

Canadians in the NCAA – Weeks 11 & 12

April 25, 2011 by J.P. (Jason) Donville

Besides some outstanding late season lacrosse, the past few weeks have seen a couple of announcements that should be of tremendous interest to lacrosse players north of the border. The first and most obvious is the University of Michigan's decision to add Division I lacrosse in time for the 2012 season. Given its proximity to the Canada/US border, this program will be of keen interest to Canadian players who want to play top-tier lacrosse and remain close to home. As importantly, with both Michigan and Marquette adding Division I programs it raises the possibility that Division I lacrosse could be on the verge of a real expansion in the mid-west.

While it is difficult to speculate which big-time program goes next, adding another Big-Ten Conference team (with Northwestern being the most logical choice) would create the critical mass for conference play? The ACC has conference play with four teams but a fifth and sixth team would make either the ACC or Big Ten Championships far more interesting. In the meantime, expect the rivalry between Michigan and fellow Big-Ten peers Penn State, Ohio State and Notre Dame to be intense and immediate.

Besides action on the field, the other lacrosse story that has been evolving over the past few weeks is this year's Tewaaron award winner. Since 2001, the Tewaaron award has been college lacrosse's equivalent of the Heisman trophy and represent the highest individual honor a player can achieve in the game. The award also honors the Native American heritage of the game. The award selection committee normally puts out a watch list at the start of the season, which is narrowed down to 25 men and 25 women at roughly mid season. Five finalists from each of the male and female categories will subsequently be invited to the awards ceremony. No Canadian has ever won the award but past finalists have included Kevin Crowley, Curtis Dickson, and Zack Greer. This year's watch list of 25 includes four Canadians; Jay Card (Hofstra/Caledon), Kevin Crowley (Stoney Brook/New Westminster), Shayne Jackson (Limestone/Bowmanville), and Stephen Keogh (Syracuse/Toronto). Congratulations and good luck to each as the list tapers down from twenty five to five.

Men's Division I – Matthews, Webster, Palmer and Matisz have big week

The past few weeks have seen a number of exciting games but big moves in the Division I polls are for the most part done with. Cornell, Duke and Yale are all edging up in the polls while UMass and Virginia are losing some momentum. Denver remains one of the most intriguing teams to watch in the NCAA as they are the highest ranked non-traditional power in the USILA polls at #6. Denver had another big win this week over Bellarmine that saw Mark Matthews (Oshawa) score 5 goals and 2 assist while grabbing 3 GB's, and Cam Flint (Georgetown) scoring a goal to go along with 5 GB's. Rookie Dylan Webster (Brampton) has emerged as one of the best two-way players among the freshman class. Last week Quinnipiac defeated Sacred Heart 18 to 9 with Webster scoring 3 goals and 2 assists while adding 5 GB's and a CT. Zach Palmer (Oshawa) had another sharp outing with Johns Hopkins, scoring a goal and adding 5 assists and a pair of GB's in a 14 to 5 win over Navy. Robert Morris won a shoot-out over Bryant 16-15 that saw Kiel Matisz (Stoney Creek) score a goal and 4 assists while adding 2 GB's and a CT, and Kyle Buchanan (Nepean) scoring 3 goals and 3 assists. Robert Church (Coquitlam) had another solid game for Drexel, scoring twice and adding 2 assists and 4 GB's in a 13 to 9 win over conference rival Towson. Bryan Neufeld (Virgil) was once again prominent on the score sheet this past weekend with 3 goals and 3 assists in Siena's 12 to 9 win over Canisius. Finally, Scott Jones (Port Moody) scored 3 goals

and 2 assists to lead UMBC to a hard fought 9 to 8 victory over Vermont. Canadian scoring leaders in Division I are presented below.

