

sports and recreation



Ellana McKendry shows her volleyball technique at the women's volleyball championship last weekend in Hamilton. She was named to the CIAU all-star team.

Yeomen win sixth consecutive gymnastics title in Vancouver

VANCOUVER - The men's gymnastics team captured its sixth consecutive national championship this weekend in the CIAU's held at U of British Columbia. Amassing 150.9 points, it finished over fifteen points ahead of second place U. of Toronto.

In addition, Marc Epprecht won the individual all-around competition for his third consecutive year with a total of 52.9. David Steeper was second with 51.25 and Tom Bertrand seventh with 45.5.

The other members of the victorious team were Jim Tomlinson, Bill Chong and Alex Toulis. Absent from the competition was Dan Gaudet, who was representing Canada at an international meet in Paris at the time.

After the preliminary competition Friday, Epprecht was leading in four of the six events, but was unable to compete in the finals Saturday due to an injury he sustained to his hand. For that reason, York succeeded in taking only three of the possible six golds in the individual events championships. These were pommel horse, rings and parallel bars, all

of which were won by Steeper. He also won silvers on floor and high bar and a bronze on vault. Bertrand was second and Chong third on rings while Epprecht picked up a silver on vault, the only event he competed in.

Head coach Tom Zivic also won recognition in being named as 'Coach of the Year'.

As for the women, they placed third over all as a team, behind first place U. of Alberta 97.6 and second place U. of Calgary 94.95. Cathy Corns finished the highest all-around, her 93.65 points earning her fourth place. Other

members of the team were Laurie McGibbon, Sue Baier, Lynn English and Charlene Kelly.

One week prior to this competition, the three top York men competed at a national team selection meet in Winnipeg. Epprecht, Gaudet and Steeper finished second, third and fourth respectively to earn themselves solid positions on that team. As a result, Gaudet was sent to France to compete and Epprecht will be going to Hungary and Romania in April. It was also the first of three trials to determine next year's World Championships' team.

York in Calgary minus OUA A title

By Bruce Gates

While the York Yeomen prepare today in Calgary for their first game in the CIAU basketball finals against McGill, they can take some solace in losing their Ontario title by a score of 80-78 to the Windsor Lancers last Sunday night in Windsor. They got a bad game out of their systems, and that tough game should help strengthen their character for what should be three hard-fought matches in the CIAU playdowns.

York will have to put together three solid games in order to win the championship. Coach Bob Bain knows it, and now after the Windsor game, the players know it too.

"We'll have to play with intensity all the time and not play in spurts. We'll have to play better defence. And we will have to stay out of foul trouble too," Bain remarked.

It was Bain's latter point that proved to be York's undoing against the Lancers. Much of the Yeomen offence revolves around their big man, 6 ft. 9 in. centre Lonnie Ramati. His size and abilities give York a powerful inside game, which takes some of the pressure off outside shooters. In Windsor, Ramati found himself in foul trouble in the first half, and fouled out of the game altogether with only three minutes gone in the second half. As a result, the Lancers, who have a pretty tough inside game themselves, took it away from York and had the Yeomen down by 10 at half time. (Incidentally, York has only been down at the half twice this year — both times to the Lancers).

"I thought it was doomsday for us when Lonnie fouled out," Bain recounted later. "But we stayed together and hung in there."

In fact, York had a chance to pull the game out in the final seconds. "We missed a shot at the buzzer. We had two shots at tipping it in but it just wouldn't drop. It was like there was a lid on that basket," the coach lamented.

Dave Coulthard led York with 21 points. Bo Pelech had 19, and Peter Greenway netted 12.

Before the Windsor game, York

looked ripe for a letdown, and last Friday's 84-70 win over Carleton, for the Ontario East title, presaged the Windsor result. Before close to 1200 fans, York's biggest crowd of the season, the Yeomen played a lacklustre game. After pulling ahead to a quick 9-0 lead, York lost its shooting eye and didn't find it until the Ravens had pulled ahead, 27-23, with under 10 minutes left in the half.

York managed to take a 45-35 lead to the dressing room, but one could sense the team was not going to finish well. They only outscored Carleton by four in the second half. The team did not really execute its plays well.

"There were times when we just threw up the ball," Bain said after the game, "and we gave up a couple of easy buckets toward the end." Both are signs of a lack of intensity.

The intensity is going to have to come in bucketfuls now, and Bain feels the Windsor game should help pull the team together. He'd even like another crack at them out in Calgary.

