

Defense comes through Yeowomen Basketballers climb ranks with strong defence

by Sydney St. Nicholas

The York Yeowomen proved the old basketball saying that defence wins games.

This weekend at the 12th Annual Brooks Tait McKenzie Basketball Classic the York Yeowomen won 2 out of 3 games for a third place finish. The Yeowomen beat Waterloo 53-43 and Guelph 65-48 while losing to Lakehead 67-55.

In Friday's game the Yeowomen played an intensely defensive game. They started the game playing full court defence. The Yeowomen then went into a full court press, giving Waterloo a lot of problems.

York's only problem was that they refused to capitalize on turnovers and put the game away early. Although outplaying Waterloo, they only lead 27-20 at the half.

In the second half York started strong defensively as they fell back into their soon to be famous match up zone defense. The Waterloo team had a very hard time adjusting, allowing York to open up a 47-31 lead midway through the half.

York fell into a cold spell offensively being outscored 10-0 giving Waterloo a chance to win the game narrowing the score to 47-41. Yeowomen, Jennifer Cushing hit a clutch three point shot to end the cold spell for York, making the score 50-41.

York's defense only gave up 2 more pts as they went on to defeat Waterloo 53-43.

York rookie Pertia Minott said "defensively the team played well but there was not a lot of patience with the offense at key moments".

"The team is still coming together and it will come in time.", added Minott.

York was lead by Jennifer Cushing with 17pts and Cathy Amara with 15 pts. Waterloo was lead by Brenda Kraemer with 11pts.

On Saturday the Yeowomen played the Lakehead Lady Nor'Westers. The Nor'Westers are lead by a strong defensive unit and 1st team OWIAA allstar Kathy Harrison. Lakehead is picked to be a very strong contender for the OWIAA West crown. The Yeowomen found out why as they lost 67-55. York was lead by Cathy Amara with 19pts.

On Sunday in the battle for third place the Yeowomen faced Guelph. The Yeowomen battled back from losing to Lakehead Saturday and defeated the Gryphons 65-48. Cathy Amara lead York with 24 pts.

"The team is pleased with the performance, a lot of heart and intensity was displayed. We are playing more like a team.", echoed Minott.

sports

reviews • profiles • rankings • schedules

Eventual tournament winners UofT defeated Lakehead 74-49.

York's Cathy Amara and Jennifer Cushing were selected to the tournament all-star team.



Although York goalie Brenda Deneault made 46 saves, the Yeowomen lost 4-1 to the U of T Blues in OWIAA hockey action

Brilliant goaltending not enough

by Haniff Nana

Last Thursday, York's Brenda Deneault displayed goaltending at its very best.

The hockey Yeowomen, who suffered a 4-1 defeat to an aggressive University of Toronto Blues team, were outshot 50-14.

Despite being outshot by this wide margin, Deneault made several sensational saves and kept the fans and opponents in disbelief.

Jill Garred, the other half of York's sensational netminding tandem, replaced an injured Deneault in the middle of the third period.

The Blues continued with their barrage of shots and challenged Garred with at least a half-dozen great scoring chances, but she played flawless for the remainder of the game.

York coach Deb Adams also observed the brilliant play of her goalies.

"(They provided) really good goaltending. The longer we can keep it 0-0, the better it is for our chances of winning," she said.

York's lone goal came from Anne Sampoloni. She pounced on a loose puck and moved it to the Toronto end, where she wrapped it behind Blues goalie Heather Zakary.

The Blues offence is led by Vicky Sunohara, a member of the 1990-91 gold medal Canadian team and a certainty to be on Canada's entry this year.

Sunohara displayed her potent offensive skills, but Deneault limited her scoring to a single point.

At 13:04 of the second period, Deneault made the initial save on a blast by Blues forward Karen Sharples, and although she was committed to making the first stop, she rose to the occasion and made a sprawling glove save on the ensuing rebound towards a yawning cage.

The York keeper made several saves on shots which seemed unstoppable, but her performance was overshadowed by her team's inability to generate any offence.

Although York was outplayed by their arch-rivals, Yeowoman Sheri Brown, a veteran rearguard, played a strong game defensively and she helped the York keepers in preventing the game from becoming a one-sided affair.

Despite the 4-1 loss to a very strong Toronto side, Adams indicated that the game showed an overall improvement on her team.

"We're getting better," she said reassuringly.

York's improvement from last year was noted by Sunohara.

"York's competitiveness is much better than last year, now every game is close," she said.

Despite the team's optimism, the Yeowomen were shut out 4-0 by Concordia the next night at the Ice Palace.

"We just played as though we had no spark," rookie York defender Paula Smiles said.

Hockey Yeomen "never give up"

by Riccardo Sala

Two quick goals were a wakeup call for the hockey Yeomen Friday night.

They weren't enough, and York still missed the bus in a 5-3 loss to University of Toronto.

"I thought that it was a good game. I don't think that we played a good second period, but we played well in the third," York coach Graham Wise said afterwards.

York came onto the ice in the third period hungry to even up a 3-1 UofT lead, Tod Dungey having supplied the lone York goal.

Only 22 seconds in, York left-winger Jim Hutton fired the first salvo of the comeback, a beautiful shot over the shoulder of Blues keeper Paul O'Donnell that brought the Yeomen to within one goal of Toronto.

Toronto rebounded in the same minute. York keeper Mike Noonan fell victim to a goal from UofT captain Greg van Sickle.

Jim Dean answered that slight for

York, the Yeoman captain popping the goal in behind O'Donnell in the minute after van Sickle's goal.

That was the last goal of the game for York, who couldn't capitalise on the man advantage caused by a two minute penalty meted out to Blues defenceman Mark Haarmann.

Haarmann made it out of the box in time to see Van Sickle notch his second goal of the game to give the Blues a 5-3 win.

Hutton earned player of the game honours for York in a chippy affair in which Noonan starred equally. Despite the score, the York netminder was a key factor in keeping the final less lopsided than it could have been.

Noonan made his mark with several key saves and was often the difference for York defenders who found it hard to keep Toronto out of their end.

York falls to a 3-6 record with the loss to UofT.

"We'd like to do a lot better, but this is our sixth game on the road and

we've played a lot of hockey," Graham Wise said.

Meanwhile, the Blues got a little bit more leverage in the competitive OUAA East division with the decision over York.

"I thought our team played well (against York). I would like us to see us have more of a killer instinct when we have the lead. York never gives up, that's a credit to them," Blues coach Paul Titanic said.

One small consolation for the York fans in attendance was the 7-4 victory of the York Alumni over their UofT counterparts. One of the York scorers in that match was Kevin van Sickle, big brother to the Blues Greg van Sickle.

The Yeomen play tonight against Ryerson at St. Mike's Arena. Game time is 7:45.

Wise isn't calling this derby in the bag yet.

"Anytime we play a cross-town rival, we've got to come ready to play," he said.

CHRY BROADCASTS

1 0 5 . 5 f m

Hockey

Wednesday November 27
Yeoman vs. Ryerson at 7:30 pm

Basketball

Saturday November 30
Yeowomen vs. Carleton at 6:00 pm