul’s H.S. outside of Baltimore. The group of tired and banged up players faced off against their toughest challenge, perennial power, and host team, St. Paul’s Gators. St. Paul’s may not have started their full squad this game, but they did play their top players in the last half. Team BC went up four goals and never looked back.

Many of the 160 college coaches in attendance took notice of the U16’s quick ball movement, aggressive defense and watched in awe as any St. Paul’s player who did not pick up a ground ball cleanly the first time paid the price.

Game two was not a typical Team BC effort as the boys went down 3-0 to a team from Massachusetts. After the rude wake up call, they pulled up their socks and ended the game 10-3. Team defense was smothering and offensively, Team BC possessed the ball so well, they never gave the Massachusetts team a chance.

The last game of the day was a little anticlimatic after the great effort versus St. Paul’s. Team BC faced off against St. John’s College of Washington, DC – a team pumped up playing the best team at the tournament. The low scoring affair ended up in a tie on the score sheet, but if it were played at another time, the outcome would have been easily in Team BC’s favour.

The trip was an overall success and met the goals in getting the quality looks the athletes deserved. The proof is in the pudding as Coach Gillespie, upon his return fielded over 30 inquiries from coaches interested in his athletes.

“I assume many of the players thought I was lying when I told them about all the attention I had received from college coaches,” stated a proud Gillespie. “That is until they saw the steady stream of coaches approach me after our games.”

The plan for 2012 is for the Team BC U16 team to return to Baltimore and likely compete both days at the St. Paul’s tournament spending more time at the event where majority the competition is a premium and more college coaches attend.

For the athletes that will continue their college selection process, it is not an easy road to follow, but persistence and great communications are keys to a positive result. Coach Gillespie offered his words of wisdom in the process.

“Respond to all schools that show any interest in you,” reiterated Gillespie. “Feel free to email schools yourself and tell them that you are interested in them. Never close a door in the recruitment process. Also remember, it is a job for these coaches, so don’t take anything personally.”

Nominate Field Lacrosse Volunteers NOW!

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Leon Hall (Youth Field Lacrosse Association of the Year)
Jimmy Gunn (Field Referee of the Year)
John Cavallin (Field Coach of the Year)

The Award Winners will be presented during the 2012 BCLA Annual General Meeting Banquet next October 2012. Our volunteers are important to us, and recognizing outstanding contributions from within our community gives us a great reason to celebrate lacrosse!


For more information or to download the nomination forms, please visit the BCLA Website at: www.bclacrosse.com or contact the BCLA Office (604) 421-9755



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Team BC Women Dust Up at Sand Storm

By: LT Staff

Seventeen BC women's High School lacrosse athletes have been busy this fall and winter honing their skills as the first Team BC U19 Women's Field Lacrosse team took form in preparation for the annual Sand Storm tournament in Southern California.

The fifth annual Sand Storm Lacrosse Festival took place over the January 14 and 15, 2012 weekend in Palm Springs, California. Power packed with teams from the both coasts and non-traditional areas including Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Nevada, Oregon, Texas, Utah and Washington, Sand Storm once again provided the ultimate destination lacrosse experience for both girls and boys!

"I have been very impressed how the coaches have utilized the practices balancing the skill development, game strategies and competition preparation to get to where they are today," stated Team BC Field Lacrosse Co-ordinator, Reynold Comeault.

Over 44 NCAA college coaches representing Division 1, 2 and 3 schools took in the tournament including most west coast schools like Oregon, UC Davis and Stanford and traditional eastern institutions like Ivy League's Brown, Colgate, Columbia, Harvard and Penn, as well as, big D1 schools in Notre Dame, Michigan and Villanova.

"I'm confident every one of our girls will have a scholarship opportunity come their way," said an excited Coach Naomi Walser. "We already have two athletes committed in Ashley Bull (Canisius, NY) and Ellie Delich (UC Davis, CA)," stated Walser.

The setting – sun, palm trees, mountains, seventeen grass fields of nothing but lacrosse at the Empire Polo Grounds south of Palm Springs – Lacrosse Heaven!!

Team BC U19 Women's team was placed in the Rancho Mirage Conference with 38 teams, specifically in Group E with teams from Maryland, Colorado, Arizona and California.

Game 1 versus CCLAX-UNO – The team BC women started its inaugural event in Palm Springs

with a bang scoring early and often. Team BC built up a 7-2 first half lead on the strength of two goals by UC Davis commit Ellie Delich, coasting to an 11-7 victory. Delich finished with four goals at the final horn. Jenna Andres was solid in the cage with nine stops on sixteen shots. Other scorers included Ashley Bull (2G), Megan Kinna (2G), Rianne Wilkinson (2G) and Ashley Heisler with a single.

Game 2 versus Denver Summit - Team BC picked up where there left off in the first match going out to a 7-2 first half lead again. Sierra Bonner was instrumental in running the offense from X netting a pair. Ashley Bull provided some highlight reel material by distributing the ball like a true field general and scoring a goal by the final horn. Some crafty stick work, including back hand passes by Bull, didn't go unnoticed by the college coaches in the crowd. Other goal scorers included Megan Kinna (2G), Rianne Wilkinson (2G), Kara Nickle (2G), Ellie Delich (2G), Teya McFarlen (2G), Ashley Heisler (1G) and Kathryn Harvey (1G).

Game 3 versus Bay Area L.A. Wave – Team BC needed a win to clinch a playoff berth and the girls didn't disappoint. Ashley Bull once again proved herself to be one of the best players in the tournament scoring six goals en route to a 16-8 win. Although the game started with the teams trading scoring opportunities, Team BC settled in with some timely defense from Sydney Hara, Kirstin MacMurchy, Georgia Larden and Chantal Arnold. Aside from Bull's individual performance, Team BC showed its unselfish style with excellent ball movement and organized offense illustrated by some crisp set plays. In total, ten other players each scored singles including Megan Kinna, Kara Nickle, Anastasia Kalyta, Ellen Harrison, Ellie Delich, Sierra Bonner, Teya McFarlene, Jenny Newman, Ashley Heisler and Kathryn Harvey.

Game 4 versus Pacific Falcons – Team BC used this game to run their offensive sets in preparation for the playoff round. After a tentative start, the team put some nice runs together with posting a 10-3 victory. Goaltender Jenna Andres



The inaugural Team BC U19 Women's Field Lacrosse team won four games and lost one at a tournament in California.

was solid providing some momentum changing stops. Goal scorers included Ashley Bull (3G), Ellie Delich (2G) Sierra Bonner (2G), Ashley Heisler (2G) and Anastasia Kalyta (1G). Heisler showed her blazing speed with some beautiful transition bursts setting up many Team BC goals.

