

York gymnasts shine at Calgary

Gold medal finish for men

By KATARINA GULEJ

The Yeomen gymnastics team captured its 15th gold title win at the Canadian Cup in Calgary March 10 and 11.

From the beginning of the meet, it was evident that the majority of the competition would come from York University, University of Saskatchewan and University of Calgary. Coaches and spectators alike expected the University of Saskatchewan to win due to their considerable amount of experience and two National team gymnasts being part of the team.

However, the Yeomen proved

them wrong.

"Our strength was counted in our depth," explained York head coach Tom Zivic. He explained that York had enough strong gymnasts to produce three solid scores that would count for the team's points. This was evidenced by York's J.P. Kramer, who captured the third all-round title.

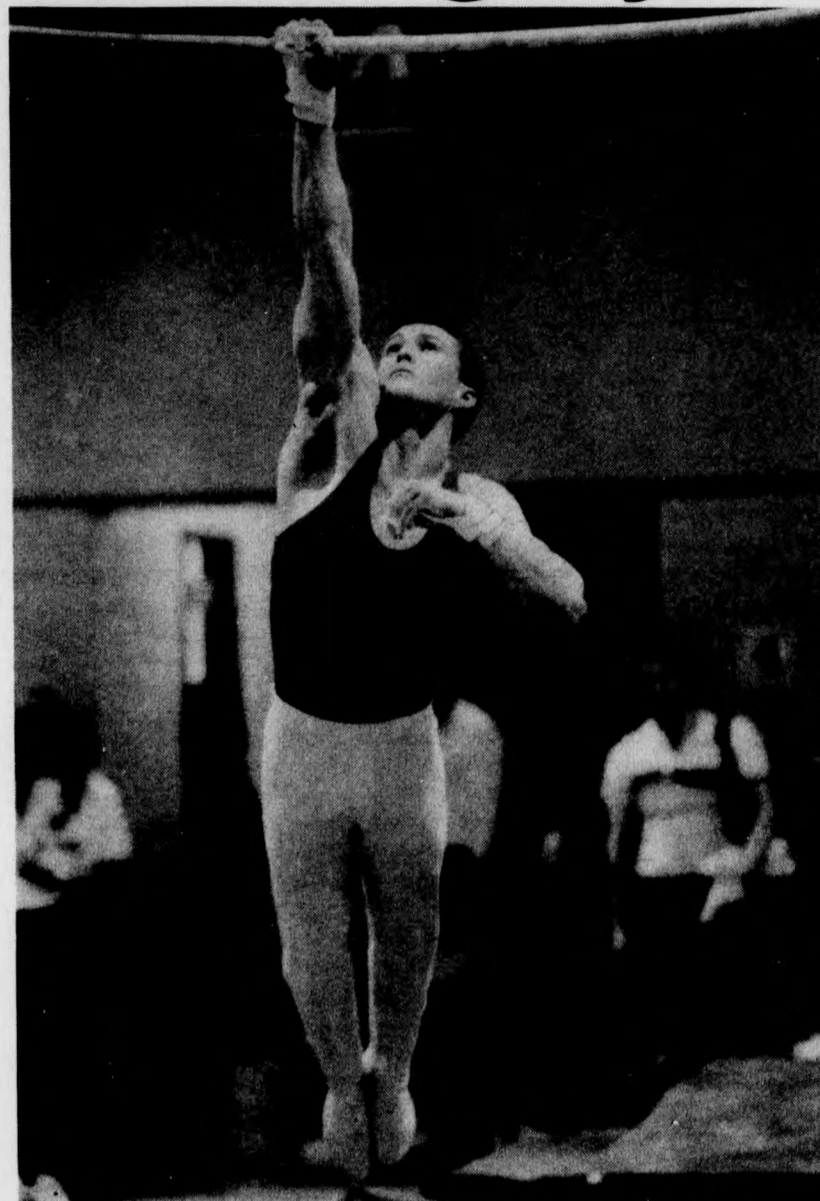
Close behind was Richard Smith with a fourth all-round and John Ecclestone the fifth all round.

Zivic went on to explain that most of the gymnasts aside from J.P. Kramer did not compete to their potential. With each member com-

peting at their best, York could have been five points ahead of University of Saskatchewan, instead of eeking out a mere three-point margin over Saskatchewan.

Zivic received the honorary award of "coach of the year" for his 20 years as national level coach at York. Zivic has been coaching for 35 years in total and prior to coaching, he himself was a national gymnast in the his home country, Yugoslavia.

For the future, Zivic wishes to recruit the best male gymnasts from across Canada in order to build a strong young team, and maintain national level gymnastics at York.



GOLD MEDAL SWING: York's John Ecclestone.

Women edged out of medals

By KATARINA GULEJ

The Yeowomen gymnasts came home from Calgary with a fourth place finish in the National University Gymnastics Cup, a mere .27 points behind the 3rd place team.

"Considering the injuries we did well. We expected to do better but we are still pleased," explained head coach Natasa Bajin. "Next year we will work towards first or second," she added. These goals are not unrealistic since McMaster, a team York usually beats, won the second place title.

Unfortunately five out of York's six gymnasts had sustained injuries

before or during the meet. Valuable team member Allyson Gropp sprained her ankle during warm-ups and was only able to compete on bars, having to land her dismount on one foot. Veteran Karen Pringle broke her finger on bars regripping her eagle. Evidently, some of the gymnasts spent more time at the hospital than at the competition.

This was not the case for all of the Yeowomen. Powerful York competitor Risa Litwin placed on all four events in the finals. Litwin won the gold medal on floor exercises and came fourth all-round.

My first day was my best perfor-

mance of the year. Then, in the finals I blew three events and put the rest of my energy into floor and won it," explained Litwin.

Overall, Bajin was happy and positive about the year's outcome. For next year she is expecting to keep 10 gymnasts and recruit a few more. The team is losing two extremely dedicated and excellent gymnasts — Anita Ganguly and Karen Pringle.

"The young team is really enthusiastic and likes to learn," commented Bajin. "It is qualities such as these that make a coach's job so pleasurable and rewarding for coming back year after year."



ANDRE SOUROLION



BABAK AMIRFEIZ

AS THE YORK YEOWOMEN AND YEOMEN CONCLUDE YET ANOTHER HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL YEAR, LET ME PLEASE SAY BOTH HOW MUCH THEY VALUE AND APPRECIATE, AS DO I, THE ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT OF THE YORK FAN.

THANK YOU, FANS!
IT WAS TERRIFIC!

YORK UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

