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## **Stan Cockerton is Lacing Up His Sneakers to Play for the Gaels in 2018**

TORONTO ON – April 1<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – One of the game's all-time greatest players has announced that he is coming out of retirement to help his former team, the Gaels, with their 2018 playoff run. Although he has not played in a box lacrosse game since 1976 and the Gaels are no longer located in Oshawa, Stan Cockerton has proclaimed that the time is right for him to return to the floor to show the current generation of players what lacrosse is all about.

There have been many rumours speculating whether Cockerton can still play like he used to back in the day after video surfaced of him catching a pass and diving across the crease in a private session at Iroquois Park Sports Centre in Whitby, ON. Having seen first-hand what Cockerton brings to the table, Gaels General Manager Doug Luey is certain that Stan is ready to make his triumphant comeback to the sport.

"After being out of the game for four decades, and hearing so much talk about current players attempting to pass my all-time scoring records, I've decided that it's time to make my return to the sport of lacrosse" remarked Stan in a press conference held earlier today. "I know that the game has changed a lot since the last time I played; the equipment is better, the goalies are bigger, the players are stronger and the game is so much faster. That's why I've been working hard on my conditioning and stamina so that I can give it 100% every shift."

The Gaels compete in the Ontario Junior "B" Lacrosse League, where players are aged 17 – 21 years old. In order for Stan to be eligible to suit up, it was necessary for the Junior "B" League Council to approve the age exemption. The council voted unanimously in the Gaels' favour, with League Commissioner Dave Vernon speculating that the motion was granted specifically because the league representatives have a strong desire to watch Cockerton play again. "He's a legend of the game," said Vernon, with a smile. "There's never been another player quite like him."

The Gaels will open the 2018 season on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at the 750-seat Garnet B. Rickard Arena at 7:30PM against the visiting Halton Hills Bulldogs. Tickets are sold out.

### About the Ontario Lacrosse Association:

Since 1897, the Ontario Lacrosse Association (OLA) has been recognized as the administrative governing body which exists to improve, foster, perpetuate and govern of all levels (youth, junior and senior) and disciplines (box, field and women's field) of lacrosse in the province of Ontario.

In addition to coordinating the operation of the sport, the OLA provides informative resources, technical development programs and additional supplies for those interested in the "fastest game on two feet." For more information, contact the Ontario Lacrosse Association at (416) 426-7066 or email [info@ontariolacrosse.com](mailto:info@ontariolacrosse.com).