

# MEDIA RELEASE



## MANITOBA SPORTS HALL OF FAME ANNOUNCES INDUCTEES

*For Immediate Release – March 27, 2009*

Winnipeg, MB - The Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame and Museum Inc. will honour a veteran induction class of ten individuals and six teams on May 21, 2009.

“We are thrilled to be joining Sport Manitoba in its annual sport awards celebration, the Sport for Life Gala. This event provides an excellent opportunity to celebrate our sport history and commemorate our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary”, states Hall of Fame board member, Lois Howard.

The Hall of Fame was founded in 1980 with the first Museum opening in 1993.

A listing of inductees including a brief biography of excellence and achievement in sport are included on the following pages.

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Additional information including photographs can be obtained by contacting

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## MANITOBA SPORTS HALL OF FAME 2009 VETERAN INDUCTEES

### **Charley BELANGER**

Boxing

Athlete

*DOB January 1, 1901**DOD January 20, 1970*

- A 1924 Olympian, and 1925 Pan Am Games champion, Belanger was the Light Heavy-Weight Champion of Canada in the late 1920's; in 181 fights he won 99 times including 35 by knock-out.

### **Harry BROVERMAN**

Softball

Athlete

*DOB unknown, 1913**DOD unknown, 1985*

One of the finest pitchers the game has ever seen, Broverman starred in local leagues in Winnipeg in the 1930's, mostly for the YMHA. When the Second World War arrived he moved out west and pitched for Service teams and continued to pitch at the Western Canadian championships into the 1950's before a serious ankle injury curtailed his stellar career.

### **Art COULTER**

Hockey

Athlete

*DOB May 31, 1909**DOD October 14, 2000*

Played 11 seasons in the NHL with Chicago Blackhawks and the New York Rangers and was voted to the Second All-Star Team four times winning a Stanley Cup with the Black Hawks in 1934 and captained the Rangers to the Cup in 1940. Joined the Canadian Armed Forces for WW II and ended his hockey career; inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto in 1974.

### **Audrey (HAINE) DANIELS**

Softball

Athlete

*DOB May 9, 1927*

Starred in the Greater Winnipeg Senior Girls Softball League as a teenager with championship squads like the St. Vital Tigerettes (1943); Her pitching ability led to an offer to play in the new All American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL) during the war years where she helped the Minneapolis Millerettes to the 1944 championship. Haine also pitched for the Fort Wayne Daisies, Grand **Paid** Chicks and Peoria Red Wings until 1948. She returned to Winnipeg to play senior ball before going back to the AAGPBL in 1951 where she played for the Rockford Peaches under her married name of Daniels.

**Walter HERGESHEIMER**

Hockey

Athlete

*DOB January 8, 1927*

Went to the Memorial Cup twice (1945 Winnipeg Monarchs and 1947 Brandon Elks) before playing 351 NHL games with New York Rangers and briefly with the Chicago Black Hawks. Won a Calder Cup with the Cleveland Barons in 1950 before joining the Rangers in the NHL and finishing runner-up in the Calder Trophy race to Bernie Geoffrion in 1952. An All-Star game participant in 1953 and '56, serious injuries hampered an otherwise stellar career, which saw him win another AHL title with Buffalo Bisons in 1959.

**Frank MATHERS**

Hockey

All Round (Athlete/Builder)

*DOB March 29, 1924**DOD February 9, 2005*

Won a Memorial Cup with the 1943 Winnipeg Rangers and played senior hockey in Quebec before turning pro in 1948 with the AHL's Pittsburgh Hornets. Won two Calder Cups in eight years there before the club folded and Mathers went to Hershey in 1956 and won two more Calder Cups as a player/coach. Upon retiring as a player he coached, managed or was president of four more Calder Cup champions for the Bears and was known as "Mr. Hershey" in Pennsylvania.

**Lura McLUCKIE**

Curling

Builder

*DOB May 3, 1912**DOD June 13, 1998*

A key figure in the formation of the Canadian Ladies' Curling Association (CLCA), McLuckie was Manitoba Ladies' Curling Association President in 1962-63 before taking over the CLCA presidency in 1967-68. She guided the Canadian Women's Championship through rocky times when the national sponsor withdrew and went on to run a successful event. Her passion was junior women's curling. She was inducted into the Canadian Curling Hall of Fame in 1986.

**Bill NAIRN**

Football

All Round (Athlete/Builder)

*DOB November 16, 1912**DOD unknown*

Played four years for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers in the late 1930's winning a Grey Cup in 1939 before retiring as a player in 1940. Nairn officiated high school and junior football during that time which led to his next career in football as a referee. From 1946-59 he officiated in the CFL and worked 12 Grey Cup Championships.

**J. Derek RILEY**

Rowing

Athlete

*DOB July 1, 1922*

After WW II, he joined the Winnipeg Rowing Club at age 24 in 1946. He won several titles at the Northwest International Rowing Association (NWIRA) and Canadian Henley Regatta over the next 15 years in doubles, fours and singles competition. Riley competed in the Double Sculls at the 1952 Olympic Games in Helsinki, Finland with Bob Williams. He was also chair of the rowing venue at the 1967 Pan Am Games and instrumental in the construction of a new boathouse for the Winnipeg Rowing Club in 1991.

**Roy WILLIAMS**

Basketball

Athlete

*DOB July 8, 1927*

A two-time High School champion with Gordon Bell in the mid-1940's, Williams won a Provincial senior title with Paulin's in 1948-49 (the two-time senior league MVP would go on to win several more provincial crowns). He enjoyed a stellar university career with the Bisons winning a Western Canadian title in 1949-50 and finished runner-up at the nationals. With the U of MB Grads he repeated that feat in 1951-52. The highlight of his distinguished career came in 1952 when he played for Canada at the Olympic Games in Helsinki.

**1952 & '56 Billy WALSH Teams**

Curling

Team

1952

**Billy Walsh** (Skip)**Allan Langlois** (Third)**Andy McWilliams** (Second)**John Watson** (Lead)

1956

**Billy Walsh** (Skip)**Allan Langlois** (Third)**Cy White** (Second)**Andy McWilliams** (Lead)

Won the Brier trophy in Winnipeg in 1952 and in Moncton in 1956 with only one position change between the two national titles.

**1956 Winnipeg Rods**

Football

Team

Won the Canadian Junior Football championship in a repeat performance of the 1955 title.

**1959 & '62 Winnipeg Blue Bombers**

Football

Team

During the Bud Grant era of Blue Bomber glory days where the local club captured the Grey Cup four times in five years, these two clubs join their 1958 and 1961 brethren as worthy members of the Hall of Fame.

**1961 St. James Rods**

Football

Team

Now known as the St. James Rods, the 1961 National Junior Football Championship closed out a golden era of junior football for this province and the Rods in particular.