

SPORTS

Gymnasts set for provincials

By KATARINA GULEJ

The York Yeowomen gymnastic team gracefully recaptured their first-place standing at the second provincial qualifying meet this past weekend at the Tait Gym.

The competition was close — neither the York coaches nor the gymnasts were certain whether they would walk away with the gold or silver team medal. York secured the title with a total team score of 137.4 points with McMaster coming in second at 139.9.

Head coach Natasa Bajin was pleased with the women's results. "We did good, and better than the last meet" explained Natasa. "Some mistakes were made that still can be corrected, however the whole team qualified for the Ontario championships."

To qualify for the Provincial championships a gymnast must attain an all-round score of 29 points. The top six gymnasts then compete officially with their indi-

vidual scores contributing to the team score.

Artistic coach Tamara Bomp also agreed "overall the gymnasts competed better than the first qualifying meet." She says she hopes and expects that the women will perform even better in the Ontario championships, particularly on the balance beam event and in the all round competition.

The Yeowomen gymnastics team is the largest team in years — 12 gymnasts, 10 of which competed in the competition.

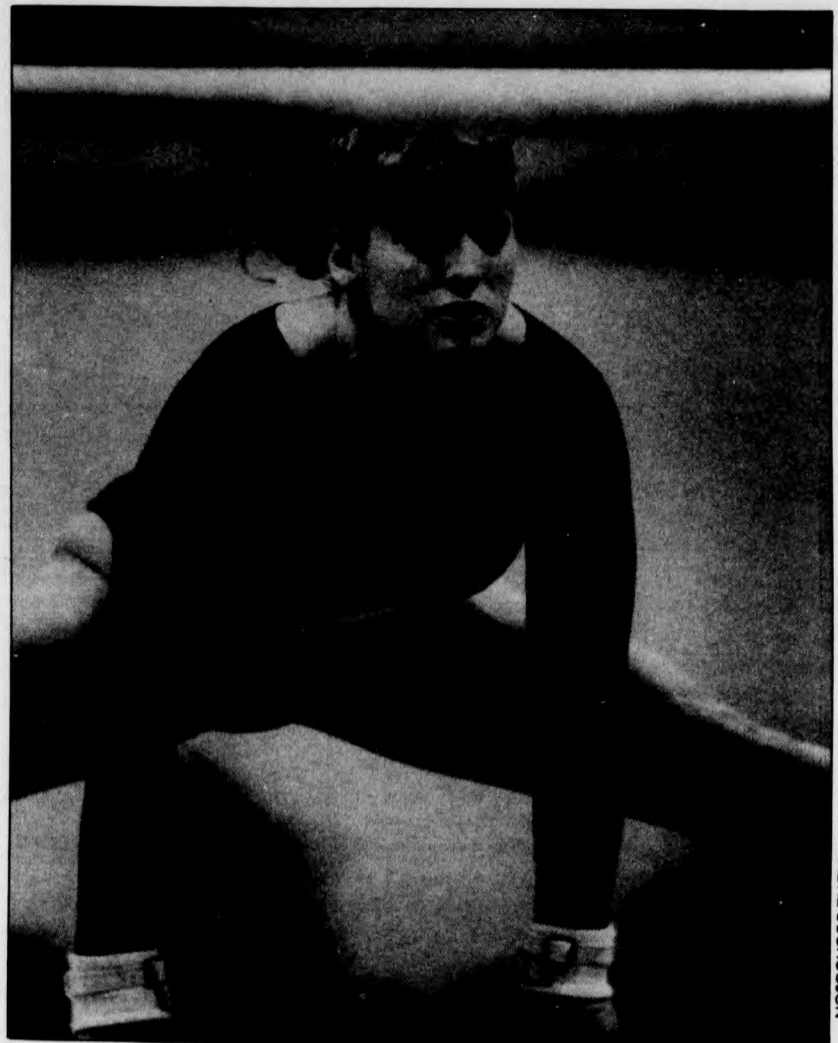
Four of the gymnasts — Cari Borenstein, Carolyn Graham, Janice Hanlan and Nadine Uren were competing for their first time in inter University competition and were able to fulfill all the difficult move requirements necessary for such a competition and qualify for the Provincial championships. Nadine Uren, a 3rd year York student was competing for her first time since high school and was in high spirits during and after the competition: "The meet went better than the first one and the scoring was fairer."

Veteran gymnasts on the team — Anita Ganguly, Leane Grant, Allyson Gropp, Risa Litwin, Karen Pringle and Linda Stewart — demonstrated the ease, consistency and confidence of years of training, competition and experience. Each has been a member of the team for three or more years.

Competitor Risa Litwin placed second in the all round competition in addition to placing first on vault and first on floor exercises, but felt her performance could be improved. "I wasn't really happy with my results — I missed my mount on bars and fell on beam, on my side areal," said Litwin. "The meet went a lot faster since the judges were aware of the amount of people competing; if that made the judging less accurate, I don't know."

