

Sports and Recreation

Blues win tenth title

Yeomen stopped by strong Toronto defence

Last weekend the York hockey Yeomen went after the Ontario University Athletic Association crown for the third straight year but came up short again, losing by one goal for the third straight year, this time to U of T to the tune of 3-2.

On paper it seemed that the Yeomen should have been the winners, they had the better scoring opportunities but they were robbed time after time by Blues' goalie Ken McKenzie.

Over the season York's only losses were to the Blues, once at York and once at Varsity Arena. Although York was designated as the home team, it was the Blues who had the home ice advantage, giving rise to the suggestion that the championships should be played in a neutral rink.

In the past, it seemed that the

Athletic Elections

The Women's Athletic Council of York (WAC) is holding their elections for the council of 1977-78 this week. Nominations close on Friday, March 4th.

The Women's Athletic Council functions to promote general interest and maximum participation in athletics for women students.

Executive council positions open are:

President
Vice-President
2 Publicity co-directors
2 Awards co-chairwomen

A convenor is a member of WAC, whose job it is to promote and organize her specific sport. There are 12 convenor positions open:

Basketball
Diving
Fencing
Field Hockey
Gymnastics
Ice Hockey
Speed Swimming
Squash
Synchronized Swimming
Tennis
Track and Field
Volleyball

The Convenor and executive positions are open to all female members of the York Community.

Yeomen were overly psyched up for their games against Toronto. But, going for all the money last Saturday, the Yeomen played one of their strongest games of the season only to come away short handed when the final buzzer sounded. The defence cleared the front of the net, the forwards came back and picked up their checks but the Yeomen found trouble in penetrating the brick wall set up by the Varsity blueline.

The loss to the Blues was most painful for York coach Dave Chambers. In his years behind the bench, he has brought his charges to the final four times in the last five years only to go home empty handed.

The loss also hurt at least six Yeomen who played their final game in a red and white uniform. Gord Cullen, Dave Clements, Peter Kostek, Ron Hawkshaw, and Peter Ascherl along with Bob Grisdale all have either used up their five year eligibility or are graduating.

The final match up of the Blues and the Yeomen was arrived at in two completely different manners. The Yeomen played a late starting game, against a much improved Guelph Gryphons squad. The hard hitting, physical game lasted until 11:45 and by the time the time the Yeomen got into bed it was around one o'clock. The Yeomen defeated the Gryphons 5-4 in a very tough game that saw the lead shrink on several occasions.

York's winning goal came from Peter Ascherl who picked up the loose puck and put it past a surprised Gryphon netminder.

On the other hand, the Varsity Blues advanced to the final with an easy 6-1 victory over the Sir Wilfred Laurier Golden Hawks.

Both teams went into Saturday's championship match knowing that to win the game, they would have to



Yeoman Dave Chalk (5) clears the puck from his zone in last Saturday's game at Varsity against U of T. York lost the championship game for the third year in a row to Toronto.

play perfect hockey not allowing the other team any breaks.

It seemed that the Yeomen took this advice to heart as just after 1:55 of the first period, Brian Burtch put the first shot on goal past Blue's goalie Ken McKenzie. The Yeomen felt that to get ahead in the game early was important, but the lead only lasted eleven seconds, as Toronto's Ron Harris put the puck in the York net after a goalmouth scramble.

The Yeomen unleashed their potent attack on the Blues all through out the first period but could not put the puck past McKenzie.

The Blues netminder robbed Burtch at least three times as well the rest of the Yeomen.

Before the period ended Doug Herridge wound up, slapped the puck and broke his stick, but the puck traveled towards the net, and trickled through goaltender Steve Bosco's legs into the net.

In the second period when the Blues were shorthanded, Ron Hawkshaw set up a screen and Chris Meloff slapped one in from the blueline after 11 seconds had elapsed.

York once again launched their attack against the Blues, but were repelled countless times. At the other end of the ice, Bosco robbed Larry Hopkins and Paul Sawyer with spectacular saves but finally, at 14:30 of the second period, Sawyer received a perfect pass and

directed the puck into the net behind a disappointed Bosco.

In the third period, Tom Watt's Blues went into a defensive shell closing down the York attack. York came back time after time, but could not put the puck past the brick wall defense.

