

Sports and Recreation

Varsity athletes honoured

Epprecht and Lovett-Doust take top awards

By Excalibur staff

Award winning gymnast Marc Epprecht won another award last Wednesday night when he became Yeoman of the Year at the annual athletic banquet. Swimmer Chris Lovett-Doust, who set Ontario records in the 100 yard and 200 yard butterfly, was selected female athlete of the year.

The Bryce M. Taylor Award, which is presented to the graduating female student who has made outstanding contributions to intercollegiate athletics throughout her undergraduate career at York University, was won by swimmer-runner Candy Millar.

Epprecht said he didn't think he would win: "It's fantastic. I knew I was nominated, but I didn't think I'd win. I don't feel that I should have been nominated, I think Bob Carise deserved it more, but because of political reasons, only one gymnast was nominated." Epprecht won golds for the pommel horse and the parallel bars at the O.U.A.A. and the C.I.A.U., and was the C.I.A.U. all round champion.

Marc Epprecht, Bob Carisse, and Maasaki Naosaki all won places on the Canadian National University Gymnastic team and are looking forward to representing Canada at the International Student Games in Bulgaria this summer. Tom Zivic, York's head coach, is also the coach for the national team and sees this as a great opportunity for his athletes.

"I think it's great," said Zivic. "It will give Marc and the others a tremendous opportunity to compete against some of the best in the world."

The Yeoman, Yeowoman and Bryce M. Taylor awards are voted on by the players and the coaching staff of the university, and are awarded annually.

H. Ian Macdonald, along with John Hudson, director of Sports for the CBC, said that everyone knows York is known for the quality of its athletic life:

"We have a lot to be proud of. We don't have the class and colour of the older university (University of Toronto) but they're 150 years old we're only 17 years old. I want to congratulate you for it," said Macdonald.

The Molson award was a tight fight with the swimming, wrestling and volleyball teams, all

struggling to win it. The swimming team, which moved from being the 19th to 5th team in Canada, finally won. The Tony Moscato Trophy, a new award — to be presented annually to the York University Yeomen Varsity basketball player who most clearly represents the ideals of loyalty, effort, dedication and determination in the pursuit of excellence in basketball, regardless of skill, was won by Warren Cresswell.

Ron Hawkshaw, the O.U.A.A. scoring champion, the O.U.A.A. east section all-star, the C.I.A.U. player of the year, and a C.I.A.U. all-star was chosen the most valuable player of the hockey team by his team-mates.

Other most valuable players were: Chris McNeilly, Basketball; Paul Sheridan and Angelo Kioussis, Football; Gienek Ksiazkiewicz, Badminton; Bob Carisse, Gymnastics; John Spanton, Rugby; Mike Burke, Soccer; Neil Harvey, Swimming; Lee Colby, Diving; Pat Gamey, Tennis; Desmond McHenry, Indoor Track and Field; Janis Ozolins, Volleyball; Jim Stitt, Wrestling; Joseph Chan, Fencing; Horace Hale, Squash; and Herman Schindler, Water Polo.

The banquet itself was a semi-formal affair. The athletes sat and listened attentively as the speakers made their awards and presentations.

Hudson, the sports director of CBC, made a speech which had all of the audience wondering whether he had given it so many times before that it was second nature or, had he given it off the cuff?

"I know most of the people here tonight," said Hudson. "Nobby Wirkowski, here; I know him from way back. He's the only quarterback who came to Canada years ago and today, well he's a legend in his own mind."

From that moment on, Hudson had the audience eating out of the palm of his hand. It was then that he delivered the message of his speech. "You people here, you athletes have an opportunity to go out and do things which your predecessors did not have. You have unlimited opportunity here because of the Olympic games. The Olympics did so much for sport in this country and now young athletes have an



Marc Epprecht (left) poses with his new trophy, the Yeoman of the year award, while John Hudson, director of Sports for the CBC, is captured making his rousing speech.



opportunity that wasn't there before. Avoid developing systems of mediocrity! You have the chance to leave here and get involved. Society now understands the role that sport must play in developing a complete society. Remember when you leave here: if a sport is worth playing, it's worth playing badly."

