



# BOBBY MAHAL

By the young age of 18, Bobby had made quite a name for himself in the sport of tennis. He was a strong, aggressive baseline player, with world-class groundstrokes and an unparalleled work ethic. He was highly regarded as a team leader for Canada in junior team competitions, and won 3-Canadian Junior National Championships and 4-Provincial Junior titles in his career.

During Bobby's tennis career he played and competed against some of the top players in the world, earning himself a spot in the top 10 rankings in Canadian Men's Singles. In 1993, he won the Singles and Doubles at the Canadian Junior Nationals and also competed in Europe where he defeated some of the World's best juniors. He played in the Junior Italian and French Open's respectively, scoring wins over Oliver Mutis, France's #1 ranked junior and Paul Goldstein U.S.A's #1 ranked junior, before bowing out to the World's number #1 ranked player Gustavo Kuerten in 3 tight sets.

Bobby became friends and hitting partners with Andre Agassi and went under the tutelage of the legendary coach of Jimmy Connors, Pancho Segura. Their relationship still continues today. Later that year Bobby was a key member of the 1993 Canadian Junior Davis Cup Team, which achieved a 5th place finish in the world.

In 1994 Bobby headed to the University of California at Berkeley on a full-tennis scholarship. For the 1995-96 season he was named Team Captain. There he scored big wins over NCAA #2 ranked George Bastl and what would become the 2005 World's #1 ranked doubles team of Bob and Mike Bryan. Bobby would finish as high as #12 in singles and #6 in doubles.

A shoulder injury forced Bobby to retire from the professional tour in 2000. He currently coaches out of the Bramalea Tennis Club and Ontario Racquet Club, as well as Tennis Canada's under 12 National Junior Program. Bobby also does T.V. and radio coverage for the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) and the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) events all over the world.

Inducted May 31, 2006 to the





# EMMA-JAYNE WILSON

Emma began riding horses at the age of 9, and at 13 she was introduced to a trainer at Woodbine Race Track. Emma was excited to meet the trainer, but the feeling didn't last long. The trainer took one look at her hands and feet and dismissed her, explaining she would be too big to become a professional rider.

Emma attended Kemptville College at the University of Guelph, in the Equine program. After her first year, she returned home for the summer and by chance was presented with an exciting opportunity to meet Sandy Hawley, the most famous Canadian Jockey of all time. Sandy hooked Emma up with a trainer and although he recognized in her raw talent, he recommended she get more experience working with thoroughbreds. For a second time Emma was being turned away, only this time she felt nothing but excitement. A seed had been planted!

She graduated the following year and set about to make her dreams of becoming a jockey a reality. After 10 months of working on a breeding farm, she set her sights on Woodbine. Following 2 years of Exercise Riding at Woodbine, the time had come to Apprentice Jockey. The dream had begun.

On August 27<sup>th</sup> 2004, Emma rode her first race. In December 2005, at the conclusion of the Woodbine racing season, Emma led the jockey standings at Woodbine Racetrack with a record breaking 1096 starts, well over 300 more than her nearest competitor. She is only the third apprentice rider to ever lead the standings at Woodbine, and is ranked 47<sup>th</sup> in North American standings with 180 first place finishes. She led all other North American Apprentice Jockeys in both wins and earnings through December 2005, accepted the 2005 Sovereign Award for Outstanding Apprentice Jockey in Canada and she accepted the 2005 Eclipse Award for Outstanding Apprentice Jockey in North America.

It's all pretty amazing to 24-year old Emma, who at the age of 13 was told she'd never be a jockey. Now, whenever Emma signs an autograph she adds, "Follow your Dreams," because she remembers what it felt like to be a 13-year old, who was told her dreams would never come true.

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# GILLIAN FERRARI

Gillian Ferrari, a Thornhill native, began playing with the Brampton Thunder of the National Women's Hockey League (NHL) in the 2004-2005 season. She has quickly made quite a name for herself in the game of hockey. Her fast and powerful skating stride, along with excellent puck-handling skills have earned her a spot on 4 National Teams.

Gillian has played for Team Ontario Under 17 Team, Team Canada Under 22, and has been on Team Canada for three years.

With her spot on Team Canada, Gillian, a stabilizing force on the blue line, was able to help bring home Gold in the 2006 Turin Winter Olympics.

Some of Gillian's other career highlights include winning a gold medal at the 2004 World Championships. She also won a gold medal in 2002 and 2005 and one silver medal in 2003 in three out of four Nations Cup Championships. Her lifetime stats in the NHL in 79 games include 10 goals, 36 assists and 76 penalty minutes. In the 2004-05 season, she recorded three goals and 22 assists in 34 games.

Gillian has also been a three time ESSO National Champion and a NHL Central Division Champion.

She currently resides in Thornhill and has studied Civil Engineering at Seneca College.

Inducted May 31, 2006 to the





# GORD THOMPSON

Gord “Bubbles” Thompson is the third Thompson to be inducted into the Brampton Sports Hall of Fame for Lacrosse, following his father, George “Mush” Thompson, inducted in 1983, and brother Wayne Thompson, inducted in 1987. It is quite evident that lacrosse has been a big part of Gord’s life.

Gord was a member of the Brampton ABC Excelsiors’ Junior lacrosse team during the 1955-58 seasons; his team was successful in winning the Minto Cup in both 1957 and 1958. In 1960, Gord was a member of the Port Credit Sailors, when they won the 1960 Mann Cup. He won a second Mann Cup playing with the Brantford Warriors in 1972.

When not playing lacrosse, Gord also enjoyed playing Hockey. He was a member of the Weston Dukes Junior B team during the 1953-54 Ontario Hockey Association (OHA) season; his team was successful in winning the Sutherland Cup. He was also a member of the Toronto Marlboros Junior A team during the 1954-56 seasons; his team won the OHL Memorial Cup in back-to-back seasons. Gord was also a part of the North Bay Trappers hockey team during the 1957-58 season, which because of their win of the Allan Cup during the previous season played an exhibition game against a team from Russia.

