



## Pandas Ice Hockey History

Women's hockey was played at the University of Alberta at least as early as 1922, and to this day a picture of that team hangs in the entrance area of Clare Drake Arena. One of the earliest inter-university games came on Feb. 23, 1927, when the U of A Varsity women's hockey team opened their season with a 2-1 loss to the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon.

It was not until 1997 that women's hockey became a recognized CIAU varsity sport. In nine short years the University of Alberta Pandas hockey program has quickly established itself as the best in the country. Head Coach Howie Draper has guided his team to five CIS National Championships, taking home The Golden Path Trophy in 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2006, and eight Canada West titles. The Pandas have also had numerous national award winners and All-Canadians, and in the process shifted the balance of power in women's hockey at the university level from the east to west.

After being a club sport on campus through the 1980s and early 1990s, the Pandas came to fruition as a varsity team in Sept. 1997, at a time during which women's hockey throughout Canada was on the rise, thanks in large part to the impending showdown between USA and Canada at the 1998 Winter Olympics.

But 1998 would be the first year that the puck would drop on a legitimate CIAU/CIS National Championship and Draper, a former Golden Bears' team captain, was given the task of building up a program.

The Pandas' inaugural training camp opened on Sept. 13, 1997 with 51 athletes vying for 21 spots. Alberta competed in the Northern Alberta Female Hockey League (NAFHL) as the Canada West would only feature a Conference Championship, but no regular season. The Pandas went 19-7-4 in the NAFHL and that prepared them for the Canada West playoffs.

After playing to a tie against UBC and Manitoba, the Pandas upset Calgary 1-0 in a shootout with Krysty Lorenz scoring the game-winner. Alberta then claimed the CW title with a 4-3-overtime victory over Manitoba in which Lorenz recorded a hat trick.

By virtue of winning the Canada West Championship, Alberta advanced to the first-ever CIAU National Championship, but was taken quite lightly. The Pandas were placed in pool with eastern powerhouses Concordia and Toronto. Draper's squad kept it close, losing 1-0 to the Varsity Blues, but was routed 7-0 by Concordia. With the loss, the Pandas were forced to play a fifth-place game against Atlantic University Sport (AUS) champion Saint Mary's. The Green & Gold sent a message for the future as they beat the Huskies 10-0, with Sue Huculak scoring a hat trick and Lorenz adding a pair.

In 1998-99 the Pandas took another step forward. Alberta played an extended exhibition schedule before going 2-1-1 in a Canada West round-robin tournament. The conference playoffs were held in Edmonton, Feb. 11-14, and the team responded by going undefeated (5-0), including a two-goal performance from Mandy Kinjerski in a 3-2 gold medal victory over the Calgary Dinos.

Making their second straight appearance at Nationals, the Pandas upset McGill 3-2 in a shootout and then beat Wilfrid Laurier 3-2 to advance to the final against the defending national champion Concordia Stingers. The Pandas lost 2-0 in the final, earning silver, clearly showing that they were closing the gap.

Freshman Lori Shupak was selected an All-Canadian and the Most Valuable Player of the 1999 Championship.

In 1999-2000 Draper and the Pandas got their gold. For the first time ever the Canada West had a regular season, and Alberta dominated going 11-1. The team featured five Conference All-Stars, with goaltender Stacey McCullough, and forwards Krysty Lorenz and Danielle Bourgeois making the First All-Star Team; defenceman Erin van de Wetering and forward Shelley Reynolds made the Second Team. Draper was selected Conference Coach of the Year and Bourgeois was Canada West Rookie of the Year. In the playoffs the Pandas beat Manitoba and Calgary to win their third straight Canada West title.

At Nationals, hosted by two-time defending champion Concordia, Alberta opened with a 4-2 win over Guelph and then caught a break when CIS Player of the Year, Corinne Swirsky from the host Stingers, got suspended for a round-robin game against the Pandas, and the Green & Gold took advantage. In one of the most exciting women's hockey games ever played, Draper's team battled to a 2-2 tie through overtime, forcing a shootout. Concordia quickly jumped ahead, scoring on its first two shots, but the Pandas rallied, scoring three straight, with team captain Huculak scoring the deciding goal to give Alberta a 3-2 shootout win. Alberta advanced to the gold medal final, where Shupak and Bourgeois each scored in a 2-0 win over McGill.

