

SPORTS

Home ice hopes melt for playoff-bound pucksters

By JOHN GLASS

The Hockey Yeomen did not have a banner reading week.

After losing 6-2 to Western on the 8th, the Yeomen needed at least one goal margin against Waterloo on Thursday and a win against Guelph on Saturday to clinch second place in the standings and home-ice advantage heading into the playoffs this week.

However, the team went 0-2 and slid from second to third spot effectively eradicating their home-ice playoff advantage.

The Western loss, York's first against Western this year ground the team's 4 game winning streak to halt. The Yeomen struggled defensively

as the Mustangs controlled the play in York's end forcing netminded Mark Applewaite to come up with some big saves early. Western capitalized once, mid-way through the opening period.

York failed to generate a good scoring drive until the middle of the second period. Down 3-0, Mike Robbins opened York's scoring with assists coming from Bill Maguire and Luciano Fagioli.

Minutes later Fagioli was set up by Rob Crocock and Applewaite to put the Yeomen within one goal. This spark was soon doused as York's aggressiveness landed them in the penalty box throughout the second frame.

These penalties took their toll on York coach Graham Wise's short bench as the Yeomen gradually ran out of steam. Western added one more in the second and two in the third to round out the 6-2 score.

After the game Wise explained the loss. "James (Western's goalie) was solid in the net for them tonight. We had our share of chances but they scored when it counted," said Wise. The Yeomen returned home on Thursday to host the Waterloo Warriors.

Waterloo jumped on the scoreboard with a power-play goal early in the first period.

In the second, the Warriors took advantage of some sloppy York

defence netting three unanswered goals by Chris Glover, Jim David and Dan Kelly respectively. Yeomen forward Todd Dungey nabbed York's only goal of the game with assists coming from Kent Brimmer and Greg Rolston.

A rash of penalties kept the Yeomen short handed for a good portion of the second. Solid penalty killing allowed York to survive one flurry consisting of back to back five on fours and two minutes of four on three. Ian Ferguson shone for the York penalty killing unit, at one point blocking two shots with Applewaite out of position.

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BABAK AMIRI/FIZ

HOLY SHIT! NOW HOW DO I GET DOWN? The Yeomen gymnastic team powered its way past Queen's to nab its 18th OUAA title. The team is gearing up for the CIAUs in March.

Gymnasts "golden"

By KATARINA GULEJ

The Yeomen gymnastics team dominated the floor as they captured their 18th win at the Provincial championships held last weekend at Queen's.

"The team performed as expected and demonstrated greater consistency," explained head coach Tom Zivic. "This has been a good way to prepare for the CIAU championships in March."

As a team, the York gymnasts demonstrated their superiority by the number of medals won and the number of gymnasts that competed in the finals. York placed first ahead of Western in the team group competition by a 20 point victory margin. This year however, was the first year since 1975 that the team didn't win the individual all round title. The title went to Western's Mike Inglis.

An exceptionally good performance was demonstrated by second year York student J.P. Kramer who, in the men's final event, placed on all the apparatus — first on rings, vault and pommel horse, second on floor exercises, 5th on the horizontal bar,

6th on parallel bars and second all round with a score of 53.4.

After the competition Kramer commented, "as a team the final competition went better than the preliminaries." We have four weeks to get ready for Calgary."

Zivic was impressed by the good performances of the younger gymnasts on the team. Special mention goes to Mike Hood, Collin Hood, and Richard Smith who showed excellent improvement and ranked well in the men's final event. Peter Morgan did not compete to his potential; due to a minor injury he was unable to compete in five events. Veteran George Zivic did not compete nor will be competing in the Canadian championships to ensure his preparation for the World championships in October.

The Yeomen will continue their tough training regimen — training 4 times in Newmarket and twice at York per week to prepare for their National championships. Six gymnasts will compete in Calgary with the three best scores counting for the team. The Nationals will be held in Calgary during March.

Puck women finish with win

By RICCARDO SALA

Call it even for the hockey Yeowomen.

Two weeks ago Thursday York played the U of T Varsity Blues at the Ice Palace. The game came on the heels of a 4-3 win over McMaster for the York squad.

The U of T match-up, however, offered much stiffer competition. The Blues had dominated OWIAA action with 11 wins going into the York game.

The Yeowomen, meanwhile, have been struggling.

The first period started off well for the Yeowomen. At 11:41, York's Angie Robb nailed a shot into the Blues net to give York an early lead. Assisting were Kim Downard and Cindy Murray.

Five minutes later, Laurie Wise

evened up the score for the Blues. Unfortunately, it was downhill from there for the Yeowomen.

The second period went poorly for York. From the start the Blues' offence ruled.

As York's Angie McCollum explained later, "It was difficult stopping their (U of T's) offence. It was very strong with 3 on 2 and 3 on 1 formations, and we just weren't able to stabilize it."

U of T scored three unanswered goals in the crucial second period. Play was stopped at 6:39 when York's Mary Jane Heal took a hard check into the boards. With help, she finally made it to the bench.

In the third period, the Yeowomen started out with aggressive play that they hadn't used in the previous period.

Unfortunately, the Blues were

simply a better team.

York's aggressiveness didn't go far against the more disciplined play of the Blues. The York squad was too hard pressed defensively to attempt any real offensive forays into U of T's end of the rink. Several times York players came close, only to be shut down by the Blues' defence or goalie.

The U of T goal at 7:23 nailed York's coffin.

The final score was 5 to 1 for the Varsity Blues.

Assistant coach Deb Adams had a simple reason for the team's loss.

"They (U of T) played well. We had a flat second period."

York was just one of many teams that have come up short against the Blues this year.

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Lady gymnasts take silver

By KATARINA GULEJ

The Yeowomen gymnastics team was unable to retain their gold medal standing at the Ontario Championships at Queen's last weekend.

As a result, the team had to travel back from Kingston wearing a second place silver. "McMaster was better we did not perform as well as expected," explained York coach Natasa Bajin. "We deserve and are proud to be in second, although we were hoping for first."

Assistant Yeowomen coach Tamara Bompia showed disappointment after the meet but was not surprised the the Women performed below their potential due to their attitude and lack of training after the second ranking meet. "There are no bad feelings for McMaster because they deserved to win — they had team attitude, competed for the team and

not for themselves as sometimes is the case with our team," said Bompia.

The OWIAA championships took place over a two day weekend. Forty competitors were present from five universities. Nine gymnasts from York competed.

To qualify for event finals, a gymnast must score among the top eight. Five gymnasts from York qualified for event finals, including Risa Litwin on all events, Allyson Gropp on bars and beam, and Anita Ganguly and Carolyn Graham on floor exercises.

The Yeowomen had an unfortunate start in the preliminary competition when Linda Stewart had an injury during warm-ups. She landed a full twisting lay-out outside of the cushioned area on the floor exercises and injured her heel. Stewart still

managed to compete for the team and did very well considering her injury. Her scores were among those that counted toward the team group competition.

Special mention goes to Leane Grant and Risa Litwin for their strong consistent performance in the two competitions.

Freshman Carolyn Graham was excited after the competition with her fifth place finish on floor. "I was really happy since I didn't expect to make it to the finals, let alone place on an event," admitted Graham. Allyson Gropp was disappointed with her fall on beam but satisfied with her performance on bars. "I had my strongest bar routine with my best dismount" said Gropp.

There are few sports, such as gym-

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