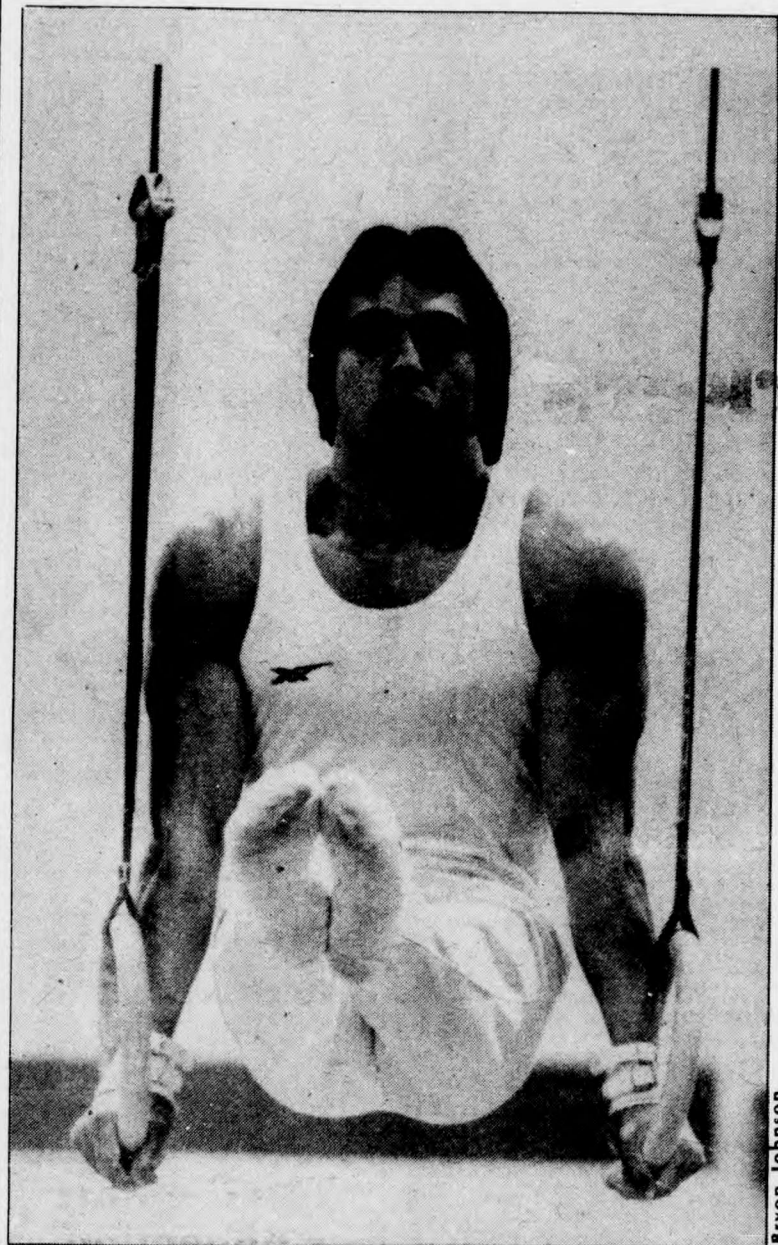




## If at first you don't succeed...



Yeoman Dan Gaudet performs on the rings during the dual gymnastics meet against the Penn State Nitony Lions.

### Rose Crawford

Tom Zivic and company, held back by injuries, failed once again to break the Penn State jinx.

For the sixth consecutive year, the York Yeomen gymnastics team has gone down to defeat at the hands of the Nitony Lions, who are presently ranked fifth in the NCAA.

This year's loss, however, was not as bad as some of the other previous defeats. The Penn State gymnasts amassed a total of 268.85 points, while the Yeomen could only manage a total of 262.35, a difference of only 6.50 points.

The individual all-around competition was extremely close with the four top gymnasts (there was a tie for third place) being separated by only three tenths of a point.

