



# Sport Hall of Fame & Heritage Centre

## Induction Ceremony Saturday, 23 September, 2006

### Hall of Fame Members

1995

Father John J. Hennessey, S.J.  
Robert G. Hayes

1996

Robert (Bob) Lahey  
Father Michael O'Donnell, S.J.  
1973 Basketball Huskies

1997

Frank Baldwin

1998

Jim Pineo  
Bob Boucher  
1973 Football Huskies

1999

Jamie Bone  
Elizabeth A. Chard  
Bob Warner  
1964 Football Huskies

2000

Roy Clements  
Mickey Fox  
Kathy Mullane

2001

Chris Flynn  
Elmer MacGillivray  
Angelo Santucci  
1973 Hockey Huskies

2002

Frank Archambault  
Harold Beazley  
Dianne Chiasson  
Mike Hornby

2003

Al Keith  
Greg McClare  
Larry Uteck  
1978 Basketball Huskies

2004

Susan Dunbrack  
Les Goodwin  
Bill Robinson  
Ross Webb

2005

Frank Arment  
Brian Heaney  
Bill Mullane

In celebration of the rich tradition and heritage of sport and recreation at Saint Mary's University, the Sport Hall of Fame & Heritage Centre was founded in 1995, in large measure through the efforts of then President Kenneth L. Ozmon and then Athletic Director, the late Larry Uteck.

Inductions are held annually during Homecoming Weekend - traditionally the weekend following Thanksgiving. For many years, students, faculty and staff have shared a rich sport tradition as athletes, builders and teams, as well as keen, loyal fans. Vivid and exciting chapters of this aspect of the University's life are recorded in *The Santamarian*, *The Times*, *The Journal*, and the *Maroon and White*.

This year's inductees are: Mike Curry, Reginald MacDougall and Dr. Robert A. (Bob) Ruotolo, all of whom reflect the strong sport administrators and athletes whose contributions helped build the proud Saint Mary's Sport Tradition.

### STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patricia Calbury  
Dr. Elizabeth A. Chard  
Zach Churchill  
Roy Clements  
Pat Connolly  
Hansel Cook  
Paul Fitzgerald  
Heather Harris

Kathy Mullane  
Dr. David J. Murphy  
Paul Puma  
Joe Simatovic  
Harv Stewart  
Annelie Vandenberg  
Doug Wright  
Mike Doherty - Adjunct Member

*In Pursuit of Excellence*





*"Mike Curry is another fine example of so many great student-athletes from the northeastern United States who have followed an alumni pipeline and left their indelible prints on the sport history of Saint Mary's University. They who have come, have conquered our hearts.*

*At Pinkerton Academy in Derry, New Hampshire in the early 1970's, young Michael Curry came under the influence of his coach, former Huskie Roger Cloutier, who persuaded his football/lacrosse captain that Saint Mary's was his best secondary education option for its academic and athletic standards and the opportunity to weave them in a warm and friendly environment.*

*It was an ideal marriage that the years have not diminished. The all-star athlete from 1973 to 1977 went on to play in the Canadian Football League with Toronto Argonauts before retiring to begin a business career in his native New Hampshire but never lost his love for or involvement with Saint Mary's. Mike is always among the first back for Homecoming Weekend and the annual Hall of Fame Inductions. He was Honorary Chairman of the Atlantic Bowl in 2001. In many ways, Mike Curry is still the captain.*

*Glittering as they are, his field statistics don't begin to measure Mike's overall contributions to the athletic program. His personal achievements are impressive of course, All-Conference centre in his freshman year with excellent blocking techniques and his accurate third-down snaps that played a role in the Huskies potent kicking game. He was named AIAA All-Star Offensive Guard in 1974, '75 and '76, the year he was also selected All-Canadian Offensive Guard and Saint Mary's Male Athlete of the Year.*

*The quality that most endeared Mike Curry to his teammates and coaches during a career that began with a Vanier Cup in 1973, was the leadership he brought to the Huskies over those four years. From the very beginning he played in one of the less glamorous positions and consequently his effectiveness was often lost in the public adulation reserved for offensive heroes. But Curry's value was never lost on Al Keith, his coach of the time who recognized something special almost immediately and summed it up after the 1973 season.*

*"Curry is undoubtedly the top freshman lineman I've seen in my four years of coaching at the college", said Keith. He added, 'He does everything well and didn't play one bad game for us all season'. The early assessment could have also described Mike Curry's performance over the next four seasons. After completing the then AIAA maximum four seasons of eligibility, Curry added another Vanier Cup ring with University of Western Ontario Mustangs in 1977.*

*The essence of Mike Curry was probably best described by Roger Cloutier who said, 'The ability to lead is inherent in very few people, but Mike is one of the few. You lead by doing-you lead by talking-or you have that intangible quality that makes people follow. A captain makes a difference in the attitude of his team. He is the person who never lets up, and who is always there when the chips are down. Those who succeed in leading will become the bright stars of our society'.*

