



The **Golden Knights** in action near the Raquette River during the 1920s.



## CLARKSON HOCKEY —A TRADITION of SUCCESS

**S**uccess has always been the cornerstone of **Clarkson Hockey**. From the early years of the twentieth century, when the **Golden Knights** skated on the frozen Raquette River, to the present, Clarkson has established a legacy of excellence that symbolizes proud tradition. Through the first 83 years of hockey at Clarkson, the **Green and Gold** have achieved many significant milestones. Overall Clarkson, which became the fastest Division I college hockey team to compile 1,000 victories, and one of only nine to reach the elite mark, has compiled a highly successful 1,217-644-99 record for an all-time winning percentage of .646, the best in the country.

The Knights have participated in 19 NCAA Tournaments, including three championship games, won nine Eastern College Athletic Conference Hockey League (ECACHL) Regular Season titles, skated away with four ECACHL Tournament championship trophies and have showcased some of the greatest student-athletes to ever play college hockey.

It is said that the first Clarkson hockey game was played in 1916 against the Hogansburg Indians, but the Golden Knights were established as a hockey club in 1921, under the tutelage of head coach **Gordon Croskery** and led by captain **Bill Johnson**. The Knights won their opening encounter against Alexandria Bay, 6-4, and finished the year with a 2-1 record, their first of 66 winning seasons.

The college produced its first All-America in 1928, **Fred Dion**, a defenseman, and many more have followed in his footsteps—34 to be exact, including 13 who have won the prestigious honor twice. All-America center **Buzz Williams** (1929) and goaltender **Wally Easton** (1930, 1931) led head coach **Jack Roos's** teams to successful seasons in the late twenties and early thirties, but it was 1935 that was the big year for hockey at Clarkson. That was the season hockey actually became a part of the college's athletic program and the Knights became a team instead of a club. Also in 1935, the Clarkson skaters were crowned United States champions with a record of 10-3. In the 1937-38 season, the Knights compiled a 13-1 record and were crowned United States Intercollegiate champs.

With that title came the advent of the **Clarkson Arena**, which was opened for public inspection on Christmas Eve of 1938 and used for the first game on January 2, 1939. At that time, Clarkson, with an enrollment of 572, was one of the smallest colleges in the country boasting its own indoor hockey arena. Chain link fence, instead of glass, protected the fans from errant pucks and sticks. And, instead of a Zamboni buzzing around between periods, the ice was cleaned by three to six men with shovels and a hose. Artificial ice was installed in 1952, making skating possible from October to March. The arena was renamed **Walker Arena** on November 1, 1975 in honor of **Murray Walker**, a local businessman and contributing founder of Clarkson hockey. For 53 years the Knights enjoyed a very successful era at the arena, posting a 471-160-22 home record. Throughout the years, the Knights relished the encouragement of the vibrant home crowds and adapted well to the small ice surface (81x191), while opposing players cringed at the clanging of the infamous bell in the east end which rang after every Clarkson score. Former Cornell all-star goaltender Ken Dryden, who went on to star in the NHL, was once asked what he recalled most about his college career and he was rumored to have remarked, "That damn bell at Clarkson."

World War II had its effect on Clarkson College and sports, and the war years were lean ones for the hockey team. In 1943-44, the Green and Gold suffered through a 0-7 campaign, and the following two seasons, 1944-46, Clarkson suspended the program. The Knights rebuilt the hockey program after the war and achieved a great deal of success under head coach **Bill Harrison**, who took the helm in 1948-49.



1937-38 United States Championship Team



Coach Gordon Croskery



TRADITION

1956-57 Seniors (l-r): A.Young, B. Barr, D. Seale A. Quartermain, D. May, D. Williamson, E. Rowe, Dean Herron.



## The 1950s

In the 1950s, Clarkson established itself among the elite teams in the nation with its championship-caliber squads. Under the guidance of head coach **Bill Harrison**, the Golden Knights skated to several of the best records in the program's storied history during that era and also participated in the NCAA Tournament for the first time when the national playoff was limited to the four best teams in the country.

