
 Don't waste your time at York just going to classes. Transform your wishy-washy aspirations to be a writer, photographer, cartoonist, editor...into a real skill. See your name in print. Stay up late (really late!) on Wednesday night. Have a good time. Join the staff at *Excalibur*.

Field hockey coach's summer according to plan

By MARK ZWOL

Yeowomen field hockey coach Marina van der Merwe managed to enjoy what she described as a "busy and hectic" summer vacation.

Fact is, van der Merwe's summer started way back in April when she coached the Canadian national women's field hockey team to their first-ever silver medal at the World Cup Tournament in Kuala, Lampur.

"To start with," said van der Merwe, "it was an experience extraordinaire. We've never reached these heights—coming from the tenth seed to number two in the world was a real high.

"But it did put a postponement on my summer vacation," she added. "It meant that we (the national team coaching staff) had to reassess our talent. We did a complete survey of the Canadian field hockey scene and ended up taking an under 21 team on a tour through the States and Jamaica."

Dubbed the "Cinderella" team by the world press, the fiery Canadians stunned the field hockey world, knocking off the best teams from around the globe to rise from a tenth-seeded start in the tourney to a shot at the gold medal.

And while the Canadian team fell short in their bid for the gold—a 4-2 defeat to the number one ranked team from the Netherlands—they did prove they can "play with anyone," and should be a force to be reckoned with in the 1984 Olympic Games.

The rise to the spotlight, however, was no overnight sensation. It was the result of an eight-year plan (van

der Merwe's brainchild) for field hockey in Canada.

The goal of the plan was to secure a berth in the 1984 Olympics which in turn rested on the Canadian showing at the World Cup.

It all began with Canada placing 16th in the 1975 world championships. Van der Merwe took over as head coach in 1976 and laid out her plan which carried the Canadian side to a respectable 9th place finish in the 1979 games.

"Actually, there were two four-year plans, van der Merwe explained. The first was from '76 to '80. By 1980 we wanted to move the national team from 16th to 9th place overall. The second plan was centered on gaining a 6th place ranking by the 1984 Olympics."

Canada's training camp was reshuffled to accommodate a rigorous two month jaunt in Australia prior to the World Cup tournament in order to acclimatize themselves.

"We knew Kuala was warm," van der Merwe commented. "We knew we needed tougher competition, and we knew we needed to get accustomed to playing on an artificial surface. Perth, Australia really fit the bill for both the teams' immediate needs and the process of working out the plan."

FIELD POSTS: The National team is already busy prepping for the 1984 Olympic games in L.A. . . . the national team will include York Yeowomen stars Laurie Lambert at mid-fielder, and Sheila Forshaw at striker (Sheila is also a two time female athlete of the year at York) . . . Thirty-two teams from around

the world will compete at the games, and according to van der Merwe, the going will get tougher. Any one of the top six teams can win at any given time. The team that won the silver medal will have to be mentally and physically tougher to go for the gold."

Gridiron Schedule

The 1983 version of the York Yeomen Football Team kicks off its twelfth season this September 24th with a game against the Western Mustangs.

York's athletic department has planned the first annual York University "KISS OFF" which will be held during the half time intermission. All couples are welcome to enter.

Game time is 2 pm Saturday afternoon on the York field at the North West corner of the campus.

The Yeomen play three home games this year in the OUAA league, in addition to four road games. Here is a schedule of the complete York Yeomen 1983 season.

Sat. Sept. 10	York @ Western
Sat. Sept. 17	York @ Guelph
Sat. Sept. 24	Waterloo @ York
Sun. Oct. 1	Laurier @ York
Fri. Oct. 6	York @ Toronto
Sat. Oct. 15	McMaster @ York
Sat. Oct. 22	York @ Windsor

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