

BOSTON COLLEGE

SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE  
PUBLICATION

JERRY  
YORK



925

SALUTING COLLEGE HOCKEY'S  
WINNINGEST COACH

## > MILESTONE VICTORY

# 925

**T**op-ranked Boston College beat Alabama-Huntsville, 5-2, in the first game of the Mariucci Classic on Saturday, Dec. 29, 2012, at Mariucci Arena on the campus of the University of Minnesota. More importantly, the victory marked a monumental milestone in the history of the sport. College hockey has a new all-time wins leader.

After beginning his coaching career behind the bench of Clarkson University 41 years ago, Jerry York won his 925th game and no one in college hockey history has more wins than he.

It also marked yet another crowning achievement in Boston College's rich hockey tradition. For York is the third Eagle coach to claim the title of college hockey's all-time wins leader, joining his own college coach John "Snooks" Kelley and predecessor Len Ceglarski, who each retired as college hockey's winningest coaches.

The 67-year-old York is 925-559-95 in 41 seasons and has moved past former Michigan State coach Ron Mason for the record.

"He's a great coach. I think what's more important is that he is even a better person," Mason said. "The dedication and the perseverance that he has and the amount of success that he has had is really unbelievable. I'm happy for him. He's done a lot for college hockey and now he's getting rewarded for it."

"HE'S A GREAT COACH. I THINK WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT IS THAT HE IS EVEN A BETTER PERSON. THE DEDICATION AND THE PERSEVERANCE THAT HE HAS AND THE AMOUNT OF SUCCESS THAT HE HAS HAD IS REALLY UNBELIEVABLE. I'M HAPPY FOR HIM. HE'S DONE A LOT FOR COLLEGE HOCKEY AND NOW HE'S GETTING REWARDED FOR IT."

> RON MASON

Sophomore Cam Spiro scored his first collegiate goal just less than three minutes into the game. Junior Bill Arnold doubled the Eagle lead in the game's 12th minute and Danny Linell scored his second of the season just more than one minute later to give Jerry York's top-ranked Eagles a 3-0 lead after the opening period of play. It represented all the goals the Eagles would need en route to a victory that earned BC firm footing in a place it has grown so accustomed to occupying — atop of the college hockey world.





In February 1972, as York was in his final season as Len Ceglarski's assistant coach at Clarkson, Boston College's first hockey coach Snooks Kelley, a 1928 BC graduate, became the first bench boss in America to achieve 500 career coaching victories. Kelley retired later that year as the winningest coach in the history of the game.

Among the many stars who played on Kelley's 1949 national championship team were Ceglarski, who ultimately succeeded him as the Eagles' coach, and Bernie Burke, the team captain and former Eagle assistant coach.

Ceglarski returned to his alma mater prior to the 1972-73 season and would guide the Eagles for the next 20 years. At the end of the 1991-92 season, the legendary coach retired after 34 years as a collegiate head coach. His final record was 673-339-38 and he, too, completed his career as college hockey's all-time winningest coach. Known by many for his wins, he was recognized even more for his class and sportsmanship, all hallmarks in

### *Milestone Victory 925*

describing York and Boston College hockey today.

Now in his 19th season behind the BC bench, York, who assumed head coaching duties at his alma mater on June 15, 1994, is 458-224-61 (and counting). With great pride and humility, he has led the Eagles to four national championships, 10 NCAA Tournament Frozen Four berths, nine Hockey East Tournament titles and six Hockey East regular-season championships.

### ► ALL-TIME WINNINGEST DIVISION I HOCKEY COACHES

RANK	COACH (COLLEGES)	YRS	WINS
1.	<b>*JERRY YORK</b> <i>(Clarkson, Bowling Green, Boston College)</i>	40	925
2.	Ron Mason <i>(Lake Superior St., Bowling Green, Michigan St.)</i>	36	924
3.	<b>*Jack Parker</b> <i>(Boston U.)</i>	40	886
4.	Rick Comley <i>(Lake Superior St., Northern Mich., Michigan St.)</i>	38	783
5.	<b>*Red Berenson</b> <i>(Michigan)</i>	29	758

*\*Active Coaches-Updated as of Jan. 1, 2013*





> FROM THE PRESIDENT

The drive to

925



## BOSTON COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 3, 2013

Dear Jerry,

On behalf of the University community, I congratulate you on your 925<sup>th</sup> victory as a hockey coach, the most in NCAA history. I also give thanks and honor you for your extraordinary impact and presence as a member of the Boston College community. From your days as a student and All-American player at "the Heights" to the present, you have been known for your infectious enthusiasm, generosity of spirit, personal integrity, and concern for others. During a coaching career of more than four decades, you have mentored hundreds of student-athletes and have never forgotten the importance of family, neighborhood roots, and faith in God and people. Boston College and intercollegiate athletics could not have a more effective role model and ambassador than you.

You have contributed in such significant ways to the students, families, staff, and fans involved in our hockey program, and also to the mission and values of Boston College. In addition, I want to express gratitude to Bobbie, Laura, and Brendan for sharing you with us these past years.

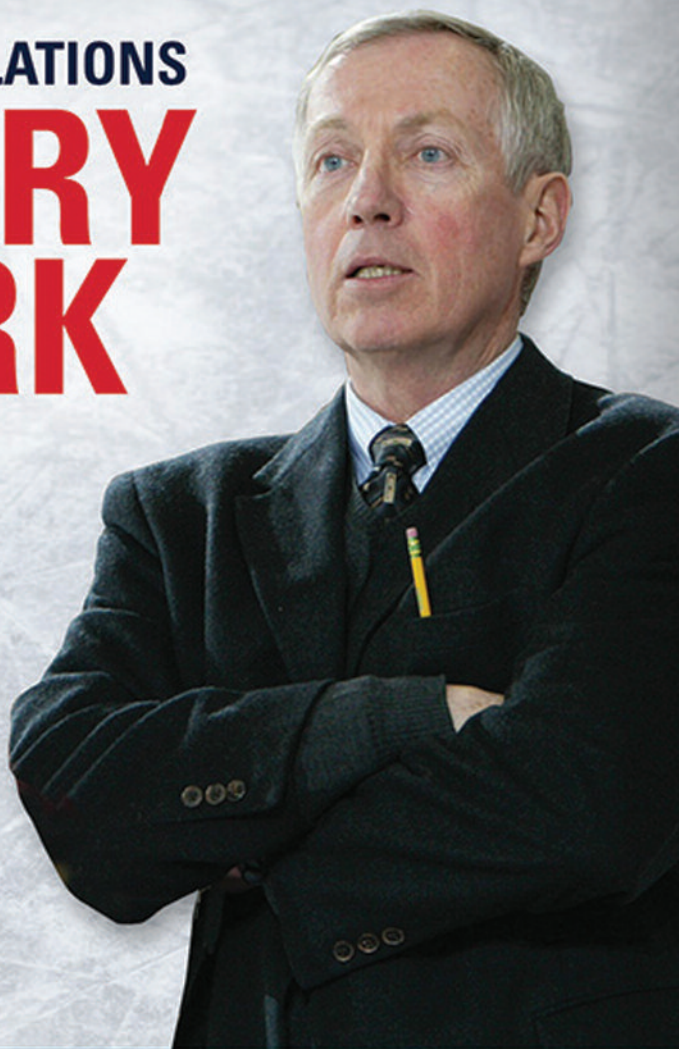
Jerry, may God continue to bless you.

Sincerely,

William P. Leahy, S.J.  
President



CONGRATULATIONS  
**JERRY  
YORK**



**ON BECOMING THE ALL-TIME WINNINGEST COACH  
IN NCAA MEN'S ICE HOCKEY HISTORY.**

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## › THE MAKER OF MEMORIES



*Bill Arnold (left) and Kevin Hayes celebrate Arnold's goal with 6.4 seconds left in overtime that lifted Boston College to the 2012 Beanpot championship.*

**BY MIKE LUPICA, '74**  
COLUMNIST, *NEW YORK DAILY NEWS*

**I**t is the Beanpot final of 2012 and I am watching the game with my oldest son, who is BC Class of 2010. So we are both watching another one of Jerry York's teams give us a game and a night, losing our minds a little bit — or maybe a lot — because it is BU and the Beanpot finals and the two teams have played all the way through regulation and through overtime, and we still don't know how the night is going to end at the Garden.

All the hockey nights from Jerry York and his teams, all the NCAA championships, all the other titles, including all the Beanpots. Now he is trying to give us — we, us, the amazing family of Boston College — one more against BU. Once, when I was a student at BC, we were lucky to get a game off them, nearly declared a school holiday when Snooks Kelley won his 500th and did it against BU.

Not anymore. Not on Jerry York's watch at BC. Not since he made us the capital of college hockey.

And finally we are the capital of college hockey again, this Beanpot ending in this sudden and wonderful way, just 6.4 seconds left in overtime. Bill Arnold scores and the BC fans in the place go

mad, not just because of our school's 17th Beanpot title, but because it has become one of those nights now; because Jerry York's players have done something above and beyond all the big games all of York's players have won over all the years:

They have given us one more memory.

It is why we come to sports, at The Heights and anywhere else. We come for the memories. More than anything, the great Jerry York has been in the memory-making business. Now there is one more, February 2012, my youngest son — he will be BC '14 — there to celebrate with his friends, Zach Lupica down close to the Garden ice, losing his mind in the same wonderful way his oldest brother



and I have been losing our minds in front of a television set in Connecticut all game long.

I am BC. All three of my sons are Boston College. So is my sister, and her oldest son. So our family is part of the amazing BC family. And even if we all know that BC is more than sports, we know something: It is nights like this that have always done so much to bring us together, wherever the game is being played, make us feel as if we're all inside Conte Forum, in it together one more time.

Chris Lupica and I watch the celebration on the ice, watch Coach York with his players, and finally I turn to him and say to him, "Jerry York is one of the great figures in the history of our school."

My son smiles and says, "He makes you proud to be from this school."

My son is right, of course. The next day I call the school and leave a voice message (listen below) for the coach about that, about how in my mind he is the most important figure we have had in sports at Boston College since my friend Doug Flutie, how he has honored Boston College from the day he showed up there, before we started winning national championships, before he was on his way to winning more college hockey games than anybody who ever lived, honored us with his talent and his vision of the way his sport should be played, and more than anything, with a wonderful quality called grace.