As time ticked down to the final minute of play, Coach Chambers pulled Bosco for a sixth attacker with 52 seconds left in the game. York applied tremendous pressure to the Blues but came closest with 33 seconds left in the game as Ascherl rattled one off the goal post. From there the Blues just played with the puck to kill off any hope for the Yeomen. Toronto had won their third OUA title in four years.

Skiers meet tough competition in final, qualify for New Hampshire championship

THORNBY — The York Ski Team finished 3rd in the slalom and 4th in giant slalom during the final 2-day event of the Ontario University ski series last Thursday and Friday.

This finish, along with their previous best four results, combined to give them fourth place on the season.

Coming into the final events the

powerful Queens and Toronto teams were tied for first place with York and Western battling it out for third and fourth. After tabulating the best four finishes from each team in the slalom, the top two were again tied for first. York narrowly edged Western to take third by only a single point thanks to outstanding runs by Rudy Toniceyk and Blair Heslop who finished fourth and sixth respectively, both skiers were less than one second away from first place.

The team was less than thrilled about the finish however. Coach McKay commented, "After the first run through the morning course we were in first place. We finally finished our best four racers on one course without a fall."

Unfortunately Farmer and Woodhouse, both known for their dependable style of racing, had trouble on their second runs and both hit the snow.

"We had to go back into the twenties for our third and fourth best times," said McKay. The times came from Paul Woodhouse in 24th and John Snow in 25th place.

"Our circuit is a lot different than most", said Woodhouse "Here you place as a team as well as an individual. As a result there is an obligation to not just 'go for the gold' but also to finish the course with a time. There's a balance to it; unfortunately sometimes you forget and take all the straight lines, that's

what Rod and I did in the slalom and it cost us."

In the next day's giant slalom, the tie for first place was broken as Queens overtook U of T by a good margin.

York fell prey to the experience of the Western men's team and finished behind them in fourth spot.

Rudy Toniceyk was York's strongest skier finishing in 9th place. Rod Farmer, John Snow and Glen McKay came up with the balance times for the team. Rod Farmer remarked on the placing, "The course was the fastest one of the season, straight down the fall line of Rogers Run (Georgian Peaks). This created a mental problem for a lot of the racers which gave us a bit of an edge."

"Unfortunately, Western came up with the new talent this year adding two Pontiac Cup racers and two top A class zone racers to their team. That experience gave them the edge over us."

The York team regard their fourth place this year as highly as last year's third.

"The competition was much tougher this year", said Heslop "considering the raw talent on the circuit I think we did as well or better than could be expected."

The team has now qualified to compete in the Can-Am, Inter-collegiate Ski Championships at Waterville Valley, New Hampshire, March 13 to 20.

Stitt wins nat'l wrestling medal

By DAVE FULLER

Jim Stitt, the top wrestler in the Ontario Athletic Association proved once again why he was awarded that honour by defeating the years defending champion in the 108 pound class at last weekend's Canadian University championships.

Stitt defeated Cheyenne Asukian of Lakehead University to become the only York wrestler to win a national title this year.

Asukian had won the weight class for the last two years, but Stitt took an early lead in the first round with a healthy nine point margin.

After the final bell had sounded, the Yeomen wrestler had outscored his opponent 14-5, after letting up in the final moments of the bout.

"He really dominated the class", said coach John Picard, "he was leading 9-0 after the first round before he let up a bit."

Stitt, however, was not quite as confident about his performance as his coach. "Well, I fought all five guys in the class but that last one was a pretty tough match."

After a layoff of more than a year,

the West Hill Collegiate student came to York because he wanted to stay in Toronto. "I had planned to go to Western but my home is here, so I came to York."

Western and Guelph currently dominate the wrestling scene in Ontario and his original choice was not surprising, however, now that he is here Stitt acknowledges that he likes York and its physical education programme.

"I haven't really decided what I'd like to go into", he said, "but I am going to take up Judo, it's good for

my strength and balance".

Coach Picard, who was voted the top coach in the OUA this year, is high on Stitt's list of reasons why he likes York.

"John is great, he gives us super workouts. He's young so he hasn't been around too long, but what he knows he really uses well".

York's Bruce Greenside also represented York and took third place in the 109 pound class. "He really wrestled well", said Picard, "he had to come from behind to do it but at the end of the match he pinned his opponent for the win".

STAFF MEETING
AT 2 pm
today