

2005 HOCKEY CANADA FEMALE HOCKEY BREAKTHROUGH AWARD CONGRATULATIONS TO ANGELA JAMES

Hockey Canada's Female Hockey Council recognizes an individual, for outstanding leadership and contribution to the advancement of Female Hockey in Canada. Nominees originate from fields of coaching, officiating, research, administration, marketing, promotion of events/special projects.

The award is presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the promotion and/or development of female hockey in Canada. Areas for consideration include leadership in marketing female hockey, leadership in promoting female hockey, leadership in attracting participants, leadership in special projects and events and leadership in coaching, officiating, research, or administration.

This year's winner, Angela James is a person whose accomplishments could be used to define the very name of this Award. This individual truly led the way for the game of female hockey to break through, attain the credibility the players deserve and show the world that girls' and women's hockey belongs at the provincial, national and world levels.

When Angela first laced up her skates, she had to look long and hard to find a place to play at all. Teams were scarce, ice time was limited and girls were often mocked for attempting a game that was clearly not for them.

Her love of hockey drove her to overcome the obstacles. She persevered and honed her skills to a level where she dominated the game. She became a role model for female hockey players throughout the world. Her name became the first mentioned when top level teams entered competition.

Angela played forward for most of her career. She is an explosive forward with a powerful shot, speed, finesse and a winning attitude. She plays the game with intensity. If the team needed a goal, she would score, if an opposing player had a breakaway she would catch her, when the team needed a defenceman, she starred on defence and when her team was left without a goalie, she suited up and recorded a shutout.

Angela plays the game at such a level that she gained the respect of her teammates and the opposing teams. Her skills inspired others to participate and to excel. Her excellence brought female hockey credibility to all those who saw her play and set the stage for National Championships, World Championships and acceptance into the Olympics. It is Players, like this outstanding athlete, who have created the Breakthrough for Female Hockey.

AS A PLAYER - MEMBER OF TEAM CANADA - 10 years as a player on Team Canada

Team Canada World Championship 4 gold medals - 1990, 1992, 1994 and 1997

All-Star Forward 1990, 1992. Leading scorer for Team Canada 1990

Team Canada 3 Nations Cup International – Gold 1995, 1996, & 1999; Pacific Rim Championships 1996 Gold

PLAYER AT NATIONAL WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP - Played and won a medal in more than 12 National Championships. Selected MVP 8 times.

ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION - Won numerous provincial and league championships. Played Central Ontario Women's Hockey League (now the NWHL). High scorer 8 seasons & MVP 6 seasons

SENECA COLLEGE - Scholarship award winner at Seneca College for academic and athletic achievement

Ice Hockey / Softball OCAA Champions 1983 to 1985; All-Star Defence & High Scorer 1983 to 1985

2005 OCAA Hall of Fame Inductee; Seneca College OCAA Athlete of the Year Award 1984, 1985

2001 Seneca College – Jersey Retired #8; 2003 Seneca College Distinguished Alumni Award

COACH - ADVANCE COACH

Head Coach Team Ontario, 2001 Under 18 National Championships Gold Medal

Assistant Coach Team Ontario Canada Winter Games Gold Medal, 1999

Has coached female teams at the atom, peewee, intermediate, senior and college levels

Owner, Breakaway Adult Hockey School; Director, Seneca College Women's Hockey School

REFEREE - Attained Level 4 certification; Has held roles as an OWSA Referee-in Chief and Supervisor

ADMINISTRATION - Has been involved with the OWSA on committees and projects

OTHER SPORTS AND AWARDS

Roller Hockey - Team Canada Gold Medalist 1992 and Silver Medalists 1994

National Ball Hockey Champions and All-Star Forward (1989, 1991)

Women in Sport Enhancement for the City of Toronto (1992); Youth of the Year Award (1985)

Various charities and events on – going; Hockey in Harlem – Hockey School Instructor

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU ANGELA JAMES (AJ)