

York's soccer Yeomen earn a berth in OUAA playoffs

By GARRY MARR

The soccer Yeomen managed to secure a playoff berth last weekend by beating RMC (Royal Military College) 5-0 and tying Queen's 0-0. This sets up a playoff confrontation with crosstown rivals Toronto this Saturday at Varsity stadium.

The Yeomen received an easy two points on Saturday when they conquered RMC 5-0. It was a rainy, miserable day, but the weather certainly did not adversely affect York's play. Mike Mazza and Tony Oliver scored twice for the Yeomen, while Kerry Wilkes chipped in with one. The shut-out went to goalie Paul Bottos.

Bottos continued in net for the crucial match against Queen's Sunday. He has not surrendered a goal all season and continued this trend against Queen's in the scoreless tie. Coach Eric Willis has yet to decide whether to start Bottos or Dave Ashfield for the upcoming playoff game against Queen's.

Coming into the game, a win against Queen's would guarantee York a playoff spot. In a tie or a loss situation, however, their fate would depend on the Laurentian-Carleton game.

But the Laurentian-Carleton game ended up in a 2-2 draw. This result coupled with York's tie against Queen's left the Yeomen tied with Carleton for the final playoff spot. The Yeomen were awarded the final playoff spot, finishing ahead of Carleton by virtue of their 2-0 record over the Ravens in the regular season.

The Yeomen were confident of gaining a playoff spot before the game against Queen's. Coach Willis had figured that York needed 16 points this year to ensure the Yeomen a playoff berth. York finished with 15, but no team had ever finished out of playoffs with 15 points, except for Carleton this year.

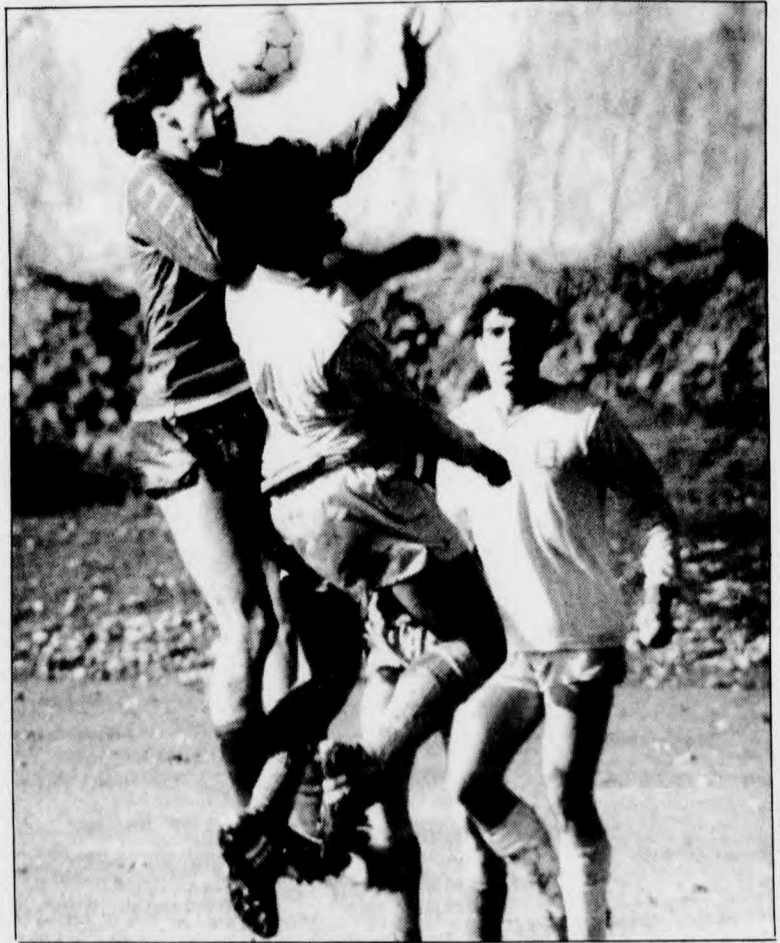
The York strategy for Sunday was to keep Queen's scoreless in the first-half while injured forwards Hunter Madeley and Anthony Daley rested. However, York ended up playing stronger in the first-half than the second-half. Particularly strong for York was forward Richard Fitt, who gave some fresh legs to the Yeomen up front.

Yeowomen dunk McMaster

By TONY PORCHERON

Last Friday the basketball Yeowomen opened their pre-season in an impressive fashion as they dunked McMaster 53-44 at York's Tait Gymnasium.

Sparked by the great rebounding of Susan Dercyk and the strong performance of Liz MacDonald, the Yeowomen edged McMaster by a score of 24-22 with only five minutes remaining in the first-half. However costly turnovers and missed oppor-



HEADS UP BALL: York Yeoman Mauro Ungaro leaps up (with a little help from a Queen's player) to head a ball. York and Queen's battled to a 0-0 tie which was enough to give York a berth in the playoffs.

