

SPORTS and RECREATION

Volleyball team places fourth

York's inexperience shows in final tourney

By DAVE FULLER
Setters and spikers filed into Tait McKenzie gym on Saturday for the last round of regular season play in the Eastern division OUA A men's

volleyball league. The five team tournament, hosted by York, saw league leading Varsity Blues maintain their first place standing just ahead of the

Voyageurs from Laurentian, and third place Queen's Golden Gaels. York placed fourth for the season.

The York squad started off the day's play with a victory over Ryerson by a score of 15-8, 9-15, 15-13 and 15-6, but went on to lose to a more experienced Varsity team in straight sets.

The volleyball Yeomen made a strong comeback attempt in the third set against the Blues, making many fine defensive moves and gaining several points by blocking the powerful spikes directed at them.

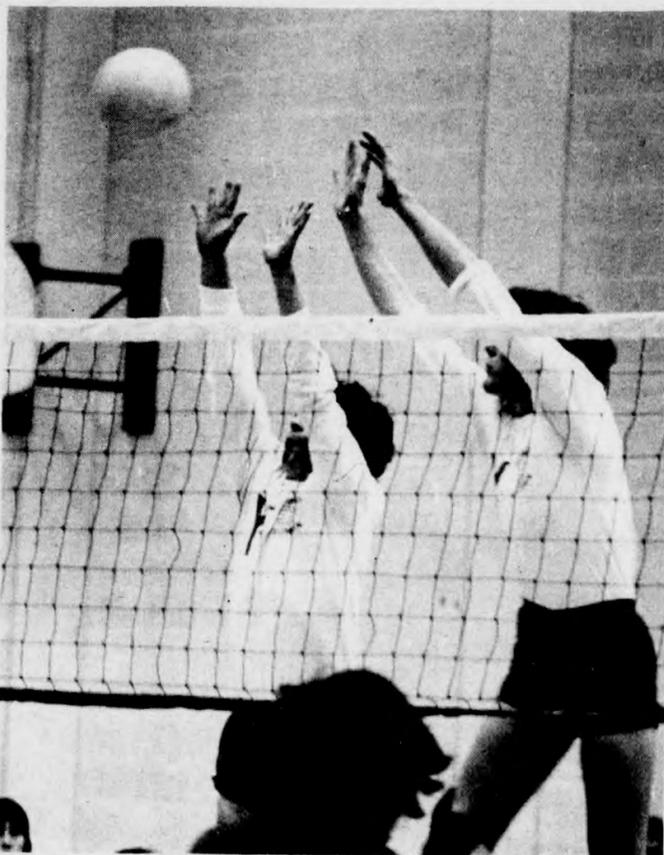
However, they could not sustain the effort and after giving the ball away on numerous occasions finally lost by the close score of 15-12.

Coach Don Waddell attributed the team's letdown to their inexperience, noting that the majority of the players were in their first season.

"Three players on the floor at any one time are first year men," he said, adding that the volleyball schedule did not provide enough actual playing time for a team to learn the finer points of the psychological game.

"It's a young team and they still tend to get down on themselves; they have to learn that it's a long game and that they have to forget the mistakes and get back into it."

In fact, the Yeomen did attempt to press the attack as the day wore on but were discouraged easily as the Blues and Voyageurs showed good recovery, quickly turning the attack around and catching York off guard.



Scene from Saturday's Yeomen game against Ryerson. York's inexperienced volleyball team placed fourth in the five-team meet.

Coach Waddell is optimistic about the future of his squad, most of whom will be returning next year with a season's play under their belts. But he warned that the competition was also improving

very quickly. Volleyball is experiencing a real growth in popularity, he said, and the teams that are in the cellar today could be quite tough to beat in the new season.

Yeomen swamp Marlins but big test lies ahead

By TONY MAGISTRALE
With barely a fortnight remaining in the regular season, all interest in the OUA A Eastern Division is focused on the tooth and nail battle for first place between Varsity Blues and the York Yeomen.

At present, Toronto holds a slim two point lead by virtue of an extra game played, thus giving them a record of 11-5 to York's 10-5. So far this season, the two teams have played even-even against each other, winning two and losing two.

Last Wednesday night at the Ice Palace, the Yeomen popped in nine goals against the McMaster Marlins in capturing their tenth victory of the season, (9-3).

Peter Ascherl and Bob Wasson with two goals each gave York a slim 4-3 lead after two periods before the team exploded for five unanswered goals in the third to put the final hook in the Marlins' gills.

Ron Hawkshaw, Peter Titanic, Gord Cullen, Rick Martin, and Brian Burtch each notched singles in the win.

The Yeomen are still idling their engines in preparation for their upcoming doubleheader this weekend against the Blues.

Needless to say, the two games with Varsity are the biggest of the season and the overall outcome will most likely decide the final point standings.

In the statistical department, the Yeomen are playing .666 hockey thus far this season.

They've scored 84 goals but have allowed 69, which is about 25 more than the Blues have been nailed for. Peter Titanic is York's leading

scorer, with nine goals and 19 assist for 28 points in 15 games; leading goal-getter for the Yeomen is Bob Wasson with 14 to his credit.

Kent Ruhnke, captain of the Blues, leads the Eastern Division with 21.

Curling team reaches final

York's men's curling team, deadlocked with Royal Military College at the completion of the Eastern Sectional eight-team round robin tournament, edged RMC 9-6 and 4-3 in Sunday's games to qualify for the finals.