One of the key components of Clarkson's success during the early years of the decade was the scoring prowess from the **Jack Porter, Tom Meeker** and **Ellard Gutzman** line. Ranking among the Green and Gold's all-time leading scorers by averaging over two goals a game, the trio provided Golden Knights' fans with plenty of excitement at Clarkson Arena combining for 195 goals and 227 assists for 422 points from 1952-56.

Clarkson's 1955-56 squad, which was led by captain **Al Ziebarth** and All-Americans **Eddie Rowe** and **Art Smith** along with the steady production of the "Porter Line", posted a phenomenal 23-0 record and was Tri-State League Champs. Rowe was the Knight's leading scorer during the undefeated campaign, scoring 65 points on 27 goals and 38 assists. Considered by many knowledgeable Knight fans to be the greatest Clarkson team ever, the 1955-56 squad was the first Clarkson team to be invited to the NCAA Championships. The Knights, however, refused to go. Clarkson had eight seniors who were four-year varsity players and under NCAA rules were ineligible. The team voted not to go without them and turned down the NCAA bid. That same season, Harrison became the first of three Clarkson coaches to earn the Spencer R. Penrose Memorial Trophy as NCAA Division I Coach of the Year.



1955-56 Undefeated Team

The following two years Clarkson, backstopped in goal by All-America **Ed Macdonald**, made its first appearances in the NCAA Tournament. The Knights posted a 19-3 overall record and made their first ever showing in the 10-year history of the NAAs to cap off the 1956-57 season. Macdonald's play took center stage in the national tournament, held at the Colorado Springs Broadmoor Ice Palace, as Clarkson finished third in the country. After losing to eventual champion Colorado College, 5-3, despite a 55-save performance by Macdonald, in the first round, the Knights came back to defeat Harvard 2-1 in overtime in the consolation game on Rowe's winning goal at 76:51. Macdonald, who posted 44 stops against the Crimson, became the first Clarkson player named to an NCAA All-Tournament team in recognition of the 99 saves he made in the two games.

Perhaps the most prolific scorer in college hockey history, Rowe, a 5-10, 160-pound center, skated in 66 games for Clarkson from 1954-57 and averaged 2.76 points a game. A two-time All-America selection (1956, 1957), Rowe completed his collegiate career with 182 points on 87 goals and 95 assists. From 1955 through 1957, he set an NCAA record scoring at least one point in 38 consecutive games.

In 1958, Clarkson posted a 17-3 overall record and made its second straight appearance in the NCAA Tournament. At the 1958 national championship tournament, played at the University of Minnesota's Williams Arena Rink in Minneapolis, Macdonald saved his best play when it mattered most to earn his second straight nod on the NCAA All-Tournament squad. After a tough 6-2 loss to eventual champion Denver in first round action, Clarkson was out shot by Harvard 39-18 in the consolation game, but Macdonald came up big with 38 saves and tournament scoring leader **Bob Van Lammers** netted four goals to lead the Knights over the Cantabs 5-1 for their second consecutive third-place finish and the mythical Eastern crown in the national tourney.

Harrison, who completed his ten-year coaching career at the conclusion of the 1957-58 campaign, compiled a 128-47-6 record behind the Clarkson bench. Harrison, who also served as a professor in the college's Civil Engineering Department, compiled a winning percentage of .724, which still stands as the best in the school's annals.

### Year-by-Year Records

Year	W	L	T	Captain
1950-51	12	2	1	K. Brown
1951-52	10	5	0	B. Munro
1952-53	9	9	1	B. Drummond
1953-54	7	8	2	B. Chouinard
1954-55	18	4	0	D. Meitz
1955-56	23	0	0	A. Ziebarth
1956-57 <sup>^</sup>	19	3	0	E. Rowe
1957-58 <sup>^</sup>	17	3	0	E. Macdonald
1958-59	10	8	1	B. Van Lammers
1959-60	7	13	0	M. Tomalty

<sup>^</sup>NCAA Tournament



MVP **Terry Yurkiewicz (A)** celebrates the Knights' 1966 ECAC Tr. Championship with **Don Brown** and **Harry Dunn**.



## The 1960s

**F**our showings in the NCAA Tournament, including three title game appearances, an Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championship trophy and a winning campaign in each season of the decade marked continued success for Clarkson in the 60s.