Semi-final game versus Team 180 – Team BC needed to be on the top of their game as they faced a very athletic side from Colorado, who was also undefeated. The fans weren't disappointed as the game was fast and intense from the first draw. Team 180 scored first only to have Ellie Delich answer back with a confident marker driving to the cage and ripping one past a stunned keeper. Team 180 went to score the next three goals, but Team BC answered tying the game on markers from Ashley Bull and Sierra Bonner. It wasn't meant to be, however, as the eventual tournament winners scored the game winning goal and ragged the ball for the final five minutes of the game. All and all a great performance by a well coached side that certainly made some serious strides in their game over the course of the weekend.

Not only was the trip to experience competitive High School Women's Field Lacrosse, the Sand Storm tournament proved to be a great forum for colleges to scout up and coming talent. The 40 some coaches in attendance were impressed with the Canadian talent and the BC girls made some college connections.

"Being in our inaugural stages (Team BC Women's Field program), we are looking forward to sharpening up the image and continue to provide as many college opportunities for our female athletes as possible," noted Team BC's Comeault.

"I'm very proud of the girls and their performance at their first women's field lacrosse competition as Team BC," Noted Coach Walser. "We accomplished many of our goals competing at such a high level in every game."

Many thanks to coaches Naomi Walser, Ashley Page, Alexis Maddaloni and Reynold Comeault (Team BC Field Lacrosse Co-ordinator) for their guidance in a successful initial Team BC U19 Women's Field Lacrosse program.



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Photos: Vancouver Sports Pictures

Scott Browning lead the Team BC U16's to the 2011 Alumni Cup National title.

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

The BC Lacrosse Association submits nominations for the annual Sport BC Athlete of the Year Awards. This year, Team BC U16 coach Scott Browning, the Team BC U16 2011 Alumni Cup National Champions, and top BCLA box and field official Terry Mosdell have been nominated for the team and coach categories.

Sport BC Coach of the Year nomination-Scott Browning

Scott Browning grew up in the lacrosse-rich city of Victoria where he honed his skills as a youth. His hard work transpired into success wherever he played leading up to the Western Lacrosse Association Victoria Shamrocks (Payless) and internationally with the Team Canada Men's Field Lacrosse team. All that lacrosse knowledge he's gained is now being paid forward as a coach.

Team BC, Browning & Mosdell Nominated for Sport BC Awards



2011 marked Browning's return to coaching field lacrosse with the Team BC Under 16 Field Lacrosse program. He has spent decades coaching box and field lacrosse, now firmly entrenched with BC Lacrosse Association's Team BC program for the past two seasons. Browning is a professor of the game perfecting each possible scenario and teaching game nuances in preparing his athletes for competition. His attention to detail and teaching his athletes the finer points of the game are supreme.

The result of Scott Browning's dedication to the Team BC Field Lacrosse program and their 2011 season was evident winning the Under 16 Field Lacrosse National Championships, for the first time, with an 11-10 victory over rival Team Ontario – Browning's first ever national title as a head coach.

Not only did Browning win a national title, personally, he was named an assistant coach of the 2011 U19 Men's National Field Lacrosse team and was a member of the Victoria Seaspray/Waxman team that was inducted into the Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame in the team category in 2011.

Sport BC Team of the Year nomination-Team BC Under 16 Field Lacrosse team

The Team BC Under 16 Field Lacrosse team is a culmination of the best Under 16 year old field lacrosse athletes in BC. These elite athletes were identified in the fall of 2010 and trained up until the 2011 Under 16 Men's Field Lacrosse Championships, Alumni Cup, over the Labour Day weekend.

Head Coach, Scott Browning, has brought his knowledge back to coaching field lacrosse with the Team BC Under 16 Field Lacrosse program for the past two seasons.

This team was a committed group that expected a lot of each other and themselves. The athletes practiced 13 separate times for about 65 hours over 6 months in preparation for nationals. The Team BC U16 team training regime was in addition to their local club box lacrosse schedule (4 days/week in season), club field lacrosse schedule (2-3 days/week in season) and personal training activities.

Additional competitions included playing six tournament games in Annapolis and Baltimore, Maryland versus high school teams from Texas, New York, Colorado, North/South Dakota, Washington, DC and Maryland.

The roster included athletes from Metro Vancouver, Vancouver Island, the Interior and Kootenays that endured extensive travel to training sessions. They grew as individuals and as a group billeting each other on the mainland and Island during training.

The result of Scott Browning's dedication to the Team BC Field Lacrosse program and their 2011 season was evident winning the Under 16 Field Lacrosse National Championships for the first time with an 11-10 victory over rival Team Ontario -- the first ever Alumni Cup Field Lacrosse National Championship for Team BC since its inception in 2005.

Sport BC Official of the Year nomination - Terry Mosdell

Terry Mosdell is one of the BC Lacrosse Association's most seasoned lacrosse officials. This Level 5 box and field lacrosse official has officiated every age group and league in box and field lacrosse in his career.

His hard work and game knowledge as a lacrosse athlete has allowed him to call a fair game while at the same time teach the rules of the game to the athletes during game action.

Mosdell not only calls the game from the arena and athletic fields, but also transfers his knowledge and instructs young officials as a clinician for both box and field lacrosse. He is also a Field Lacrosse Official Master Course Conductor educating new field lacrosse official clinicians.

In 2011, Mosdell officiated over 60 box lacrosse league and playoff games for box lacrosse in Senior A & B, Junior A & B, Minor and Master's lacrosse. On the field, he called an additional 60 NCAA, High School and club field lacrosse games. Mosdell was the Lead Official for 2010 & 2011 Senior Men's National Championship (Victory Cup) final, officiated the 2011 Senior Men's Field Lacrosse Nationals Ross and Victory Cups, Junior (Under 19) Men's First Nation Trophy and Midget (Under 16) Men's Alumni Cup..

The result of Terry Mosdell's dedication to lacrosse and his high level of respect has him positioned as one of BC and Canada's top box and field lacrosse officials. He has been selected to represent BC and Canada at the 2012 Federation of International Lacrosse (FIL) Under 19 World Championships in Finland.

All of this, and he still has time to hold a position on the BC Lacrosse Association Executive and be a top ranked master's squash athlete.

The 2011 46th Sport BC Athlete of the Year Awards Ceremony will take place March 8th., 2012 at the River Rock Show Theatre in Richmond. Ticket information is available at the Sport BC website at sportbc.com.

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Simon Fraser announces 2012 Schedule



By William Howard,
SFU Lacrosse Media Relations

Simon Fraser Men's Lacrosse Head Coach Brent Hoskins (8th season) has announced the Clan's 2012 schedule, complete with fourteen games and a return to SFU's Terry Fox Field (under renovation last season) for all four home dates, lead by Fraser's annual Recruit Weekend versus conference rival Oregon and Senior Day versus Washington. The Clan will prep for the challenging schedule with a scrimmage against Washington in late January and an early season match-up versus regional PNCLL Division II opponent Western Washington, before opening the season versus the defending MCLA Division I National Champion Brigham Young in a neutral site contest to be played in Boise, Idaho. In total, SFU will play seven out-of-conference (OOC) games in 2012, while facing-off against six teams ranked in last season's Top 25.

