

"wanted to commit homicide"

York's number one seed has to settle for runner up

Elissa Freeman

At last Friday's OUAA Men's Singles Championships at Cobblestone Courts, York finalist Mitchell Goldhar didn't just lose the two-hour marathon match 6-2, 6-3--he

was pushed out of it.

Goldhar's opponent was Western's John Hatch, who in tennis terms, is known as a 'push'--a player who remains fixed at the baseline and lobs his opponents to death, a la

Andrea Jaeger. This is not only a boring style of play to watch, but it also served as an effective method of dismantling Goldhar's game.

A hard hitter

Goldhar, the Eastern OUAA singles champion, is a player with a counter-punch, serve and volley game, including a devastating passing shot that leaves his opponents stranded at the net. "As a hard hitter, I couldn't hit winners to a guy standing at the baseline. But everytime he did come to the net, I just whizzed a shot right past him. However, he played exceptionally well and he played a smart game."

Although Goldhar had heard of Hatch's strategy, he honestly felt at the beginning of the match that he was just going to "blow him away." During the warm-up, Goldhar noticed that Hatch's two-handed backhand was extremely weak. Consequently, Goldhar's strategy would be to hit deep, hard shots to his opponent's backhand and put away the weak return shots. "But during the warm-up, the idea is not to disclose your strategy, so obviously he didn't try to lob at that point," explains Goldhar. "However, in the actual match, he used very deep lobs and on occasion, very finessed volleys."

Challenged the baseliner

In the first game of the first set, Goldhar had a difficult time holding his serve, however, he managed to win the game. From that point, Goldhar knew that it was going to be a long game. It didn't phase him. "For the first game I wanted it to last 10-15 minutes and have long rallies to his backhand. I wanted to show him that I could stay out there all day and hit the same as him. These baseliners think that they're the only guys who can stand there and hit."

In the second game, Goldhar wanted to start employing his own strategy by jumping on Hatch's weak serve. But each time he returned the serve with a powerful stroke and came into the net, Hatch would simply lob the ball over his head and chase him back to the baseline.

The turning point

Much of the match continued at that pace, although there were many exciting face-to-face rallies at the net that displayed the versatility of both players. Such a rally appeared to be the turning point in the game. In the second set, at two games each, Goldhar served, came into the net and then hit a deep volley. Hatch returned with a backhand to which Goldhar replied with a drop volley. Hatch, who at this point was up at the net, barely flicked the ball over which set up a kill shot for Goldhar. Goldhar hit a powerful forehand down the line, when Hatch miraculously stuck out his racquet and put the ball past his opponent even before Goldhar had finished his

