

Sweet taste of victory soon turns a bit sour

From 1974 to 1978 Laurentian University monopolized the 'Bronze Baby', a trophy awarded annually to the Canadian Women's basketball champions. Prior to that the University of British Columbia owned it from 71 to 73.

Since then the tide has swayed back towards Canada's majestic Rockies.

The University of Victoria, situated at the south end of Vancouver Island, has been home to the 'Baby' the past two years.

But this past weekend in Saskatoon the Victoria Vikettes extended their 'Baby's' stay on the island after polishing off the Bishop's Lady Galters 70-55 to win their third straight championship.

Victoria 70 Bishops 55

For York, the bitter reality of being in their first national competition was a major let down following their Ontario victory the week before.

Winnipeg, finishing third, surprised York with a first round 75-45 victory.

York's loss coupled with Victoria's 81-33 win over Toronto set up yet another confrontation between Ontario's two finalists.

This time the Lady Blues hung tough and came away with a 73-66 victory. York's second loss put them into seventh spot overall in the tournament.

Toronto, playing for fifth, tackled Saskatchewan, who had earlier defeated Laurentian 78-77 after two overtime periods. Toronto won 60-45.

Did York prove to the rest of Canada they belonged at the

Nationals as coach Frances Flint proposed prior to leaving for Saskatoon?

Perhaps not this year. In the future possibly. Flint was unavailable for comment and those Yeowomen approached for questioning would not be quoted by *Excalibur*.

York must take one step at a time in their quest for National recognition. Foremost, York is now a major threat in Ontario but Nationally, they are a few players away.

Mood in perspective

Toronto's Greta Delonghi, still smiling after their unexpected finish out west, put her team's mood in perspective stating: "The win over York didn't replace losing in the Ontario finals," but, "it did give us something more intangible. It proved we belonged here (Nationals)."

"We've just wet our taste buds for next year," Delonghi quips.

—Xavier



York coach Frances Flint

Gaudet rebounds from injury to win Nationals

York gymnasts earn their ninth title

Hard work usually pays off for those who are committed to it.

York's commitment to this philosophy payed off this past weekend as they retained the team title at the National championships held at the University of Manitoba. It was York's ninth straight title.

York 166.00
Toronto 155.65

York, with a combined 166.00 total, finished well ahead of the second place University of Toronto (155.65) and the University of Alberta (149.45).

York's Dan Gaudet (55.85), the all-round gymnast over the past two years at the Nationals, rebounded from an injury to retain his crown. Teammates Frank Nutzenberger (Ontario all-round winner—55.45) and Rob Wild (54.65) followed with Toronto's Dan Fedder (53.40) finishing fourth.

Reaped his harvest

In the individual competition Gaudet accumulated three gold medals on floor, rings and parallel bars with an additional second on high bar and third on pommels.

Nutzenberger, undaunted by Gaudet's performance, reaped his own harvest of silver medals on rings, vault and parallel bars plus adding a gold on high bar.

Wild picked up a gold on vault and two silver medals on pommels and floor exercise.



File photo: Brian Johnson

Up on top—York's Rob Wild (seen here on the pommel horse) finished third in the Individual All-Round competition at the Canadian University Championships set in Manitoba. Wild finished behind teammates Danny Gaudet and Frank Nutzenberger. All three gymnasts were selected to the All-Canadian team. Wild finished the meet with a 54.65 total.

Gaudet, Nutzenberger and Wild were also named to the All-Canadian team as were Toronto's Dan Fedder, Doran Kernerman and Alberta's Reeve Martin.

For the second consecutive year York's Masaaki Naosaki was chosen Coach of the Year.

—Xavier

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