

sports

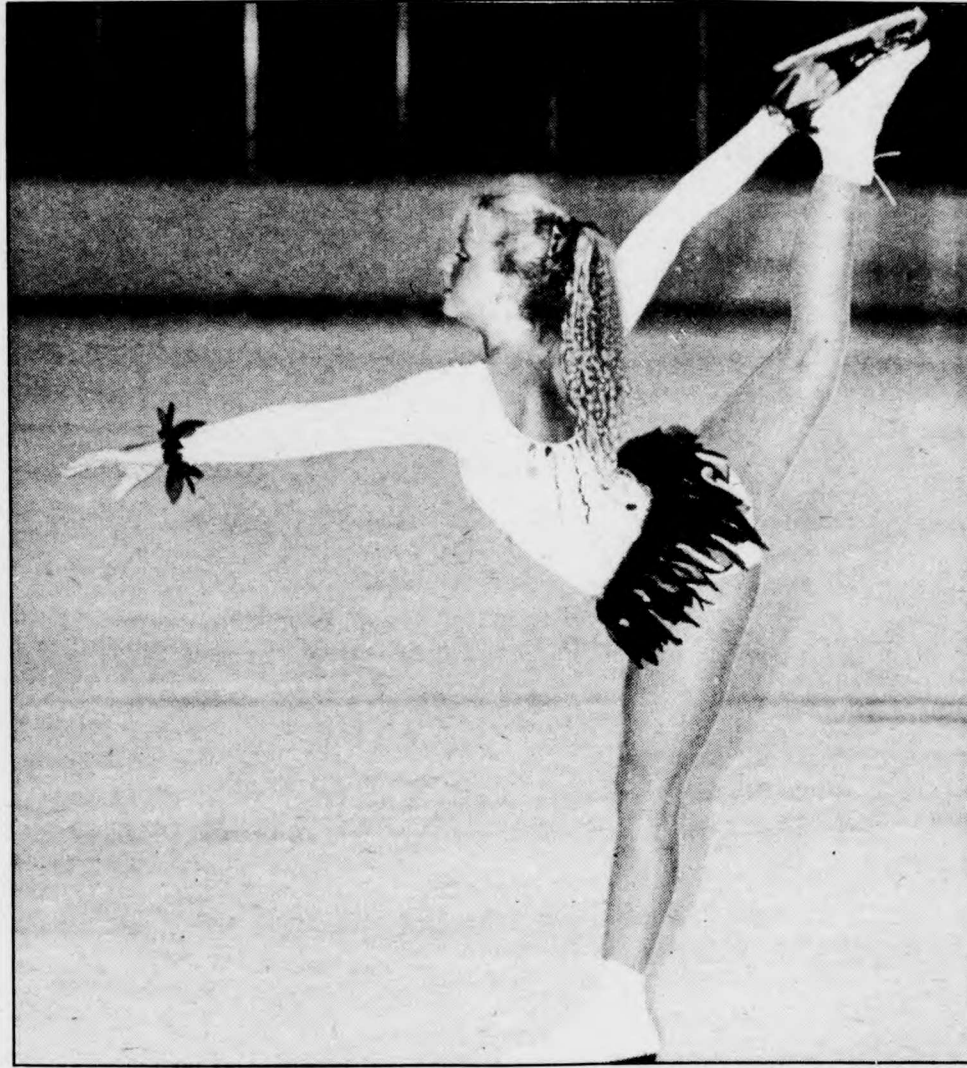


Photo: MARIO SCATTOLONI

York figure skaters whisked their way to first place at their own Invitational last Friday.

York figure skaters glide to overwhelming victory

By ELISSA S. FREEMAN

Dedication, cooperation, and strong leadership propelled the York figure skating team to great heights at their own Invitational last Friday.

York skated away with 157 points to easily take first place over Western, who finished second (95 points) with a narrow victory over Queen's—last year's Ontario Women Interuniversity Athletic Association (OWIAA) defending champions.

U of T was fourth with 87 points followed by Waterloo who collected a mere 17 points.

York had a total of eight first-place finishes, three seconds, and five thirds.

Gia Guddat led the way as she gathered a gold in the Senior Interpretive, Open Singles, and the Senior Similar Pairs with partner Kim Spiller.

"The Open Singles competition was quite close," commented coach Wendy Amorim, "but Gia won it on her marks for artistic impression."

Veteran skater Cathee Maron also collected her share of first-place laurels in the Intermediate and Open Singles events. The gold medal harvest was completed with Nancy MacKenzie's placing in the Novice Singles and Michelle Beehler and Jo-Anne Coumts in the Jr. Similar Dance.