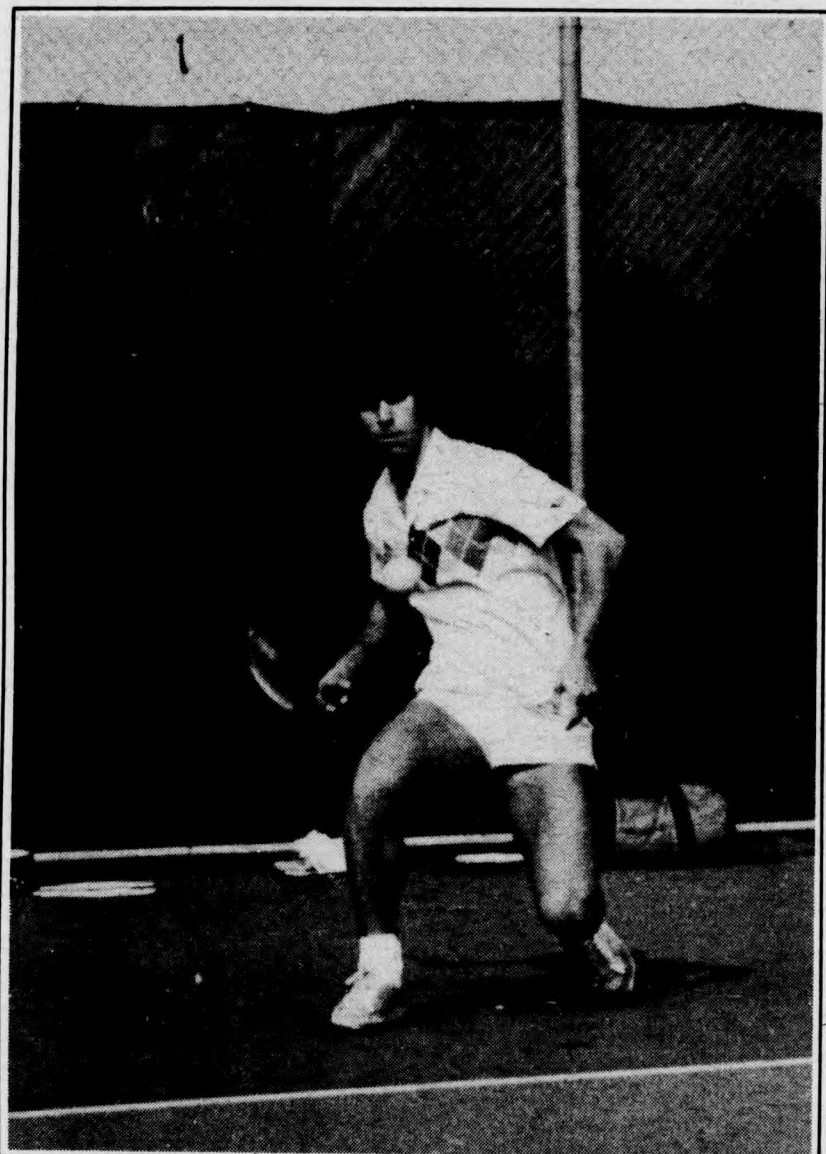
follow-through. "Ninety-nine times out of one hundred, nobody would get that shot. But it just so happens he stuck out his Prince racquet and got a winner. It was an amazing shot," commented Goldhar.

Unfortunately, it also broke Goldhar's serve, but he never gave up. "To the very last game, I would never admit that I could lose to this guy."

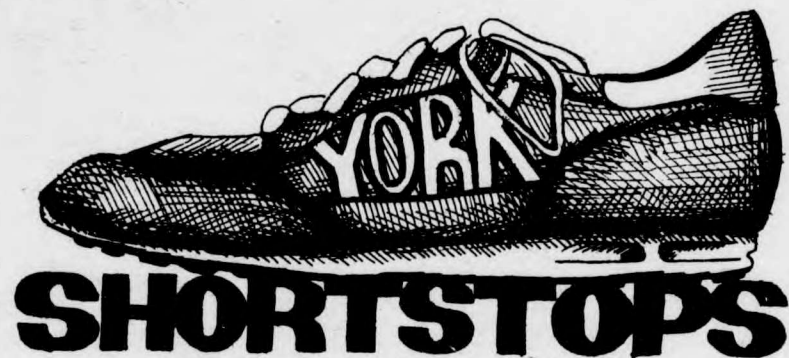
In the second set, Goldhar was down 5-3 trying to fight off elimination. And what a fight it was. After thirty minutes and 15 lost match points, Hatch finally managed to win.

"Although it took me a set and eight games to learn how to play him, it was too little too late. Afterwards, I was flaming mad. I just wanted to commit homicide. I still couldn't accept that I lost."

But Goldhar doesn't hold a grudge. He congratulated Hatch and wished the rest of the Western team luck in their future matches. "But," he added, "Hatch also knows that if we ever played again, there would be a drastic change in events."



Mitch Goldhar was frustrated in his attempt to gain the men's singles title in OUAA tennis action last Friday. He lost in straight sets 6-2, 6-3, but the match was a lot closer than the score indicated.



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Reid and rooks sweep Guelph Invitational

York's David Reid and Nancy Rooks are proving to be a formidable cross-country combination. Once again the two competitors swept first place honours in their respective divisions.

