

Blues downed in exhibition contest

By EDO VAN BELKOM

The University of Toronto Blues have been on a tear of late after a sluggish beginning to their OUAA season. The Blues have climbed to second place in the standings, one point behind the Yeomen and with a game in hand. But the Yeomen put a hold on U of T's aspirations by dashing them 6-3 in an exhibition game at the Ice Palace over the weekend. It was the third meeting of the teams this year and York has won all three contests.

Even though it was an exhibition match, head coach Dave Chambers said his team was fully prepared for the game. Chambers noted the rivalry between the two teams and said that anytime York plays U of T the game is an important one.

Rick Simpson and Greg Rolston put the Yeomen up 2-1 by the end of the first period. Eric Orschel tied the score in the second frame with his second goal of the game, but the Yeomen pulled out in front again on goals by Kent Brimmer and Brad Ramsden. The Blues closed the gap to one for the second time in the game on a goal by Mike Millotte but the two goal cushion was restored by York's Rick Morrocco to close out the second period York 5, U of T 3. Brian Gray notched the final marker early in the third to make the final 6-3.

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Last Thursday night the Yeomen won what was probably the most important game of the year to remain on top of the OUAA standings. York downed the University of Western Ontario Mustangs 3-2 before the largest crowd of the year (750) to watch a hockey game at the Ice Palace.

The fans, lured out by 400 free kazoos, were treated to one of the most exciting games this season. A better game couldn't have been played by York if they had followed a script.

The script: At the end of the first York finds themselves down by one. The Yeomen tie the score early in the second and kill off a five minute high sticking penalty to preserve the tie at the end of the second period. In the third Western goes up by a goal, but with under seven minutes to go in the game the Yeomen score two goals and stave off last minute pressure by the Mustangs to win the game by a score of 3-2.

The game's first star Tom Vannatter credited the vocal crowd for the final outcome of the game. "That's what you miss from Junior," Vannatter said. "When you get a goal, it gets

everyone so excited. The fans give you a two-goal lead before the game even starts."

Chambers was also pleased with the turnout, noting that it makes the players feel better about playing the game. He also hopes that Thursday's game will encourage fans to come out and support his team in the future.

Yeomen goals in the game were scored by Vannatter (2) and Greg Rolston, the Yeomen's top goal scorer to date.

NOTES: The Yeomen play host to the Laurentian Voyageurs for two games this weekend. They will face off at 7:30 on Saturday with the rematch set for 2:00 on Sunday.



ROBERTA DI MAIO

PARDON ME, BUD: York's Dave Andreoli has the situation under control in Thursday's game against Western.

Lady Blues tied in best game of year

By MANOJ PRAJAPAT

The York Yeowomen, in what was arguably one of the best games played at the Ice Palace this season, tied the Toronto Lady Blues at three Tuesday night.

Buoyed by an impressive tournament victory in New Hampshire last weekend, the Yeowomen played well enough to win and could have if not for a questionable penalty call late in the game with the score tied. York killed the penalty and could have won when Judi Gilbert broke free on a breakaway but couldn't get away a clean shot.

"We played much better, especially defensively," York coach Sue Gaston said. "That New Hampshire tournament has given the players a lot of confidence—we beat the top two ranked schools in the US there."

The Yeowomen played a disciplined defensive game and backed by an outstanding effort from goaltender Connie Wrightsell, finally seem to have the defensive part of their game together.

Just as important, the team now knows that it has what it takes to beat Toronto. York had lost the previous three meetings in games which they had trouble controlling Toronto's offense, especially captain Heather Ginzel. This night, Ginzel was held to just one goal.

"We didn't even concentrate on her," Gaston said. "We just played team defense—if we keep doing that, we'll be all right."

Rhonda White, Bonnie McMaster and Judi Gilbert were the Yeowomen goal scorers.

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