

## Mosher's "dream team" to defend volleyball title

Core of last year's league championship team is back to anchor drive for third straight OWIAA crown

By ELISSA FREEMAN

It comes as no surprise that Merv Mosher is walking around campus with a big smile on his face these days.

As coach of the Yeowomen volleyball team, Mosher has good reason to be in high spirits. His starting line-up is chock-full of high caliber veterans and returnees who could very well spike their way to extremely lofty heights.

Mosher guided a rookie-laden team to an unexpected second straight Ontario Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Association (OWIAA) title last year. However, the squad lacked the depth and experience it needed to carry their success to the national level.

A great deal of the Yeowomen's success will depend on Donna Kastelic. The third-year player was a defensive specialist with the National team last year. As a starter with the Yeowomen, Kastelic will resume her position in the front row. "Donna is one of the strongest front row people in Ontario, maybe in Canada," said Mosher.

Gina Thompson is another returnee who used the 1982-83 season to work for the Ontario Volleyball Association's *Volleyvan*, which promoted the sport in schools around Ontario. The three-year veteran will add punch to the front row as a power hitter.

The responsibility of setting the ball will belong to the 1982 All-Canadian, Marla Taylor, who is in her final year of eligibility. Although she concentrated solely on her duty as assistant coach last year, Taylor will split her time between the two positions for the coming season.

Joining Thompson in the power-hitting department will be fourth-year Yeowomen Trish Barnes. Mosher relied on Barnes' leadership to carry the youthful team through the difficult periods last year. "Now the girls will be able to carry more of the load, which should make things a lot easier on her," added Mosher.

Another familiar face is that of Jill Graham, a third-year player. Known for her deceptive tipping skills at the net, Graham will fill the position of middle blocker and hitter.

As a setter, Nancy Watson "did a tremendous job last year and can only get better," Mosher remarked. However, the veteran of three years had both ankles operated on in the summer and is just now getting back into shape.

Although the aforementioned players constitute York's starting line-up, Mosher said the reserve players are equally

talented.

Wendy Hille, Kristin Fawcett, and Jackie Mills are all high-calibre second-year players who will be used for specific situations, said Mosher. Whereas Mills is an all-round substitute, Hille will take on a defensive role. The 175 cm Fawcett is a front court specialist who will be counted on for making key blocks.

The only newcomer is Terry Green who hails from Cedarbrae C.I. Chosen from 15 other hopefuls for her all-round skills and volleyball experience, Mosher considers Green as "a player for the future."

Because of their wide range of talent, Mosher predicts the Yeowomen will place in the top three in the 1983 national rankings. Though he considers this fact somewhat "unfortunate,"

"Rankings don't really help. Sure there is the prestige but status never gets you points on the floor. What often happens when players think they're number one is that they also have a tendency to work less."

Mosher is taking nothing for granted. Despite the bumper crop of players he has to work with, he is being subtly optimistic.

"This is basically the team that finished third at the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union (CIAU) two years ago and we want to improve upon that position. But to do that we must win the Ontario."

## Waterpolo Yeomen riding undefeated OUAA record

By MARK ZWOLINSKI

The Waterpolo Yeomen extended their undefeated streak to four games after stringing together 15-7 and 11-9 wins over the Waterloo Warriors and the McMaster Marauders this past weekend at Western.

The wins tighten York's position atop the Ontario University Athletic Association OUAA east division with a perfect 4-0 record thus far.

York rang off seven straight goals by the half in the Waterloo game before settling down for an easy 15-7 victory.

Grad student Stefan Micallef ripped the mesh with seven goals while Joe Skelly and Derek Weyrauch netted three apiece. Motic Fishman and David Lai rounded the scoring out for York.

McMaster, OUAA champions 12 times in the last 13 years, jumped on the Yeomen in game two. They notched a pair of quick goals in the opening minutes of the match before Micallef evened the score with a pair of goals by the end of the quarter.

