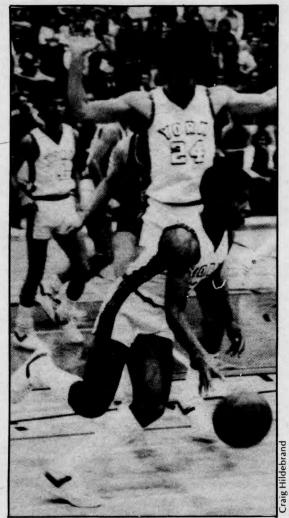
Sports and Recreation

We are the champions



Guard Paul Jones scoots around a Windsor defender as Lester Smith (24) sets a perfect pick.

Bruce Gates

No matter what they do against number one rated Brandon Bobcats tonight, in the first round of the CIAU shootout in Calgary, the third-ranked York Yeomen accomplished a lot more than their critics believed they would.

Few, for instance, predicted they would repeat as Ontario East champions. And probably even fewer felt they would end up as All-Ontario winners. But champs they are

For the second time in three years, York has captured the Wilson Cup, awarded each season to the overall Ontario champion. And they took it from the team who upset them, 80-78, in a year when no one was supposed to stop the Yeomen. But in 1979 the Windsor Lancers did—in Windsor. But this year, the proverbial shoe was on the other foot as Yeomen thrashed the Lancers, 90-77, before over 1,200 hometown fans. Not bad for a team with six rookies.

"I'm really happy!" enthused backup guard Harry Nikolaidis, a freshman, who best summed up the collective feeling of the entire team.

Even though the win over Carleton the week before had guaranteed them a berth in the nationals, to a man the Yeomen felt they had something to prove as a result of what happened last year.

"We made it a point not even to mention Calgary this week," coach Bob Bain said afterward. "One guy said earlier this week we should get our stetsons out of the trunk. That was just a joke, but it made some of the players mad, because they felt there was some pride involved here.

"This was very important to us," Bain emphasized. "The CIAU's are something else altogether. But as far as I'm concerned this one was the end of the season for us."

In other words, whatever happens in Calgary is gravy. But for quite a while, it appeared York was about to lose to Windsor for the second straight year. From the opening tipoff, Lancers came out running, completely knocking Yeomen off balance and opening a nine point lead several times.

It wasn't till late in the first half that the Yeomen were able to adjust to the Windsor game and take the lead for the first time in the match with 1:41 left in the opening half. It stood 43-42 for York after twenty minutes.

"We were playing their game in the first half," said guard Paul Jones, who sank 16 points in the game. "They had us running up and down. That's Windsor's game, not York's game. But then we got the match-ups straightened out and we put Enzo (guard Spagnuolo) into the game, and we started playing well."

York went to a speedy three-guard offence, with Jones, Coulthard and Spagnuolo, near the end of the first half, and that seemed to make a difference. York, at the time, was trailing 39-30, but scored 11

straight points to go out in front and shift the momentum in their favor.

"When we controlled the tempo and slowed it down, we played well," explained assistant coach Gerry Barker. "Dave Coulthard kept us in the game at the beginning when we weren't going well. We're the type of team that likes to pass the ball around a lot. And when we do that we win."

Of course, having Number 15 out there never hurts either. "Dave makes your offence so much easier to run," praised Barker.

Coulthard was the team's entire offence for most of the first ten minutes, time and again making clutch baskets when Windsor appeared ready to pull away. In all, he was good on 15 of 32 field goals and was nine for nine from the line for 39 points. That effort earned him the first-ever Kitch McPherson Most Valuable Player of the Game Award, this being the first year of its presentation. In addition, Coulthard shared the all-Ontario MVP award with Windsor centre Stan Korosec, who netted 25 points for the Lancers.

"We played a fairly good game," Coulthard said. "It was a little scrappy, but then Windsor plays scrappy too, so we sort of counteracted that."

Indeed it was a "fairly good game" when one realizes that York wasn't supposed to be able to rebound with Windsor. Yet they outboarded the Lancers 51-36 with Bo Pelech (17 points), leading the way by hauling in 10. Coulthard and Jones had nine apiece, and backup forward Lester Smith grabbed six. Smith, who sank 11 points, played an outstanding game off the bench. And several of his hoops and boards were key ones.

"York did such a great job on the defensive boards, and we were missing some," noted Windsor coach Paul Thomas. Which must have been surprising both to him and Bain, who said York went to a zone defence "because we knew we couldn't beat them inside."

Inside was 6ft., 8 in. Korosec, whom the Windsor coach kept out of foul trouble by platooning his players (replacing all five, or three at a time).

"The main reason we did it (they've been doing it all year) is to keep Korosec out of foul trouble," Thomas explained. "Korosec (who had two fouls) is a big man for us. So if we can keep him out of trouble



Dave Coulthard prepares to shoot two of his season-high 39 points against Windsor.

in the first half and keep it close on the board, we usually win the second half. But it didn't work out that way in this game."

Thomas noted the Yeomen had something extra going for them this year, despite the loss of front-line players from 1979. "The fact they've been there before makes them very confident and very poised."