"Our players and coaches are really excited for the 2012 season. Each year we pride ourselves in our strength of schedule and we are once again looking forward to the challenges of striving to compete for a National Championship" Hoskins noted. "Opening our season against BYU and playing our game against Oregon at home on Terry Fox Field are certainly highlights of the schedule, as are the number of out-of-conference games against ranked opponents that we were fortunate enough to get on our schedule this year, four of which will be played in the Pacific Northwest. Relying on our youth again this season with no seniors on our roster, we are confident that our 2012 schedule will provide us with the opportunity to grow as a team over the course of the season and ultimately prepare us to reach our goal of being

in South Carolina for the MCLA Tournament in May."

Simon Fraser will begin their season at home against Western Washington on Saturday, February 4 before facing their first MCLA Division I opponent of 2012 when the square off versus Brigham Young in a neutral site contest in Boise, Idaho on February 11. The game versus the Cougars will be part of a three-game round-robin, with the Clan facing the host Boise State Broncos the following day on February 12.

After a week off, Fraser will make the trip down the I-5 on February 24 to play Colorado State in their first of three neutral site contests to be played in the Portland area. Later that weekend the Clan will continue south to Corvallis, OR to play Oregon State in a cross-divisional PNCLL Match-up on February 26.

SFU's second home game of the season will be a highly anticipated match-up against Oregon on March 3, part of the Clan's annual Recruit Weekend that will take place March 2-3. The following day on March 4, Fraser will take the short trip down to Seattle to play Florida in a neutral site game at the University of Washington, before playing Illinois in Portland on March 17. The Clan will then hit the road down to Southern California where they will face-off against Chapman on March 23, followed by Loyola Marymount on March 25. SFU will wrap up the month of March, with their first PNCLL North Division match-up of the season as they host Idaho on March 31.

April will bring another out-of-conference opponent to the Pacific Northwest as the Clan faces Texas in their seventh and final OOC match-up of the 2012 regular season. Fraser will then close out their schedule with Divi-

sional match-ups versus Washington as part of the Clan's Senior Day on April 14, before ending the regular season at Montana on April 28.

A quick review of the opponents on the 2012 Simon Fraser schedule includes many of the MCLA's top programs. Including the defending MCLA Division I National Champions (Brigham Young), Fraser will face-off against five teams that qualified for the 2011 MCLA Division I National Championship Tournament (Brigham Young/Chapman/Colorado State/Oregon/Texas), four of whom (Brigham Young/Chapman/Colorado State/Oregon) advanced to the 2011 MCLA Quarterfinals. SFU's fourteen opponents compiled a combined record of 126-87 (.592) in 2011 and six of their 2012 opponents won 12 or more games last season.

Simon Fraser posted a 9-9 record in 2011, falling to Oregon in the PNCLL Conference Championship Final. SFU ranked as high as No. 10 in the Top 25 Poll before ending the season at No. 17.

Simon Fraser University Men's Lacrosse will compete in its seventeenth season in 2012 and is a Division I member of the Men's Collegiate Lacrosse Association (MCLA). The Clan have captured a record eight PNCLL Conference Titles (1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2008 and 2009) and rank sixth all-time with ten MCLA National Championship tournament appearances, placing 2nd in 1999 and playing in the 2010 MCLA Semi-Finals after reaching the Quarterfinals in 2008 and 2009. For further information on Simon Fraser men's lacrosse please visit www.sfulacrosse.com or follow the Clan on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/fraserlacrosse>.

- 2012 Simon Fraser Men's Lacrosse Schedule
- Jan. 29 – @ Washington (scrimmage) - TBA
 - FEB. 4 – VS. WESTERN WASHINGTON (MCLA Div. II) – 1:00PM
 - Feb. 11 – vs. Brigham Young (at Boise State) – 2:00pm
 - Feb. 12 - @ Boise State – 2:00pm
 - Feb. 24 – vs. Colorado State^ (at Southridge HS IN Beaverton, OR) – 4:00PM (Laxx.TV)
 - Feb. 26 - @ Oregon State – 12:00pm
 - MAR. 3 – VS. OREGON – 1:00PM
 - Mar. 4 – vs. Florida (at Washington) – 3:00pm
 - Mar. 17 – vs. Illinois (in Portland, OR) – 7:00pm
 - Mar. 23 - @ Chapman – 7:00pm
 - Mar. 25 - @ Loyola Marymount – 1:00pm
 - MAR. 31 – VS. IDAHO – 7:00PM
 - Apr. 8 – vs. Texas (in Portland, OR) - 7:00PM
 - APR. 14 – VS. WASHINGTON** – 7:00pm
 - Apr. 28 - @ Montana – 1:00pm
 - May 5-6 - PNCLL Final Four Conference Championships - TBA
 - May 14-19 - MCLA National Championships # - TBA
- ^ Live Webcast on Laxx.TV
- ** Senior Appreciation Day
- # MCLA National Championships at Sirtine Stadium, in Greenville, South Carolina



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High School Championships March 5-9

By: Shawn House & LacrosseTalk Staff

The eleventh annual BC High School Field Lacrosse Championships will be held March 5-9, 2012. The event will again be hosted by Dr. Charles Best Secondary School and games will be held in Coquitlam and New Westminster.

This year's tournament will see new teams from Langley and Port Moody at the Senior level compete with Centennial, Charles Best, Heritage Woods, New West, St. Thomas More, Delta, Pitt Meadows, Vancouver College, Holy Cross and Terry Fox. Most of these schools run Junior teams as well that will also be competing in the Junior Division along with South Delta and Riverside and Sands.

For the first time in many years, the Claremont Spartans will not compete in the event. Claremont, BC's only high school lacrosse academy has been deemed ineligible for the 2012 Championships.

Countless players in the tournament have gone on to play NCAA Div.1, 2 and 3 in the



Claremont and Best in 2011 High School lacrosse action.

past several years with many more committed to attend college in the future.

This year, there are plans for a women's field lacrosse division as organizers try and get this exciting sport into high schools in BC. If there are any girls' teams interested in competing in the tournament or any additional tournament information needed, please contact Tournament Co-ordinator, Shawn House shawnhouse@shaw.ca or call 604-524-3063 or 604-461-5581.

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Crowley & Cornwall Top BC Players in NLL Draft



Kevin Crowley.



Travis Cornwall.

By: LacrosseTalk Staff

The 2011 National Lacrosse League Entry Draft took place September 21, 2011. The Philadelphia Wings held the first overall selection in the NLL Entry Draft and wasted no time picking Stony Brook University standout Kevin Crowley.

The New Westminster Salmonbellies rookie sensation finished his university eligibility with the Stony Brook Seawolves in 2011. Crowley, a strong, yet agile 6-4, 200 pound midfielder can defend, run the field, make plays and score. In 2011, Crowley led all Stony Brook scoring with 30G, 26A totaling 131 goals and 101 assists in 60 career games. He's the only player in school history to record 100 or more goals and assists, and one of just 40 players in Division I history to accomplish the feat. As a Junior, Crowley was a late selection to the 2010 Team Canada Men's Field lacrosse team that took home silver at the 2010 World Cup of Lacrosse in Manchester, England.