Patrick Besong, a senior gymnast from Penn State, placed first on the pommel horse and on the high bar and third on the rings on his way to the individual championship with a total of 54.30 points.

Close behind him was teammate Tom Forster with a total of 54.15. Forster drew the highest mark of the meet when he treated the crowd to a beautifully executed handspring front somie in the pike position on the vault. He scored a well-deserved 9.60. That first place performance coupled with another on floor and a third place showing on the high bar gave him second place over-all.

Another Penn State gymnast, Steve Marino, and York's Dan Gaudet, tied for third place with 54.00 points.

Gaudet was expected to challenge for first place, but a minor ankle injury he suffered earlier in the season forced him to

keep some of the more difficult elements out of some of his routines, which accounted for some of his lower scores.

He did however, score the highest mark for the York squad; a 9.45 for a full twisting Tsukahara vault.

Other outstanding performan-

ces were provided by York's Frank Nutzenberger, who despite an ankle injury still competed in five of the six events (he was scratched from the floor event) and still managed to win two firsts, one on the parallel bars and another on the rings (he tied for first on this event with Gaudet).

### No stopping squash team

There seems to be no way of stopping the York Yeowomen squash team these days. To date they have won every single tournament they have entered, beating strong teams from Canada and the United States.

Such was the case over the past week as they chalked up another two victories to their already impressive record.

On Wednesday January 7, the Yeowomen hosted a tri-meet with the University of Toronto and the University of Pennsylvania, two very strong teams.

The final standings of this tournament showed York on top with seven matches won, followed by U. of T. with six matches to their credit and Pennsylvania only managed two victories to finish last.

This past weekend, the Yeowomen took part in the McMaster Invitational and came away victorious, keeping their record intact.

There were ten teams competing in this tournament and they were divided into two pools of five. The Yeowomen won their pool, beating second place finisher Queen's by a score of 18-14. They advanced to the semi-finals and easily defeated McMaster 4-1. This gave the Yeowomen the right to advance to the finals and face Western, a team which because of some technicalities cannot compete in the OWIAA.

To the delight of coach Bob Cluett, the Yeowomen came through defeating Western 4-1.

## Shortstops

### Yeomen fencers have a long way to go

The York Yeomen fencing team played host to eleven other squads from across Ontario last weekend at its Annual Invitational Fencing Tournament.

The tournament which spanned over the two days, saw over 100 athletes fence in three separate events aiming towards the over-all championship.

By Sunday afternoon, when all the action was finally over, the defending OUAA champions U. of T. came out on top of the 12 team field. Following U. of T. was McMaster in second place and Queen's in third.

York's 'A' and 'B' teams did not do quite as well as coach Richard Polatynski had hoped. They finished 11th and 12th respectively.

Polatynski, however, was quick to take the blame for the team's poor showing.

"The coaching has been a bit erratic lately...You can compare us to the Maple Leafs right now, but without the coaching changes."

Despite the Yeomen's performance last weekend, there is quite a bit of optimism on the team, as shown by Captain Scott Mitchell.

"This year is better than any other year because we have a full team and interest seems to be growing."

### Lady Blues Silence York Pucksters

The Yeowomen suffered their worst setback of the season following their Christmas break, losing 5-0 to U of T. Donna Thompson had 35 shots fired her way coming up with a number of excellent saves. It could have been a U of T rout if not for Thompson's solid play between the pipes. U of T netminder K. Ranson on the other hand had a relatively easy night as she faced only 15 York shots that were of no real threat to her. York's record dropped to 2-2-1 for the season.

York responded to this loss last night by defeating Guelph 4-1. Deb Lamb faced only 14 shots while York fired 29 Guelph's way. Rookie Gail Stewart led the way with a goal and two assists. Lisa Biglen, Sue Howard and Barb Boyes rounded out the scoring.

