

SPORTS and RECREATION

Wirkowski optimistic

Football Yeomen: playoff contenders?

By FRANK GIORNO

When a team has earned the infamy of having the worst record in the league, there is only one direction in which to go, and that is up.

Last year the York Yeomen finished dead last with nary a single victory or tie.

You can't get much worse than that. Included in a long list of games best forgotten was a 90 to 15 thrashing from Sir Wilfrid Laurier. That game established a league mark for most points scored against a team in one game.

With a season like that behind it, one might expect a tinge of defeatism to be settling in the Yeomen camp. But this is not the case. Both coaches and players agree that the 1975 team is a different ball club from last year's. There are 19 first-year men

But the real difference is in the team's general outlook. On the whole, the team is optimistic about improving on last year's performance. It is also realistic about the measure of its expected success. It isn't the aim of the Yeomen to pull a rags to riches story. They'll be satisfied to win a few games

while keeping the score close in the rest.

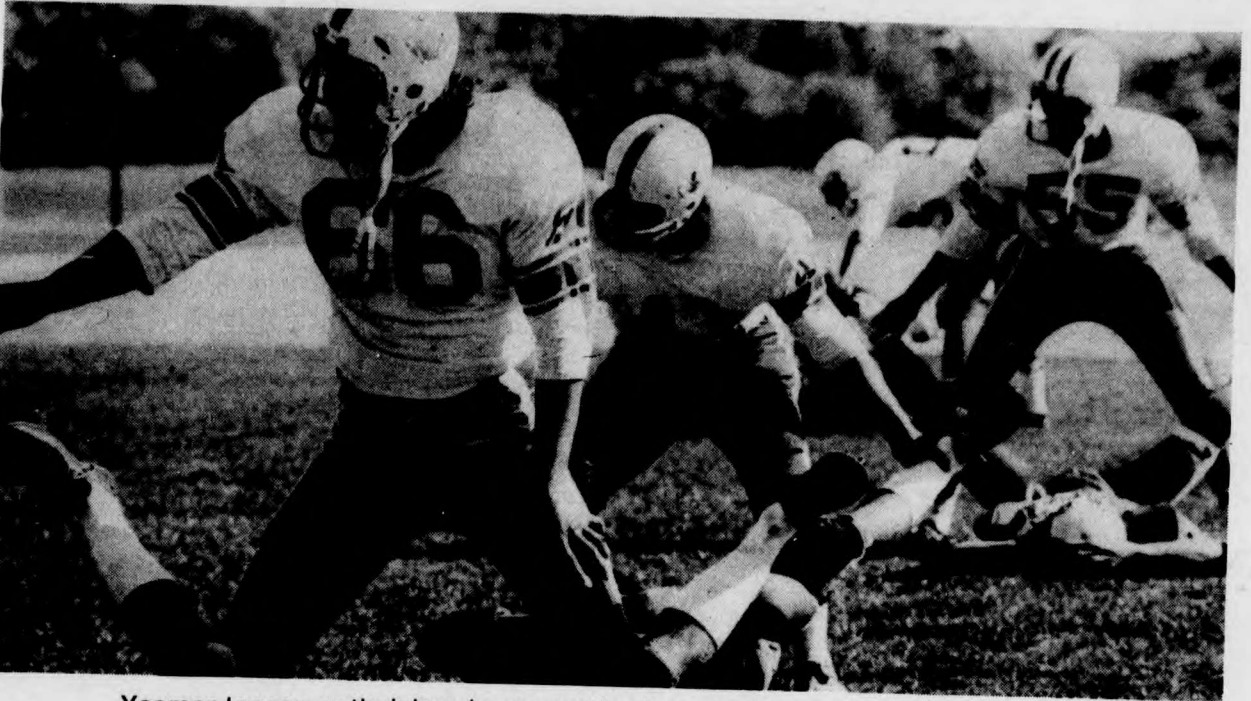
Making the playoffs would be an unexpected bonus.

