

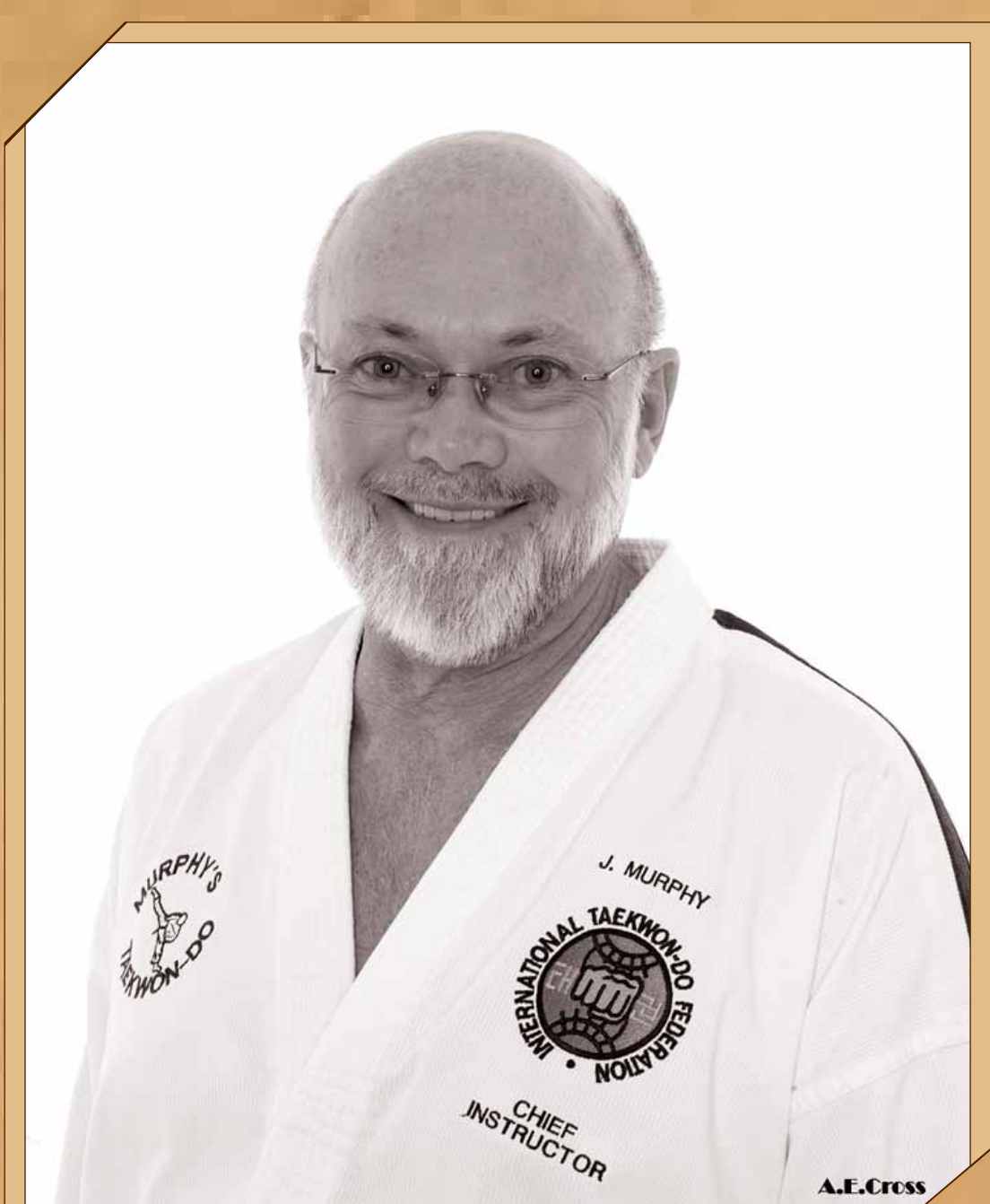


2009 BUILDERS



DON CHANDLER

CURLING
Don Chandler has loved and breathed curling for more than 30 years at the Lethbridge Curling Club. He was first elected to the club's board of directors in 1977 and spent the next three decades volunteering countless hours toward enhancing the game for all members of the club. Chandler was appointed treasurer in 1980 and reappointed every year since. In that role, Chandler developed and implemented accounting and control systems still used by the club. He also designed and assisted club management in developing and maintaining the budgeting and budget monitoring process that remains in use today. He was elected board president for the 1985-86 season and has also served with capital improvement committees in the planning, budgeting and funding of numerous projects over the years to improve the club's facility and equipment. Chandler served as treasurer on the organizing committee for the 1987 Scott Tournament of Hearts held in Lethbridge, and as treasurer for the 1990 Lantz Tankard Alberta Curling Championship. He was also co-chair and treasurer for the highly successful 2000 Canadian Mixed Curling Championships, and last his expertise as a volunteer consultant to the host committee for the 2003 Canadian Senior Championships. Chandler's curling know-how extends onto the ice, as well. He has a Level 2 Coaching certification and has frequently instructed at the club's Ladies in Curl Clinics while also coaching junior high and high school curling teams over the past 20 years. He helped form the Lethbridge High School Curling League which has operated for the past eight years, and also coached the Megan Kirk team to the Canadian Junior Curling Championship in 2006. In addition, he's a certified Level 2 official and has volunteered as an official at provincial and national curling championships, including the 2007 Scotties Tournament of Hearts.



JAMES MURPHY

The martial art of Tai Kwon Do made its debut on the southern Alberta sports scene in 1981 when local resident James Murphy opened J.J. Lee Tai Kwon Do. Murphy was living in Ferris, B.C. in 1974 when he first began studying Tai Kwon Do and he achieved his first-degree black belt in 1980 before moving his family back to Lethbridge to open the area's first Tai Kwon Do school. He also opened schools in Taber and Fort Macleod in 1984. Over the years, he has instructed literally hundreds of students in the discipline, including numerous champions. He coached Greg Christie to the North American Championship in 1995 and was coach of Canadian champion Scott Murphy in 1996. Murphy also coached Nicole Strzyschak when she earned a spot on the national team in 2000 and went on to become a Canadian