

Disappointing finish for York figure skaters at OWIAA finals

by Riccardo Sala

After promising results at Waterloo and Queen's, York's figure skaters were hoping for a possible bronze at the Ontario Women's Interuniversity Athletic Association championships at Western two weekends ago.

Instead, York finished eighth of ten teams.

The hosting Western side took the gold, with Queen's following in second and University of Toronto in third.

"It was very competitive. We didn't skate to our full potential and in the events that we usually score our points in, we had some slips. It just wasn't there," York coach Judy Chantler said.

York's best result of the weekend was veteran Tina van Hinte's third place in the intermediate singles competition.

The level of competition was one thing that the York skaters had not totally expected.

"The University of Ottawa wasn't at the last two meets, and here they showed up with a great team," Chantler said.

Another factor was team size, York being five skaters short of the possible 16 allowed for each side.

In other years, an eighth place

finish for York's figure skaters would have been almost *de rigueur*.

This season, with a fifth place finish at Waterloo and a fourth at Queen's, the Yeowomen felt that finally they were within medal reach at the provincial championships.

One thing York lacked, however, was the consistency to carry those

early positive results through to the championships.

"Some weekends everything is bang on, other weekends nothing is," Chantler mused.

For the Yeowomen, the OWIAA championships were obviously a case of the latter.

York debating competition draws large number to meet

by Riccardo Sala

York's debaters hosted their first-ever meet last weekend, a successful tourney that saw over fifty competitors coming from as far away as Dalhousie University.

The tournament was won by the A team from University of Toronto's Hart House, which won the gold in the final match with a hybrid team from Western calling itself "Hands Across the Water."

Taking the form of a parliamentary debate, the Hart House duo of Jason Brent and Avery Plaw discussed the sensitive issue of the prosecution of war criminals against their Western counterparts of Scott Bohaker and James Rocchi.

This final debate took place Saturday afternoon in the Senate Chamber, presided over by former York star debater Robert Borg.

The top individual speaker was McGill's Jeff Blum.

York debater Audrey Weinburg organized the meet, and was enthusiastic about the possibility of events.

"If we can establish a pattern of successful, well-run tournaments, then we can bid for some of the more prestigious tournaments," Weinburg said.

That would include being able to stage larger meets that run the entire weekend instead of the one-day event that York hosted, Weinburg explained.

The York meet capped off a very successful season for York's debaters, a core group of 20-25 dedicated debaters. One high point was a second place for Borg, in the individual competition at the North American championships held in McGill earlier in the season. York's team placed tenth of 110 entries.



YORK'S ATHLETES OF THE MONTH at a reception in their honour just before reading week. From left, gymnast Rebecca Chambers, Yeowoman athlete for December and January, pole vaulter Doug Wood, Yeoman athlete for January, and Clive Anderson, basketball, Yeoman athlete for December photo by Michele Boesener

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