One of college hockey's all-time winningest coaches, **Len Ceglarski**, who took over the helm of the Golden Knights' program at the start of the 1958-59 season, kept Clarkson among the tops teams in the country by stressing solid defensive play and balanced offensive production throughout the decade.

From the fall of 1961 through early March of 1964, Clarkson College hockey boasted some of its finest seasons and one of the most prolific lines in eastern college hockey. Teamed with high-scoring wingers **Roger Purdie** and **Brian Wilkinson**, **Corby Adams** centered Clarkson's "All-American Line." The trio combined for 180 goals and 219 assists while helping the Knights to 59 victories during their three-year careers.

The Knights, captained by **Jack Graves**, skated to a 22-3-1 record in 1961-62 and finished as runner-up to Michigan Tech in the National Championship game held in Utica, New York. With all-tournament selections, defenseman **Cal Wagner** and forward **Hal Pettersen** leading the way, Clarkson edged favorite Michigan 5-4 in the semifinals before falling to the Huskies 7-1 in its first championship game appearance.

The next year, Clarkson, bolstered by an unyielding defense anchored by All-Americas Wagner and **Pat Brophy** and an explosive offense ignited by the "All-American Line", posted a 20-4-2 mark and again advanced to the NCAA Tournament held in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, where the team placed third by defeating Boston College 5-3 in the consolation game. Goaltender **Wayne Gibbons** and Adams were named to the all-tournament team.

From the inaugural year of the ECAC Championship Tournament in 1962 to the present, Clarkson has been regarded among the best in the league, having qualified for ECAC post-season play in every season but one. In 1966, the Knights captured the coveted league championship trophy with a 6-2 victory over Cornell at the old Boston Arena. **Terry Yurkiewicz**, a two-time All-America goaltender, backstopped the Green and Gold to victory and was named the tournament MVP. Clarkson advanced to the NCAA championship game for the second time in five years in 1966 after defeating Denver 4-3 in the semifinals. The Knights lost to Michigan State 6-1 at Williams Arena in Minneapolis, Minnesota completing a 24-3 record. Forwards **Tom Hurley** and **John "Jocko" McLennan** and Yurkiewicz received all-tournament accolades. Hurley would go on to compete for the United States at the 1968 Olympic Games in Grenoble, France.

Clarkson, led by second-year captain, defenseman **Wayne LaChance** closed out the decade with one of its best seasons ever in 1969-70 as All-America goaltender **Bruce Bullock** backstopped the Knights to a 24-8 overall record which included second-place showings in the ECAC and NCAA tournaments.

Despite being on the losing end in the championship games of the league and national tourneys, Bullock was selected Most Valuable Player at the ECAC Championship Tournament at the Boston Garden and was named to the NCAA All-Tournament team along with Knight forward **Rick Magnusson**. At the national championship played in Lake Placid, Bullock posted 30 saves in Clarkson's 4-3 victory over Michigan Tech in the semifinals and then followed with 40 stops in the title game, a 6-4 loss to Cornell.



"All-American Line" **Brian Wilkinson**, **Corby Adams**, **Roger Purdie**

### Year-by-Year Records

Year	W	L	T	Captain
1960-61	14	8	0	B. Little
1961-62 <sup>^</sup>	22	3	1	J. Graves
1962-63 <sup>^</sup>	20	4	2	C. Wagner
1963-64	17	7	1	R. Purdie
1964-65	18	7	0	G. Bray
1965-66* <sup>^</sup> \$	24	3	0	H. Dunn
1966-67	14	8	1	G. Patterson
1967-68	16	7	1	B. Dooling
1968-69	19	7	2	W. LaChance
1969-70 <sup>^</sup>	24	8	0	W. LaChance

\*ECAC RS Ttitle, \$ECAC Tr. Title, <sup>^</sup>NCAA Tr.



TRADITION

Marty McNally '78, Bill Blackwood '78,  
Glenn Thomaris '77.