and world champion in 2002. The same year, another Murphy protégé, Michael Strzyschak, became a national team member. He was coach of another Canadian champion, Brandi Merritt, in 2003 and the same year, Murphy was named coach of the Canadian women's team which competed at the world championships in Poland. Besides operating his own schools, Murphy has taught Tai Kwon Do at the University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge College and in local schools. The Canadian Forces also called upon him to instruct their troops in hand-to-hand combat for almost two years. Murphy has even taught Tai Kwon Do to inmates with physical and/or mental disabilities, including the deaf and sight impaired. He has continued his personal advancement in the sport and, in 2002, attained his sixth-degree black belt in the International Tai Kwon Do Federation. He has also served six years as vice-president of the Canadian Tai Kwon Do Federation International for Western Canada and represent Alberta on the organization's board of directors.



DANIEL SHAPIRO

TENNIS
As a lawyer, Dan Shapiro is accustomed to spending time in court, but since 1967, he has also logged countless hours on and around another kind of court – the tennis court. Shapiro has been an active member of the Lethbridge Tennis Club for some four decades, including serving on the club's Board of Directors since 1974 and as President for 22 years. Besides playing the game, Shapiro also served as a volunteer coach and instructor through his years with the club, teaching adult, youth and children's lessons. He provided free legal services to the club for a quarter-century and, in his role with the board, secured thousands of dollars of grant money for capital improvements to the tennis club site near Henderson Lake. He was also directly involved in all maintenance aspects of the club from cleaning and landscaping to repair work and painting, not to mention serving up his popular "Danno burgers" at tennis club functions. Shapiro received a life membership from the tennis club in 1992, becoming just the second person since the inception of the club to receive the honor. In addition, he has served as tournament director and referee for several Tennis Alberta tournaments held in Lethbridge. A willing volunteer for various community causes, Shapiro was sworn host and chairman for the Alberta Senior Games in Lethbridge (2001). He has also served on the Board of Directors for Lethbridge Family Services, Lethbridge Big Brothers and Big Sisters, the Lethbridge Bar Association and the Southern Alberta Legal Appeals Committee. Currently he serves on the board of Lethbridge Legal Guidance, the Alberta Motor Association (both provincially and locally) and Habitat for Humanity.



