



# 2011 BUILDERS



**RON JACOBSON**  
FOOTBALL

Ron Jacobson has had a long time interest and involvement with many sports and the development of all participants. His particular connection with minor football commenced in 1975 as a founding director and secretary of the Lethbridge Minor Football Association. At that time the league consisted of four city teams – then known as Lions, Bombers, Stampeders and Eskimos. Today, the league is part of the larger Southern Alberta Minor Football Association (SAMFA) and features 14 teams spread across the southern region of the province.

In 1981, tragedy struck the Jacobson family when Ron's wife, Sonja, and their two youngest children, Jill and Ronald, died in a terrible fire in the family home. Many people donated to a charitable fund which is known as the Jacobson Memorials Trust Fund, administered by the Community Foundation of Lethbridge. The foundation acts on the recommendations and advice of the Jacobson Memorials Committee. Various charitable organizations have received assistance from this fund.

In 1997, Jacobson received the SAMFA President's Award for Lifetime Contributions and in 2010, SAMFA presented him with its Lew Kennedy Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award. Jacobson continues to support minor football in two distinct ways.

Ronald Francis Jacobson, a grade 7 student in 1981, was a first year quarterback with the Stampeders. Each year, his father acting on the recommendations of SAMFA presents the Ronald Jacobson Memorial Award to the top Grade 7 player from the 14 team league.

Jacobson has been a dedicated supporter of SAMFA's long term planning and development of its coaches and officials. He has assisted in obtaining funding for coaches attending clinics and NCCP courses, thus helping more than 1000 youths and their coaches to a better experience in the great game of football.

Jacobson was also the Director of Services, Ceremonies and Logistics of the 1975 Canada Winter Games. In 2006, the society received a Special Award induction into the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame.



**LETHBRIDGE LACROSSE ASSOCIATION PIONEERS**  
LACROSSE

Photo L-R: Rick Pilling, John Eng, Brandon Van Dyk, Bernie Williams, Andy Cimolai and Dave Whittaker.

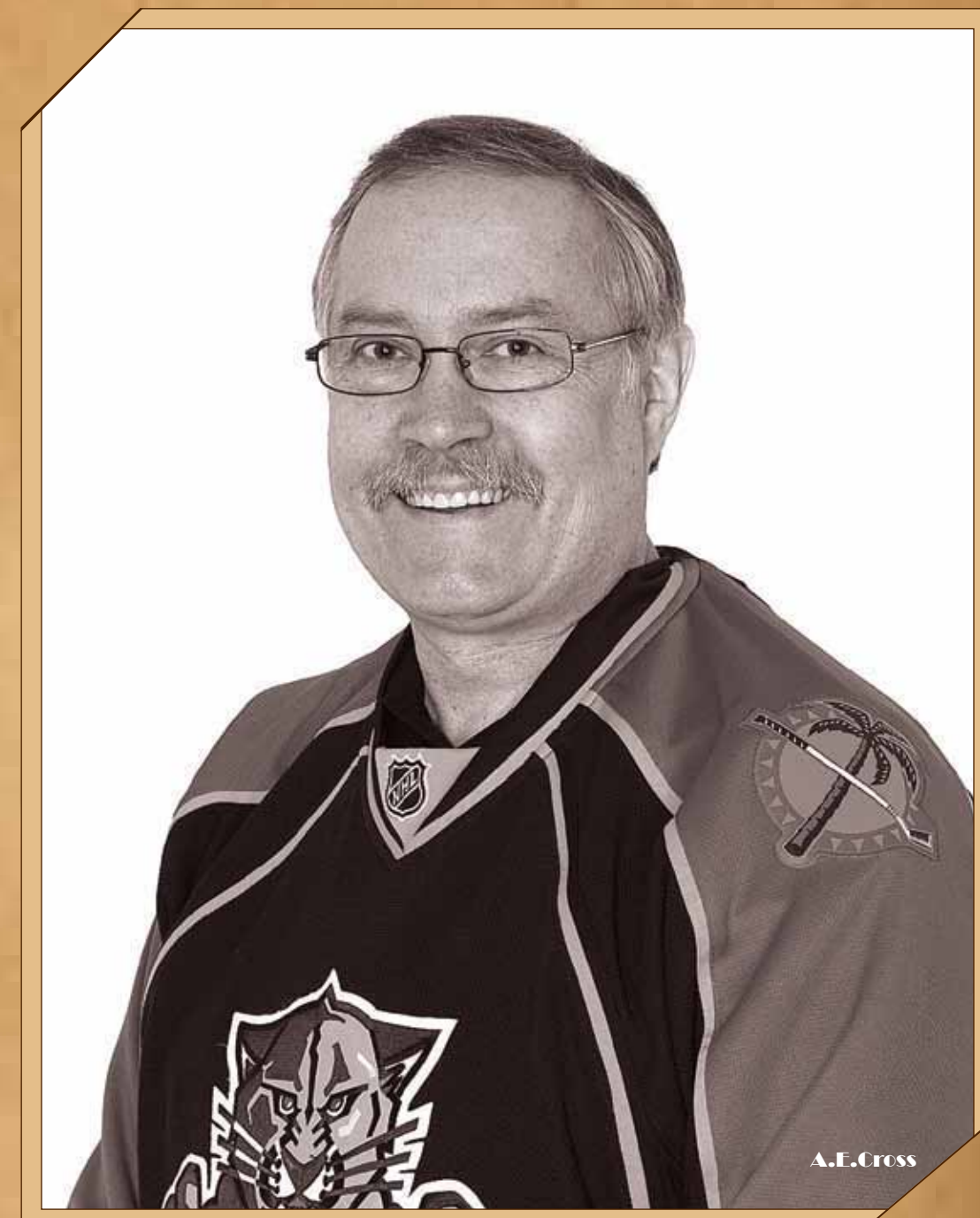
After a 20-year absence, lacrosse has enjoyed resurgence in Lethbridge, thanks to the efforts of a group of individuals who dedicated themselves to reviving the sport. Lacrosse had a decade-long run in the 1970s, beginning with the formation in 1971 of the original Lethbridge Lacrosse Association (LLA). A lack of volunteers and players led to the association disbanding in 1982.