Canadian Scoring Leaders – Div I – As of Apr 25/2011

| Rank | Player | School | Hometown | GM | G | A | Pts | PPG |
|------|------------------|---------------|----------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| 1 | Mark Matthews | Denver | Oshawa | 12 | 34 | 19 | 53 | 4.4 |
| 2 | Trevor Moore | Robert Morris | PoCo | 13 | 44 | 10 | 54 | 4.2 |
| 3 | Kevin Crowley | Stony Brook | New West | 11 | 25 | 19 | 44 | 4 |
| 4 | Logan Schuss | Ohio State | Delta | 13 | 29 | 18 | 47 | 3.6 |
| 5 | Bryan Neufeld | Siena | Virgil | 13 | 29 | 17 | 46 | 3.5 |
| 6 | Zach Palmer | Johns Hopkins | Oshawa | 12 | 17 | 21 | 38 | 3.2 |
| 7 | Carter Bender | Hartford | Caledon | 13 | 24 | 16 | 40 | 3.1 |
| 8 | Jay Card | Hofstra | Caledon | 13 | 27 | 13 | 40 | 3.1 |
| 9 | Robert Church | Drexel | Coquitlam | 13 | 22 | 17 | 39 | 3 |
| 10 | Jordan McBride | Stony Brook | New West | 11 | 27 | 6 | 33 | 3 |
| 11 | Tyler Melnyk | Presbyterian | Calgary | 12 | 25 | 9 | 34 | 2.8 |
| 12 | S. Giourmetakis | Canisius | Edmonton | 11 | 20 | 11 | 31 | 2.8 |
| 13 | Shayne Adams | Detroit | St. Catharines | 13 | 31 | 5 | 36 | 2.8 |
| 14 | Mike Mawdsley | Sacred Heart | Innisfil | 12 | 25 | 8 | 33 | 2.8 |
| 15 | Jaime Lincoln | Hofstra | St. Catharines | 13 | 27 | 8 | 35 | 2.7 |
| 16 | Cameron Mann | Jacksonville | Hamilton | 13 | 17 | 17 | 34 | 2.6 |
| 17 | Aidan Genik | Hartford | Toronto | 11 | 20 | 8 | 28 | 2.5 |
| 18 | Scott Jones | UMBC | Port Moody | 11 | 20 | 8 | 28 | 2.5 |
| 19 | Stephen Keogh | Syracuse | Toronto | 13 | 26 | 7 | 33 | 2.5 |
| 20 | Kyle Buchanan | Robert Morris | Nepean | 13 | 17 | 15 | 32 | 2.5 |
| 21 | Travis Comeau | Georgetown | Red Deer | 12 | 24 | 5 | 29 | 2.4 |
| 22 | Cam Flint | Denver | Georgetown | 12 | 19 | 7 | 26 | 2.2 |
| 23 | Kyle Bergman | Drexel | Toronto | 13 | 16 | 12 | 28 | 2.2 |
| 24 | Kiel Matisz | Robert Morris | Stoney Creek | 13 | 11 | 17 | 28 | 2.2 |
| 25 | Robbie Campbell | Stony Brook | Delta | 11 | 14 | 9 | 23 | 2.1 |
| 26 | AJ Masson | Vermont | Newmarket | 14 | 9 | 20 | 29 | 2.1 |
| 27 | Dylan Webster | Quinnipiac | Brampton | 11 | 14 | 8 | 22 | 2 |
| 28 | C. Tao-Brambleby | Robert Morris | Coquitlam | 13 | 17 | 8 | 25 | 1.9 |
| 29 | Kevin Brownell | Robert Morris | Burlington | 13 | 9 | 16 | 25 | 1.9 |
| 30 | Colton Clark | Bellarmino | Nanaimo | 13 | 11 | 12 | 23 | 1.8 |

