



1982



# Men's Soccer

## Season Box-score

Games Played	Win (2pts)	Loss	Draw	GF-GA	Standing
10	6	2	2	24-13	2 <sup>nd</sup> (14pts)

\*Playoffs – Lost in OUAA Semi-final

The very first year of varsity soccer in the OUA for the Carleton University Ravens! This “original” Raven team technically saw a squad of all-rookies climb to amazing heights in a fairy-tale first season for the resurrected Men’s Soccer Program at Carleton University.



The foundation of this team had been established in 1981, so although they were young, they were far from inexperienced. As a graduate student in 1981, Glen Shirliff got together with Brian Burns to manage and coach the first modern-day Carleton Ravens Men’s Soccer Club Team. They raised funds, played exhibition matches and tournaments and proved successful very quickly. It was the first time anyone had played organized soccer at Carleton University since 1974.

The success and organization of that team combined with the leadership and stewardship of Shirliff and Burns, brought about The Ravens first ever varsity season in 1982. Coach Shirliff would hold the first official tryouts in late August, and after an intense exhibition schedule, the team would embark on its 10 – game regular season maiden voyage.

The team was largely made up of local players. Claudio Mirella and Ian Martin formed the leadership in this first year, along with standout local players Denis Silva, Gordie Smith, Stuart Gibbs, Jeff Charlebois, Jeff Clarke, Greg Baker, Rob Delbello, Andy Saranchuck and the Ravens original goalkeepers (OG's) – Mark Stokes and David Bonk. Yes, Bonk and Stokes – good stuff. Coach Shirliffe was confident and predicted that the rookie Ravens would finish first or second in the OUAA East. He'd turn out to be correct.

Carleton and Trent entered the OUAA East division joining Toronto, RMC, Queens, and York in a division of six – top two qualifying for the playoffs. There were only four playoff positions available in all of Ontario under this format – two each in the East and West. After a debut win over Trent, 3-0, the Ravens went on to beat York, 1-0 and tie Queens, 1-1 (both considered division favourites) to crack the CIAU top-ten rankings at #10 in the team's second week of varsity existence. They would go undefeated in their first 5 regular season games before dropping a close decision to top-10 ranked U of T, 1-0. After clinching a playoff spot, the Men's Ravens would lose the OUAA semi-final match, 2-0 to CIAU #5 Wilfred Laurier University.

Many players would return and form the foundation for the next three very important seasons for Carleton Soccer. And with Bill Thomson joining the staff during the first season – adding new coaching ideas, technology and approaches such as analytics, statistics and video-taping matches – Thomson would leave his mark on Ravens Men's Soccer. A great debut season for the Ravens! The future was full of promise!