

SPORTS and RECREATION

Chambers: "a classic example of sour grapes?"

U. of T.'s playoff bye irks Yeomen's coach

By MYLES DAVIS

The plight of this year's edition of the York hockey Yeomen has long since been determined, but coach Dave Chambers is still very much concerned for the overall hockey picture in universities across Canada.

York lost out on the OUAA championship to the surprising Guelph Gryphons, of course, but Chambers, as well as many of the

other coaches in the country, feels his team was the victim of unfortunate circumstances.

"The main reasons I am upset are that the Toronto Blues were granted a berth in the finals even before the season began, and, to compound that, they didn't even finish as runners-up in Ontario, we did. I realize I'm offering a classic example of a sour grapes excuse, but if many of the other coaches

I've talked to are also upset, then who's in the wrong?"

Although the season ended on a rather sour note for York, Chambers was very pleased at what the unfamiliar squad did manage to accomplish.

"Considering the players we lost from last year's team and the number of new faces we had on this year's team, I'd have to say I'm pleased at our finish.

It was a tremendous disappointment to lose that last game, especially when we knew that Toronto had been knocked out, but all we can do now is look forward to next season."

Chambers did do a fine job with the Yeomen this year, as he has done for the past three years, his most notable contribution undoubtedly being his improvement of the team's defensive play.

"We started slowly at the beginning of the season, primarily because of our loose defensive play and the forwards a failure to backcheck," he said. "I think the big change came just after Christmas though, when we began to reduce our goals-against total by tightening up defensively." We emulated the pattern of last season when we only lost two games after the Christmas break".

The team also started slowly last season, but never lost a game after December 25.

Chambers felt that the major problem the team had to cope with was the fact that Peter Kostek was faced with the chore of handling a major portion of goaltending duties.

Looking ahead to next season, it appears that York could conceivably ice a better team than it did this season.



Evan Leibovitch photo

"The only players we will be losing will be Al Avery, Peter Roche, John Titus, and perhaps Rick Martin so we'll still have more than a competent nucleus to work with. I think that slowly but surely we're closing the gap on U. of T.'s perennial hockey supremacy in Ontario; we've been ranked in the top 10 for the last three years and players from other universities are now coming to York because we're establishing a tradition of winning teams," he said.

Chambers feels that, outside of the players themselves, the biggest problems facing the team as a whole are its playing

facilities at the austere York Ice Palace.

"It's a very unfortunate situation because the arena has an excellent ice surface and good dressing room facilities, but there's virtually no place for fans to accommodate themselves comfortably."

"Because of this, there's no way we'll ever get the opportunity to stage a playoff or championship game there and, of course, playing on home ice always gives a team an advantage," he said.

Two top-ranked teams reach CIAU playoffs

The Concordia Stingers and the Calgary Dinosaurs, Canada's number one and two ranked university hockey teams respectively, both battled their way to the CIAU championships with big victories over the weekend.

Stingers, the champions of the Quebec conference, got a tie-breaking goal from Glen Tomally about half-way through the final period to send them on their way to a 5-3 win over Atlantic conference champs St. Francis Xavier X-Men.

Ron Mansis led the team with two goals in the disposal of the X-Men. Concordia made the final by way of a 5-0 thrashing of Moncton U.'s Blue Eagles on Friday night.

St. Francis upset Laval 4-1, also on Friday night, to pave its path to the final.

Out west in Calgary, the Dinosaurs disposed of last year's national champion Alberta Golden Bears 3-1 with a fine display of tight, crisp defensive hockey.

In the semi-final preliminaries,

Calgary bounced back from a 3-1 deficit to oust the Brandon Bobcats 6-4.

The CIAU championships, which are almost as complicated to outsiders as the US football bowl games, will begin tomorrow at the Varsity Arena.

The four teams competing will be the Guelph Gryphons, the Ontario champions, Concordia Stingers, winners of the Quebec-Atlantic conference playoffs, Calgary Dinosaurs, winners of the Western-Great Plains conference playoffs and the Varsity Blues, the host team.

Much to the dismay of many coaches and players, the York Yeomen, runners up to Guelph in the Ontario final, will not be in the CIAU finals.

Tomorrow's action sees Concordia facing Guelph and Calgary playing U. of T. The two winners will then play the losers of the other game, with the two winners of those games meeting to determine a Canadian champion.