I can tell you all about my own memories in sports from the time I first showed up at The Heights. I can tell you about the night we beat Texas in football and Snooks' 500th and all the days and nights I spent watching Doug Flutie play a kind of football that only he really ever played, and change everything at our school. And the day Coach Coughlin and Glenn Foley beat Notre Dame that first time, the first time we knocked off Notre Dame when they were No. 1.



*Jerry York on the ice following Boston College's 5-2 win over Boston University on Dec. 1, York's 924th career victory.*

I can tell you about the time at Conte when we beat Duke in basketball a few years ago, and how as it was ending that night, my middle son Alex (BC '12) smiled at me and said, "Dad, I gotta go."

Meaning he had to go be with the other BC students on the court when the game was over. Go make a memory of his own.

But I can sure tell you about what it was like at Ford Field when Jerry York and his players won another national championship, this one off Wisconsin, a team that had beaten us out of a title in Milwaukee a few years before that, like a home game for them in the final, a one-goal loss, BC hitting the post with about 10 seconds left.

Now it is BC-Wisconsin again, BC ahead 1-0 going into the third period and I say to my youngest son, Zach, "We can't lose this game to these guys again."

We did not. We sure did not. There were all these goals, fast and furious, to start the third period, and the rest of that period was pure fun in the part of Ford Field that belonged to Boston College, as much fun as I have ever had watching a BC team in my life.

It was one more time when Coach York did us proud, one more night. One more memory. Those memories are his true legacy. There has been one athlete to talk about at BC, before all the others: Doug Flutie. There is one coach. Coach York.



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**925**

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*Dave Taylor was one of Jerry York's first recruits to Clarkson.*



## CREDITS

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AT&T is the Official Wireless Provider  
of Boston College Athletics

AT&T congratulates Coach Jerry York on his 925th career win and becoming the all time wins leader in NCAA Hockey history.



> FROM THE CHANCELLOR

The drive to  
**925**



## BOSTON COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

Jeremiah York, Head Coach  
Boston College Men's Ice Hockey  
Conte Forum 309

Dear Jerry,

Most sincere congratulations on becoming the winningest coach in the history of college hockey.

I am sure that each of the 925 victories of the teams you coached was a personal challenge for you – a challenge of planning and strategy, a challenge of choosing talent and imparting skills, a challenge finally of encouraging mature development and instilling confidence. Through each of those wins, however, you have proven yourself not only as a great coach on the ice but as a complete educator who makes attractive to students the values of mature integrity.

Your alma mater, Boston College, could not be more proud to have as coach to one of its most important sports, a graduate who personifies its highest ideals, both professional and personal.

My personal congratulations as well to Bobbie, who accompanied you on the long trail of victories that has brought to you and to Boston College honor and justified pride.

Sincerely,

J. Donald Monan, S.J.  
Chancellor

JDM/cb

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## > ON THE LINKS



**BY MARK MULVOY,**  
FORMER MANAGING EDITOR AND  
PUBLISHER OF *SPORTS ILLUSTRATED*

**S**o, the deal is always the same. Win the National Championship and the whole coaching staff gets to spend a couple of days playing the best golf course in the country, complete the food, lodging, the odd champagne toast and too many off-key verses of For Boston.

Don't win the National Championship — and they stay home.

Back in early April the celebration was still going on at the rink in Tampa, the Eagles reveling in their victory over Ferris State, when this message was left on the cell phone:

“What are the Peevee dates?”

Two months later a good time was had by all. Cav and Brownie hit the ball longer because, as Byron Nelson once said, they got more distance.

Logue-y rope hooked his white-topped Rocket Ballz driver past all the bunkers. And Coach, after taking tips from all five pros — Charley, David, Brian, Mark and Padraic — plus seven caddies, Notre Domers Lenny and Carson, the starter, the caddie master, the chef, two waiters, Duffy the limo driver, Wind and Yardage consultant Rocco J. Carbone, one Bald Eagle and two Balding Eagles ... well, Coach won all the money.

Which he used to buy a shirt for John Hegarty.



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# CONGRATULATIONS COACH YORK!

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OFFICIAL COFFEE OF THE BOSTON COLLEGE EAGLES



**BC RUNS ON DUNKIN'**

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## > COACH YORK QUICK FACTS

The drive to  
**925**

### > PERSONAL

#### **BORN > HOMETOWN**

July, 25, 1945 > Watertown, Mass.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL**

Boston College High School .....Class of 1963

#### **COLLEGE**

Boston College ....Bachelor of Science, Marketing: 1967  
Master of Education, Educational Psychology: 1970  
C.A.E.S., Counseling Psychology: 1973

#### **FAMILY**

York's wife, Bobbie, is a West Roxbury (Mass.) native and 1969 Boston College graduate. They have two children — Laura and Brendan (MBA '05), and two grandchildren — Colin and Elizabeth.



## COACHING FACTS

### Coaching Career

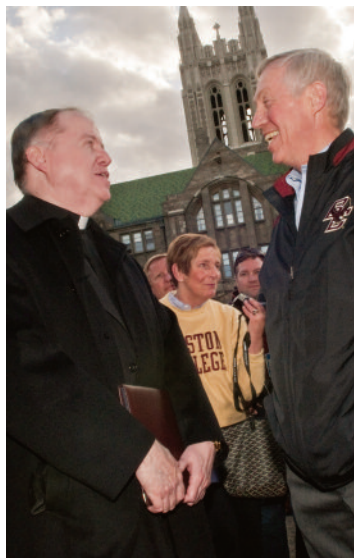
Years	School	Title
1968-69	Boston College .....	Graduate Assistant
1970-72	Clarkson .....	Assistant Coach
1972-79	Clarkson.....	Head Coach
1979-94	Bowling Green State University ..	Head Coach
<b>1994-present</b>	<b>Boston College .....</b>	<b>Head Coach</b>

### Hall of Fame Inductions

**Boston College Varsity Club Hall of Fame..... 1982**  
Bowling Green State University Hall of Fame.....2003

### Honors & Awards

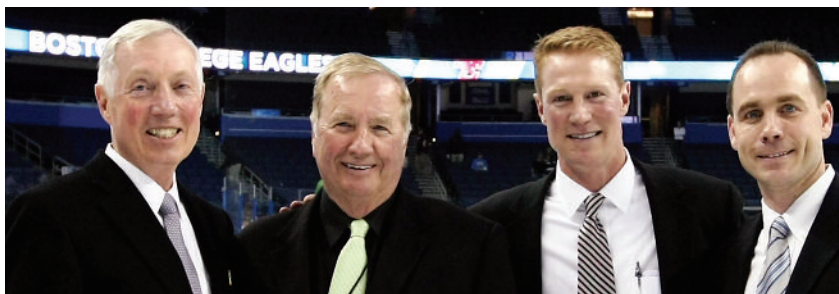
Lester Patrick Trophy.....October 2010  
Boston College jersey retired.....April 2010  
The Tradition, Boston Sports Museum Legend ..June 2009  
Two-time Hockey East Coach of the Year .....2003-04,  
2010-11  
New England Coach of the Year.....2003-04  
Central Collegiate Hockey Coach of the Year.....1981-82  
Spenser Penrose National Coach of the Year.....1976-77



*Head Coach Jerry York and Boston College President Fr. William P. Leahy, S.J.*



*Boston College associate head coach Mike Cavanaugh has coached alongside Jerry York for 20 years and 496 victories in 821 games.*



*Boston College's coaching staff (l-r): Jerry York, Jim Logue, Greg Brown and Mike Cavanaugh on the ice in Tampa, Fla., after capturing the 2012 NCAA Division I championship, the staff's third in five years.*

#### NCAA Titles (5)

Year	School
1984 .....	Bowling Green State University
2001 .....	<b>Boston College</b>
2008 .....	<b>Boston College</b>
2010 .....	<b>Boston College</b>
2012 .....	<b>Boston College</b>



## > A THROWBACK

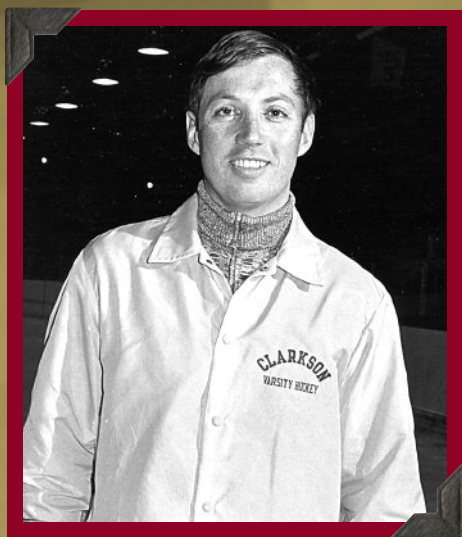
BY JOHN POWERS,  
COLUMNIST, *THE BOSTON GLOBE*

**L**ong before he was the Monsignor of March and the Archbishop of April Jerry York was the curate of Clarkson. Len Ceglarski had left Potsdam for Chestnut Hill so Jerry, who'd been the acolyte for a couple of seasons, took over behind the dasher. His first victory came in his first game when the Golden Knights blanked the University of Quebec by a baker's dozen.

Now, after seven years at Clarkson, 15 at Bowl-green and 19 at the Heights, the tally is a record 925 and counting. Not that the man himself is counting, or calculating how long it might take him to get to 1,000. "You have to enjoy Thanksgiving before Christmas comes," he's fond of reminding his varsity.

Jerry stays very much in the moment, which is why each year he has the freshmen read extracts from "The Precious Present" to the upperclassmen. But if the present tends to replicate the past around Kelley Rink, it may be because Jerry stresses the same old-school values of punctuality, discipline, diligence and respect. "Jerry's a throwback guy," says Bob Norton, his boyhood friend and teammate.

His players have the same barbered-and-shorn look that their coach had in the 1965 team photo.



On road trips they dress as though they're going for a job interview. They're unfailingly courteous.

But once they hit the ice, the Eagles play like raptors, relentlessly focused on what is in front of them. Those 925 victories were achieved one at a time while building toward the big prize, the one given to the last team standing. That's why the schedule outside the locker room is upside-down, the games listed from the bottom up.