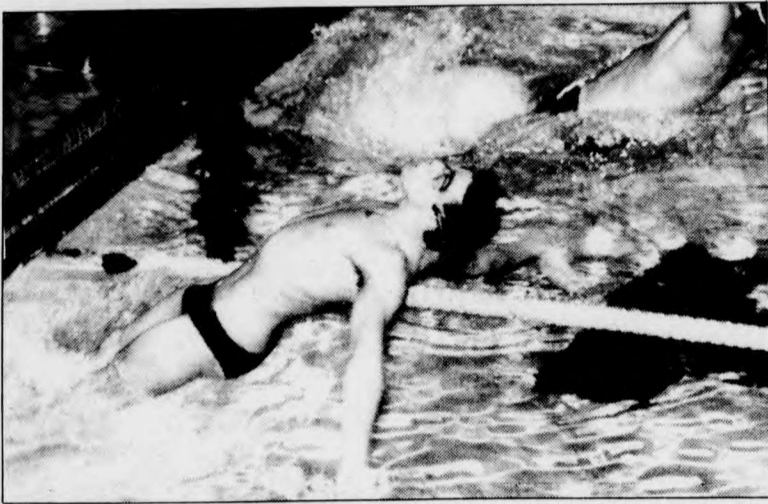
In the first-half York had a distinct advantage over Queen's. There was a period of about five minutes where York constantly hammered away at the Queen's net, but failed to capitalize on any of their opportunities. Tony Oliver wrung one off the crossbar and Richard Fitt missed the ball in close. In the stands was Mark Pardy, captain of the Toronto Blues, who commented that "Queen's has the ability to soak up the pressure and come back."

Pardy's comment was certainly accurate as Queen's came back in the second-half and put some pressure on York. The Yeomen stayed tough in their own end and showed why they have only given up 10 goals all year. Carl Koteff played a typically strong game, while Murray Speers

delivered his usual physical brand of soccer.

After the game Willis said fatigue was a factor for his team, but referred more to their "mental fitness." Willis explained that his team was a little down in the second-half, because they could not score. "They work harder with a lead than a 0-0 tie," said Willie.

Luckily for York, one point was enough to get them into the playoffs, but they will definitely need some punch up front to beat Toronto. Blues coach Jim Levkos was in the stands scouting the game and rooting for York so his team could finish first. He does not underestimate York, but knows his team is on a winning streak, healthy for the first time this year, and playing at home in Varsity on Saturday.



SWIMMING UP A STORM: The York swim team opened their home season last Friday night against Guelph. Despite some strong performances York only managed a split. The Yeowomen lost 65-30 and the men won 56-39.

York swim team earns split against Guelph

By DAVID BRADSHAW

Last Friday night, the York University Swim Team made its home season debut at Tait Mackenzie, but only managed a split against visiting Guelph Gryphons. Despite some strong performances, the Yeowomen lost 65-30, while the men fared better, downing Guelph by a score of 56-39.

It was their third meet of the year, having travelled to Ottawa the weekend before for meets against Carleton and Ottawa where they were beaten by a tough Carleton team, but managed a split against Ottawa. "It (the competitions in Ottawa) gave us a chance to test the team," said Coach Carol Wilson, "and see where our weaknesses are."

Against Guelph, York had an opportunity to use some of the experience which they acquired in Ottawa, showing much improvement. Coach Wilson pointed out that "the turns have really improved over the week. We're also racing a lot better." The team displayed a strong effort both on the men and women sides, with many outstanding individual performances coming from both sides.

The team captains led the way with men's captain Adam Robinson winning all of his events, while Yeowomen captain Anne Nicolussi also had a great night, swimming 10:18:45 sec. in the 800m freestyle just three seconds off her own York record.

The rest of the men's team followed in similar fashion. Yeomen Rick Amodeo demolished the competition in the 1500m freestyle in a time of 18:36, finishing first by about seven lengths, while also sweeping his other events.

On top of these victories, Peter Darvis won the 200m individual medley, the 100m backstroke and the 100m butterfly in a time of 1:01:40 which pleasantly surprised him. "I was aiming for 1:01:90, so I'm pretty happy," Davis said, predicting that this time might be his season's best. "I felt really strong, really into the race," he added.

Besides Nicolussi's strong performance, the Yeowomen also displayed solid efforts with several good times, including Marilyn Boyd's second-place time of 1:08 in the 100m freestyle, a personal best for Boyd, who was very pleased with the result.

After the meet, coach Wilson was very positive, pointing out again the improvements over the previous week. "All the technical points we worked on came together, the turns, the starts, all showed improvement," Wilson said.

On the men's side, Adam (Robinson) looks significantly better than last year and Peter (Darvis) is two seconds ahead on his 100 fly from last year," she added. Wilson was also positive about the women's side, saying, "they gave a really good effort and there are visible improvements. All in all, it was a good meet."

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