

SPORTS

York wrestlers pin down the CIAU National title

By JACOB KATSMAN

The Yeomen Wrestling team have finally quenched their five year thirst for the National title.

York wrestlers captured four gold and three silver medals en route to winning the 1989 CIAU championships held last weekend at the Tait McKenzie Gym.

York accumulated 31 team points to beat out Concordia's (26 points) who have dominated the CIAU's for the last five years. McMaster finished third with 23 points.

York's gold medalists were Rich Hart, Paul Hughes, Courtney Lewis and John Matile. Curtis Wilson, Stan Tzogas, and John Cho took

silver. Mike Campetelli and Gord Johnson also contributed to the team's score with 4th place showings.

York's 3rd year veteran, Paul Hughes got the Yeomen rolling with 5-1 win over the defending CIAU champion, McMaster's Tony Bellavia. Hughes, an alternate for the Seoul Olympics, used his international experience to outmanoeuvre Bellavia who looked stiff in comparison to Hughes reactions.

"We knew on paper that no team was going to beat us," said Lewis. "The only thing left for us was to go out and do it." Lewis earned his gold medal in a close 4-3 victory over Alberta's Wayne Didduck.

In the most convincing win of the championship, York's Rich Hart dethroned Alberta's Pascal Bonnet, the number one seed in the 51 kg class.

"I wanted to wrestle my match," said Hart. Hart hip-threw Bonnet into the mat three times to score a 15-4 victory.

Yeoman John Matile also scored a solid win over Mt. Allison's Bill Budd. Matile, who also won gold at the OUAA's in his first year with the Yeomen after transferring from University of Calgary.

Matile explained his decision to come to York.

"I had a choice between York and Concordia," said Matile. "I came to York because John Park offered me sparring partners in my own weight category. I had also heard that park was a good coach, and that was a big factor in my decision."

Matile isn't the only one who praises Park's effort. All the Yeoman wrestlers awarded laurels to Parks, who in five years has built York's wrestling program to national standards. Park was recently named OUAA Coach of the year and has been voted the most outstanding coach at the CIAU's.

We set our sights on the championship in the beginning of the year. And this year we had a good enough team to win," said Park. "I was very pleased with the large crowd support and the media coverage we've received. I guess it goes to show that if you're doing something right, people appreciate it."

Aside from turning York's wrestling program around competitively, Park has created an atmosphere of

sportsmanship and brotherhood on the team. This feeling was best described by Curtis Wilson, a 20 year old wrestler from Martin Grove High School. "It does not matter whether you win or lose, you still get a pat on the back," said Wilson. "Everybody is really together; there is a great sense of unity."

The university wrestling season may be over, but York's Twist'n-Shout Wrestling Club has only taken

its first steps towards national recognition.

Young hopefuls like Courtney Lewis, Paul Hughes, and Rich Hart have their eye set on the 1992 Barcelona Olympic games. Park, who is also coach of the Canadian National Team, believes York wrestlers have risen into national contention.

"All the Yeomen who won gold at the CIAU's have a good shot at the national team," said Park.

Yeowomen's season over

By RANDY UGOLINI

After climbing to third place in the OUAA East and gaining a birth into the provincial finals, the Yeowomen basketball team's season has finally come to an end.

The Yeowomen were forced to content themselves with the consolation championship after losing to Western in the provincial championships at Laurier last weekend.

With eight teams entered (four from each division), the Yeowomen had to win their first game in order to remain in contention for the provincial championship. However, in their opening game they dropped a 49-46 heartbreaker to Western, thus relegating them to the consolation round.

After the tournament, York head coach Bill Pangos stressed the importance of beginning the tournament with a win.

"Having a 2-1 record at the OUAA's is nice, but being an eight-team tournament, we needed to win our first game against Western in

order to have a shot at the championships," explained Pangos.

Tammy Naughton and Sue Deryck shone against Western with 12 and 10 points respectively.