Kim Spiller, who teamed up with Guddat in the Senior Similar Pairs, also finished second in the Senior Solo Dance. This will be Spiller's last competition, however, as she has started coaching figure skating, thus eliminating her amateur status with inter-university competition.

"Once you accept money for anything affiliated with figure skating you are considered a professional," explained Amorim. "Even though we will miss Kim, Cathee Maron will be able to replace her in the Sr. Pairs."

As OWIAA runners-up in 1983, York's figure skating team has gone through a major facelift, with former

team members Amorim and Wendy Rogers taking over as co-coaches.

"We had 34 skaters turn up for the try-outs, but the team could only hold 16. By stressing consistency and dedication throughout all our practices (7½ hours a week) we're now carrying a team of 19 skaters. That includes four alternates, who are just dying to compete," said Amorim.

"The skaters are really dedicated," continued Amorim. "They work hard and help one another. There's also a general feeling of good team spirit that should help us win the Ontario's."

NOTES: Jill Morton finished second in the Jr. Singles and with partner Jo-Anne Coumts placed second in the Jr. Similar Pairs . . . Michélie Beehler

and Janice Smelko were third in the same event . . . Other third-place finishes were: Shelley Molloy, and Nancy MacKenzie in the Novice Similar Dance . . . Leanne Ball and Bill Dunbar in the Novice Mixed Dance . . . Dunbar and Morton in the

Jr. Mixed Dance . . . Beccy Simking in the Jr. Interpretive and the Novice Singles . . . Jo-Anne Coumts in the intermediate Solo Dance.

Charity doesn't agree with Yeomen

By MARK ZWOLINSKI

The idea behind last Friday night's Sesqui Trophy game between the U of T Blues and the Yeomen was a charitable one—with proceeds from the gate directed towards making education possible for handicapped students.

Simple enough. But not for the Yeomen, who did a little charity work themselves, donating five third-period goals to the Blues' cause on their way to an 8-1 drubbing before a reception of more than 1,500 people at Varsity Stadium.

The Blues, who hold down the nation's number one ranking, added a little nostalgia to the affair, notching their tenth consecutive victory over York in Ontario university league play dating back to 1978.

As for the Sesqui trophy, it belongs to the Blues as well.

The trophy, a Sesqui squirrel, commemorating the city's 150th birthday, was designed to highlight the York-U of T rivalry in the Ontario University Athletic Association (OUAA) hockey calendar.

It will be awarded to the winning team in each Blues home game featuring the Yeomen.

U of T settled things quickly in the inaugural event however, establishing a hard-hitting game that won them the majority of the battles in the corners and kept the Yeomen attack bottled up in their half of the ice.

Darren Boyko, netting his first of two on the night, and Dave McCarthy got the Blues rolling with a pair of goals that beat York netminder Jim Chambers before the game was 10 minutes old.



York netminder Jim Chambers and teammates give up two third-period goals on their way to an 8-1 slaughter to the U of T Blues. There were more than 1,500 spectators on hand for last Friday night's Sesqui Trophy game at Varsity Stadium.

Down 3-1 after two periods of play, the Yeomen were caught flat footed in the third, surrendering five unanswered goals to absorb their fourth straight loss in league play.

Andre Hidi, the OUAA's leading scorer, Don McLaughlin with a pair and John O'Sullivan added third period goals while Richard Garneau rounded out the scoring for U of T with his first of the season.

David Simpson scored the lone York goal on a frustrating night for the Yeomen who failed

to score on eight power play opportunities through the game.

For Toronto, who come off tournament victories in Michigan and Hartford, the win ups their league leading mark to 12-1-1, five points better than the second-place Laurier Golden Hawks whom they tied 3-3 last week.

The Yeomen, meanwhile, drop to 6-8 overall but remain in the running for the sixth and final playoff spot with 10 games remaining in their schedule.

Yeowomen need points

By ELISSA S. FREEMAN

"The girls know that this is the eleventh hour and it's time to act," forewarned Yeowomen hockey coach Rhonda Leeman.

After the 6-1 drubbing that York suffered at the hands of the U of T Lady Blues last week, the Yeowomen have no choice but to start winning their remaining games.

"We've got to start picking up some points," emphasized Leeman. "I hope that we can take two games from Queen's and a point or two off McMaster or Guelph."

"In this way we can secure third place in time for the play-offs."

Presently sitting in the Ontario Women Interuniversity Athletic Association (OWIAA) cellar with a lowly 1-7 record, the 1983 defending OWIAA champion Yeowomen are certainly gaining a different perspective of league play this year.

The coming Concordia Tournament (January 27-29) may provide the perfect opportunity for the Yeowomen to get back on track. As tournament champions for the past two years, however, York will have to face a powerhouse team from New Hampshire in the first round.