Crowley was the first overall pick of 2011 MLL draft by Hamilton Nationals and split time this summer playing boxla for the 'Bellies and Nationals. In his rookie MLL season, in 10 games, Crowley netted 14 goals and 6 assists while in 6 WLA regular season games, he potted 14 goals and 10 assists.

Coquitlam Junior A Adanacs product, Travis Cornwall, was the second BC player selected in the first round (7th overall) by the Calgary Roughnecks reuniting Cornwall with Junior A head coach and NLL standout Curt Malawsky. Cornwall, a 6-2, 210 pound transition specialist, was 3rd in BCJALL regular season scoring putting up 42 goals and 64 assists in only 20 games. In eight playoff games, Cornwall netted 32 points (8G & 24A) with a 27.59% shooting average. This throw-back two-way player will be a huge asset to Calgary's game plan.

53 players were selected in the six-round Entry Draft, which featured the best young talent from NCAA lacrosse programs at US colleges and universities as well as Canada's junior lacrosse system.

Final results from the 2011 Entry Draft are below.

FIRST ROUND - 1. Philadelphia - Kevin Crowley - Stony Brook University; 2. Rochester - Stephen Keogh - Syracuse University; 3. Colorado - Adam Jones - Canisius College; 4. Minnesota - Jordan MacIntosh - Rochester Institute of Technology; 5. Rochester* - Johnny Powless - Six Nations, ON; 6. Minnesota - Evan Kirk - Hobart College; 7. Calgary - Travis Cornwall - Coquitlam, BC; 8. Colorado - Dan Coates - Canisius College.

SECOND ROUND - 9. Buffalo - Jeremy Thompson - Syracuse University; 10. Rochester - Joel White - Syracuse University; 11. Calgary - Greg Harnett - Orangeville, ON; 12. Minnesota - Corbyn Tao - Robert Morris University; 13. Colorado - Jordan McBride - Stony Brook University; 14. Colorado - Jamie Lincoln - Hofstra University; 15. Buffalo - Jeff Cornwall - Coquitlam, BC; 16. Colorado - Tye Belanger - Peterborough; 17. Toronto - Jesse Gamble - Cornell University; 18. Calgary - Frankie Scigliano - New Westminster, BC.

THIRD ROUND - 19. Minnesota - Jay Card - Hofstra University; 20. Edmonton - Jesse Fehr - Duke University; 21. Washington - Mike Mallory - Delta, BC; 22. Washington - Adam McGourty - Brampton, ON; 23. Rochester - Kyle Andrews - Brampton, ON; 24. Buffalo - Connor Daly - Burlington, ON; 25. Buffalo - Jerome Thompson - Onondaga C.C.; 26. Toronto - Pete Rennie - Peterborough, ON; 27. Minnesota - David Earl - Notre Dame University.

FOURTH ROUND - 28. Philadelphia - Steve Fryer - Coquitlam, AB; 29. Minnesota - Brian Karalunas - Villanova University; 30. Colorado - Craig England - Orangeville, ON; 31. Minnesota - Patrick Smith - Robert Morris; 32. Rochester - Shane Cater - Six Nations, ON; 33. Buffalo - Billy Bitter - University of North Carolina; 34. Washington - Trevor Moore - Robert Morris; 35. Toronto - Eric Bissell - Peterborough, ON.

FIFTH ROUND - 36. Rochester - Aaron Tackaberry - Calgary, AB; 37. Philadelphia - Matt Stefurak - University of Delaware; 38. Colorado - Joey Cupido - Six Nations, ON; 39. Minnesota - Jeremy Boltus - Army; 40. Rochester - Cal Kitson - Brampton, ON; 41. Buffalo - Dwight Bero - Dartmouth University; 42. Calgary - Barclay Hickey - Okotoks, AB; 43. Washington - Brett Hickey - Windsor, ON; 44. Toronto - Kyle Davis - Brampton, ON.

SIXTH ROUND - 45. Rochester - Kraig Maracle - Six Nations, ON; 46. Calgary - Darren Kinnear - Edmonton, AB; 47. Colorado - Jovan Miller - Syracuse University; 48. Minnesota - Todd Baxter - Denver University; 49. Rochester - Grant Catalino - University of Maryland; 50. Toronto - Phil Rawn - Kitchener, ON; 51. Buffalo - Lloyd Chrysler - Tuscarora University; 52. Washington - Justin Salt - New Westminster, BC and 53. Toronto - Mark Burnett - Mars Hill College.

1976 Bellies Mann Cup Team

By: Stan Shillington with Gary McLaughlin

The 1976 Mann Cup winning Bellies team was truly a study in how to jell at all the right times. Blessed with a combination of home-grown talent, eastern imports and senior and junior call ups, the Bellies peaked at the opportune moments to knock off the Vancouver Burrards 4 games to 2 in the WLA finals. And so on to Brampton to try and do what few teams from the west could do at this time: win a Mann Cup out east. That '76 team had quite the mix. The Bob Babcock coached Bellies were led by Hall of Famers Wayne Goss Steve d'Easum, Ken Winzowski and goaltender Joe Comeau who rejoined the team for the last part of the regular season. Returning NLA stars Brian and Bob Tasker, along with the eastern acquisitions Jimmy Johnson, Jan Magee and Dave Wilfong gave NW an offensive punch unequalled in the west. The Jr. Salmonbellies made a great contribution to the team supplying graduates Chuck Medhurst, John Hannah, Walt Weaver, Billy Mosdell, Daryl McColl, Gary McLaughlin, Bill Mercer and Donny Brown. And rounding out the crew were Burnaby Cablevision grad Dave Matheson and the versatile Keith Scott who came over in a trade with the Coquitlam Adanacs. Due to work and school commitments, the Bellies had 3 players unable to go back east: Matheson and Hannah had to teach school and Walt Weaver had business commitments allowing the team to pick up Dave Tasker and Dave Durante from the WLA, Ray Bennie from the Sr. B ranks as well as Jr. Salmonbellie Mario Govorchin. On paper and on the floor, this was a lacrosse team that should have scared the hell out of any opposing goaltenders. But what about Brampton? What were we up against?

