# Sports

#### York gymnasts hit provincial gold

by Katarina Gulej

ork gymnasts walked away with the gold at the OWIAA/OUAA gymnastics championships at McMaster last weekend.

The Yeowomen won their competition with a team score of 138.10, a full two and a half points ahead of second place UofT. Commented York head coach Natasa Bajin after the two day competition, "We expected to win, we've been the best for the past three meets, the question was how much would the point difference be."

Bajin went on the explain that the strength of her team lies in six women who are equally consistent and solid team performers.

Since the top four scores qualify for the team competition, if one or two gymnasts miss a trick, there will be another gymnast to replace her score.

Becky Chambers came back from her injury and gave an extraordinary performance for the Yeowomen placing first on vault, second on floor and the all-round, and third on bars in the event finals competition.

Other Yeowomen gymnasts that qualified for at least one event final included Susan Huff on floor, Risa Litwin on vault and Linda Stewart on floor. Leanne Grant did not qualify but scored for York in two events — beam and bars. "She is not shining but does an excellent job for the team and that's what counts," said Bajin.

Bajin credits her team's success to some very dedicated athletes, "We have a generation of gymBajin credits her team's success to some very dedicated athletes, "We have a generation of gymnasts that work hard, training through Christmas and reading week. They are well-disciplined, good people that listen with no

pared and that's what good coaching is all about."

For the Canadian championships in Calgary, Bajin "hopes to make first place, but realistically I

problems. And we were well pre-

will be happy with top three."

The men's competition also

proved to be a success for York as the Yeomen celebrated their 19th consecutive OUAA championships with a 35-point victory.

Yeomen head coach Tom Zivic commented, "We expected to win in the events but didn't expect to win with that kind of performance. All the gymnasts did exceptionally well and competed to their potential."

The majority of York's gold medals went to George Zivic who placed first on the pommel horse, rings, vault, horizontal bar and the all-round, second on parallel bars and third on floor. According to Yeomen assistant coach Masaaki Naosaki, "George made history with his personal best at these championships."

Two team members demonstrated their extraordinary performance — J.P Kraemer and Mike Hood. Kraemer placed first on floor, second on pommel horse, rings and the all-round, fourth on vault and parallel bars and seventh on horizontal bar. Hood placed third on pommel

horse, rings and parallel bars, fifth on horizontal bar and the all-round. Hood performed his personal best despite his dismount on floor where he almost broke his finger and ankle. He qualified for all six final events but was forced to withdrawal from floor and vault due to injury.

With the strong team that they have, the Yeomen have no difficulty at the Canadian championships in Calgary. As Zivic confidently predicts, "Without any doubt, we will win in Calgary."

### York wrestlers disqualified at OUAAs

by Riccardo Sala and Josh Rubin

controversy over the eligibility of two York wrestlers affected the Yeomen enough to keep them from repeating as provincial champions at the OUAA finals hosted by Western last weekend.

The two wrestlers in question, Mike Campatelli and Peter Dimakaros, were ruled ineligible by a committee of OUAA coaches on Friday evening before play began. In doing so, the committee overturned earlier decisions by OUAA wrestling convenor Richard Deschatelets and Ray Johnson, also of the OUAA.

According to McMaster coach Nick Cipriano, who launched the bid to remove Campatelli and Dimarakos, the York team had failed to declare the injury waiver rule for the two by the deadline of January 15. OUAA rules stipulate that for wrestlers to be eligible to compete in the provincial finals, they must have wrestled at least

twice in league play during the season. However, allowances are made for wrestlers injured during the season to compete in the finals.

Without the services of Campatelli and Dimarakos, York only managed to place second, behind the host Western squad.

However, York still took the lion's share of gold medals, placing first in four of the 10 weight classes. Western, which won the team title, had only one gold, while third place McMaster had two.

Winning gold in their respective weight classes for York were Roy Suh Wah Sing, Courtney Lewis, Roger Levesque and Ari Taub.

Sing took his gold in the 57kg class in convincing style, destroying his first opponent from Lakehead with a 15-0 bout. Along the way, Sing also defeated McMaster's Dave Mair, who, according to York coach Kimin Kim, had been a thorn in Sing's

side all season long.

Yeoman star Courtney Lewis earned first place in the 72kg category despite a broken rib suffered three weeks earlier at the Ontario Senior meet.

A real surprise for York was 76kg gold medallist Roger Levesque. "He was a total underdog, he was placed in a very hard pool, and he wrestled phenomenally," said coach Kim. Among those who fell to Levesque were Sang Kim of Western, last year's CIAU silver medallist, and Ontario Senior champ John Coppola.

In the heavyweight category, York's Ari Taub defeated three wrestlers, including defending provincial champion Dave Shaver of Western to take the gold.

Unfortunately, York had only one other placing wrestler, Nayu Akbar, who landed bronze in the 52kg class. He had to pull out of his second and third bouts because of an ankle injury.

Yeoman Nigel Barriffe took

fourth in the 68kg class

York's Johnny Cho was eliminated from 61kg competition after his shoulder popped out of its socket during a bout.

After the meet, Kim and the Yeomen felt that the pre-competition move of the McMaster coach was a deliberate gesture to keep the Yeomen from the provincial title. Had Campatelli and Dimakarakos been wrestling, Kim felt, the Yeomen could have taken the OUAA title.

The issue is dead for now, but remains a bitter memory for the Yeomen, who feel cheated, "They (McMaster) won the political game, but we won the physical battle," Kim said.

Five Yeomen, including the four gold medallists — Sing, Lewis, Levesque and Taub — as well as bronze medallist Akbar, will see action at the CIAU championship. It will be held March 1-3 at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick.



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