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Sports



First for York

Gym team wins national champs

By COLIN PUFFER

The chance to prove that they were the best in Canada, came to the York gymnastics team last Friday and Saturday in the Canadian Gymnastics Championships held here at York University. Both the men's and women's teams came through with wins to gain for York the first Canadian championship in any sport.

In the men's division there were two championships at stake; the University team championship, in which the top teams from individual universities competed, and the conference championship, in which the teams formed by selecting the top six gymnasts from all the universities within a conference competed.

The York men won the University Team Championship with ease, proving that York has the top team in Canada. However, the surprise of the meet came when York also won the conference title, defeating a team comprised of the top gymnasts from McMaster, U of T, and Ottawa University.

In the women's division of the

competition, four gymnasts from York and two from the University of Montreal joined in a conference team to win the conference title. There was no university team championship in the women's division, it was obvious that if there had been, the York girls would have won easily.

York also had two individual stand outs in the gym meet. In the women's competition, Sue Buchanan, a first year student at York, won gold medals in floor exercise, uneven bars, and balance beam, and a bronze medal in vaulting. This gave Sue the gold medal as the top all-around female competitor.

Tom Kinsman, a fourth year physical education student at York was the top male competitor on the York team. Tom won silver medals in high bar and parallel bars and bronze medals on pommel horse and still rings, to gain him a second place finish in the all-around, behind Steve Mitruk of McMaster.

Mitruk, a national team member, was the outstanding male competitor in the meet. He won five of the six events, as well as the all-around.



photo by Tim Clark

York's Ruth Hope swings through a beautiful cartwheel on the balance beam as the York members of their conference team led the team to the National Championship.

Toronto rugger team bombed in champs

By DUDLEY CARRUTHERS

On the eighteenth of February an odd assortment of Rugger players descended on Louisiana to compete in the New Orleans Rugger festival at New Orleans. The 'team' billed simply as Toronto consisted of one player from the Irish, one Saracen, five Barbarians including two York old boys — Murry Young and R.A. Moore — and finally the

strange York combination of Dave Abbot, Geoff Houldey, Harvey Pope, Mike Steger, Bob Ross, Gord Ingram, Tom Flynn, and Terry McCoomb.

After a thirty hour bus trip which broke all records for number of stops to empty the bucket, they received a warm welcome from their hosts at Tulane University and were given free accommodation in the true Rugger Spirit.

The next morning they paraded out onto the field and looking across the halfway line saw the mean faces of the Memphis Wanderers, each weighing anything from two to three hundred pounds. Within five minutes Bob Ross picked up a loose ball and scored, but Memphis, irritated by this impertinent gesture, retaliated with three successive tries. Toronto hit back though and made a gallant effort despite their terrible condition and after being awarded two penalties scored more points from the golden toe of Tommy Flynn. The game closed at 17-11 to Memphis.

In the afternoon they met a similar fate against Wisconsin, again relying on good tackling and kicking to prevent a slaughter. Most of the team agreed that it was size and fitness that really defeated them.

Out of respect for the tree from which this newsprint evolved, it would be unfair to describe the extra activities which are still coming back to their memories. The New Orleans morality squad who arrived to arrest certain members were given an education on the Rugger Ethic after which charges were dropped and the Southern Belles were suitably impressed on the true mettle of Canadian manhood at the very first nude beer-up. Although winning was not their sole motive, it was felt that with the right conditioning this could be a realistic goal for next year when we hope to send an All-York team.

Voyageurs win 5-3

By PHIL CRANLEY

In perhaps the most exciting game of the year the Laurentian Voyageurs squeaked past the York Yeomen 5-3 in last Saturday's OIAA final. But in a fiery display of courage the Yeomen overcame an early three goal splurge by the Voyageurs to tie the game 3-3 by the 4:30 mark of the second period.

The Voyageurs went ahead at 1:05 of the first, with a tip-in goal by Bill McEwan. Then two more goals by all-star defenceman Mike Fox and third league leading scorer Ed Taylor put the home team ahead 3-0 after sixteen minutes of play.

Then at 17:30 of the first Licio Cengarle smashed the puck passed Matt Thorp in the Laurentian goal and lifted the entire team emotionally.

The second period started with a lightning fast goal by Murray Stroud at the ten second mark. Roger Galipeau fed a perfect pass in front of the net to the uncovered Stroud and all of a sudden the Yeomen were back in the game. Just over four minutes later Ed Zuccato fired a sizzling slapshot from the left side, to beat Thorp who now seemed to have lost his magic in the nets.

From then until the fifteen minute mark of the third period the teams played a fast end to end

game of exciting hockey. Both teams had chances to go ahead with two-on-one and three-on-one breaks. But everyone was too nervous to execute a play properly.

The Yeomen had the edge in play for the entire second period, outshooting the opposition 15-7, and they continued to apply most of the pressure in the third. As is usually the case though, the team which is just hanging by a thread comes through with the winning goal. Ed Taylor, the guy who killed the Yeomen all year, got his second goal of the game on a fine effort around the York net. He cut in front sharply and only a brilliant save by Bill Holden prevented a score on his first shot. Then a scramble ensued and Taylor lifted his own rebound high over Holden's shoulder. Holden had no chance at all. Coach Bill Purcell lifted his all-star goalie for an extra attacker with 1:40 remaining and the puck was in the Voyageur end of the rink without a really good shot being fired at Thorp, until 19:31 when Mike Fox broke away and scored his second and the clinching goal of the game.

Laurentian now advances to the Canadian Championships which start tonight in Sudbury. The other participants are Loyola, St. Mary's, U. of T. and the University of British Columbia.

After a disappointing season the Yeomen can be satisfied that they at least provided many exciting

moments for their followers. The nucleus of this year's squad is retiring either because of graduation or the expiry of eligibility. Those leaving the team are: Ron Porter, Bob Modray, Rodger Bowness, Licio Cengarle, Rick Bowring, Murray Stroud, Bruce Penny, and Roger Galipeau. The fate of Don West who must be accepted at Osgoode in order to continue is also in doubt.

Also retiring after six years with the Yeomen is their coach Bill Purcell. A lot should be said in praise of Bill, the guy who started by having his team play on the outdoor rink at Glendon and who now leaves with the hockey status at York in national prominence.

PUCK PATER: Coach Purcell reminisces tomorrow afternoon (Friday) at 2:30 pm on Radio York's PUCK PATER interview show. . . How does the Physical Educational Department intend to honour York's retiring coach? We shall be watching with interest. . . Who is in line for the coaching job?

We're working on that question right now. . . The OIAA all-star team had four out of seven players from York. There was a tie in goal with Matt Thorp and Bill Holden sharing the position. Stroud, Steve Latmovich and Roger Galipeau were the other York players. Tom Deacon and Mike Fox of Laurentian rounded out the league's best.

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