The Excelsiors picked up a treasure trove of playing talent themselves: Goaltender Larry Smeltzer, Teddy Greves, Mike French and the truculent Sanderson brothers - Lindsay and Terry. This team would be no slouch in both the scoring department and the physical one - interpretation, here comes the chopping. Game One went to the Excelsiors as they hurled 71 shots at goal and cruised to a 14 - 10 victory. A real highlight for the Bellies was the 6 goal perfor-

mance of Chuck Medhurst playing in his very first Mann Cup game. In Game Two the Bellies turned it around proving why picking up both Tasker and Durante was a shrewd move as they both scored hat tricks in a 10 - 4 win. Game Three was all Bellies - until the

third period. Nine Brampton goals in the 3rd, including 5 in the last 3 minutes, shocked the boys into a 12-11 loss. On to Game 4. Brian Tasker, who had been hampered in the first 3 games by an eye injury (courtesy of his bro Bob's overhand shot) returned to Taskeresque form scoring 4 times and adding an assist in a 10 - 6 win. Who was going to win this see-saw series? Game 5 was a nightmare repeat of the other 3rd period letdown - a four goal Brampton performance in the last eight minutes taking an 11-10 win and 3-2 series lead. Game 6 was do or die. The Bellies came back with their own third period show outscoring Brampton 5-2 to win 15-10. Game 7 comes but wait; the plot thickens. The Brampton Arena has been previously booked and the CLA had failed to inform either team! The talk on the street was simply that the CLA didn't believe this series would go 7. The game shifted to the smaller and totally inferior Bramalea Arena which had, because of the severe humidity, a real issue with an extremely slippery floor. A little known fact is that coach Bobby Babcock announced to us in the dressing room, that because of the condition of the floor, the game could be called at any time if they deem it to be 'unsafe'. The result at the call would stand. He then told the team - emphatically, "Don't fall behind!"

With Bobby Tasker popping in the final goal of a tied third period, Joe Comeau making 17 saves and a last second desperation top corner shot by Brampton's Bram Wilfong just missing, the '76 Bellies had done it. Taking Game Seven by an 8-7 count, they had won the Mann Cup on eastern turf.

An eclectic group of Hall of Fame superstars, stars, role players and call ups had travelled back east into hostile lacrosse territory - and trust anyone who has made that trip, it was - for 2 full weeks in September and came back with the greatest prize in all of lacrosse - The Mann Cup.

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Bishop’s wins Baggataway Cup 11 - 6 over Brock



Photo: CUFLA

Bishop’s Gaiters win the 2011 Baggataway Cup with an 11-6 win over Brock.

By: CUFLA

Tournament MVP Josh Crone led Bishop’s University with two goals and four assists as the Gaiters won their first Baggataway Cup in an 11-6 victory over the Brock Badgers at TD Waterhouse Stadium.

Bishops’ path to the championships included a quarter final 8-4 victory over Western and a tight one goal affair 12-11 semi-final victory over the Guelph Gryphons. Brock defeated Car-

leton 13-7 in the quarter finals and defeated the tough McGill Redmen 13-11 in the semi-finals.

Mike Dube had a hat trick and added an assist for Bishop’s. Joseph Laleune added a pair of goals for the Gaiters, while Brett Conway, James Malloy, Gregory Harnett and Bradley Haddon also scored.

Dustin Dunn, Roscoe Smith, Kyle Davis and Greg Davidson all had a goal and an assist for Brock. Clark Robinson and Craig England added singles for the Badgers. MVP Josh Crone led all scorers with 18 points in four playoff games.

Bishop’s entered the six-team elimination tournament as the No. 2 seed from the Eastern conference. The Gaiters are the first team from Quebec to win the Baggataway Cup in its 26-year history. Brock was the second seed from the West. Historically, the Badgers have dominated men’s university field lacrosse, winning the Baggataway Cup 18 times.

The CUFLA announced the 2011 Award Winners and All-Canadians.

Attackman Josh Crone of the Bishop’s University Gaiters headlines the list of the Canadian University Field Lacrosse Association’s 2011 All-Canadian teams and award winners.

Crone, from Cambridge, Ont., was selected as CUFLA’s Most Valuable Player after outstanding 2011 campaign and leading his Bishops teammates to a Baggataway Cup. Crone was also selected to the East Division’s All-Canadian team and named the league’s Outstanding Attackman.

Rounding out the CUFLA awards list were Scoring Champion Eric Hubert (Guelph), Outstanding Graduating Player Mike Dube (Bishop’s), Outstanding Rookie Alex Rohrbach (McGill), Outstanding Midfielder Niall Caravello (Trent), Outstanding Defenseman Eric Petrie (Western), Most Valuable Goalkeeper Riley McGillis (McGill) and Top Coaching Staff was the staff at the University of Toronto.

The All Canada West Division All-Canadians were on Attack: Eric Hubert (Guelph), Ryan Serville (Guelph), Carter Williams (McMaster). Midfield: Jordan Critch (Guelph), Scott Watson (Western), Craig England (Brock). Faceoff Specialist: Ben Van Galen (Guelph). Defensive Midfield: Russell Poulton (Guelph). Long Stick Midfield: Nikkolas Trillo (Western). Defense: Eric Petrie (Western), Ryan Cavanaugh (Western), Brendan Farrer (Western). Goalkeeper: Cameron Watts (Brock).

The All Canada East Division All-Canadians were on Attack: Mike Dube (Bishop’s), Josh Crone (Bishop’s), Alex Rohrbach (McGill). Midfield: Niall Caravello (Trent), Ryan Besse (McGill), Shane Davidson (Carleton). Faceoff Specialist: J.J. Miller (McGill). Defensive Midfield: Mason Geldart (Bishop’s). Long Stick Midfield: David Hogarth (McGill). Defense: Greg Harnett (Bishop’s), Kyle Robinson (McGill), Corey Wright (U of T). Goalkeeper: Riley McGillis (McGill).

Canadian Lacrosse Association Announces 2012 U19 Men’s Field National Team Final Roster



Photo: Dan Brodie

Canada’s Goalie Jason Crawford in action versus the USA in the 2008 U19 World Championships gold medal game.

By: CLA

December 1, 2011 - Ottawa, Ontario. The Canadian Lacrosse Association (CLA) is pleased to announce the final team roster that will represent Canada at the 2012 FIL Under 19 Men’s Field World Championships being held in Turku, Finland.

The selection of the final 24 players was not an easy one and follows a successful final selection camp held over the November 25-27, 2011 weekend in Oshawa, Ontario. The camp offered 50 spaces for players who were selected from the over two hundred player applications received since the player application period opened. The final selections also come after many weeks of Team Canada coaching staff and scouts, who are scattered throughout the country, seeking out players, watching them in action and comparing notes on prospective players and those up and coming for future programs.

Being selected to attend the camp was an impressive accomplishment and the players were put through their paces. Team Canada

Head Coach, Brodie Merrill summarized the final selection camp, “as expected, the players performed very well and conducted themselves with class on and off the field. The players experienced a lot of lacrosse in a short period of time and I was impressed with how they handled themselves. They showed strength through adversity and were able to sustain a high level of effort in order to compete throughout the entire weekend. I think it is a reflection of how

important the national program is to young Canadian lacrosse players. All 50 players are fully capable of representing Team Canada and should certainly feel proud of their effort and their role in the process of achieving our program objectives. We are confident in the team we have selected and confident in the process we went through to get to this point. The focus will now quickly shift to preparing the team for Finland.”