## The 1970s

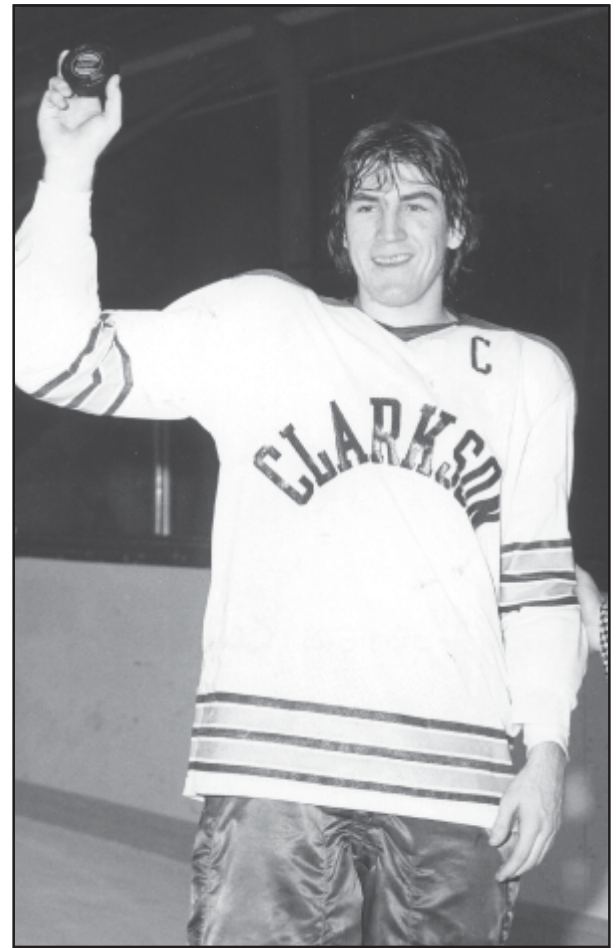
**D**uring the decade of the 70s Clarkson showcased many outstanding players, producing five All-Americans, including four two-time honorees. Goaltenders **Bruce Bullock** (1970, 71) and **Brian Shields** (1976, 1977) and defensemen **Steve Warr** (1971, 1972) and **Bill Blackwood** (1977, 1978) all earned the illustrious honor twice.

**Dave Taylor**, arguably the Knights' best player ever, was named an All-America in 1977. In his four years at the college from 1973-77, Taylor rewrote the Clarkson record books. He is the Knights' all-time leading scorer with 251 career points on 98 goals and 153 assists in 116 games. Taylor, along with Bullock, Blackwood and Shields, was named to the ECAC 1970s All-Decade Team. Taylor, who retired from the National Hockey League in 1994 after 17 stellar seasons with the Los Angeles Kings, now serves as the Kings' general manager.

Prior to moving on to a lengthy career at his alma mater Boston College, head coach **Len Ceglarski** closed out his 14-year stint behind the Clarkson bench with back-to-back 20-win campaigns in the first two seasons of the decade, including a 28-4-1 mark in 1970-71. High-scoring forward **Jerry Kemp** led the Green and Gold's offense that winter with his second straight 57-point season as the Knights skated to second place showings in the ECAC regular season and at the conference's tournament at the Boston Garden. After gaining a measure of revenge against the previous seasons's national champion Cornell, knocking the Big Red out of the playoffs with a 4-1 victory in the semifinal round, Clarkson fell to Harvard 7-4 in the ECAC Tournament's championship game.

**Jerry York** became Clarkson's fifth head coach at the start of the 1972-73 season and directed the Green and Gold to five winning campaigns and six trips to the ECAC playoffs. York's 1976-77 team, which was highlighted by high-scoring snipers Taylor (ECAC Player of the Year), Blackwood, **Sid Tanchak**, **Kevin Zappia** and **Marty McNally**, produced the most goals ever scored at Clarkson (223) and posted a first place finish in the ECAC regular season with a league record of 19-4. York, who guided the Knights to a 26-8 overall record, was named NCAA Division I Coach of the Year that same season.

As the 1980s approached, the Clarkson hockey program generated its own head coach. **Bill O'Flaherty**, Clarkson Class of 1971 and a three-year letterman for the Knights, took the reins of the hockey team at the start of the 1979-80 season after seven years as an assistant. He promptly guided the Green and Gold to a 21-12-1 record with ECAC first-team all-star forward **Mike Prestidge** leading the way, setting the stage for another successful decade in the proud history of Clarkson Hockey.



