

ONTARIO BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME



James Russell

Athlete

BIOGRAPHY

- **1971:** James (Jamie) Russell played at Burlington Nelson winning the OFSAA High School Championships.
- **1971-1975:** Jamie won a grant-in-aid scholarship to Division I Colgate University in Hamilton, New York.
- In his freshman year, Jamie achieved 22 points-per-game average and a 63.7 percent shooting average from the field.
- During his career at Colgate, Jamie averaged over six rebounds per game and succeeded on 52 percent of his field goals.
- **1974-75:** Became co-captain in his final year at Colgate University.
- **1975-76:** Attended the University of Waterloo and played for Hall of Fame Coach, Don McCrae, leading the Warriors to a third place finish at the CIAU championships.
- During Waterloo playing career, Russell achieved 23.9 points per game, 10.3 rebounds per game and seasonal 51.8 percent field goal and 80 percent free throw percentages.
- Jamie was selected MVP of the Naismith Classic, a first team all Canadian and became the first recipient of the Mike Moser Award as Canadian University Player of the Year.
- **1972-79:** James started on the Canadian Senior Men's Team in 1972 as its youngest member at the age of 20.
- Jamie's defensive play earned him huge respect around the world. In the pre-Olympic tournament in 1972, Jamie drew so many offensive charges, FIBA referees met and changed the rule to recognize the offensive charge.
- **1973:** Jamie played in the World Student Games in Moscow where Canada finished in fourth place.
- **1974:** Jamie started for Canada in the World Championships in Puerto Rico where Canada finished eighth.
- **1975:** Jamie played in the Intercontinental Cup at Maple Leaf Gardens, leading Canada with 26 points and a first ever victory against the Soviet Union.
- **1975:** Jamie was a member of the team that played in the Pan American Games in Mexico City and went on to a tour against NCAA Division 1 teams.
- **1976:** Canada hosted the Olympic Games in Montreal. The men's team finished in fourth place.
- **1977:** World Student Federation Games in Bulgaria. Canada earned a fourth place finish.
- **1978:** World Championships in Manila, Philippines.
- **1976-78:** During his National Team career, Jamie also found time to be Assistant Basketball Coach at McMaster University.
- **1976-79:** Jamie enrolled and completed his medical degree at McMaster University; completed his residency in General Surgery in 1984 also at McMaster; followed by a Fellowship in Surgery/Critical Care in Baltimore, Maryland.
- **1979:** Jamie was injured prior to the Pan-American games in Puerto Rico.
- **1976-1982 & 1987-1991:** Player/captain of Toronto Estonia Basketball Club winning ten Ontario Basketball Association Senior Men's championships and two CBA championships.
- **1980:** James Russell was inducted into the Colgate Athletic Hall of Honour on Sept. 27, 1980.
- **2000:** Jamie Russell was inducted into the Canadian Basketball Hall of Fame.
- Doctor James Russell currently practices in General Surgery, Surgical Critical Care and Trauma in Phoenix, Arizona and is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery with the University of Arizona.