

Jules Xavier

Yeomen win fourth Ontario East final

Mike 'Totally Rehabilitated' Allen
In the "what else is new" department of York sports, the Yeomen basketball team won its fourth consecutive OUAA East championship by disposing of the Laurentian Voyageurs 92-71 last Friday evening at the Tait Gym.

All-Canadian David Coulthard, a young man who sends sports writers scurrying for new adjectives every time he plays, turned in a brilliant 32 point performance.

This latest triumph leaves the Yeomen with some good news and some bad news. The good news is that all-Canadian Bo Pelech, out of the Yeomen line-up for the last five weeks has returned to action.

The bad news is that the OUAA West division crown has gone to the Windsor Lancers, who Saturday evening in Guelph, upset the Gryphons by grabbing a two-point victory on a hotly disputed last-second basket.

They Yeomen must now make their bi-annual trek to Windsor's St. Dennis Hall, better known as "The Pit"; a pre-historic, cave-like dwelling that only vaguely resembles a gymnasium. The floor resembles one of the more popular rides at "Canada's Wonderland" and the noise level in the building would make a rock musician cringe.



Jonesy's last home game.

York's last meeting with the Windsor crew was in the 1978-79 OUAA playoffs where the number one Yeomen, led by Lonnie Ramati's memorable "The refs are out to get me" performance (four fouls in four minutes) were upset 78-76 by the Lancers.

Hopefully, this year's match-up will not be a repeat performance.

Pelech's early return to the line-up casts a new light on the Yeomen's playoff hopes. If Pelech can work himself back into his

previous playing form, this could be the year when the Yeomen "win it all".

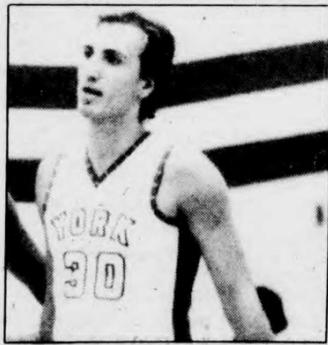
Pelech, who was greeted by a prolonged ovation from Yeomen supporters, talked about his return after the game.

"It really feels good to be back. I just can't stand sitting on the bench and watching. That's why I didn't go on any road trips while I was hurt. It would just eat away at me that I wasn't in there."

Head coach Bob Bain, obviously relieved by Pelech's return, stressed that, "We knew Bo would be back just as soon as he could. My only concern was that he didn't come back too soon," he said. "Bo's the kind of guy who would play hurt and not say anything about it."

Friday's match-up against Laurentian was the last home game for guard Paul Jones and forward Ron Kaknevicus.

Yeomen basketball fans will not soon forget Kaknevicus's outstanding performance as York's "little-big man" in the 1979-



Bo's back!

80 season when he grabbed 42 points in two games against Carlton while shutting down Raven centre Tom Cholock, who towered over "Kak" by half a foot.

Paul Jones is another Yeoman who will be remembered by York fans for his quickness and determination on the basketball court. He is universally well-liked; by his teammates, by his opponents and rumors have it, by a girl named Kim from Barrie.

Cluett's crew wins it all

Rose Crawford

The York Yeowomen squash team could not have ended their brilliant 29-2 season in a more fitting manner, winning the 1980-81 OWIAA Squash championships last weekend.

The University of Toronto went into the tournament as the heavy favourite on the strength of three provincially ranked players.

In fact, the Lady Blues did win this third and final leg of the OWIAA championships, but since they are determined by cumulative points, the Yeowomen still managed the win with two points to spare.

York was tied up with U of T until the last round. In that round York faced the University of Waterloo, a team York had easily defeated in the past. It was crucial that the Yeowomen win all their matches in that round in order to win the championship and in the words of coach Bob Cluett, "We didn't have the high ranked players so we couldn't afford to make mistakes and we didn't."

York ended the tournament with 78 points while U of T finished with 76. Queen's University was third with 68.

To put the icing on the cake, York's Mandy Battershill took the silver medal in the individual standings. She finished with 14 matches to her credit, second only to U of T's Patti Hogan who had 15 match victories. Hogan is ranked number two in Ontario.

The silver medal victory came as a surprise for Battershill who throughout the tournament had not been aware of how close she was to the top of the standings.

"I was really surprised because I had no idea of the standings," she said. "Bob came up to me and said that if I won that match (her final match against the Waterloo player), I'd win the silver medal. Naturally I became quite nervous, but I still managed to pull it off."

Coach Cluett felt "ecstatic" about his team's victory and attributed the success to the Yeowomen's stamina and perseverance.

"The thing that's amazing about this team is its ability to hang in there. I couldn't believe some of the rallies on the weekend. The other players had the better shots, but the girls would keep on rallying. They rallied the other girls right into the ground and that's just what it takes to win."

York hosts Can-Am squash tournaments

York University will host two premiere squash tournaments featuring some of the top-ranked junior female players in North America starting March 6. Both events are open to the public at no charge.

The first tournament, to be held at the Tait courts on Friday, March 6 (6:00-8:00 p.m.) and Saturday, March 7 (9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.), is the second half of a unique transborder event called the **Can-Am Team Championship for University Women** featuring the York Yeowomen and teams from Vassar College, Hamilton College and McGill University. The initial part of the event was played November 1980 in the U.S. under U.S. rules with the hardball. The Yeowomen, coached by Bob Cluett, take top honours into the March 6-7 tournament which will be played under international rules with the softball. The standings at the end of the U.S. tourney were: York 12, Vassar 10, and Hamilton 8.

The **Can-Am Invitational**, hosted by York and sponsored by Manta Sports Inc., is a 16-woman field highlighting the play of a "dream draw" according to tournament chairman Shelagh Murray and host coach Cluett. The invitational runs Saturday, March 7 (3:30-5:30 p.m.) and Sunday, March 8 (9:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.) at the Mayfair Parkway Raquet Club in Markham, Ontario.

Shortstops

Yeomen gymnasts figure prominently at National Selection

York's gymnasts put on an impressive show at the first annual National team selection meet this past Saturday and Sunday at Seneca College. The results reaffirm that York is one of the pre-eminent gymnastics centres in the country.

Dan Gaudet, the current OUAA champion, placed second all-around, a point behind Jean Choquette of Montreal. His solid performance earned him a trip to New York to represent Canada at the prestigious American Cup, March 21-22.

Frank Nutzenberger, who was held back by a serious ankle injury, was unable to perform on the floor exercise and on the vault. His showing on the remaining events however, proved that he still belongs among the top ranks of Canadian gymnastics. He too will be travelling this spring. He will represent Canada at the East Germany Invitational in April.

Other members of the York team who competed in the selection meet were Bill Chong, who placed fifteenth, Pat Rogers (10th in the junior category) and Tom Bertrand.

Right now the Yeomen gymnasts are in Calgary hoping to capture another CIAU championship.

Athletes of the Week

Yeowoman squash player Mandy Battershill and Yeoman gymnast Dan Gaudet are **Excalibur's Athletes of the Week**.

Battershill not only captured the individual silver medal in last weekend's OWIAA squash championships, she also won the pivotal match in the final round giving York the provincial crown.

Gaudet was among the many gymnasts fighting for a berth on the Canadian National team last weekend at Seneca College. He placed second all-around and earned the right to represent Canada at the American Cup on March 21-22.