Men's Division II – Pecchia leads Catawba to Deep South Championship

The last week or two of Division II lacrosse have been dominated by conference championships and there have been some really exciting games as most teams season came down to the wire. Catawba, which won the Deep South Conference, did so by beating Wingate in OT, Mars Hill in double OT and finally Florida Southern 10-8. And as the saying goes, offence wins games but defense wins championships and Michael "yes we have great goalies in Canada" Pecchia (Coquitlam) was stellar in all three games but particularly bright in the final making 13 saves and grabbing 7 GB's. In the other

conference final of note, Limestone won the Conference Carolina Championship with lopsided wins over Belmont Abbey and Pfeiffer. Unfortunately, it appears the Saints took their eye off the ball the following week, losing to Mercyhurst in a closely fought 12-8 loss. That said both teams are almost certain to get to the Division II final four and a rematch between these two superb teams would be worth watching. In other Division II action, Mike Melnychenko (St Catharines) had a big day against Dowling leading his team to victory 14 to 13 and scoring 6 goals while grabbing 4 GB's. Ty Farmer (Calgary) presumably played his last game of NCAA lacrosse and went out in style, scoring a pair of goals, while grabbing 6 GB's and 3 CT's in the process of leading Mars Hill to a 10 to 8 win over Pfeiffer – Farmer like his brother was a class act and lacrosse fans will miss both of them. Lake Erie won a double OT battle over Dominican College and Keegan Bal (Coquitlam) was terrific in the win, scoring 3 goals and an assist and adding 5 GB's. On the other side of center was Alex Jones (St Albert) who scored 4 goals and an assist while grabbing 2 GB's in defeat. Finally, Matt Delmonico (Port Moody) had a pair of goals and assists and James Delaney (PoCo) added a hat trick for Seton Hill in a 9-8 loss to NYIT. Canadian scoring leaders in Division II are presented below.

Canadian Scoring Leaders – Div II – As of Apr 25/2011

| Rank | Player | School | Hometown | GM | G | A | Pts | PPG |
|------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| 1 | Shayne Jackson | Limestone | Bowmanville | 15 | 26 | 46 | 72 | 4.8 |
| 2 | Riley Loewen | Limestone | Burnaby | 15 | 49 | 16 | 65 | 4.3 |
| 3 | Mike Melnychenko | Chestnut Hill | St. Catharines | 12 | 42 | 7 | 49 | 4.1 |
| 4 | Braden Artem | Catawba | Acton | 15 | 43 | 13 | 56 | 3.7 |
| 5 | Ty Farmer | Mars Hill | Calgary | 15 | 43 | 11 | 54 | 3.6 |
| 6 | Eric Benesch | Mars Hill | Bloomingtondale | 15 | 30 | 22 | 52 | 3.5 |
| 7 | Matt Delmonico | Seton Hill | Port Moody | 11 | 25 | 13 | 38 | 3.5 |
| 8 | Alex Jones | Dominican Coll. | St Albert | 13 | 31 | 10 | 41 | 3.2 |
| 9 | Kyle Kallay | Mercyhurst | Orangeville | 11 | 28 | 4 | 32 | 2.9 |
| 10 | James Sheppard | Pfeiffer | St. John | 13 | 34 | 3 | 37 | 2.8 |
| 11 | Dan MacIssac | American Intl | Port Perry | 12 | 31 | 2 | 33 | 2.8 |
| 12 | T.J.Cowx | Mars Hill | Delta | 15 | 13 | 28 | 41 | 2.7 |
| 13 | Dylan Lefebvre | Seton Hill | Regina | 11 | 18 | 11 | 29 | 2.6 |
| 14 | James Delaney | Seton Hill | PoCo | 11 | 16 | 13 | 29 | 2.6 |
| 15 | Jesse Peterson | Dominican Coll. | Saskatoon | 13 | 18 | 15 | 33 | 2.5 |
| 16 | Mat Thompson | Florida So. | Akwesasne | 15 | 32 | 6 | 38 | 2.5 |
| 17 | Bal Keegan | Lake Erie | Coquitlam | 11 | 22 | 5 | 27 | 2.5 |
| 18 | Jackson Decker | Limestone | Port Moody | 15 | 20 | 15 | 35 | 2.3 |
| 19 | Shane Morlock | Chestnut Hill | Whitby | 12 | 10 | 18 | 28 | 2.3 |
| 20 | Tyler Baker | Limestone | Peterborough | 13 | 20 | 6 | 26 | 2 |
| 21 | Trevor Tarte | Lake Erie | Amherstburg | 11 | 19 | 3 | 22 | 2 |
| 22 | Chris Delaney | Dominican Coll. | PoCo | 8 | 13 | 2 | 15 | 1.9 |
| 23 | Robert Hope | Pfeiffer | Peterborough | 16 | 9 | 19 | 28 | 1.8 |
| 24 | Ethan Garland | Seton Hill | Victoria | 11 | 7 | 8 | 15 | 1.4 |
| 25 | Todd Nakasuji | Limestone | Ajax | 11 | 4 | 9 | 13 | 1.2 |

