

Injury clinics keep athletics 'in the game'

By CHRIS "HUNT" HURST

You may have never visited them, in fact, you may have never even heard of them, but the Alan Eagleson and Tait McKenzie sports injury clinics at York University provide an invaluable service to not only the York community, but all of Metro as well.

The Alan Eagleson clinic, formerly known as the Bobby Orr clinic, operates out of the Metro Track and Field Centre, located on the north end of campus. The clinic opened in 1984, and was named after the legendary hockey star because he was the main contributor to the programme. The name, of course, has been changed, but the clinic still operates, and its services are very much in demand.

According to Programme Director Len Quinn, the clinic's full-time staff of 12 doctors and 7 physio and athletic therapists is constantly called upon to see to the recuperation of Metro's injured athletes. "Our doctors are continually booked up . . . and we treat nine hundred physio-therapy cases per week," he said.

Quinn added that this OHIP funded facility is fully equipped with X-ray equipment as well as a part-time radiologist to aid in the treatment of the more seriously injured jock.

There are several things that make the Alan Eagleson clinic unique. First, it has the capacity to take in



THIS WON'T HURT A BIT . . . Student therapist Sonia Pagura "makes it better" at the Tait Injury Clinic.

new patients with virtually no wait, producing a high turnover rate which is especially advantageous to competitive athletes. "We are dedicated to the return of the athlete as quickly and a safely as possible," said Quinn.

Secondly, the clinic serves athletes exclusively. The Alan Eagleson Sports Clinic treats only sports related injuries, which accounts for the centre's lack of patient clutter. "People who come here must have had a sports related injury in order to be treated," Quinn said.

Quinn also stressed that although the Alan Eagleson clinic caters exclusively to sports related injuries, it does not cater exclusively to the York community. In fact, since the clinic's 1984 opening, its number of non-student patients has increased steadily, and the clinic currently treats 2 non-student patients for every 3 student patients.

Quinn was asked to explain the reasons and conditions surrounding the clinic's recent name-change, however he declined comment saying that, "That is between the city

Metro and the University." He added that he was only responsible for the service's operation.

The Tait McKenzie clinic is located in the basement of the Tait McKenzie building. Unlike the Eagleson clinic, the Tait clinic serves the York community exclusively. However, clinic director Ed Nowalkoski explained that the two clinics do interact extensively. "The Alan Eagleson clinic is basically an extension of what we have in the Tait McKenzie building," he said. "Any cases involving more acute injuries, or involving surgical or post-surgical attention are referred to the Alan Eagleson."

What the clinic does handle are less serious injuries and cases requiring less-intensive therapy. Several volunteers studying in related fields assist the York teams, performing tasks such as tape jobs and brace adjustments for injured players, as well as tending to the teams' on-the-spot injuries.

Nowalkoski explained, however, that all is not well with the programme. Nowalkoski feels that the programme is being treated unfairly by the administration. He was mainly concerned with the facility's budget. The funds, which come from the Physical Education General Budget and Student Aid, are only equal to one third of what a similar

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York fencer survives nightmarish meet

By PARRY RIPOSTE

It's been a long, hard year for the York fencing programme.

At the central men's sectional held at Ryerson last Saturday the Yeomen came away poorly against the other teams in their pool: Trent, Ryerson and U of T. Only Tony Forsyth, fencing individual epee managed to make it to the final rounds, to be held this Saturday at McMaster.

The sectionals and finals are different from regular season tournament play in that they offer both individual and team events in the three weapons. This allows fencers to get personal rankings in the OUAA.

York's effort in individual foil consisted of two first year athletes, Jamie Stirling and Glenn Ng as well as returning fencer Riccardo Sala. Stirling, who has been impressive in other outings this year, pulled off the only win among the three fencers.

In sabre, York was represented by

the veteran duo of Richard Tierney and Darren Osborne as well as first year hot rod Scott Davis. Davis and Tierney had a hard time on the strip, but Osborne, in typical fashion, came on like a hurricane to take five out of eight matches and advance to the second round. There, the tougher competition took its toll and Osborne failed to nab the top spots needed to make the finals.

In individual epee, the York squad looked anxiously towards Tony Forsyth's performance. Probably the finest fencer on the team, Forsyth is ranked among the top three epeeists in Ontario.

In the first round Forsyth came on strong, taking four out of five bouts. In the second round, the tougher competition slowed him down to only two wins. These wins were good enough for an advance to the McMaster finals.

Along with Forsyth, Martin Buschbeck and Gordon Smith were the other individual epeeists. The epee

event was a heartbreak for Smith, who failed to win a bout. Buschbeck, a rookie fencer, surprised many competing with his maturity and aggressiveness. The result was two wins out of the five matches he fought.

In the sabre team event, the York squad, made up of Tierney, Davis and Paul Kwiatkowski floundered before the onslaught of more experienced U of T and Trent teams and failed to win a match.

The York foil team of Buschbeck, Stirling and Ng had a slightly better time of it, largely because of Buschbeck's presence on the team. In the first round against U of T. They went down 0-5. Against Trent, Buschbeck gained ground with a single win as the team lost 1-5.

The next matchup, against Ryerson, was the team's best performance. Although Stirling, Buschbeck and Sala each won, it was too little too late as Ryerson pulled out a 5-3 win.

The epee team was made up of Forsyth, Smith and Osborne. The first matches against U of T saw them lose five matches to one. Against Trent the team picked itself up. Smith made amends for his earlier heartbreaks and walked away with two wins. Osborne and Forsyth provided backup winning the other three matches. Facing Ryerson, the team came out on the short end winning four to Ryerson's five.

With their epee losses, all hopes of York sending a full team to the finals were killed. In all three weapons; foil, sabre and epee, the York squad came in behind the other four schools.

With half of his fencers being rookies, York assistant coach Mourad Mardikian didn't feel badly about Saturday's performance. "We're basically a new team," he said. "There's only so much a fencer can do in his first year, especially against some of these more experienced schools."

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