The unbeatable Rooks finished the 5000m course with a time of 20:13, beating out 70 other runners. And the time might have been even lower had the course not been mismarked. This mishap had a host of runners running the wrong way. Rooks, who had a huge lead at the beginning, was first to notice the mistake when she reached a dead end. Other runners, further behind, noticed Rooks backtracking and were prevented from making the same mistake. Rooks probably ran a quarter-mile out of her way due to the error. Other Yeowomen finishers were Maureen Coley, 56th and Trudy Primeau, 57th, with times of 25:46 and 25:47 respectively.

On the men's side, the amazing David Reid outran 100 other competitors on the 10,000m course in a time of 31:49. Glendon's Steve Snell finished 19th, Jamie Black was 21st, 52nd place went to Rob Drohman and Vince Ayotte was 63rd. In the overall standings, York placed fourth out of ten other schools.

On October 2nd, the team will travel to Waterloo to compete in another cross-country Invitational.

YEOMEN WATERPOLO TEAM VICTORIOUS

The Yeomen Waterpolo team splashed into gear this past weekend with two victories over Waterloo and Western.

The team got off to a sluggish start in their first match against the Waterloo warriors, but managed to beat them 7-4. Led by Dan Hudson who scored two goals, Rick Bennet, Jeff Carmichael, Dave Fairman, Stu Howard and Charles "Snake" Karstadt each added to the tally.

In their second match against the Western Mustangs, some outstanding team play was the key to the Yeomen's 9-7 victory. Rick Bennett, Stu Howard and Dave Fairman led way with two goals apiece. The other three goals were accounted for by Dan Hudson, Joe Skelly and David Lai.

Next weekend the team will travel to the University of Western Ontario to participate in a tournament. They are scheduled to play U of T, McMaster and Western.

Yeowomen Tennis

The Yeowomen Tennis Team travelled to McMaster last weekend to compete in the OWIAA Singles Ranking Meet.

The team, coached by Susan Black, consists of four veterans: Debbie Kirkwood, Cindy McLean, Ann Kravchenko, Norma Hatwell and Lindo Newton and two rookies, Sabine Brouxton and Erin Riley.

The McMaster meet determined the seedings for the upcoming OWIAA Singles Finals to be held at Brock, October 29 & 30. All Players qualified for the tourney, with Kirkwood, Brouxton and McLean fairsing extremely well. Last year the team placed third in the competition.

This weekend, the Doubles Rankings will be hosted by the University of Waterloo. Kirkwood and Kravchenko will be preparing to defend their 1981 Championship.

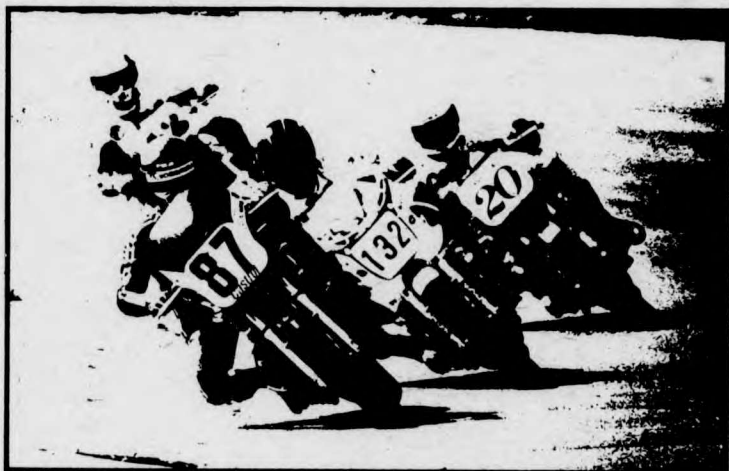
YEOWOMEN FIELD HOCKEY RESULTS

At Part 1 of the OWIAA Tier 1 field hockey tournament at Guelph last weekend, the Yeowomen escaped with a 1-1-2 record.

Unfortunately, the team got off to a bad start, dropping their first two games to U of T 8-0 and a 2-1 loss to McGill.

However, they managed to beat Queens by a score of 2-0 and salvaged a 1-1 tie with Guelph.

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