

ATHLETE PROFILES



**IAN
CHAN**



BIRTHDATE: May 8, 1977
FROM: Richmond, BC
CLASS: 3.0
TEAMS: Canadian National Team, BC A Team, Portland.
FUN FACTS:
 • Shares the team captain position with David Willsie



**FABIEN
LAVOIE**



BIRTHDATE: July 2, 1981
FROM: Quebec, QC
CLASS: 3.0
TEAMS: Canadian National Team, Quebec Impact
FUN FACTS:
 • Also enjoys wheelchair racing.
 • Is considered one of the fastest on the team.



**PATRICE
SIMARD**



BIRTHDATE: Jan 19, 1979
FROM: Quebec City, QC
CLASS: 1.5
TEAMS: Canadian National Team, Quebec Impact
FUN FACTS:
 • His goal is to become a key member of the national team for years to come.



**ERICKA
SCHMUTZ**



BIRTHDATE: Feb 21, 1972
FROM: Whitby, ON
CLASS: 1.5
TEAMS: Canadian National Team, Toronto, Ontario Lightning
FUN FACTS:
 • The first woman to compete for Canada at the Paralympics.



**TRAVIS
MURAO**



BIRTHDATE: Jan 12, 1983
FROM: Richmond, BC
CLASS: 2.0
TEAMS: Canadian National Team, BC "A" team, University of Arizona Wildcats
FUN FACTS:
 • Enjoys reading, working out and poker.
 • Coached a Can-Am team at the past two editions of the International Defi Sportif Competition.

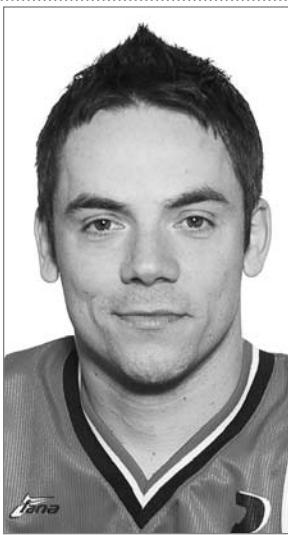


**MIKE
WHITEHEAD**



BIRTHDATE: Nov 25, 1975
FROM: Windsor, ON
CLASS: 3.0
TEAMS: Canadian National Team, Annihilators, Ontario Thunder, Hov. Gunners
FUN FACTS:
 • His nickname is "Shake & Quake."
 • Set a record for becoming the quickest athlete to make the national team after his injury.

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**PATRICE
DAGENAIS**



BIRTHDATE: October 4, 1984
FROM: Embrun, ON
CLASS: 1.0
TEAMS: Ontario Thunder, Team Canada
FUN FACTS:

- Nickname is Pico
- Degree in Business Marketing



**TREVOR
HIRSCHFIELD**



BIRTHDATE: Dec 21, 1983
FROM: Richmond, BC
CLASS: 1.0
TEAMS: Canadian National Team, BC "A" team, BC Bandits
FUN FACTS:

- His nicknames are "T-Bone" and "Franchise."
- His motto is "Suffer in silence. Pain is temporary. Glory is forever!"



**GARETT
HICKLING**



BIRTHDATE: Sept 18, 1970
FROM: Vancouver, BC
CLASS: 3.5
TEAMS: Canadian National Team, BC "A" team.
FUN FACTS:

- Won nine Canadian National Championships in a row from 1993-2001.
- His nickname is "G."



**DAVID
WILLSIE**



BIRTHDATE: March 23, 1968
FROM: London, ON
CLASS: 2.0
TEAMS: Canadian National Team, Annihilators, Ontario Thunder, North. Kings, California Quake
FUN FACTS:

- Before he was injured, David played semi-professional baseball.
- Is co-captain of the team with Ian Chan.

