

**Generosity Report** 



#### From the Principal

Athletics and Recreation plays a very important role in the lives of the McGill community. It fosters the teams who represent the University on playing fields across the country, and provides McGillians with a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment to be physically active.

Your generosity helps make these very important responsibilities easier to accomplish. By demonstrating your commitment to Athletics and Recreation you are sending a clear message that sports and physical activity are vital parts of university life. Meeting with numerous supporters of Athletics and Recreation over the years, I am always impressed by the passion with which you reflect on your experience playing on a varsity team or participating in our recreation programs.

I am particularly proud that so many of our former studentathletes look back upon their time at McGill as instrumental in their personal and professional development. It is a credit to the experiences and services offered by Athletics and Recreation that our students can leave our institution as ambassadors for a healthy, active lifestyle.

It is with these sentiments in mind that I once again applaud your continued support.

# Lugaren Portei



Suzanne Fortier
Principal and Vice-Chancellor
McGill University

#### From the Executive Director

The generosity of Athletics and Recreation donors is a source of great pride. Be it financial or the giving of time and expertise, our community is strong and committed. This year's annual McGill 24 fundraising drive was a prime example of Athletics' connection with alumni, friends and family. We earned the top spot across the University in the number of donations received (1125) – impressively beating the faculties of Medicine and Management!

With a total of \$260,453 raised, a 77 percent increase over last year's efforts, alumni and parents of our student-athletes were our most engaged donors. But I'm also very proud of the 189 students who reached into their own pocketbook to give back to A&R.

The success behind keeping our alumni, parents and friends engaged is the commitment to making sure McGill students and student-athletes have an experience reminiscent of the glory days of university life that we so enjoyed. Whether that's the result of representing McGill by proudly wearing the M on a varsity uniform or from the friendships made playing intramurals, the programs and services provided by Athletics and Recreation are appreciated and valued by a large number of the greater McGill community.

Given your commitment to making the McGill experience so memorable, rest assured that we are dedicated to investing your donations wisely. Improvements to facilities, additional support for student-athletes and varsity teams, upgrades to the Sport Medicine Clinic, the purchase of new exercise equipment and investment in our recreation, health and wellness programs will go a long way toward keeping McGill at the forefront of university athletics.

So, once again I thank you for your unremitting support and hope that you continue to cheer on our varsity teams and support our dedication to developing the next generation of leaders and influencers.

Mufilina



Marc Gélinas Executive Director McGill Athletics and Recreation McGill University



\$1,694,152

**RAISED BY 1902 DONORS** 

### McGill 24

The 24-hour fundraiser set a new record this year for McGill, raising nearly \$2.3 million from 5,244 donations for causes across the University. McGill Athletics and Recreation, realized an impressive growth in donations during this day of giving with a total of \$260,453 raised, a 77 percent increase over last year's total.

### 2018-19 Year at a Glance

### recreation



NUMBER OF VISITORS IN OUR FACILITY FOR 2018-2019

TOTAL CHECK-INS 780 926 TOTAL MEN 445 344 TOTAL WOMEN 335 582 704

COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIPS

**685**ALUMNI MEMBERSHIPS



9,261

FITNESS CENTRE MEMBERSHIPS FOR 2018-19

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF VISITORS PER DAY IN OUR FACILITIES = 2194** 

AVERAGE DAILY CHECK-INS / DAY - MEN 1251 AVERAGE DAILY CHECK-INS / DAY - WOMEN 943

NUMBER OF STUDENTS REGISTERED IN OUR INTRAMURAL LEAGUES

FALL 2018 426 TEAMS / 4956 PLAYERS WINTER 2019 406 TEAMS / 4686 PLAYERS

### varsity office

NUMBER OF STUDENT-ATHLETES IN THE VARSITY PROGRAM LAST YEAR (THAT CONSUMED ELIGIBILITY) FEMALE 280 MALE 435

90

3.2

AVERAGE GPA OF MCGILL STUDENT-ATHLETES

- FALL 2018: 3.27
- WINTER 2019: 3.14
  - YEAR: 3.20

\*MEDICAL STUDENTS AND THOSE WHO WITHDREW WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE CALCULATIONS AS

THEY DO NOT HAVE A SGPA

202

NUMBER OF STUDENTS
(+ PERCENTAGE) WHO
EARNED A COVETED SPOT
ON THE PRINCIPAL'S
STUDENT-ATHLETE
HONOUR ROLL WITH A
CUMULATIVE GPA OF 3.5
AND HIGHER



PERCENTAGE OF McGILL STUDENT-ATHLETES WHO ARE IN DEGREE GRANTING PROGRAMS, INCLUDING % IN POST GRADUATE PROGRAMS

- 94% IN DEGREE GRANTING PROGRAMS
  - 4% IN POST GRAD
  - 2% OTHER

NUMBER OF STUDENT-ATHLETES
WHO WERE RECOGNIZED AS
ACADEMIC ALL-CANADIANS
- 2017-18 ACC: 108

- · 2018-19 AAC: 95
- (MAY CHANGE BY 2 OR 3

BASED ON SUMMER GRADES)

### varsity



TWO McGILL TEAMS WERE CROWNED AS CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS, MEN'S BASEBALL AND WOMEN'S ARTISTIC SWIMMING (FORMERLY KNOWN AS SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING).

