

SPORTS

Bronze for v-ball women

by Josh Rubin

After a controversial seeding procedure which forced them to take on the top-ranked Manitoba Bisons in the semifinals, the York Yeowomen volleyball squad was forced to settle for a bronze medal at last weekend's CIAU championships.

The Yeowomen, ranked third for much of the season's second half were dropped down to fourth a few days before the tourney started.

Replacing the Yeowomen in third spot was the team from the University of Winnipeg, who were thus able

to meet second place Saskatchewan in the semis.

Perhaps not coincidentally Winnipeg's athletic director sits on the CIAU's ranking committee.

Any backroom shenanigans however were negated on the court itself, as Saskatchewan dumped Winnipeg in five games to advance to the finals.

The Yeowomen added to Winnipeg's misery in the bronze medal matchup, taking home the hardware with a hard-fought 3-2 come from behind victory.

The Yeowomen wound up facing Winnipeg after getting past the host

squad from Calgary 3-2 then getting dumped 3-1 by the tough Manitoba side in the semis.

The Calgary win was especially satisfying for Merv Mosher & Co.

"The Calgary players said in the papers they thought they'd have an easy first round match," York coach Mosher said.

Copping individual honors for the York squad were team captain Chris Pollitt and Susan Ellis, who were both named to the All-Canadian team.

For Pollitt, it marked the fifth year in a row she had gotten the honor.

Wise coach misses world-class runner as

Yeomen take 4th, Yeowomen 3rd at national track championships

by Riccardo Sala

It was personal best time again for York's track and field athletes, the year's work geared for the climactic CIAU championships, held over the weekend in Windsor.

Despite a fourth place finish for the men and a bronze for the women, York maintained its reputation as one of the top programs in the country.

The Yeowomen took the CIAU bronze behind first-place Calgary and silver medalist Windsor.

The Yeomen finished fourth, with Windsor, UofT and Manitoba rounding out the first three places.

The championships were the scene of personal triumph for the Yeowomen, who in addition to the bronze, had in the person of Nicole Masil the first three event winner in CIAU championship history.

Masil took the laurels in the 600, 1000 and 1500 metre races and rounded out the weekend by being named the female athlete of the meet.

Two other victories came to the Yeowomen.

In the 60 metre hurdles York's Leslie Tashlin took gold with a personal best time of 8.60 seconds, while Andrea Hastick covered more real estate than her competitors to win the triple jump.

Hastick leaped 12.12 metres, a personal best and was fifth in the long jump with a 5.54 metre leap.

Masil, Hastick, Tashlin and Vicky Pratt teamed up for a bronze for York in the 4 x 400 metre relay.

Along with Nicola McCleod, the 4x400 team made up the whole Yeowomen contingent at the CIAUs, a small team according to assistant coach Vicky Croley.

One notable absence was Yeowoman France Gareau, who was in Spain for the World Indoor Track and Field Championships.

"With Gareau competing we would have won the (women's) title," said coach Sue Wise, pointing to the small eleven point differential between York and the winning Calgary squad.

Tough competition in the men's section meant "that we knew that we had to come up big, with personal best performances," to finish well, Wise said.

That order was largely, but not entirely achieved, epitomised by efforts such as Doug Wood's win in the pole vault (which established a CIAU record of 5.26 metres in the process), Teammate Paul Just was six centimetres behind (5.20 metre) and notched the silver while Kevin Lake was fifth.

The Yeomen's other gold came way of the Kevin Benner, Colin Inglis, Brooke Cooper and Darrin Gardner quartet. Running the 4 x 400 metre relay they won in a time of 3:18.90 seconds.

Benner, Inglis, Cooper and Dexter John finished second in the 4 x 200 metre relay with a time of 1:31.0 behind the winning Windsor team.

Inglis grabbed bronze in the 300 metre while John nailed sixth spot in the 60 metre.

John's run was an example of a personal best at the wrong time.

Having nailed a personal best of 6.98 seconds in the heats, John could only get a 7.05 run in the finals.

Six point nine eight was a personal best for another Yeoman, this time long-jumper Chris Vaughn, whose 6.98 metre leap gave him fifth spot.

In the 60 metre hurdles Sean Foudy, the defending CIAU champ, came third for York while teammate Trevor McAlmont came sixth.

While the Yeomen didn't have any athletes in Spain like the Yeowomen, they did have their own tough breaks in terms of personnel shortage, Sue Wise said.

One was Vagner Castilho, the defending 300 metre champion who is out this year with a stress fracture, an injury that also waylaid fellow Yeoman Mike Rogers.

"Having Vagner would have made a difference," Wise said.

Wise also cast envious glances toward Windsor's O'Brien Gibbons, who took the 60 and 300 metre titles.

It seems Gibbons' first choice out of high school was York's phys.ed program, but his grades weren't up to scratch. Oh well.

Indoor field hockey at Tait as Alberta dumps Ontario for title

by Riccardo Sala

The country's best field hockey players took over Tait-Mackenzie for the CIAU-CWFHA (Canadian Women's Field Hockey Association) indoor championship.

Competition isn't between schools but rather between the provinces, with BC, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and the Atlantic provinces (all in one) fighting it out for the title.

Coaching the Ontario side was UofT's Liz Hoffman. Five Yeowomen were on the team, Michelle Capperault, Sharon Creelman, Joel Brough, Tammy Holt and Veronica Planella.

CIAU eligibility rules didn't apply here also allowing one York grad to play.

Half the Ontario team was made up of Yeowomen, which made for some irony since only the weekend before under coach Marina Van Der Merwe York had trounced Hoffman's Toronto squad for the OWIAA indoor title.

Redemption wasn't to be found this week though. Ontario made it to the final on Sunday only to be shut-out 5-0 by the Alberta side for the title.

Four members of the Alberta squad are veterans of the Seoul Olympic team, assistant York coach Cathy Broderick noted.

In the seven year history of the championship, Ontario has only won the title once.

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