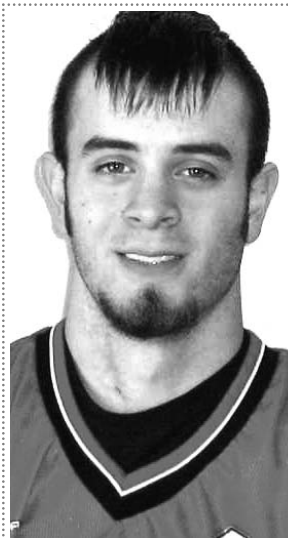


**JARED
FUNK**



BIRTHDATE: Jan 30, 1974
FROM: Niverville, MB
CLASS: 0.5
TEAMS: Canadian National Team, Manitoba
FUN FACTS:

- Before becoming injured, Jared played hockey, football and volleyball. He was a provincial all-star volleyball player.



**JASON
CRONE**



BIRTHDATE: July 23, 1987
FROM: Owen Sound, ON
CLASS: 1.5
TEAMS: Canadian National Team, Annihilators, Ontario Thunder
FUN FACTS:

- Lit the 2010 Olympic Torch when it passed through Owen Sound.
- Before his injury, his 2003 minor midget AA hockey team won the provincial championships. He also played lacrosse.



**JASON
REGIER**



FROM: Denver, Colorado
CLASS: 0.5
TEAMS: U.S. National Team, Denver Harlequins
FUN FACTS:

- Everyone has trouble pronouncing his last name. It sounds like "Re-gear."
- Favourite memory in wheelchair rugby is winning the gold medal in Beijing in 2008 and winning a national championship in 2007.



**SCOTT
HOGSETT**



BIRTHDATE: Oct 16, 1972
FROM: Phoenix, AZ
CLASS: 1.0
TEAMS: U.S. National Team, Phoenix Heat
FUN FACTS:

- Works as a motivational speaker.
- Was featured in the documentary "Murderball."

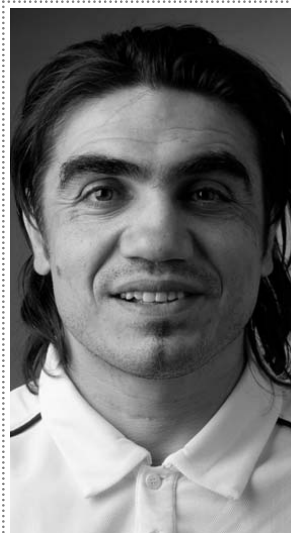


**BRYCE
ALMAN**



BIRTHDATE: Jan 19, 1976
FROM: Glen Waverly, Victoria, AUS
CLASS: 2.0
TEAMS: Australian National Team
FUN FACTS:

- Starred in the "Save Your Neck This Summer" campaign in Australia.

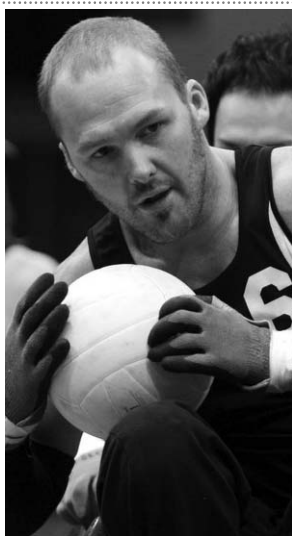


**NAZIM
ERDEM**



FROM: Melbourne, Australia
CLASS: 0.5
TEAMS: Australian national team, Spoke Busters, Vikings, Redbacks, Victoria state team.
FUN FACTS:

- Enjoys AFL football, boxing and motor sports, which sometimes gets him into trouble.
- Favourite memory was winning silver at the 2000 Sydney Paralympic Games, since it was the first time wheelchair rugby was an official Paralympic sport.