On top of the Pandas' first ever National Championship, Bourgeois was named CIS Rookie of the Year, while she and goaltender Stacey McCullough were both selected All-Canadians.

The Pandas had another great regular season in 2000-01, going 13-1-2, but dropped a key game on Oct. 28, 2000, losing 3-1 at home to Regina. The loss gave the Cougars home ice advantage in the playoffs and that turned out to be a contributing factor to Alberta not repeating as a national champion. Alberta placed four players on the Conference All-Star team (McCullough, van de Wetering, Lorenz and Shupak), but lost the conference final in two straight games at Regina. Lorenz, who scored 20 goals and had 30 points in 20 combined Canada West regular season and playoff games, was selected an All-Canadian. It would be years before Alberta lost another conference or playoff game.

In 2001-02 the Pandas came back to national prominence in a big way, going undefeated against CIS opponents in the regular season and playoffs. The Pandas posted a 16-0 regular season, and then swept Lethbridge and Regina in the playoffs to return to nationals. Surprisingly, Alberta ended up in the same pool Concordia and Toronto, meaning the top three ranked squads in the CIS were in the same pool. After a 5-2 win over the Stingers and a close 2-1 win over Toronto the team advanced to the final against upstart Wilfrid

Laurier. Alberta dominated play throughout en route to a 5-2 victory and its second CIS National Championship.

Lori Shupak, who had scored 31 points in 16 regular season games, won the Broderick Trophy as CIS Player of the Year and was named an All-Canadian. Danielle Bourgeois, who sat out the 2000-01 season, was an All-Canadian and the Most Valuable Player of the National Championship. Stacey McCullough, playing in her fifth and final season, also made the All-Canadian squad, as did former Olympian Judy Diduck who had joined the Pandas for the 2001-02 season.

Draper and the Pandas made it back-to-back in 2002-03 and once again Alberta went undefeated in the Conference regular season and playoffs. The Green and Gold went undefeated, 19-0-1, in the regular season, with Bourgeois scoring 50 points in just 17 games, and the team's goaltending duo of Andrea Thomas and Robyn Rittmaster only yielding 23 goals. The Pandas shut out Lethbridge 7-0 and 4-0 in the opening round of the playoffs and then swept Regina 3-2 and 5-2 in the Conference final at Clare Drake Arena to win their fifth Canada West Championship.

At the Nationals, which were held in Regina, the Pandas opened with a convincing 12-1 win over Saint Mary's and then got past Lethbridge 4-1 to advance to their fourth Gold medal game in five years. Alberta held a seemingly comfortable 4-2 lead over Toronto late in the game, but the Varsity Blues scored twice to force overtime. The Pandas' Taryn Fjeld scored the game-winner in overtime to lift Alberta to a 5-4 victory and their third National Championship. Shupak, who was playing in her final game, earned tournament MVP.

Alberta was shut out of the major CIS Awards, but Shupak, Bourgeois and Diduck were again named All-Canadians.

The 2003-04 season proved to be Alberta's best as the Pandas went 20-0-0 in conference play, 35-0-0 overall, set records, won several major awards and took home their third consecutive CIS Championship.

Forward Danielle Bourgeois took home CW MVP, CIS MVP and CIS Tournament MVP honours, all the while setting new CIS all-time and single-season scoring records. Bourgeois racked up 54 points (28G, 26A) in conference play, bringing her four-year total to 166 points (86G, 80A) in 65 games. She also scored seven goals at Nationals, including all four by Alberta during the semifinal and final. Coach Draper won his fourth Canada West Coach of the Year award and second CIS Coach of the Year award.

Former Concordia Stingers star Delaney Collins joined the Pandas and made an immediate impact, picking up 36 points in 13 games while missing time to try out for Canada's National Team. After winning gold with the Pandas on March 14, Collins, who was selected in February to represent Canada, joined the team in Halifax. She scored three goals in the World Championship, including the insurance goal in a 2-0 gold medal win over Team USA on April 6.