In the autumn of 2001, in response to pressure from their sons, a group of hockey dads undertook to re-establish Canada's national summer sport in Lethbridge and area. An organizational meeting in April 2002 led to the formation of an executive board of six founding members of the new LLA. They included President Bernie Williams, Vice-president John Eng, Secretary Andy Cimolai, Treasurer Dave Whittaker, Director-at-large Rick Pilling and Technical Advisor Brandon Van Dyk.

The group began by securing the use of facilities, enlisting sponsors and acquiring essential equipment. With support from the Alberta Lacrosse Association, the LLA hosted a demonstration game featuring two junior teams from Calgary. This generated interest and a series of player skill development clinics for youths aged 8-18 was offered, with more than 80 players participating. That enthusiastic response led to a summer program and formation of a team that competed at the Provincial Championships in the summer of 2002.

In the spring of 2003, the LLA and its founding members were instrumental in the formation of its first formal lacrosse league featuring 27 teams in four age divisions from Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and Brooks. At the end of the season a Bantam select team comprised of the best players from Lethbridge competed in the Calgary Canada Day Tournament and won the gold medal in their division.

From its inception in 2001, the LLA has grown into a thriving amateur sports organization boasting annual membership in the 250-300 range. As a part of the Southern Alberta Lacrosse Association, the LLA has worked for the promotion and development of the sport in Southern Alberta and well beyond. The solid foundation built by the pioneers has served the association well and should continue to do so for many years to come.



**BOB TINORDI**  
BROOMBALL

If anyone were to be crowned with the title of "Mr. Broomball" in Lethbridge, a fitting choice would be Bob Tinordi.

Tinordi has been involved with the sport locally for going on 40 years. He played the game from 1972 to 1992 before turning to coaching when the LA Panthers were formed in 1993. Under Tinordi's guidance, the Panthers have competed with success provincially and in eight Canadian Broomball Federation national championships, including winning the 'B' division gold medal when Lethbridge hosted in 1994. Tinordi served as co-chairman for that tournament.

Tinordi has also led the Panthers to prominence at the international level, coaching the squad in eight Broomball Federation World Championships. On six of those occasions, the team returned home with medals. The Panthers earned bronze at the 1996 worlds in Victoria and won silver at Bolzano, Italy in 1998, both on the "A" side. Then came the Challenge Cup "B" side gold medal at Victoria in 2000 and at Cornerbrook, Nfld. in 2004. Most recently, the Panthers have competed in the Masters Division. They won a silver medal at the 2008 worlds in Vancouver and gold at Innsbruck, Austria in 2010.

Tinordi also has a long resume of service in an administrative capacity, serving as president of the Lethbridge Broomball Association from 1987-2007 and as the city's Alberta Broomball Association representative during the same period. Through the years, he was also active in helping raise money for broomball by organizing casinos and bingo.



# 2011 ATHLETES



**SARAH (JULE) NICKOLIET**  
SOCCER

Sarah Nickoliet started on the road to prominence in soccer at a young age – Grade 3, in fact. It was a road that would lead her to play for the Lethbridge Chargers, U of A Pandas and eventually to compete at the national and international level in the sport.

