

Sports

Editor: Rick Spence

Ping pong secrets revealed

By RICK SPENCE

(In a recent letter to the Excalibur, a reader, who declined to identify himself as the sports editor of the Walrus, suggested that this paper's intercollegiate sports reporting left something to be desired. In response to this outcry, this reporter decided to do some in-depth research on that most demanding of all sports: intercollegiate table tennis.)

The intercollegiate table tennis (known only to the uninitiated as ping pong) tournament was held Wednesday, March 13. Disregarding the ancient superstition of the number thirteen, I bravely entered the contest.

There is something to be said for ancient superstitions. On registration at the Tait McKenzie gym, I learned that entrants were divided into two pools, on the basis of ability. Feeling very confident of my ability, I nonetheless remembered that discretion is the better part of valour. I entered the second (weaker) pool.

When registration closed, I learned another interesting thing. I was the only entrant, male or female, from my college. In order not to bring dishonour upon the honourable name of my college, and in order to preserve my own journalistic neutrality, I shall not divulge the college's name. (But it starts with the letter C.)

They say you learn a new thing every day. If so, I hit the jackpot, because before I knew it, I learned that participants were to bring their own rackets. And I'd left my

Red Devil at home! So I had a ready-made excuse in case I should lose a game: I would be playing with borrowed rackets, a different one every game.

Play went in the form of a round-robin; each player played a two game match with every other in his division.

My first game was of course a warm up, and I gave it little thought. The fact that I lost 21-4 was irrelevant. In the second game with the same player, we went right down to the wire before he won again, 21-16.

In my next match I met up with the Chinese style of play for the first time. Not only does this style consist of holding the racket differently, but it also demands that the player clown around in the warm-up so that he might take his opponent by surprise in the real game.

This method worked on me perfectly, as I went down to a 21-3 loss in a close, hard-fought contest. Out of revenge in the second game, I did twice as well, losing only 21-6.

Down but not yet out, I went to play four more opponents, losing twice to every one of them. In doing so, I found out that I'd been serving incorrectly in every game, and that I could have been disqualified for that crime. It was not necessary to disqualify me, though, as I'd played into their hands by losing every game anyway.

Let it be known that table tennis is not the elementary game so many people think it is. It combines not only skill, strength and accuracy, but a fair amount of savagery as well. Take it from a loser.



Peter Hsu photo

All the drama and excitement of table tennis is expressed in this one-of-a-kind photo of former Excalibur sports editor Al Risen bracing himself to deliver a crucial blow to the opposition. Rookies should note the intense concentration and crossed fingers of this expert.

Arena ready for summer closing
no cash for continued operation

By HONEY FISHER

Nearing the close of its eight-month season, York's ice arena will be shutting down for the summer months at the end of April.

According to Richard F. Price, coordinator of administrative services at York, the reason for this early closing is that the university does not have the equipment to make summer ice. To keep the arena open for a longer period than eight months, heat grids would have to be installed beneath the ice surface. This is to ensure that the ground underneath has a chance to thaw, so that the cement foundation of the building doesn't crack. However, the cost of this apparatus is prohibitive, said Price.

ALLOW GROUND TO MELT

More than fifty per cent of all the ice arenas in Ontario, including York's, avoid the added expense of the heat grids by closing during the summer season, and therefore allowing the ground to melt naturally.

York's present compressor plant cannot accommodate summer ice, and it would cost approximately \$56,000 for the machinery with the necessary greater horsepower. Besides this expense, there would be annual salaries of about \$50,000 for the additional supervisory staff which would be required, said Price.

NO HOCKEY SCHOOLS

Rather than build single rinks, the recent trend has been to build them in clusters of two or four. This is more practical because the machinery expenses for a cluster of rinks are the

same as for one rink.

Offering a hockey school during the summer would not alleviate the financial problems involved in staying open year-round, said Price. Although the Department of Physical Education would love to run a hockey programme in conjunction with a professional hockey school, said Price, pros such as Dave Keon or Billy Harris are asking prices that make this idea impossible. They claim they want to help promote Canadian athletes, but also claim they won't work for less than \$1,000 per week. The revenue of such a programme would not cover the expenses, according to Price.

But the physical education department does offer a number of summer seminar programmes, gathering an international coaching staff. The high standard of these sports seminars has been confirmed in that York has been named "the most forward-going university in the upgrading of coaches and athletes." Approximately 1,500 students from all over the world attend these summer sessions.

York's ice arena is actually the first phase of a three phase project, and was originally built in 1968 as simply a practice arena. The rest of the building project was to have been completed by 1975/76.

Phase two, in the planning stages, is to be a 4-5,000 spectator arena with all the features of "creature comfort" including ticket, offices, concessions, refreshments, dressing rooms, heating, etc., and would accommodate such sports as hockey, skating, broomball, tennis, and more.

Phase three is to be built specifically

ly as a curling rink.

NO FUNDS

Due to the not uncommon problem of funds "drying up," both the second and third phases of the project have had to be postponed.

In fact, says A. R. Dawson, head of campus planning, for the past two years, no building contracts have been made because of the freeze on government allowances to universities in the province. Government funds are based on the number of students attending the university. In the future when the numbers attending York increase, more money will be allocated for building projects. However, it is not yet decided whether this particular project will have priority over extensions of other buildings on campus.

As it is now, the government thinks that, based on the number of students, York has more space than it requires.

