

SPORTS

Hockey Yeomen back on track with two wins

By THOMAS TETZLAFF

After back to back wins at Brock and McMaster, it appears that the Hockey Yeomen have regained some of the form which brought them the National Championship in 1988.

Two strong performances allowed York to come away with four points as they narrowly defeated Concordia 5-4 on Friday night and McGill 4-3 on Saturday.

In Friday's match-up, York's Luciano Fagioli notched his 15th of the year to give the home side a quick 1-0 lead. Greg Rolston followed up with his first of three on the night to put York ahead by two before Concordia countered to narrow the core to 2-1 after 20 minutes of play.

In the second, Yeomen Todd Dungey and Rolston scored for York while Concordia countered with two of their own to shorten the York lead to 4-2 after two periods.

As the Yeomen fell asleep in the third, Concordia managed to sneak in two goals to even the score at four and send the game into overtime.

With 4:34 left in overtime, Rolston took the puck in the neutral zone, streaked down the right wing into the Concordia end and blistered a

slapshot from the edge of the circle into the top corner to complete his hat-trick and give the Yeomen a 5-4 win.

On Saturday, the McGill Redmen opened the scoring just three minutes and 21 seconds into the contest. With York's Luciano Fagioli and Rob Crocock in the box, defence-

man Jamie Kompon blasted a shot over the shoulder of York netminder Mark Applewaite.

It took the Red and White just 84 seconds to tie it all up. Yeomen forward Kent Brimmer picked up a loose puck in front of the McGill net and stuffed it behind Redman goalie Jamie Reeve. That was the way

things stood after 20 minutes of play.

Both teams doubled their scoring output in the second period, but neither could gain an advantage.

Paul Grech got McGill's first goal, and Jamie Kompon poked in his second of the night to tie things up at three. Sandwiched in between the Redmen goals were markers by York's Guy Girouard and Tod Dungey.

Dungey scored his on the power-play, but it was defenceman Girouard's goal which brought the fans at the Ice Palace to their feet. After taking a pass from Dungey, Girouard muscled his way around the McGill defence and slipped the puck into the net on his backhand as he fell to the ice.

The only goal of the third period

came off the stick of York's Mike Futa, who scored with just 63 seconds left on the clock. Neven Kardum won the draw in McGill's zone and quickly got the puck to Luciano Fagioli, who set up Futa for the game winner. McGill had several chances to send this one into overtime, but time and time again they were turned aside by the 'Rock,' York's goalie Mark Applewaite.

Several players expressed the opinion that the team, made up mostly of rookies, was finally beginning to gel. "We're coming together now, but we're still far from where we were last year at this time," said goalie Applewaite. Applewaite stated that he still "felt shaky in goal," but noticed a great improvement in the play of his teammates.



DOWN BUT NOT OUT: McGill's Jamie Reeve stops Yeoman Greg Rolston. York eeked out a 4-3 win against the Redmen.

ANDRE SORJOUAN

Carol Anne Letheren discusses Olympics

By PAM SERKOWNEY and RANDY UGOLINI

"There's something that erupts . . . that makes the Olympics a powerful experience."

That was how Carol Anne Letheren described the Olympic feeling as she shared her Seoul experience in the senate chamber last Friday night.

Letheren, Canada's Chef De Mission at the Seoul Olympic Games, was the keynote speaker on the opening evening of this year's OWIAA Student Workshop. The theme of the workshop, hosted by the Women's Athletic Council (WAC) at York, was "Women in Leadership Roles."

Letheren described her role as Chef De Mission in Seoul as "the chief executive officer of a company." In other words, she was responsible for the management and maintenance of the Canadian contingent while in Seoul.

A York alumna and one-time faculty member, Letheren spoke briefly on the values of physical education as preparation for leadership roles in society before launching into a candid and fervent discussion of the Olympic Games and particularly the Seoul Olympics.

Letheren defined the Olympics as a "festival of youth which ultimately brings people together."

In recent years, the Olympics have developed into not only an entertainment extravaganza generating tremendous revenue (through TV rights among other things), but a powerful vehicle to deliver messages worldwide.

Letheren feels that the significance of the Olympics lies in its political power and sheer staying power. For

example, the games have transcended two world wars and survived considerable political experiences, such as the recent popularity of boycotts.