Alberta compiled an impressive 16-1-3 CW record in 2005-06, and was 27-3-3 overall after winning Nationals in Antigonish, NS. Alberta regained the #1 CIS ranking late in the season and improved on the #2 seed given to them at Nats. Draper and the Pandas have compiled a conference record of 123-4-8 (.941) and an overall record of 226-23-10 (.892). had a four-season overall winning streak end when they fell 4-1 to National Champion Wilfrid Laurier in the final on March 13, 2005, the team's first defeat since Oct. 13, 2001.

At the 2006 Championship Kristen Hagg was named a CIS First Team All-Canadian, and Tarin Podloski a Second-Teamer. Podloski won MVP of the tournament and Kristina Kother made the Tournament All-Star squad after wins over Toronto (5-0), St. FX (3-2 SO) and Laurier (2-1), playing near flawless defensive hockey anytime they secured a lead.

## **Pandas Hockey Quick Facts**

<b>Year women's hockey began at the University of Alberta</b>	<b>1997</b>
<b>Canada West women's hockey championships won by Alberta</b> 1997-98, 98-99, 99-00, 01-02, 02-03, 03-04, 04-05, 05-06	<b>8</b>
<b>CIS National Championships won by Alberta</b> 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006	<b>5</b>
<b>Most conference games played:</b> Kristen Hagg	<b>96</b>
<b>Most conference goals:</b> Danielle Bourgeois	<b>106</b>
<b>Most conference assists:</b> Kristen Hagg	<b>110</b>
<b>Most conference points:</b> Danielle Bourgeois	<b>212</b>
<b>Most National Championships won as a member of the Pandas</b> Danielle Bourgeois, Kristen Hagg, Kristina Kother	<b>4</b>
<b>Longest undefeated streak</b> Lost CIS final on Sunday, March 13, 2005, 4-1 vs. Wilfrid Laurier	<b>122</b>
<b>Longest playoff &amp; conference combined undefeated streak</b> Loss on Sunday, March 13, 2005, 4-1 vs. Wilfrid Laurier streak of 102-0-1 back to Feb. 17, 2001	<b>103</b>
<b>Longest Canada West undefeated streak</b> Loss on Friday, Oct. 21, 2005 ended 83-0-3 streak back to Oct. 28, 2000	<b>86</b>
<b>Pandas on 2005-06 roster who are in their final year of eligibility</b> Kristen Hagg, Danielle Sorensen, Kristina Kother	<b>3</b>

## Pandas Ice Hockey History

Season	Coach	Conf.	Overall	Alberta		Winner		AB Captain
				CW	CIS	CW	CIS	
1972-97	<i>No competition</i>							
1997-98	Howie Draper		3-1-0	1	5	<b>ALBERTA</b>	Concordia	Trish Semeniuk
1998-99	Howie Draper	4-1-1	20-8-3	1	2	<b>ALBERTA</b>	Concordia	Marlow Kulak
1999-00	Howie Draper	15-1-1	26-3-1	1	1	<b>ALBERTA</b>	<b>ALBERTA</b>	Sue Huculak
2000-01	Howie Draper	13-1-2	20-6-2	2	-	Regina	Toronto	Krysty Lorenz
2001-02	Howie Draper	16-0-0	33-1-0	1	1	<b>ALBERTA</b>	<b>ALBERTA</b>	Krysty Lorenz
2002-03	Howie Draper	19-0-1	34-0-1	1	1	<b>ALBERTA</b>	<b>ALBERTA</b>	Judy Diduck
2003-04	Howie Draper	20-0-0	35-0-0	1	1	<b>ALBERTA</b>	<b>ALBERTA</b>	Judy Diduck
2004-05	Howie Draper	20-0-0	28-1-0	1	2	<b>ALBERTA</b>	Laurier	Danielle Bourgeois
2005-06	Howie Draper	16-1-3	27-3-3	1	1	<b>ALBERTA</b>	<b>ALBERTA</b>	Kristen Hagg
2006-07	Howie Draper							