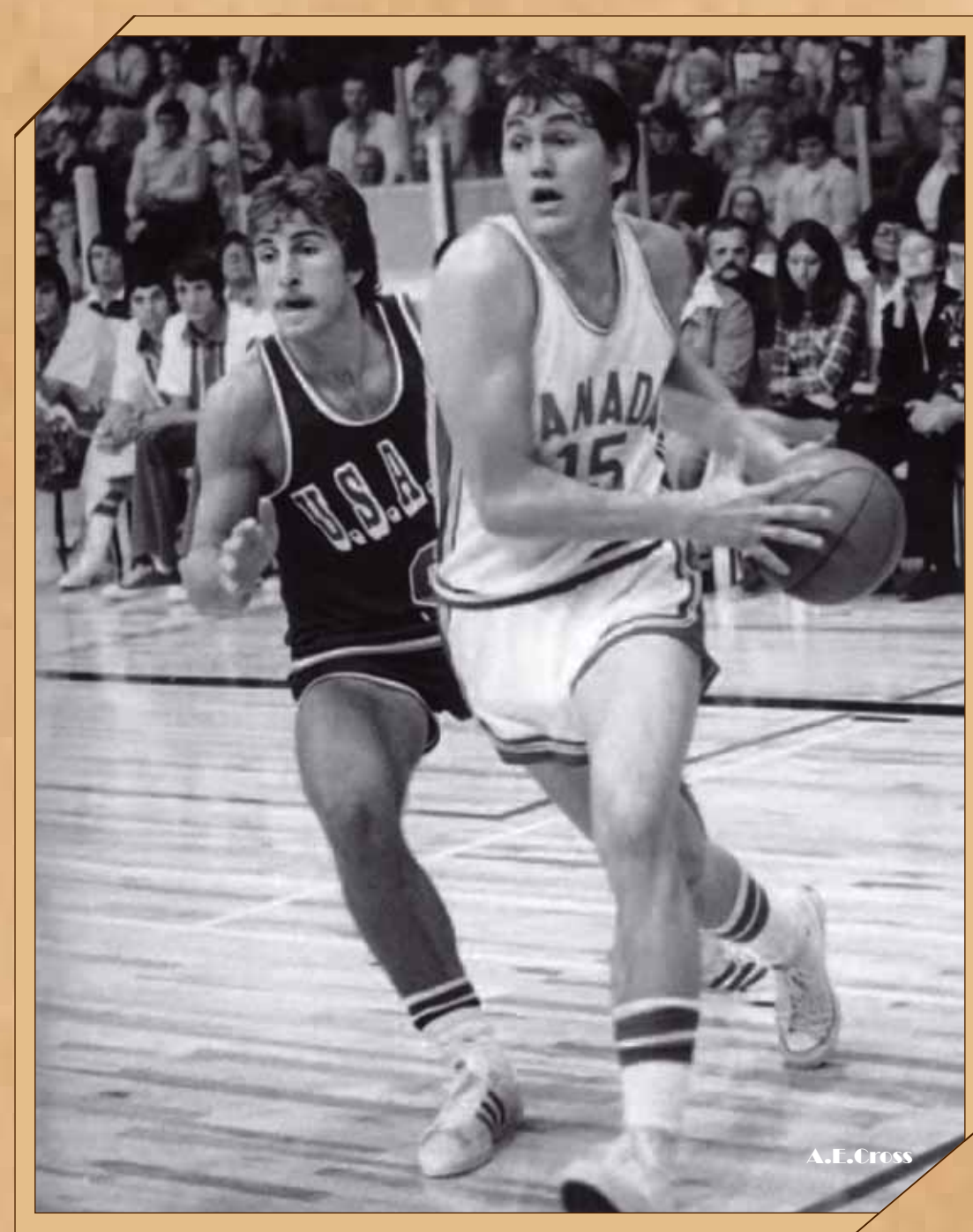
By age 14, Sarah started to gain recognition provincially when she was chosen to play for the under-16 Alberta team. She remained an integral part of the provincial program every summer for several years, winning the Rocky Mountain Cup and national gold medals during her provincial team experience.

Going on to U of A in Edmonton, Sarah quickly adapted to the tougher competition. She was the Canada West Rookie of the Year in 1995 and was a CIS Tournament All-Star in 1996, '97 and '99. In 1998, Sarah won the Chantal Navert Memorial Award (CIS Player of the Year). She also earned Academic All-Canadian honours each year from 1995 to 1999 and was CIS Top 8 Academic All-Canadian of the Year in 1997 and 1998.

