

# SPORTS

## Yeomen oust Blues in hard-fought semi-final series

By EDO VAN BELKOM

With the first and third largest Canadian universities within the boundaries of Metro Toronto, home ice advantage for a playoff series doesn't mean very much.

The York Yeomen eliminated the U of T Blues two games to one in their best of three semi-final series, winning both their games at Varsity Arena while the Blues won their game at the Ice Palace.

The series was a close, hard fought and often chippy affair with neither team winning by more than a single goal margin. York took the first game in overtime by a score of 2-1, while the second game, also in overtime, was won by the Blues by a 4-3 score. The final game, held at Varsity arena last Tuesday night, was won by York, 2-1 in regulation time.

Before the series began many critics were predicting a rough and physical series, buoyed by Toronto's 6-0 drubbing of York in the last meeting of the two teams in the regular season. It was also expected to be rough because of the inherent dislike the two teams and schools have for each other. Although there were some sensational body checks throughout the series, the most noticeable altercations occurred with sticks. York was hurt in the series by stick infractions which resulted in penalties. Defenceman Bob Nicholson, although not the only responsible party on the York team, explained it by saying, "I've been pretty cool all year long but I just got caught up in the heat of the action."

Yeomen head coach Dave Chambers was also concerned about the number of penalties, "we can't take the penalties much longer if the guys still insist on using their sticks."

But when the penalties came, York's penalty killing units were ready especially in the first and final game where they blanked the Blues on seven and nine power play chances respectively. It was only in the second game at York that the Blues clicked, scoring three goals in eight attempts, two of the goals coming during a five minute major penalty.

The first game, February 28 at Varsity was played before a good crowd, but penalties slowed the rhythm of the game. Greg Rolston got York on the board first with a goal at 7:55 of the first period. Don McLaughlin evened the score for the

Blues in the second and tied at one was how it remained through regulation time.

Greg Rolston pulled out the win at 5:20 of the first overtime period. The goal also won Rolston player of the game honors. Rolston was the Yeomen's leading goal scorer all year and is continuing to produce, with the help of linemates Brad Ramsden and Rick Morrocco.

The second game played in front of an estimated 1,500 fans split almost evenly between York and Toronto.

George Spezza scored first for York only four minutes into the game, but it would be the only lead the Yeomen would have in the game as penalty trouble began to hurt them. Mike Millotte evened the Blues at one on the power play and with Brad Ramsden off five minutes with a slashing major, Don McLaughlin and Jim Byrne scored a pair of goals for U of T putting the Blues up 3-1 on three power play goals.

Joe Pacobene narrowed the margin to one with less than a minute to go in the period, while York was on the power play with a two man advantage.

Bill Maguire even things up in the third with an even strength goal. The Yeomen had a number of chances to put the game and the series away, but two goal posts is as close as he came and the game went into overtime.

It took over 11 minutes of overtime before freshman Mike Kalapaca iced the game for the Blues with anything but a picture perfect goal. The puck was shot off the boards six feet wide of the net. Yeomen goaltender Scott Mosey dove for the bouncing puck, misjudged the bounce and left the net wide open for Kalapaca.

"I was told to cover everything in my reach," Mosey said. "I just misjudged it, if I had those five seconds back we wouldn't have had to play on Tuesday night."

Nicholson felt the game brought the Yeomen down. "It was a big let down," he said. "We felt we could have put the game away two or three times earlier. You hate to lose in overtime especially on a goal like that."

But if the Yeomen felt a let down by the loss they didn't show it in the final game Tuesday night. York



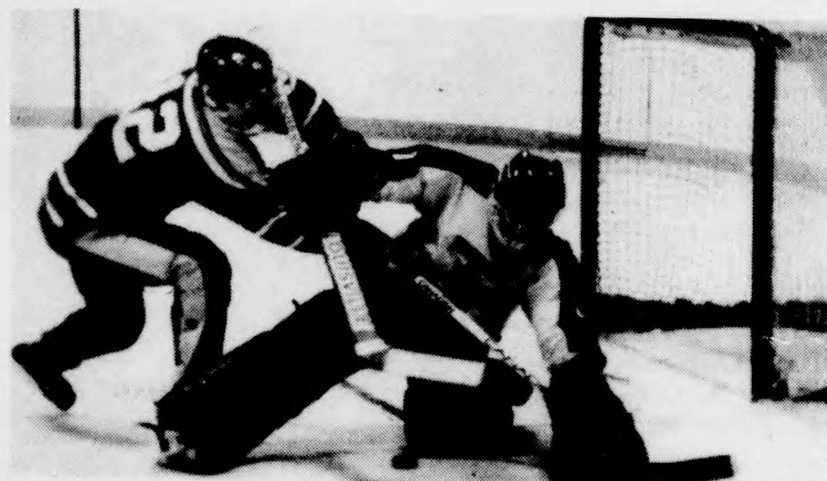
**SLIP SLIDING AWAY:** While York goalie Mark Applewhaite makes a sliding save Phil Drouillard of the Blues flies in for a closer look.

seemed eager to play and at time a bit too eager as they got into penalty trouble early. York's penalty killing teams kept the Blues off the boards, allowing them to move the puck around the perimeter but not allowing any decent scoring opportunities. Goaltender for York in the third game, Mark Applewhaite said that even though they didn't shoot much the moving back and forth across the net "really tires you out."

