

SPORTS

Yeowomen sock it to Ryerson

by Riccardo Sala

Few things are as surrealistic as a soccer game that ends with a 15-0 score.

Most of the observers on hand for the Yeowomen's romp over Ryerson on Sunday could be forgiven for wondering if York was engaged in an honest game or

were just using the opposing goal for target practice.

Before the game York coach David Bell cautioned his players not to be too optimistic or careless in this game. "In previous years we have tied or beaten Ryerson by margins of only a goal," Bell pointed out.

The Yeowomen were on the field for only several moments

before they netted their first goal. It was a high shot from Anna Porretta that went in over the Ram keeper's hands.

A half-week earlier against U of T, a goal such as Porretta's would have made a difference. In this game it was only a pebble on a seashore of York goals.

The ball never crossed into York's zone for the remainder of the first half.

York keeper Cheryl Punnett was forced to endure long stretches of boredom as she watched the action from the York end.

The onslaught continued in the second half. To their credit the Lady Rams rarely gave up, especially goalie Tammy Ratchford. A one woman defence, Tammy had to take on the York offence herself.

Through it all she remained cheery, waving to spectators sympathetic to her plight.

Ryerson forays into the York

zone in the second half only served to illustrate the Ram's deficiencies.

Visibly a slower team than York, any ball-playing was a haphazard affair for the Ryerson side.

team to sink down to the level of play of a weaker opponent," Bell added.

That was the case, he pointed out, in past years when scores against weak Rams teams were less lopsided than Sundays. Obviously that didn't happen here.

The Sunday game concluded a weekend home stand. On Saturday they played a team that was the qualitative opposite of Ryerson, the Queen's Golden Gaels. National champions two years ago and Ontario silver medallists last year, the Gael's record speaks for itself.

York held the Gaels to a 1-1 tie. Yeowoman Barb Sajben connected on a corner kick by Kristin Bell to put York on an even keel.

Ed. Note: The goal by Queen's was the first the Yeowomen have given up in regular season action this year.

Team climbs to third place

Soccer Yeomen bash RMC

by Riccardo Sala

In the universal scheme of things, there are worse things that can happen to a Yeoman soccer player than to play the RMC Redmen.

Sunday's home game made that much clear. York won 3-1 in a game that, though hotly contested at times, was clearly dominated by the Yeomen.

York started the ball in RMC's territory and kept it there throughout the first half. The Yeomen, though a visibly more talented side, had a hard time slipping from the velcro grasp of Redmen defenders.

But Yeoman ace Hunter Madeley made it through. It was his goal midway through the first half that put the Yeomen on top 1-0. York would be challenged for the lead but never renounced it the rest of the game.

York netted their next goal early in the second half when Yeoman Stuart McAslan took advantage of a rebound off the goalpost to put it in.

But the Redmen weren't finished. Taking advantage of a penalty shot against York, RMC

scored on a high-ball that glanced into the net behind tender Erwin Banfi.

That goal was the only setback on the day for the Yeomen, and they soon took flight again. Several York shots came close, only to be either shot wide or smothered in a confused mass of defenders and attackers.

Despite all the pressure, the Yeomen were only able to add one more for the day, and the game ended at 3-1.

Afterwards, a generous coach Eric Willis had some comfort for the RMC squad. "They've been improving. They are a better team than they've been given credit for."

Next weekend the Yeomen head to Kingston to take on RMC and Queen's.

While Willis described the Gaels as a stronger squad than the Redmen he seemed to be looking ahead to the rest of the season.

"Toronto and Laurentian are definitely the teams to beat," Willis said, talking about two perennial Ontario powerhouses. "We've got some work to do before we can think about taking them on,"

Red & Blue gridiron upset? Nah!

by Josh Rubin

In sports, some of the greatest rivalries are produced in games that on paper should be blow-outs.

The fierce competitiveness between the York Yeomen and the UofT Varsity Blues is no exception.

Who can forget, for example, the Yeomen's stunning overtime defeat of the Blues as they marched through the playoffs enroute to their first-ever CIAU hockey title in 1984-85?

Over the years, there have been bitterly-contested matches between the cross-town rivals in almost every sport under the CIAU banner.

Last year, in what was surely one of the surprises of the OUAA

football season, the Yeomen actually led the Blues by a point at half-time before going on to lose the match 27-9.

This year, the two teams are in a similar situation to last season, when UofT was challenging for the OUAA lead and the Yeomen were stuck firmly in the basement.

The Varsity Blues' only loss so far this season came in their season opener when they were dumped by the defending national champions, the Western Mustangs.

The Yeomen, on the other hand, are once again going into the annual Red and Blue Bowl with a perfect 0-3 record.

York pivot Jeff Bitter will have a tough fight against a UofT defence that remains one of the

strongest in the league despite the loss of seven starters to graduation.

The inexperienced York defence will likely be overwhelmed by the likes of UofT running back Lorne King, who's coming off a two-touchdown game against the Laurier Golden Hawks.

Despite the overwhelming odds in his favour, UofT coach Bob Laycoe still insists he isn't looking forward to his team's three season ending games with McMaster, Windsor and Waterloo.

Said Laycoe: "I've been in this type of rival game before... anything can happen."

Despite Laycoe's diplomacy, this one should still be a cakewalk for UofT. Say, somewhere in the neighbourhood of 35-10.



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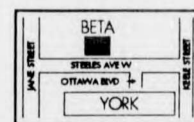
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