BOTH MERITED NATIONAL TITLES.

TWO McGILL BENCH BOSSES
MERITED CONFERENCE
COACH-OF-THE-YEAR AWARDS,
NAMELY VOLLEYBALL'S
RACHÈLE BÉLIVEAU AND
SOCCER'S MARC MOUNICOT.



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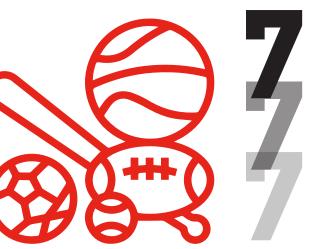
BASEBALL WON ITS FIFTH CONSECUTIVE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AND EIGHTH NATIONAL TITLE OVERALL

SEVEN STUDENT-ATHLETES WERE
NAMED U SPORT ALL CANADIANS
AND 76 WERE SELECTED AS
CONFERENCE ALL-STARS.

**NUMBER OF FANS ATTENDING OUR GAMES:** 

23,562





McGILL WON SEVEN RSEQ ATHLETE-OF-THE-WEEK HONOURS
IN 2018-19 AND ONE U SPORTS NATIONAL HONOUREE.

RECIPIENTS OF THE WEEKLY CONFERENCE AWARD INCLUDED HOCKEY'S JADE DOWNIE-LANDRY (MAR. 17), SWIMMER CLÉMENT SECCHI (FEB. 26), VOLLEYBALL'S ANDREANNE TREMBLAY (FEB. 5) AND CLAIRE VERCHEVAL (JAN. 29), BASKETBALL PLAYERS GLADYS HAKIZIMANA (DEC. 4) AND AVERY CODOGAN (DEC. 4) AND THE AFOREMENTIONED MEGGIE DARGIS (OCT. 2). McGILL ALSO MERITED THREE RSEQ FOOTBALL PLAYER-OF-THE-WEEK HONOURS, TWO BY LINEBACKER BENJAMIN CARRÉ (SEPT. 3, OCT. 22) AND ONE BY KICKER FINDLAY BROWN (SEPT. 3).

# **Department Highlights**

#### DARCHE AND DENIS DO DOUBLE DUTY AS HONORARY CO-PRESIDENTS OF McGILL ATHLETICS GOLF TOURNEY

Mathieu Darche and Shauna Denis, both McGill management grads who parlayed stellar collegiate hockey careers into the McGill Sports Hall of Fame, served as honorary co-presidents of the second annual McGill Athletics Golf Classic, held at the Kanawaki Club in June, 2019. The Tampa Bay Lightning announced in May that Darche has joined the Florida-based organization as director of hockey operations. A veteran player who skated with the Lightning, Columbus Blue Jackets, Nashville Predators, San Jose Sharks and Montreal Canadiens, Darche spent four seasons at left-wing for the McGill hockey squad - from 1996 to 2000 - and served as team captain before graduating in 2000 with a commerce degree, majoring in marketing and international business. Shauna Denis, a three-time collegiate all-star who captained the McGill hockey Martlets to their first-ever national championship in 2008, has since been employed by the Montreal Canadiens, where she currently serves as director of content strategy.

### SIX LAUREATES ARE CALLED TO THE McGILL SPORTS HALL

Catherine Ward, 32, a two-time Olympic gold medalist hockey player, became the youngest honouree selected for the McGill Sports Hall of Fame. Other new laureates in the 2019 induction class include two-time Olympic marathoner Dr. Lizanne Bussières, soccer striker Graham Butcher, hockey goaltender Mathieu Poitras, basketball guard Domenico Marcario and badminton player Mathieu Laforest. The hallowed Hall now has 151 honoured members, 27 of them Olympians, since the pantheon was initiated in 1996.





### SWIMMER SECCHI AND VOLLEYBALL'S VERCHEVAL NAMED McGILL ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Swimmer Clement Secchi and volleyball's Claire Vercheval, were named male and female athletes of the year, respectively, at the 42nd annual McGill varsity sports awards gala in 2019. Secchi was also named as McGill's male rookie of the year, while volleyball's Charlene Robitaille received the top rookie honours on the women's side. Other major awards went to basketball's Noah Daoust, a fifth-year industrial relations senior and soccer goaltender Sarah Dubois, a chemical engineering senior. They merited the Richard Pound and Muriel Roscoe trophies, respectively, awarded to the graduating male and female athletes for proficiency and leadership in athletics over their university careers. Hockey's Kellyane Lecours, an elementary education major with a 3.89 cumulative grade-point average, was awarded the Uldis Auders Memorial Trophy as the top sophomore, who best combines academic excellence with athletic prowess. Erika Cournoyer, a former Martlets volleyball player who graduated with a BA in 2018, won the Teddy Smith Award, which recognizes outstanding volunteer work within the community. The women's hockey program received the Martlet Foundation Trophy as the varsity team of the year, winning silver at the Final Eight national tournament in Charlottetown. The baseball squad took home the Harry Griffiths Trophy, awarded to the top team in a sport outside the jurisdiction of U SPORTS. They had a 34-9-3 record overall en route to capturing their fifth consecutive national championship.

