

Nittany Lions snare medal from Volleyball Yeowomen in Tait Volleyball Classic

By ELISSA S. FREEMAN

Different team, same result.

Although the Yeowomen volleyball team has twice as much depth and experience as last year's squad, they were unable to improve their fourth place finish in the Tait McKenzie Volleyball Classic at York last weekend.

The gold and silver medal recipients were the University of Winnipeg Lady Wesmen and the Laval Rouge et Or, respectively—last year's winners as well.

The Penn State Nittany Lions, the lone U.S. entry, snatched the bronze from the Yeowomen, handily defeating them 3-0 (15-3, 15-8, 15-8). Dalhousie, Alberta, Ottawa and McMaster finished in order.

In the preliminary rounds York breezed through the competition beating the Alberta Pandas (15-8, 15-3), trouncing Dalhousie (15-4, 15-8), and overcoming Penn State (11-15, 15-11, 16-14).

But despite a late third game rally, York lost 3-15, 4-15, 12-15 to the 1982-83 national champions Lady Wesmen. Coach Merv Mosher was not at all pleased with his team's effort.

"They kicked our butts," Mosher bluntly explained. "We just weren't ready to play a tough team."

The overall play did not improve in the bronze medal match against Penn State. Constantly spiking to the backcourt, the Nittany Lions slowly chipped away at the Yeowomen's game.

The match did exhibit some exciting rallies, showing off York's awesome hitting power, which was provided by veteran returnee Gina Thompson and fourth-year power hitter Trush Barnes.

Though many of York's points

resulted from well-placed spikes and tips, it was the general inability to convert backcourt passes into a coordinating attack, plus ineffective blocking at the net that contributed to York's defeat.

"We were making more mistakes in our backcourt, mainly because the ball was ending up there more often," said Mosher. "We just couldn't get on track."

Although national team member Donna Kastelio was absent with torn stomach muscles, Mosher said she wouldn't have made a major difference.

"We were able to win those other games without her, and there's no reason why we shouldn't have won this one," she said.

Although they captured the bronze, Penn State coach Russell Rose was not happy with his team's play, especially in their semi-final defeat against Laval, losing 3-1.

"We were in a situation where we were playing without two starters and it is somewhat difficult for the team to make that transition. But overall, I felt that we didn't play well," he said.

This was not the first time Penn State has played against Canadian competition. They were invited to last year's tournament in Dalhousie, Nova Scotia.

"There is probably no difference in talent," Rose said. "The only major difference is that the American players seem to be a lot taller."

Gina Thompson was voted a tournament all-star along with Lori Barberich (Penn State), Brenda Boroski and Linda Tataryn (Winnipeg), Lynn Tremblay and Sylvie Laguerre (Laval). Tournament MVP was Jamie Hancharyk of Winnipeg.



STUFF THAT . . . Alberta's ace attacker is getting the power side pinch from Dalhousie blockers.

York in the champagne mood

By MARK ZWOLINSKI

Mike Dinning and his Rugby Yeomen know the way to Waterloo.

And they'll become more familiar with the town and especially its university rugby team when they travel there this weekend for the OUA Rugby championship match.

York earned the right to oppose the Warriors last weekend when they locked up the second and final playoff spot with a convincing 8-3 victory over the Guelph Gryphons.

"It's where we wanted to be all season long," said Dinning. "The players went out and did what they had to do to win."

"Five teams were within two points of a playoff berth going into this weekend's action.

York's 5-2-1 record gave them a hold on second place with 11 points, but both U of T and Western were close behind in third place with 10 points apiece.

Guelph pulled up the rear in fourth place with a not too distant nine points. With U of T and Western going head to head on the same weekend, the Yeomen were faced with a must-win situation—if they were to stay in the playoffs.

But the Yeomen have made their own fortunes instead of excuses. They came back from deficits in the final seconds of games against both Laurier and McMaster with a playoff berth on the line in each match.

Their two losses—a 4-0 decision to Waterloo and a 10-9 scrapper to Western—have been close matches where York effectively controlled ball possession time but simply couldn't finish off their attack with tries.

"We'll definitely have to be on the top of our game against Waterloo," Dinning said. "Waterloo is an all-round strong—they're undefeated in league play which says something for them."