Men's Div III – RIT is #2 in the nation and still undefeated

RIT continues to roll, with a record that now stands at 13-0. Last week RIT defeated Oswego 11 to 5 with Jordan MacIntosh (Oakville) contributing 4 assists while pulling in 6 GB's and MJ Kiekebelt (Caledon) grabbing 4 GB's and 2 CT's. Rick Acorn (Barrie) has had a decent season and was once again strong in Elmira's 11 to 7 win over Utica that saw him score 2 goals and 2 assists while scooping up 6 GB's. LaRoche had a great win over Ferrum 9-8 this past weekend with Jean Thouin (Laval) leading the way with 2 goals, 3 assists and 3 GB's. Medaille hammered Penn State Abington 31 to 2 and Brock Levick (Newmarket) scored 5 goals while Stevey Douitsis (Scarborough) added 4 goals in victory. Similarly, Carthage spanked Albion 18 to 4 and Keegan Bowman (New Westminster) contributed 3 goals, 3 assists, 2 GB's and a CT for the win. Canadian scoring leaders in Division III are presented below.

Canadian Scoring Leaders – Div III – As of Apr 25/2011

| Rank | Player | School | Hometown | GM | G | A | Pts | PPG |
|------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| 1 | Keegan Bowman | Carthage | New West. | 15 | 39 | 37 | 76 | 5.1 |
| 2 | Brock Levick | Medaille | Newmarket | 12 | 45 | 14 | 59 | 4.9 |
| 3 | Rick Acorn | Elmira | Barrie | 8 | 19 | 16 | 35 | 4.4 |
| 4 | Jordan McIntosh | RIT | Oakville | 13 | 27 | 20 | 47 | 3.6 |
| 5 | Tyler Tanguay | Adrian | Pt. Colborne | 13 | 27 | 19 | 46 | 3.5 |
| 6 | Dustin Reykdal | La Roche | Red Deer | 11 | 24 | 12 | 36 | 3.3 |
| 7 | Richard Lachlan | Roanoke | PoCo | 15 | 40 | 8 | 48 | 3.2 |
| 8 | Crawford Healey | La Roche | Calgary | 11 | 26 | 9 | 35 | 3.2 |
| 9 | Mike Pantelone | Neumann | Aurora | 9 | 24 | 3 | 27 | 3 |
| 10 | Danny Dahms | Concordia | Calgary | 11 | 26 | 4 | 30 | 2.7 |
| 11 | TJ Cook | Adrian | Caledon | 13 | 30 | 4 | 34 | 2.6 |
| 12 | J.G. Thouin | La Roche | Laval | 11 | 21 | 7 | 28 | 2.5 |
| 13 | Joe Kozovski | Medaille | Ajax | 12 | 15 | 15 | 30 | 2.5 |
| 14 | Jeff Hebert | Trinity | Cornwall | 12 | 17 | 12 | 29 | 2.4 |
| 15 | Tyler Midwinter | Randolph Macon | Hamilton | 14 | 19 | 13 | 32 | 2.3 |
| 16 | A.J.Pellis | Ohio Wesleyan | Edmonton | 12 | 18 | 6 | 24 | 2 |
| 17 | Shawn Teixeira | La Roche | Calgary | 9 | 4 | 13 | 17 | 1.9 |
| 18 | Mark White | Southern Maine | Oakville | 13 | 14 | 10 | 24 | 1.8 |
| 19 | Neal Hopps | Cortland | Akwesasne | 12 | 10 | 10 | 20 | 1.7 |
| 20 | Daniel McQuade | Whittier | New West. | 10 | 13 | 3 | 16 | 1.6 |
| 21 | Brian Gillis | New Eng.Coll. | North Van. | 16 | 20 | 4 | 24 | 1.5 |
| 22 | Mitch Barnard | Adrian | Barrie | 13 | 10 | 6 | 16 | 1.2 |
| 23 | Jeff Ivey | Adrian | Orangeville | 10 | 8 | 4 | 12 | 1.2 |
| 24 | Bryce Wells | La Roche | Cochrane | 11 | 8 | 5 | 13 | 1.2 |
| 25 | Dustin Gatt | Elmira | Welland | 9 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 1 |

