



Two Local Women have a Hand in Canada's Softball Bronze

On July 2, Canada won the bronze medal at the 12th International Softball Federation Women's World Championship in Caracas, Venezuela. The medal for Canada is its second in the history of the championship, which started in 1965. It was really their first as a National Team Program, as Canada won a silver medal in 1978 in El Salvador with the Vancouver Doc's Blues, the last club to represent Canada at the world championship before the national team was formed. Heather Ebert, 25, an infielder from Rosthern, and catcher Erin Cumpstone, 29 of Saskatoon, are members of the Canadian team. With the Bronze medal, Canada has now won ISF World Championship medals in three consecutive years, as the Junior Men won a Silver medal in Whitehorse, YK in 2008, the Men won a Bronze medal in Saskatoon, SK in 2009 and the Women won the Bronze in Caracas, Venezuela in 2010. The local softball community should take pride in the quality of the softball played around here, as local players played a key role in all three of these medals.

As Saskatchewan's top female softball stars, Ebert and Cumpstone are an interesting contrast in a number of ways. Cumpstone has been a mainstay on the national team for 10 years and has competed in the 2004 and 2008 Summer Olympics. She has also played in five Canadian Championships, three World Championships and two Pan American Games. Ebert on the other hand is just beginning a very promising career with the national team. In 2009, she played with the Bern Cardinals in Switzerland and made her Team Canada debut in Caracas.

Heather is more of small town girl who was born in tiny Canora SK and calls Rosthern her hometown. Upon graduation from Rosthern High School, She attended and played at Colby Community College in Colby, Kan. from the fall of 2004 through the spring of 2006. She was a Second Team All-NJCAA All-American infielder as a sophomore in 2006. She was also a First Team All-Jayhawk West Conference pick in 2005 and 2006. She moved on to Dickinson State (N.D.) University for the fall 2006 semester before transferring to Adams States College mid-year in time for the 2007 season. Ebert played for Adams State College until she graduated in 2008. She made ASC softball history in 2008 as the Grizzlies Senior shortstop, becoming the first ASC player named National Player of the Year among NCAA Division II colleges. She was also selected as a First Team ESPN the Magazine, Academic All-American in the College Division, which recognizes academic and athletic achievement. She was also named Daktronics South Central Regional Player of the year, and RMAC Academic Player of the Year. She holds the school record with 22 regular season home runs, and posted a .978 slugging percentage. Ebert graduated in 2008 from Adams State College with a degree in Human Performance and Physical Education.



Erin is more of a city girl. She was born in and now lives in Saskatoon. Upon graduating from Holy Cross High School she moved out west on scholarship to play in the Greater Vancouver area. Cumpstone played her university career with Simon Fraser University from 1999 to 2003 capturing a bronze medal at the NAIA Nationals in 2000, a silver medal in 2001 and a gold medal in 2003. She was also selected to the NAIA All Tournament Team in 2001 as well as the NAIA 2nd Team All American in 2003. After playing her final game for SFU in 2003, Cumpstone returned to