York and RMC found themselves with identical four and three records after the round robin, vying for the last of three playoff spots. Sunday's sudden-death match gave that spot to York, who along with Queen's and Ryerson will face the three winners of the Western Sectionals at Western, this weekend.

York ran up victories over Trent (7-5), U. of T. (12-3) and Carleton (9-2) on Friday, but lost three successive games the following day to Laurentian (5-10), Ryerson (5-6) and Queen's (2-6).

That set the stage for the RMC games. York's first victory over RMC tied them for the last playoff spot and the sudden-death victory put them into the finals.

Queen's swept the meet with six victories and no defeats, followed by Ryerson with a five and one record.

Skiers practice on weights, not slopes

By BRENDA WEEKS
Dryland training is how York's ski team works out in order to prepare for their racing competitions. One part of this takes place every Monday night at five in the weight-training room of Tait. Excalibur visited them during one such work-out session.

Rookie coach Jim Wiggins, in his fourth year with the team as a competitor, explained the need for such weight-lifting sessions. "With weight-lifting you must exercise and strengthen the same muscles with all the same teams positioning

ahead of us" said Wiggins. that are required for skiing, especially down-hill racing".

When asked about the low profile the ski team seems to have at York, Wiggins replied it wasn't coincidental. "Lack of interest seems to be more like it," he said. "We advertised all over the university for guys to come and try out for the team at the beginning of the year, and out of that, we had a response of 35, and then 22 came to the first meeting.

"As it is, we can't even get gate-keepers."

Star racer for the team is second year geography student Blair Heslop, who was actually called in to be on the team last year, and has stayed ever since.

Heslop started skiing when he was a mere seven years of age, and spoke well of Ontario skiing.

Heslop turns up his nose at ballet skiing which has become a rage in recent years and requires special equipment and certain technical moves.

"That isn't real skiing, and we don't consider it really to be any special skill," he said. "We don't concentrate on style anyway with racing," Wiggins added. "We work for speed and the strength it takes to handle it."

An international contribution to the group is Vesa Simanainen from Finland, who, like most Scandinavians, was practically born on skis. His strong support to the team could be seen by his obvious prowess on the leg press.

All in all, the York ski team does well at the competitions that they enter. At the Molson's OUSS Invitational at Horseshoe Valley last week-end they came in fifth, "which is usually how we stand with all the same teams positioning

ahead of us" said Wiggins.



York's ski team. From left to right, Vesa Simanainen, Jim Wiggins, Laurie Pietras, Glenn Mackay, Blair Heslop, Rod Farmer and Paul Woodhouse.

Basketball Yeomen whip Ravens

By MYLES DAVIS

It's nowhere near fishing season yet, but surely the Carleton Ravens must be wondering about all those ones that got away. A number of missed baskets from both the foul line and the floor cost the Ravens

their sixth loss of the season Saturday night, as the York Yeomen whipped them 71-54.

In a game where most of the excitement was provided by numerous turnovers and defensive errors, the Yeomen jumped out to a convincing eight-point lead after the first eight minutes, and never relinquished it. York had lost once to Carleton previously, and their series with the Ottawa-based team now stands at one and one.

York's season record is now nine and two, with three games remaining in the regular schedule.

The Ravens were plagued by the absence of two of their biggest shooters, Larry Wilson and Jon Love, and just didn't have the bench strength to cope with the powerful Yeomen attack.

York totally outclassed the blackshirts, especially in the third and fourth quarters when coach Bob Bain began throwing bodies into the game from straight off the pines, and got excellent performances from every player.

"I was more than pleased with the play of our substitute players," he said, "especially near the end of the game when we were going with four guards on the floor and still outplaying them."

"I thought our best player out there tonight was Chris Dorland, though. He's been a starter all season, but what makes it even more pleasing is the fact that he's only a freshman in his first year here at York."

Dorland, from Woodbridge high school, turned in an impressive rebounding game as well as adding 12 points to York's total.

The Yeomen held a 37-19 lead at the end of the first half, thanks largely, to Carleton's poor

shooting.

York held complete control over the defensive boards in the first half, and although not gaining many chances in the offensive end, made good on enough of their shots to maintain the lead.

In the second half, the only real task facing the Yeomen was to have five players on the court at all times, as the Ravens made about as serious a bid to grab the lead as the Argos did to make the Grey Cup playoffs.

York extended their lead to 19 points with twelve minutes remaining, and simply coasted home for the victory.

Guard Ted Galka and EvSpence turned in their second consistent weekend-performances, only this time it was Galka who played the role of offensive co-ordinator.

He moved the ball out of York's end repeatedly during the game, using the one-two punch of fancy dribbling and pin-point passing to elude the Raven players.

Romeo Callegaro, who scored 14 points, and Ed Siebert, who hit for 12, also performed strongly for the winners. Spence and Galka scored 10 each, while Jeff Simbrow with 11 and Warren Cresswell with two rounded out York's scoring.

Graham Gaig scored 21 for Carleton to lead the game's shooters.

NET NOTES: Friday night at RMC, York picked up its eighth win of the season defeating the Cadets, 82-74.

As of January 27, York's Romeo Callegaro led all shooters in the OUA A Eastern Division Basketball race with 177 total points. He's shooting 48.9 per cent from the floor and 66 per cent from the foul line.