U of T scored first on an even strength goal by Scott Bullock. Bullock's shot, from the blueline was deflected by a defender and floated by Applewhaite's arm and into the net. "It was a real knuckleball. When it hit the stick I froze and then it dipped, I moved but it was too late," said Applewhaite, a 21 year old third year student.

York took the lead in the second on goals by Mike James and Greg Rolston, his second game winning goal of the series.

What turned around the fortunes of the Yeomen in the final game is the toned down approach the team took in the second period. Chambers said that during the intermission in the dressing room, "it was the most



**LEFT HAND ON BLUE:** An impromptu game of Twister broke out at Tuesday's Blues-Yeomen game. Here U of T goalie Kevin Hamlin goes for the blue with Brad Ramsden running interference.

angry I've ever got since I've been here," he said. "I told them that we're gonna lose if we keep playing like that."

York did calm down, though skirmishes kept on in the stands, and treated the crowd of 4,186 to an excellent brand of university hockey at its best.

With the Blues determined for the second year in a row, York goes on

the road to take on the Laurier Golden Hawks in Waterloo.

Blues coach Paul Titanic says York's chances are good against Laurier "if York can play a more disciplined style of hockey, they can beat Laurier," he said.

York plays tonight in Laurier and will be back at the Ice Palace on Saturday night for the possible final game for the OUA.

## York hoopsters' hopes dribble away in first home court loss in eight years

By GARY SCHOLICH

For the first time since Feb. 4, 1978 (against Laurentian) the York basketball Yeomen absorbed a loss on their home court, dropping a 74-58 decision to the Waterloo Warriors.

The defeat occurred in the OUA title game, Tuesday night at Tait. Although the building was filled to capacity, Waterloo coach Don McCrae felt that it was a 50-50 split between the York and Waterloo supporters.

With Tim Rider lost for the season due to injury, the Yeomen still captured their ninth consecutive OUA East Division title over the weekend.

After routing the Queen's Golden Gaels 112-52 on Friday night, the Yeomen held off a fierce challenge by the Toronto Blues in Saturday night's final to post a 67-63 victory. Toronto, buoyed by an 84-81 double-overtime victory over Laurentian, held a 59-54 lead before York rallied to ice the game.

York coach Bob Bain said, "It was a gutsy performance. We showed a

lot of character. We hung in there even though we went awfully cold. Their 3-2 zone really hurt us but Jeff (McDermid) and Mike (Sherwood) hit their shots and it seemed to get us going."

Although the Blues had come close to winning the conference title in York's gym, there were positive feelings among the players. U of T forward Mark Harvey said, "We really feel good about it. We showed a lot of guts."

He also said, "We had built a lot of character during the season, especially with our double-overtime wins over American University (a Division I school in the US) and Laurentian." At one point, Toronto was down 60-39 to the Voyageurs.

Whereas York had lost Rider, the winner of the LeBel Trophy as the OUA East MVP, Waterloo was bolstered by the return of 7'0" centre Randy Norris. The Sarnia native had missed a large portion of the regular season due to knee problems.

With solid fan support, the Warriors took control for the game by taking a 37-28 halftime lead. Includ-

ing fast break baskets, Waterloo had a 16-10 point advantage inside the key. As well, strong team defense was established as the Warriors boarded well, blocked shots, and stole the ball.

Peter Savich, the OUA West MVP, led the Waterloo attack with 13 points at the half, eight of them from the perimeter. For the Yeomen, Stu Levinsky led with 10 points.

The Yeomen cut the deficit to six at 39-33, when Norris performed his second half heroics. He scored 12 of his 16 points on the night to solidify the Warrior advantage. For his performance, Norris won the Kitch McPherson Trophy as the game's Most Valuable Player.

"Waterloo was the toughest team we played all year defensively," said Bob Bain. "Give Waterloo credit. They kept switching their zones, and we really didn't handle it. We played as hard as we could and tried everything." Waterloo also broke the York press very well.

McCrae said that losing a top player can be painful to a team's



**UP, UP AND AWAY:** Yeomen Mark Jones admires layup attempt in York's 74-58 loss to the Warriors Tuesday night.