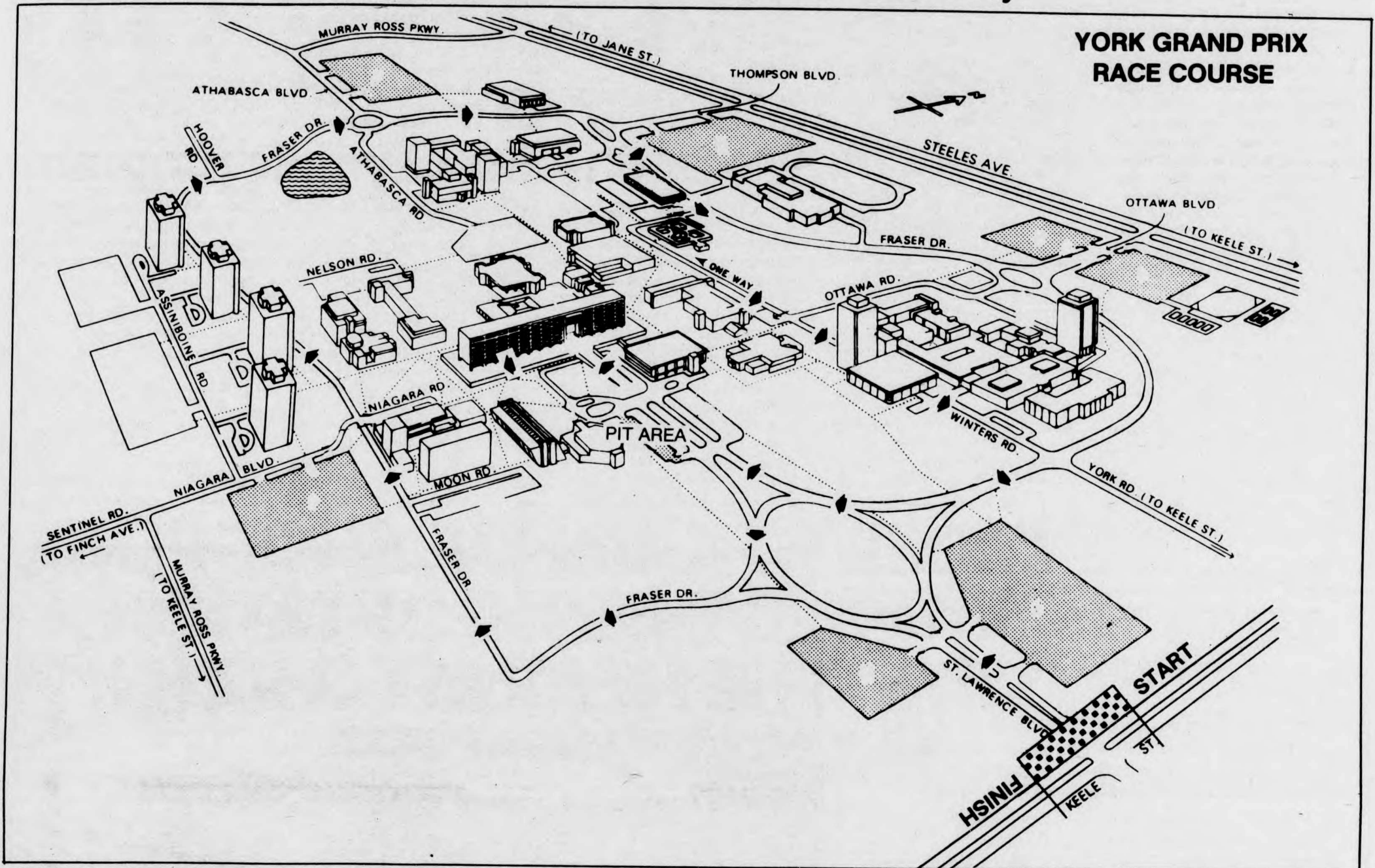


# York to be site of university Grand Prix

First CIAU Formula One race slated to go for Saturday



**MAP OF THE COURSE:** The course, designed by former world champion Jackie Stewart, will push both the drivers and their cars to the limit. Says Stewart, "The course will be a fine test for motor cars and motor car drivers."

By EDO 'V8' VAN BELCHUM

York University will be the site of the first-ever university Grand Prix, bringing together the finest collegiate Formula One race cars and drivers from across the nation on April 6.

York University was chosen because its challenging curves and straightaways make the campus ideal for Formula One racing. Department of Physical Plant's Special Project Coordinator R. W. H. Binnie said that in the original plans for the university the campus roads were definitely intended to be used as a Grand Prix race course.

"The Grand Prix course was built into the design. The designers wanted to make York University a multi-purpose facility; we just didn't expect to have the race held here so soon," Binnie said.

"In the same way the ramp was designed to accommodate tanks in case of a riot, the campus roads were designed for auto racing. The only difference between the two is that we'll be having Formula One cars

before we have the tanks," he added.

