



Canadian College Sport Connections

Official Newsletter of the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association

Issue #42

May 2010

In this issue:

Feature Story

CCAA Athletes of the Year

Sports News

Big Kahuna Makes the French Connection

Douglas College Wrestlers Continue a Tradition of Success

Coaching News

CCAA Coach of the Year

New at the CCAA Stay Connected!

- Twitter
- Facebook
- Youtube

Other News

Book of the Month

Summary of Deadlines

Feature Story

CCAA Athletes of the Year

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR



University of British Columbia Okanagan's, Alex Basso has been named this year's Female Athlete of the Year Across All CCAA Sports by the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association.

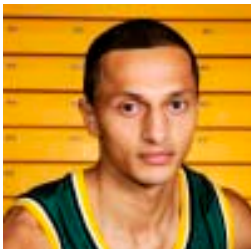
One female athlete is selected annually from across all CCAA sports.

A power hitter for the UBC Okanagan Heat women's volleyball team, Alex is an extremely dedicated and driven student-athlete. She displays all the qualities of sportsmanship and fair play while competing as hard as she can. Basso's skill and leadership were an integral part of the Heat's successful season, where they captured both Provincial and National titles. In 58 games played Alex recorded 3.64 kills, .24 blocks, .27 aces, 2.31 digs and 4.17 points per game.

Alex's accomplishments have been recognized with numerous awards and opportunities; CCAA National Championship MVP, CCAA Volleyball Player of the Year, CCAA All Canadian, BCCAA MVP of Provincial Championship, BCCAA Player of the Year, BCCAA First Team All Star, CCAA Athlete of the Month, BCCAA Athlete of the Week and City of Kelowna Sport Hero Award. In addition, she played for Team BC at the 2009 Canada Summer Games and could possibly receive an invitation to the Senior National Team Selection Camp.

Alex not only excels on the volleyball court but in the classroom as well. She is a second year student enrolled in the Human Kinetics program. Basso is a role model and ambassador at the University of British Columbia Okanagan, the BCCAA and CCAA. She volunteers her time in the community with the Food Bank Stuff the Bus program and at campus events such as athletic competitions, residence move in day, the Women's Basketball National Championship and UBC Okanagan Orientation. Alex shares her love of the sport assisting with various school and club teams as guest athlete, and refereeing volleyball.

MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR



University of Northern British Columbia's, Inderbir Gill has been named this year's Male Athlete of the Year Across All CCAA Sports by the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association.

One male athlete is selected annually from across all CCAA sports.

A fourth year guard for the UNBC Timberwolves men's basketball team, Inderbir finished the regular season averaging 19 points, 5 assists and 4.5 rebounds per game. His season highlights include a 39 point performance and several double-doubles with both points and assists. Inderbir also added 32 points in a brilliant MVP performance to lead UNBC to a Gold medal at the CCAA National Championship.

[Back to Top](#)

He has been recognized for his outstanding skills and achievements earning the following awards in the 2009-2010 season; BCCAA Player of the Year, BCCAA MVP of Provincial Championships, CCAA All Canadian, CCAA MVP of the National Championship.

In addition to his on-court skills, Gill is also the epitome of a student-athlete, a selfless teammate and an excellent ambassador in the community. He has achieved excellence in academics and athletics receiving the prestigious SIRC/ CCAA Academic All Canadian Award for his dedication to both. Inderbir is very active within his community. He participates in the UNBC Outreach program that visits local elementary schools and helps provide valuable basketball experiences for the youth of Prince George. By visiting these schools Inderbir has created an awareness of varsity sports and its affiliation with education. The sport of basketball is used to teach the fair play principles that are a part of sport and while demonstrating the importance of combining athletics and academics. 📌

Sports News

Big Kahuna Makes the French Connection



Big Kahuna continues to build on their successful partnership with the CCAA, adding three new account managers to their office in Central Canada. The first fully bi-lingual representative at Big Kahuna, Martin Gauthier resides in the province of Québec and will be looking to build new partnerships within the Fédération Québécoise du Sport Étudiant (FQSE) while providing enhanced service to current partners in the area.