What means more to Jerry than the victories are the trophies, which are the shining reflection of group effort, and which come with championship hats for every head. "You can't go to Wal-Mart and buy one," the coach says. "You've got to really earn that."



**JERRY**

"He n  
I kno  
as ni



The trophies are sequential and each of them more significant. There's the Beanpot, which the Eagles have won six times under Jerry's tutelage, the last three in a row. Then the Hockey East regular-season title, which York calls "the pennant" and which his charges also have won six times. Then the tournament trophy, which BC has borne around the Garden ice nine times, five of them in the last six years. And, finally, the NCAA trophy, which the Eagles have collected four times under York, who won his first at Bowling Green in 1984.



Teams win trophies because they can perform on what Jerry calls "bright lights, big stage" and nobody is better at that than the Eagles, who have become immune to stage fright. Their director has much to do with that. He stands behind them garbed in his trademark navy blue (or is it black?) blazer and sweater, clutching his eternal spiral notebook, his pulse just slightly above tortoise level. If anything, it seems to slow when overtime arrives.

"Let's just try to win a hockey game," Jerry told his undergrads when they were on the verge of extinction at Miami's hands in the 2008 NCAA regional final. The Eagles won that one and two more to claim the national crown. "Win and advance," is their post-season watchword and they do it by taking their rivals' sticks away. That was easier done when Jerry played for Snooks Kelley and the ECAC tournament finalists went directly to the Frozen Four, which needed no such name then.

The college hockey season began in December and ended in March. Now it starts as the leaves are turning and goes until the Easter bunny arrives. The trick, which York's squads have mastered, is to turn the season into an Endless Winter, to hold on to the sticks until you've deprived all others of theirs. "I want to do the same thing they're doing," Minnesota-Duluth coach Scott Sandelin said last season after BC had dethroned his defending champions by four goals.

The formula is simple — just keep winning hockey games, one after another. Jerry York may not have set out to break the record when he stepped in at Clarkson but it's what comes from doing things the same way every day for four decades. That's how he set the career record — and counting — for most cups of Dunkin' Donuts coffee purchased at the same store.

## JERRY YORK

**might be the nicest, sweetest guy in all of hockey. Now most hockey people don't want to be known like me and sweet. But Jerry York is."**

**George McPhee**

Washington Capitals Vice President  
and General Manager

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# > THE DRIVE TO

# 925



> FEBRUARY 18, 1972

*"Snooks" Kelley receives a plaque before his final game against Clarkson in Potsdam, N.Y. The Eagles upset the favored Golden Knights, 6-4 for Kelley's 498th win. Presenting are: Clarkson assistant coach Jerry York, athletic director John Hantz and head coach Len Ceglarski.*



> 1972

*Became the youngest head coach in the nation when he accepted the top job at Clarkson at age 26.*

No. 1 > NOV. 10, 1972



*Clarkson earns, 13-0, home win over University of Quebec in Potsdam, N.Y.*

1976-77

*Earned the 1976-77 Spencer Penrose Trophy as the nation's Division I Coach of the Year after guiding the Golden Knights to a 26-8-0 record and the ECAC Championship.*



No. 100 > JAN. 24, 1978

The drive to  
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GOLDEN KNIGHTS SET ECAC RECORD — YORK HAS 100TH WIN — Charlie Sharlow (left) established Clarkson as the ECAC record holder for Consecutive Game Scoring. The new mark of 236 games breaks the previous record held by Cornell University. The Knights have not been shut out since the 1970–71 season. The win was also the 100th for coach Jerry York (right).

*Clarkson beats St. Lawrence, 10-0, in Potsdam, N.Y.*

> APRIL 10, 1979

Assumed the head post at  
Bowling Green State University.

No. 243 > MARCH. 24, 1984



*Bowling Green, led by co-captains Mike Pikul and Wayne Wilson, claims NCAA championship with a 5-4 quadruple overtime victory over Minnesota-Duluth.*



*June 15, 1994: Jerry York is introduced as head coach at Boston College.*

➤ JUNE 15, 1994

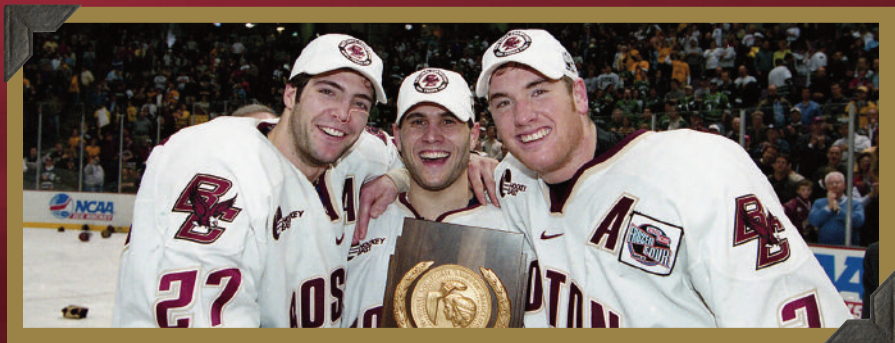
Jerry York is introduced as head coach at Boston College.

No. 500 ➤ NOV. 30, 1996



No. 626 ➤ APRIL 7, 2001

*BC wins at St. Lawrence, 6-4.*



*Team captains (l-r) Mike Lephart, Brian Gionta and Bobby Allen on the ice after Boston College claimed the 2001 NCAA title with a 3-2 overtime win over North Dakota in Albany, N.Y.*

No. 800 › MARCH 29, 2008

The drive to  
925



*BC defeats Minnesota in the quarterfinal round of the NCAA championship in Worcester, Mass. Captain Mike Brennan presents the game puck to Jerry York in the locker room.*

No. 803 › APRIL 12, 2008



*Claims national championship with 4-1 win over Notre Dame in Denver. Nathan Gerbe nets two goals, two assists in title game.*

No. 850 › APRIL 10, 2010

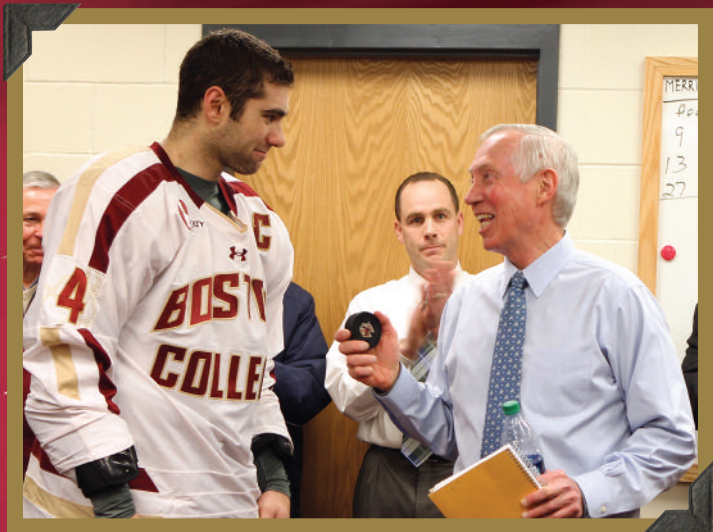


*Claims national title with 5-0 win over Wisconsin. The win gives Jerry York 850 career victories. The game was played before 37,592 in Detroit's Ford Field.*



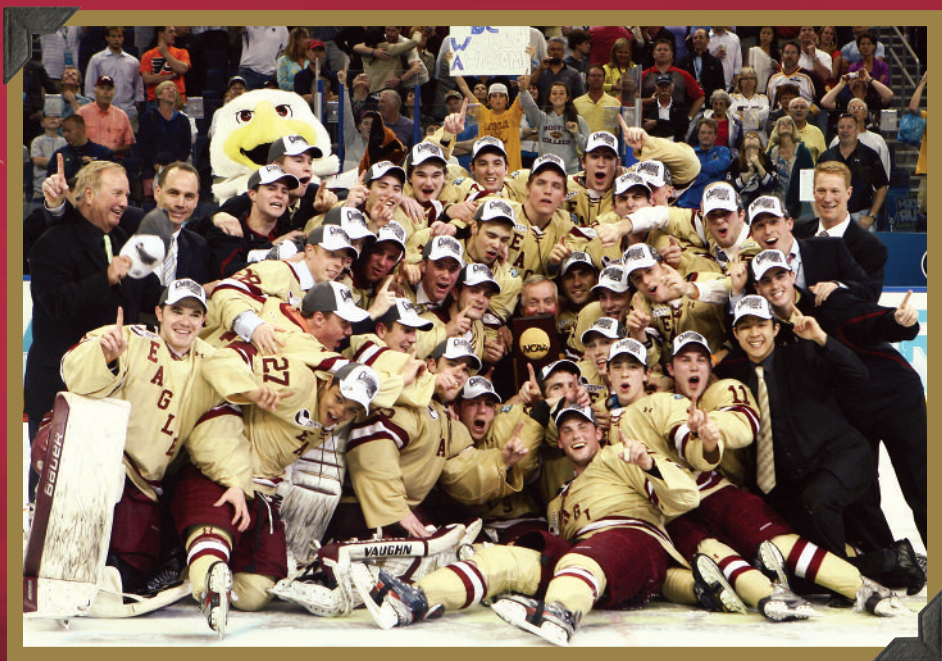
No. 900 > FEB. 17, 2012

The drive to  
925



BC beats Merrimack at Kelley Rink, 4-2. Captain Tommy Cross presents the game puck to Jerry York in the locker room as associate head coach Mike Cavanaugh applauds.

No. 913 > APRIL 7, 2012



Claims fifth NCAA Championship, his fourth at Boston College, with 4-1 win over Ferris State in Tampa, Fla.

No. 924 › DEC. 1, 2012

*December 1, 2012: Captain Pat Mullane presents the game puck to coach York following the team's 5-2 home win over Boston University.*



No. 925 › DEC. 29, 2012



*December 29, 2012: Jerry York receives the game puck from Boston College's 5-2 win over Alabama-Huntsville in the locker room at the Mariucci Classic in Minneapolis, Minn.*

*Four-time All-American Brian Gionta on Jerry York's impact on his life during his four years at Boston College.*



## > COMMON TOUCH



**BY JOHN CONNOLLY**  
WRITER, *BOSTON HERALD*

*Jerry York receives the 2010 NCAA Division I Championship trophy on the ice at Ford Field in Detroit, Mich.*

**B**ack in 1896, one year before the first Boston Marathon would be held, a 31-year-old poet of international renown by the name of Rudyard Kipling penned a short verse titled, "If." Although, the poem would not be published until 1910, Kipling might have been wise to save it for the modern era considering a few lines in his epic verse succinctly sum up Boston College hockey coach Jerry York when he wrote, "If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue, Or walk with kings — nor lose the common touch."