2009 ATHLETES



DANNY BALDERSTON

BASKETBALL
Danny Balderston gave notice during an outstanding high school basketball career at Magrath that there were more big things to come at the university level. He didn't disappoint, going on to become the most decorated player in the history of the University of Lethbridge men's basketball program. Balderston joined the U of L Pongrohrs in 1993-94 and immediately became a key part of the high-scoring U of L attack, averaging almost 16 points per game and earning Canadian Interscholastic Athletic Union Rookie of the Year honours. The next year, he scored 241 points per game and was a first-team all-star in the Canada West conference. Then he was off on his two-year LDS mission, returning in 1997-98 to rejoin the Pongrohrs. He picked up where he left off, leading the conference in scoring with a 22-points-per-game average. For his efforts, he was named Canada West Player of the Year and was a first-team All-Canadian selection. Balderston averaged 18.9 points per game the next season, earning recognition as a Canada West first-team all-star and a second-team All-Canadian. In the summer of 1999, he represented Canada at the World University Games in Barcelona, Spain, where the team placed fifth. He was the team's third-leading scorer and the top CIAU scorer. With Balderston leading the way, the Pongrohrs were ranked No. 1 a good part of the season and wound up finishing third at the national championship. He scored at a 23.2-points-per-game clip and was named Canada West Player of the Year, CIAU Player of the Year and a first-team All-Canadian. Balderston finished his university career as the U of L's all-time leading scorer with 2,000 points, averaging 20.5 points per game over his five years. His No. 31 was retired and hangs in the gymnasium at the U of L's Ice Choice Savings Centre.



DORI RODZINYAK JOHNSON

BASKETBALL
Dori (Rodzinyak) Johnson wasn't big but she made a huge impact on the basketball court, as both a player and a coach. An outstanding high school player right from her Grade 10 year at Catholic Central High School, Johnson, then still known as Dori Rodzinyak, was co-captain of the 3A champion squad in 1981. After high school, she took her game across the river to the University of Lethbridge where she helped turned the Pongrohrs women's team into a force to be reckoned with in the Canada West conference. A five-foot-six-point guard, Rodzinyak was Canada West all-star in four of her five university seasons and was the Pongrohrs' Most Valuable Player each year from 1982 to 1985. She also played a key role in the Pongrohrs' rise to national prominence. In 1986, the team earned a bronze medal at the national championships, where she was named a tournament all-star. After winding up her playing career in 1987, she served as a assistant coach at University of Victoria under renowned head coach Kathy Shields, then went on to coach at Brandon University from 1988 to 1991. Rodzinyak returned home to take over the reins as head coach of the U of L women for the 1991-92 season. The next season, she guided the Pongrohrs to their first-ever Canada West title in women's basketball and a berth in the national championships, where they finished fourth. In 1997, as coach of the provincial under-19 women's squad, she led Alberta to the bronze medal at the Canada Games and also coached with the Canadian junior national team (1996) which qualified for the world championships in Mexico. Johnson stepped down as coach of the Pongrohrs in 2000 while expecting her second child. She remains involved in the sport as a board member with Lethbridge Minor Basketball and serves as a volunteer coach with Steve Nash Basketball in 2007-09.



2009 SPECIAL



SOUTHERN ALBERTA HIGH SCHOOL RUGBY LEAGUE PIONEERS

SPECIAL AWARD
Southern Alberta has become a hotbed of rugby, particularly at the women's level where talented players and national-caliber teams are being consistently produced.

Eventually, a rugby program was formed at the University of Lethbridge in 1999 and it has gone on to become one of the powers of women's rugby in Canada, winning two national titles and four national medals in total.

The sport, which was originally introduced to Lethbridge by rugby in 1891, gained new impetus in the 1980s and 1990s with the formation of the Southern Alberta High School Rugby League thanks to the league's far-sighted pioneers.

The team's success has been built on the strength of players from the Southern Alberta High School Rugby League and several of those players have gone on to play for the women's national squad.

With the support of the Lethbridge Rugby Club, several boys' high school teams blossomed in spring 1984 when the league was officially established.