One goal loss doesn't frustrate icemen

Headley says no reason to panic despite 0-2 start

By CRAIG DANIELS

There was fast skating, tight checking, last minute drama, and even between-period entertainment, as the York Yeomen hockey team dropped a 4-3 decision to the Western Mustangs last Wednesday at the York Ice Palace.

York began in a promising flurry, producing an early first period goal by feisty centerman Bob Kurcheran. But the Mustangs, under head coach Ron Watson, displayed the inexorable poise that made them a second place (22 and 4) team last season in the Ontario University Athletic Association (OUAA) hockey league. They got two goals on Yeomen defensive miscues to go up 2-1 after 20 minutes of play.

In the second period, play was fairly even as both teams took turns hemming each other in their own zones. Sharp goal tending by both York's Nigel Gonsalves and Western's Gilles Lauziere prevented any scoring. Late in the period, though, York defenseman Les Smith took advantage of a Western penalty to tie the game at two, banging the puck home on a scramble in front of the Mustang goal-mouth.

But the telling blows were dealt early in the third period. Western scored a controversial third goal, alleged to have been kicked in by a skate, and then took advantage of a frustrated York team to tally the eventual game winner a mere 38 seconds later.

To their credit, the Yeomen buckled down and played the remainder of the period as if they were determined not to lose in such a fashion to a

team they had shown themselves to be at least the equals of, peppering Lauziere with 13 shots and had half as many good scoring opportunities.

Finally, the hard work paid off. After pulling goaltender Gonsalves in favor of an extra attacker, with 27 seconds left on the clock, York Captain John Campbell rifled a drive from the point past Lauziere, to round out the scoring at 4-3.

The loss was the Yeomen's second in as many games.

"I'm disappointed we didn't win, of course, but not frustrated," said York coach Bob Hedley.

"Frustration doesn't make you a better hockey team. We outplayed them, especially in the third period—the only difference was our inability to get the puck past a hot Western goalie. We certainly had the opportunities." York outshot Western in the third period 13-6.

"We've played two of the league's best teams right off the bat in Laurier and Western, and we've played well," continued Hedley. "This is a good hockey team that is going to get better."

Western coach Ron Watson agreed. "They played us very well and at times really pressured us. In spite of the win, I don't like the way our team handled that pressure. All I can say is, thank goodness for Lauziere."

Defenseman Les Smith played exceptionally well for York at both ends of the ice, collecting an assist as well as a goal, and was aggressive in the corners. Leftwinger Perry Edwards also played a strong game for the Yeomen, creating good scoring chances whenever he was on the ice.

Coach Bob Hedley must still make a decision on who will be his three goaltenders—he has one

cut yet to make . . . the Western game was York goaltender Nigel Gonsalves' first college appearance—he played last season for Henry Carr of the Jr. B circuit . . . the Zamboni was replaced as the centre of attraction between the second and third periods of last week's game as the York Athletic Dept. sponsored a "Dash for Cash"—\$100 in \$1 bills were scattered between the blue lines as lucky ticket holders Janet LoSole of Vanier College and Tom Mahon of Founders were allowed 20 seconds to scoop up as much as they could—LoSole pocketed \$20, and Mahon \$27 . . . Rob Webb, second-year winger for the Yeomen, is out until Christmas with a knee injury . . . Jim Chambers and Adrian Renzetti also did not dress for the Western game . . . in a tourney played at Kingston over the weekend, York split a pair of games, downing Canton 9-2 and then losing to Queen's 1-0.

Mustangs 4 at Yeomen 3

First period

1. York, Kurcheran (Smith) 5:14
2. Western, McCauley (Miszuk, Thomas) 12:01
3. Western, Macdonald (Macinnis, Hall) 17:18
Penalties: Norris, York 0:49; Smith, York 14:00; Anderson, West n 18:40

Second period

4. York, Smith (Norris, Campbell) 17:32
Penalties: Campbell, York 0:59; Perry, York 10:51; Macdonald, West n 16:29

Third Period

5. Western, Kinnings (Bisley, Godish) 3:09
6. Western, Schnurr (McCauley, Miszuk) 3:47
7. York, Campbell (Simpson) 19:57
Penalties: Smith, York 1:45
Penalties: Smith, York 1:45; Riddle, West n 5:23; McCauley, York 9:57; Bisley, West n 13:08

Shots on goal by			
York	10	13	—35
Western	17	13	6 —36

Goalies: York—Gonsalves; Western—Lauziere.

Attendance: 103