Merrill’s comments were echoed by the CLA’s National Team Director of Men’s Field, Dave Huntley, “The level of play at this camp exceeded the already high expectations we had going in. The level of athleticism and skill demonstrated by the players speaks volumes about the development of these athletes at the local and provincial level and bodes well for the future of Canadian lacrosse. Our coaches had a lot of difficult decisions to make in coming up with the group that will represent Canada in 2012.”

Team Canada Defensive Coordinator, Taylor Wray commented, “this was certainly one of

the deepest and most talented pools of defensive players we have ever had at Team Canada U19 tryout. The final decisions were extremely difficult, but I feel we have selected the best group to represent our country and give us the opportunity to win the World Championship. It is a versatile group of athletes with great speed, toughness, skill level and overall athleticism. We focused on selecting players we felt would operate well within the defensive system and would be able to able offer benefits to our transition game. I’m really looking forward to coaching this group.”

CLA Vice President of International Competition, Stewart Begg, has been with the Team Canada program during each step of the selection and shared his thoughts on the process and future of Canada’s national teams, “the CLA is very proud of the effort and investment our coaching staff and scouts have put into our national team program and long term strategy. Young lacrosse players will see this team take to the field in Finland and will be inspired and infused with pride just as our Head Coach, Brodie Merrill was, who as a young lacrosse player, witnessed Canada come back from an 11-1 deficit in a world championship game against the US in 1998. The future could not be more exciting for young lacrosse players who dream one of day of playing for Canada.”

The following players will represent Canada’s 2012 U19 National Team: Dan Lintner (Whitby/Oshawa, ON – Cornell ’10), Joe French (Mimico, ON – Georgetown ’13), Turner Evans (Peterborough, ON - Ohio State ’11), Reily O’Connor (Whitby/Oshawa, ON – Georgetown ’11), Zack Herreweyers (Walla Walla, WA – Loyola ’12), Reegan Comeault (Pitt Meadows, BC - Ohio State ’11), Jesse King (Victoria, BC - Ohio State, ’11), Wesley Berg (Coquitlam, BC – Denver ’11), Brian Cole (Oakville, ON – Maryland ’11), Joel

Tinney (Guelph, ON – Hopkins ’14), Kyle Jackson (Sarnia, ON – Michigan ’12), Tyler Albrecht (Oakville, ON – Cornell ’12), Chad Tutton (Whitby/ Oshawa, ON – UNC ’11), Jay Lindsay (Burlington, ON – Uncommitted), Ian MacKay (Port Elgin, ON – Vermont ’13), Derek Searle (Hamilton, ON – Cornell ’12), Danny MacDermott (Richmond, BC – NYIT ’10), Aaron Moroney (Whitby/Oshawa, ON – Towson ’12), Leo Stouros (Brampton, ON – Uncommitted), Tyler Gilligan (Whitby/ Oshawa, ON – Marquette ’11), Kyle Trolley (Peterborough, ON - Notre Dame ’11), Brennan Donville (Oakville, ON – Cornell ’12), Hayden Johnstone (Toronto, ON - Stony Brook ’13) and Ross Bowman (New Westminster, BC – Uncommitted).

Team Canada Staff and Scouts who faced the difficult task of selecting the final team were: MF National Team Director – Dave Huntley , Head Coach – Brodie Merrill (ON), Offensive Coordinator – Matt Brown (BC), Defensive Coordinator – Taylor Wray (AB), Substitution Box/Faceoff – Geoff Snider (AB), Goalie Coach – Angus Dineley (ON), Offensive Coach- Scott Browning (BC), Defensive Coach –David Summerville (ON)Video Coach- Lawrence Taylor (NS), Team Manager – Terry Lloyd, Equipment Manager – Paul Wade, Therapist – Jessica Price, Therapist - Jenn Bell, Head Scout – Stu Brown (ON), Western Scout – Rey Comeault (BC), Western Scout - Paul Rai (AB), Eastern Scout – Clancy Almas (ON) and Eastern Scout – Daryl Haynes (ON).

The 2012 U19 Men’s Field World Championships will be held July 12th to 21st in Turku, Finland. Team Canada will be playing for gold against Australia, Bermuda, Czech Republic, England, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Iroquois Nationals, Netherlands, USA and Wales.

NLL Rule Changes for 2012 Season Announced

Rules expected to improve game flow, better mobility for goalies

The National Lacrosse League has announced rule changes for the 2012 season that are expected to improve game flow, player safety and allow goaltenders added mobility. “These rule changes are expected to allow the players of the NLL to further display their speed and athleticism on the floor this season”, said League VP of Operations Brian Lemon.

Major Penalties, now a three goal release instead of two

When a player commits a Major Penalty, his team will be short-handed until the five minute penalty expires OR the opposing team scores

three power play goals. Under the previous rule, a major penalty ended when the opposing scored two power-play goals.

Over and back call is now an 8-second violation instead of 10

When a team gains possession of the ball in their defensive half of the floor, they will now have eight seconds to get the ball across the center line. Teams previously had ten seconds to cross the center line after gaining possession. Failure to get the ball across the line in eight seconds will result in possession of the ball going to the opposing team. If the team with possession calls timeout while

the eight second count is underway, a new eight second count will begin when play resumes.

Faster transition after a change of possession

When game officials blow the whistle to indicate a loss of possession, the player possessing the ball from the offending club must put the ball down on the turf immediately. A minor penalty will now be called on any player who throws, retains or rolls the ball away that results in a delay of game.

Better mobility for goaltenders

Goaltenders will wear slimmer equipment. A reduction in the maximum size of a goaltenders

arm, chest and shin pads by one inch each has been put into effect. The changes are expected to improve goaltender’s mobility while not affecting the amount of padding that covers their bodies for safety.

Player Substitution Area

Players must now keep both of their feet within the boundaries of his team’s Substitution Area while waiting to enter the playing floor. The Substitution Area for each team is the area of the playing surface that is directly in front of the team’s bench. Players were previously only required to keep one foot in this area.

NLL, CLAX & NALL—Oh My!

Can 3 lacrosse leagues survive at once?

By: *Teddy Jenner*

There’s another league that wants to set up roots in western Canada but before it even got off the ground their plans shifted drastically. The Canadian Lacrosse League, better known as CLAX, a new ‘semi-pro’ league founded by former MSL star Paul St. John, was hoping to launch this fall with a 10-12 league based in Ontario and BC allowing players who didn’t make an NLL team or couldn’t commit to the NLL a place to play. The idea of a two conference Canadian only league with an inter-divisional play picked up speed but unfortunately the idea never made it out of Ontario.

So starting January 2012, CLAX will be a six team league based out of three cities; Brampton, Oshwekan (Six Nations Reserve) and Oshawa. Each city has two teams that play out of the same arena and like the NLL games will be played on weekends only.

Using a hybrid set of rules, CLAX hopes to bring back the old school feel of the game with players having to play both ends of the floor creating an intense run and gun transition style league not slowed down by offensive, defensive and faceoff specialists, rather, all well-rounded dynamic players continuously pushing the action.