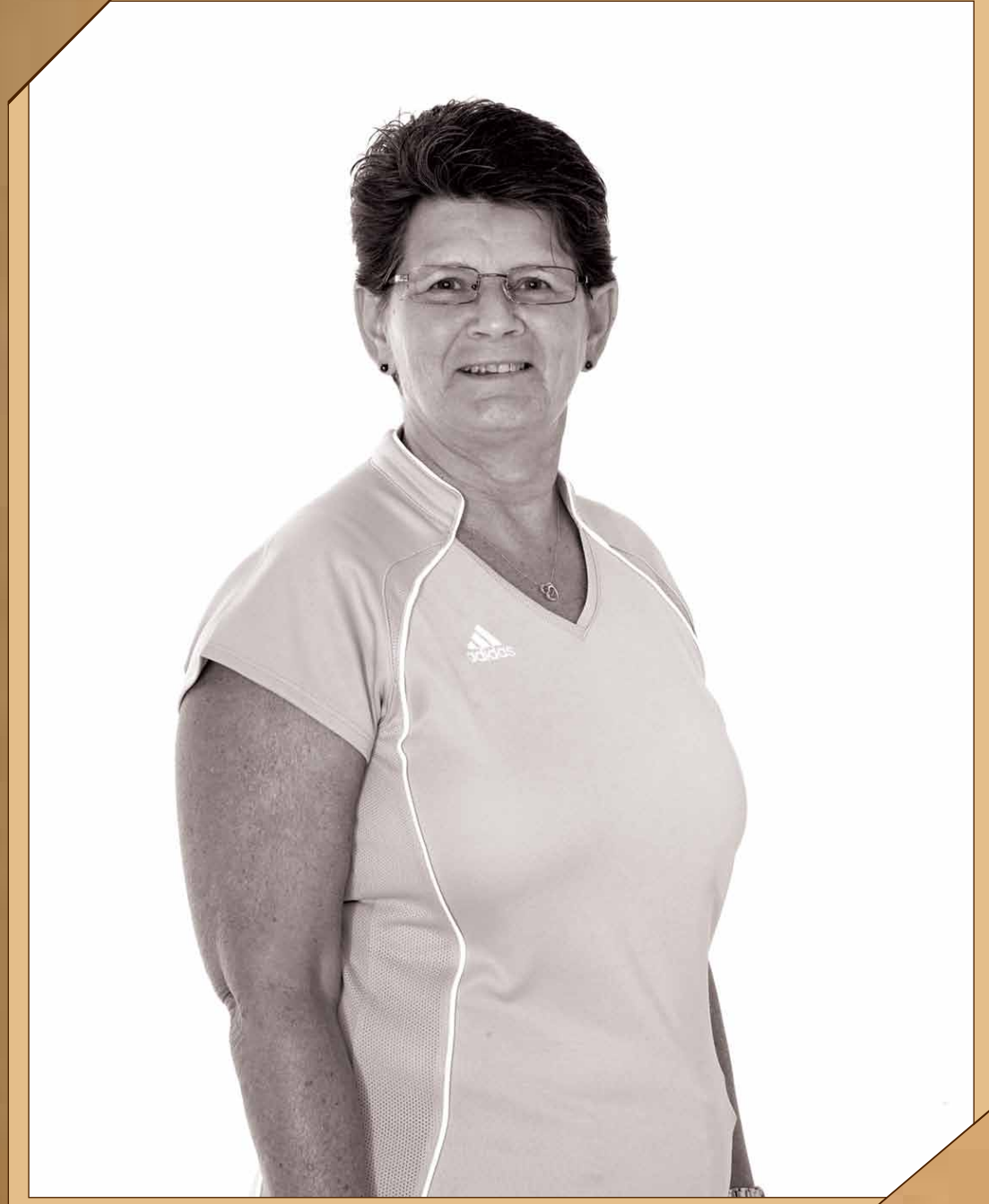
The original movers and shakers of the SAHSRL include: Craig Pettus, Bernie Cookman, Charles Batten, Charles Anstey, Seamus Shelly, Rick Carlbrown, Andrew Walmley, John Seaman, Toby Boulet and Joey Shackelford.

Girls' rugby came on the scene in 1990 when Andrew Walmley started a team at E.P. Walker High School in Fort Macleod which competed in tournaments wherever they could be found.

In 1995, the girls' game became a part of the Southern Alberta High School Rugby League, which today features 11 boys' teams and 16 girls' squads.