Women's Div I – A good week for Canisius

Canisius continues to put the finishing touches on what appears to be a pretty strong season. On Monday, Canisius defeated St Bonaventure 17 to 13 with Megan Oosting (Lakefield) scoring 3 goals

while grabbing 3 GBs and 3 CT's, Carly Quinn (Orangeville) scoring 2 goals and 3 assists while pocketing a GB and a couple of 2 CT's and Allison Daley (Peterborough) strong in net as always making 9 saves and grabbing a GB. The same St Bonny team was in Detroit a few days earlier and defeated the Titans 21 to 7 despite Emily Boissonneault's (Brooklin) strong performance that saw her score 4 goals while grabbing 7 GB's and 3 CTs. Finally, Northwestern edged Ohio State 14 to 11 but Jayme Beard (Hawkstone) was a standout for the Buckeyes scoring 4 goals and scooping up a GB. Canadian Division I scorers are presented below.

Canadian Scoring Leaders – Women's Div I – As of Apr 25/2011

| Rank | Player | School | Hometown | GM | G | A | Pts | PPG |
|------|---------------------|------------|--------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| 1 | Carly Quinn | Canisius | Orangeville | 14 | 33 | 15 | 48 | 3.4 |
| 2 | Emily Boissonneault | Detroit | Brooklin | 13 | 38 | 4 | 42 | 3.2 |
| 3 | Megan Oosting | Canisius | Lakefield | 14 | 33 | 9 | 42 | 3 |
| 4 | Jayme Beard | Ohio State | Hawkstone | 13 | 18 | 16 | 34 | 2.6 |
| 5 | Erin Campbell | Detroit | Orangeville | 7 | 9 | 5 | 14 | 2 |
| 6 | Corina Mahorn | Detroit | Whitby | 13 | 17 | 3 | 20 | 1.5 |
| 7 | Katie Guy | Penn State | Whitby | 13 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0.3 |
| 8 | Allison Daley | Canisius | Peterborough | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 9 | Taylor Smith | Canisius | Ashburn | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | Savanna Smith | La Salle | Delta | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Women's Div II & III – a good week for Limestone

Limestone won their fifth Conference Carolina Championship last week and followed that up with an important 7-6 win over Lock Haven. Sarah Oor (Uxbridge) continues to perform well this year and in the low scoring Lock Haven game contributed 3 assists. The Canadian's at Adrian continue to score in bunches and in last week's 21 to 10 victory over Wittenberg, Rachel Johnston (St Catharines) scored 7 goals, while adding 3 GB's and 2 CT's and Olivia Duncan (Orangeville) added 3 goals to go along with 2 GB's and a CT. Canadian scoring stats for Division II and III are presented below.