Tribute was also paid to McGill's 203 members on the Principal's Student-athlete Honour Roll, in addition to 108 Academic All-Canadians, seven U SPORTS All-Canadians, 76 conference all-stars and two national championships won during the 2018-19 varsity season. Banners were captured in men's baseball (CCBA) and women's artistic swimming (CUASL), formerly known as synchronized swimming.

#### McGILL BENCH BOSS NAMED BY BASKETBALL CANADA TO COACH AT FIBA TOURNEY IN GREECE

**David DeAveiro**, head coach of the McGill men's basketball team, was appointed by Basketball Canada to serve as an assistant with the junior men's national program for the FIBA Under-19 World Cup in Heraklion, Greece, June 28 to July 7. DeAveiro, who took over the McGill program in 2010, has an extensive coaching history with numerous Canadian national teams, including the men's senior, development and junior levels. The 2019-20 season is DeAveiro's 19th as a head coach at the U SPORTS level and his 10th year at McGill.

#### SEVEN McGILLIANS IN ITALY FOR FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES

Six student-athletes and one coach from McGill were among a Team Canada delegation at the 2019 FISU Summer Games in Naples, Italy. Athletes representing McGill included basketball's **Avery Cadogan** and soccer's **Nathalie Brunelle** and **Sarah Dubois**. From the men's rugby team is **Andrew Knopp**, and **Benjamin Russell**. Rounding out the group was table tennis player **Jacie Liu**. On the mission staff was Montrealer **Jose-Luis Valdes**, head coach of the McGill women's soccer program, who served as an assistant coach at the event.

#### HOOPS GRAD GETS CANADA BASKETBALL INVITE

Alex Kiss-Rusk, a McGill graduate who guided the Martlets to a national championship in 2017, was invited by Canada Basketball to attend a 2019 senior women's national team program assessment camp in Edmonton followed by a trip to Lima, Peru in August to play at the Pan Am Games. The 6'4" centre from Beaconsfield, Que., who was McGill's female athlete of the year in 2017-18, played pro in Germany for the past two seasons.

#### GRIDIRON GRAD FROM FRANCE BECOMES 59<sup>TH</sup> McGILL PRODUCT TO PLAY IN CFL

Linebacker **Maxime Rouyer**, a native of Troyes, France, who graduated in 2019 with an education degree, made the Edmonton Eskimos roster in 2019. He is one of 59 players from the McGill football program to earn a CFL roster spot. Three McGill products have also suited up in the NFL, including long-snappers **Randy Chevrier** (Dallas, Cincinnati) and **Jean-Philippe Darche** (Seattle, Kansas City), in addition to offensive lineman **Laurent Duvernay-Tardif** (Kansas City).

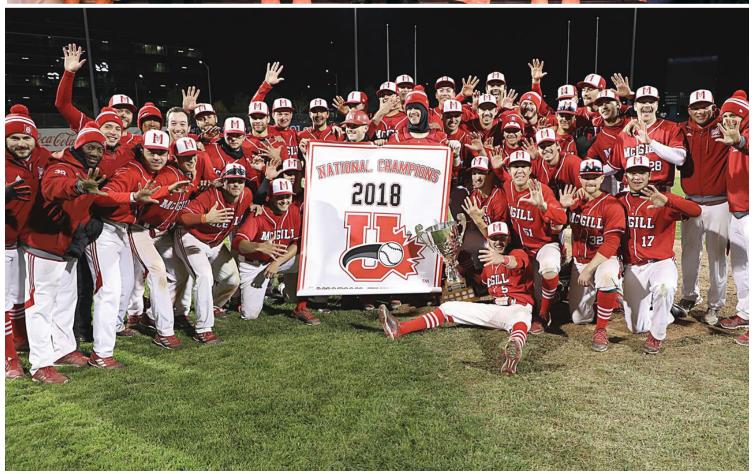
#### McGILL LACROSSE SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWED FOR INDIGENOUS ATHLETES

A new athletic scholarship for indigenous lacrosse players became a reality at McGill in the fall of 2019. This is believed to be the first Athletic Financial Award in Canada with a focus on indigenous student-athletes. It also constitutes the first AFA to benefit the McGill men's varsity lacrosse program. Fundraising for this new "Canadian Lacrosse Foundation Athletics Award" was initiated in recognition of the 150th anniversary of lacrosse, which was celebrated in 2017 on the McGill campus.

