

PRESS RELEASE



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The Vanier College LADY CHEETAHS Win the Provincial AAA Basketball Title

It was history in the making when the Vanier College Lady Cheetahs won the college's first ever Gold Medal at the 29th Provincial College Basketball League AAA Championships held in Sherbrooke on March 2-4, 2007.

From the very start, the Cheetahs took a 31-29 lead against their opponents at half time and finished off their first game with a 86-59 win over Ste-Foy. Several outstanding players paved the way to Vanier's win. Arianne Duchesne scored 22 points during the game, Anneth Him Lazarenko, 16, Marie-Ève Martin, 14 points, and Kristin Portwine, who was playing in spite of a knee injury, added another 10 points to the Cheetahs' final score.

At the finals the next day, the Cheetahs who were trailing Collège Édouard-Montpetit, by one point at half-time, roared back into action in the second half of the game, took a 20 point lead over the opposing Lynx, and went on to win the game and seize the Championship title with a final score of 72-59. This time, Heather Eason scored 15 points while Arianne Duchesne and Marie-Ève Martin added 13 points each to the historic triumph. Kristin Portwine who scored 10 points and Magalie Beaulieu who scored 9, also stood out in the final match. The Cheetahs will now head out to Grant MacEwan College in Edmonton, Alberta, for the National Championships on March 15-17.

The Cheetahs' outstanding year-long record was recognized at the 29th Provincial Championship Awards Banquet. Anneth Him Lazarenko who is in Social Sciences at Vanier, was chosen for the 2006-2007 First All Star Team, while Marie-Ève Martin, also in Social Sciences, was picked for the Second All Star Team as well as being named Rookie of the Year. Ruby Viray was named Coach of the Year and Kristin Portwine, a Business Administration student, won the Vanier Student-Athlete Award for having obtained the highest academic average on her team.

« Our players showed us real team work. They are an inspiration for all of us, » proudly commented, Gilbert Héroux, Director General of Vanier College.

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