Clarkson's All-time leading scorer and 17-year LA King standout, Dave Taylor '77

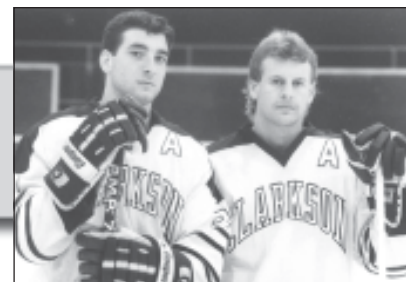
### Year-by-Year Records

Year	W	L	T	Captain
1970-71	28	4	1	F. Erickson, K. MacLean
1971-72	20	10	0	G. Holmes
1972-73	18	15	0	P. Harasym, B. Mason
1973-74	12	14	1	M. Ornella
1974-75	13	15	1	D. Cooper, D. O'Driscoll
1975-76	18	12	1	B. Shaw, D. Taylor
1976-77*	26	8	0	B. Shaw, D. Taylor
1977-78	19	11	0	M. McNally, B. Blackwood
1978-79	19	12	0	K. Owen, S. Tanchak, J. Wescott
1979-80	21	12	1	C. Laughlin, D. Makuch, B. Cleaver

\*ECAC RS Title



**Luciano Borsato '88 and Steve Williams '88.**  
The linemates combined for 179 points, including 76 goals, during their junior and senior seasons.



## The 1980s

Clarkson's stature as one of the top teams in the country was reinforced in the 1980s as the Green and Gold made four NCAA Tournament showings, won two Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) regular season titles and participated in the league playoffs in all 10 seasons, including two championship game appearances.

The Golden Knights opened the 1980s with a flurry winning back-to-back ECAC regular season titles in 1980-81 and 1981-82. With three All-Americans, center **Bryan Cleaver**, defenseman **Ed Small** and goaltender **Don Sylvestri** (the first freshman in the ECAC to be named All-America), the 1980-81 team skated to a 26-7-4 record and hosted Wisconsin in the first round of the NCAA playoffs. Before an overflowing crowd, the eventual national champion Badgers edged the Knights 9-8 in the two-game total-goal series, which was the first time NCAA postseason action was held in Potsdam. **Bill O'Flaherty** was named National Coach of the Year at the close of the season. All-America forwards **Steve Cruickshank**, who led the ECAC in scoring in 1981-82, and **Colin Patterson**, who went on to win a Stanley Cup as a member of the 1989 Calgary Flames, led the Green and Gold for the next two seasons.



Colin Patterson '86 and Pat Haramis '84

In 1983-84, the season Clarkson was designated a university, the Knights returned to the NCAA playoffs. Clarkson, behind the defensive prowess of All-America defensemen **Bob Armstrong** and **Dave Fretz** and the leadership of co-captain **Pat Haramis**, posted a 21-11-2 mark and battled Minnesota-Duluth in the NAAs where the Bulldogs took advantage of their home arena in Duluth to nip the Knights 9-8 in the total-goal series. As in the 1970s, the Knights dominated the ECAC 1980s All-Decade Team, placing four players—Sylvestri, Small, Cruickshank, and Fretz—on the all-star squad.

Assistant coach **Cap Raeder** inherited the head coaching duties in 1985-86 from O'Flaherty, who stepped aside to become Clarkson's Chairman of Athletics. O'Flaherty later moved on to become the Los Angeles Kings' Director of Player Personnel. During Raeder's three-year stint behind the Knights' bench, the Green and Gold advanced to the ECAC Tournament Championship game twice. At the close of the 1985-86 campaign, Clarkson swept defending national champion RPI in the ECAC quarterfinals at Troy, and then stunned regular season champion Harvard 4-2 in the semifinal round before losing to Cornell 3-2 in overtime of the championship game. Defenseman **Andy Otto** earned All-America honors that season.

