

Sports and Recreation

Vikings plunder York

Bruce Gates

The score was close, 79-74, but York Yeomen just could not hang on to win their game against the NCAA First Division Cleveland State Vikings in the final of the second annual Excalibur

Basketball Classic, played at York last weekend.

For a while it appeared Yeomen were going to capture their second successive tournament title, but three costly turnovers in the dying minutes of

the game gave the Vikings the baskets they needed to cement the victory.

Despite the loss, however, Yeomen showed a great deal of poise and strength. And they earned the admiration of Cleveland coach, Ray Dieringer.

"York played super ball against us," he said after the game. "They played well enough that I thought they should have beaten us, but a couple of bad turnovers at the end cost them the game."

Dieringer also said he was impressed with the play of Bo Pelech and Dave Coulthard. "They could play well on a lot of (U.S.) teams," he said, "and the other players complement them to make a great team."

Yeomen flexed their scoring muscles in the opening round against Winnipeg to score an 85-77 victory. But it appeared they would be no match for the superior height and depth of the Cleveland squad, who had easily done away with Guelph. But Dieringer said that was not the case. "I thought we had all the advantages with height and size," he said, "but York took them away from us. That's the sign of a great team."

All-Canadian Coulthard, with 24 points, and teammate Pelech, with 23, led the York attack. Both were named to the Excalibur Classic all-star team.

Yeomen, presently ranked ninth in the nation, now travel to the Pacific Rim Invitational (Nov. 30-Dec. 2) at the U. of Victoria.



Craig Hildebrand

York's Bo Pelech streaks past Viking defender Scott Rose.

Swimmer to championships

Mary Lau

Last Saturday, the 12th Annual McMaster Invitational Swimming and Diving meet gave Yeowoman Donna Miller the opportunity to join her teammate, Jane Thacker, at this year's Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Union Championships.

Swimming the first 100m in the 4x100m freestyle relay, Miller was timed at 1:03.5, beating the qualifying standard by a few hundredths of a second.

However Miller's specialty is in the backstroke events where she placed third in the 100m backstroke, with a time of 1:14.3 and second in the 200m backstroke, stopping the clock at 2:40.3.

So far, the Yeowomen swim team has only two members going to the CIAU Championships - Miller and Thacker. Thacker, who had qualified in an earlier meet, was the steady winner in both the breaststroke events. The field, seeing a more mature swimmer in Thacker, was not much competition for her as she won the 100m in a comfortable 1:22.6 and the 200m in 3:00.3.

Miller and Thacker were the only two swimmers who went to the CIAU Championships last year. Hopefully, by the looks of things, this year's Championship will see more of the Yeowomen swim team. Two who might be able to join them are Liz MacGregor and Lise Charland.

MacGregor, who made the CIAU's in her first year, showed hope of making it again this year. In the 50m freestyle, she was just five-tenths of a second off the qualifying mark, finishing an impressive third. She also touched third in the 200m

freestyle and ninth in the 100m freestyle.

If MacGregor was considered close to beating the qualifying time, Charland was smothering it. She missed the mark by one tenth of a second in the 100m butterfly. Her time in that event was 1:12.1, good enough for second place. Charland, a rookie from Quebec, proves to be the strongest freshman on the team this year. She was second in the 200m IM, fourth in the 400m freestyle and helped the team to a third in the 4x200m freestyle relay.

Other bright spots were Bernie MacGregor and Jane Goldie. MacGregor, who had laid off swimming for three weeks, returned to the scene with two gutsy fourths in the 100m and 200m breaststroke.

Goldie, another rookie on the team, was on the 4x200 freestyle

relay team and she swam a 1:35.1 in the 100m breaststroke to place twelfth. Her most impressive swim came in the 4x100m freestyle relay. The timers caught her at a split of 1:08.9 which proved to be her personal best ever. The team finished in second behind a very formidable McMaster A team.

Overall, the meet, though a small affair (just 4 universities - Toronto, McMaster, Guelph and York), proved to be a good one for the girls to end this half of their season upon. It indicated to the Yeowomen how much harder they would have to train over the holidays to prepare themselves for the second half of the season.

During Christmas, half of the Yeowomen swim team will join the men's team, putting in a lot of hard swimming hours in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Fencing: It's alive!

Richard Aaron

Fencing is alive and well at York. The university is represented at the varsity level by a men's team consisting of foil, sabre and epee divisions. The women are allowed to field only a foil squad.

The women's squad has seen two tournaments to date. Results from the invitational at Western were generally poor, but improved considerably in last weekend's sessional meet at Brock. Coach Richard Polatynski expressed satisfaction with this all novice team and foresees continued improvement in the upcoming tournaments.