What better way to describe Watertown-native York, who has enjoyed a stellar career that has allowed him to rub elbows with the celebrity crowd yet remain most comfortable with the man in the street. Back on the morning of April 8, 2006, the day the Eagles would meet home state favorite University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee to decide the NCAA Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship, there was York calmly standing in line at a downtown shop waiting patiently to purchase a cup of coffee (black, no sugar, touch of cream), freely bantering with local patrons about every topic under the sun.

Can anyone imagine any other coach of a major program in any number of popular college sports even trekking out to get his/her own wake-up beverage of choice, especially on the championship morning? Unlikely. Never mind, pausing to chat up the populace.

Back on Jan. 2, 2005, Boston University men's program hosted the University of Minnesota, on a historic night at famed Walter Brown Arena, to say good-bye to the Terriers hallowed hockey barn. The two teams would meet amid great fanfare the following night in luxurious Agganis Arena to dedicate the opulent new facility. York learned that some longtime rink personnel at the back gate would not be continuing on to the Agganis, as an outside firm was to take charge. So, York arrived at the players/coaches/press entrance armed with a bagful of athletics gear, which he quietly handed out to the Walter Brown workers on their final shift as an expression of gratitude for their diligent efforts. Even amidst a rivalry York maintained the common touch.

Last winter, as the BC skaters toiled over arduous seven month schedule, stringing together a mind-boggling 19-game win streak down the stretch, cul-



minating in the college's fifth national championship and third in five years, a steady stream of 60 or so guest speakers from throughout the sports world in the United States and Canada beat a path to the Eagles locker room to provide insight, not only on athletics, but on life in general. Players listen intently for fear that master teacher York will call upon them afterwards to give their own take on the inspirational message they just heard.

It's all done as part of the master plan. 'Paint the corners' is how Father Tony Penna, the BC Team Chaplain, once addressed the skaters. The goal is two-fold. As it mentions in the BC hockey media guide, 'A diploma in one hand and a ring on the other.' It is a formula that will have BC players, long after their careers are finished, not recounting goals and assists, but fond recollections. "Do you remember the time...?"

York has now closed in on one of college hockey's most revered milestones, that of the most coaching victories, set at 924, and currently held by Ron Mason. There are links between them. Both men played in the ECAC, Mason at St. Lawrence, and York, of course, at BC. Both men coached at three



*Sept. 10, 2010: Jerry York addresses alumni gathered at the offices of Jones Day in Washington, D.C.*

schools. Mason spent time at Lake Superior State, Bowling Green and Michigan State. York has worked at Clarkson, Bowling Green (succeeding Mason) and now at The Heights. Both men coached against each other in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association (CCHA). Both have had a hand guiding the careers of three winners of the prestigious Hobey Baker Award, emblematic of college hockey's best player.

The journey has encompassed countless recruiting miles on cramped airlines for York, who has never lost the energetic bounce in his step. After his top-ranked Eagles dispatched No. 11 Dartmouth, 6-3, as new star, sophomore sensation Johnny Gaudreau erupted for a career-high five points (2 goals, 3 assists), earning comparisons to the past Hobey winner and NHL great Paul Kariya, York was asked about the 40-year quest to catch Mason.

"It's not part of my fabric," the 67-year-old cancer survivor York said.

In the same poem, Kipling wrote, "If you can dream and not make dreams your master."

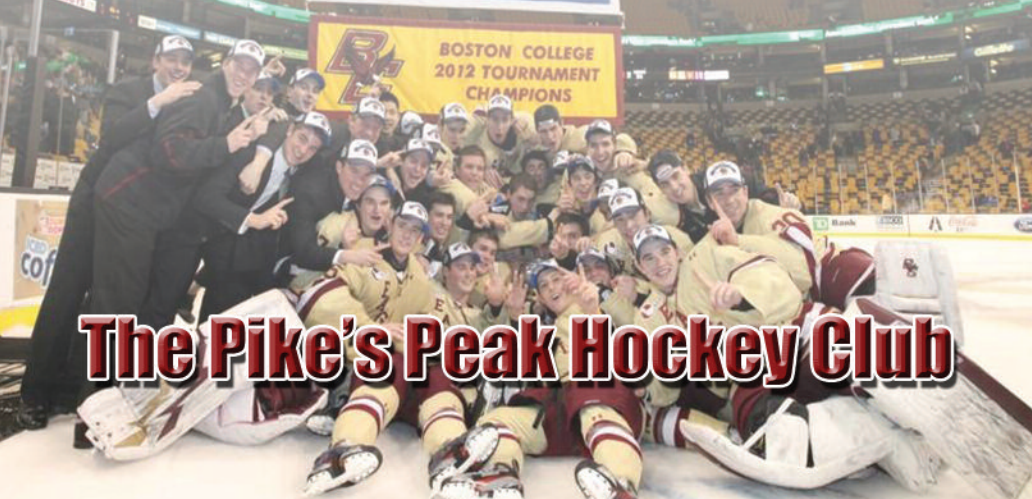
I'll bet Kipling was a hockey fan.



*May 10, 2001: Jerry York and the late Edward M. Kennedy, former U.S. Senator for Massachusetts, at the Capitol in Washington, D.C.*



# **Congratulations to Coach York on his Historic 925th Victory and 5 National Championships**

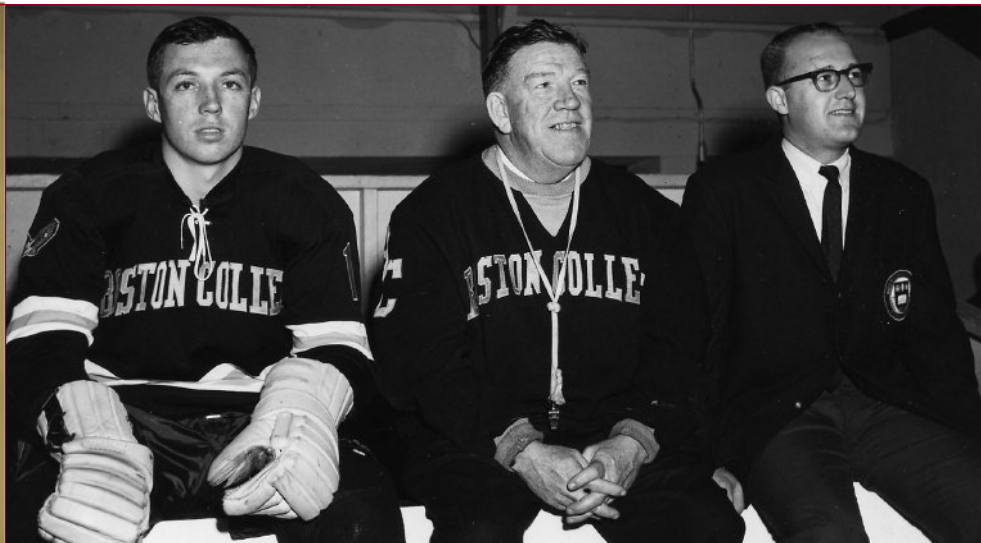


## **The Pike's Peak Hockey Club**

## > DECADE-BY-DECADE







## THE UNDERGRADUATE YEARS

- Earned All-America first-team and All-New England honors in 1966-67.
- Was the 1966-67 recipient of the Walter Brown Award (as the top American-born player in New England).
- Served as team captain and earned team MVP honors as a senior.
- Was a three-year letterman at Boston College.
- Led the Eagles to a 60-26 record, the 1965 Beanpot title and a second-place finish in the 1965 NCAA Tournament.
- Earned All-East honors as a junior.
- Scored 134 points (64 goals, 70 assists) in his 81-game collegiate career.
- Ranks among the school's all-time leaders in: career points, career goals, career assists, single-season points and single-season assists.
- Was inducted into the Boston College Varsity Club Hall of Fame in 1982.

## EDUCATION

- Graduated from Boston College High School in 1963.
- Earned a bachelor's degree in marketing from Boston College in 1967.

*(L-R) Jerry York, coach John "Snooks" Kelley and manager Paul Chabot on the bench in McHugh Forum.*

## Eagle Skaters Roll To Win Over Friars

Led by Jerry York's five goals, which equaled the Boston College single game record, the hockey team rolled over Providence 14-5 last Tuesday night at the Rhode Island Arena.

York's five markers placed him alongside Al Dumond in the Maroon and Gold record books. Dumond accomplishing the feat against Princeton in 1941.

John Cunniff collected four more points, with two goals and two assists, as he climbed with eight points of the BC career record, now held by Billy Daly (153).

Cunniff will have at least two more games in which to better the scoring mark.

Other players getting goals against the Friars included Jim Mullen, who scored his second three-goal "hat trick" of the season, Gordie Clarke (two), Phil Dyer and Whitey Allen.

The victory gave BC a 14-0 record to date and assured coach "Snooks" Kelley of another successful season.

Handling the goaltending chores for the Eagles at Providence were both Pat Murphy and Jeff Cohen.



NEW CASTLE — of the hockey team is Jerry York, who was named the 1966-67 captain of the Eagles on ice at the team's break away last Monday night.



## Captain Jerry York

Friday, February 17, 1967

*A star is made*

By BOB MARTINEZ

Stars may be born, not made, but as far as "sports stars" go everyone needs his first big break. Boston College hockey captain, Jerry York, is no exception to the rule.

"It was my Sophomore year and I hadn't even dressed for the first five games. Then the captain at that time, Ed Downes, suffered a shoulder injury and the next game I was moved up to the third line. I scored two goals in that game as we defeated Royal Military Academy in the Boston Christmas Festival. This is what I consider to be the biggest break in my collegiate hockey career."

And it was indeed, for since that time Jerry has never been out of the picture in regard to Boston College hockey.