Guelph wins Porter cup

In the recently-staged OUAA Wrestling championships, the University of Guelph took the team championship and with it the Porter Trophy. In the individual categories, Guelph placed no less than seven wrestlers into the top positions in their weight categories. Here is a list of teams and their point totals:

University of Guelph	109.3
University of Western Ontario	89.0
University of Waterloo	62.3
University of Windsor	34.3
University of Toronto	32.5
Ryerson Polytechnical Institute	23.0
Queen's University	16.0
McMaster University	16.0
Wilfrid Laurier University	14.0
York University	11.5

Although Guelph dominated in the individual weight category matches, Tim Wenzel, a 142-pound wrestler from the University of Waterloo, won the Keegan Trophy for the most valuable wrestler in the tournament. Following Guelph, Western placed four wrestlers in the number one position in their own weight category, while Waterloo had one winner.

York's swim team places fifth in OUAA tourney

The York men's varisty swim team came up with its best effort of the season two weeks ago, placing fifth out of twelve teams at the OUAA swimming and diving championships held at Wilfrid Laurier University in

Waterloo.

The high finish was also the team's best since its formation a few years ago.

Leading the Yeomen swimmers was Paul Boulding who, with his third-place finish in the 100-yard breast stroke, managed to qualify for All-Canadian swimming and diving championships.

Boulding also contributed a sixth-place effort in the 200-yard breast stroke and a twelfth-place finish in the 50-yard freestyle.

In other individual competition, Arvids Silis placed seventh in the 500-yard free style, ninth in the 100-yard breast, and ninth in the gruelling 1,650-yard free style.

Bruce MacDougall gave the team an eighth-place standing in the 200-yard backstroke and a tenth-place in the 100-yard backstroke, while Peter Tidus placed tenth and twelfth in the same races.

In the team-relay division of the competition, York coach Dave Goodman threw together a number of different combinations to secure the team's standing in fifth position.

The best effort for the Yeoman was turned in by the team of Tidus, Boulding, George Trenton and Stacy Spiegall who collaborated for a sixth-place finish in the 400-yard medley relay.

In the 400-yard free relay, the quartet of Spiegall, Trenton, Dave McMullen and Frank Sadonis finished in seventh position.

Manitoba Bisons win first ever basketball title

The University of Manitoba Bisons more than made up for their single-point defeat to Waterloo last year by defeating number one ranked St. Mary's Huskies 82-69 to win their first CIAU basketball championship last Saturday in Halifax.

The victory put the icing on the cake for the Great Plains champs, as they had beaten Waterloo 87-77 on Friday to advance to the final.

The Huskies gained their crack at the big one with a 65-57 victory over Laurentian Voyageurs.

In Saturday's consolation final, Waterloo managed to save what face it had left after Friday's defeat, with a 95-84 win over Laurentian.

The final game, played before about 5,000 St. Mary's supporters, saw the Bisons put on a brilliant display of outside shooting and staunch defence to take a 37-33 lead at the end of the first half.

The Bisons gradually pulled away in the second half to hang on for the 10-point triumph.

Sports in Brief

The Laurentian Veas, defending Canadian women's basketball champions, won their second straight CIAU title on Friday, running up a 50-42 victory over the University of New Brunswick Red Bloomers.

The Veas, ranked number one among women's teams in Canada, were led by Kathy Williams who connected for 14 points.

The Veas trailed 28-23 at the half, but rallied to score 27 points in the second half to New Brunswick's 14. Kim Hanson led the Bloomers, and all of the game's players, with 20 points.

The Bloomers got to the final by defeating University of Victoria 62-59 while Laurentian advanced by way of a 64-40 drubbing of Laval.

At the CIAU swimming championships in Waterloo over the weekend, the men's team from U. of T. and the women's squad from Waterloo both emerged as victors.

Toronto splashed up a total of 372 points to beat second-place Western by 50 points. Alberta placed third with 237 points while the host team, Waterloo, came in fourth at 164.

Waterloo's girls, in their triumph, amassed 280 points, 42 ahead of second place finishers, Lakehead U. (Thunder Bay). Toronto finished third with 201 and Acadia from Halifax was fourth with 173.

Dr. Nabil Labib's



**Tennis tips
begin
next week**