Behind the superb goaltending of All-America **John Fletcher** and the productive scoring of All-America center **Luciano Borsato**, who went on to play in the NHL with the Winnipeg Jets, Clarkson made a return appearance in the ECAC Tournament championship game in 1988 with thrilling early round upsets over Cornell in the ECAC quarterfinal (the Knights defeated the Big Red 2-1 in the series held in Ithaca by winning the 10-minute mini-game 1-0 as the **Tretowicz** Brothers, Mark and Dave, combined on the winning goal), and Harvard 6-4 in the semifinals. St. Lawrence defeated the Knights 3-0 in the championship game to put an end to Clarkson's amazing postseason run.

**Mark Morris** became Clarkson's eighth head coach in May of 1988, replacing Raeder, who became an assistant coach in the NHL with Los Angeles. After guiding the unheralded Knights, led by captain **Mike Morrison**, to a 16-13-3 overall record in 1988-89 and their first home-ice berth in the ECAC playoffs in four years, Morris directed the Green and Gold to a 21-11-3 mark in 1989-90 and a NCAA opening round series against the University of Minnesota, which it lost to the Gophers in Minneapolis. Clarkson would reload the following season and enjoy a lengthy run into the postseason.

### Year-by-Year Records

Year	W	L	T	Captain
1980-81 <sup>^</sup>	26	7	4	B. Cleaver, E. Small
1981-82 <sup>^</sup>	26	8	1	B. Audycki, G. Larsen
1982-83	19	11	1	C. Patterson
1983-84 <sup>^</sup>	21	11	2	B. Armstrong, P. Haramis
1984-85	21	10	3	G. Sharpe
1985-86	18	11	3	A. Otto
1986-87	17	13	1	J. Korchinski, A. Hill
1987-88	17	15	3	C. Mills
1988-89	16	13	3	M. Morrison
1989-90	21	11	3	M. Tretowicz, D. Trombley

<sup>\*</sup>ECAC RS Ttitle, <sup>^</sup>NCAA Tr.



TRADITION

Clarkson celebrates its **1993 ECAC Championship Tournament** victory in the inaugural conference title game played in Lake Placid. The Golden Knights defeated Brown 3-1 to claim their third league playoff championship.



## The 1990s

**H**ighlight after highlight followed Clarkson throughout the 1990s as the Golden Knights enjoyed tremendous success in the final decade of the 20th century. Guided by head coach **Mark Morris** and led by a host of all-stars, Clarkson participated in eight NCAA Tournaments in the 10-year span, won three Eastern College Athletic Conference Tournament championships, claimed four league regular season titles and posted nine 20-win campaigns. Numerous Knights earned all-star honors, including nine who gained All-America status, three players who were finalists for the prestigious Hobey Baker Award and two who were honored on the ECAC 1990s All-Decade Team.

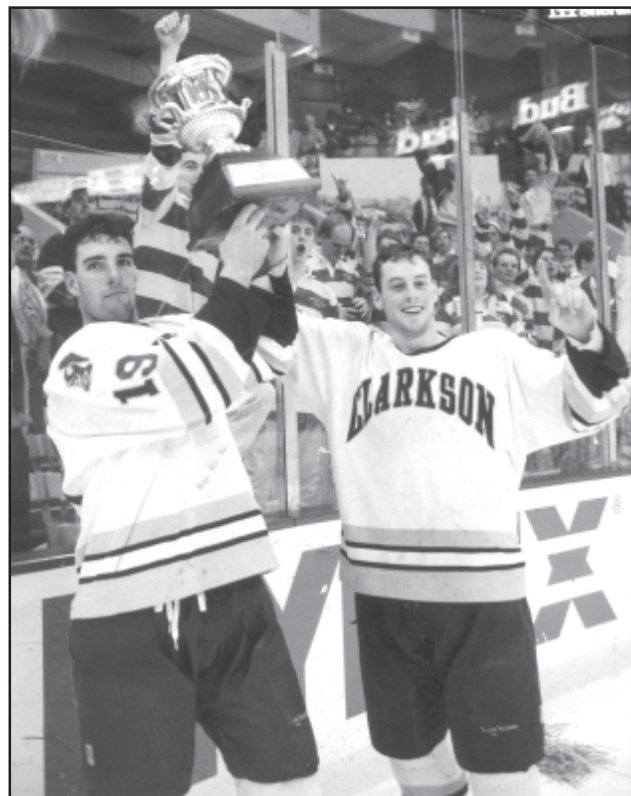
The list of players who came out of the Clarkson hockey program during this decade is second to none. Ten Knights went on to play in the National Hockey League and two skated for the United States in Olympic competition. **Mike Casselman, Chris Clark, Erik Cole, Craig Conroy, Steve Dubinsky, Todd Marchant, Willie Mitchell, Scott Thomas, Marko Tuomainen** and **Todd White** all competed at professional hockey's highest level. **Dave Tretowicz** and Marchant made significant contributions to Team USA at the 1992 and 1994 Olympics, respectively.