In '64 Jerry was awarded the Pikes Peak Club Hockey Award for being the individual most typifying BC hockey. In '65 Jerry was again chosen by the same organization. This time, however, he was cited as Most Valuable Player for the 1965-66 season.

Jerry, a senior, is a Marlborough major in the College of Business Administration. He graduated from BC High where he excelled in baseball as well as in hockey. He was captain of his high school hockey team and won the scoring title in the Boston City League in his senior year. Also in '63 he was named an All-Scholastic Hockey Player.

Jerry's always had a love for the game but the first time he ever played organized hockey was during his freshman year in high school.

Disappointed at the fact that he did not receive a scholarship to BC, which was his first choice, Jerry rejected several offers from smaller schools and decided to make a try for BC hockey.

"I'm glad I didn't go anywhere else, I'd lack a great deal both academically and athletically. BC is first-class all the way."

Jerry is one of ten children and maintains that he has at least one avid fan in his mother, Mrs. Mary York, who has not missed a game since Jerry was a freshman in high school.

"I've always wanted to play for BC and I had a few anxious moments when I didn't get a scholarship here. But I had to prove to myself that I could play on the varsity level at a school like BC."

"I used to come over on holidays and weekends whenever I had some free time and practice on my main weakness, skating. I was able to hold my own in the shooting department but my skating needed polishing, especially on a team like BC. It's a real skating club."

Memorable events? Jerry has

several, but the one he considers to be foremost occurred in the Beanpot Tournament in his sophomore year.

"I scored the winning goal against Harvard in overtime and we won the tournament. We also took the ECAC that year and made it into the Nationals. We upset North Dakota 4-3 and lost in the finals to Michigan State 5-2."

His junior year was a disappointing one. BC was picked number one in the East but finished sixth due to injuries. Jerry moved up to second line as BC posted a 16-11 record.

"Our main weakness this year is inexperience. We've got a fine bunch of Sophomores. They're really hustling and I think that our first line can equal any in the East. Coach Kelley referred to us earlier in the season as a rebuilding team but I think that we've improved by then."

Jerry, who is 6 feet tall and 170 pounds, is quiet-spoken and reserved and refers to his own feats with a great deal of modesty.

He considers his job as "center-man" to set up his two wings for goals. "If I get goals that's just extra, my primary purpose is to feed my two wings." He considers them (Bob Kupka and Gordie Clark) to be two of the best wings in the East. "I get as much satisfaction out of an assist as I do out of a goal."

BC was picked by the pre-season polls to finish seventh in the East, but now they are among the top four teams.

"Our main objective with six games to go is to maintain our fourth place spot and capture the Eastern Division laurels. If BC stays within the top four teams we'll have the right to have our first game at home in the ECAC quarterfinals. This is an important factor as far as the boys are concerned because our crowd really gives us the momentum we need in college hockey emotion is a big factor, especially that emotion which is generated from the crowd into the boys. McHugh Forum has the best crowd in the world!"

In speaking about the tournament situation he comments, "During my four years at BC I have been on the receiving end of many benefits. Now my personal goal is to repay both the BC coaching staff and hockey fans by leading the team to the Eastern title."

Jerry sums up his attitude toward everything very briefly when he says, "This is the year, I can feel it. After all, it's the only way to go in your Senior year."

BEANPOT  
INTERCOLLEGIATE HOCKEY  
TOURNAMENT1965  
February 8 and February 15• BOSTON GARDEN •  
PROGRAM 25c

> **JERRY YORK** played in three Beanpots from 1965-67, leading the Eagles to a 4-2 mark in those games. BC won the Beanpot in 1965, his sophomore season. The Eagles defeated Boston University, 6-5, in the title game. BC placed third in 1966 and third in 1967. York was the four-team tournament's leading scorer as a senior in 1967, tallying seven points — three goals and four assists.

## Jerry York

Sr. 21 6.0 172 Watertown, Mass.

Two seasons ago, at Brown's Meehan Auditorium, the B.C. Eagles upset North Dakota in the first round of the NCAA Championships. A big factor in that victory, and the top scorer on last year's team when injuries hit, was Jerry York. Jerry, as a result of his fine all-around hustle, has been elected captain of the 1966-67 edition of the ice Eagles.

Before enrolling at Boston College, Jerry played high school hockey at Boston College High School. He also captained the hockey team his senior year.

Moving on to the Heights, Jerry has continued to shine whenever on the ice. His sophomore year, on the third offensive line, Jerry accounted for 30 points, 5 of those coming in the E.C.A.C. playoffs as he led all scoring in the Boston Arena event. Last season when the line of John Cuniff, Phil Dyer, and Jim Mullen was slowed because of injuries, Jerry took up the slack and finished the season with 37 points.

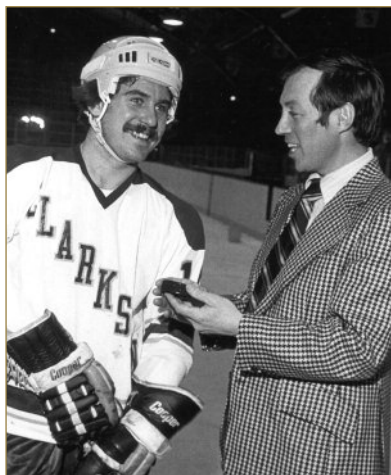
He is a marketing major in the College of Business Administration and is hoping to attend Law School upon graduation next June. You will have to look quite a while to find as outstanding a center as Jerry anywhere in the New England area.



## > THE CLARKSON YEARS

The drive to  
**925**

*A 1976-77 All-American, Dave Taylor played for coach York at Clarkson.*



### AHCA All-America First-Team Selections

*(Played for Coach York)*

1975-76.....	Brian Shields
1976-77.....	Brian Shields, Bill Blackwood, Dave Taylor
1977-78 .....	Bill Blackwood

### > 1972-79

#### **WIN TOTALS: 125-87-3 (.588 IN SEVEN YEARS)**

- Jerry York became the youngest head coach in the nation when he accepted the top job at Clarkson at age 26.
- Earned the 1976-77 Spencer Penrose Trophy as the nation's Division I Coach of the Year.
- He guided Clarkson to 125 wins, six ECAC playoffs and one ECAC title in seven years.
- Served two years (1970-72) as Len Ceglarski's assistant coach at Clarkson before taking over as head coach.





# Congratulations Coach York!



THANKS FOR THE FOND MEMORIES (1972-79)  
FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT CLARKSON



## CONGRATULATIONS COACH YORK!



Thanks You For  
15 Years Of Memories

1979-1994





## > THE BOWLING GREEN YEARS

The drive to  
**925**

### > 1979-94

#### **WIN TOTALS: 342-248-31 (.576 IN 15 YEARS)**

- Jerry York assumed the head post at Bowling Green on April 10, 1979.
- Led Bowling Green to six NCAA Tournament berths.
- Led Bowling Green to four CCHA regular-season titles, including three consecutive crowns from 1981-84 and one CCHA tournament title.
- Was inducted into the Bowling Green State University Athletic Hall of Fame in 2003.
- Jerry York, who led Bowling Green to the 1984 NCAA title, is one of only three coaches in NCAA history to lead two different schools to national titles.



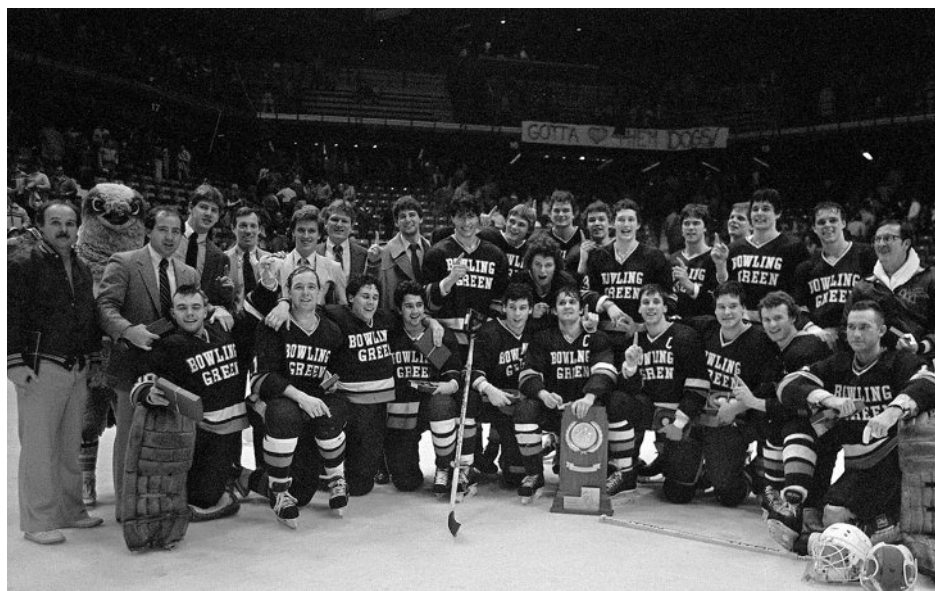
#### **AHCA All-America First-Team Selections**

*(Played for Coach York)*

1980-81.....	Ed Small, Bryan Cleaver
1981-82.....	Steve Cruickshank, Brian MacLellan, Brian Hills, George McPhee
1982-83 .....	Brian Hills
1983-84 .....	Gary Galley, Dan Kane
1985-86 .....	Gary Kruzich
1986-87 .....	Gary Kruzich
1987-88 .....	Scott Paluch
1988-89.....	Greg Parks
1989-90.....	Rob Blake, Nelson Emmerson
1994-95 .....	Kelly Perrault, Nelson Emmerson



*George McPhee, general manager of the Washington Capitals who won the 1982 Hobey Baker award at Bowling Green, on his memories of playing for coach Jerry York.*



*March 24, 1984: Bowling Green, led by head coach Jerry York, on the ice in Lake Placid, N.Y. with the NCAA championship trophy after the Falcons' 5-4 quadruple-overtime victory over Minnesota-Duluth.*



## > THE FACE OF BC HOCKEY



**BY REID OSLIN**

BOSTON COLLEGE CLASS OF 1968

**B**oston College's Jerry York has a pretty simple strategy for his success: Recruit players who want to compete at the highest possible level; attack with the puck; and eat oatmeal. It's a formula that works remarkably well. In early October, York launched his 41st season as a collegiate head coach — the 19th at BC — by helping to hoist the NCAA 2012 National Championship Banner to the rafters of Conte Forum. It was the fourth national crown for Boston College during York's coaching career in Chestnut Hill (the Eagles also won the NCAA title in 2001, 2008 and 2010), and the fifth NCAA championship for York, a 1967 BC grad, who also coached Bowling Green to the top of the college hockey ladder in 1984.