*Michael Curry, a leader most worthy of induction into Saint Mary's Sport Hall of Fame."*



*"A funny thing happened to Reginald Joseph MacDougall on his way to a job in the Halifax Shipyards in 1956. He was asked if he would like to play hockey, a game he loved and played very well as a goaltender with Halifax minor association teams, but after high school it was now time to seek gainful employment. That was before he met the legendary Father Michael J. (Buck) O'Donnell, a Jesuit priest and sports enthusiast with a vision of a new era for student-athletes at Saint Mary's University.*

*Father O'Donnell was a persuasive chap who helped to sell some skeptical university colleagues on the value of a greatly expanded, high quality varsity athletic program that would make Santamarian teams more competitive and consequently make the school more attractive to recruits. It was what he had in mind when he had his talk with Reg MacDougall and the process could not have started with a better example of a quality student-athlete. There were no guarantees of a degree and employment that was sure to follow, only the opportunity to become part of an exciting new program with equal emphasis on education and sports, in which one could not work without the other. It was the perfect fit for Reg MacDougall and, as events of the years from 1956-60 reveal, for the Saints (the original name of the sports teams at Saint Mary's - later to be known as 'The Huskies').*

*Not only did the Saints get an outstanding varsity goaltender for four years but an athlete who also played junior, senior and intercollegiate football from 1957 to 1960 on a team that became Maritime junior champions in 1957. Reg MacDougall was among the major contributors to a Saint Mary's athletic renaissance that began in the late-50's under the first full-time athletic director, Bob Hayes, and evolved into a national university sports dynasty of both genders over the last half century.*

*Reg was among those who set the early standards of excellence for student-athletes now recognized internationally. He has fond personal memories of those humble beginnings at what was then the region's smallest university tucked away in the south end of Halifax. For instance in 1960, when the underdog Saints probably came of age by beating city rival Dalhousie Tigers for the Lobster Trap Trophy; then reaching the NSIHL final against St. F.X. for the first time since the 1940's. In his first year in the AFC the Saints finished third, finally gaining credibility.*

*Not the least of Reg MacDougall's memories is Bob Hayes' idea of 'spring training' jobs as labourers at Halifax Transfer in the summer. 'Extra practices in the fall one week prior to the school opening meant that 'day hops' had to live at the university. They were housed*

on the top floor of the borders wing that was as yet unfinished. This meant no walls, no bathrooms, just cots and dust". Most of all, "playing before enthusiastic home crowds and beating X in their own rink". Certainly playing two university sports at a time when that was not only permissible, but expected.

After graduating with his Bachelor of Arts from Saint Mary's, Reg received his Bachelor of Education from Dalhousie and taught in the Halifax school system for four years, at St. Catherine's and St. Pat's, where he was assistant football coach. In 1966 he moved to Calgary where he met his wife, Pat, in Red Deer, and taught in the Alberta education system for the next 33 years, until 1995 when he retired. Reg was the SSMU representative in Calgary for 25 years and two of his daughters have been involved in Saint Mary's basketball and field hockey as the MacDougall connection continued.

Few student-athletes of his time were as involved in all aspects of university life as Reg MacDougall who clearly displayed his time management skills handling many and varied and important assignments. Over the course of his four years, the English Major was also President of the Amateur Athletic Association, Treasurer of the Student Council, with commitments to intercollegiate hockey, football and volleyball. The man who once aspired to become a shipbuilder instead became one of the country's most respected educators. All because a Jesuit priest at Saint Mary's recognized something special about Reg MacDougall and made him one of the building blocks of a program in search of student-athlete excellence that is now well established.

Reginald Joseph MacDougall, he of many athletic hats, the consummate Saint-Huskje and most worthy addition to Saint Mary's Sport Hall of Fame."



"Dr. Robert A. (Bob) Ruotolo made his athletic mark at Saint Mary's in football, a remarkable career that extended from 1960 to 1965 and was highlighted by an Atlantic Bowl victory with the Huskies in 1964. What is less known about Ruotolo's choice of Saint Mary's to begin his university studies is that, as a high school goaltender as well as football player in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, he was drawn to the school in the hope of playing for the hockey Huskies - perhaps the reason he turned down a football scholarship at Wichita, Kansas.

Arriving early in 1960, the 17-year old was met by Father Rushman, the Dean of Men and football aficionado, who immediately steered young Mr. Ruotolo in the direction of football coach Bob Hayes and the rest, as they say, is a matter of record. His exceptional contributions to the University's athletic program as a player, his continued support of the athletic program, his leadership in the community, strong character and exceptional academic and professional achievements since graduating have been well documented.

