

## *Alberta Volleyball Hall of Fame Award- Team Category*

### **Mount Royal Cougars Volleyball, 1991- 1999 (Inducted 2010)**

The Mount Royal College Cougars Men's Volleyball Teams' posted astounding results during the nine-season span between 1991 and 1999. Over this time period, a Mount Royal team claimed an Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC) medal 9 times, earning the Championship Title on 6 occasions ('91, '92, '93, '97, '98, and '99). With an overall ACAC regular season record of 140-24, MRC also posted a 29-3 record in ACAC Playoffs. Twenty-six MRC players were named to their respective ACAC All-Conference Team.

While their ACAC record alone would be impressive, an MRC team also appeared in seven Canadian Colleges Athletic Conference (CCAA) finals- taking home 4 Championship Banners ('91, '94, '98, and '99) and 3 Silver medals ('92, '93, and '97). Six members of the Mount Royal Cougars received CCAA All-Canadian honors, while 19 players were named to their respective CCAA Championship All-Star team (4 received the tournament MVP).

There were many epic battles throughout the years. In 1991, the MRC team beat the 6-time National Champions, the Limoilou College Titans, to claim their first Championship banner in nine years. Nineteen ninety-two saw the MRC team experience a heartbreaking 15-13 loss to Sherbrooke in game 5 of the Final. After claiming another Silver medal in 1993, MRC played the National final in front of their own boisterous home crowd in 1994- they did not disappoint their wild fans as they defeated Sherbrooke 15-12 in game five. In 1998, MRC was down 2-0 to Red Deer in the ACAC final before coming back to win the next three and qualify for Nationals. That character building experience left the team extremely motivated- they went on to steamroll their way to their first National title in four years, including holding their opening game opponents to only 4 points in the entire match.

Two separate head coaches led Mount Royal during this time frame. Calvin Aubin was the head coach between 1991 and 1995- Rod Durrant took over the reins for the remaining seasons. Rod and Calvin were both recognized by their peers as they were each named an ACAC and CCAA Coach of the Year (Aubin in 1995, Durrant in 1999).

Seventeen members of the MRC Cougar teams' moved on to play volleyball at the University level, whereby four of these athletes won CIAU National Championships. Mount Royal also contributed to the development of the Team Canada programs, as 5 MRC players would join the ranks of the Senior National Team, Junior National Team, Beach National Team, or Standing Disabled Team.

As is the nature of college volleyball, "there were many personnel changes in the MRC program from year-to-year", but what stood out to the coaching staff was not the skill level of the players, but rather the commitment of the athletes, "We were far from being the favorite every year, yet we believed in the process and each other," commented Rod Durrant. "The experience and memories we all have of our time at MRC have lasted more than a decade... and I'm confident that they will last for many more years.

### **Mount Royal Cougars Rosters (1991-1999)**

**1990-91:** David Holmes, Don McMurray, Greg Proctor, Jamie Mackey, Mark Paas, Jim Chocholik, Kris Qually, Brady Beruschi, Peter Kalis, Shannon Emslie, Bruce Stober, Bob Murray, Paul Jessop, Noel Catto. Head Coach: Calvin Aubin

**1991-92:** Junior Donald, Don McMurray, Chuck Bambrough, Mark Paas, Greg Proctor, Karl Sikora, Paul Striegl, Tad Lake, Barry Diebert, Tony Quarin, Brent Verkland, Wayne Green, Chris Roczkowsky, James Arreak. Head Coach: Calvin Aubin

**1992-93:** Karl Sikora, Andre Tricoteux, Junior Donald, Quinn Moreau, Mark Jonker, Kevin Lee, Tony Quarin, Kevin Young, Davin Skeen, Hans Lehmann, Chris Bennett, Curtis Unland, Marty Hamm, Glen Brooker, Brady Beruschi, Tobi Heinrichs. Head Coach: Calvin Aubin.

**1993-94:** Mark Reilly, Junior Donald, Jamie Laktin, Andy Thompson, Morten Enoksen, Tony Quarin, Mark Jonker, Kevin Lee, Glen Brooker, Hans Lehmann, Marty Hamm, Nathan Bennor, Barry Diebert, Kevin McLellan. Head Coach: Calvin Aubin.

**1994-95:** Mark Reilly, Trevor Collett, James Benkie, Michael Beckner, Peter Czepuryk, Dan Harding, Ahren Cadieux, Kevin Dickinson, Paul Askey, Eric Zawadzui, Jason MacDonald, Cody Derksen, Steve Bennett, Stephen Hart, Peter Trinh. Head Coach: Calvin Aubin.

**1995-96:** Peter Czepuryk, Jason MacDonald, Brad Williams, Stephen Chamberland, Tyler Cooper, Braden Fenske, James Mackey, Cody Doerksen, Ryan Glover, Stephen Hart, Kevin Dickinson, Kevin Ouchi. Head Coach: Rod Durrant. Assistant Coach: Calvin Aubin

**1996-97:** James Benkie, Trevor Collett, Brad Williams, Stephen Chamberland, Peter Czepuryk, David Sol, Braden Fenske, Reid Bilben, Tyler Cooper, Sam Watterson, Theran Sawchuk, Ryan Glover, Stephen Hart. Head Coach: Rod Durrant. Assistant Coach: Calvin Aubin

**1997-98:** Reid Bilben, Peter Czepuryk, Stephen Hart, Pat Corran, James Benkie, Marc Bavin, Sam Watterson, Drew Scollon, Brad Williams, Mike Laktin, Richard Brunner, Bas Van Hankvelt, Cory Komant, Trevor Collett. Head Coach: Rod Durrant. Assistant Coach: Calvin Aubin

**1998-99:** Sam Watterson, Shane Kozak, Wes Montgomery, Sandy Henderson, Richard Brunner, Bas Van Hankvelt, Lee Czernick, Cory Paddock, Drew Scollon, Graeme Moore, Murad Bushnaq, Pat Corran, Jesse Cunningham. Head Coach: Rod Durrant. Assistant Coach: Calvin Aubin