#### LACROSSE RECRUIT RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP

Isaiah Storm Cree, a McGill lacrosse recruit from the Akwesasne Mohawk Reservation in upstate New York, received a prestigious Tewaaraton Native American Scholarship. The award honours male and female high school students of Haudenosaunee / Iroquois heritage who exemplify high character, leadership and academics, both on and off the lacrosse field. Each recipient is awarded \$10,000 (U.S.) for education. Cree, a member of the Wolf Clan who enrolled in the McGill faculty of Arts for the 2019-20 school year, transferred from Massena Senior High School in his junior year to attend Sierra Canyon High School, near Los Angeles.





#### SOCCER GRAD GUPTA HONOURED BY OTTAWA MAYOR

Sanchit Gupta, a McGill soccer graduate (BSc '19) from Ottawa, was honoured by Ottawa mayor Jim Watson, who presented him and his younger sister, **Riya Gupta**, with the Mayor's City Builder Award in 2019. This civic honour recognizes an individual, group or organization that, through outstanding volunteerism or exemplary action, has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to making Ottawa a better place. Working with local restaurants, university cafeterias and grocery stores, the Gupta siblings opened a chapter of MealCare, in the Ottawa area. They take in surplus food and, with the help of fellow volunteers, redirect it to shelters and soup kitchens where it is needed most.

# McGILL PIVOT MERITS CFL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM INVITE

**Dimitrios Sinodinos**, a McGill sophomore, was selected to participate in the CFL's Canadian Quarterback Internship Program. The 5-foot-11, 185-pound native of Laval, Que., attended the 2019 Montreal Alouettes training camp. The program allows Canada's best young pivots to participate in practice drills as well as team and positional meetings while continuing to develop and hone their skills at the quarterback position. Sinodinos, a 21-year-old electrical engineering major, was the fifth McGill player to participate in the program since it was initiated in 2010. Previous participants from McGill were **Jonathan Collin** (2012, Montreal), **Pierre-Luc Moquin** (2014, Edmonton), **Joel Houle** (2016, Montreal) and **Frederic Paquette-Perrault** (2017, B.C. Lions).

#### VOLLEYBALL COACH BÉLIVEAU RECEIVES WOMEN OF INFLUENCE AWARD

**Rachèle Béliveau**, long-time head coach of the McGill volleyball Martlets, was honoured at the 14th Women of Influence awards as part of the 2019 Sports-Québec Gala. The event was coordinated by Égale Action, a group that supports and encourages the advancement of women in sport. Béliveau



completed her 28th season as bench boss at McGill in 2018-19, where she guided the Martlets to a stellar 17-3 first-place finish in the RSEQ conference and became the third volleyball coach in Canada to collect 600 career victories. The native of Sherbrooke, Que., owns a 640-523-2 record overall in 1,165 career contests at McGill. She has been voted coach of the year six times in the Quebec-based RSEQ conference.

#### BASKETBALL FOURSOME REPRESENTED CANADA AT FIBA WORLD TOUR IN QATAR

Four members of the McGill men's basketball team competed for Canada at the 2019 FIBA 3-on-3 World Tour in Doha, Qatar. Captain **Noah Daoust** and team MVP **Avery Cadogan** were joined by sophomore **Jamal Mayali** and **Daniel Pieper**, who graduated with a commerce degree in 2018. It marked the third international tournament in three years for the McGill basketball program, which won silver (2017) and bronze (2018) medals at the previous two FIBA 3-on-3 tourneys, held in China.

#### BASKETBALL LEGEND GOLOMEEV INDUCTED IN FIBA HALL OF FAME

Atanas "Nasko" Golomeev, 71, who earned All-Canadian honours with the McGill men's basketball team and won the Forbes Trophy as male athlete of the year during his freshman season in 1968-69, was among 11 honourees inducted to the FIBA Hall of Fame at the 2019 world championships in Beijing. A native of Bulgaria, the 6-foot-8, 220-pound centre still holds the McGill single-season scoring record with 900 points in 24 games overall for a staggering 37.5 average points per contest. Golomeev reached the 50-point plateau four times with McGill, scoring a school and conference record 56 in a 105-83 home victory over Queen's on Feb. 7, 1969, while pulling down a mammoth 27 rebounds in that contest. After McGill, Golomeev played for the Bulgarian national team and appeared in five FIBA European championship tournaments, winning scoring titles in 1973 and 1975. He won eight Bulgarian league titles as a player, in addition to one more as a coach (1986).

# Team Highlights



#### MARTLET HOCKEY

Once again, the women's hockey team proved why it's one of the top programs in the country. The team's 13-wins earned them a second place finish in the RSEQ and a trip to the National Championships in PEI in March. Head coach Peter Smith, who this season won his 500th career game, directed the team to a silver medal during a hotly contested 1-0 gold medal game versus Guelph. "Not many people outside of our dressing room would have thought that we were going to get this far, "said Smith after the gold medal match. "We battled from start to finish, there was no quit on this team."