“We are extremely excited about the addition of our new staff in Central Canada, especially the addition of Martin Gauthier as our first Quebec Account Manager. Martin brings a wealth of experience to Big Kahuna and we are fortunate to have him on our Team.” Craig Preece, Vice President of Marketing, Big Kahuna Sport Company.

FQSE members will benefit from the increased ease in communication and direct contact with a local representative who will be managing accounts solely in the province of Québec. This move is a great step forward for Big Kahuna in building partnerships with institutions in the FQSE, one of the larger conferences in the CCAA, offering great opportunity for growth in the coming years. Big Kahuna is a valued long-time partner of the CCAA and the goal is to continue to grow this partnership each year, a trend that has benefited both parties over the past several years.

“Members of the FQSE see this as a very positive and encouraging step towards meeting the needs of the francophone community in our conference. We look forward to working with Martin Gauthier in the near future.” Vince Amato, Marketing Representative, FQSE. 📌

Sports News

Douglas College Wrestlers Continue a Tradition of Success



Douglas College wrestlers Aso Palani and Arjun Gill will continue a strong Douglas tradition of representing Canada by competing at several high-profile international meets this summer. Palani placed 2nd at the Senior Nationals in Fredericton, New Brunswick in March, qualifying him to represent Canada at the Pan American Championships in Monterrey, Mexico on May 2nd, and to represent Douglas College and Canada at the FISU University World Championships in Torino, Italy in August. Gill won the Junior Nationals in Fredericton in March, qualifying him to represent Canada at the Junior World Championships in Budapest, Hungary in July.

Douglas College wrestlers owe much of their success to competition in a rigorous American-style collegiate season that runs from November until March, culminating in competition at the NCWA National Championships. The NCWA is a league with over 100 members from universities and colleges in the United States. Douglas is the only Canadian school in the league. During the collegiate season, Douglas wrestlers compete in meets throughout the United States, with competitors representing the NCAA (Division I and II), the NAIA and the NJCAA. Aso Palani won the NCWA National Championships for

Douglas in 2009, while Arjun Gill was 8th at the Championships this season. Douglas wrestler Raj Rai was 6th at the same event, earning himself All-American honors. Sarah Morten won the Women's event for Douglas, earning Outstanding Wrestler honors along the way.

Following completion of the collegiate season, Douglas athletes switch to an International-style freestyle season, with efforts aimed at representing Canada at various high-profile international events. Douglas has had a great deal of success in following the model of completing a collegiate season followed by a freestyle season. Very few Canadian post secondary schools follow this model. As a result, Douglas athletes receive far more competitive opportunities than most other Canadian wrestlers.

Some of Douglas' most decorated wrestlers include Daniel Igali, who was Canada's first wrestler to win both a World Championship and an Olympic Gold Medal, Lyndsay Belisle, who won a Silver Medal at the World Championships and who represented Canada at the 2004 Athens Olympics, Travis Cross, who represented Canada at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, and John Pineda, who won Canada's Olympic Trials in 2007 and who will also represent Canada this year at the World Championships in Moscow, Russia. Both Cross and Pineda are previous NCWA National Championships for Douglas College.

The tradition of wrestling success at Douglas College cannot have taken place without the outstanding leadership of coaches. Dave McKay, the present national senior team Coach was at the helm of the program from 1991- 2004 when present coach Steve Rose took over. Steve represented Canada at the World championships at 2004 and was an NAIA All-American with SFU in 1995, 96 & 97. He presently coaches the Canadian National Junior Team.

