

Rollie wins NCAA title

By PETER BECKER

Last Monday, Villanova was transformed from 'the cinderella team' into the 'team of destiny.' The Wildcats did what was thought to be almost impossible in taming the Georgetown Hoyas 66-64 for the NCAA Basketball Championship.

For those wondering what this American title game has to do with York I'll explain.

Back at the beginning of the year, for some a lifetime ago, the Ontario Basketball Association held a clinic for coaches and players here at York. The guest speaker was Rollie Massimino—the same Massimino who now sits atop the basketball world.

With a cast of three seniors, Gary McLain, Ed Pinckney, Dwayne McClain, and two sophomores, Harold Jensen and Harold Pressley, the Wildcats overcame the naysayers to stop the Hoyas from winning their second consecutive NCAA crown.

Back in October, Massimino expounded on the virtues of utilizing the basketball talent available, not to force players to play a different style or character they're not used to.

The pace and tempo of Monday nites contest was perfectly suited to bring the best out of the Wildcats while minimizing the effectiveness of the Hoyas.

Of all the teams Georgetown faced, Villanova had the inside track

in upsetting the odds on favorites. As Syracuse head coach Jim Boeheim said before the semi-final games last Saturday, "I don't think St. John's can beat Georgetown but I think Villanova can."

As it turned out the Hoyas and Wildcats did meet in the final, the third time they have met this year. In the two previous meetings Villanova lead at the half only to see the margin squandered.

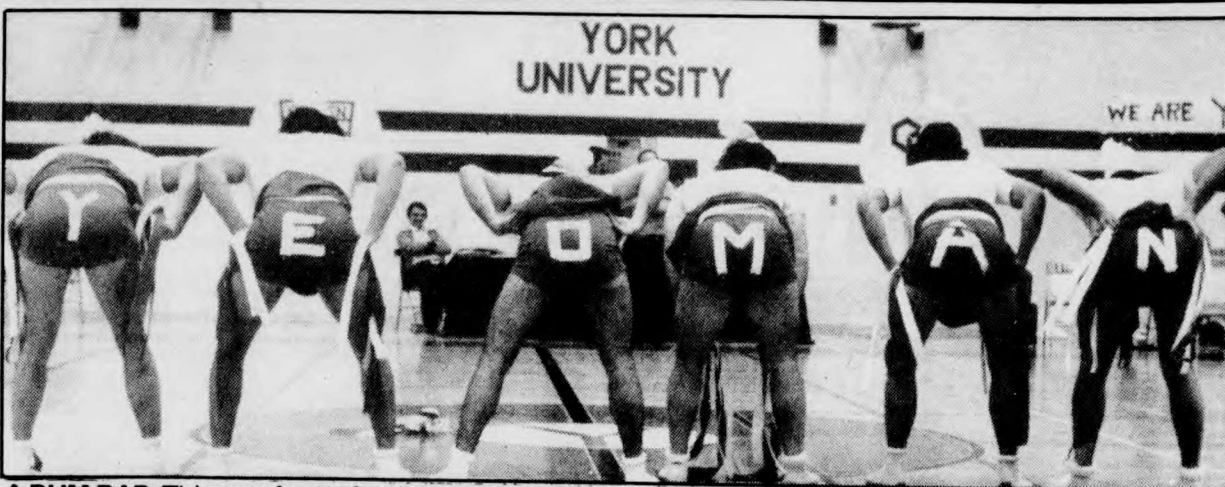
This time, the Wildcats were near perfect as they matched the Hoyas in rebounding with 17 boards and hit 22 of 27 from the charity stripe.

"I've been playing against Patrick (Ewing) for four years, it's nothing any different," said Wildcats Pinckney after contributing 16 points in the win. "You can't be intimidated in a game like this," Pinckney added.

Villanova earned the dubious distinction of owning the worst record of any NCAA championship team 25-10, five of those losses coming in Big East conference play.

Villanova's road to the final four, and championship, weaved its way through some tough competition. Massimino's squad had to defeat top 10 teams such as North Carolina, Michigan, and Memphis St. Villanova earned their way to the top.

"No one thought we could do it, but I did," said Massimino.



A BUM RAP: This new form of communication will provide a feast for bored anthropologists. A bunch of rather sophisticated York athletic supporters express their views sensitively. The living end . . .

McLaren joins Olympic program

By EDO VAN BELKOM

After Don McLaren scored three goals in the Spengler Cup game against the Russians, his chances of being asked to join the Canadian Olympic team were favorable. When he scored three goals in the first period of the CIAU championship game, as national team coach Dave King looked on from the stands, he was almost assured of a spot on the team.

Last Wednesday night, McLaren, along with other Toronto natives Doug Clarke and Jeff Greenlaw

were officially named to the 1988 Olympic team.

The three men will be full-time members of the team and will have full financial scholarships allowing them to attend the University of Calgary where the team is to be based. Money will be provided by Hockey Canada which receives its money from corporate sponsors as well as from the Canadian taxpayer.

McLaren's scholarship is guaranteed for at least two years, but positions on the team during the Olympic year of 1988 are not. Therefore, there is the possibility of playing for

the team for two years and then getting cut in the final year. McLaren is obviously concerned about that possibility but says, "there's no sense worrying about that now."

"This is definitely a step up from Junior and it will be the best caliber of hockey after the NHL," he added.

McLaren will be off to Calgary for a few days after the end of the school year and will return in the middle of August to begin a tour of Europe. The team will be globetrotting during the time leading up to the Olympics, making three trips to Europe each year.

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