#### MEN'S HOCKEY

Men's hockey racked up 17 wins to finish third in the OUA East. The team swept the UOIT Ridgebacks in the first round of the playoffs before falling to the Carleton Ravens. Goaltender Louis-Philip Guindon had a phenomenal season for the team, starting 36 of 38 games. He was named the team's MVP, the first goaltender to earn the honour in over 10 years.

#### MARTLET BASKETBALL

The Martlets finished third in the conference during regular season play before being eliminated 62-55 in a suddendeath playoff game at Concordia. Sirah Diarra and Gladys Hakizimana were named conference second-team all-stars, while Shayan Laguerre and Trishia Villedrouin made the allrookie team. Head coach Ryan Thorne served as an assistant on the Team Canada staff for the FIBA under-19 women's basketball World Cup in Bangkok this past summer.

#### MEN'S BASKETBALL

The men's team opened its season with a bang, playing before 10,000+ fans versus the Duke Blue Devils at Place Bell in August. During the regular season, the McGill men came in second in the RSEQ, racking up nine wins, before being eliminated in the playoffs by UQAM 79-69. Senior Noah Daoust won McGill's Richard Pound Award for leadership and athletics, while guard Avery Cadogan was named the team's MVP.

### MARTLET SOCCER

Martlet soccer finished in fourth place in RSEQ competition. Goalkeeper Sarah Dubois earned the prestigious Beliveau Award for academics, community involvement, and athletics. Nathalie Brunelle (first conference all-star team), Leah Simon and Claudia Aggozzino (second conference all-star team) and Tia Lore (award for leadership and citizenship) all took home RSEQ honours. This past summer the team visited Paraguay to volunteer in rural communities and compete in exhibition games, and coach Jose Valdes and Nathalie Brunelle represented Canada at the 2019 FISU Summer Universiade in Napoli, Italy.

#### MEN'S SOCCER

The McGill men's soccer team had a strong season, finishing with five wins and a playoff berth. Ramzi Saim earned All-Canadian second-team status while Florian Bettelli made the country's all-rookie team. At the RSEQ level, Saim and Mehdi Ibn-Brahim (first conference all-star team), Bettelli and Chris Flores (second conference all-star team), and Marc Mounicot (coach of the year) all took home awards.



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#### GOLF

McGill's golf team made it to Nationals last season. They were led by fourth-year player Samir Ladak, who paced the team with scores of 77, 73, and 79 while competing against the best university golfers in the country.

#### TRACK AND FIELD

This year's team was led by rookie sensation Jack Crosby, who set a McGill record in the 600-metre race at the Ravens Last Chance Invitational Meet in Ottawa. McGill hosted the RSEQ Track and Field Championship in the winter, winning four gold medals while placing third overall. At Nationals in Winnipeg, Lauren Woods broke a McGill record in the women's triple jump, earning McGill's first gold at Nationals since 2003. Also at Nationals, Matthew Daly broke a McGill 30-year-old record set by Derek Covington (8.27 seconds) in the 60-metre hurdles, crossing the line in 8.19 seconds.

#### MARTLET RUGBY

McGill's women's rugby team had another building year under second-year head coach Magali Harvey. A major contributor on the team was Dori Yeats, an Olympian who competed in wrestling at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro before making the transition to the rugby pitch.

#### MEN'S RUGBY

The men's rugby squad had a solid season, finishing second in the conference before falling 19-17 to Bishop's in the playoffs. The team had a record eight all-stars: Alex Pantis, Jessen Gibbs, Benjamin Russel, Jeremy OckoMichalak, Sayf Al-Omaishi, Elliot Esposito-Menard, Pierre Grison, and Karl Hunger. Pantis also took home a leadership award.

#### **ALPINE SKI**

Alpine ski had a strong season, coming away with four medals at the RSEQ championships courtesy of Abigail Thomas, Camille Vibert, and Zachary Mayne. Overall, McGill finished second in the female category and third in men.

#### LACROSSE

Tim Murdoch's lacrosse team continued its stellar run of CUFLA success. They finished in second place in their division with a record of 9-1, before losing 10-6 in the Baggataway Cup semifinals to eventual champion, the Western Mustangs.

#### SWIM

McGill's swimmers set several school records last season en-route to a stellar showing at Nationals at UBC. Rookie sensation Clement Secchi won gold in the 50-metre backstroke and two bronze medals in the 100-metre butterfly and 4x200-metre freestyle relay. Also medaling at Nationals were Kade Wist, William Simpson, and David Brenken. On the women's side, Olympian Gabriela Doueihy, who competed for Lebanon in the 2016 Summer Olympics, earned over 16 percent of McGill's total points competing in the 400-metre, 800-metre, 4x100-metre, and 4x200 freestyle races. Overall, McGill men finished fourth and the women finished sixth at Nationals. 14 McGill swimmers took home RSEQ honours as well, including Adrian Goin, who won the conference's leadership and community service award.

