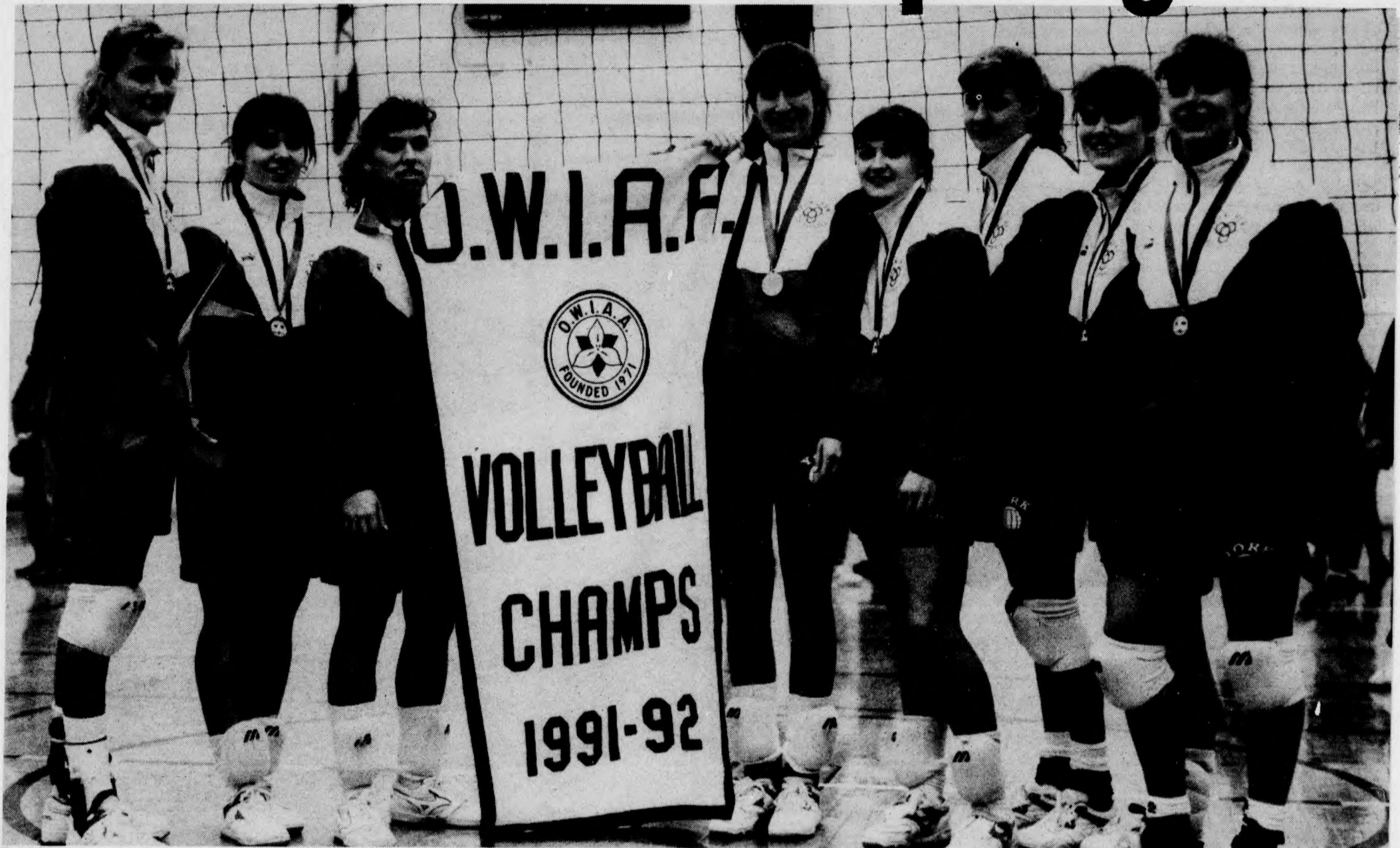


Yeowomen triumph again!