York's Eagles have qualified for the NCAA Ice Hockey Tournament in every season but two since the 1997-98 campaign, and his teams advanced to the "Frozen Four" championship rounds 11 times in that span.

"Jerry York is the face of Boston College hockey," says Mike Mottau, 2000, who won the Hobey Baker Award as college hockey's best player in his senior season at BC and now plays for the NHL's New Jersey Devils. "He is always the best representative of the school that he can be. He always taught us how to play the game right, to have a good work ethic and to have fun while we were doing it.

"He's the classiest person and coach I have ever had in this game," says Mottau. "Without Jerry, the program would never be where it is today. He will go down as one of the best college hockey coaches ever."

University of Wisconsin coach Mike Eaves views York not only as a top-tier competitor but a model mentor for young student-athletes. Eaves' sons, Ben (2000-04) and Patrick (2002-05), played for York at Boston College.

"One of the things that I admire about Jerry is his longevity as a college coach," Mike Eaves says. "The game and college hockey has changed over the years and he has done an extraordinary job at

adapting to the new times, the changes and the differences in the student-athletes.

"In listening to our boys," Eaves continues, "I think that Jerry has a lot of the same qualities as our (former Wisconsin coach) Bob Johnson in that his enthusiasm for the game hasn't waned over the years.

"That is one of the things that the boys really enjoyed about playing for him."

It all starts with recruiting, says the unassuming York. "Your business card says 'Boston College' when you visit someone," he says, "so right away you have their attention. Then you have to sell them on the fact that they are going to play in a program where there will be outstanding players next to them in the locker room. It's not going to be three or four good players — it's going to be 22 or 23 players who all have the aspiration to compete at the very highest level. We talk about trying to be a player at the national level."

His recruiting pitch works: 22 former Eagles are currently playing for National Hockey League teams.

"We always want to have a chance to win the national title," York says. "I think there are only six or seven programs in the country that are in that ballpark. We always want to be right there with a chance to win.

"I take pride every day in coming to work here," he continues. "Not just for the current team or current staff, but all through the history of BC hockey there have been some remarkable teams and elite players who have worn our jersey."

York's coaching strategy is similarly uncomplicated. "We as a staff have always stressed fundamentals," York says, "skating, puck skills and movement, toughness, and above all, team camaraderie.

"We love to attack," he notes. "We pressure the puck. We'll never be a team that sits back in a defensive mode."

While York's path to Boston College as a student-athlete was a pretty straight one, his coaching career had many more twists and turns.

York grew up in nearby Watertown — one of 10 siblings — where his father, Dr. Robert York, was the physician to the Jesuit community in Weston.

On winter afternoons Dr. York would often bring young Jerry along as he made his medical rounds and the youngster would skate on the local pond with the resident Jesuit seminarians.

He later went to Boston College High School.

"At the time, you would go to BC High with the feeling that BC or Holy Cross was going to be your destination. With hockey at BC and none at Holy Cross then, I always wanted to go to BC."

York recalls the day that legendary BC coach John "Snooks" Kelley asked him to play for the Eagles. "We were just chatting before a game at the old McHugh Forum and he said 'I'd love for you to come to BC.'"

"He never mentioned a scholarship," laughs York. "I was just thrilled for a chance to walk-on. I was just so excited."

York had a sterling playing career under Kelley's tutelage, earning All-America honors before graduating with a degree in business administration. After narrowly missing a spot on the United States Olympic Team for the 1968 Winter Games in Grenoble, York returned to BC to pursue a master's degree in education. He secured a graduate assistantship to supervise the University's then-tiny intramural program and also helped out coaching the freshman hockey team.

He was sitting in the hockey office one day when Len Ceglarski, another BC grad who was head coach at Clarkson College, called looking for a freshman coach for his staff in Potsdam.

The 25-year-old York jumped at the opportunity. Almost.

"My fiancé at the time was Bobbi O'Brien — a niece of Fr. Charlie Donovan, who was the Dean of the School of Education," York recalls.

"I had to convince her to go to upstate New York. It was no small task getting her from West Roxbury to Potsdam," he laughs. The saga ended well: "We got married that summer and I started up at Clarkson."

Two years later, Ceglarski was named Kelley's successor at BC and York was promoted to top man at Clarkson. At 27, he was the youngest head

## > THE FACE OF BC HOCKEY



*April 10, 2010: Jerry York and Boston College Chancellor Fr. J. Donald Monan, S.J. en route to the 2010 national championship celebration on O'Neill Plaza.*

coach in Division I college hockey. He won 125 games over the next seven years.

From there, York and his family headed to Bowling Green State University in Ohio (“A good career move and a bigger program,” he calls it). Over the next 15 seasons, he led the Falcons to 342 victories and the ’84 national championship. He also picked up a valuable piece of coaching advice from Bob Johnson, a legendary collegiate coach at the University of Wisconsin and future NHL head man.

“Bob’s son, Peter, was a graduate assistant for us,” York recalls. “When we won the title there, Bob called me and said ‘The best thing about winning your first national championship is that it will help you win others. You know how hard you have to work, the types of players you will need, and how to handle the big stage.’”

“It was absolutely correct,” says York, who came home to Boston College in 1994 to rescue an Eagle ice program that had endured an atypical three consecutive losing seasons.

“When I came back to BC, I found a lot of the same characteristics of the job that I had always envisioned when I played for Coach Kelley,” he says. “Things like support from the administration, a very balanced University athletics program, and a very rabid alumni and student following. The core values were still there. What had changed was that the facilities had taken a big step forward,” he says.

“Most programs, even the good, good ones in all sports, go into some cycles, but they always come back,” says York. “I said ‘Let’s go out after those very best players that we had been losing a bit to other schools for a variety of reasons.’”

The results speak for themselves.

As for the oatmeal? York starts every game day with his ritual breakfast of steaming Quaker Oats sprinkled lightly with brown sugar. “My Dad, the doctor, always said that oatmeal was the best thing for you,” he says.

“He was right.”



A photograph of Coach York, an older man with white hair, smiling broadly and holding a large, ornate trophy. He is surrounded by young men in maroon and white athletic gear, who are also cheering and raising their hands. The trophy is gold and black with the words "NATIONAL CHAMPION" visible. The background is a blurred crowd of spectators.

# Congratulations to Coach York on his Historic 925th Victory



**Saltmarsh**  
Insurance Agency



## > THE BOSTON COLLEGE YEARS

The drive to  
**925**

**June 15, 1994**

Jerry York assumes head coaching duties at Boston College, his alma mater.

**1995-96**

Marty Reasoner is the top scoring freshman in league; earns Hockey East Rookie of the Year.

**March 21, 1998**

Brian Gionta snaps tie in third period, BC beats Maine for the Hockey East Tournament title, a first since 1990.

**March 29, 1998**

Beat Colorado College to advance to its first Frozen Four since 1990; beats OSU in semi-finals and falls to Michigan in overtime in the championship game in Boston.

**March 19, 1999**

Captures second straight Hockey East Tournament title with win over New Hampshire.

**March 28, 1999**

Scott Clemmensen stopped 31 shots and team advances to Frozen Four — its second straight — in Anaheim, Calif.



**April 6, 2000**

Team beats St. Lawrence at NCAA Frozen Four in Providence, R.I.; advances to championship game.

**January 27, 2001**

Brian Gionta sets NCAA record with five first-period goals (on five shots) in home win over Maine.

**March 1, 2001**

Clinches Hockey East regular-season title — its first since 1990-91 — with home victory.

**March 17, 2001**

Captures third Hockey East Tournament title in four years with 5-3 win over PC.

**March 24, 2001**

Beats Maine, advances to fourth straight Frozen Four.

**April 7, 2001**

Claims national title with 3-2 win over North Dakota in Albany, N.Y.; Krys Kolanos nets OT winner.





*Brooks Orpik's reflections on his time at Boston College, where he captured the 2001 national championship and went on to win the 2009 Stanley Cup with Pittsburgh.*

**February 28, 2003**

Clinches a share of Hockey East regular-season crown.

**February 9, 2004**

Wins Beanpot title with OT victory over BU; Ryan Murphy nets game winner.

**February 27, 2004**

Clinches second straight Hockey East regular-season title.

**March 28, 2004**

Defeats Michigan in NCAA Regional to advance to fifth Frozen Four under Jerry York; Ben Eaves scores spectacular OT winner.

**March 5, 2005**

Earns third straight Hockey East regular-season title with 2-2 tie with Maine.

**March 19, 2005**

Wins Hockey East Tournament title; Brian Boyle nets two goals, earns MVP honors.

**March 25, 2006**

Wins NCAA Northeast Regional title with 5-0 win over BU; advances to sixth Frozen Four.



< Brian Gionta





## > THE BOSTON COLLEGE YEARS

The drive to  
**925**

### **March 17, 2007**

Defeats UNH to win Hockey East Tournament title; Brock Bradford earns MVP honors.

### **March 25, 2007**

Beats Miami for 12th straight win and berth in NCAA Frozen Four in St. Louis, Mo.

### **February 11, 2008**

Wins Beanpot championship with win over Harvard; Brian Gibbons earns MVP honors.

### **March 22, 2008**

Captures Hockey East Tournament title with 4-0 win over Vermont; one night earlier, Eagles down UNH in triple overtime.

### **March 30, 2008**

Captures NCAA Northeast Regional title with OT win over Miami; Joe Whitney nets game winner; team advances to Denver, Colo., for eighth Frozen Four under Jerry York.

### **April 12, 2008**

Claims national championship with 4-1 win over Notre Dame in Denver; Nathan Gerbe nets two goals, two assists in title game.

