

SPORTS and RECREATION

Laurentian also falls

Stingy goaltending helps York down Blues

By REX BUCALI

On the strength of a staunch defence and some stingy netminding by Peter Kostek, the York hockey Yeomen came up with two of their biggest wins of the season last week, nipping U. of T. Blues, 3-2, and downing Laurentian, 6-2. The games marked York's first victory over the Voyageurs this year, and their first triumph over the Blues since last season.

Last Wednesday's nip-and-tuck triumph over U. of T. was undoubtedly the team's biggest of the season thus far; even more pleasing, however, was their vastly improved defensive play.

The blueliners have been the team's major cause for concern this season, but their remarkable improvement in the last two games has helped put the team into a very advantageous position, in second place with a seven and five record with eight games remaining in the regular schedule.

Blues opened the scoring in the first period and held on to their lead until early in the second when centre Bob Wasson replied for the Yeomen with a low, 50-foot blast from just inside the blueline.

Peter Titanic put York in front late in the period, banging in a power-play goal on a rebound off Gord Cullen's shot from the point. The goal went for naught though, as the Blues stormed back for a goal in the dying seconds of the second period.

The third period turned into an all-out goaltending duel with the Yeomen's Peter Kostek and David

Hulme of Varsity pulling off some spectacular saves.

The Blues managed to temporarily stave off eventual defeat midway through the third when Hulme beat York captain Al Avery on a clean-cut breakaway.

Avery made good on a second chance later in the period however, before Kostek returned the favour to the Blues by stumping high-scoring winger Bill Fifield on the period's second one-on-one encounter.

Kostek was picked as the game's number one star, turning in his best performance of the season.

Saturday night the Yeomen hosted Laurentian Voyageurs in what looked like a game which would turn into a battle of futility.

The Yeomen had lost some of the speed and crispness that highlighted the Blues game, and Laurentian managed an excellent interpretation of the turtle brigade after playing their second game in as many nights.

After a wasted effort from both teams in the first period, Peter Ascherl got the Yeomen on the scoreboard early in the second before Laurentian tied it up.

Late in the period, the Voyageurs fell under the wrath of the referee, taking back-to-back minor penalties, and Bob Wasson scored twice for the Big Red to give them a three-one lead.

York had it all their way in the third, as left-winger Ron Hawkshaw scored the hat-trick to secure the victory. Hawkshaw also collected three assists in the



Yeoman forward Ron Hawkshaw (10) in close-in chance during York-Laurentian game at the Ice Palace, Saturday. York won 6-2.

game and was, not surprisingly, chosen the number one star.

PUCKNOTES

The puckmen are finally begin-

ning to get their act together after a rather dismal start this season. Goalie Peter Kostek seems to have regained his championship

form of a year ago and the defensive troops are slowly transforming from a porous piece of tissue into a hardening granite wall.

Also, Hawkshaw seems to have taken up much of the slack caused by the absence of Tim Ampleford and Doug Dunsmuir, two of last year's outstanding gunners. It looks like the team is now ready to make their first serious assault on the first-place position held down by the Varsity Blues.

Innovation costs gymnast a first in six-team meet

Panel judges have become grudgingly receptive to innovations such as plastic balls, hoops, and wooden bowling pins in women's floor gymnastics over the past few years, but when York's Linda Henshaw introduced an innovation of her own in Saturday's invitational meet at Western, the old-fashioned lid was quickly put on it.

Henshaw employed a piece of electronic-bongo music to compliment her routine and it cost her a first-place finish when judges ruled that traditional piano-music was the only type acceptable in such a competition.

Overall, the incident didn't put a damper on the team, as they managed to capture the team championship in the six university meet (which included teams from Michigan, Central Mich., and Buffalo).

York's four-sector squad was made up of their junior, intermediate, senior-A, and senior-B teams.

In junior competition, Lisa Beverly, Kathy Morris, Zsuzsanna Jablonsky, and Janet Campbell combined to give York a second place finish, 2.2 points behind Western.

The best showings were made by Lisa Beverly, who placed first on the uneven bars and balance beam and sixth in vaulting to give her a third place in the individual competition. Teammate Kathy Morris captured first place in the individuals, placing second on the beam and floor exercises and third on the vaulting apparatus.

Lynn English was the top performer for the Yeowomen in the intermediate division, placing third.

Individually, she was second on the balance beam, seventh in vaulting and fifth in the uneven bars and floor exercises.

Although only having two members on the senior-B team, York managed to place second in their division.

Deb Alderman grabbed third-place overall individually, with a second-place finish on the uneven bars and floor routine. Grace Boulay, a freshman on this year's squad, finished third in floor exercise and ninth in vaulting.

The senior-A team, Henshaw's bongo-electronic music and all, managed to climb to a second-place finish in their division.



York gymnasts at practice after meet.



Dr. Labib squash tips

Strategy

FINAL

This is the second and final section on basic strategy in the game of squash. This section deals with the proper method of handling a cross-court lob to your backhand side.

If you are a righthanded player, and are standing in the left-back corner of the court, a crosscourt lob or a serve, for that matter, will probably fall to a position on the floor where you will be forced to execute a difficult backhand shot.

After playing the backhand, your opponent will move quickly to gain position in the centre of the court. Chances are he will expect a weak return off the front wall, since you are not in a good position to hit a good offensive shot.

This is where you should surprise him.

Play a high crosscourt lob over his head to the opposite back corner of the court. Chances are, he will not be able to recover to return your shot, but if he does, be prepared for a second crosscourt lob, back to your side of the court.

With your opponent still at the back of the court, the most obvious strategy would be to make him run as far as possible to return your next

shot. Thus, you should play a quick drop shot, keeping the ball as close to the wall on your side as possible.

Many of the shots we have discussed in this series are not difficult to master, but not using them at the proper time can lead to disastrous results. Strategy in the game of squash should be studied and practiced just as dilligently as the technical side of your game.

Two major things to remember. Keep your opponent moving by using the full area of the court, hitting a lob to move him back, a drop shot to bring him forward and a drive shot to pass him, thus allowing you to maintain centre-court position at all times (if your opponent is chasing your shots, he will not have time to take the centre-court in position for your next shot) and to use surprise shots sparingly.

Dropping when your opponent is in the centre of the court is only effective if he is leaning back expecting a lob or drive to the corners.

You cannot fool all your opponents all of the time, so settle for fooling them just some of the time.

Sports in Brief

York's basketball team did a rapid about-face on the weekend, losing their first two games of the season, 82-68 against Ottawa, and 75-69 to Carleton.

The team is in third place with a four and two record.

In their opening game of the second half of the OWIAA hockey season, the York Yeowomen lost 7-2 to the first-place U. of T. Blues.

Linda Berry and rookie Joanne Healy scored for York.

The York men's squash team finished fifth in an eight-university meet at York this weekend.

Peter Heatherington of Varsity captured the individual title while the Blues also took first place in the team-competition. Yeoman Horace Hale was York's best performer, winning two of his four matches.

Skip John Pearson led the York curling team to a first-place finish at the Brock Invitational bonspiel held at the St. Catherine's Golf and country Club on Saturday.

The team won games over Mohawk College and Brock before upsetting defending champion Queen's university 9-4. Pearson, along with vice-skip Doug Wilson, second Rob English, and lead Dave Fleet gave the team a narrow two-and-a-half point margin over second-place Waterloo.