

Bill Burlington

By the time Bill Burlington arrived at Sir John, he was an accomplished multi-sport athlete with a lot to share:

-Ontario Hockey Association (Junior B) Scoring Champion:

1970, 1971

-ECAC Hockey Champion with the University of Boston Terriers:

1974, 1975

-NCAA All-American: **1974**

-E. Ray Speare Award for Excellence in Athletics, Scholarship, Leadership and Character: **1975**

-B. A. from Lakehead University: **1978**

-All-Ontario Senior B Fastball Champion: **1977**

-Ontario Fastball League Champion: **1979**

-Arctic Winter Games Gold Ulu Winner in Men's Hockey:

1984, 1986, 1988, 1994



Near the age of 30, Bill decided to leave his passion for playing sports in Ontario and accept a full-time teaching position at Matonabbee High School in Pine Point, NWT. He considered it an adventure, but he was ready for the challenge! In the summer of 1983 he returned to Owen Sound to marry Cheryl Dove. By the spring of 1986, the clock had begun to tick on the town of Pine Point, and with the impending closure of Cominco Mines, Bill was happy to accept a teaching position at Sir John Franklin Territorial High School in Yellowknife for the 1986-87 school year.

Over his 31 years teaching and coaching in the North, Bill cemented his legacy as one of the NWT's all-time great sport figures. His contributions are too many to list, but here is a sample:

-Wrestling trips to Tuktoyaktuk and Fort Simpson

-Outdoor soccer trips to Hay River

-Nearly 30 Challenge Cup hockey seasons, coaching both the boys and girls teams

-St. Joe's Road Race and trips to the Tli Cho region for the NWT Cross-Country Running Championships

-Sir John & Akaitcho Hall Boys Volleyball School Program from 1986-1993: "They came to play"

-Phys. Ed. 20/30 camping trips

-Teacher-student softball games

-Senior Cager and Super Soccer tournaments

-Countless intramural tournaments (floor hockey, dodgeball, soccer)

-Pep rallies

-Dance lessons for the grads

-Coach Calhoun in drama department's production of *Grease*