#### **BASEBALL**

It was a five-peat for McGill's baseball team, as they won another CCBA World Series last fall. McGill won nine of 11 regular season games in the Canadian Collegiate Baseball Association's Northern Conference before winning four straight playoff games. The team defeated the University of New Brunswick 9-4 in the finals to take home the championship. For the second straight year, McGill's Sasha Lagarde was named as the tournament's most valuable player. The team spent the off-season visiting several hospitals and shelters in Montreal.

#### FIELD HOCKEY

Martlet field hockey hosted their first home games in nearly a decade last season and made strides in their development as a program. The team finished with two wins and ended its campaign with a 6-0 victory over the McMaster Marauders to finish in seventh place at the OUA Championship. Tania Iskandar and Maud-Marie Mazaniello-Chezol led McGill in scoring during the regular season with two points each.





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#### **VOLLEYBALL**

Rachele Beliveau's McGill team had one of its best-ever seasons, ending the regular season with a 17-3 regular season record. The Martlets and Montreal Carabins battled in the RSEQ Championship with McGill's cross-town rivals coming out victorious in a nail biting fifth set tiebreaker. Martlet veteran power hitter Claire Vercheval was named McGill's Female Athlete of the Year.



#### **BADMINTON**

Connor Tannas concluded a strong senior season with an RSEQ all-star nod. The 21-year-old Calgary native had 11 victories in men's singles last season. Overall, McGill's men finished in fourth place, the women ended in fifth. The mixed teams concluded their season in third.

#### WOODSMEN

McGill's lumberjacks and lumberjills had another solid season in CILA action. At the Macdonald Campus competition in February, McGill's men's team finished first in the chainsaw and snowshoe competition, while the women were the top team in the pole climb, quart split, standing block, and water boil.

#### **ARTISTIC SWIM**

Artistic swimming were champions yet again in 2018-19. The Martlets, who rebounded nicely from last year's third-place finish, tallied 65 points to finish first of 13 schools and capture the Geraldine Dubrule Trophy at the three-day event held at the Carleton University pool. Freshman Maria Gheta was named the top overall athlete at the competition.

#### **CROSS COUNTRY**

The Martlet cross country team had a very successful campaign, finishing fifth in Nationals. Meggie Dargis of McGill earned Second-Team All Canadian honours. On the men's side, talented runner Santiago Bessai won a bronze medal at the RSEQ championships.

#### ROWING

Craig McCullogh, a 23-year-old medical student from Westmount, Que., produced McGill's best result at the Canadian University Rowing Association championships, finishing in fourth place.

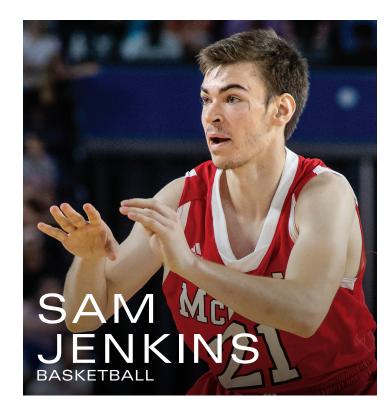






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# A Word from Our Athletes



The support through the McGill alumni network that I have experienced first-hand in my first two years on the McGill men's basketball team has been incredible. Although I've only been here for a short time, I have met and developed relationships with former players that were a part of this program several years before I ever considered coming to McGill. So many of these people have helped my teammates and I both on and off the court, and many continue to have prominent roles in our lives.

Donors allow us to receive financial aid with our tuition, which helps us manage and balance the demands of school and basketball. They also help with costs for our team such as clothing and shoes to help us perform at our best. Through the generous donations of our alumni, we have been able to experience several trips through the basketball program, including trips across Canada for tournaments and to the United States, where we played the University of Maine last season. During my first summer here, we were even able to travel to Costa Rica for a week to compete in a pre-season tournament.

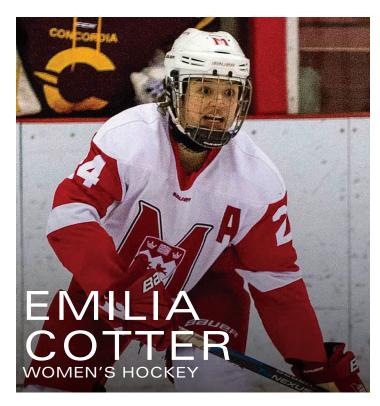
Several of our alumni continue to have an important role in our program, on the coaching staff, and just by coming back in town to watch games. They always take time to come and meet with us after games and it truly means the world to us. They continue to instill the positive, winning culture that they helped develop in their time at this school, and I'd like to express how appreciative we are of all their support.



I have been on the McGill swim team for the last three years. Over the past two years, I have been given the opportunity to work with the coaches as part of the leadership team. The work we put in is not only for our love for the sport but also to continue the history of excellence that has come before us. I owe a thank you to the people who have made our programs what they are today.