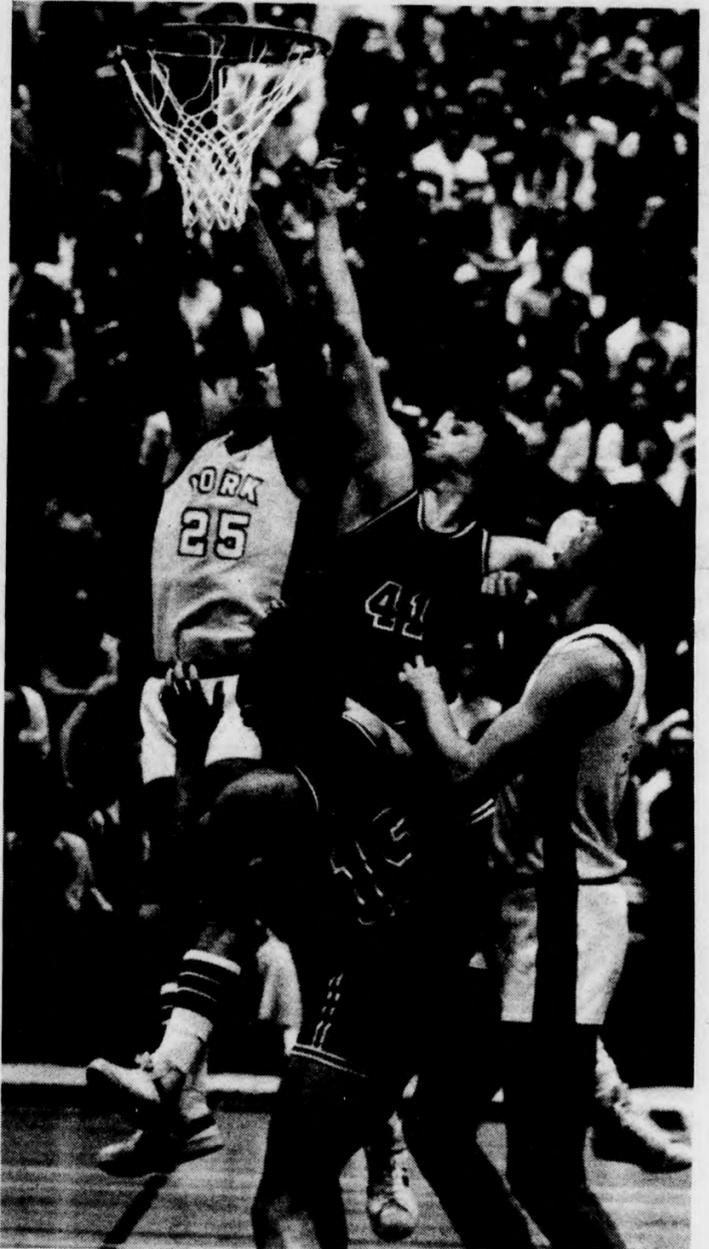
That's quite possible, too. York

plays McGill in the first round and should win that one, but not by the 45 points (96-51) they beat them by Dec. 1. Meanwhile, Windsor meets St. Mary's Huskies. Both of these teams are opposites: Windsor has a strong inside game, SMU has a powerful outside attack. If Windsor dominates inside, they could pull off the upset of the finals. And that would set up a York-Windsor semi final.

"We'd love another chance against Windsor," said Bain, "because that's a sore spot with us right now."

York would probably win the rematch against Windsor—if fouls didn't become a factor. Against SMU, York's other likely opponent in the semi finals, the Yeomen will have to play the type of controlled offence they used Dec. 8, which stymied the Huskies for most of the game. If their big man, Ramati, stays out of foul trouble, then York stands a good chance to avenge its Dec. 8 loss to SMU. After that, it's anyone's guess who plays whom in the Saturday final.

Lady luck will have a lot to say in who wins.



Saskatchewan beats York in CIAU volleyball final

By Lawrence Knox

It was a disappointing end to a great season for the York Yeowomen volleyball team. The nine member squad lost the Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Union volleyball championship final to the University of Saskatchewan 15-11, 15-9, 14-16, 15-8 at McMaster University last weekend in Hamilton.

Yeowomen upset the number two and three ranked University of Western and Waterloo in the Ontario Women Intercollegiate Athletic Association finals here three weeks ago.

York's first opposition in the round-robin final was Laval University of Quebec City, which Yeowomen disposed of easily in a strong performance. York played well against host McMaster before playing their worst game and losing to the team from Saskatchewan. Yeowomen rebounded to beat the University of Manitoba in three consecutive games and the team felt they had the momentum going into the finals.

"I don't think we were psyched out," team member Sandy Hart remarked. "We felt pretty good going into that game - thinking we could win. But they were a much more experienced team than we were." Hart pointed out that the York team had lost five members from last year's squad. Their lack of experience showed.

In the final, it wasn't that York was outclassed by their opponents, but in those close games when experience and power hitting was needed, Saskatchewan came out on top.

"Towards the end of some crucial games, we began to get emotional and lost our concentration. But, that's where their experience paid off," Hart said.

The weekend certainly wasn't a total loss for the women team. York power hitter Ellana McKendry was one of the six girls named to the CIAU all-star team.

"We were disappointed initially, but we had to realize that we are only first-year players," Hart commented

There is no question that the team has nothing to be ashamed of. Their play this year proves that they'll will be a force to be reckoned with next season.

TOURNAMENT NOTES: In typical CIAU style, the publicity for the annual final was poor. The scheduling of the games didn't allow for the major media types, such as the three Toronto dailies to give the championships the proper coverage. And contrary to what some people might think, the coverage would have been the same, under the circumstances, even if it was the men's final being played... The CIAU felt it was only important that the winners of the final received gold medals, again in typical fashion. If they are suppose to be supporting and promoting amateur sports, why did they put so much emphasis on the winner. McMaster obviously felt the same as I did and went out and had silver medals made for the finalist to go along with gold medals. Bravo McMaster!