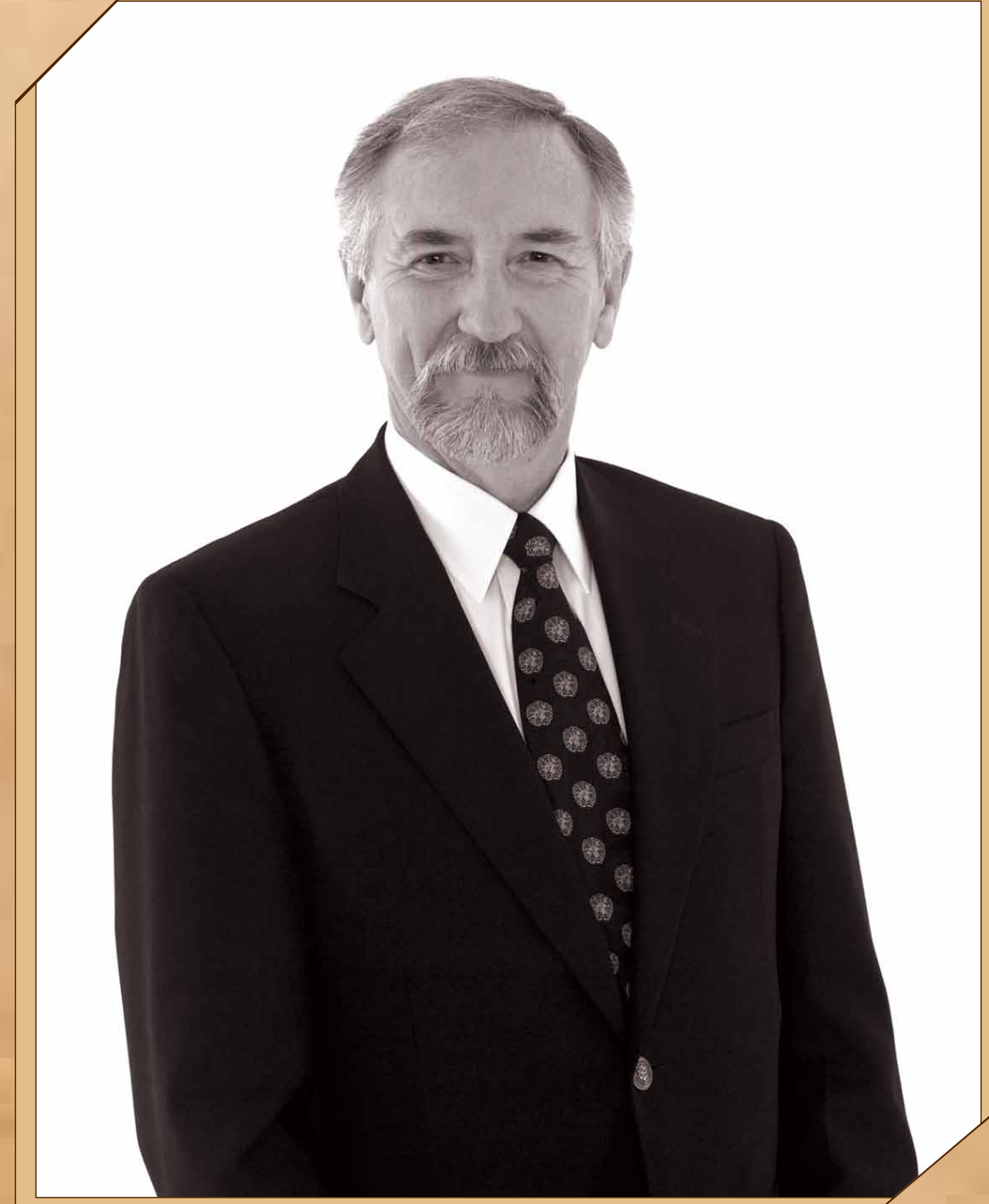


2010 BUILDERS



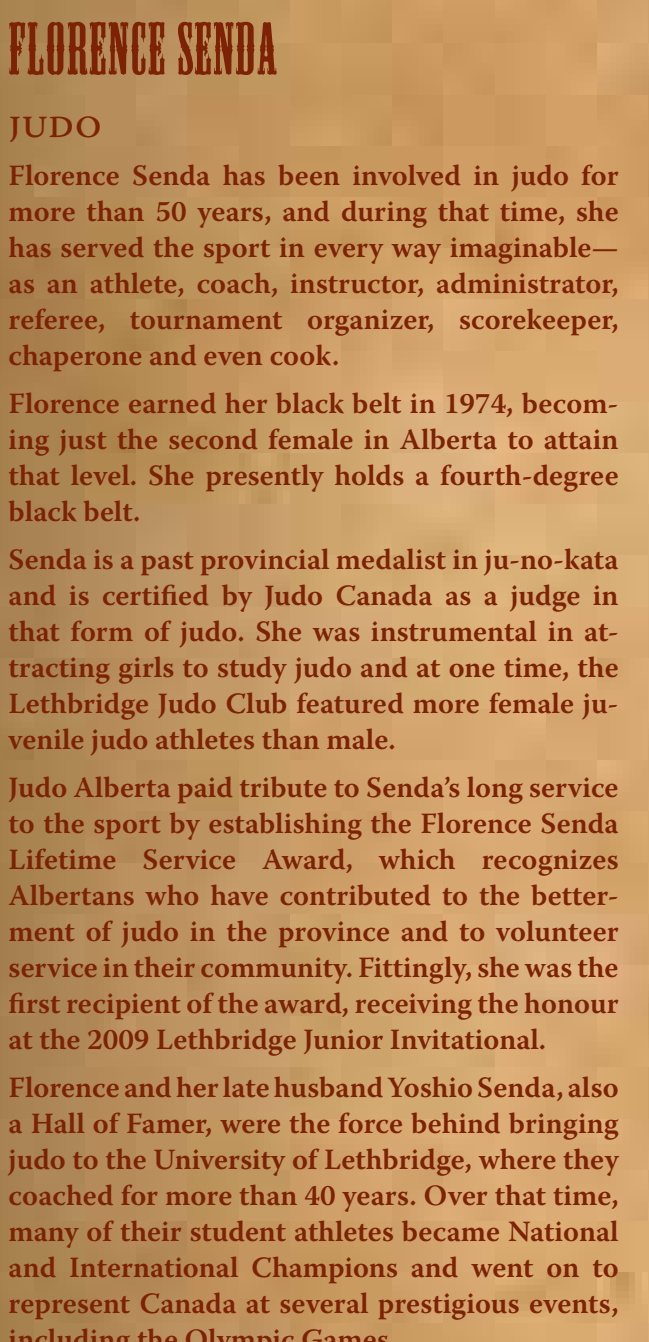
SHARON CHMIELEWSKI

CURLING
Sharon Chmielewski has had a long and varied sports career, but it's in the curling rink where she has done particularly bright, serving for more than 30 years as a coach, instructor and curling official. She established the Junior Curling League at Coadville's Curling Club and Kate Anderson-Baker School in 1978, as a holder of a Level IV Coaching Certification for curling, she coached numerous high school teams – boys', girls' and mixed – as well as Junior Women's teams. She also mentored Ladies Teams in the past few years and been a frequent instructor at numerous Learn to Curl Clinics in the surrounding communities and at the Lethbridge Curling Club. As a Level IV Official, Chmielewski has been instrumental in developing the area's strong base of curling officials who have served Lethbridge and surrounding clubs well in hosting prestigious curling events such as Canadian and Alberta championships. She instructed officiating clinics for events at the Lethbridge Curling Club, Okotoks Curling Club and Coadville Granite Club from 1997 to 2008. This area boasts over 50 certified curling officials. She served as an official at the 1987 Tournament of Hearts Canadian Women's Curling Championship held in Lethbridge and has worked numerous national, provincial and district events since then. Her resume includes a role as supervisor at the 2000 Canadian Mixed Curling Championships, the 2003 Canadian Senior Championships and the 2007 Canadian Scotties Women's Championship, all held in Lethbridge. More recently, she was the Head Official in Lethbridge when the city played host to the 2009 Alberta Senior Winter Games. Chmielewski has also been away from the ice, coaching slow pitch for 13 years, fast pitch for 2 years and volleyball for 22 years, including 14 years at Kate Anderson High School and 1 year at Lethbridge College. In 1996, she received the Max Gibb Award for her dedication to the Southern Alberta Summer Games.



