

# Alberta Sports Hall of Fame beckons Oil Kings

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Published: Thursday, March 10, 2011

Max Mestinsek won the Memorial Cup with the Edmonton Oil Kings in 1963 and Ron Walters was part of the Memorial Cup-winning Oil Kings squad in 1966, but on Wednesday it was announced that they would head into the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame and Museum together.

Mestinsek and Walters are part of the only Oil Kings teams who captured the top prize in major junior Canadian hockey and their teams joined 11 other inductees into the Hall of Fame for 2011.

"It's special when you are considered for such an honour, but it's unexpected and not something that crosses your mind," Mestinsek said.

"Like Gregg (Pilling) said, 'It's forever, being inducted into the (Alberta) Hall of Fame,' " Walters said.

Some of the other inductees include 1975 National Hockey League Hall of Fame inductee Glenn Hall, Edmonton Eskimos "architect" Norman Kimball, synchronized swimming builder Christine Hampshire and Lauren Woolstencroft, a disabled skier who won five gold medals at the 2010 Vancouver Paralympic Games.

"Norm Kimball is the single central figure right in the middle of the foundation of the Eskimo football club. His attention to detail and quality in every aspect of the football club is legendary," former Eskimos head coach, general manager and CEO Hugh Campbell said in a news release.

"Norm's selection to the Alberta Sports Hall Of Fame is an obvious choice and one that makes the Hall of Fame even more prestigious."

Although the inductions will not become official until the Induction Banquet is held in Red Deer on May 27, Woolstencroft will enter the Hall of Fame alongside her grandfather, and multi-sport builder, Art Davis.

The 1950 Edmonton Waterloo Mercurys are one of the most respected hockey teams in Canadian history and they, too, are part of the 2011 class of inductees.

"We won the world championship in 1950 and here we are getting into the Hall of Fame 61 years later," said Jack Davis, one of the team's three remaining members.

"We were the first Alberta team to win a world championship and that's really special."

The 2011 Alberta Sports HOF Inductees

Val Fonteyne (hockey athlete)

Peter Guterson (wrestling athlete)

Glenn Hall (hockey athlete)

Christine Hampshire (synchronized swimming builder)

Norman Kimball (football builder)

Ken Newans (multi-sport builder)

Roy Sinclair (weightlifting builder) Lauren Woolstencroft (skiing athlete)

1963 and 1966 Edmonton Oil Kings (hockey team)

1950 Edmonton Waterloo Mercurys (hockey team)

Art Davis, Pioneer Award (multi-sport builder)

Ted Thomas, Achievement Award (swimming)

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