

Individual Award Winners

EDITH CHOW: Female OUA MVP, OUA All-Star

In her fourth year on the team and third as captain, Edith Chow had yet another tremendous season. She earned the OUA's female MVP award for the third consecutive year, and was named an all-star for the fourth time. With her combination of skill and athleticism, Edith once again dominated on court. She finished the season with a 27-1 record and was undefeated in the number one singles spot for the year. As captain, Edith's poise and focus on court set an example for the rest of the team. During her time at U of T, Edith was the player the rest of the team depended on and she never gave anything but an outstanding performance. With Edith's graduation this year, we are losing an integral part of the team. We wish her well in the years ahead.



Left to Right: Anca Gaspar, Amy Mader, Edith Chow, Stephen Lau, and Sam Lam at the OUA Playoffs Banquet.

AMY MADER: Female OUA Rookie of the Year, OUA All-Star

Amy Mader took the OUA by storm in her first season in the league. Amy arrived from Saskatchewan in September and promptly took over the number two women's singles spot. Over the year she went 27-0, losing only a single game and outscoring the opposition 603-183. Amy was always a gracious competitor at tournaments. The team could always depend on her for a win. At practice, she was energetic, positive, and always gave her all. Amy will be leaving the team after this season after completing her one-year Master's program. We wish her good luck in the future.

STEPHEN LAU: Male OUA Rookie of the Year, OUA All-Star

After a four year layoff from badminton, Stephen Lau did not show any signs of rust this season. Over the first half of the year, Stephen played number one singles and had some tremendous matches against the top players in the league. He also teamed up with Gordon Chiu to form one of the best doubles combinations in the OUA. Stephen saved his best performance of the season for the OUA Playoffs. He won four critical matches helping U of T become OUA Champions.

SAM LAM: OUA All-Star

Sam Lam was a late but certainly welcome addition to the team in January. With his wealth of experience, he was able to make an impact on the team and on the league right away. Sam was one of the OUA's most exciting players to watch this season. Using finesse, speed, and strategy, he beat the league's top singles players. He also captured some of the team's most important victories of the season by winning the pivotal 11th match in a 6-5 victory over Western and by clinching the OUA championship with a marathon singles win.

ANCA GASPARG: OUA All-Star

Anca Gaspar was another Blues rookie sensation this year. She had a 23-1 record over the season, her only defeat coming in her final singles match. She utterly dominated the competition outscoring them 4 points to 1. Anca was an enthusiastic supporter of the team during tournaments, and would often lead cheers from the sidelines. She showed great improvement over the season and had many crucial victories. With a full year in the OUA under her belt, Anca is set to take over the positions vacated by her fellow female Blues All-Stars next year.

At the Year End Banquet

On February 27th, the badminton team gathered at Hart House to celebrate the accomplishments of our graduating students and to wish them well in their futures. Liz Hoffman, Assistant Dean in the Faculty of Physical Education and Health, and Melissa Krist, manager of Athletic Centre Programs, joined us in our celebration and presented the medals, the awards, as well as the trophy and the banner to the team. Michael Poon, an original Varsity Blues player in the team's rebuilding phase and a member of the team for the past four seasons, was the master of ceremonies.

We will not forget the special players in attendance; our graduating athletes helped shape the team with their hard work and dedication. *Ling Ho, Edith Chow, Amy Mader, and Denis Daly: Your words and tears warmed us! All the best for the future.*

It was a great night, with good food, blitz-flashes, laughter, and applause. We know a lot of people worked hard to make this banquet possible. Special thanks to Julie Lee and Michael Glenney for organizing the event. What a great year! Go Varsity Blues!



Left: Micheal Glenney hits an overhead during OUA Semifinals. Right: Edith Chow hits as Ling Ho waits for the reply in East Sectional #2.

A Professor at Practice

This year the Varsity Blues Badminton team has had the honour of Professor Voon-Loong (Ricky) Chan's involvement with the team. Ricky Chan is a Professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto who has been a strong supporter of Varsity sports over the years. He has served on a committee for Varsity Sports and is the current captain of the U of T squash team that competes in the Toronto & District League at the C level. This season he has come to cheer on the Blues at tournaments and has helped support our fundraising initiatives. Professor Chan has attended team practices since the OUA finals to prepare for Master's Badminton tournaments. We wish him the best of luck in his tournaments and hope that he continues to be actively involved with our team.

Denis Daly

East Sectional #2 @ U of T

January 12, 2003

TEAM RECORD

Blues	8	York	3
Blues	10	Queen's	1
Blues	10	Ryerson	1

INDIVIDUAL RECORD

	S	D	XD	Overall
	(W-L)	(W-L)	(W-L)	(W-L)
Gordon Chiu	1-0	2-1	1-0	4-1
Mike Glenney	3-0	1-0	0-0	4-0
Alex Green	1-0	2-0	0-0	3-0
Shaw Hang	1-1	2-0	0-0	3-1
Chun Wo Lam	0-0	1-0	0-2	1-2
Sam Lam	2-0	2-1	0-0	4-1
Christine Chen	1-0	0-0	0-2	1-2
Edith Chow	3-0	1-1	0-0	4-1
Anca Gaspar	2-0	2-0	0-0	4-0
Ling Ho	0-0	2-1	0-0	2-1
Amy Mader	2-0	2-0	1-0	5-0
Jessica Shiu	1-0	3-0	0-0	4-0

The Blues started the new year with a number of new men on the roster: Sam Lam, Shaw Hang, and Alex Green. Edith Chow and Sam Lam both had convincing victories against York's number one singles players.

Crossover #2 @ Ryerson

February 1-2, 2003

TEAM RECORD

Blues	11	Brock	0
Blues	9	McMaster	2
Blues	6	Western	5
Blues	9	Waterloo	2

INDIVIDUAL RECORD

	S	D	XD	Overall
	(W-L)	(W-L)	(W-L)	(W-L)
Denis Daly	3-1	1-0	0-1	4-2
Alex Green	2-0	1-2	1-0	4-2
Lee Ha	2-0	1-1	1-0	4-1
Shaw Hang	0-1	3-1	0-0	3-2
Sam Lam	0-1	0-2	1-0	1-3
Stephen Lau	1-1	2-2	0-0	3-3
Edith Chow	3-0	4-0	0-0	7-0
Anca Gaspar	4-0	1-0	0-0	5-0
Ling Ho	1-0	2-0	1-0	4-0
Julie Lee	0-0	3-0	1-1	4-0
Amy Mader	3-0	2-0	1-0	6-0
Jessica Shiu	1-0	4-0	0-0	5-0

Toronto clinched first place overall in this crossover. Amy Mader and Sam Lam won the deciding match in a thrilling tie against Western by defeating Janis Kawamoto and Kevin Tong 11-4, 11-5. It was the first time U of T had defeated Western since February, 1999.