The Women's Athletic Banquet, a warm, casual affair was reminiscent of a Christmas dinner with mother. The girls were relaxed and joked continuously, obviously having a great time. As each team was introduced the cheers filled the hall and even the ice hockey team received a warm ovation.

The Yeowoman didn't present a Most Valuable Player Award this year: they were all winners. Some of the stand out athletes though were: Brenda Reid, Evelyn Brenhouse, and Margot Wallace in Track and Field; Betty-Anne Brennan of the Synchronized Swim Team; and Sharon Boothby of the fencing team.

Thelma Eisan, a fourth year Physical Education student, won the Merit Award. This award is presented to the graduating athlete who has made an all-round contribution to the promotion of intercollegiate athletics and has attained an Intermediate Level of competition in her sport.

Eisan had played on both the Basketball and Field Hockey teams and had been active in numerous committees, including being president of the Woman's Athletic Council this year (76-77).

Des runs qualifier

By DAVE FULLER

York's Desmond McHenry ran to a seventh place finish in the Boston Qualifier marathon held at Ithaca,

New York, on Sunday, and posted a time under the three hour limit necessary to qualify for the premier long distance event in North America.

McHenry, a third year Geography and Physical Education student from Portaferry, Ireland, was competing in his first marathon and posted a time of 2:50.53, along the grueling, snow covered course.

"They're crazy, they got to be crazy," said the thirty year old runner, "you've got to be made of iron to do that for 26 miles."

Peter Jeffers of the Finger Lakes Running Club won the event with a time of 2:43.31. He admitted after the race, "I hadn't planned on winning today, I wasn't taking it that seriously."

York cross-country team member Ross Freaque also attempted the run but an injured thigh muscle severely hampered him and he was forced to drop out at the fifteen mile mark.

Freaque, who still plans to qualify for the Boston event in April, was running slightly behind the pace necessary to qualify when he dropped out.

McHenry's attempt at the distance was threatened at the six mile mark when he re-injured a tendon still not healed from practice last week.

"It's your mind that takes you through the last six miles" he said. "Your body will only go on if you keep telling yourself that you can do it, if you stop, you're done for."

The race was run in the area surrounding Cornell University and was sponsored by the Finger Lakes Running Club for the eighth consecutive year. The event has only been run four times, however, as poor weather forced the cancellation of the race on four occasions.

Skiers race at Can-Ams

By PAUL WOODHOUSE

WATERVILLE VALLEY, New Hampshire — The York Ski Team travelled to Mount Tecumseh, New Hampshire to compete in the Eastern North American, Canadian-American Intercollegiate Ski Championships held March 13 to 18th.

The squad finished seventh in a field of 14 schools just behind the Ontario champs, Queen's. The University of Western Ontario won the meet by a slim margin over the favoured University of Maine Farmington.

The championships are a two series affair with the first meet held in Canada and the second in the USA. With Queen's winning the first meet and Western the second, the Canadian skiers have reversed the Can-Am domination.

The first event, the downhill, had to be cancelled due to unseasonal downpours of rain and fog which predominated over the first four days. This was much to the teams' dismay as they had already proven themselves a threat with winning times in the unofficial trials hitting speeds at up to 80 mph.

A giant slalom race was substituted with the addition of 300 pounds of salt each day to keep the course hard.

Rudi Tomiczek finished in 10th place picking up top points for the Yeomen.

In the second giant slalom, Rod Farmer pulled through for the team with two solid runs which placed him in the top 15 Canadian men. Both events were won by ex-Canadian National Team member Rito Barrington from Dalhousie.

Paul Woodhouse edged in two tight runs to come in first for York again placing with the top 15 Canadian men.

The slalom was won by ex-Canadian National Team member Russel Goodman.

Included in the list of casualties claimed by the ice were York skiers John Snow, and Rudi Tomiczek, who, after three excellent giant slalom runs including a fifth placing in one, pulled ligaments in his right knee, and Glen McKay who after four solid giant slaloms and one good slalom run, hooked a tip and broke three bones in his ankle.



Des McHenry



Frank Cosentino congratulates Chris Lovett-Doust, the female athlete of the year, after the woman's Athletic Banquet last Wednesday night, while Mary Lyons poses with Candy Millar (second from the right), the recipient of the Bryce M. Taylor Award.