The team has the right attitude, a key factor in driving towards a playoff position. There was no complacency at this year's training camp. The work-outs have been gruelling. The team has worked at practices and, as a result, it is in better condition than it was all of last season. Because the players are in better condition, there have been fewer injuries.

To illustrate the enthusiasm of the 75 edition of the Yeomen one need only view the play of the specialty squads — usually the forgotten men doing thankless jobs such as returning and covering punts and kickoffs. Coach Wirkowski was pleased with the hustle they showed in a recent game against Niagara College.

TRUE MEASURE

Although attitude is an important factor in a team's success, the true measure remains its performance. The Yeomen did defeat Niagara College in an exhibition match, but they are 0-1 on season play. The team has made improvements



Yeomen loosen up their legs in preparation for yet another playoff attempt.

in several areas. Coach Wirkowski is working to balance the offence. Last year the Yeomen lived by the pass. This year watch for Yeomen rushers. Runners Bill Hatanaka, Kevin Beagle and Danny Bertolo will be more visible. Meanwhile the passing game will be augmented by the presence of two new quar-

terbacks who join returning veteran Doug Kitts. Paul King isn't exactly new; he's returning to the Yeomen after a year's absence. And rookie Paul Zubat rates highly with coach Wirkowski.

So, with guarded optimism, the Yeomen plunge into the 75 football season. This year they will find

themselves in a new home. Their home games will be played on campus on the athletic field behind the Ice Palace. York will be grouped in the OUA's western division with the University of Western Ontario, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Windsor, Waterloo, Guelph and McMaster.

Dr. Labib: squash tips

First in a serie of columns on the game of squash, by Dr. Nabil Labib, owner and manager of the Sports & Dance Centre in Central Square. Dr. Labib is an accomplished squash and tennis player.

The name squash commonly refers to a racquet sport played in an enclosed rectangular area using what looks like a miniature tennis racquet and a ball, roughly the size of a golfball. But in reality, there are two distinct games of squash; the international (English) softball and the North American hardball.

These games appear similar, but each makes different skill and endurance demands on the player.

Although at York and throughout North America, the hardball game is prevalent, there is in Toronto one softball court (at the Squash Court) and quite often players play the softball game in hardball courts.

The two games differ in terms of the courts, racquets and balls

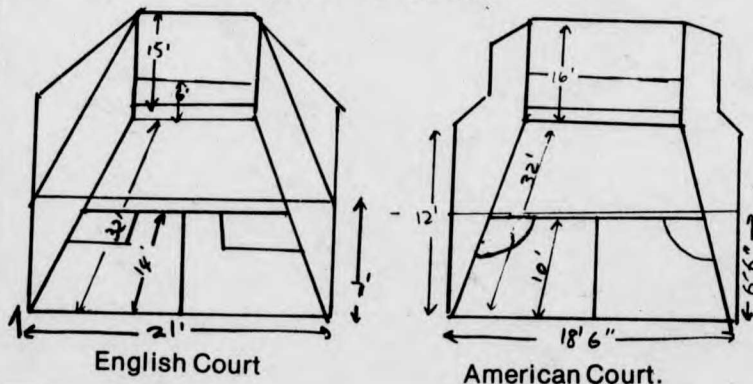
used, as well as in terms of strategy.

Anyone making the transfer from hard to softball will immediately find that the English game requires more stamina than the North American variety. As the former squash king, Hashim Khan, once remarked, "If you live in London you have to run more than if you live in Detroit."

Basically, this is the case because the soft ball lacks the elasticity of the hard; therefore, rather than wait for the ball to bounce to the player, as is the case with the North American game, the softball player must always be running to the ball.

Add to this the extra 80 square feet of areas (diagram below) of the softball court, and you are left with a very exhausting game.

The racquets differ in a very elementary way. To suit the slugging hardball game, the hardball racquet is heavier. But in softball, a heavy racquet restricts a player's wrist motion.



Yeomen lose opener to Guelph while dominating in all but score

By FRANK GIORNO

The York Yeomen opened their 1975 football season in traditional manner with a loss, 23-22 to Guelph.

