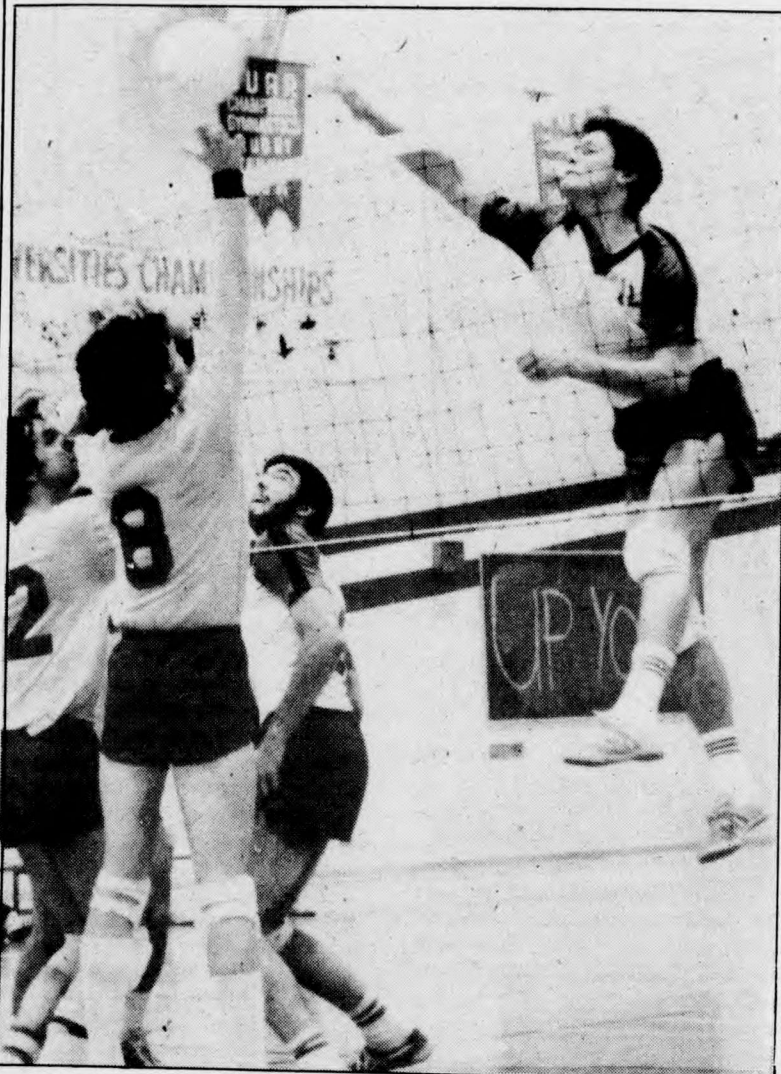




York Yeomen B.C. bound



Mark Ainsworth of York (12) smashes a hard drive over Queen's blockers Pat Bergeron (2) and Brian Macleod (8) in the OUAA final.

Rose Crawford

The volleyball Yeomen gave the home crowd plenty to cheer about last weekend by handily capturing their second consecutive OUAA championship.

Going into the four-team tourney as the heavy favourites, having been defeated only once in regular season play, the Yeomen took on the Waterloo Warriors in the opening round and had no trouble at all defeating them three games to none.

In the championship game, the Yeomen went up against the Cinderella team - the Queen's Golden Gaels, who ironically enough handed the Yeomen their only defeat of the year. For a team which up until five months ago had

no coach and wasn't even supposed to make the play-offs, let alone make it to the finals, the Golden Gaels gave the Yeomen some pretty stiff competition. The more skilful York squad prevailed going on to win the match three games to none (15-13, 15-12 and 15-13).

Following the match, York coach Wally Dyba, obviously thrilled by his team's triumph, said he felt that the Yeomen played well but could have put a little more into the match.

"This was only a semi-peak for us," he said. "We didn't play with as much intensity as we did in the Excalibur Classis Tournament where the calibre was much higher."

When Dyba was asked what he thought of the Gaels' performance and their successful season comeback, he replied, "Queen's style is not spectacular but it's consistent and consistency is what gets you to the top."

Consistency and intensity are just what the Yeomen will need if they hope to come out on top at the Canadian National volleyball championships where they will face much stiffer competition than they have faced all year in the

Ontario league.

The Nationals are scheduled to take place at the University of Victoria on March 5-7.

Kawaja skips to finals

M. Adjock

York's curling team won the Ontario University Athletic Association curling title for the first time ever in Waterloo last weekend.

