

"A lot of hustle"

# Basketball team routs alumni to open season

By ALAN RISEN

An enthusiastic York basketball team ran their alumni opponents off the court Saturday night for an impressive 84-50 victory at the Tait McKenzie gym.

Rookies Yurij (pronounced Yuree) Pelech and Rob Pietrobon led the varsity team with 14 points each, but all 11 Yeomen counted in the scoring.

The grads, who started five ex-Osgoode Hall law students, were within seven points at the half. Then the youthful Yeomen turned on the burners and won the match going away in the final 30 minutes.

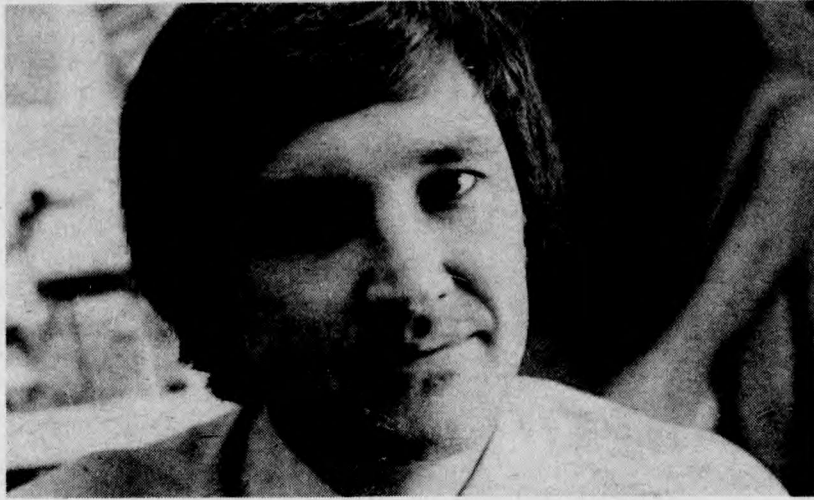
Coach Bob Bain was excited over the win, claiming his team played with "a lot of hustle" and this will be "a sign of things to come."

Pelech is a 6' 3 1/2" forward who comes to York from Runnymede Secondary School. He is a strong rebounder with tree trunks for legs and plays a tough brand of ball. He will likely see a lot of action for York this year.

Pietrobon is another of York's seven rookies who looked impressive at training camp. The St. Mike's grad is a tough defensive player who showed Saturday night he can also put the ball through the hoop.

Also making their presence felt in their initial game in Red and White were Ed Siebert, Warren Cresswell and Ted Galka.

Siebert, the 6'4" Ontario scholar from Niagara Falls Collegiate Vocational Institute (coach Bain's home town) rebounded well and looks to be a good shooter as well as



Coach Bob Bain: "Sign of things to come."

a though inside player.

Cresswell, another scholar from Thornhill Secondary school, played good two-way ball, as did De La Salle's Galka. The latter showed excellent moves out of the "swing" position for York.

The Yeomen, again missing a tall centreman this year, are playing a pressure defence with a match-up zone. This system, which gave some teams fits last season, is basically a zone defence with man-to-man principles.

This means that the player whose zone is infiltrated plays man-to-man on the ball. Everyone else plays zone until the ball is moved into another zone. Then the York player who was previously on the ball leaves the attacker for the York player whose zone was just penetrated.

This system affords the Yeomen the defensive benefits of zone coverage with the added advantage of being able to pressure out of it.

The 1974-75 Yeomen will have to make best use of quickness and strong conditioning in order to compensate for lack of height with lots of pressing and double teaming.

Gone from last year's team, which finished fourth (good for the last playoff berth), are Mike Betcherman, Vince Santoro, Guy Thomas, Brian Silverstein, Jeff Simbrow, Nick Del Principe, Ed Lane and Tony Colovolos.

The first two will be sorely missed as Betcherman was York's most consistent scorer last year and Santoro was the court general. But the former has taken a year off from Osgoode to travel and the latter is playing semi-pro ball in Italy.

Back from last year is star guard Ev Spence, one of the finest ball handlers in the league, who can also shoot from the outside, and forward Romeo Calegario.

Calegario is quick and tough along the boards and has improved greatly over the summer. Coach Bain worked with him on his shooting technique and the effort seems to have paid off.

Forwards Sam Brutto and Branco Samsa round out the returning group of four. Greg Pitts and Carmen Bifolchi round out the list of rookies on the team.

Baseline Banter: York will get an early indicator of just how good they are when they travel to Thunder Bay this weekend for two games against the perennial powerhouse Lakehead Nor'Westers...Tuesday they complete their road trip with a game in Hamilton against McMaster before returning home for a contest with R.M.C. at Tait McKenzie.

The alumni roster sounded like a Maccabiah team: Ron Kimmel, Alf Lane, Stan Rafael, Brian Silverstein, Butch Feldman, Jeff Simbrow, Marv

Morton, and Sandy Nixon. Even the ex-Osgoode manager, Bob Murphy, returned to manage the team of lawyers. Former York coach Bob McKinney did the honours behind the bench.

Siebert and Cresswell whom coach Bain considers two of the best rookies in the province, are products of a York summer project involving top high school players. Coach Bain hopes that this project, which he initiated last summer involving clinics and scrimmages with York varsity players and elite high schoolers, will expand into a summer league next year.

With the vast number of high school prospects in the Metro area, Bain feels that liaison work with the secondary schools could help develop York into one of the best basketball schools in the nation.

York's policy of granting free tuition to Ontario scholars (high school graduates with 80 per cent or more) is also a drawing card. Two members of the Yeomen squad came to York via this route, and Bain hopes more will be added in the future.

## Gymnast news fresh from Bulgaria

By RHONDA KEMENY

The Canadian women's gymnastic contingent recently arrived back from Varna, Bulgaria, where they participated with 22 other countries in the World Games. The Canadian team, four of whom are York students, placed eleventh; the USSR, East Germany and Hungary placed first, second and third respectively, with the USA taking seventh spot.

The individual York students' standings were as follows: Nancy MacDonell first among the Canadians, with a score of 70.7 points, to give her 54th place out of 148 gymnasts; Lise Arseneault, with 69.55 points, placing 66th; Theresa MacDonell, with 69.5 points, in 68th spot; and Sharon Tsukamoto, with 68.65 points, in 79th spot.

First and second place spots in the games were taken by Ludmilla Turiechtscheua and Olga Corbut. Turiechtscheua, World Champion

and Olympic gold medalist, announced at this meet that she would no longer compete.

The total Canadian team score was 351.25 as opposed to the Russian team score of 384.15.

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