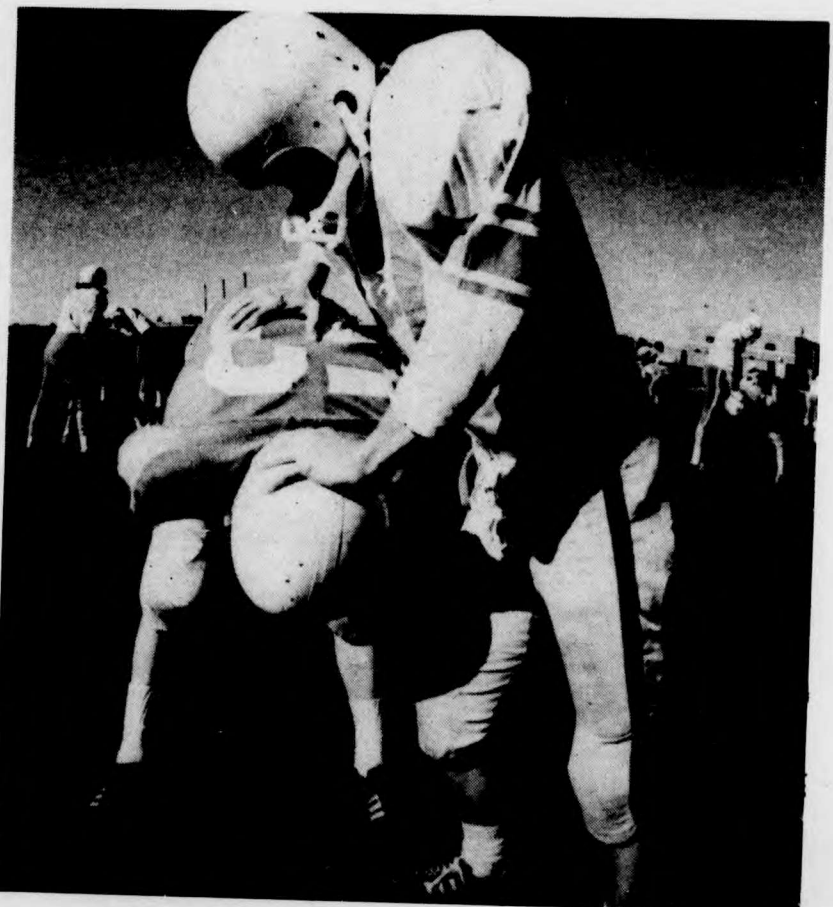
The faithful should not despair, however, as the game was totally dominated by the Yeomen in everything but the score. Even in that department they led until the closing minutes of the game. York had assumed a 22-7 lead going into the final quarter. But a few costly errors, such as Doug Kitts' intercepted pass, poor coverage on a punt return and the Yeomen's inability to prevent Guelph's two-point conversions, lead to the defeat.

Kitts' intercepted pass led to the touchdown which made it 22-13. The first two-point conversion made it 22-15. The Gryphons won the game on a 55-yard punt return and the second-two point conversion the last scoring play came with three minutes left to play in the game.

York scored its first touchdown on a run by rookie Dan Bertolo. The touchdown was made possible by a 49-yard kickoff return by Tony Jordanis. Bertolo was the game's leading rusher, carrying 22 times for 142 yards. The second touchdown came on a 15-yard pass from Kitts to Kevin Beagle, making the score 14-7 in favour of the Yeomen. Bob Palmer's touchdown made the score 22-7.

York's rushing showed the potency coach Wirkowski expected of it. The offense was nicely balanced by Kitts' throwing — he was eight of 16.

The defense also put in a fine effort. A one point the Yeomen held the Gryphons on the Yeomen one yard line, stopping three scoring attempts.



Yeomen practise dismantling one another.



but we can't even get ourselves together, let alone find GOD and get together with him!

And it isn't that GOD is hiding...

...it's just that we're lost!

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