

# York synchronized swimmers are tops in their OWIAA class

By GEORGE CHRISTOPOULOS  
 "This year the synchronized swimming team probably had more depth than they've ever had in the past," said a proud Women's Athletic Coordinator, Mary Lyons. Hard work and perseverance paid off for the Yeowomen as they captured their second OWIAA title in three years.

Coach Pat Murray was also pleased with the team's performance, as they successfully dethroned last years champs from UofT. Murray, who never doubted her team's ability, said, "I'm not surprised at their performance, I think we peaked at the right time, everything came together on the

same day. I knew we had a chance at it, but sometimes in subjectively judged sports, you can't always count your chickens before they hatch."

Yeowomen Cathy Clark, third-year Phys. Ed. major, led the way for York as she finished first in the duet category with her partner Jo Ann Taylor, and also placed second in the solo category to Toronto's Nancy Jackson. Clark pointed to "Good coaching and most of the team being together for a few years," as reasons for the team's success. "We had a couple of new swimmers that helped us immensely, and some good novice and intermediate swimmers," added Clark.

According to Coach Murray, next year will be a rebuilding year for the Yeowomen because three of their top athletes will be graduating. "It will definitely be a down season," stated a pessimistic Murray. Murray is hoping to find one or two strong solo and duet athletes to bolster the roster for the upcoming season.

Yeowoman Cathy Clark, was a little more optimistic stating, "Each team will be losing some key veterans and it will make for an interesting season next year."



**BANNER YEAR:** York picks up an Ontario championship courtesy of the synchronized swim team. Next year could be a problem with the loss of a few veterans.

# York forced to dig in to beat Laurentian team

By GEORGE CHRISTOPOULOS  
 Upset York! The York volleyball Yeomen were given a scare in their semifinal match against the Laurentian Voyageurs last weekend. The Yeomen entered the match sporting an impressive 8-2 record while the Voyageurs had a respectable 5-5 record.

The Voyageurs were out to prove that they were a much better team than their record indicated. After winning the opening two games in shocking fashion, it became a distinct possibility to the Yeomen and the partisan crowd that Laurentian was poised for an upset.

After all was said and done, Laurentian's upset bid was killed by a barrage of Yeomen spikes. The Yeomen fought back from a 2-0 deficit to defeat Laurentian 10-15, 11-15, 15-11, 15-12, 15-13, and move on to the OUA east final.

The Yeomen, lacking emotion and aggressiveness, fell behind in the early stages of the match to an opportunistic Laurentian squad. The Voyageurs quickly capitalized on Yeomen errors to jump out to a 2-0 lead. Laurentian's Dave Buckle was a thorn in York's side all day, emotionally stirring up his teammates while verbally taunting the Yeomen.

York's Frank Blasi successfully pumped up his team with two key points in the third game. With the score tied at 13-13, Blasi executed two consecutive dumps, which eluded the outstretched hands of the Voyageur players. The Yeomen went on to win game three and avoid an embarrassing sweep. These two exciting points seemed to inspire the Yeomen and help reverse their fortunes.

York's Bruce Dunning showed his mean streak in game four, tallying six kills and a key block. Dunning picked apart the Voyageur defence with some powerfully placed spikes. Dunning's play had a domino effect on the team, as each player took his turn executing key plays.

With the score 7-6 in favour of Laurentian in Game 5, Yeoman Jim Mohrhardt made two spectacular digs to keep the team alive. Shortly after, Adrian Adore came through with two punishing short kills to preserve the victory.

Yeomen coach Wally Dyba described his mental state after the game

as "emotionally drained to say the least. We were the favoured team going into it (OUAA east semifinal) and if you're favoured, and you see an upset in the making, it takes a lot out of you." Coach Dyba was instrumental in getting his team focused on the unenviable task of coming back from a 2-0 deficit. The coach called some key time-outs, allowing his team to regroup and plan the comeback.

"I think we let down... There's no question in my mind we're better than what we showed," said an exhausted Dyba. York will undoubtedly battle UofT for the

OUAA east title next week, and if they intend to put a blemish on Toronto's spotless 10-0 record, they can not have an emotional letdown.

"UofT is a very, very, good team," said Dyba, "There's no question we'll be playing a lot better than we did today."

The Yeomen will be the heavy underdogs in the OUA east final against Toronto, but if they play up to their potential they might be able to give UofT a scare. The Yeomen seem to relish their underdog role, feeling they have nothing to lose and everything to gain in the upcoming match with UofT for the OUA east title.



**WHERE'S THE TRAMPOLINE?** Adrian Adore proves gravity is no problem. The Yeomen edged Laurentian aided by Adore's "punishing short kills." They now go on to face Toronto.

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