Her university awards included winning the Kathleen Yetman Award as U of A Female Academic All-Canadian of the Year in 1997, '98 and '99, and winning the Nonie St. Peters Trophy as the U of A Pandas' soccer MVP in 1998 and 1999. She was also Canada West soccer MVP in 1998 and '99, and was the conference's leading scorer in 1997 and '98. Sarah helped the Pandas win a CIS national championship in 1997 as well as silver medals in 1996 and 1999.

Her soccer skills earned her a spot on Canada's national women's team in 1995 at age 19 and she remained with the squad through 2000. She was captain of the first under-20 national team. Playing mostly as a sweeper, Sarah earned 17 caps and scored one goal while helping Canada win the 1998 CONCACAF World Cup qualifier. She also competed in the 1999 World Cup.

After university, Sarah played with the Edmonton Angels Soccer Club, which won the 1999 and 2000 national championship, and later was a member of Halifax-based Athens United, which competed for the National Jubilee Cup in 2005.



**PHIL TOLLESTRUP**  
BASKETBALL

The town of Raymond has produced a long line of outstanding individuals in the sport of basketball, but few if any have attained the heights scaled by Phil Tollestrup.

As a high school player, Phil started with the Raymond Comets and helped the squad capture provincial boys' basketball titles in 1967 and 1968. He went on to play four years at Brigham Young University, where he was a teammate of Cougar and Yugoslav legend Kresimir Cosic.

Tollestrup returned home to southern Alberta for his final year of university basketball, sitting up with the U of L Proughorns in 1972-73. That season, he led the Proughorns to the Canada West final, earning CIS All-Canadian honours and being named the U of L's male athlete of the year.

The next year, Phil played professionally with a club in the Spanish first division, the Saski Baskonia - IAU Ceramica. Phil Tollestrup performed extensively on the international stage, representing Canada at the 1971, 1975 and 1979 Pan Am Games, the 1973 World Student Games, the 1974 FIBA World Championship and the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal, where he emerged as the Olympic tournament's third leading scorer while helping Canada to a fourth-place finish.

Turning to coaching, Phil guided McMaster University from 1978 to 1980 and then returned to southern Alberta to coach high school basketball in Milk River, Strling and Magrath. From 2004 to 2007, he was bench boss for the Lethbridge College Kodiak men's basketball team.

Tollestrup is a member of the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame, the Canadian Basketball Hall of Fame, the Raymond Sports Hall of Fame and the Proughorn Hall of Fame.



# 2011 TEAMS



**LCI RAMS 2007 SENIOR BOYS VOLLEYBALL TEAM**

VOLLEYBALL

Unbeaten seasons signify perfection, like the Miami Dolphins' amazing 17-0 record fashioned during the 1972 National Football League season.

The longer the schedule, of course, the more difficult the task of maintaining perfection. That's why the 2007 LCI Rams senior boy's volleyball team was so remarkable. The squad achieved perfection through a season of 59 wins, 0 losses that culminated in the Rams capturing the 4A boy's provincial championship.

Guided by head coach Ard Biesheuvel, the Rams had finished second at the provincial championships in 2006, but 2007 proved to be something special. No Lethbridge high school boy's volleyball team had ever gone undefeated through a full season nor win a 4A boy's provincial championship.

The Rams took a challenging route to their perfect season, competing in some of the top 4A boys' tournaments in Alberta along the way. They claimed the gold medal at the Salisbury Trick or Treat tournament, the LCI Green and Gold Classic and the prestigious 24-team Panther International Tournament in Spruce Grove, which featured top ranked teams from across the country as well as an all-star team from Norway.

In the final of the Panther International, the Rams defeated the all-star team from Norway. It was one of 10 championships the LCI squad captured during that amazing 2007 season which was capped by a 2-0 victory over Calgary's St. Francis Browns in the provincial final.

The Rams' lineup included Chris Gilbert, Joel Dyck, Braedon Schmoltd, Robert Ferguson, Joshua Zoeteman, Andy Hemmerling, Brent Fikowski, Trevor Harding, Jay Kostek, Tommy Lyon, Connor West, Jordan Bright and Jarred Kotkas. Coach Ard Biesheuvel, assistant coach Scott Gilbert and manager Colten Yamagishi.

Back Row L-R: Scott Gilbert (assistant coach), Trevor Harding, Joel Dyck, Joshua Zoeteman, Chris Gilbert, Braedon Schmoltd, Brent Fikowski, Tommy Lyon and Ard Biesheuvel (head coach).  
Front Row L-R: Connor West, Jay Kostek, Colten Yamagishi (manager), Robert Ferguson, Andy Hemmerling, Jarred Kotkas and Jordan Bright.



Photo Courtesy of The Galt Museum & Archives

Swimming Club Champions July 1958