

Dear Robbie,

What an honor it is to write a note on behalf of the Turnbull Award and the significance it carries in the game of lacrosse—past, present and forever. My name is Roy McAdam, a proud recipient of this award while playing at Hobart College in 1980. I am honored to be associated with this award that showcases the greatest scorers in the history of the game.

Back at age 13, I bought my first wooden box lacrosse stick from an Indian reservation in Canada called Cornwall. That stick brought me an immediate connection to the game and to the fundamentals of learning how to pass and catch. I used to spend hours a day hitting the ball against walls and playing catch with friends and family. It was at that point in my life that I realized lacrosse was not just a sport to me, it was a passion.

I played high school at a small school in upstate NY named General Brown under Coach Steve Fisher and Coach Jim Branski. Our team was always an underdog because our stick skills were limited compared to other teams in the Syracuse area. But our coaches taught us toughness and perseverance. At Hobart, I was no longer playing on an underdog team. Our players still possessed limited stick skills compared to other teams in the Long Island and Baltimore areas, but like my high school team, we brought a physical presence to the game that intimidated opponents. Playing at these levels taught me how to play the game of lacrosse physically and fearlessly.

Playing lacrosse at a high level and in “big” games was both exciting and fun, but the best experience was sharing those moments with my family. My passion for lacrosse was my family’s passion and my family’s passion was mine. My biggest fans were my parents, Bruce and Doris, and my brothers, Bruce Jr. and Fred. But my biggest fan of all was my sister, Beth Bauer. I love you all and thank you for your support.

Lacrosse is in many ways like life. We experience many highs and lows and we learn from those experiences. The biggest lesson I’ve learned playing lacrosse was from my late Coach Jerry Schmidt. I was given a starting attackman position my sophomore year and was having a rough go at it. My confidence was at its lowest going up against the long defensive sticks and I even told the coach that there were better players on the bench. Coach reinforced me that I had more talent than those on the bench and even designed plays around me to build my confidence. That was a pivotal point in my lacrosse career. I went on to become MVP of the NCAA Tournament that year and, ultimately, reached the highest of the highs in team and individual awards in my career.

Great players come out of great programs. No one deserves more credit to building Hobart into a lacrosse powerhouse than the legendary “Babe” Krause. The leadership continued during my tenure from Athletic Director Bill Stiles and Chief Financial Officer William Van Arsdale. It continues to this day with the current Athletic Director, Mike Hanna, at the helm. I was very thankful and honored to have played for two legendary coaches, Jerry Schmidt and Dave Urick. They have been great teachers in lacrosse and life to me and to so many. And those many include great teammates such as Dave McNaney, Terry Corcoran, Tom Schardt, the late Rick Blick, Jim Calder and Marc Darcangelo. In the end of my career, I was the beneficiary of three national championships (1976, 1977, and 1980). I am indebted to Hobart College Lacrosse Program for that honor and for the honor of receiving the Turnbull Award my senior year. I wish you all the best!

With great joy and pride,

Roy McAdam
Hobart College 1980
Turnbull Award and Player of the Year 1980
Hobart Hall of Fame, Class of 2014