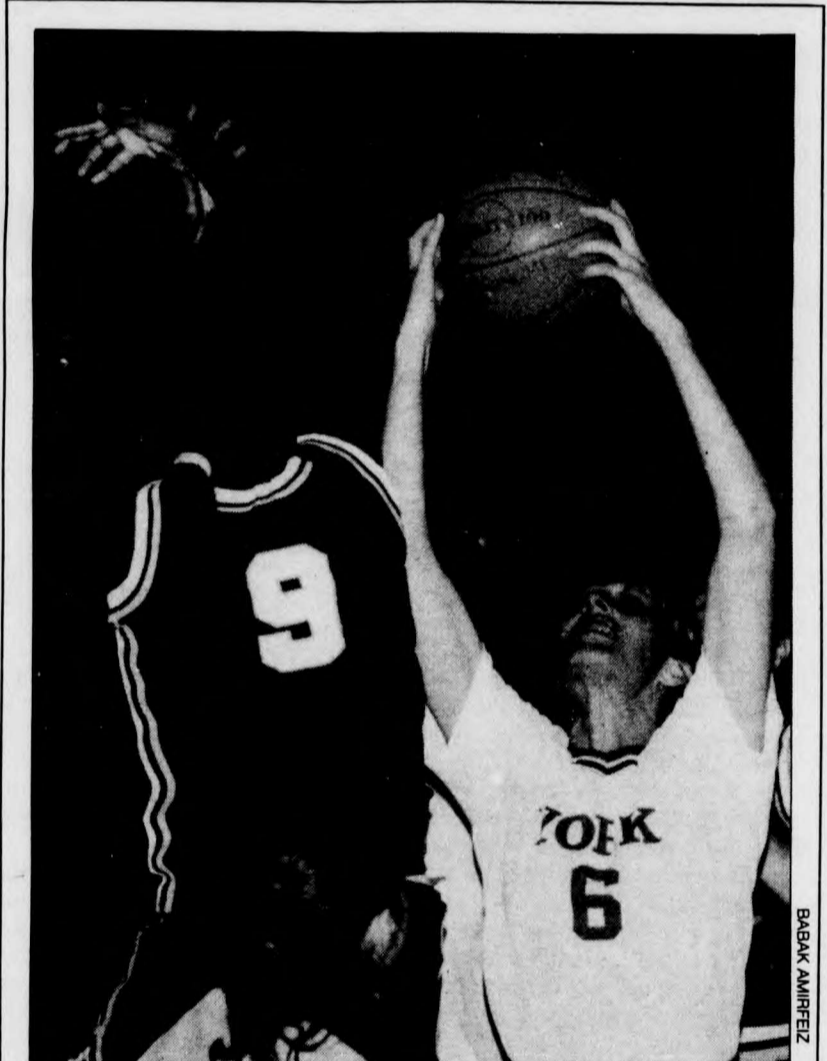
York's Allison Gropp also had a strong finish placing third in the all round standings. Leane Grant placed first on beam and fifth all round.

The Yeowomen will continue to train hard for the Ontario championships in Kingston this weekend and for the National championships in Calgary. As coach Bajin explains, deciding future champions "will be a question of who makes less mistakes."



EVENHANDED WORK ON UNEVENS: York's Allyson Gropp is a picture of concentration at last weekend's ranking meet.

ANDRE SOUQUON



BABAK AMIRI

POWER BOARDS: Yeowoman Sue DeRyck toughs out Toronto. The Blues overcame a 37-33 halftime deficit to beat York 72-62 in Tuesday night's grudge match. Michelle Sund scored 12 points for York.

Hockey men prevail over Blues

By "HOWIE" MARR

The U of T jinx is finally over for York.

After suffering setbacks of 5-2 and 4-1 to the hockey Blues earlier this year, the York Yeomen finally showed why they are national champs and why U of T will have plenty of time to study for finals with a 4-2 victory last Thursday at Varsity Arena.

"They have definitely had our number this year," said York coach Graham Wise before the game. "I think we know what we have to do to be successful; we just have to keep our intensity up."

The Yeomen showed some of that intensity as they quickly jumped out to a 2-0 lead — before the first period was five minutes old — and shut the Blues down the rest of the way.

Luciano Fagioli opened the scoring at the 1:11 mark, grabbing a loose puck and firing a low wristshot by goalie Franco Giammarco for his 16th of the year.

Four minutes later, with U of T's Mark Haarmann in the box for slashing, Tod Dungey stuffed a rebound by Giammarco to make it 2-0. The rebound was a surprise gift

for Dungey as it took a freak bounce off the back boards to the lip of the crease.

The Blues were able to get their first of the night just as the Yeomen were finished killing off a two-minute penalty to Kevin Bonello for tripping. A slapshot from the point by Mike Lococco beat York goalie Mark Applewhite up high as he was being screened by the Blues' Joey Rampton.

But the Yeomen increased their lead to two goals again courtesy of some weak U of T goaltending, which was without the services of injured first stringer Paul Henriques. Curtis Coyne was credited with a goal for a weak shot from the left point that beat Giammarco through the legs to make it 3-1.

With 33 seconds left in the first, York closed out their scoring when Kent Brimmer dumped in a Mike Robbins rebound for his 19th of the year.

The second period remained scoreless — thanks to some excellent goaltending at both ends of the rink. In total each team fired 16 shots in the period with the Yeomen outshooting the Blues 43-40 for the game.

The closest either team came to a

second period goal was a Mike Lococco breakaway from centre-ice. But Applewhite was there with a glove save to preserve the win for the Yeomen.

Early in the third, Steve Boyd cut York's lead to two on the power play. With Guy Girouard serving time for slashing, Boyd was able to come out of the corner with puck and skate around two Yeomen defencemen.

The Blues continued to push later in the third, and had an excellent opportunity to tie the game when newly-acquired Danny Resko was given four minutes for tripping and unsportsmanlike conduct.

But the best opportunity of the power play went to the shorthanded Yeomen, who were unable to convert on a three-man breakaway led by Brimmer.

For the Yeomen the victory continued what has been a very successful last two week. Victories over Montreal's McGill University and Concordia University have given the Yeomen a 10-1 record in inter-conference play. The Yeomen will therefore receive an automatic bye to the OUAA championships if they win their first round match-up, likely to be against the Waterloo Warriors.

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