MEMBERS OF THE 1991-92 VOLLEYBALL YEOWOMEN SQUAD pose with their latest trophy, courtesy of a decisive 3-set victory over UofT in the final of the Ontario championships last weekend. From left to right, Mary van Soelen, Amanda Agnew, Cheryl Guay, Sue LeSage, Vicki Gallagher, Kendra Irwin, Linda Garrat and Sue Craig. Missing from the photo is teammate Bente Rasmussen and coach Merv Mosher. Van Soelen and Craig were named to the tournament All-Star team while Guay walked away with tournament Most Valuable Player honours. Kendra Irwin was named the OWIAA East division rookie of the year. photo by Michele Boesener

by Riccardo Sala

If their season was like a well-ordered storybook, then the volleyball Yeowomen's successful defence of their Ontario Women's Interuniversity Athletic Association

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title was the exclamation mark at the end of the story — a three-set win over University of Toronto in Sunday's gold medal match, stamped

out with the authority of a Hemingway on a manual typewriter.

York's championship-winning performance capped off an almost perfect weekend for the Yeowomen.

On Friday, York defeated Guelph 3-0 in the quarterfinals.

On Saturday, the Yeowomen worked themselves up to a two-game lead in the semifinals against the Ottawa Gee-Gees, 15-3, 15-2. In the third set, York toyed with Ottawa before delivering the coup de grace, a 15-8 victory that decided the match.

That victory advanced York to the Sunday final against the Blues, who arrived there with a three-set win over McMaster.

The Yeowomen started off the final in good form, winning the first two

sets 15-7, 15-8.

It was the third and deciding set that showed York's true mettle. The Yeowomen played catchup for most of the game, falling behind four points at one time. That augured good for the big crowd on hand, largely made up of Toronto boosters who cheered their team's every move.

At around the ten point mark, the Yeowomen moved into high gear, steamrolling to a 15-13 victory to take the set, match and their third straight OWIAA championship.

Individual honours for York followed, including the selection of Mary van Soelen and captain Susan Craig to the tournament All-Star team.

Yeowoman Cheryl Guay was chosen the tournament's Most Valuable Player.

Toronto coach Kristine Drakich spoke about the Sunday loss afterwards.

"In the first and second games we (UofT) couldn't do much after eight points. In the third game we had it but we made a couple of unforced errors," Drakich said.

York coach Merv Mosher spoke afterwards.

"We played well in the first two games, not letting UofT get started. Then UofT picked up a notch and we relaxed a bit. We were worried in that third set, especially because we didn't have any subs," Mosher said.

(One York player missing from the lineup was Kendra Irwin, the OWIAA East division rookie of the year, injured in practice Wednesday.)

Mosher also noted that court perception affected York's performance in the third set, York serving in the direction of the stands instead of being able to use the wall as a visual reference point as they had in the second set.



SUE LESAGE watches as a York teammate goes for a UofT ball enroute to their 3-set victory over the Blues for the OWIAA title. The Yeowomen will have little time for celebration as they prepare to host the CIAU championships at Tait in one week's time photo by Michele Boesener

Smart money, which had been predictably correct over the weekend, had foreseen a York-UofT showdown in the finals, with York favoured to take it all.

Derbies between the two clubs over the regular season had seen Toronto come out on the wrong end

of the stick on all but one occasion.

The volleyball Yeowomen have added another banner to the wall space at Tait McKenzie. In two weeks time, the Yeowomen will be back on homecourt as they host the CIAU National volleyball championships the weekend of March 13-15.

B-ball Yeomen out of title hunt after loss to Laurentian

by Riccardo Sala

Damage was a four-letter word spelled Hahn as the basketball Yeomen lost 99-91 at Laurentian to a Voyageur squad led by brothers Norm and Brad Hahn.

The Friday night loss in the Ontario University Athletic Association Central division semi-final also ended the season for York.

"We played pretty well, but the two Hahn brothers, Norm and Brad, played very well. Between them they had eight 3-pointers (in the first half)," York coach Bob Bain said Sunday.

The Yeomen fell behind as much as 20 points during the game.

"We came back fighting, within four points, but we missed some layups, some uncontested shots at the end of regulation time," Bain said.

York centre Lyndon Philip had a good game, netting 29 points, fol-

lowed by teammate Clive Anderson with 25 and Mark Bellai with 20.

The toughest assignment of the night went to guard Marc Gardner, whose job it was to shadow Norm Hahn. Despite the Voyageur's ace showing on the backboard, Bain felt that Gardner performed well under the circumstances.

"So that's the season," Bain mused. While York sank towards the end of the year, the Yeomen still finished with a 9-6 regular season record, a considerable improvement over last year's below .500 finish.

Bain is confident about next year. York ace Clive Anderson is the only Yeoman the team is losing to eligibility, so Bain is looking forward to a largely returning squad with one more year of experience under its belt, and hopefully a shot at the Central title.