The team won the round-robin tournament with a 4-0 record by beating Western (7-6), Queen's (10-2), Laurier (7-5) and U of T (6-5). The final game of the championship pitting York against Brock, was cancelled because it would not have changed the final standings.

The York rink, skipped by John Kawaja and coached by Mike Davidson, were favoured to win the championship because of their strong 3-1 record at the eastern sectionals.

The team this year owes much of its success to rookie skip Kawaja. This is extremely ironic, because last year Kawaja took two varsity curlers away from the York team just before the university provincials, to play in the Canadian Junior finals.

The rest of the York team, not lacking in talent themselves were, Graeme McCarrel, Bill Goodridge, Bruce Hammond, Mark Burford and Ken Pearce.

With the Ontario finals as history, coach Davidson looks forward to many returning veterans providing a bright future for curling at York for years to come.

Blues no match for undefeated Yeomen

Rose Crawford

With a perfect 12-0 record in regular season play behind them, the York basketball Yeomen took to the court against the University of Toronto Blues in OUAA semifinal action last Tuesday evening.

Playing without the services of all-Canadian forward Bo Pelech, who is expected to be sidelined for the balance of the season, the Yeomen had an easy time defeating the Blues 96-70.

David Coulthard, who returned to the Yeomen line-up after being out with the flu, only saw twenty three minutes of action, but still managed 28 points to lead all scorers.

"It's good to have Dave back," said a pleased Bob Bain at the end of the game.

The Yeomen took control of the game in the early going and because of their strong offense they were able to build a healthy 57-36 half-time lead.

The second half was much like the first except for the last three minutes.

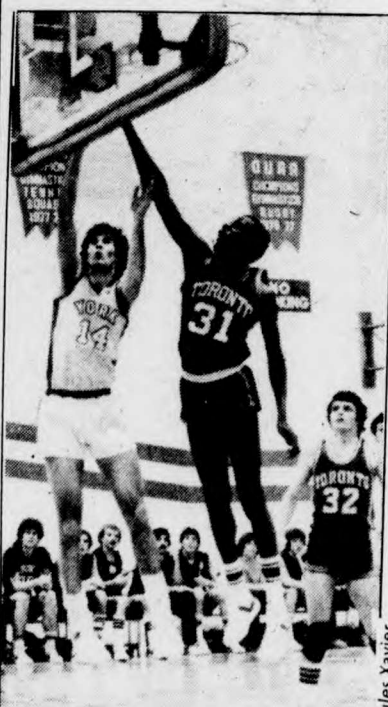
Bain, as per usual, substituted his rookies into the game to give the starters a breather. What followed was closer to girls' high school basketball than men's university basketball.

The action became erratic and scrappy with both teams making numerous passing and shooting errors, and according to Bain, "At the beginning when we had our starters on, our defense was great so our offense scored almost at will. The end got a little scrappy because the inexperienced players want to go out there to play ball and let off some excess energy."

The highlight of the game came with just over one minute left to play when the Yeomen brought the home crowd to its feet by blocking four consecutive U. of T. scoring attempts.

The Yeomen now go on to meet Laurentian for the OUAA East championship tomorrow night at the Tait McKenzie gym. Should they defeat Laurentian, the Yeomen will be assured of a berth in the National finals two weekends from now in Waterloo.

Notes: Yeomen David Coulthard, Bo Pelech and Paul Jones were all selected to the OUAA East first all-star team.



Hubert Smith (31) attempts to clear Dave Coulthard's (14) shot.

Gee Gees bounce York

Jules 'Sparky' Xavier

The second ranked Ottawa Gee-Gees, led by five National players captured their second consecutive Ontario championship prevailing 15-12, 9-15, 15-3 and 15-10 over fifth ranked York Yeowomen.

Ottawa now travels to Victoria to represent Ontario in the Canadian championships.

In the initial round-robin the Yeowomen fell short in the opening game losing again to Ottawa 15-8, 15-9, 15-17, 1-15, and 10-15.

Up 2-0 the Yeowomen battled back from a 14-8 deficit in the third game to even the score 14-14. Serves were exchanged before York went up by one but were

unable to finish Ottawa off.

Ottawa regrouped and took the next three games handily.

York defeated Waterloo in three straight. The Athenas were led by all-star Jan Ostrom but were unable to penetrate the gutsy York defence.

Defeating Western 3-1 advanced the York team into the finals to face the favoured Gee-Gees.

Dejected second year coach Merv Mosher felt the experience of Ottawa beat his team.

