

'College bowl'

This week will be the biggest in college football in Eastern Canada this year. There will be teams from all over, (a nice way of saying that I don't know where all the participants are from) hoards of beautiful women, parties, dances in the streets no less, and all sorts of important looking people smiling into cameras.

The whole mess is in aid of the Canadian College Bowl, a thing that is giving money to The Canadian Save the Children Fund, and also determines, in theory, the best college football team in the Dominion.

The festivities started yesterday when the teams met at the Lord Simcoe Hotel to get their pictures taken like all true celebrities, at Trinity College for a press revue. On Thursday there is going to be one of those immortal ticker tape parades up Bay Street (past most of your father's humble establishments), the heroes of the day and the broads are officially welcomed by the Mayor, and other equally nondescript types. Other festivities follow, but not for the masses — at least until Friday, when things really start to move.

At six PM there is going to be a massive parade with all sorts of floats representing most of the Universities that think that they are better than we are. York will have a float in that parade to show them that we may be new, but we're pretty. Varsity Stadium is the end of the parade and the beginning of the action, when the supposed two best teams in Canada face each other on a field that should be as muddy as hell, judging from the better weather that we have been having lately. If you have never witnessed a football game played in the mud, this game is a must if only for the comical aspects of it.

As a grand finale to the week's events there will be a street dance with two rock bands, lots of booze and cops. It should be a lot of fun, even if you are one of the one's to be carted off in the chauffeur driven Mac trucks.

York basketball victory

by David Crocker

York Yeomen, basketball variety, won their first official league game Saturday night in St. Catharines by outscoring Brock University 81-74.

York showed a marked improvement over their two previous exhibition encounters. Hustle and opportunism along with a fine defensive performance highlighted York's improved play.

George Dubinsky led York scorers with 20 points followed by Gord Burns with 18 and Gus Falcioni with 12. It was Gord Burns once again with a hot hand in the first half which kept York close. Brock led 38-37 at the half.

Dubinsky popped in 13 points in the second half to highlight play in this stanza.

York also showed a fine full court press in this half. The defensive play of Brook Pearson stood out. He finally collared Brock forward Bill Dick who put in 34 points before he was slowed by Pearson. If Falcioni can continue to score 12 points along with his excellent ball control and defensive work he will be a stand out for the Yeomen.

Brock showed a rebuilt and far more powerful team Saturday than they dressed last year. Yet York looked good against them. Maybe the team has found the range.

Competent Coach Needed!

by Dave Nimon

For as many years as York has had a basketball team, the coach has been Dr. Arthur C. Johnson who is now an assistant vice-president of York University.

At first, he was the only man who offered to take on the job and during these past years has put in much time and effort in working with the team. However, the calibre of basketball that York's opponents perform, has passed the coaching abilities of Dr. Johnson in his keeping York's teams up to the opposition.

He claims that he is short of qualified personnel but this excuse does not hold up for the true fact of the matter is that he does not know the real talent of the players he has to work with.

He continually substitutes players in games too freely with the consequence that the starting

team can never develop into a workable unit. He has a fetish for taking off any player who is scoring a lot of points with a result that when this player returns to action, his previously hot hand has often cooled. He uses the same tactics year after year which would be fine if they were successful but, in fact, York has never had a winning season in basketball. The most important thing, however, is the fact that the players themselves do not respect his coaching abilities.

Clearly, Dr. Johnson should devote his entire time to school administration and leave the coaching to somebody who can handle the job. York University has gone out to get a first rate coach in football, hockey, soccer and gymnastics. It is past time for York to have a top notch basketball coach as well. Until the b-ball Yeomen get this coach, they will always be losers.

LAYOUTSIE NO. 2

Special notice to layout staff. Please make sure you know how to compute headlines, inch copy, and avoid mistakes. Special notice to all Excalibur writers: Set typewriter margins for a 64-character line. As you can see, Excalibur readers, the communication around this place is fantastic.

by Dave Henry

Speaking on Sport

The 1968-69 edition of the York basketball team has won two exhibition games and lost one. Not bad, you say?

Wrong sweetheart. It's bad and it's not going to get any better.

But let's get this straight right from the start. This corner does not intend to knock any deserving York team. The problem however is of a different sort.

It's high time that the students and especially the press of York U. stopped babying our inter-university teams.

Why are we at York so content to make and accept statements such as the one which appeared some time ago in Excalibur concerning our rowing crew.

"It was raining and cold. The boys should be praised for even showing up."

Bullfeathers. The athletes participating in the rowing championships knew what kind of weather to expect and had prepared for it. They wanted to win.

But this tokenism defeats the very purpose of the competition. What this school needs is a winning attitude.

