



SPORTS



"Sins" haunt teams at CIAU's

by Riccardo Sala

"Our sins came back to haunt us."

Marina van der Merwe, coach of the field hockey Yeowomen said that, half seriously. She was referring to the CIAU championships in Edmonton.

At the tournament, York was walloped by the University of Victoria squad 5-0 in the third game. This is ironic considering that eight of the 11 players on the Victoria team are members of either the national junior or senior world cup teams and that van der Merwe is a coach on the national team.

The University of Victoria team itself was a victim of a sin later. Last year's national champs, Victoria was winning 3-0 against the University of British

Columbia in a preliminary game.

"U-Vic let up because they (Victoria and UBC) are country cousins. If they had kept their big scorers on and had one more goal, then with 4-0 they would have eliminated UBC (from the finals) through goal differential," van der Merwe noted.

Victoria advanced to the gold medal match as expected. Their opponent was UBC, an unexpected finalist in view of the less than illustrious season they had.

"They (UBC) played a very defensive game," van der Merwe said, "went to overtime and lost in penalty stroke competition."

The favoured Victoria squad wound

up with the silver while Johnny-come-lately UBC ended up with the CIAU title.

York's road to the bronze medal was less cruel. On Friday they defeated host team University of Alberta 1-0 with a goal by Tammy Holt.

Later, they suffered at the hands of hometown rivals UofT. Liz Hoffmann's team, losers to York during the regular season, came out on top in this one with a 2-1 victory. Joel Brough scored for the Yeowomen.

York's 5-0 walloping by Victoria came next. Nonetheless, the Yeowomen made it to the medal round.

On Sunday York met UofT again to decide third spot in the nation. Tammy

Holt's lone goal decided the game and the bronze medal for York.

Individual honours also made their way to the Yeowomen. Before the tournament, the CIAU first and second team all-stars were chosen.

Yeowomen Joel Brough and Tammy Holt were chosen for the first team while teammates Karen Hewlett and Veronica Planella were chosen for the second.

After the finals players were chosen from the CIAU Tournament 11 for 1990. Players (11 in all) were selected from each of the six teams there and Joel Brough was one, adding to her already impressive honours.

Lady Blues wreak revenge on York in soccer finals

by Josh Rubin

For the second year in a row, the Yeowomen soccer squad has been bounced out of the playoffs after a strong regular season.

At the OWIAA tournament in Ottawa last weekend, the Yeowomen were surprised 2-0 by a strong UofT team whom they had already beaten twice in the regular season.

After a scoreless first half, UofT got the first goal of the game early in the second, forcing the Yeowomen to play catch up the rest of the way.

Pressing for an equalizer late in the game, the Yeowomen were stretched out and gave up UofT's second goal of the game.

A disappointed David Bell said afterwards that his team was simply surprised by the strength of the UofT side.

"Their level of play was so much higher than anything we'd seen before," Bell said, "We adjusted, but not enough."

After dropping the semi-final to the Lady Blues, the Yeowomen were forced to battle for a consolation prize in a bronze medal matchup with Guelph.

Against the Gryphons, the Yeowomen dominated throughout, but still only managed a 1-0 win.

After the weekend's action, David Bell lashed out at an OWIAA playoff system which has seen both division winners knocked out before the finals for two years in a row.

This season it was a battle of two third place finishers as UofT defeated Laurier 2-0 for the gold.

Bell is happy that next year, the number one team in both the West and East divisions will no longer have to face a two week layoff before playing in the semi-finals.

According to Bell, the top four teams from each division will likely take part, thus eliminating the bye created by the present six team format.

However, Bell may not be around to see the new system in place: "I just haven't confirmed that I'll be here next year. It's a matter of time commitment."



A. Clive Cohen

Hockey Yeomen bat .500 on trip to la belle province

by Josh Rubin

It was a grim Yeomen hockey team that pulled into Montreal last Saturday.

The Yeomen had been treated to an 8-4 shellacking by the Trois Rivieres Patriotes the night before and were anxious to get their first win of the season after a pair of lopsided losses.

York coach Graham Wise left no doubt in his players' minds about the way to approach the McGill Redmen. "We have to win," was the overwhelming sentiment of the day.

Though the Yeomen looked tired after Friday night's tough loss, they still took care of the eager but outclassed Redmen, 4-1.

Against McGill, the Yeomen actually looked like they had their heads in the game for most of the three periods, something which had been sorely lacking against Trois Rivieres and in their season opening loss to Laurier.

As York captain Mike Futa put it after the Yeomen got the no-win monkey off their back: "[This team has] the type of talent which is successful only when we work hard. We have to mentally prepare ourselves to play for 60 minutes."

Friday, the Yeomen got off to a shocking 3-0 lead midway through the opening frame. But true to form, the explosive

Patriotes offence got Trois Rivieres back in the game and had tied it up by the end of the first.

Most fans would have expected the Yeomen to wake up by the second period, but stupid penalties and some questionable officiating allowed the vaunted Patriotes power-play to go to work.

And go to work is what they did, helping the Trois Rivieres side get four goals in just under five minutes. The second period outburst proved to be the Yeomen's downfall, as they could only manage a paltry few shots in the final twenty minutes.

Afterwards, Trois Rivieres coach Dany Dube echoed the comments of Laurier's Wayne Gowing two weeks ago: "They are absolutely a better team than what you saw tonight. Graham is an excellent coach, and they'll be there all season long."

Asked about the work of Friday night's referee, Dube grinned broadly and added "It is not the place of a coach to comment on the officiating."

The Yeomen have their chance to get back at the Patriotes when the Trois Rivieres squad comes to town this February. More immediately, though, the Yeomen host Laurentian Thursday night and meet the visiting RMC Redmen this Saturday.



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