



MILTON SPORTS HALL OF FAME

November 24, 2016

A Milton Canadian Champion Special Section

CLASS

of

2016

*Congratulations to inductees
Campbellville Merchants Baseball | Carole Murray
Ed Whitlock | John Tonelli | Scott Hogarth*



Congratulations

MILTON SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES!

the Canadian
Champion

CLASS *of* 2016

MILTON SPORTS HALL OF FAME: THE JOURNEY



Milton Sports Hall of Fame committee members include, (back row from left) Glenn Turner, Bob Lee, Andrew Todd, Don Crowder, Wil Angquiangco, (front row from left) Steve Dysktra, Martha Gleeson, Joe Yaworski, Kelly Guard, Sam Kirkland, (absent) Rod McLachlan, Steve LeBlanc and Uwe Samstag-Schnock.

Most surrounding communities have a sports hall of fame. Why not Milton?

That question served as the catalyst for what became a two-year campaign to establish the Milton Sports Hall of Fame — honouring the community's premier athletes, teams and builders.

From the first meeting in fall 2014, it was evident there was ample enthusiasm about this town's sporting successes — both past and present — and a great desire to recognize them in prominent fashion.

Getting there has been a long journey for the committee's dozen or so members, who represent a vast cross-section of Milton. Some have played a key role in a local sports organization, while others simply acknowledge the value a sports hall of fame would bring to the community and have been willing to lend their time and talents to the project.

The past two years have seen some lively discussion, countless meetings and more detail than most of us probably envisioned. But we're here at last, ready to unveil the Milton Sports Hall of Fame — eagerly, and proudly.

To all the local sports groups and businesses that have supported this endeavour, we offer a heartfelt thank-you.

And to the 2016 induction class — congrats!

Milton Sports Hall of Fame Committee

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CLASS of 2016

TEAM: CAMPBELLVILLE MERCHANTS



Champion file photo

By Steve LeBlanc
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

They never graced the cover of *Sports Illustrated*, or even made it onto TV. But in its heyday, the Campbellville Merchants intermediate men's baseball club enjoyed a championship dynasty that rivaled — one may even say surpassed — such iconic sports franchises as the Montreal Canadiens, Boston Celtics or New York Yankees.

Even those on the team still find it hard to fathom that during Len Andrews' 16-year run (1952-67) as manager, the 'Villagers' captured 12 Ontario titles and claimed the Halton crown 11 years in a row.

"It's near impossible, when you think about it," said Cliff Bill, an outfielder with the original team in 1952. "I don't know if you want to use the word magical, but it kind of was."

Made up primarily of local talent, the club's 1950s and '60s championship rein featured an overall record of 411-122-16.

Equally impressive was how the rural boys of summer galvanized the community — in a way few young fans of today can likely imagine.

Recalled '60s catcher Don Joyce, "They'd be lined up all

around the old ball park (on Old Reid Sideroad). We'd get 1,500 to 2,000 fans out for a Sunday afternoon game."

A convoy of supporters would also travel far and wide to cheer on the club, which had its successes chronicled in the 2008 publication of *The Village Nine* — a collection of newspaper articles and photos.

Made possible by a grant from the Campbellville Historical Society, the book includes a forward from Andrews' son Peter, who recounts his years spent delivering his father's game reports to the *Champion's* Campbellville correspondent.

The Merchants were also honoured with a 2014 induction into Baseball Ontario's Hall of Fame, thanks in large part to a push by longtime Miltonian and NHL referee Bruce Hood.

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BUILDER: CAROLE MURRAY

By Steve LeBlanc
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF



Champion file photo

To say Carole Murray made a splash on the local swimming scene would be a staggering understatement.

Already teaching many neighbouring children at her rural home pool when recruited by the Town of Milton to take over instruction in the mid-1970s, she began with an initial class of 20 students at E.C. Drury High School.

By year's end, that number had swelled to 120 — and

would just keep growing. "It just got bigger and bigger and bigger," recalled 'Coach Carole', whom thousands of Miltonians have to thank for learning a vital life lesson. Among those were children with autism or other special needs. "It was very gratifying; I always related well with children. I'd have some students who said 'I can't (do it), but I'd always say 'Yes, you can.'" Under Murray's leadership, the competitive team would enjoy plenty of grassroots level success — laying the groundwork for the provincial and national prosperity now seen from the Marlins.

Her coaching era would include winning the Bell Canada championship trophy three years in a row in Midland, as well as a competitive trip to Barbados

and then hosting that country's young swimmers. Murray also established and coached the Milton Masters squad for 25-and-older competitors, who've excelled on both the national and international stages.

Her overall dedication to the sport, which spanned nearly four decades, earned her the Medal for Coach during the 1988 Calgary Olympics' Celebration 88 Medal presentations. Murray's strong sense of community greatly benefited such organizations as the Heart & Stroke Foundation and the local hospital's expansion in 1984.