The lead changed hands twice in the second half quarter. Micallef completed his hat-trick, edging York ahead 3-2 before McMaster erased it with two quick goals to go ahead 4-3. Joe Skelly deadlocked the score at 4-4 before the half.

The Yeomen lead four times in the third quarter with three goals from Weyrauch and one from Fishman, but McMaster came back to tie the score at 8-8 after three quarters.

McMaster went ahead 9-8 with just over 2½ minutes remaining in the game, but Micallef, with his fourth goal of the game and 11th on the day, tied it up 15 seconds later.

Weyrauch pulled the game out for York, plugging two goals in the remaining 90 seconds off Motic Fishman feeds to ice the game for York.

OUAA all-star goaltender Bryan Robertson anchored York's victory, stoning Marauders shooters on two penalty shots while team captain Stu Howard played an outstanding game on defence.

"It was one of our finest hours in OUAA waterpolo," said coach Kevin Jones. "It was a complete team effort."

The Yeomen have McMaster back for a rematch this Saturday at 12 noon before going against their arch rivals U of T at 2 p.m. All games are at the Tait pool.



Photo: MARIO SCATOLONI

## One more hurdle for Rugby Yeomen

By MARK ZWOLINSKI

The York rugby Yeomen face a must win situation going into this weekend's match-up with the Guelph Gryphons.

But "do or die" is nothing new to them.

Coupling last week's 25-8 win over Laurier with a 6-6 draw against McMaster this past weekend, the Yeomen are tied for second spot in the Ontario University Athletic Association (OUAA) league standings with a 5-2-1 record.

Any number of possibilities can result from

this weekend's games in the OUAA which leaves as many as five teams fighting for second and final playoff spot.

The Waterloo Warriors are in first place and have definitely clinched a playoff berth. They'll take on McMaster this weekend. The Marauders also face a "do or die" situation.

Western and U of T square off and both teams are looking for victories to gain post season berths. If York loses Saturday there'll be a real scramble for the final two points in the won-lost column which should decide who will

meet the Warriors.

York can simplify the whole thing with a win against the 4-3-1 Gryphons.

"We've been in this position all year long," said coach Mike Dinning. "We simply have to win if we want to continue playing."

"Guelph will be tough, no doubt," he added. "They've always been strong in the forwards, but we've been playing pretty well as of late and the players are fired up for this one."

The "do or die" match goes this Saturday at 2 p.m. at Guelph.

## Fast start ices Yeomen

By CRAIG DANIELS

The Laurier Golden Hawks flew out of the gate at a much faster pace than the hockey Yeomen, clipping York 4-1 in the Ontario University Athletic Association (OUAA) season opener in Waterloo last Wednesday.

After slipping to a quick 2-0 deficit, York's Ken Norris collected his first goal of the season to bring the Yeomen to within one before the end of the first period. Both teams grinded their way through the second and third periods in a tight-checking fashion. Then with three minutes left in the game, Laurier managed to take advantage of a power-play, putting their third goal of the night past York netminder Jim Chambers. Seconds later the Golden Hawks scored again and skated away with a 4-1 victory.

"Overall I was pleased with the effort—we played well enough to win," said York coach

Bob Hedley. "Of course I would have preferred the victory but I saw some good things—we're going to take our share of games."

"You also have to keep in mind that Laurier were the Ontario Champions last year," Hedley said. "They don't give you a lot. They're not a flashy skating team. They have good goalkeeping and they play a steady checking game, minimizing their mistakes—so it's a matter of capitalizing when you have the chance."

"One of the goals we set as a team this year was to keep the opposition under three goals a game and score four or more ourselves. Obviously we didn't do that this time, but it will come if we work as hard as we did against Laurier," he said.

Chambers faced 30 shots on goal and played a strong game for York. Leftwinger Rick Simpson also had a good game for the Yeomen.



Earthball: a crunching experience