Bob Ruotolo began his football career as a halfback at Brewster Academy where he became a lettered athlete in football and hockey and by the time he reached Saint Mary's he was being described as 'a 17-year old, 5'8", 175lb powerful running back', playing in tough company. The early 1960's Atlantic Football Conference was a mix of college and service teams, St. F.X., Shearwater Flyers, Stadacona Sailors, Dalhousie Tigers, UNB Red Bombers, Mount Allison Mounties and Saint Mary's as well as the era of colourful coaches like Hayes, Don Loney at St. F.X. and Gus MacFarlane at Mount A.

For 17 year olds it meant growing up quickly and the realization that the Huskies, still maturing as a team, were sometimes in over their heads against older and/or more experienced oppositions. The first painful lesson came in the first game, September 21, 1960 under the lights at Wanderers Grounds when the Huskies were bombed 42-0 by St. F.X., a night young Mr. Ruotolo might have had second thoughts about Wichita.

Things gradually improved of course, the team grew better and so did Bob Ruotolo who steadily built a reputation as a tough, hard-nosed middle-linebacker who captained the defensive unit and took no prisoners. He also became recognized and admired by his teammates for a strong work ethic as well as character, skills and leadership. He was chosen Defensive Back Conference All-Star for three of his five years at Saint Mary's. In 1964, he was elected All-Canadian First Team Middle Linebacker.

1962 was a winning season for the Huskies with quarterback Dave Murphy's offense and Ruotolo's defensive corps leading Saint Mary's to a winning season and first appearance in the Purdy Cup. In 1963, the Huskies were quarterbacked by present Athletic Director, Dave Murphy, and with Ruotolo's defensive partners leading the way, Saint Mary's set a record by shutting out opposition teams six times. Ruotolo was in top form again in 1964 when the Huskies won the Atlantic Bowl in his final year of eligibility.

Bob later graduated from the Maritime School of Social Work with a Masters Degree, received a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1973, returned to teach at Dalhousie University then entered the business world in Toronto. Married to Pat Findlay of Halifax, the Ruotolo's now live in Phoenix, Arizona where he has established Quantum Performance Institute, a counselling and consulting firm. Bob is Past President of Saint Mary's Alumni Association, Past Member of Saint Mary's Board of Governors and member of the "Old Dogs" Club.

For the record, it should be noted that Bob Ruotolo did have a hockey career at Saint Mary's, however brief and successful it might have been. In 1962, regular Huskies goalie, Mike Antle, was injured. Ruotolo replaced him for one game and blanked Acadia 1-0. Dr. Robert A. Ruotolo, forever Huskje and most worthy addition to Saint Mary's Sport Hall of Fame."

**Purpose**

The purpose of the Saint Mary's University Sport Hall of Fame & Heritage Centre is to recognize those individuals who have made a significant contribution to the athletic programmes at Saint Mary's, and who, as a result of this contribution, have enhanced the image and reputation of the institution.

**Categories/Criteria****A. Athlete/Team**

1. The major factor for consideration for selection is the athlete's/team's contribution to Saint Mary's University's varsity athletic programme.
2. Other factors which will be considered for selection include: the athlete's achievements in provincial, national and international athletic competitions; character; leadership; non-athletic service to the University community; and achievement(s) in later life; or: the team's achievement(s) in provincial, national and international competitions.
3. Normally, consideration for selection will be given to an athlete/team following a minimum ten (10) year absence from the varsity programme.

**B. Builder**

1. A member of the University community who has made a significant contribution to Saint Mary's University athletics for a minimum of five (5) years.
2. Normally, consideration for selection as a builder will not be given to an individual until ten (10) years after their initial involvement/ appointment.

Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINATION FORM**

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Year(s) at Saint Mary's University (ex. 1968-1972): \_\_\_\_\_

Sport(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Any loans, donations, photos or sports memorabilia to the Department of Athletics & Recreation for use in the Heritage Centre are greatly appreciated.

**Category:** Athlete/Team  Builder 

1. Describe highlights of nominee's career at SMU and any other information which could be of use to the Selection Committee.
2. Provide a summary of nominee's history since leaving SMU.

**Documentation must accompany the nomination. This could include press releases, newspaper articles, statistical information, letters of reference, etc.**

Name of Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

The Nomination Selection Committee includes wide representation from the women's and men's athletic associations, media, faculty, staff and the community.

Please return the completed form by **March 31st of each year**, together with supporting documentation to: "Sport Hall of Fame & Heritage Centre", c/o Department of Athletics & Recreation, Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 3C3 or FAX to (902) 420-5844, or E-MAIL to [patsy.calbury@smu.ca](mailto:patsy.calbury@smu.ca)

For additional information, please contact the Department of Athletics & Recreation @ (902) 420-5429.

Visit our Website at [WWW.SMU.CA](http://WWW.SMU.CA)