Yeowomen skate to slim victory at York Invitational

By MANOJ PRAJAPAT

The York Yeowomen captured the York Invitational figure skating title last weekend by a narrow one point margin over Queen's.

The two clubs traded leads throughout the competition, but in the end it was the Yeowomen's greater depth which prevailed.

Queen's had entered a full team for the competition. (Two competitors in each event) York had no entries at all in three of the events and only one entrant in two of the events. Also, second year team member Laura Hunter missed the competition due to a foot injury.

"Some of our free-skating routines aren't quite ready yet, so they weren't entered," third year team member Tracey McCague said, who was also hampered with a leg injury. "Everything considered, I'd have to say that we did extremely well."

Dance has been the Yeowomen's strong suit all year and with Donna Martini and Louise Ranson leading the way, this day was no different.

Martini teamed with Ranson (who skated for the injured Hunter) to win the Senior Similar Dance event with McCague and Ranson finishing third. Martini also won the Senior Solo Dance title with teammate Michelle Carruthers finishing second. Louise Ranson took the Intermediate Solo Dance title. The York team of Kim Wright and Jill

Morton took second place in Novice Similar Dance with teammates Nancy Mckenzie and Shelly Molloy claiming third spot.

Where the team didn't quite perform to its capabilities was in the free-skating events. A couple of uncharacteristic spills took away from what otherwise would have been good performances. Still, there

were highlights—notably, Gillian Oxley's brilliant performance in taking the Open Free Skating title and a third place showing from Martini and Morton in Intermediate Similar Pairs.

The Yeowomen improved upon an earlier third place showing in Waterloo and now will gear up for this weekend's Queen's Invitational. Then there's a three-week break before the OWIAA Championships, February 14 at Western. York should be the team to beat.

"We'll be entered in all the events this time (at the OWIAA Championships) and there are some events added which we're very strong in traditionally," McCague said. "I'm pretty optimistic."



SIMILIAR PAIR: Yeowomen Donna Martini and Jill Morton show near perfect form in the intermediate similar pairs event at the York Invitational figure skating meet. Martini paired with Louise Ranson to win the senior similar dance event.

SIMILIAR PAIR: Yeowomen Donna Martini and Jill Morton show near perfect form in the intermedia

York hosts over 30 track clubs at Metropolitan Track and Field Centre

By JAMES HOGGETT

It was not a typical day at the races last Saturday at the York Invitational Track and Field meet. The event was held at the Metropolitan Toronto Track and Field Centre, located at the north end of the York campus. York played host to over 30 universities, colleges and track clubs from all across Ontario and the United States.

The events were to begin promptly at twelve noon, however, problems arose and things were delayed. One problem noted was the absence of an announcer. This delayed the start time of the meet 10 minutes. When the announcer still did not arrive organizers announced the meet would start at 12:30. Finally the announcer arrived, but now there was another problem that had arisen. It seemed there was a lack of a sufficient number of stop-watches for the time keepers. To solve the problem organizers asked the team coaches to lend any extra stop-watches they had. With that out of the way the meet was finally ready to begin. By this time however, it was 12:50, and the athletes were restless and eager to finally begin. Organizer Mike Dickson was unavailable for comment.

The highlight for York was the performance by Eric Spence, a third year student majoring in Psychology. Spence ran in the 60 metre hurdles event and won with a time of 8.08 seconds. Spence was entered in the meet under the York Optimists track and field club. He was ineligible to represent York directly since he is only a part-time student. Spence commented on his performance saying, "I'm very pleased since this is my first race in a year." He finds little time to train as he works full time as a manager at a department store.

Spence is working toward representing Canada at the '88 Olympics in Seoul Korea. "I'm taking a relaxed approach right now," said Spence, "but as '88 gets nearer my training will become more intense." Spence represented Canada at the last Olympics in '84 and ran in the 110 metre hurdles. He placed sixth in the quarter finals.

First year Economics student, Jason Cloth failed to advance to the finals in the 60 metres sprint event. Cloth has raced competitively in track and field for six years and his most valuable experience came last year when he represented Canada at the Maccabiah Games in Tel Aviv, Israel. With more experience Cloth may prove to be a valuable asset to the York team.

On the down side for York was the injury which kept world class sprinter, Molly Killingbeck, from competing for York. Killingbeck represented Canada at the '84 Olympics in Los Angeles and won a silver medal in the 4 x 400 metre relay.

Killingbeck is a fourth year Sociology major and hopes to pursue a career in coaching. Killingbeck was also named athlete of the year at the CIAU Championships and was selected as the top female athlete at York last year.

The injury which kept her out of competition was a pulled achilles tendon. Killingbeck hopes her tendon will heal quickly so she will be able to compete in the upcoming Toronto Star Indoor Games. When asked how long she will remain competing, Killingbeck replied, "I might continue till the '88 Olympics. That is if everything goes well and I stay injury free. After that I'm not sure."



UP AND OVER: U of T's John Wang clears the bar in the pole vault event.



UP BUT NOT OVER: A high jumper is caught moments before she knocked the bar from its rest.

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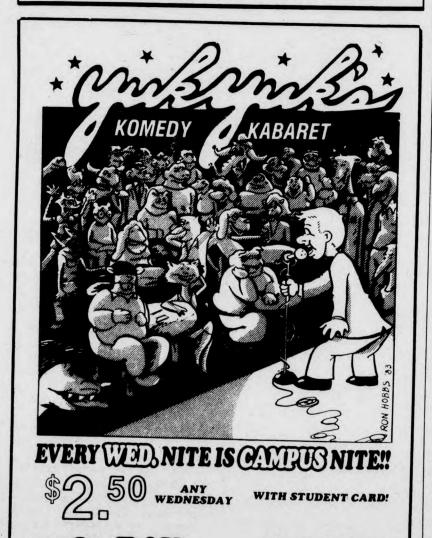
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