The Yeowomen rebounded from the Western loss and returned on Saturday to down the Laurier Golden Hawks by a 53-46 margin. Veteran guard Michelle Sund led the Yeowomen with 17 points while Deryck continued to dominate the boards, sinking 13 points.

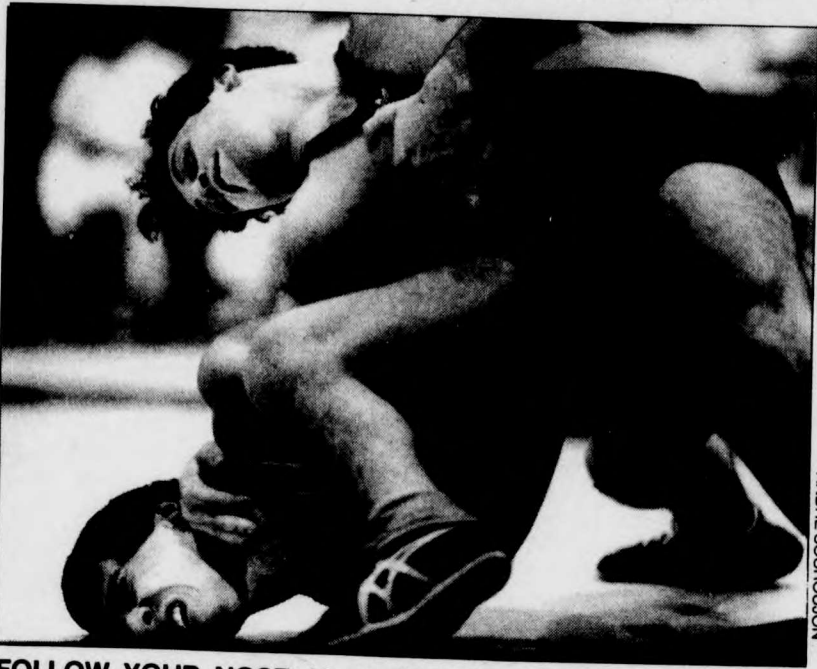
In their final game, York eked out a 68-67 decision over the lack-lustre Ottawa Gee-Gees to nab the consolation championship. Sund maintained her offensive consistency, netting a team-high 24 points.

Naughton followed close behind with 19.

U of T and Laurentian finished in the top two, thus gaining berths into the CIAU championships at Laurentian later this month.

Yeowoman rookie Cathy Amara

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FOLLOW YOUR NOSE: York's "Twist'n'Shout" wrestlers reigned supreme at the CIAU championship last weekend.

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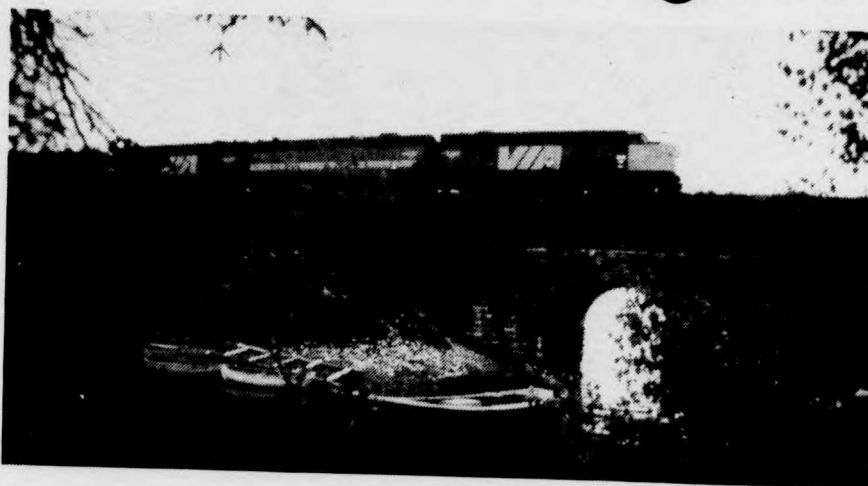
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