During my time on the swim team, I have had the pleasure of meeting many alumni from swimming and also other teams at various events like the Hall of Fame lunch, swimming galas, and at swim meets. It is heartwarming to see graduates hold their sport and school in such high esteem. Seeing and speaking with athletes who have already put in the work is a very eye-opening and rewarding experience. The support given to current athletes by alumni is irreplaceable and I am extremely grateful for the guidance I have been given in regards to swimming and in dealing with the hectic life of a varsity athlete.

"THE SUPPORT GIVEN TO
CURRENT ATHLETES BY ALUMNI
IS IRREPLACEABLE AND I AM
EXTREMELY GRATEFUL..."



I am so grateful for the opportunity to play for such an amazing school with unbelievable alumni. When I started playing at McGill, I didn't know anyone from Montreal and I was terrified of everything that was to come. From day one, the McGill Martlet alumni have made such a big difference in my university experience.

From alumni weekends to supporting us at games across the country, our alumni have been extremely involved. My favourite alumni moment was in my second year, when we were at the National Championship in Kingston Ontario. We had made it to the final game, and were getting ready to head onto the ice for the final match. When we went onto the ice, all over the glass there were posters and pictures of players on our team – and packed stands full of Martlet hockey alumni. Although we didn't win that game, it was such an amazing feeling knowing that we had people that were watching and supporting us no matter the outcome.

The Martlet hockey family has helped shaped me into the player I am today thanks to alumni on our coaching staff (I'm talking about you, Alyssa Cecere, Amey Doyle, and Katia Heydra), as well as former players in our training life and some watching from home or in the stands.

From the bottom of our hearts, the current Martlet hockey team thanks you so much for everything you all have done. You have laid down a foundation of success and excellence and we, as players, only hope to continue on your legacy!

### Coach's Corner

### RON HILAIRE

MEN'S FOOTBALL



McGill men's football is coming off one of its best seasons in recent memory and one that culminated in a playoff berth with a 2-6 record. Notable was the defense, which led Canadian university football in fumble recoveries (11) and was second in both defensive touchdowns (four) and sacks (23).

Offensively, quarterback Dimitrios Sinodinos proved that he's a leader both as a student and as an athlete, tossing six touchdowns and running into the end zone for one, all while maintaining high grades as an engineering student.

We're optimistic and excited about the future of the program, and know that we will continue the long and proud history of McGill football.

# Mike Richards: Leaving a Legacy Gift



It's been a while since Mike Richards BA'60, BCL'63, laced up his skates to represent the McGill men's varsity hockey team, but he remains a loyal supporter of both McGill Athletics and varsity athletes.

"I admire today's student athletes," says Richards. "For their athletic abilities and because of McGill's

high academic requirements—they are superior in both respects."

Richards played for five seasons, earning trophies for most improved and most valuable player. "I had a great experience at McGill. I'm a strong believer in team sport; it gives new dimension to your character, and you learn to work with your teammates. I so appreciated my time playing team sports that I was very happy to give back."

Richards has given back to McGill in many ways: he served on McGill's Board of Governors for 10 years, established the Mike Richards Hockey Awards in 2005, and made a planned gift to endow the award and ensure that it continues in perpetuity.

"It's a way to keep on giving. Canadian universities in general are underfunded, and athletics in particular are underfunded. I am so grateful for all that I learned and did in my seven years at McGill. and I wanted to make a difference."

Richards still attends Athletics' award ceremonies, as well as matches. "These players are all graduates of junior hockey, so they've been playing serious hockey. It's fast-paced, exciting, and clean hockey at a very high level. They're exceptional."

If you are considering or have already made provisions in your will for McGill Athletics and Recreation and wish to discuss the allocation of your gift, please contact Ryan Kelly 514-398-7000 ext: 00339.

# **Women in Sport**

The Women in Sport program (WiS) embraces its role in enabling female coaches to enhance their competencies, engage and stay in coaching and become prime candidates for head coaching positions. It's also devoted to helping female student-athletes develop their leadership potential and facilitate a successful transition into the world of work.

Over the first year of the WiS program implementation, we have been actively engaged in a number of activities to network with various experts, organizations, individuals etc., aiming to collect relevant information and to form collaborations for the benefit of the program design and execution.

As such we have further defined the mission of the WiS program to include the following strategic goals.

- The Women in Sport program will provide a clear and progressive pathway for McGill female student- athletes to transition from university to the workplace..
- We embrace our role to provide a strong women's voice in advocating for gender sensitive services.
- Identifying and filling any gaps in services for female studentathletes.
- Develop of an optimal calendar of events/activities that foster the personal and professional growth of female coaches and student-athletes.
- Create a personal development plan and professional development opportunities for new coaches
- Create and activate a community of practice between female sport leaders and coaches that will allow for sharing, learning and support between professionals in the field.
- Create an opportunity for senior coaches to identify and develop appropriate succession strategies, transfer of knowledge and possible transition from full-time coach to personal learning coach.

The upcoming year will see our focus remain on elevating the female experience within our athletic community and making McGill a leader in advocating for more women coaching women.



