

Excalibur's sports report card

by Josh Rubin

It's time for that (almost) annual *Excalibur* favourite that tries, not too objectively, to measure the successes and failures of York's varsity teams: the Sport York report card.

BADMINTON

Yeomen: Despite having player/coach Eddie Watt, who only lost two matches all year, the Yeomen finished out of the playoffs by one win. Still, this represents a vast improvement for a team that used to be the doormats of the OUAA. Effort: **A** Results: **C** Composite: **B**

Yeowomen: With top seed Sharon Johnston tied for third in OWIAA singles, the Yeowomen took sixth spot in the standings. Not too bad for a team that's only in its third year of existence. However, the team only improved upon last year's win total by two, to 28. Effort: **B** Results: **C** Composite: **C+**

BASKETBALL

Yeowomen: Call them hard luck and you wouldn't be unfair to this year's basketball Yeowomen. Hampered by injuries to several key players, they managed a lacklustre 6-6 record in the regular season. Effort: **B** Results: **C** Composite: **C+**

Yeomen: Having a team where the only non-rookies are a pair of second year players showed in this team's final record of 4-14. But look for a strong season next year, with returning scoring leader Mark Bellai. Effort: **B** Results: **D** Composite: **C**

FIELD HOCKEY

Coach Marina van der Merwe, who doubles as the coach of Canada's national squad, led a solid mix of veterans and rookies all the way to the national finals, where they lost to the heavily favoured University of Victoria. Effort: **A** Results: **B+** Composite: **A-**

FOOTBALL

A sceptic could be forgiven for wondering where a bright spot could possibly be found in a team that has gone two straight seasons without a win. But, as always, the Yeomen's season was highlighted by their game against arch-rivals UofT. Departing Coach Nobby Wirkowski gets an A for patience. Effort: **B-** Results: **F** Composite: **D+**

GYMNASTICS

Yeomen: Without a doubt, the Yeomen are the cream of university gymnastics in Canada, and should be for some years to come with the help of coaches Tom Zivic and Masaaki Naosaki. Fifteen CIAU championships in 16 years is incredible, no matter which way you slice it. Effort: **A** Results: **A** Composite: **A+**

Yeowomen: The loss of star Risa Litwin for the CIAU meet (where the team finished sixth) hurt the team, but an OWIAA championship is still pretty damn good. Effort: **A** Results: **B** Composite: **B+**

HOCKEY

Yeowomen: The Yeowomen were eliminated from the playoffs in their last game, but some good rookies and OWIAA all-star defender Marni Barrow provided some bright spots. Effort: **B** Results: **C** Composite: **C+**

Yeomen: Two CIAU titles in a row is a hard act to follow, as Graham Wise and his troops found out this year. But despite sleepwalking through most of their post-winter-break games, the Yeomen were only 60 minutes short of making it to the national tournament. Effort: **C** Results: **B** Composite: **C+**

RUGBY

With three of their teammates (captain Drew McPherson, Andrew Saunders and John Hutchenson) named as OUAA all-stars, the Yeomen were disappointed with the team's record. Despite hanging tough in all of their games, they finished the season at 2-4-1. Effort: **B** Results: **C** Composite: **C**

SOCCER

Yeowomen: After a heady start which included a win over last year's national champions, the Yeowomen hit a rut, bowing out to Laurier in the provincial quarter-finals. Coach David Bell gets an A in boosting his team, but an F in diplomacy. Effort: **B** Results: **C+** Composite: **B-**

Yeomen: Dumped by UofT in the provincial playoffs, the Yeomen still managed a third place finish in league play. Effort: **B** Results: **B-** Composite: **B**

SQUASH

Yeomen: The Yeomen managed to qualify for the eight team OUAA championship tournament — no small potatoes for a squad made up of 50 per cent rookies. Effort: **B-** Results: **B-** Composite: **B-**

Yeowomen: The Yeowomen, a small team (six players compared to the Yeomen's eight), had a disappointing season, finishing eighth in the nine team OWIAA. Effort: **B-** Results: **D** Composite: **C**

SWIMMING

Both the men's and women's teams finished higher in league play this year than last. Also, six York records were set. Effort: **B** Results: **C** Composite: **C+**

SYNCHRO SWIMMING

A young team, the Yeowomen pulled together to finish third in the OWIAA. Effort: **B** Results: **B** Composite: **B**

TENNIS

Yeomen: The risk with a one tournament schedule is that a team can have an off-day and ruin their season. That's what happened to the Yeomen, a team that was expected to challenge for the OUAA title. Effort: **B** Results: **C** Composite: **C+**

Yeowomen: The injury-plagued Yeowomen still managed to come in sixth in OWIAA league play. Effort: **B-** Results: **C** Composite: **C+**

TRACK AND FIELD

Yeomen: As part of one of the strongest track and field programmes in the country, the Yeomen captured a third place finish in the CIAU meet. Led by pole vaulter Kevin Lake and 300m runner Vagner Castilho, seven Yeomen were also named to the CIAU all-star team. Effort: **A** Results: **B** Composite: **B+**

Yeowomen: Coach Sue Summers has outdone herself with this year's Yeowomen as a CIAU championship and a provincial title were among their victories. Nicole Sinn, one of six all-Canadians on the squad, was also named outstanding female performer at the national meet. Effort: **A+** Results: **A+** Composite: **A+**

VOLLEYBALL

Yeowomen: Ranked no higher than sixth in Canada all year, the Yeowomen stunned the opposition at the CIAU tournament to take the bronze. Effort: **A** Results: **B** Composite: **B+**

Yeomen: The rebuilding Yeomen managed to get as far as the OUAA final before bowing out to Queen's. Effort: **B** Results: **C-** Composite: **C+**

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