Palani and Gill hope to follow in the footsteps of the College's most successful wrestlers. If Douglas College Wrestling's history is an indicator, both are sure to continue to represent both Douglas and Canada proudly in years ahead. 🏆

Coaching News

CCAA Coach of the Year

The Canadian Colleges Athletic Association is pleased to present University of British Columbia Okanagan's Greg Poitras with the 2009-10 Coaching Excellence Across All Sports Award.

One deserving coach is selected from across all CCAA sports based on his/her contribution to the sport, as well as their positive leadership and commitment to educational goals.

Greg joined UBC Okanagan's coaching staff in 2005 and the program has flourished ever since. His combined league and playoff record to date is: 64 wins – 28 losses. He has won four Provincial medals, one National Silver and one National Bronze in the five years.



Coach Poitras dedication to his program is evident. He strives to develop his student-athletes and team to their full potential, devoting countless hours in the gym, planning practices, training sessions, scouting opponents and breaking down game tape to best prepare his squad.

Poitras is an experienced coach; certified level 3 and working on several level 4 tasks. One of his many positive attributes continues to be his desire to learn and improve as a coach. Whether he is working with the UBC Okanagan program, Volleyball BC Provincial Team programs or spending time as national Team guest Coach, Greg is always looking for the next professional development opportunity.

Viewed as one of the top Coaches within the CCAA, Greg was recognized this year as 2009-2010 CCAA Coach of the Year for Volleyball and 2009-2010 BCCAA Coach of the year.

Outside of UBC Okanagan, Greg is extremely active in the community. He spends countless hours working with the coaches of over 20 club teams in his role as the President and mentor of the Kelowna Volleyball Club in addition he is an NCCP Level 1 and 2 Learning Facilitator. 📍

New at the CCAA

Stay Connected!

Along with the launch of the new CCAA website www.ccaa.ca comes an all new way to follow the CCAA. Online social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and Youtube pages have been launched.



Facebook: Show your support and get up-to-date news by becoming a fan of the CCAA on Facebook by clicking the link below and clicking on the 'Become a Fan' button:

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/pages/Canadian-Colleges-Athletic-Association/58886710996?ref=nf>



Twitter: Follow us on Twitter to get up-to-date scores and info from CCAA National Championships as well as any new happenings in the CCAA.

<http://twitter.com/CCAAsportsACSC>



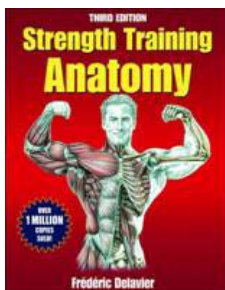
YouTube: Check out highlights from past championships, athlete interviews, and more. More videos will be added as they come in. We encourage you to send your favourite CCAA videos to ryan@cca.ca.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/CCAAsportsACSC>

Other News

CCAA Book of the Month

Dear Members,



Order now and get your Members-only "Book of the Month" discount from Human Kinetics (25% Off!). Another great membership benefit brought to you by (your associations name)

Order now and save 25% on Strength Training Anatomy. Offer valid on web orders only. Click on the book to order. Enter code X770. Offer expires 5/31/10.

Over 1 million copies sold! With new exercises, additional stretches, and more of Frédéric Delavier's signature illustrations, you'll gain a whole new understanding of how muscles perform during strength exercises. This one-of-a-kind best-seller combines the visual detail of top anatomy texts with the best of strength training advice. To see more click the following link [Strength Training Anatomy 3rd Edition - Human Kinetics](#)

Summary of Deadlines – May 2010

Date	Summary
May 1	Deadline for Level 1 sports Host bids for Golf, Cross Country Running and Soccer for National Championships held in 2010
May 1	CCAA Executive, Provincial Representatives, Sport Convenors, Host reports, Host Update Reports and National Office Staff reports due for Annual General Meeting
May 1	PCAA's submission if institution's application for new membership in the CCAA
May 15	Application deadline for CCAA Athletic Director of the Year Award
May 25	Deadline for CCAA Directory updates by members

Big Kahuna *The Official Retailer of the CCAA*

