

## Men's Soccer

## **Season Box-score**

Games Played	Win (3pts)	Loss	Draw	GF – GA	Standing
12	10	0	2	33-8	1 <sup>st</sup> (32pts)

\*Playoffs - Host & CIS National Finalists (Silver Medalists)

 ${
m T}$  he excitement of 2002 is also one of the seminal moments in Carleton Men's Soccer history.

Twenty years had passed since the first varsity team stepped onto Raven Field in September of 1982; the leadership group from the 1999 team remained largely intact; and alumni from the 1984 National Finalist team were also deservedly honoured this season during the Carleton's hosting of the CIS National Championships.



With the 1999 Nationals appearance seeming somewhat like a distant memory, some of that young Carleton back-bone was now in their 5<sup>th</sup> season with the likes of: Gord McDonald, Kwesi Loney and Mike Hoefler all in their graduating year. Marc Lapointe, Jason DaCosta, Ahmed Shalaby, Eric Lamoureux, Cam Dickson, Hanni El-Magraby, and the surprise return of former Co-Captain Drew Daily added depth. Knowing that Nationals was hosted at Carleton (an automatic berth), also saw local veteran and former Western player, Brian Jones (goalkeeper), along with previous Raven MVP/All-Star Declan Bonnar and former U of T/Carleton striker Willy Murray. Another good influx of young rookies also helped. Future stars Josh Dewar-Morris and John Legakis joined Piero Falcucci, Sergei Ko, Anthony Coscarella, Gabriel Manerio, Hersi Hujalah and goalkeeper Tyler Wallace.



Head Coach Sandy Mackie would naturally return for his 11<sup>th</sup> season and he would be joined by former Raven standout defender Kyle McHenry, in his first season as an assistant. It proved to be a formidable combination and the team came together quickly, fully realizing the opportunity that lay before them. They had a season for the ages, despite not needing to qualify through the playoffs, and posted the second undefeated regular season in team history.

Current Alumni President, Jason DaCosta summed up this time from a season to remember:

Many of the rookies impressed with John Legakis quickly earning a starting spot at left back pushing Mike Hoefler to the midfield – John went on to star at that position for 5 years and according to coach Mackie "in 5 years he never missed a training session." Piero returning from his stint in Italy also added creative and a physical presence in the midfield and "Dewar" lit up the scoring leading the country in goals and breaking all sorts of scoring records in his rookie season. We had two strong keepers with Jonesy putting in a season of his life (and providing a key inspiration speech before the OUA Semi-final) and young Tyler Wallace not far behind. Kwesi and Drew Dailey also formed their renewed strong relationship at center back. We had loads of depth at every position.

The season started well with the team 3 wins and 2 draws in its first 5 matches as the team took a bit of team to gel. They then we went on a 7 game winning streak to end the season with an unbeaten record to end the season with a division title. We were flying, ranked #1 in the national heading into the playoffs. We entered the final 4 of the OUA's (needing 1 win in the 2 games we play) to earn a place at Nationals. We were not satisfied with being given a place due to hosting. We were playing playoff nemesis York, and it started poorly going down 1-0. With less than 2 minutes to play Captain Kwesi Loney took the team on its shoulders, and scored to tie the game up. In golden goal extra time Kwesi would step up again and bury an absolute cracking left footed volley from outside the 18 to EARN a berth at Nationals. The celebrations started off immediately after the goal including our one travelling fan Danny Obaseki storming the pitch! The OUA final would go sour as we lost 2-1 to U of T - goal by Crazy Willy(Murray) to score against his old school.







Nationals at home on live TSN coverage – keep in mind this was before Carleton basketball went on their terror and we had the chance to give the school a first National Title. Our group consisted of McGill, UNB and us. The other group was U of T, Brock and UVIC. Here's how it went:

Carleton would rest day 1 and watch McGill play UNB. UNB would come out 1-0 winners. Carleton played McGill day 2 in an absolute snow storm where they had to shovel and plow the field before hand. We would lose a very poor match and match performance 1-0. We knew we still had a way in and needed to win the next game. We played UNB next. We would have to win 2-0 (or by 2 goals) to get to the national final. With a 1-0 win we would have to do a triple shootout. With a tie or a loss we would be out completely. Well, the fortunes turned for Carleton winning 2-0 on goals by Lapointe in the 46th and 83rd minute. Off to the final, against Brock who we had drawn 0-0 and beaten 3-0 during the season.

This match will haunt all that played in it for the rest of our lives. We completely dominated the first half with Brock hardly every entering our end. Kriss Brauns was superman-like with his long throws finding Declan at the back post every time. We had hit two crossbars and a post before half time. The second half started with us still in shock that we had not scored some line-up changes were made to switch things up with Igor given a go at center-mid for Brauns to team up with Declan and both Anto and Willy given minutes upfront to see if we could break the deadlock. The games ended 0-0 with use heading into extra-time golden goal. The first extra-time ended with us having 2 golden chances including Lapointe going off the post again — Jonsey also made a world class save at the other end to keep us alive. Another few changes for the second extra time including Gabe on for Gordie and then heart break as Brock scored with about 48 seconds left in extra time that would have taken us to PK's.



It was absolutely heart-breaking to lose like that especially in front of our supporters, a (record-breaking) sold-out crowd of over 4000! We got back to our new (old football) change room to see it decorated with Congratulations banners and a massive bucket of champagne. Luck was not with us on this day. But what a season!



OUA all stars this season were Kwesi Loney (1<sup>st</sup> Team), Declan Bonnar (1<sup>st</sup> Team), Marc Lapointe (1<sup>st</sup> Team) Josh Dewar Morris (2<sup>nd</sup> Team & OUA Rookie of the year OUA), Drew Dailey (2<sup>nd</sup> Team). Deservedly, Loney would be recognized as the Raven's 5<sup>th</sup> All Canadian in team history along with: Lanos (1983), Martin (1985), Vidovich (1986-87), and Cochrane (1991-92).





Alumni Super Cup Team 2002