"Ottawa can be beaten but they make it difficult and it's no easy victory," he said. "Ottawa doesn't get blown out 15-2, they'll get their 12 points in a game. You have to fight them for every point."

Mosher also cited the Gee Gees as being stronger in the finals than in their initial game against York.

Ottawa coach Lorne Sawula felt his team's experience was the key to their victory. "With inexperience playing experience, the final outcome usually favours the team with the experience."

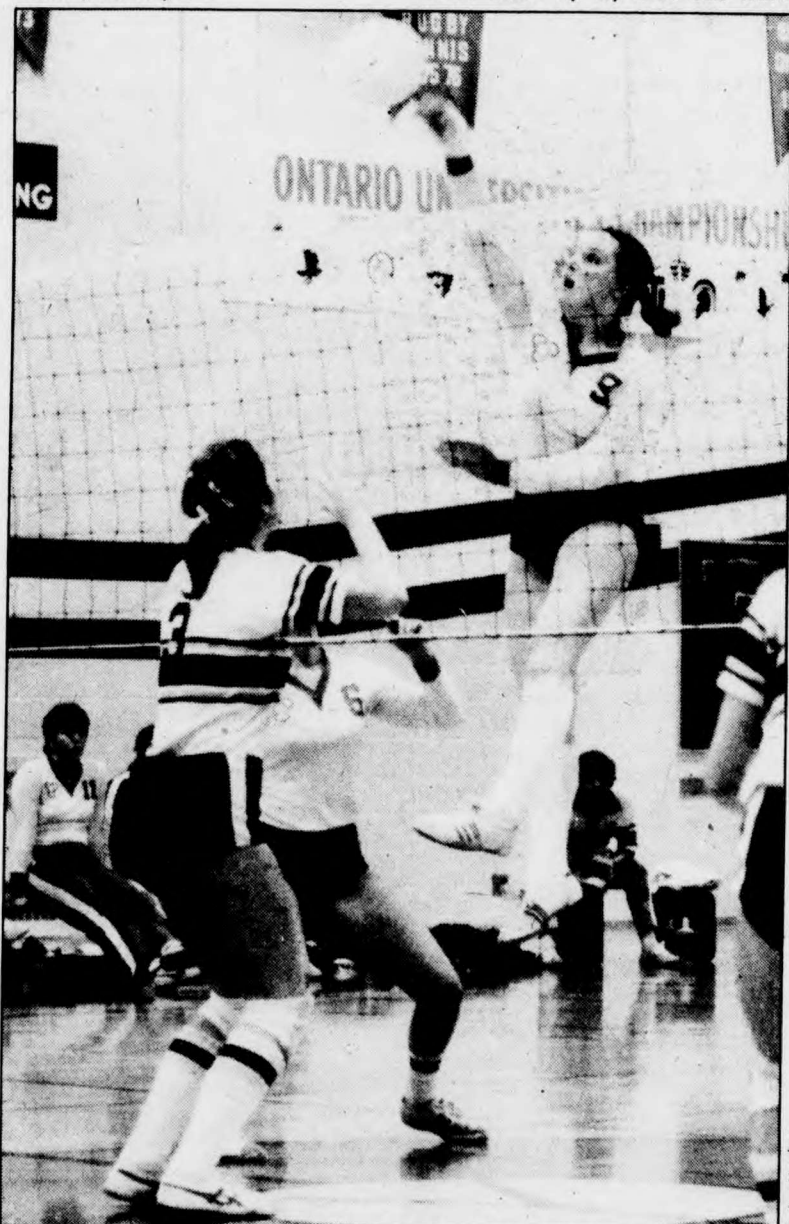
This was evident in the finals but the Yeowomen kept it close.

"There was an all-round effort by the team," replied Mosher. "I was satisfied with their play as they gave it their all but we just came up short."

Rookie Donna Kastelic who provided much of the York offensive thrust commented following the loss, "Ottawa has a taller team thus we have to rely on our defence more. We just let down when we got ahead. It was tough losing."

Height is one area that Mosher hopes to add to the York team in the future. "With a smaller team you tend to play defensively more," added Mosher.

X-rated: Veteran Marla Taylor was chosen as one of the OWIAA all-stars following Ottawa's victory... Osgoode defeated Waterloo 56-54 in the finals of the Waterloo Invitational... Trent defeated Stong 59-53 in the other final... the MVP of the tournament was Osgoode's Pete Pizakas.



York's Donna Kastelic (9) beats the block of Waterloo's Carolyn Ellis (3) during the round-robin with York winning 3-0.