

SPORTS

From national champs to nowhere

York wrestling program faces axe

by Riccardo Sala

The Yeomen wrestlers have been down this road before, and it looks a lot like last year.

But that's bad news for anyone interested in the program. If wrestling was alive this year, it really wasn't well, and it was definitely not like the team that called York home two years ago.

That 1988-89 team is still at York physically, in the form of two championship banners, one for their OUAA title and one for the CIAU title.

However, it's hard to make the mental connection between that squad and the one that practised out of the judo room this year.

The wrestling Yeomen spent

this year "under review". That's a polite term for a team that has atrophied since the departure of coach John Park two years ago, after winning the national title.

Athletics still has the wrestling program "under review", but this year, more so than last season, the team doesn't look like it will be back.

Mike Dinning and the rest of the people at athletics will have to make a decision sometime in April whether or not the team stays.

There are other programs that will be discussed when the department meets in April.

Teams like rugby and waterpolo. But their status and existence

isn't in question as much as wrestling.

And their fall hasn't been as dramatic.

There were a mere four Yeomen wrestlers who were at the OUAA finals this year. Only two—Scott Prokosh and Roy Su Wah Sing—qualified for the Nationals, with Sing getting a silver medal. Along with former Yeoman turned coach-in-a-hurry John Cho and a trainer, it was a foursome in Regina for the CIAU finals.

Two years earlier it was eleven. And that was just the wrestlers.

There were problems throughout this year. Cho's harshest words were saved for those students with wrestling experience who could have made

a difference on a team that didn't have enough athletes—and didn't come out.

There are problems with the wrestling mats. Dinning says they take up too much space in the judo room. They probably do. But still it's too bad that an issue like this becomes a prime consideration for a team with a record like wrestling.

Cho doesn't regret too much. Under Park he got to wrestle with the best university team in Canada, and got an education to boot. It's the same with Sing and others whose memory of the program extends past the muddle of the past two years.

In the end you can blame

whoever you like. Times aren't the best in terms of university athletics in Canada. When the University of Alberta has to drop its football program, you have to look at York. Tait McKenzie is a joke and there really is no need to go over that punchline.


If wrestling stays, then you have to wonder what type of shape it'll be in for the future.

The Toronto area is a pool of high-school talent. But what's to keep these prospects from going down the road to McMaster or Western, schools which have eclipsed York recently and whose program shows greater stability?

Ain't that a shame.


GRADUATES

IN A CLASS BY ITSELF



\$ 750 DISCOUNT

ON ANY GMC CAR, LIGHT TRUCK OR VAN



Purting Quality on the Road

Plaza
PONTIAC BUICK

CALL: **STAN BUDZINSKI**
781-5271


Ask about special Interest Rates and the First Time Buyer Program.

Dufferin at 401
Across from Yorkdale

Present this ad to register and for additional savings


**You've got a future.
Don't take your student loan for granted.**

PAY BACK YOUR STUDENT LOAN



Your student loan isn't a grant or a gift from the Government. It is a debt you owe to a bank. You are legally obligated to repay that money when you stop going to school. It is also your responsibility to contact your bank when you start each school year, and if your address or enrolment status changes. If you default on your loan, it will affect your eligibility for other student loans and you'll establish a poor credit history which can affect your future. So if you're having problems, contact the people at your bank - they can help.

**GIVE YOURSELF CREDIT.
PAY BACK YOUR STUDENT LOAN.
CONTACT YOUR BANK TODAY!**

 Department of the Secretary of State of Canada
Canada Student Loans Program

Secrétariat d'État du Canada
Programme canadien de prêts aux étudiants

Canada