### Cumulative Totals (1997/98 to 2005/06)

<i>Conference: 123-4-8 (.941)</i>	<i>Conference Placing (#1-2-3): 8-1-0</i>
<i>Overall: 226-23-10 (.892)</i>	<i>CIS Placing (#1-2-3): 5-2-0</i>

### Pandas Hockey Team MVP

<u>Year</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Name</u>
1997-98	Krysty Lorenz	2002-03	Danielle Bourgeois
1998-99	Lori Shupak	2003-04	Danielle Bourgeois
1999-00	Stacey McCullough	2004-05	Danielle Bourgeois
2000-01	Stacey McCullough	2005-06	Kristen Hagg
2001-02	Danielle Bourgeois		

### All-time Pandas Hockey Roster

*(1997-98 to 2005-06)*

Stacy	Allen	Leah	Kinney
Jenna	Barber	Tara	Klassen
Ros	Barrington-Leigh	Jessica	Kolopenuk
Taryn	Barry	Kristina	Kother
Sherri	Beauchamp	Marlow	Kulak
Allyson	Bendfeld	Erin	Kuzyk
Danielle	Bles	Tanielle	LeBlanc
Danielle	Bourgeois	Jessica	Liddell
Frances	Castle	Kaye	London
Nicole	Chapdelaine	Krysty	Lorenz
Jill	Chmilar	Brodie	MacDonald
Karen	Chouinard	Andrea	Mainill
Sue	Cleall	Lindsay	McAlpine
Krista	Cloutier	Stacey	McCullough
Jamie	Coffin	Maria	McKenzie
Delaney	Collins	Trisha	McNeill
Marsali	Crerar	Jen	Moroskat
Kelsey	Dawson	Mia	Mucci
Tonya	d'Entremont	Kim	Murrell
Judy	Diduck	Jen	Newton
Alanna	Donahue	Danielle	Nystrom
Trish	Dubyk	Tarin	Podloski
Erin	Eldridge	Shelley	Reynolds
Angie	Finnie	Robyn	Rittmaster
Joanna	Fitzgerald	Lara	Ruppell
Taryn	Fjeld	Rachel	Sanders
Emily	Freewin	Carol	Scheibel
Claire	Gariepy	Trish	Semeniuk
Jody	Grabas	Trish	Semeniuk

Jamie	Grabas
Kristen	Hagg
Stacey	Hannay
Laurie	Hellsten
Vanessa	Hettinger
Sue	Huculak
Deanna	Iwanicka
Lisa	Kearns
Kathleen	Keen
Guen	Kernaleguen
Mandy	Kinjerski

Susan	Shillabeer
Lori	Shupak
Lindsey	Skelding
Danielle	Sorensen
Jill	Swainson
Holly	Tarleton
Andrea	Thomas
Erin	van de Wetering
Adrienne	VanderZalm
Laura	Werner

## Pandas Hockey Conference Records

*(1997-98 to 2005-06)*

**Note:** some stats for 1997-2000 may be incomplete

**Games Played**

1. Kristen	Hagg	96
2. Jill	Chmilar	88
3. Danielle	Bourgeois	85
4. Taryn	Barry	78
4. Kristina	Kother	78
6. Jamie	Coffin	74
6. Lindsey	Skelding	74

**Goals**

1. Danielle	Bourgeois	106
2. Kristen	Hagg	72
3. Lori	Shupak	64
4. Krysty	Lorenz	48
5. Mandy	Kinjerski	35
6. Leah	Kinney	33

**Assists**

1. Kristen	Hagg	110
2. Danielle	Bourgeois	106
3. Lori	Shupak	67
4. Krysty	Lorenz	55
5. Leah	Kinney	50
6. Judy	Diduck	49

**Points**

1. Danielle	Bourgeois	212
2. Kristen	Hagg	182
3. Lori	Shupak	131
4. Krysty	Lorenz	103
5. Leah	Kinney	83
6. Mandy	Kinjerski	72