However, Letheren quickly pointed out that the Canadian Olympic Association is an autonomous, independently financed body. As a result, the Association will no longer consider government intervention.

"Boycotts are very hard on the athletes," she said. "The lessons have been learned and I don't believe we will see them (boycotts) again."

Letheren sees drug scandals and commercialism, two plagues of contemporary Olympics, as problems which run deep throughout society.

"The Olympic Games wrestle with the same things which are affecting society. I believe money and drugs are two of the most damaging things in society," said Letheren. "There'll have to be some soul searching to deal with problems such as drug use and commercialism."

However, Letheren maintains that commercialism is not as serious a problem as drug use.

"(At Seoul) the 100 metres was the only event where money was at stake. Commercialism is not as significant or detrimental to the games as we think."

When discussing the future of the games, Letheren said that it will be difficult to top Seoul '88.

"There will never be another Olympics Games as large in our lifetime (because of the new facilities and astronomical attendance figures). The Koreans wanted to show that they are a nation to reckon with, that they were ready . . . and they did it," said Letheren.

Stage set for synchro finals

By RICCARDO SALA

After dominating last weekend's U of T Invitational, York's Synchronized Swimming Team stands in good stead to repeat as OWIAA champs.

The Yeowomen chalked up 65 points *en route* to nabbing first place out of seven teams competing. U of T and Queen's followed in second and third place respectively.

The tournament was a triumph for York's Cathy Clark, who led all-round in the individual standings, and for Elizabeth Murtha who captured third.

Though not a high-profile team at York, the synchronized swim club has been around since the late '60s. Coach Pat Murray has been with the team since 1972. Assisting her is Judy Fudge, an assistant professor at Osgoode.

The Yeowomen comprise four swimmers from last year's championship team and four rookie swimmers. The team has matured considerably since its last tournament, a fourth-place finish at Queen's in the fall.

In synchro-swimming there are solo, duet, and eight-member swim events.

"The swimming is judged much like figure skating, where marks are awarded for artistic and technical merit," explained Murray. "They have a panel of judges, either five or seven, and the highest and lowest

marks are knocked off just in case some judge is out to lunch."

Like figure skating, there are compulsories in synchro swimming where certain moves have to be executed. However, rather than use whole songs, synchro swimming uses song sections tied together to form complex rhythms which accompany the swimmers.

York dominated the U of T meet from the outset.

In the solo event, Cathy Clark turned in a beautiful performance to take first place. Close behind, teammate Elizabeth Murtha rounded off the York effort with a sixth-place finish.

In Saturday's duet competition, York's Alexandra Kehrer and Shannon Mathews fought their way to a well-deserved second spot.

Later, the team event saw York's eight-woman squad trounce all comers to land first spot ahead of Queen's and Toronto.

In Sunday's solo figure compulsories, Clark chalked up a fourth while Murtha came in eighth in the senior figures event.

In the intermediate figures, York's Shannon Matthews came away victorious while teammates Kehrer and Lisa Filmore took fourth and eleventh spots. In the novice figures, Janice Craig narrowly lost to a McGill swimmer to nab second place.

Murray was pleasantly surprised with her team's first-place finish. "I wasn't expecting to do this well. Now

we just have to hold our own in the finals at York in mid-February," said Murray.

Although synchronized swimming thrives nationally, Ontario is the only province to offer the sport at the university level.

In the past two years, four Ontario universities — including one-time powerhouse Western — have dropped their synchro programmes. One reason for the drop in interest is the presence of clubs such as the Etobicoke Olympium and Toronto Synchronized in the Metro area alone. Both clubs draw and cultivate many experienced swimmers.

Experienced synchronized swimmers attending university often wish to remain with their original clubs rather than join university teams, as these clubs offer the best means of advancing. As a result, "the level of university competition — hasn't been as high this year as it has been in previous years, and more emphasis has to be put on training rather than refining existing skills," explained Murray.

Another problem is a lack of experienced coaches.

"It's sad to see programmes disappear because universities can't get coaches. There are still a lot of athletes who want to swim."

Regardless of their setbacks, the Yeowomen are gearing up to defend their OWIAA title at the finals, held at York on February 11-13.

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