The fact that CLAX was unable to find any interest out west is bothersome, but St. John is hopeful that this ‘All Canadian’ league will survive and be a great place for players to continue playing lacrosse and a stepping stone for NLL aspirations.

But wait.... There’s more. Yes, another league set to start up in 2012. The North American Lacrosse League (NALL) is scheduled to kick off in January 2012. The NALL had hopes of being a league for American born players unfamiliar with the indoor game, to learn the game and figure out the nuances that can be very difficult to adjust to. Every year more and more NCAA players commit to the indoor game, but many say the same thing, “the pace of play is so much faster, the defensive systems are different and the rules take time to

learn.” In the time it takes them to pick up the game, many are cut from NLL rosters and never play in the box again. Majority of these players are incredible athletes and have more than adequate skills to compete, but lack real indoor game experience – enter NALL.

That’s why the NALL will be great for the sport and not just for the NLL but for international box lacrosse as well. The US was hoping to build “an army” with this league but before they could get off the ground they’ve already had a setback.

The proposed 5-team league have franchise interest in Charlotte, N.C., Hershey, PA, Lexington, KY, Wilkes-Barre, PA, and Jacksonville, FL – then added a team from Boston and the NALL was picking up speed. That may all be put on the back burner a bit. Jacksonville, Hershey and Charlotte have all been suspended due to lack of arena deals, financial circumstances and other issues that may not allow them to compete in 2012.

NALL Commissioner, Anthony Caruso, issued a statement that the league plans to go ahead with its launch later in January with a modified schedule with the remaining teams. Not the best start for a league hoping to expose the game of lacrosse to the American market.

So in 2012 we’ll have three ‘pro’ lacrosse leagues -- the long standing league that continues to find a foothold in the sports world, an All-Canadian league that’s based out of three cities featuring Canadian players and a third league for American field lacrosse athletes to hone their indoor skills.

But there will be lacrosse and many ways for the local lacrosse fans to get access to it. Stay tuned to ILIndoor.com for all your NLL and summer ball news, check out NLL.com for live webcasts of games and even join in the NLL fantasy league and once again on TEAM 1410 in Vancouver, Off the Crosse-Bar returns January 2012 covering lacrosse in the lower-mainland and all over the world.

Lax Remains America’s Fastest Growing Sport

By: *NLL.com*

According to the 2011 Sporting Goods Manufacturer Association Participation Report, Lacrosse is America’s fastest growing sport with a 33% growth among frequent participants and 37.7% growth among all participants.

Should the sport maintain the same growth rate, lacrosse will pass ice hockey at the participation level over the course of the next year.

Last year, the SGMA named lacrosse as the “hottest growth sport”, with national sales of lacrosse equipment increasing in 2009, during

a year in which sales of sporting goods for all sports was down more than four percent (4%) nationwide. In a survey of SGMA members, a whopping 50 percent of them chose lacrosse as the sport most likely to have growth in retail sales of equipment. Football came in a distant second at 25 percent.

“Lacrosse continues to outpace all other sports in growth rate,” said National Lacrosse League Commissioner George Daniel. “We are proud to have been a part of the surge by creating thousands of fans to the sport over the course of league’s history.”

Earlier this month, the St. Paul Pioneer Press attributed the dramatic increase in Minnesota’s lacrosse participants to the arrival of the Minnesota Swarm in 2005.

“We look forward to continuing to create new fans and players by bringing are thrilling brand of lacrosse in the coming years,” said Daniel.



2012 Simon Fraser Men's Lacrosse Schedule

Jan. 29 @ Washington (scrimmage) - TBA
FEB. 4 VS. WESTERN WASHINGTON (MCLA Div. II) 1:00PM
Feb. 11 vs. Brigham Young (at Boise State) 2:00pm
Feb. 12 - @ Boise State 2:00pm
Feb. 24 vs. Colorado State^ (at Beaverton, OR) 4:00PM
Feb. 26 - @ Oregon State 12:00pm
MAR. 3 VS. OREGON 1:00PM
Mar. 4 vs. Florida (at Washington) 3:00pm
Mar. 17 vs. Illinois (in Portland, OR) 7:00pm
Mar. 23 - @ Chapman 7:00pm
Mar. 25 - @ Loyola Marymount 1:00pm
MAR. 31 VS. IDAHO 7:00PM
Apr. 8 vs. Texas (in Portland, OR) - 7:00PM
APR. 14 VS. WASHINGTON 7:00pm**
Apr. 28 - @ Montana 1:00pm
May 5-6 - PNCLL Final Four Conference Championships - TBA
May 14-19 - MCLANational Championships # - TBA

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Coaches Corner ~

Lacrosse & Athletes with Disabilities

By: Duane Bratt, CLA National Resource Person for Coaching

Whether their aims are recreational or competitive, persons with disabilities deserve to have access to quality sport and physical activity programs. In fact, over the last couple of decades there has been increased exposure and greater participation in sport from athletes with disabilities (AWAD). This growth is demonstrated with the Special Olympics, the Paralympics, and high profile athletes such as Chantal Petitclerc. Unfortunately, only 3% of Canadians with a disability are involved in sport. This shows that there is much more that should be done.

While many sports have modified programs for AWAD, there is one notable absence; lacrosse. As opportunities exist or are emerging in individual and team sports for AWAD, it is a shame that when they come to ask about lacrosse, we have to shrug and say, "play another sport." If lacrosse is going to thrive and be inclusive to all segments of society it needs to develop a program for AWAD.

That is about to change. A major initiative from the Canadian Lacrosse Association, led by the Long-Term Athletes Development (LTAD) committee, and funded by Sport Canada, is to develop a lacrosse program for AWAD. Thankfully, this initiative is not starting from scratch. In California, they have developed a wheelchair version of lacrosse. This was demonstrated at the Ontario Lacrosse Association festival. Meanwhile in Edmonton, a different version of the game - sledge lacrosse - is being played. Both of these groups will be represented on the lacrosse AWAD committee, as will Dr. David Legg, a kinesiology professor at Mount Royal University in Calgary, and President of the Canadian Paralympic Committee. Other representatives are from the coaching and officiating sector.

The CLA's AWAD committee will determine whether to pursue wheelchair lacrosse, sledge lacrosse, or both. This will lead to establishing a common set of rules. In addition, special coaching

manuals and official guidelines will need to be developed. Coaches who are unfamiliar with disabilities will need resources to gain the knowledge, skills, techniques and confidence required to work effectively with AWAD. Likewise, officials must be available and capable of guiding lacrosse games with AWAD.

A LTAD stages document, similar to box, men's field, and women's field, will also need to be developed. AWAD follows the same set of stages as the other lacrosse disciplines, but it adds two extra stages: awareness and first contact. The Awareness stage informs the general public and prospective

athletes with disabilities of the available opportunities that exist in lacrosse. The First Contact stage ensures persons with disabilities have a positive first experience with lacrosse and remain engaged. We need to train coaches and develop programs that provide suitable orientation for prospective athletes with disabilities, helping them to feel confident and comfortable in their surroundings. In addition, individuals with disabilities may pass through these stages at different ages depending on when they first become active or acquire their disability, and on the nature of their disabilities. They might pass through some stages more than once - first without a disability and later with a disability.