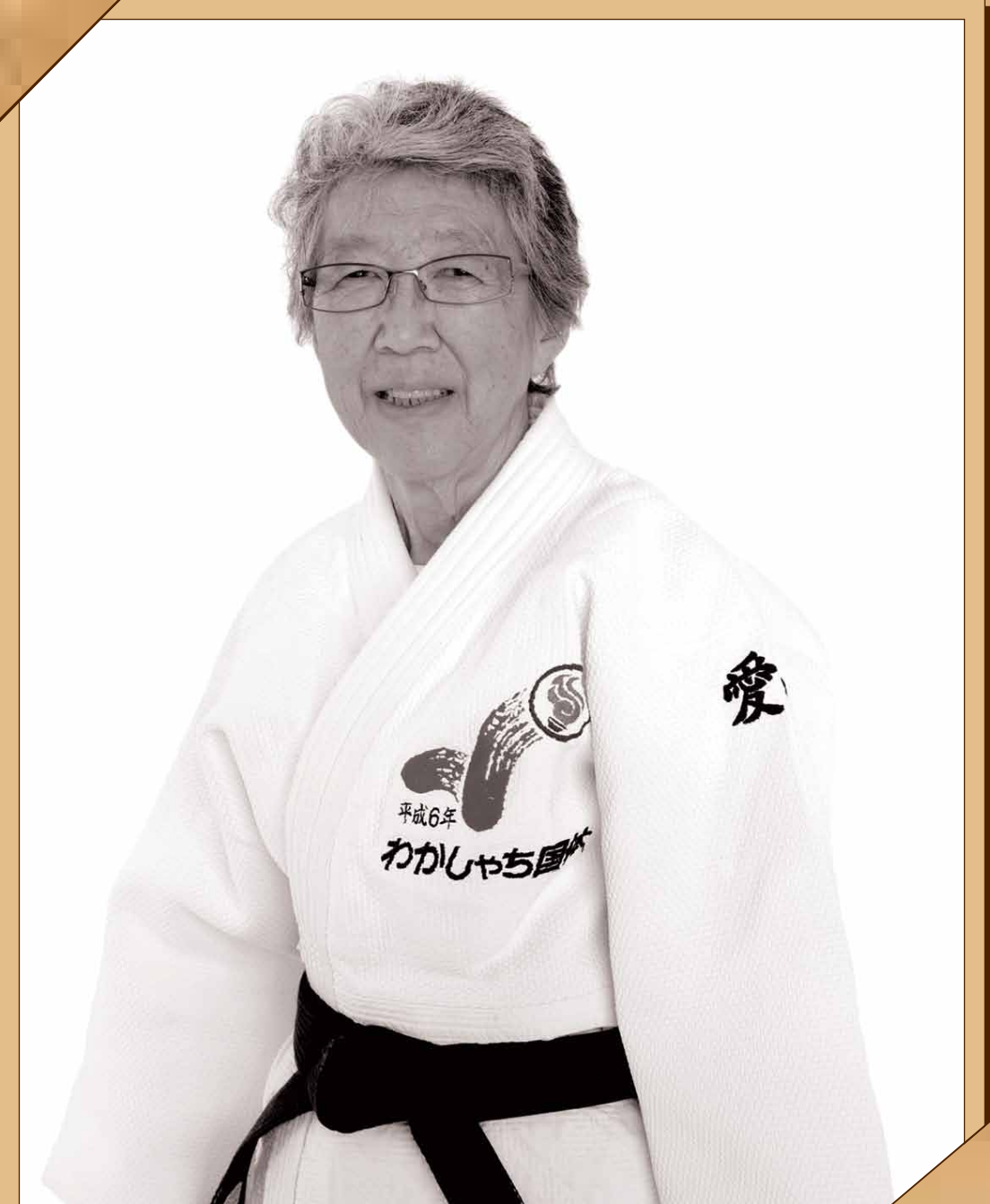
MAL CLEWES

MULTI SPORTS
Successful sports events are built on the strength of good organization by people behind the scenes. Mal Clewes has tailored for many years behind the scenes in various capacities in Lethbridge, including helping establish the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame which now recognizes this humble man's efforts. Much of his early organizational work involved the area of high school sports. Clewes served as president at one time or another of all the local high school sports leagues for football, volleyball and basketball. He also served for several years on the zone executive for provincial Alberta in the Alberta School Athletic Association and was southern Alberta's representative on the national executive for the Canadian ASA for a year. Clewes is regarded as the leading force behind the evolution of the annual Southern Alberta AA boys' and girls' zone basketball playoffs into one of the major events on the area's sports calendar. From its beginnings in the University of Lethbridge old gymnasium, the tournament moved to the Fitness Centre (then known as the Sportplex) where it attracted crowds of up to 3,000. He served as president of Canadian School Sport Federation in 1980, was involved with the 1981 Alberta Summer Games in Lethbridge, was vice-chair for the Alberta Winter Games held in Lethbridge in 1996 and served as the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame's first chairman. Clewes was also instrumental in the development of the Lethbridge Sports Bid Committee, which, since its inception, has helped attract top-caliber sports events to Lethbridge.



FLORENCE SENDA

JUDO
Florence Senda has been involved in judo for more than 30 years, and during that time, she has served the sport to every way imaginable – as an athlete, coach, instructor, administrator, referee, tournament organizer, workshoper, chaperone and even cook. Florence earned her black belt in 1974, becoming just the second female in Alberta to attain that level. She presently holds a fourth-degree black belt. Senda is a past provincial medalist in ju-no-kata and is certified by Judo Canada as a judge in that form of judo. She was instrumental in attracting girls to study judo and at one time, the Lethbridge Judo Club featured more female ju-no-kata athletes than male. Judo Alberta paid tribute to Senda's long service to the sport by establishing the Florence Senda Lifetime Service Award, which recognizes Albertans who have contributed to the betterment of judo in the province and to volunteer service in their community. fittingly, she