### **February 8, 2010**

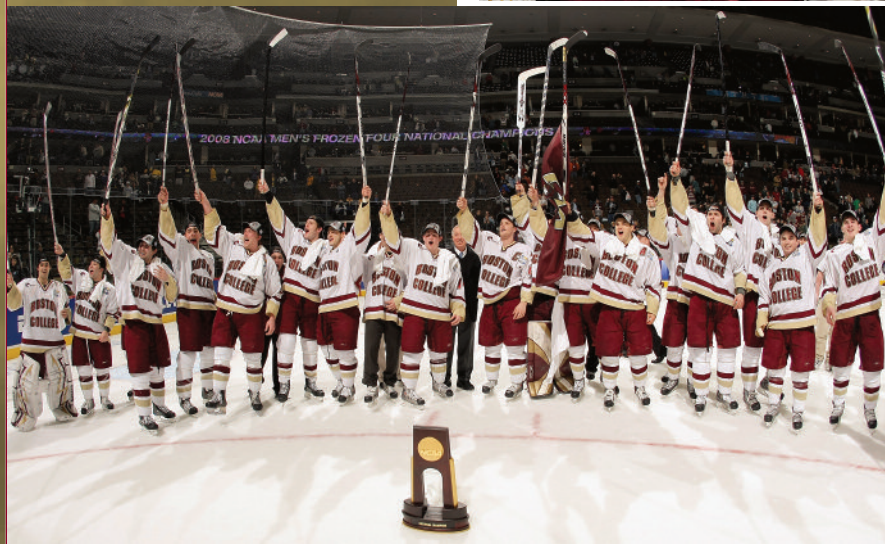
Captures Beanpot title with win over BU; John Muse earns MVP honors and Eberly Trophy.

### **March 20, 2010**

Captures Hockey East Tournament championship with 7-6 win over Maine; Matt Lombardi earns MVP honors with hat trick in title game.

### **March 28, 2010**

Beats Yale in wild game in Worcester, Mass.; advances to ninth Frozen Four.





*Mike Mottau on the impact Jerry York has had on his life.*

**April 10, 2010**

Claims national title with 5-0 win over Wisconsin; win gives Jerry York 850 career victories; game played before 37,592 in Detroit's Ford Field.

BC 3 2 BU  
OVERTIME

BC 3, BU 2 (OT)

### BC wins third straight Beanpot

Eagles sophomore Bill Arnold scored the clincher, just 6.4 seconds away from another extra period, to deny BU in the 60th Beanpot Tournament.



JIM DAVIS/GLOBE STAFF

**February 14, 2011**

Jimmy Hayes breaks 6-6 tie in overtime to lift BC past Northeastern for its second straight Beanpot title.

**March 5, 2011**

Claims program's 11th Hockey East regular-season title, its first since 2004-05.

**March 19, 2011**

Beats Merrimack for a record 10th Hockey East Tournament title.

**February 14, 2012**

Bill Arnold scores with 6.4 seconds left in the first OT to lead BC to its third straight Beanpot title with 3-2 win over BU.

**March 17, 2012**

Captures third straight — and record 11th overall — Hockey East Tournament title with 4-1 win over Maine.



## > THE BOSTON COLLEGE YEARS

The drive to

# 925

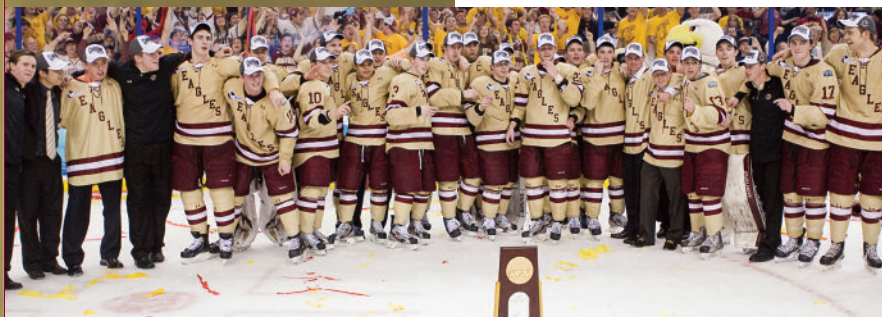
### March 25, 2012

Parker Milner shuts out Minnesota-Duluth; team advances to Frozen Four for 10th time in 15 years.

### April 7, 2012

Captures national title with 4-1 win over Ferris State; team wins 19 straight to win third NCAA championship in five years.

- > *Four national championships*
- > *10 Frozen Fours*
- > *Six Hockey East regular season titles*
- > *Nine Hockey East tournament titles*
- > *457 wins*



### AHCA All-America First-Team Selections (Played for Coach York)

#### 1975-76

Brian Shields

#### 1976-77

Brian Shields  
Bill Blackwood  
Dave Taylor

#### 1977-78

Bill Blackwood

#### 1980-81

Ed Small  
Bryan Cleaver

#### 1981-82

Steve Cruickshank  
Brian MacLellan  
Brian Hills  
George McPhee

#### 1982-83

Brian Hills

#### 1983-84

Gary Galley  
Dan Kane

#### 1985-86

Gary Kruzich

#### 1986-87

Gary Kruzich

#### 1987-88

Scott Paluch

#### 1988-89

Greg Parks

#### 1989-90

Rob Blake  
Nelson Emmerson

#### 1994-95

Kelly Perrault  
Brian Holzinger

#### 1997-98

Marty Reasoner

#### 1998-99

Mike Mottau  
Brian Gionta

#### 1999-2000

Mike Mottau  
Jeff Farkas  
Brian Gionta

#### 2000-01

Bobby Allen  
Brian Gionta

#### 2002-03

Ben Eaves

#### 2003-04

Andrew Alberts  
Tony Voce

#### 2004-05

Andrew Alberts  
Patrick Eaves

#### 2005-06

Chris Collins  
Peter Harrold  
Cory Schneider

#### 2006-07

Brian Boyle

#### 2007-08

Nathan Gerbe

#### 2010-11

Cam Atkinson  
Brian Dumoulin

#### 2011-12

Brian Dumoulin





**MARSH & MCLENNAN  
AGENCY**

“If your actions inspire  
others to dream more,  
learn more, do more  
and become more,  
you are a leader.”

*-John Quincy Adams*



Bostonian Group, a Marsh & McLennan Agency Company would like to extend a warm congratulations to Jerry York for being a superb leader, role model, and coach leading the way to 925 wins! It is quite an accomplishment to be the all-time wins leader in NCAA Hockey and Bostonian Group would like to show our support for Boston College sports.

**James D. Blue, CEO, Bostonian Group**  
**BC Class of 1986**

*locally known as*



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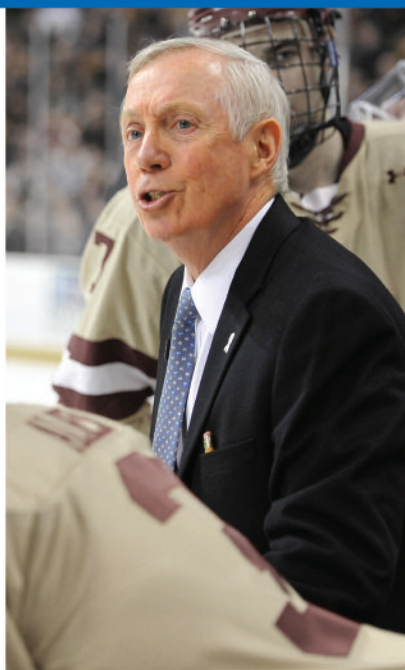
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## &gt; A WALK THROUGH HISTORY WITH THE HOUSE OF YORK

BY TOM BURKE

BOSTON COLLEGE CLASS OF 1971

**H**istory. It's numbers, dates, places, military battles, kings, presidents and treaties. Memorize enough of these items and you'll pass any multiple-choice test on the way to a master's degree. But that's not the way to study history. Because history is the story of humanity. History is people. We only know and appreciate history when we learn about its people — about what made them tick, about why they did what they did, and about how history's giants got others to do what those great people wanted them to do.

True, if you don't learn the lessons of history, you're doomed to repeat the mistakes and follies that history chronicles. History doesn't really repeat itself; however, it rhymes. The same themes, and the same refrains, and even the same people return, over and over. We usually discover these recurrences long after they take place.

So it is in sports. We're here to talk about Jeremiah F. York, already secure in his place in history of intercollegiate athletics. Jerry is college hockey's winningest coach with 925 victories and counting. He has five national championships, along with league pennants, tournament crowns and playoff titles galore. We'll enumerate a few. But to recite them all here would be to miss the opportunity, on this occasion of Jerry's accession to the absolute pinnacle of his profession, to take a look back on my own career of watching, observing and writing about Jerry York.

I go back with Jerry further than most readers. Though I never saw him play either in high school or college — he was four years ahead of me — I knew of him and his brother Billy before Jerry's career with Boston College had even begun. My father taught public school in Watertown, and like most teachers he picked up a few extra bucks refereeing sports wherever he could. One of the kids' teams he saw regularly was named Mount Trinity. When I enrolled at BC High he told me of those fine York lads he'd known in Watertown, and that Jerry had played hockey for Father Leo Pollard at BC High. Dad even brought home a few of the Mount Trinity jerseys — hey, I might have been wearing one of Jerry's old uniforms around the house more than 50 years ago.

I played hockey with Jerry a few times too. He took a couple of grad degrees — M. ED and CAES — at BC after he graduated in 1967. He helped out Snooks Kelley as a volunteer grad assistant, and occasionally he'd skate with us in practice for the "Flynn's Follies" intramural teams. I remember asking him one time if he planned to be a teacher-coach? He said that he'd prefer to be a counselor-coach. Hindsight shows the prescience of that plan. If anyone knows how to get into kids' heads and motivate them to play their best, it's Jerry York.

In 40 years of coaching at three schools, Jerry's teams have had a total of nine losing seasons. Of those, seven have come during the first three years of his transitions, before the respective programs were entirely of his own making.

It took him three years to recruit enough talent — enough of his kind of player — to right the Boston College program after he arrived in 1994. Marty Reasoner, a 1995 recruit who played three years at BC, was the breakthrough guy, and Jerry hasn't stopped since. It's easy to forget that Boston College hockey's history, from 1971-97, was frustratingly inconsistent. Nine of the 26 seasons were sub .500. There were only three Beanpot crowns and just one trip to the NCAA title game. Mere wins were there in sufficient number, but there weren't enough victories in the truly big games.