In 1990-91, the Knights skated to one of their finest seasons ever, posting a 29-9-2 record, which included ECAC regular season and tournament championships and a NCAA semifinal appearance. Clarkson polished the campaign with new records as well, including wins (29) in a season. Perhaps the most conspicuous hallmark was the 18-0-1 record the Knights amassed in their final campaign at Walker Arena. Included in 1990-91's banner campaign were NCAA victories over defending national champion Wisconsin (8-3 and 5-4 in the final games at Walker Arena) and top-ranked Lake Superior State in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Clarkson fell just one game short of battling for the national title, losing to Boston University 7-3 in the semifinals held in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The 1991-92 campaign marked the Knights' inaugural season at the spectacular Cheel Arena, where the Green and Gold, led by Thomas and assistant captains **Hugo Belanger** and **Jeff Torrey**, posted a 13-2 mark en route to a 22-10-1 overall record. Clarkson, following the leadership of an exceptional senior class, enjoyed another outstanding campaign in 1992-93, posting a 20-10-5 record. The Knights, behind the leadership from co-captains **Martin d'Orsonnens** and Dubinsky, swept by St. Lawrence, Rensselaer and Brown in the league playoffs to capture their second ECAC title in three years, winning the Whitelaw Trophy at the famed Olympic Arena in the inaugural tournament championship game played in Lake Placid.

Two-time All-America defenseman **Brian Mueller**, who joined Conroy and White as a Hobey Baker Award finalist, and a trio of high scoring forwards led the Knights to the ECAC regular season title and a 23-10-4 overall record in 1994-95. Lifted by the play of All-Americans White and goaltender **Dan Murphy**, Clarkson enjoyed one of its best seasons ever in 1995-96 with a 25-10-3 record, including a 6-1 win over Western Michigan in the opening round of the East Regional at Albany. The 1996-97 season was another outstanding effort by the Green and Gold as the Knights, with forwards White and **Jean-Francois Houle**, All-America defenseman **Matt Pagnutti** and Murphy leading the way, skated to a 27-10 overall record, including an ECAC regular season championship.

After the 1998-99 campaign the Knights were able to reflect back upon one of their most successful seasons ever. Two ECAC championship titles and a 25-win campaign were the high-points for a young Clarkson squad that skated just three seniors during the year. Leading the Knights were captain **Ben Maidment** and assistants **Aaron Gates** and **Mikko Ollila**. The trio closed out their collegiate careers as the only Clarkson class ever to reach 100-career wins with a four-year mark of 100-40-6. Sophomores Cole and Mitchell were the Knights' leading scorer and top defenseman, respectively, and contributed greatly to the Green and Gold's success, earning All-America honors and first-team ECAC All-Star accolades.



**Scott Thomas and Steve Dubinsky lift the 1991 ECAC Tournament Championship trophy at the Boston Garden.**

### Year-by-Year Records

Year	W	L	T	Captain
1990-91* <sup>^</sup>	29	9	2	D. Tretowicz
1991-92 <sup>^</sup>	22	10	1	S. Thomas
1992-93 <sup>^</sup>	20	10	5	M. d'Orsonnens, S. Dubinsky
1993-94	20	9	5	C. Conroy, E. Henrich
1994-95 <sup>^</sup>	23	10	4	P. Robitaille
1995-96 <sup>^</sup>	25	10	3	K. Murphy
1996-97 <sup>^</sup>	27	10	0	JF Houle, T. White
1997-98 <sup>^</sup>	23	9	3	C. Clark
1998-99* <sup>^</sup>	25	11	1	B. Maidment
1999-00	17	15	3	Y. Turgeon

\*ECAC RS Ttitle, <sup>^</sup>ECAC Tr. Title, <sup>^</sup>NCAA Tr.