was the first recipient of the award, receiving the honour at the 2009 Lethbridge Judo Invitational. Florence and her late husband Yoshio Senda, also a Hall of Famer, were the force behind bringing judo to the University of Lethbridge, where they coached for more than 40 years. Over that time, many of their student athletes became National and International Champions and went on to represent Canada at several prestigious events, including the Olympic Games.



LETHBRIDGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION PIONEERS

HOCKEY
Developing a strong "rep" hockey system for players in Lethbridge and area was the goal, but not an easy one for the Lethbridge Athletic Association when it was formed in 1971.



The association's founding group, which included Bob Babik, Richard Bianco, Art Campbell, Hans de Groot, Ken Moriyama, Dr. Tony Pomahar and Bob Simmons, had to convince minor hockey the value of the Y's Men's Native Sons.

Lethbridge Y's Men Native Sons 1974-75 – 1975 Canada Winter Games Gold Medal Winners
Front Row L - R: Gary Warren, Dennis Hart, Hans De Groot (Mgr.), Joe Meli, Howie Yamaki (Coach), Glen Scheibler (Carr) Clerk.
Second Row L - R: Bob Simmons (Ex-EC), Richard Bianco (Ex-EC), Greg Kevner, Roy Onmond, Mark Scheibler, Geoff Giddis, Randy Lowe, Ken Klukhannum, Dave Hoagan, Terry Roberts, Peter Vanderhoff (Trainer), Ken Moriyama (Ex-L).

The LAA began with two teams, the Y's Men's Native Sons Junior B squad and the Moore's Esso Bantams. Only the Native Sons survived and remained the base team until 1981 when the Lethbridge Midgets E/Bs joined the fold. Later, the LAA's ranks expanded to include Minor Midget, Major and Minor Bantams, and Pee Wee AAA and Pee Wee AA teams.

Back Row L - R: Albert Dumont, Daryl Onmond, Ron Simmons, Dwayne Howell, Gino Guzzi, Darrin Vinskey (Equipment).

Through the years, LAA teams have provided many highlights for local hockey fans, with one of the most noteworthy being the gold medal captured by the Y's Men's Native Sons at the 1975 Canada Winter Games held in Lethbridge.

Since 1971, hundreds of players have been groomed by the LAA program and many have gone on to play for junior A, senior, college and university teams, with a few even reaching the National Hockey League, including Jamie Pushor, John McLean, Todd Simpson, Stacy Rowat, Jason Vidmar, Jamie McLean and Kris Versteeg. But even those who haven't reached the NHL have found success elsewhere, bolstered by the valuable experience made possible by the LAA.



1969 Christmas Vacation Recreation Program at Lakeview School

Photo Courtesy of The Galt Museum & Archives