### Indoor Soccer Action at the Gardens

University Night with the Toronto Blizzard will see York tackling U of T January 22, at 7:00 p.m. down at Maple Leaf Gardens, home of the Maple Leafs (?) and Blizzard. This exhibition game precedes the Blizzard vs. Vancouver White Caps.

York students will receive a discount on admission to both games as tickets will be on sale in Central Square. Information can be obtained by calling 667-2347. Bus transportation is being arranged and is included in the admission price.

## Athletes of the Week

This week, Excalibur's choice for Female Athlete of the Week is Yeowomen Karen Wilson, a member of the York Yeowomen Squash team. She was chosen because to date, Karen has won 31 consecutive matches, a feat which has greatly contributed to the remarkable success of her team.

This week's Male Athlete is first year Yeomen Hockey coach Chris Kostka. Under his guidance the hockey Yeomen have gained sole possession of second place in the OUAA league and have become a serious play-off contender. Congratulations!

## Yeowomen corralled

### Jules Xavier

Leading by one (23-22) at the half, the 9th ranked Yeowomen basketball squad looked to be in charge playing against the Western Mustangs from London.

That was not to be as the Mustangs exploded for 16 straight points at the start of the second half before York got back on track. The Yeowomen never regained their early game composure losing 58-46.

Western's win avenged an early loss to York at the beginning of the OWIAA season.

Western controlled much of the game utilizing their height and quickness, easily containing the potent Yeowomen offense. Rookie Mustang guard Cathy Brabant forced the Yeowomen to turn over the ball numerous times with her aggressive style on defence.

Barb Whibbs led the Yeowomen attack with 12 points with Leslie Dalcin collecting 10 points. Mustang forward Deanne Campbell sunk 13 points while teammate Suzy Wilson had 11 points.

York defeated the Brock Badgers 60-55 last night, avenging their earlier loss to the Badgers. This improved their record to 5-2.

Whibbs with 17 points and Dalcin 14, were the top Yeowomen marksmen.

**X-rated:** Further league play for the Yeowomen is slated at York on Saturday, January 17 at 7:00 p.m. when they entertain the Waterloo Athenas and then it's cross town for York on Tuesday, January 20 at

6:15 p.m. at the home of the U of T Lady Blues...down the road a few years Western Mustangs will move forward and will be a dominating

force in women's university basketball as their team is young and talented with a great deal of height.

## Women shine

### Carol Gluppe

Last Friday night the York Yeomen and Yeowomen met the McMaster Marlins in a coed swimming dual meet at the Tait McKenzie pool.

On the women's side it was a closely contested meet until the last event. By winning the 400 freestyle relay Jane Thacker, Jane Goldie, Cari McKenzie and Megan Tesbey were able to take the Yeowomen over the top by a score of 54-50.

Earlier in the meet wins were recorded by rookie sprinter Tesbey (50 freestyle), Goldie (200 individual medley), and co-captain Thacker (200 breast).

Thacker's swims were particularly significant since it was her first competition since suffering a shoulder dislocation in November.

Bernie MacGregor and Doreen Magnath recorded two silver place finishes each in the 100 and 200 breaststroke and 100 and 200 backstroke respectively.

Also, scoring significantly with second place finishes were Tesbey (100 freestyle), Mary Lau (800 freestyle) and Wendy Fraser (200 individual medley).

Coach Carol Gluppe was delighted with the swimmers performances.

"Frankly I did not expect a win. The team won on superb racing and mental toughness," commented Gluppe on the victory.

The Yeomen did not fair as well in their match against the Marlin men who are a new CIAU powerhouse in swimming.

The only win by York came in the 400 freestyle relay with gutsy swimming by Stu Taylor, Dave Clark, Andy Manahan, and Lee McTayden.



Bernie MacGregor swims to two silver medal finishes.

The experience and talent of captain Martin Tiidus was evident in his second place finishes in both the 100 and 200 breaststroke. Taylor, coming off an intensive training camp, placed third in the 100 butterfly and 400 freestyle events.