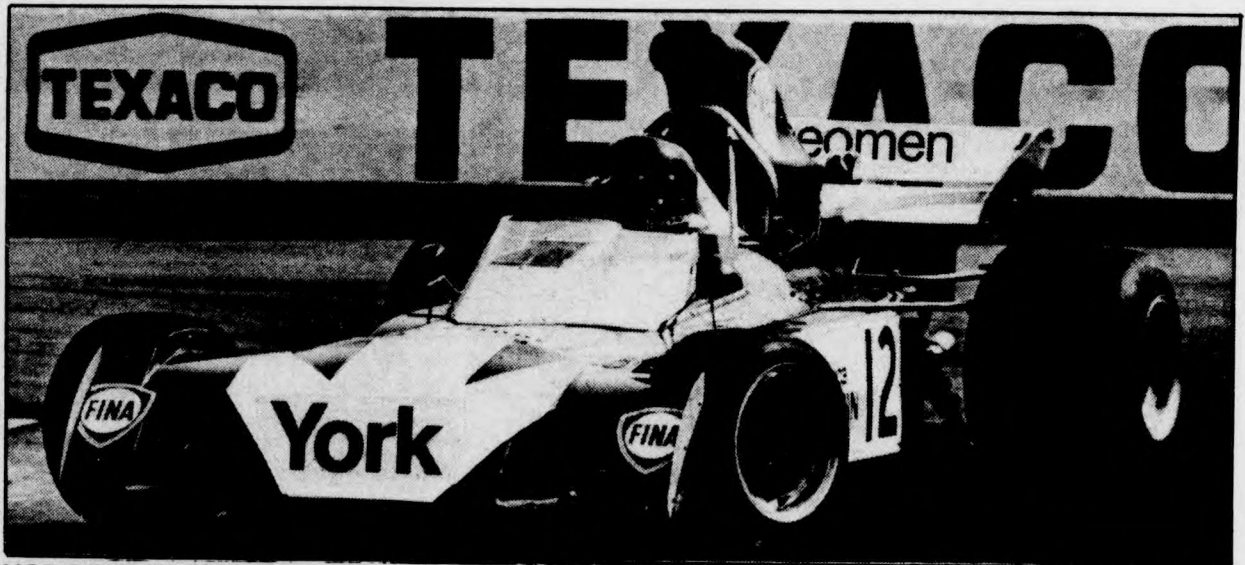
Because of Provost Tom Meininger's support of Yeomen teams, both through physical support as a fan and through financial support as a university administrator, the Yeomen will be well represented in this year's race. Meininger has procured almost \$1-million for the 1985 Yeomen Racing Team. A big chunk of the money will go toward the purchase of a Formula One car from the Brabham Motor Company of England and to the hiring of an experienced coach who is familiar with Formula One driving.

When asked about the worthiness of a financial outlay that some critics say is a waste of time and money, Meininger said, "York teams have been doing extremely well and I think it would be fitting to have a CIAU Grand Prix championship to go along with all the other titles York has won this year.

"We're also hosting this year's race, so we're really looking for a good showing from the Yeomen. If we place in the top three I think the million dollars will be well spent.

"But we will be selling tickets for the event as well as souvenir buttons and posters so we may break even on the project. If we do as well for this event as we did on the Papal Parking Project we'll be laughing," Meininger said.

The coach of the Yeomen team is well-known in racing circles around the world and familiar with Formula One racing, having won numerous championships. A Scottish native, Jackie Stewart has been on the York campus for over a month now, working with the York drivers, pit crew, and race officials, as well as setting the course for the race. Stewart is confident about the Yeomen's chances in the upcoming event and feels the York campus is an ideal location



**YORK ENTRY:** Exchange student Eugenio di Maserati will pilot the Yeoman Brabham. "This car, she go very, very fast," di Maserati said.

for a Grand Prix race.

"The York campus has an excellent layout for a motor car race of this sort. All it needs is a wee bit of planning to make it a world class course," Stewart said through an interpreter. "The lads have been practicing extremely hard at the basics of motor car driving and they are familiar with the course. We should do very well."

The race is slated for April 6 and there is some concern about weather conditions for the race because it will go on Saturday, rain or shine. Stewart is not at all worried. "I think it will be a fine day for a motor car race," he said.

York's toughest competition for the event will come from the University of Windsor, who have the backing of one of the major automobile companies and whose car has been burning up the York track in recent time trials. There will also be tough entries coming from Durham College in Oshawa and Sheridan College

in Oakville, both of whom have financial backing and factory prepared race cars.

The race will start and finish at the campus' main Keele Street entrance. The cars will race down St. Lawrence Blvd., go up the ramp to the Ross Building, complete a lap of the building and then go back down the ramp onto the course.

The drivers will then pass the pit area, which will be situated in the parking lot in front of the Fine Arts Building.

From there the drivers will be able to go full out, pushing their machines to the limit, until they come to the tight turn on Fraser Dr. In that turn the drivers will have to gear down to first or second gear and then back up to fifth for the fastest part of the course.

They will continue along Fraser Dr. at speeds in excess of 80 m.p.h. until the second tight turn on the course, between the East and West office buildings.

Going the opposite direction on the one way street, the drivers will then come to the most difficult part of the track. The doors to Vanier College will be opened at both the west and east entrances to the building allowing the cars to drive right through the college.

This route will provide the closest vantage point for many of the 10,000 expected spectators, as well as tremendous camera angles, as the Grand Prix will be covered by TSN.

Those drivers who make it through Vanier will then come back out onto Winters Road and from there proceed onto Fraser Dr. for another lap of the track. There will be 25 laps in total, commemorating the 25th anniversary of York University.

Tickets for both practice days and race day are available in the Tait McKenzie Gymnasium from the special events coordinator. Tickets are \$25 for a two-day package or \$15 for single tickets on race day.



York coach Jackie Stewart