



1936 North Shore Indians Lacrosse Team

Induction Year: 1999

Sport: Lacrosse

Category: Team

Did you Know?

In the 1930's, the North Shore Indians attracted sellout crowds as large as 10,000 people to matches at the old Denman Arena, which was located at Georgia and Denman Streets in downtown Vancouver. This was the same venue which saw the Vancouver Millionaires ice hockey team sweep the Ottawa Senators in three games to win the Stanley Cup in 1915.

Facts and Figures:

In 1935, coach manager Andy Paull wanted an all-Native contender for the Mann Cup (national title) and promoted his club as a matter of Native pride and responsibility. Six players joined his team from the reigning champion New West Salmonbellies as well as seven players from the Six Nations Reserve in Ontario.

The Mann Cup appearance at Toronto's famed Maple Leaf Gardens drew over 30,000 fans who watched the four-game series between North Shore and the Orillia Terriers.

The team suspended operations in 1941 because of World War II.

FUN FACTS

The six Baker boys who played during the 1930's were not all brothers, but were related to each other.

The players had an advantage on the court because they could communicate in their native tongue and the other team was unable to defend many of the plays happening before them.

For Simon Baker, it was the advice from his grandmother that set the stage to the way he played the game and approached life. "Be a fine tuned machine, physically and mentally," she'd say. "Have a clear game with a clear mind. Play as a team." And they did.

During the Mann Cup final at Maple Leaf Gardens, the North Shore team had to get used to playing on the hardwood floor as they were more familiar playing on dirt back home in Vancouver.