Canadian Scoring Leaders – Women's Div II – As of Apr 25/2011

| Rank | Player | School | Hometown | GM | G | A | Pts | PPG |
|------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| 1 | Sarah Oor | Limestone | Uxbridge | 15 | 21 | 22 | 43 | 2.9 |
| 2 | Lauren Martin | Lees Mcrae | Whitby | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 3 | Jill Dixon | Notre Dame (OH) | Fenwick | 13 | 8 | 7 | 15 | 1.2 |
| 4 | Dara Hayes | Merrimack | Calgary | 9 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 0.6 |
| 5 | Samantha Cock | Mercyhurst | Terra Cotta | 14 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0.1 |
| 6 | Jackie Gardner | Urbana | Windsor | 9 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.1 |
| 7 | Melissa Nakasuji | Limestone | Ajax | 15 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.1 |
| 8 | Jessica Tessman | Limestone | Whitby | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 9 | Megan Clumpus | Gannon | Whitby | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | Ally Phillips | Notre Dame (OH) | St Catharines | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Canadian Scoring Leaders – Women’s Div III – As of Apr 25/2011

| Rank | Player | School | Hometown | GM | G | A | Pts | PPG |
|------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| 1 | Rachel Johnston | Adrian | St Catharines | 17 | 67 | 11 | 78 | 4.6 |
| 2 | Olivia Duncan | Adrian | Orangeville | 15 | 31 | 8 | 39 | 2.6 |
| 3 | Cassie Edmondson | Morrisville | Oshawa | 11 | 11 | 5 | 16 | 1.5 |
| 4 | Courtney Jamieson | N.C. Wesleyan | London | 12 | 10 | 4 | 14 | 1.2 |
| 5 | Emma Schepers | Elmira | Elmvale | 11 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 0.5 |
| 6 | Courtney Kerslake | N England Coll. | Sarnia | 12 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 0.5 |
| 7 | Lisa Seidel | Potsdam | Vancouver | 11 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.1 |
| 8 | Hannah Early | Adrian | Shelburne | 17 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.1 |
| 9 | Paige Ottaviano | Buffalo State | Port Colborne | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | Muriel McIntyre | Concordia | Penticton | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

MCLA – SFU finishes regular season with two wins

SFU finished their season with two lopsided wins over the University of Washington (24-8) and University of Montana (26-9) respectively. For those familiar with the program, SFU was in major rebuild mode this year after a big graduation contingent walked out the door in 2010. That said, the team fought hard in every game and finished the regular season with a very respectable 7-8 record and a young team that will look to return to the top of the MCLA table next year.

Games upcoming – Two games and a submarine sandwich make for the perfect day

There are four excellent games worth watching in person this weekend and the two best ones can be combined as a double header for the truly committed. On Saturday afternoon, watch Princeton play at Cornell. Although Princeton is virtually out of contention from a poll perspective, there is no love-loss between these two teams and this as good of an Ivy League rivalry as you can find. Then, when the game is over, run to the Short Stop Deli (subs to die for), load up and then drive 45 minutes north to Syracuse to catch the 7PM game at the Dome between #3 Syracuse and #1 Notre Dame. Expect a huge crowd so try to get there early. Two games of top tier I lacrosse and a visit to the Short Stop Deli – priceless. For those who are slightly less ambitious, the NYIT at Mercyhurst and Nazareth at RIT games are also worth checking out.

Final thoughts

Yes, I admit it; I have a son who is a lacrosse goalie. So if my praise for the likes of Michael Pecchia or Alison Daley sounds a bit “over the top” than perhaps this explains why. But that said, all of those Canadian goal scorers that one reads about each week have been firing their shots at goalies up here before they went down there. So it stands to reason that if you spend enough time trying to stop the likes of Zach Palmer, Richard Lachlan, or Carly Quinn you eventually become a fairly good lacrosse goalie (or you quit and play baseball). Guys like Chris Sanderson (University of Virginia and All World Goalie) and Kyle Miller (Cornell) were the pioneers at this position but there is more depth at this position than meets the eye. Pecchia and Daley are deservedly getting the headlines this week but there are other Canadian goalies out there such as Dillon Ward at Bellarmine, Evan Kirk at Hobart and Jason Crawford at Randolph Macon who are also having terrific seasons. And beyond this group, there are roughly 300-400 goalies between the ages of 8 and 18 playing lacrosse on muddy fields throughout this great land of ours who will tell you that “you aint seen nothing yet!”