Time out: Honours keep pouring in for Dave Coulthard. He was named this week's OUAA Athlete of the Week...In the game, Yeomen were 35 for 77 from the field and 20 for 28 from the line. Windsor was 34 of 79 and 8 of 13...Grant Parobec netted 4 points against Lancers, and Ron Kaknevicius sank 3...Two weeks ago, referring to the playoff against Ottawa, Excalibur had a misprint. For the record: Ron Kaknevicius sank 4 points, Harry Nikolaidis had 3...Many thanks to Dave Turner for his cheerleading...Appreciation to back ups Jerry DallaCorte, Mark Hubbard, Vince Frankovich and Harry Nikolaidis.

ROOKS LEADS CANADIANS IN PARIS

York's Nancy Rooks placed seventeenth in the women's world cross-country championship at the Longchamps course in Paris this past Sunday, to lead the Canadian team to an overall sixth-place finish.

Grete Waitz of Norway won the women's title for a record third consecutive time by completing the 4,550m course in a time of 15.05 minutes. Meanwhile, Craig Virgin became the first U.S. runner to win the men's event by clocking a 37.1 minute time for the 11,590m men's course.

The Soviet team was able to take the women's division with a score of 16 points (lowest point total wins). The Canadian women finished well back with 110 points. In the men's competition, England won the team title with 100 points. Canada was a distant eleventh with 462 points.

Shortstops

SUPER DUPER CROSSTOWN STARS

On Friday, March 14 at 6 p.m., York will host a Crosstown Superstars Competition at the Tait McKenzie Athletic Centre.

The event will feature members of the U of T Department of Physical Education in competition against their counterparts who will be representing York. The teams will be competing in a variety of sporting activities to determine, once and for all, whose athletic department rates and whose doesn't.

Promises can't be made concerning the level of the competition, but the event should be a lot of fun for sports enthulasts. So come on out and help your faculty members beat the big, bad Blues.

SMALL TEAM SHOWS A LOT OF HEART

You might ask how such a small contingent (four swimmers) did so well at a national championship, but women's coach Carol Gluppe thinks she can explain her team's eighth-place showing at this year's CIAU swimming and diving championships at Laval.

"All the team members are really excellent relayers and each is a strong individual swimmer," said Gluppe. "We were able to do so well with only four swimmers because all of them placed so well in the finals and consolation rounds. Our swimmers really showed their versatility."

Overall, the team placed eighth in a 21-team field, moving auspiciously upward from last season's seventeenth-place finish. U of T captured the meet with its second consecutive national title, led by national team member Judy Garay.

Donna Miller starred for York by collecting the most individual points with fifth and sixth place clockings in the 100m (1:10.09 minutes) and 200m (2:33.72) backstroke events.

Veteran Jane Thacker, competing in breaststroke, found hers to be "the toughest division of all," sporting such swimmers as Garay and Western's Melanie MacKay. Yet Thacker swam well to capture seventh and tenth place finishes in the 200m (2:50.73) and 100m (1:40.46) races.

Rookie Lise Charland performed admirably in front of her hometown fans (she's from Quebec City) to place ninth and tenth in the 200m (2:31.70) and 100m (1:09.54) butterfly events.

And four-year veteran, team captain Lise MacGregor, chipped in by registering a twelfth-spot timing in the 100m freestyle (1:03.2) match-up.

In the relays, the team's most exciting and unexpected performance came in the 4X200m freestyle where Yeowomen chopped 23 seconds off of their season's previous best time to gain fourth spot in the race. They also added a fourth-place time in the 4X100m medley relay and a ninth in the 4X100m freestyle. "I'm delighted with the team's performance," beamed

Gluppe. "All our swimmers came up with their best-times-ever at these nationals."

Fourth in the pool

Last weekend, York's Yeomen swimmers journeyed to Laval for the CIAU swimming and diving championships where they swam exceptionally well to place fourth overall and capture four medals, including a gold, silver and two bronze.

The winners of the meet were a strong U of T team which established a new CIAU record by compiling 442 points. Laval (268) placed second, followed by Alberta (185) and York (152).

Coach Gary MacDonald was very pleased with his team's results. Last year Yeomen placed eleventh overall and MacDonald had been looking for an improvement, but last week, after the provincials, he said that "the team will have to swim out of their heads to finish as high as third or fourth." And so they did.

Despite the fact that he has been training with an acute case of tendonitis in his right shoulder, freshman Bill Bevan was York's top performer. Bevan placed first in the 1500m freestyle with a time of 16:05.08, second in the 400m freestyle (4:02.4) and third in the 200m free (1:54.1).

Mark Erwin also swam strongly for York, finishing third and fourth respectively in the 50m and 100m freestyles. "Mark did a super job," commented MacDonald. "The races were a lot faster than last year and the competition was better."

Juri Daniel barely missed the finals in both breastroke events by tenths of seconds, but scored valuable points for the team by placing well in the consolation finals.

Other performances by Yeomen included a fifth place finish by John Bevan in the 50m freestyle, in which he clocked his lifetime best, Martin Tiidus' eleventh place time in the 200m breastroke (he just missed the consolation final in the 100m) and Cameron Rothery's fine third place finish in the 100m butterfly consolation finals. Marc Nadeau came through with two best times in his first trip to the CIAU's.

In relays, York took fourth, fifth and sixth places in close-fought battles. The team narrowly missed a bronze medal in the 400m medley relay, finishing .5 seconds off the pace. But the most exciting relay race was the 400m freestyle relay where York narrowly defeated Western with an incredible finish by Mark Erwin. Because of this placing, York defeated Western in the overall team standings.