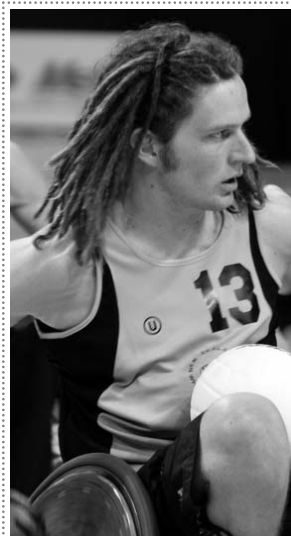


**CURTIS
PALMER**



FROM: Kingsland, Auckland, NZ
CLASS: 2.5
TEAMS: New Zealand Wheelblacks, Atlanta Rolling Thunder, Houston Hurricanes, Super Sonic (Japan), East Midland Marauders (UK), New South Wales Cockroaches (Australia), Auckland Rhinos, and too many to mention.
FUN FACTS:

- Works as a television reporter and a researcher.
- Loves tattoos.



**DAN
BUCKINGHAM**



FROM: Invercargill, NZ
CLASS: 3.0
TEAMS: New Zealand Wheelblacks, Canterbury, Auckland, Victoria, Denver, Lakeshore, Quebec.
FUN FACTS:

- His favourite movie is Pulp Fiction.
- His favourite wheelchair rugby memory is going out on tour with teammate Jai Waite.

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**ANNA
PASANEN**



BIRTHDATE: Feb 21, 1982
FROM: Helsinki, Finland
CLASS: 0.5
TEAMS: Finland national team, Espoo Mosquitos, Helsinki Roosters
FUN FACTS:

- I tend to be late everywhere. I was once 24 hours late for a rugby camp!
- I have a hyperactive assistance dog who tries to take me swimming every time she sees water.



**LEEVI
YLONEN**



BIRTHDATE: Nov 19, 1985
FROM: Helsinki, Finland
CLASS: 3.0
TEAMS: Finland national team, Espoo Mosquitos, Helsinki Roosters
FUN FACTS:

- He is one of the smallest players around, but it allows him to fit into small spaces and move fast.
- His most memorable moment was when Team Finland got a spot at the 2010 World Wheelchair Rugby Championships!

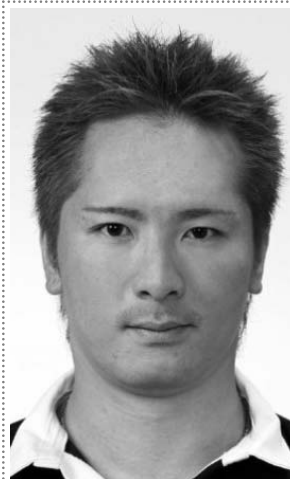


**SHIN
NAKAZATO**



BIRTHDATE: April 6, 1977
FROM: Okinawa, Japan
CLASS: 2.5
TEAMS: Japan national team, Okinawa Hurricanes
FUN FACTS:

- He also plays wheelchair basketball.
- His goal is to play in America.



**SHINICHI
SHIMAKAWA**



BIRTHDATE: Jan 29, 1975
FROM: Kumamoto, Japan
CLASS: 3.0
TEAMS: Japan national team, Blitz, Texas Stampede
FUN FACTS:

- Is sponsored by Melrose Kiwi Concept Chairs.
- Won the 2006 USQRA Athlete of the Year Award.

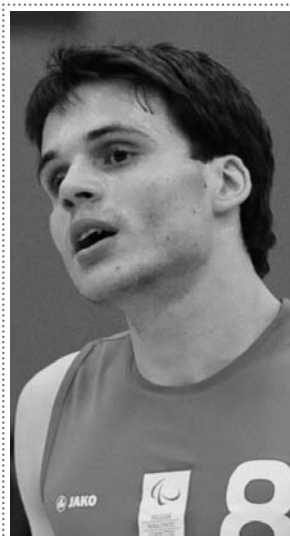


**ANDY
BARROW**



BIRTHDATE: Aug 20, 1979
FROM: London, England
CLASS: 2.0
TEAMS: Great Britain National Team, London Wheelchair Rugby Club
FUN FACTS:

- Is the captain of the Great Britain National team.
- Broke his neck while playing rugby.



**LARS
MERTENS**



FROM: Overpelt, Belgium
CLASS: 3.5
TEAMS: Belgium national team, Marouders, and the Flemish Lions
FUN FACTS:

- He always forgets something when he's going to practice and once forgot to take his wheelchair!
- He can walk.