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SPORTS

Twice is nice as puck Pandas strike gold



WHO NEEDS A HUG? Amanda Small and Lindsie Fairfield embrace after the Pandas downed McGill to capture their second-straight National championship.

PAUL OWEN

With a 4-0 victory over the McGill Martlets on Monday night, the Pandas hockey team has captured its sixth National title.

Taryn Barry started the scoring for Alberta a minute in when she picked off a pass in the McGill zone and roofed it on Martlets keeper Charline Labonté. First-year Leah Copeland added to the lead six minutes later when she dipped around two McGill defenders and blew it past Labonté.

Halfway through the second period, winger Jenna Barber took a cross-ice pass, deked around a Martlet defender and fired the puck top-shelf on Labonté, past her outstretched glove to give the Pandas a three-goal lead.

McGill appeared to have finally scored with seven minutes left in the game, but Caroline Hill shovelled the puck in with her hand amidst a scramble in front, so the goal was called off.

With a minute left. Lindsie Fairfield iced it for the Pandas when she forced a turnover in the McGill zone and slid the puck into the empty Martlets goal to clinch Alberta's second-straight National title. Goaltender Holly Tartleton was fantastic making 16 saves to record her fifth playoff shutout in six games.

A full story was unavailable when the Gateway went to press, but complete coverage is coming Thursday.

Ravens take yellow brick road to fifth CIS title



Commentary

PAUL

"Jeanty's impact both as a freshman and as an upper classman after the departure of all-Canadian guard Mike Smart—the Good Witch of the North to Jeanty's Dorothy—after the 2004/05 title has been nothing short of amazing. Without him, the declining talent on Carleton's team would have caught up to them."

iving the Scarecrow a brain, the Tin Man a heart and the Lion courage were all pretty impressive feats, but the greatest gift ever given by the "Wizard of Oz" was five WP McGee trophies. With 15 points in Carleton's 52–49 victory over the Brandon Bobcats on Sunday night, that's exactly what Osvaldo "Oz" Jeanty did for the Ravens, cementing his place amongst the greatest champions in the history of CIS men's basketball.

Jeanty joins a trio of guards from the 1980-86 Victoria Vikes-a team that rattled off seven-straight titlesas the only players who can boast five CIS Championships rings, and he did so in convincing fashion. Though he won neither award this year, Jeanty was Player of the Game for four gold medal matches—the only man every to do it—and CIS Tournament MVP twice—one of only four players to accomplish that feat. He also won his second-straight Mike Moser trophy as CIS Player of the Year, becoming only the fourth player to take it in back-toback years. While Eli Pasquale was fantastic for Victoria in the '80s, Oz's tournament play has had more of an impact on who took home the title than Pasquale ever did, and Pasquale only won a single Moser award.

Jeanty's impact both as a freshman and as an upper classman after the departure of all-Canadian guard Mike Smart—the Good Witch of the North to Jeanty's Dorothy—after the 2004/05 title has been nothing short of amazing. Without him, the declining talent on Carleton's team would have caught Witch of the West—as evidenced by up to them. Over the past two seasons, they've lost a lot of talent, and five banners would have been nothing more than a pipe dream if Jeanty hadn't been there to pick up the slack.

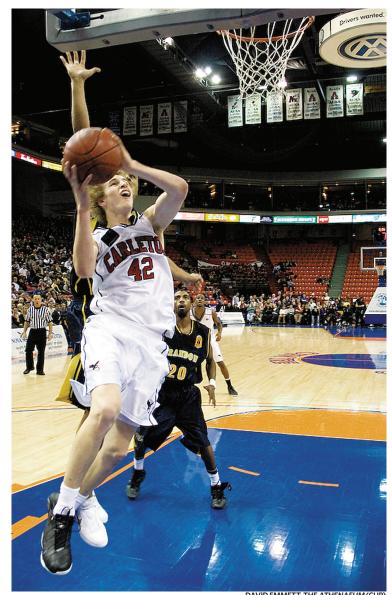
That Jeanty was capable both as a first-year—when folklore says he walked into head coach Dave Smart's office and told the bench boss that he would leave with five rings-and a senior is a testament to both his talent and his consistency. It's probably the only reason Carleton has established themselves as a dynasty that will be talked about in Canadian basketball for years to come.

In fact, Carleton's run of five-ina-row may be two shy of Victoria's legendary streak, but the Ravens' feat is more impressive. Parity in CIS basketball has increased since the Vikes were dominant: now, there are championship-calibre teams from coast-to-coast, while the '80s saw only Victoria and Brandon take titles. Additionally, Carleton brought the

OUA back to prominence on the CIS scene; an Ontario school hadn't won a title since Brock in 1991/92 before the Ravens took their first championship in 2002/03.

Moreover. Dave Smart is rumoured to be as cantankerous as the Wicked TSN capturing him openly berating a player in a time out huddle over dribbling with the wrong hand and being in the wrong place on the court. When combined with the pressure of playing for a team expected to win Nationals every year, Smart's mistake-free style has seen very talented players go elsewhere. Many top players just don't want to deal with the pressure that Smart puts onto them. The 2006/07 Ravens are nowhere near as talented as the loaded Vikes teams were, yet they have managed just as much success through the top-notch coaching of Smart and the work ethic he has developed within

Jeanty graduates having led his team to four OUA championships, an 87-game conference and playoff win streak, and a place atop the historical teams in CIS history. All it took was a little courage, some brains and a whole lot of heart. Talent the size of Kansas didn't hurt either.



HEIR APPARENT Aaron Doornekamp (42) may have been the tournament MVP this year, but Osvaldo Jeanty is the Ravens' Uncle Henry—always working.