Gord is a retired firefighter, having retired on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1994. He is a proud father of one son and one daughter, and grandfather to one grandchild. He currently lives with his wife Shirley.

Inducted May 31, 2006 to the





# KEN RUSSELL

Ken “Red” Russell was born and raised in Brampton and was actively involved in sports as a youngster. His “forte” was basketball, but in the mid 50’s he turned to hockey on the administration level. He started as a manager, then coach and finally an executive member, serving many varied roles. From 1994-1996 he was President of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA). He was a highly regarded Ontario Hockey Federation Board Member. He was the recipient of the Tri-County Honour Award in 1970 and served that league as their President from 1972-1974.

In addition to these high profile positions he served in many other executive positions, including President of the Tri-County League. He also was the OMHA’s Regional Executive Member for the Central AAA League, the Tri-County League and the Central Ontario West League. He was a District Convenor for many years. Ken became a Life member of the Tri-County League in 1999. Ken was also awarded the Tri-County “Doughnut” Award for eating the most doughnuts at the Tri-County League meetings.

Simply put, Ken was a major contributor to minor hockey in so many ways! Whether as a player, a coach, manager or executive member, Ken believed that the player always came first, but the rules were meant to be followed. Over the years, Ken was the assistant coach for the Brampton Juvenile team for the 1960-61 season, and the coach for the 1965-66 season. He was also the manager of the team during the 1961-70 seasons. During his time with the Juveniles, they won two OMHA championships. He was recognized by the Ontario Hockey Federation and the Hockey Development Centre of Ontario for outstanding contribution to the development of hockey in the Province of Ontario.

Ken has since passed away, leaving behind him a sport that he loved, and one that will deeply miss him.

Inducted May 31, 2006 to the





# PAT JEPSON

Patricia Jepson was first introduced to 5-pin bowling in 1960 when she joined an 18-team ladies daytime league in Georgetown. Since then she has made major contributions to the sport. On February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1975, Pat purchased the Brampton Bowling Centre, which at the time consisted of sixteen lanebeds, an expansive lunch counter and the latest comforts in bowling equipment. She became the President of Brampton's Flowertown 5-Pin Bowler's Association, a dynamic organization of the 800+ league bowlers at Brampton Bowl. The Centre also consisted of a struggling Youth Bowling Council program, which had less than 100 bowlers. Pat turned it into the nation's largest youth bowling league, with 600 bowlers in its prime.

Pat also helps out with many local charities, such as Alzheimer's, Kids Help Phone and Muscular Dystrophy by developing fund-raising projects through the bowling centre. Through her projects she has helped raise well over \$750,000 for these charities.

Pat created a bowling program for the Mentally and Physically challenged for the City of Brampton Parks and Recreation Department, as well as bowling programs for pre-schoolers, elementary and secondary schools, senior citizens and the visually impaired. She also introduced various community projects such as the Big Brother's "Bowl for Millions", an annual Bowlathon for Multiple Sclerosis and the Kidney Dialysis Association of Brampton.

Pat has received many awards because of her work, including being named Proprietor of the Year in 1982 by the Ontario 5-Pin Bowler's Association and National YBC Program Director of the year in 1983 and '84. She was honoured provincially as a "Builder of the Bowling Industry" in 1984 by the Bowling Proprietors' Association of Ontario and inducted into the Builder's Division of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association's Hall of Fame in November 2001. On Canada's 125<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration, she received national recognition for her community involvement with an award from the Ministry of Multi-Culturism and Citizenship from the Government of Canada.

Currently, Pat resides in Brampton with her spouse Gord Hobson. She has one son, two daughters and two grandchildren. Her son Kevin has followed in her footsteps also working in the bowling industry.

Inducted May 31, 2006 to the





# SUSAN FENNELL

Susan Fennell, born in Ville-St.Laurent, Montreal, Québec, has had a major impact on women's league hockey.

At a Brampton Canadette's Annual Easter Tournament in 1998 during the retirement of Cassie Campbell's jersey, Susan asked Cassie why she didn't play in Brampton. Cassie's reply "there is no team in Brampton" gave Susan the inspiration within 1 month to create the Brampton Thunder, attract sponsors, design a team logo and jerseys and outfit a team that would hit the ice by the Fall of 1998.

Susan was determined to get the respect and recognition for these elite female hockey players. In Fall, 1999, Susan inked a deal with MAC Productions to put this league on 'National Television'! By January 2000, the first TV League deal was signed, with WTN. Susan then purchased a 'CUP' modelled after the Stanley Cup, along with an MVP trophy called the Brampton Cup. Fighting to create an identity for the women, Susan negotiated to have these two NWHL cups forever placed in the Hockey Hall of Fame.

The increased profile of women's league hockey provided the impetus for to many new sponsors, new teams and revitalized teams. The Vancouver Griffins were introduced in 2002. Through Susan's determination and 'will', the NWHL is respected as, and considered to be the equivalent of the NHL for women. Susan's dream is that one day little girls will want to grow up and play in the NWHL, just like every boy's dream of playing in the NHL.

Susan has created a league that is entertaining to watch, while ensuring those who play are treated and showcased as the superstars they are! The NWHL is the premier league for women's hockey in the world, where about 90% of the players from five-time World Champion Team Canada play. It has also attracted players from Team USA, Team Finland, Team Switzerland and Team Japan.

Susan currently resides in Brampton. She is the Commissioner of the NWHL. Susan lives with husband John, and two sons, Michael and Joey. Susan was first elected Mayor of Brampton in 2000.

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