In its only meet thus far this season, the men's team had mixed results. The foil team captured second place out of the eight universities competing,

including a well-earned victory over the University of Toronto. The sabre team, although having little experience thus far, still offered stiff competition to two of the three competing teams, finishing a close fourth. Highest bout winner on the foil team was Warren Romano. His counterpart on the sabre team was Ron Warne. As the men's team is still in its infancy, personnel changes are being made to better match athlete and weapon.

For those interested in fencing next year, it would be advantageous to begin gaining experience now. Practices are every Tuesday and Thursday evening at 6:30 in the Tait upper gym. For the viewing audience, the York Invitational meet takes place on January 12 and 13.

Shortstops

ROOKIE SYNCHRO TEAM HAS GOOD START

The York Yeowomen Synchronized Swimming Team began their season last Saturday at an OWIAA Sectional Meet held at Queen's University. Judy Fudge, a Masters student at York, captured first place in the novice figures, while teammates Cathy Cavanaugh, Linda Feese and Connie Foell placed ninth, tenth and eleventh respectively. The Yeowomen have lost all but two members of last year's team and have had to start from scratch, but according to Coach Pat Murray, "the rookies are keen and are showing a lot of potential."

The team's next meet will be at McMaster on December 3.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

York University's Women's Invitational Hockey Tournament was won by Scarborough College earlier this week. Scarborough scored a 5-2 win over St. Michael's College to clinch their victory.

Melanie Steckham had three goals and Lynn Wheatly collected two for the winners.

In the consolation round, Osgoode Hall Law School took a 1-0 decision over the host Winters College team.

The Molson Award for Most Valuable Player was won by Laura Branchaud of Winters.

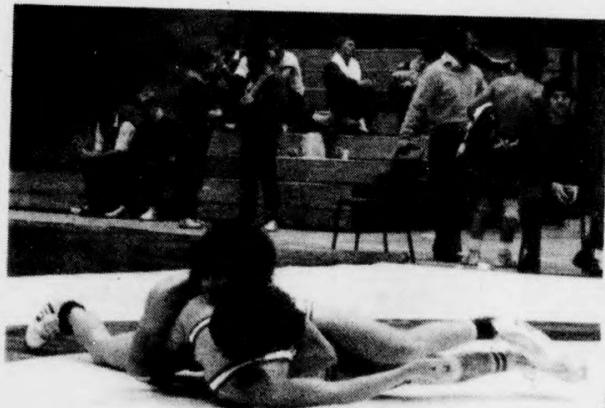
WRESTLERS AT RYERSON

This past Saturday, the Yeomen wrestling team competed in the Ryerson Open, facing some of the toughest opposition it will meet this year. Each season this tournament attracts the outstanding wrestlers from eastern Canada, as well as some from the United States.

York was represented by eight fighters, but was able to garner only a single third place finish. At 126 pounds Dave Tooke won four straight before losing to National Team member Ray Takahashi of Western, in the semi-finals. Tooke went on to win his next fight and capture third place.

Freshmen Jonathan Graham and Tony Cosentino continued to show steady progress on the road to experience. Cosentino was unfortunate in meeting Doug Yeats, Pan-American Games champion and winner of the class, but showed clear development of technique in two other fights. Graham had two wins and two losses and proved he is a force to be reckoned with in the not too distant future.

In total, York won fourteen matches, a sizeable number for a relatively small and inexperienced team competing in a tournament of this calibre and size (160 wrestlers were present). Coach Albert Venditti feels that, "with further work in the area of technique as the season progresses, York will make a more distinct impression at the tournaments which lead to the OUA championships."



Bryon Johnson

GYMNASTS SHOW THEIR DEPTH

York gymnasts, competing at last Saturday's McMaster University Invitational Meet, easily won the team and all-around individual titles, despite the absence of the team's two top performers (Marc Epprecht and Dan Gaudet) and Coach Tom Zivic. They are in Texas, representing Canada at the World Gymnastics Championships.

With these key members out of the picture, the team was able to impressively display its depth. Freshman Frank Nutzenburger took five golds and a silver en route to the all-around individual title, with a score of 54.05. Nutzenburger was followed by Dave Arnold of Seneca (51.40) and Simon Smith from U of T (51.15).

York's Tom Bertrand took the bronze on the rings, while teammate Gaetan Boerbau captured the bronze on the vaulting horse.

In the team competition York led the three team field with a 150.10 score. U of T finished second (144.95), with McMaster (129.90) placing third.

According to York's assistant coach, Maasaki Naosaki, the team performed exceptionally. "We missed our head coach, Tom Zivic, and our two best gymnasts, but we showed a good team spirit and competed well."

The next meet is the annual York Invitational on Friday, Jan. 11 at 7 pm in Tait McKenzie.