Finally, pilots will be run across Canada to act as training sessions for players, coaches, and officials to the game. These pilots will also be useful in building exposure for lacrosse's AWAD program. Lacrosse is a great game and all people, whether able-bodied or disabled, need the opportunity to play!

In Memoriam

Hall, Ken. A great teacher of the game of lacrosse and mentor for all officials has left us. Ken was a mentor to many of the senior refs on the island over the past several years. And several officials whom are now reffing in the NLL and WLA have attributed their success in part to Ken's guidance over the years. Ken has held several positions on Island commissions, and was the Head Ref of Juan de Fuca and Victoria Field LAX for many years. He is survived by a daughter, 3 brothers and a sister whom we would like to send our deepest condolences to on behalf of this Island Commission. Hall passed away November 30, 2011.



Johnston, Geordie November 1, 1928 - October 31, 2011. On the eve of his 83rd birthday, Geordie slipped away from us, quickly and peacefully. A member of the Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame and celebrated goalie for the Mann Cup winning '55 & '57 Shamrocks (MVP in '57), Geordie was a lifelong athlete, despite being born with a club foot and spending most of his first 5 years in Sick Kids in Toronto. After a youthful

marriage, Geordie was predeceased by his beloved wives Mary Carson Bell (1983) and Marie Forster (1992) and his dear companion of 12 years Mary Crouch (2008). He was also predeceased by his stepsons Jason (1996) and Chuck (2001) Schattenkirk and is survived by his step children Christine, daughter-in-law Denise and granddaughter Rachelle (Mary), Robbi, Joyce, and D'Arcy (Marie) and their spouses and children.

James Sr., John William Herbert, January 14, 1918 - December 3, 2011, passed away at the Pine Acres Residential Care Home at 93. He died comforted by staff and family. John loved the game of lacrosse and took great pleasure in reliving and retelling his glory days as Jackie James, captain of the Navy Lacrosse team during the war years. In 85 career game with the Richmond Farmers, James scored 149 goals and 84 assists for 233 points. He valued his independent nature, feisty attitude and passionate opinions. He lived his life on his terms and will be dearly missed.



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National Rankings
(2012 Pre-season Ranking)

Senior A Lacrosse Top 7

- 1 Brampton Excelsiors
- 2 Langley Thunder
- 3 Peterborough Lakers
- 4 New West Salmonbellies
- 5 Brooklin Redmen
- 6 Six Nations Chiefs
- 7 Coquitlam Adanacs

Junior A Lacrosse Top 10

- 1 Whitby Warriors
- 2 Coquitlam Adanacs
- 3 Orangeville Northmen
- 4 Six Nations Arrows
- 5 New West Salmonbellies
- 6 Brampton Excelsiors
- 7 Peterborough Lakers
- 8 Victoria Shamrocks
- 9 Delta Islanders
- 10 St. Catharines Athletics

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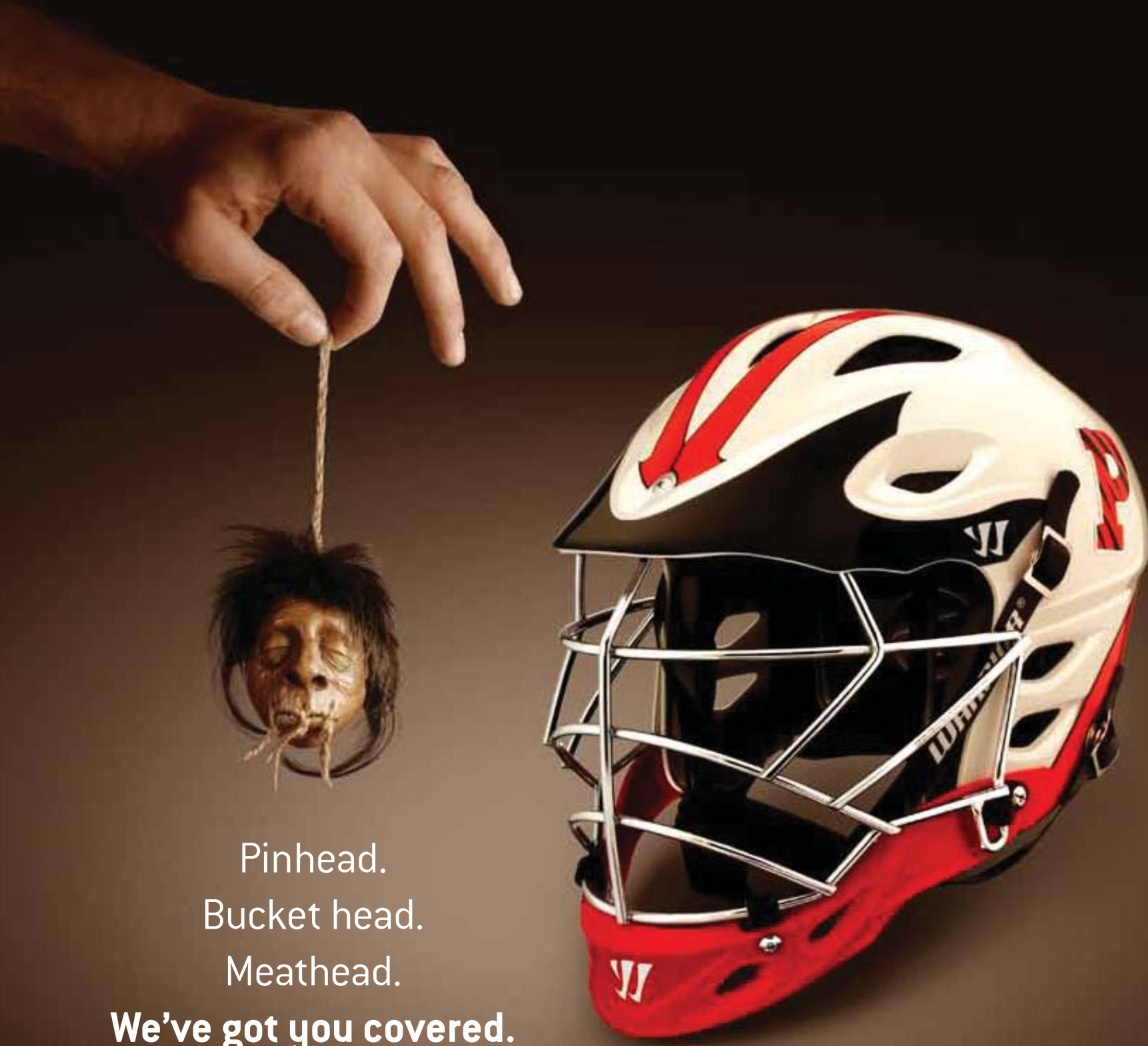
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