Digression to a few numbers — since the 1997-98 year, there have been 13 NCAA tourney berths, ten trips to the Final — now "Frozen" Four, and four national championships. Add to that with seven Beanpots, six Hockey East pennants, and nine Hockey East playoff championships. Big games? Yes indeed.



But let's not go too far into the numbers and statistics. The stories are more fun. Jerry moved to Clarkson and assisted Len Ceglarski for a couple of years. Then came the upheaval season of 1972-73. Snooks Kelley retired after 36 years as BC coach, Lenny came to replace him, and Jerry assumed the mantle at Clarkson.

Jerry had a good honeymoon year at Clarkson, going 18-15, getting seventh seed in the ECAC's, and upsetting second-place Harvard in the first play-off round. I was the Eastern college writer for the *Hockey News* throughout the 70s and most of the 80s, and it was great to see Jerry and Lenny both make it to the Garden for the ECACs.

After the Tuesday night quarterfinal, I visited the Sonesta in Cambridge where Clarkson and the Penn teams that had beaten BU were staying. I saw Jerry and wife Bobbie in the lounge — yes, it was in the lounge, although he was probably imbibing ginger ale. He sat there with a faraway look on his face and dreamily, but very politely, responded to the waves of congratulations that flowed his way.

Knocking off Harvard and coach Billy Cleary was a tremendous accomplishment. I'd say it was Jerry's first taste of victory — as a coach — on a big and consequential stage. Earlier in the year, in an interview for a story I was writing, Jerry remarked that he'd probably be eating a lot of cheese sandwiches to calm his nervous stomach. Those flutters didn't last, apparently.

Actually, there was another big, dramatic taste of victory he'd enjoyed eight years earlier. It was in the

NCAA semifinal at Brown's Meehan Auditorium. The Eagles upset heavily favored North Dakota 4-3. Jerry, a sophomore on a team led by John Cunniff and Phil Dyer, put home a 25-foot wrist for the game's first goal. With 5:22 to go in the third period, he split the Sioux defense and scored the game winner.

Two of those themes, those rhymes of history, would be back. North Dakota is Boston College's most familiar rival in NCAA play, with seven encounters since 1999. And how often has the young player, not the established star, emerged to be an NCAA tournament hero? Freshmen Chuck Kobasew, 2001 Tourney MVP, and rookie goalie John Muse in 2008, spring to mind.

I never saw Jerry play at Boston College, but I'll say that he was the type of player who has been the indispensable ingredient of just about every successful Eagle team — and that includes football and basketball as well as hockey. That is, Jerry was one of those red-chip guys who blossomed into a bona fide star, and more importantly, a leader of the team.

Remember that back in the 60s, any win by an Eastern team over the likes of North Dakota, Denver or Michigan Tech was a colossal upset. WCHA teams were loaded with older players, former Canadian major juniors and almost-pros. So Jerry's taste of glory as an NCAA tournament star came early but, alas, it would be his only one. In both his junior and senior years, Boston College got bounced from the Eastern playoffs by Cornell. Not just eliminated. Destroyed and humiliated, 9-0 and 12-2, by Ned Harkness and his Cornell machine.

**> A WALK THROUGH HISTORY WITH THE HOUSE OF YORK**

Fast forward a moment to 1984. Jerry is coach at Bowling Green. They've made it to the NCAA finals in Lake Placid. I was there, covering for both the *Hockey News* and the *New York Times*. Walking past the arena one morning, I had to jump out of the way of a car that careened into a nearby parking spot. The driver — the very same Ned Harkness, by that time out of coaching and running the Lake Placid Olympic Authority.

Ned was a brilliant coach who had won the NCAA hockey title at two different schools, RPI and Cornell. That very weekend, Jerry would win the first of his NCAA titles with the Falcons. Seventeen years later, he'd match Ned's feat, taking Boston College to its first NCAA crown in 52 years. Only one other coach, Rick Comley, has done it. To get his second NCAA title, Rick had to get his Michigan State team past Boston College with a 3-1 win in the 2007 championship game.

One thing about Ned and about some of the other giants of the sport that I got to know and cover over the years — he was utterly ruthless. There have been many coaches who could match him technically and tactically, but there were only a handful who would do anything — anything, mind you — to win. Others in that category — Bob Johnson, Herb Brooks, Jack Kelley, and perhaps Murray Armstrong and Shawn Walsh. Those guys, all extremely likable and accommodating to me when I covered them, seemed to have that extra five or ten percent of fear-driven mind control that could push their players beyond mere exertion to a furious frenzy of execution. Terrified of their coach's wrath, they would turn into swarming myrmidons. But I never got a similar feeling when watching Jerry York's players perform.

Maybe Jerry is the exception who proves Leo Durocher's rule about nice guys finishing last. What he has done since that 1997-98 season has surpassed all those legends and everybody else. I can't pretend to have any special insight into how he does it. Obviously he has high standards and is adamant about players' adhering to them. His coaching staff is perhaps the most stable and experienced in the entire game. With the players, it is his way or the

highway. His way works, and the players he recruits know it. But do they fear him as the Cornellians once feared Ned Harkness? I highly doubt it.

Jerry knows perhaps better than anyone else how to build a team and blend the talent and personalities into just the right combination. I recall hearing about Bob Johnson's calling to congratulate Jerry after his 1984 NCAA win. The gist of that message was that now Jerry knew what it really takes to build a winning team. Old Badger Bob was right.

A few years ago, doing my annual coach interview for the Beanpot program, I asked Jerry about an upperclassman who'd never seen much ice time, and almost none on the power play or penalty kill. He seemed to be a nonessential spare part. But Jerry assured me that he was a very important aspect of his roster planning. "We need him on the team. He's a character player," was the assessment.

And speaking of players and their character — we can all remember athletes, on our own team and our opponents', who were so talented that they just had to be kept around even though their influence on the team was more negative than positive. I can't name any such players after Jerry put his stamp on the hockey program. Of course, there were a few who disappointed as seniors, or who didn't keep developing, but none who didn't toe the line. If there were, they didn't stay around for four years.

Getting back to the rhymes and echoes of history. One of the great things about college hockey is its size. It is big enough to be a "big time" sport where it's loved, but it's small enough for its devotees to know everyone in the entire game. The personalities don't change all that much. When Jerry took the Bowling Green job, the man he replaced was Ron Mason, the same one he has just passed on the all-time win list. Ron also coached at three schools, put in 36 years and won one NCAA title to go along with his 924 wins.

When Jerry's Bowling Green team pulled off a first-round upset of Boston University in the NCAAs back in 1984, it was quite a feat. The vanquished was a frequent victor, our old — and still great — friend Jack Parker. BG lost the first of the





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## > A WALK THROUGH HISTORY WITH THE HOUSE OF YORK

two-game total goals series by 6-3, but won the second night 4-1. That forced an overtime period, and the Falcons won it. I still remember the banner hung by some Terrier students. Two of the players on that BG team were Mike Pickul and Brian Roll. The banner read: "Hey, you've got a Pickul and a Roll — Where's the Beef?" They found out soon enough.

But later on in Lake Placid, that 5-4, four-overtime game against Minnesota-Duluth remains the best game played between two teams that I've ever seen. Period. I was an "objective" journalist, with no emotional stake in the outcome, really. And I was drained. UMD had two Hobey Baker winners, Billy Watson and Tom Kurvers. I expected them to win. Bowling Green tied the game 4-4 on a lucky bounce from the backboards in the third period. The teams battled through three ten-minute overtimes and on into the fourth. I was utterly spent at the conclusion, when sophomore Gino Cavallini finally put home the winning marker. You can find it on YouTube.

You can also find the game winner by Krys Kolanos, another sophomore, in the 2001 Eagle victory over North Dakota in Albany, N.Y. The game was quite different from the 1984 classic, but the winning goal came from almost the same spot, a short tuck from right in front of the crease. Cavallini had sneaked behind a defenseman for a pass, and finished with a deke and backhand. Kolanos, a right shot, powered down left wing, swung by a defenseman, and slipped the puck home on his forehand.

I remember watching Jerry from the stands before that first overtime. The Eagles held a 2-0 lead with five minutes to go, but North Dakota was swarming all over the ice and was in full command. They scored with 3:42 to play, and again with 36 seconds left. BC could not have held the Sioux off if the game had continued. But Jerry York showed no signs of stress or emotion as he led the team into the locker room. He looked like he was headed off for a cup of tea.

That 2001 tournament, you may recall, was one in which Boston College's three victories were over teams that had eliminated them in the previous three

national tourneys. There was such poetic justice in it all. Michigan had bested BC in a bitter OT loss in 1998 on a shot from way over on the wing boards that somehow got by Scott Clemmensen. The next year, Maine clutched and grabbed their way to an overtime win in the semifinal. In 2000 BC lost the final to North Dakota after traveling to a quarterfinal round and winning on back-to-back nights against higher-seeded opponents.

You couldn't have blamed Jerry and the team if they thought they were jinxed, but it seems that after the 2001 win against the Sioux, Boston College just expected to win. Moreover, they knew what it took to do it, and they went out and did it, time and again. They've got it figured out.

It took until 2008 to win another national championship, and then two more. But the Eagles also made it to the finals three other times during the decade. Winning has become a habit. Until 1998, when the House of York was fully built, it wasn't really expected. Now it is. Players come and go. Some of the best ones don't stick around for the full four years. It hasn't seemed to matter one bit.

This has been a long and pleasant ramble for me. I hope you've enjoyed it too. There's no sport like college hockey, and no school that can compare to Boston College. I didn't interview Jerry for this article, mainly because he'd have tried to talk me out of it. But I am sure he agrees with me on that last point. This is the last word I'd like to leave.

Jerry York knows that it's not about him. It's about something bigger, and grander. It's about his school and all that it stands for. Jerry was a fine head hockey coach at Clarkson and at Bowling Green. But he's the perfect head coach for Boston College. We're lucky to have him, but he'd tell you he's lucky to be here too. And he's right.

*Tom Burke, BC '71, covered college hockey for the Hockey News from 1969-88. He also strung for the New York Sunday Times, and was color announcer on BC hockey along with Dave Pearlman for seven seasons. He has been public address announcer for Boston College hockey since 1984-85 and for Boston College football since 1976.*



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