

Basketball founder Naismith, two Olympians and one Stanley Cup winner inducted this year

MCGILL SPORTS



Dr. James Naismith (Nov. 16, 1861-Nov. 28, 1939) of Ramsay Township near Almonte, Ont., competed in football, soccer, and gymnastics at McGill. In 1885-86 he won the Wickstead Silver Medal. In his graduating year, 1887, he won the Wickstead Gold Medal. He was active in student government and undergraduate clubs, taught physical education, and was McGill's first director of athletics. He taught at the YMCA College in Springfield, Mass., and there developed the rules to basketball in 1891. He tested the first football helmet, played in the first indoor football game, and was not only a Presbyterian minister and a medical doctor, but also attained eleven academic degrees, including an honorary doctor of divinity from McGill in 1939.



George Ritchie Hodgson (Oct. 12, 1893 - May 1, 1983) of Montreal, swam and played water polo at McGill from 1912-1916 while studying engineering. In 1911 he won the mile race at the Coronation (now Commonwealth) Games. With an innovative stroke, the trudgeon, he was the first Canadian to win two Olympic gold medals (Stockholm, 1912). He broke three world records in the Olympic one-mile swim, set a world record in the 400m freestyle, and won a gold medal in the 1500m freestyle. After serving in the war he competed in the 1920 Olympics at Antwerp. He was considered the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association's greatest one-sport athlete and was inducted to the Canadian Amateur Sports Hall of Fame in 1949.



Dr. F. Munroe Bourne (June 26, 1910 - July 11, 1982) of Rothesby, N.B., studied at McGill from 1927-31, and graduated with an honours degree in English and Political Science. He won a Rhodes Scholarship, and later returned to McGill to graduate from Medicine in 1937. As captain of McGill's swimming, track, and water polo teams, he led his teammates to eight championship matches. He was named intercollegiate champion in four swim and four track events. He held five intercollegiate swim records and two Canadian records and swam for Canada at the 1928, 1932, and 1936 Olympics, winning a bronze medal in 1928. Bourne served on McGill's Athletics Board and was inducted into the Canadian Amateur Sports Hall of Fame in 1972.



Capt. Percival Molson (Aug. 14, 1880 - July 5, 1917) played with the Stanley Cup championship Montreal Victorias at the age of 16, and studied at McGill from 1897-1901, graduating with a BA. He was captain of the hockey team, starred in track and football, and won the Individual Trophy for the school's "best all-round athlete" three times. He set a world record in the long jump in 1900, and was the youngest member to serve on the McGill Board of Governors, chairing its finance and stadium committees. A captain in the war, he received the Military Cross for gallantry and distinguished conduct in action. He was killed near Vimy Ridge, leaving in his will \$75,000 towards the construction of a football stadium at McGill. This was dedicated in 1919 as the Percival Molson Memorial Stadium. He was inducted posthumously into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame in 1963.

HALL OF FAME



Dr. R. Tait McKenzie (May 26, 1867 - April 28, 1938) of Almonte, Ont., graduated from McGill with a BA in 1889, an MD in 1892, and was granted an honorary law degree in 1921. He won the Wickstead Silver Medal and in 1889 the Wickstead Gold Medal. He succeeded James Naismith as the gymnasium instructor and became McGill's first medical director of physical training. He was instrumental in the formation of McGill's first basketball team in 1901 and, in 1904, accepted the position of Dean of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. His sculptures of athletic figures have been displayed at the Louvre and at the National Gallery in Ottawa. As a sports enthusiast he attended every Olympics Summer Games from 1896 to 1932 and produced 126 works on sports subjects.



Ethel Mary Cartwright (1880 -1955) of Saskatchewan, was an instructor at McGill's Royal Victoria College from 1906-1927. As official advisor for the RVC Athletics Club she established intramural competitions in basketball, hockey, gymnastics, swimming, fencing, and tennis. She changed the military style of physical education to specialized training through schools and



Russell Henry McConnell (Jan. 7, 1918 - Sept. 1942) of Montreal, was one of McGill's most prolific hockey players, scoring 116 goals with 95 assists for 211 points in 94 games. He studied commerce from 1935-1939, was a member of four McGill hockey championship teams, and played two seasons of senior football. He won two International Intercollegiate Hockey League scoring titles and in 1938-39 received the Ken Stewart Cup as MVP of the Quebec Senior Hockey League. Captain in his senior year, he established McGill career records for goals, assists, and points which stood for four decades. He served in World War II and was killed in action in September 1942 when his ship was torpedoed in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

was instrumental in creating the McGill School of Physical Education in 1919. She initiated an undergraduate requirement in physical education, devised eligibility and playing rules for women's basketball, organized a women's intercollegiate league, coached the RVC team, and instituted the "Bronze Baby Trophy," still-awarded to CIAU women.

TEAM AWARD

The 1938 Football Redmen won the Yates Cup as Senior Intercollegiate Football League champs for the first time in a decade. It was to be McGill's only football championship for the next 22 years. They had an 8-1 won-loss record over-all, outscoring their opponents 128-42. In 1991 the surviving members of this team established the "1938 McGill Champions Memorial Awards" for academic achievement and leadership in athletics, presented annually in memory of the seven of their McGill football and hockey teammates who lost their lives in World War II.