Stong wins York torch
Law rally not enough

Stong College survived a late season rally by Osgoode to retain its first place standing in college athletics and win the York Torch.

Stong finished first out of twelve competing colleges, with a final point total of 10,735. Osgoode, in second place, was a thousand points back with 9,780. Bethune was third with 7,700 points, and Vanier fourth with 6,648. Founders finished with 6,133 points, and Glendon, last year's winner, finished a disappointing sixth with 6,050 points.

Rounding out the standings were McLaughlin, followed distantly by Winters and Calumet, who finished well ahead of Geads, Atkinson, and MBA.

In the men's division, Osgoode placed first followed by Stong and Bethune. In the women's half, Stong finished first, with Vanier and Osgoode trailing.

In mixed curling, Osgoode finished first, followed by Bethune and Stong. In men's curling, Osgoode again placed first, with Stong in second, and Bethune and Vanier tied for third.

Archery saw Stong's four man team place first overall, with Bethune's three archers coming second. Glendon, Winters, Osgoode and Founders completed the standings.

In the broomball championship final, Bethune bested Founders to win the title. In the consolation round, Stong mastered McLaughlin. In the table tennis tournament, Glendon narrowly won over Stong, 75-74. Vanier and McLaughlin finished third and fourth.



C. T. Squassero, photo

Look, look! The Toros

Billy (no relation) Orr and a fellow Toronto Toro practiced at York's Ice Palace last Saturday. The Toros were ousted from Varsity Arena by the Canadian college championships. Toros are looking not only for new fans but for a rink to play WHA playoff games in. The Ice Palace is too small.

Sir George Iced

Waterloo takes finals

By RICK SPENCE

York's hockey Yeomen, who lost in the OUAA semifinals to the Waterloo Warriors, can hold their heads a little higher now that their conquerors have become Canadian champions.

Waterloo edged the Sir George Williams Georgians 6-5 in the CIAU championships at a packed Varsity Arena last Saturday to win the University Cup, emblematic of Canadian intercollegiate hockey supremacy.

It was the Warriors' sixth consecutive playoff victory. On their way to the finals they disposed of Windsor, York, Western (who had upset the perennial champs, Toronto), Calgary (two games to none), and finally Sir George. The Georgians had gained the final by upsetting the favoured St. Mary's Huskies.

Saturday's game saw Waterloo dominate the first and second periods, but emerge on the short end of a 3-2 score, due to the brilliant goaltending of Sir George's Canadian all-star Bernie Wolfe.

In the third game, Georgians opened up a 4-2 lead, but the Warriors fought back for two more goals to send the game into non-sudden death

overtime.

Waterloo opened the scoring after only 21 seconds of the extra period, followed by another minutes later. Sir George could reply with only one goal to give Waterloo the win.

Waterloo's dominant line of Mike Guimond, Ron Hawkshaw and Russ Elliot accounted for five of the six goals. Rob Madeley was the other Waterloo marksman. Georgian scorers were Brian Morin, Maurice Desfosses, Rory McKay, Alain Vendette, and Marcel Lapierre.

Goaltender Wolfe won the Gruen award as the outstanding player of the match. He kept his team in the game all the way despite Waterloo's vast territorial advantage, especially in the second period.

Wolfe faced a total of 57 shots, while his counterpart, OUAA all-star Jake Dupuis, kicked out 28 shots in the Waterloo net.

Waterloo, as Canadian champion, was scheduled to meet the American college hockey champs in a North American playoff. However, Minnesota, the American winners, stated they would not be playing the Canadian team.

Sports rivalry "slave market" at
victory-hungry American colleges

NEW YORK (CUPI) — American college sports are presently the target of several national inquiries as their "win at any cost" syndrome approaches crisis proportions and borders on public scandal.

There is a frenzied slave market in recruiting and paying athletes at American colleges and universities and the frenzy is beginning to make inroads in to the high schools.

The American Council of Education has started to investigate the situation with financial assistance from the Ford Foundation and Carnegie Corporation and some prompting from the Association of American Universities. All of these bodies have become alarmed at the growth of "professionalism" in college sports and at the huge costs which are now facing college teams.

To an ever-increasing extent, American colleges are succumbing to "win at any cost" complexes, and the cost is spreading far beyond the scholarships and salaries of the 50,000 athletes and coaches who are staging 32,000 basketball and 3,000 football games a year.

The cost is also being paid by the growing corruption of high school students, in a distortion of the role of sports in education and in the moral climate surrounding all the schools.

College football is becoming big

business and more and more colleges are perverting the high school system in the recruitment of stars. Some senior students in high school who are natural athletes are receiving payments from colleges who are also tampering with grades, forging transcripts, finding substitutes to take students' exams, promising jobs to parents and buying them cars, and supplying football tickets which might be scalped for as much as \$8,000.00. The National Collegiate Athletic Association rules that scholarships be limited to tuition, room and board, books, and \$15.00 a month for "laundry". The ignoring of these rules represent only another facet of America's selling out to the big sport demons, and its neglect of the average, unathletic person who also has need of such moneys and facilities.

Banquet

Good seats are still available for the annual Intercollegiate Athletic Awards banquet, to be held Monday, March 25, in the Stong Dining Hall. Tickets, at \$3.50 per person, are available from Lyn Strlichuck, 3rd floor, Tait McKenzie Building. All are welcome to attend.