Eager to contribute to that project, Murray and her students committed to a 10,000-lap swim-a-thon — with numerous swimmers going well beyond their initial expectations.

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CLASS of 2016

ATHLETE: Ed Whitlock



Canada Running Series

By Steve LeBlanc
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

A quick scan of Ed Whitlock's running resumé and it's easy to see why he's referred to as 'The Master.' Known for his shock of wispy white hair and his daily training along the path of Evergreen Cemetery near his home, the now 85-year-old Miltonian is the epitome of an ageless wonder. Still going strong despite on-again, off-again knee prob-

lems, he set a handful of new 85-89 world records this year. Those include shattering the marathon mark by more than half-an-hour with a 3:56.34 performance in Toronto. Age-class standards in the half-marathon, mile and 10k have also fallen at his feet through 2016, bringing his tally of world records to three dozen. To this day he remains the only person 70 or older to run a marathon in under three hours — having done so three times. His age-class world record haul includes just about every race from the mile to the marathon. But Whitlock is never one to bask in his own success. "One is never completely satisfied," the always humble runner has said on a number of occasions after chasing down another world record.

The England-born Canadian long-distance star — whose overwhelming success has come without a special diet or embrace of a modern-day training regimen — first ran as a teenager and took up the sport again in his 40s. Since then he's built up a rock star calibre following in the running world and been profiled in media publications worldwide. Though not one to toot his own horn, Whitlock is always willing to talk about his passion for the sport and has served as a running ambassador at a number of events. And at a time when most people would cringe at even the thought of long-distance running, 'The Master' shows no signs of slowing down. "I'll keep running as long as I can."

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ATHLETE: JOHN TONELLI



Getty Images

By **Steve LeBlanc**
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Anyone with an arena named after them was bound to be in the discussion when the new Milton Sports Hall of Fame was being formed. A stellar 17-year professional career saw John Tonelli raise the Stanley Cup four straight seasons with the New York Islanders and enjoy a pair of all-star nods in 1982 and '85. As far as he went in the sport,

the standout left winger never seemed to forget his roots. "The Milton Minor Hockey Association helped me a lot. I think they really started me off. I owe a lot to guys like the late Bobby Collins and Glenn Dance," said Tonelli, whose community-mindedness saw him serve as an honorary chairman for the United Way of Milton. "Vern Gooding and Bert Brown really had a lot of confidence in me and gave me a chance to play junior hockey." An offensive anchor with the Calgary Flames and Los Angeles Kings following his successful stretch on Long Island, Tonelli capped his NHL career with 325 goals and 511 assists in 1,028 games. Not only is he the town's most famous pro hockey player, but

— coincidentally — he's related to Milton's first NHLer, the late Enio Scisizzi. A clutch scorer come playoff time and an especially fierce competitor in the corners, his success extended to international play. That was seen with an MVP selection during the 1984 Canada Cup. The Greasy Jet — as he was known by teammates — had nine 20-or-more goal seasons in the NHL. That included a career-high 42-goal, 100-point year with the Islanders in 1984-85. An NHL stalwart after three years in the World Hockey Association, he has the distinction of being the only player in history to score a regular season goal on an assist by Gordie Howe and another one on an assist by Wayne Gretzky.

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ATHLETE: SCOTT HOGARTH



Champion file photo

By Steve LeBlanc
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Admittedly an unsettled teenager in Vancouver in 1969, Scott Hogarth stumbled across a man performing martial arts in a small storefront window. He was immediately inspired. “Fortunately, I found something positive to be addicted to,” said the local karate master. “He (Isao Yabunaka) was my first instructor. He showed me the path and how a warrior should present himself.” That chance encounter wasn’t

just meaningful — it was life-changing.

Having run his Milton-based Fighting Griffin Martial Arts Club with wife and fellow master Tammy for more than 35 years now, Hogarth has done just about everything in the world of martial arts.

An 11-time world champion and holder of seven different black belts — focusing on traditional Okinawan Go Ju Ryu Karate and Hapkijitsu — Hanshi Scott has awards almost too numerous to mention.

With a unique look to match his martial arts prowess, he’s been an actor, stuntman and fight choreographer in about a dozen action movies, working with such industry standouts as Billy Blanks (TC-2000).

Among his more notable distinctions are his Masters

Hall of Fame Golden Lifetime Achievement Award and the Sport Karate Museum Dragon Image Fighting Award.

A lifelong passion for martial arts has also seen him help create rules and regulations for competition and refereeing, as well as teach thousands upon thousands of students at both his club and via introductory training sessions with Halton District School Board. But when asked about the most gratifying aspect of his time in martial arts, Hogarth doesn’t look to any of his countless awards or accolades.

“The best thing is the friends I’ve made. I’ve got tight friendships all over the world,” said the former firefighter and ambulance driver. “I enjoy visiting them and continuing to learn everywhere I go. It’s amazing.”



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