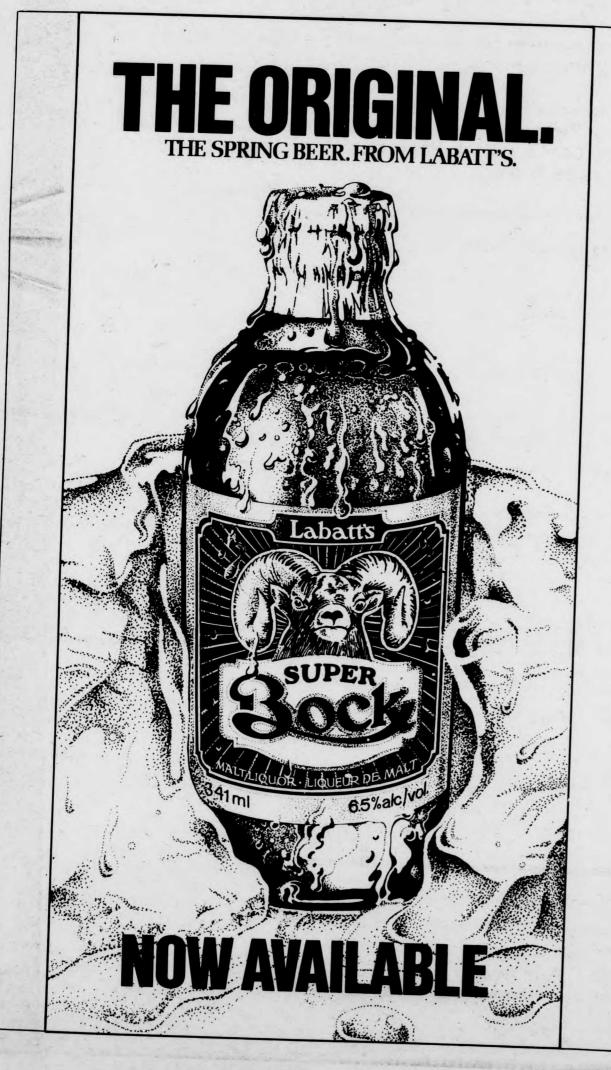


Can't reach that one...Sue Harling finishes off the second of her two goals which gave York a 3-0 lead. The Yeowomen went on to defeat their cross-town arch rival U of T 3-1 in the final game of the OWIAA hockey championship.



Harling scores two

Puckster turn back U of T in hockey final

ELISSA S. FREEMAN

"Good things come to those who wait."

That age-old adage can be used to describe the Yeowomen's Hockey Team's long awaited endeavour to capture the OWIAA crown. After being thwarted by U of T for the past two years, York ended the Lady Blues three-year championship reign with a 3-1 victory at Varsity Arena on Sunday night.

York's previous matches against U of T this season certainly provided foreshadowing for this triumphant outcome. The month of October saw the Yeowomen tie U of T 2-2 (only after York had led 2-0 up until the third period), while in December they handed the Lady Blues their only loss of the season, defeating them 2-0 in Varsity Arena. However, U of T was responsible for two of York's three losses this season as they beat the Yeowomen 3-1 and another third period surge helped them skate by York with a 4-3 win.

But the turning point came at the Concordia Invitation in early February when York beat their rivals 5-3, including a four-goal barrage in less than a minute.

Turning Point

Thus the stage was set for Sunday night's main event. The Yeowomen knew that although they were considered underdogs (with a 12-1-3 record), they were capable of coming out on top. On the other hand, U of T (with a 14-1-1 record) was by no means ready to relinquish their stranglehold on the championship title

First period action saw both teams charge out onto the ice; the collective desire to win was felt from the opening face-off. But although the intensity was there, the scoring opportunities were not. Perhaps the two squads were somewhat over zealous as they each only had approximately seven shots on goal.

U of T saw red

However, in the second period, the Lady Blues saw red--and white as York penetrated U of T territory and sprang for three unanswered goals within five minutes.

The first goal was the result of a valiant effort by Lisa Biglin. While sprawled across the Toronto crease she somehow pushed a loose puck past the U of T netminder to put the Yeowomen on the scoreboard.

Rookie sensation, Sue Harling, continued her season-long scoring tear as she netted two goals only 81 seconds apart, which lifted York to a 3-0 lead.

But the game was far from over. The third period saw U of T frantically try to regain their 'third' period come-back form' often sending in as many as four attackers into the York zone in an effort to even up the game. But another outstanding performance in net by Debbie Lamb turned back the U of T offensive. However, at the ten minute mark of the third period a goal by the Lady Blues' Karen O'Bright (who, ironically, played for York two years ago) spoiled Lamb's chance for a shut-out. "I suppose I could have been able to stop it", said Lamb, "but then again I say that about all the goals I let in."

Forechecking the key

First year coach, Wally Clost, felt that it was the team's pre-game plan that set the pace for the win. "The big thing was being able to stop Toronto in their own end. Our plan was to go out and forecheck them and cause U of T to make mistakes in their own territory."

"The first two periods, we were all over them," he continued, "but in the third period we just couldn't sit on our lead, because there had been too many times when U of T have come from behind to beat us."

Although this is their last OWIAA game, their championship title has given the Yeowomen the distinct privelege of participating in a Can-Am tourney against the best NCAA women's hockey team, two weeks from now. Their American opponent will be decided after the New Hampshire v.s. Providence (Rhode Island) final next week. New Hampshire, who has beaten Providence in each of their meetings is expected to continue their winning ways.

GOAL POSTS: Congratulations to Sue Howard. This Yeowoman veteran was named to the OWIAA all-star team.

York finishes on top

E:OSSA S. FREEMAN

It wasn't surprising that the Women's Squash Team continued their season-long domination by smashing through the competition en route to the OWIAA Champion-ships held at U of T.

Led by National Team member, Jo An Beckwith, the Yeowomen finished on top of the standings with 88 points. Their colsest competition came from Queens who accumulated 63 points. Third place went to Western (56 points) who narrowly edged out U of T by a margin of two points. Waterloo and McMaster brought up the rear with totals of 31 and 12 points respectively.

Four undefeated

The end of the tournament marked undefeated seasons for Beckwith, Gail Pimm, Rhonda Firmi and Anita Halpern. Three other Yeowomen, Karan Salmon, Ruth Castellino and Nikki Partridge, also concluded an excellent record, winning 80 per cent of their matches.

Coach Bob Cluett emphasized the team's mental preparation as the major element in the tournament win. "It was their attention span under pressure and their overall ability that won it for them," said Cluett.

Mental Preparation

"When we win by 25 points it looks easy," he added. "But, we had the ability to defeat players that were really no better than us. However, when the match is tied at 2-2 and you have to go into a fifth game, it's the mental discipline and to some extent our physical conditioning, that made all the difference."