The **Golden Knights** claimed the program's 9th ECAC Regular Season title in 2001.



## The 2000s

**A**lthough the new millennium started off on a positive note with the Golden Knights claiming another title for the program, there would be some trying times for the Green and Gold in the following seasons.

Clarkson, led by co-captains All-America defenseman and Hobey Baker candidate **Kent Huskins** and center **Don Smith**, raised another banner up in the Cheel Arena rafters after winning the 2001 regular season title. Guided by **Mark Morris**, who gained his second ECAC Coach of the Year Award, the Knights put in a strong second-half run to claim their ninth ECAC crown overall and their second in three years. Clarkson, behind solid goaltending from ECAC All-Star **Mike Walsh**, posted a 14-3 record in conference play since the first of the year to gain its fourth league championship over the past seven seasons. The Knights just missed out on their ninth straight trip to Lake Placid for the ECAC Championship Tournament when they suffered their first ever playoff losses at Cheel Arena, losing to Vermont 2-1 in the quarterfinal series, finishing with a 21-11-3 overall record.

Clarkson battled through injuries and inconsistency in 2001-02 to secure second place in the ECAC and returned to Lake Placid for the ninth time in the 10-year history of the tournament championship in the Adirondack Mountains. Overall, Clarkson, with co-captains, all-star defenseman **Kerry Ellis-Toddington** and right wing **Matt Poapst** providing the leadership, clinched its 27th straight winning season with a 17-15-6 overall record.

Off-ice dilemmas contributed greatly to Clarkson's misfortunes in 2002-03. The campaign started out poorly for the Knights with the termination of Morris in early November and continued to go down hill as interim coach **Fred Parker** and his staff, under difficult circumstances, could not halt the Green and Gold's troubles. Clarkson, despite solid leadership from senior captains **Kevin O'Flaherty**, **Dave Reid** and **Chris Bahen**, and the scoring and defensive prowess of ECAC All-Star, sophomore defenseman **Randy Jones**, who has gone on the play in the NHL, finished the year with a 12-20-3 overall record, its first year under .500 since 1974-75.

With **George Roll** taking the helm as the Knights' head coach, Clarkson began its turn around in 2003-04. Despite an up-and-down regular season, the Green and Gold were able to take their play to another level in the postseason. With co-captains **Tristan Lush** and **Rob McFeeters** leading the way, Clarkson began its stunning postseason run in Schenectady, NY where the Knights dominated eighth-seeded Union College in first round action. The Knights then shocked defending ECAC champion Cornell at Lynah Rink in the best two-of-three game quarterfinal series. Clarkson bounced back from a 5-1 loss in game one to hand the Big Red back-to-back playoff losses (5-4, 5-1) on their home ice in Ithaca to earn the program's 31st quarterfinal round series triumph. Making its first appearance in the conference's championship tournament after a two-year absence, Clarkson continued its roll at the Pepsi Arena by upending ECAC regular season champion Colgate, 2-1, in the semifinal round. The Knights, who advanced to the title game for the first time since winning the tourney in 1999, gave preseason favorite Harvard all it could handle in the championship contest before the Crimson pulled out a 4-2 win by scoring twice in the final 38 seconds.

Despite slipping to a 13-23-3 record in 2004-05, optimism runs high in the Clarkson program. Roll, along with associate coach **Greg Drechsel** and assistant coach **Jean-Francois Houle** have brought in several highly regarded players in their first three recruiting classes. With the emergence of these new players, the Knights should begin a steady climb back towards prominence among the top teams in the nation.



The Golden Knights have plenty of hope for more celebrations in the 2000s.

### Year-by-Year Records

Year	W	L	T	Captain
2000-01*	21	11	3	K. Huskins, D. Smith
2001-02	17	15	6	K. Ellis-Toddington, M. Poapst
2002-03	12	20	3	K. O'Flaherty, D. Reid
2003-04	18	18	5	T. Lush, R. McFeeters
2004-05	13	23	3	M. Faulkner

\*ECAC RS Ttitle