At present what we have is a complacent lazy complex which is reflected in our athletic teams and our fans, the latter appearing to exist in only very small quantities.

And this winning attitude must be developed among the teams themselves, or rather expanded into something tangible.

Take, for example, the basketball Yeomen. Virtually the same team as last year returns this year, making the same mistakes and playing the same disorganized brand of ball.

There is a wealth of talent on the club, but these athletes are not professionals. They do not learn by themselves.

They must be taught. Why do the Yeomen continue to dribble themselves into the ground? Why is there again the absence of a quick break, a much needed weapon for a team as short as this one?

Why haven't shooting percentages improved? Why are there no organized plays beyond the basic common-sense manoeuvres?

Perhaps Coach Johnson has a restricted amount of time to work with the team. It is reasonable to expect a vice-president of a growing university to be burdened with administrative duties.

If this is the case, then why not hire some help, like an assistant coach who knows basketball and wants to win — now, and not in 5 or 10 years.

York's teams should feel like winners before they step onto the field. They should be armed with confidence brought about through good coaching and practice.

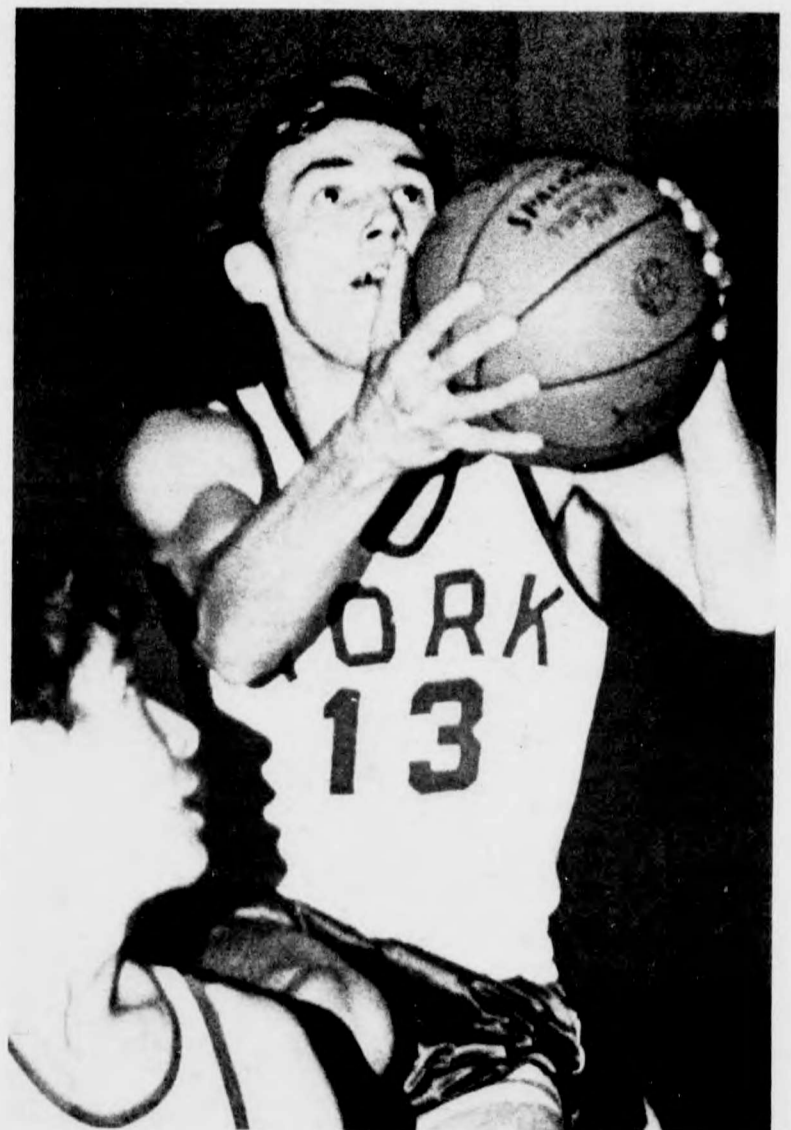
Sadly enough, the student and press attitude belies this fact. The proverbial pat on the back and a big 'E' for effort should somehow allow both the team and the spectator to know that the potential is there, but lies undeveloped.

The phrase 'nice try' can develop, over a period of time, into the insult of rubbing salt into the wound; one of the pastimes of the student body here.

Come to the games, and show the administration that you want a winner.

And if you're dissatisfied with the mediocrity of our teams, then come on out and say so. Express yourself.

It's only a little harder than closing your eyes, but it's much more satisfying.



Is it dodge ball?

by Howard Tewsley