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# Making an Impact Beyond the Field of Play



and serve game-winning aces. They also cook food for those in need, visit hospitals, and help clean up local neighbourhoods.

"Being part of a McGill varsity team allows our players the opportunity to contribute to the community," said Casey Auerbach, head coach of McGill baseball, a team that served food at local shelters several times last season. "We hope our efforts can create positive change in the community and impact those less fortunate."

Leaders on the field of play, athletes have a natural affinity for leading in their community too, a role our student-athletes take to heart.

"As college student-athletes we often get caught up in the rigor of our schedules and fail to appreciate the luxuries we are afforded," said baseball infielder Nick Linton. "Beyond that, seeing the happiness you can engender by a just a few hours of volunteering is so encouraging."

The Varsity Student Council, a leadership group of McGill varsity athletes, also helps by holding an annual gift-wrapping event in conjunction with Sun Youth, a local charity that caters to Montreal youth.

McGill varsity student-athletes score touchdowns, make saves The McGill Martlet women's soccer team took the spirit of volunteerism to Paraguay this past spring, helping to build a new soccer field. Once completed, the field will become a hub of community life.

> "We made the cement," said head coach Jose Valdes, "We were pouring it, laying it down, placing the bricks and moving dirt around. We really loved the chance to get involved and help build the structure from the ground up."

> It is experiences like this that reinforce the value of giving back and build the type of citizenship that impacts people from different communities and different financial realities. It also allows McGill student-athletes to experience a lifestyle very different from their own.

> "Taking the time to visit kids or volunteer for the homeless provides the opportunity to readjust our perspective and realize how lucky we truly are," Linton said. "We hope that by spreading this sentiment, it'll encourage others in the community to extend their hand."

### Who We Are

Thousands of McGill students actively participate in the many Athletics and Recreation programs and services that contribute to campus life. Thirty intercollegiate teams, numerous competitive clubs, 760 intramural teams, 5,000plus intramural athletes and over 100 non-credit fitness and recreation courses make it one of the largest athletics programs in the country.

McGill's athletic facilities and programming have been enjoyed by McGill students and staff since 1919, with our students instrumental in some of sports most historic firsts including participating in the first hockey, rugby and football games and the first University logger sports competition. McGill's women's hockey team, established in 1894, was one of the first female university hockey teams in the country.

McGillians are also known for their historic contribution to sport, with James Naismith inventing basketball in 1891 and at least one McGill alumnus or alumna competing at every Olympic Games since 1908. Other notable athletic alumni include current and former professional hockey coaches Lester Patrick, Mike Babcock, Guy Boucher, Jaime Compon and Martin Raymond and Olympic gold medalists Kim Ste-Pierre, Charline Labonte, Catherine Ward and Melodie Daoust (women's hockey) and Jennifer Heil, gold and silver medalist in Olympic freestyle skiing. The CFL, NFL and NHL all boast McGill grads including but not limited to; J.P. Darche (CFL& NFL), Mathew Darche (NHL), Laurent Duvernay Tardif (NFL), Michael Soles (CFL), Randy Chevrier (NFL & CFL) and Jesse Briggs (CFL).

Sports isn't the only place our athletic alumni have excelled. McGill athletes have gone on to become astronauts, leaders in business, philanthropy, medicine and the arts, politicians and the Governor General of Canada. Their success highlights the potential for sport to develop leaders and influencers who impact the world around them.

All sport and recreation programs and services are offered at McGill's two campuses. The downtown campus is home to indoor and outdoor tracks and tennis courts, an 8-lane 25-metre pool, two double gymnasia, a 10,000 sq foot fitness centre, an arena, several outdoor fields and fitness studios, the McGill Sports Medicine Clinic and the iconic Molson Stadium, the current home of Montreal's professional football team, the Montreal Alouettes. Located at the base of Mount Royal Park, the McGill community takes full advantage of the Park's running, hiking and cross-country ski trails as well as the most amazing views of Montreal, The Macdonald Campus facilities in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, located on the western tip of the island of Montreal, include an arena, gymnasium, fitness centre, fitness studio, outdoor gym, sand volleyball court, outdoor fields and paddling centre. There's also hundreds of acres of green space including the Morgan Arboretum, which has cross country skiing, walking and running trails.

#### McGill'S VARSITY TEAMS

#### **U SPORTS TEAMS**

Basketball (M&W) Cross Country (M&W) Field Hockey (W) Football (M) Ice Hockey (M&W) Rugby (W) Soccer (M&W) Swimming (M&W) Track and Field (M&W) Volleyball (W)

#### **RSEQ & OUA TEAMS**

Alpine Ski (M&W) Badminton (M&W) Golf (M&W) Rugby (M) Rowing (M&W)

#### CCBA, CUFLA, CUSSL,

**CILA TEAMS** Baseball (M) Lacrosse (M)

Artistic Swimming (W) Woodsmen (M&W)

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## **Generosity Report**

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