

York downs RMC 59-45

Cagers open the season on a winning note

By ALAN RISEN

Sparked by the performance of rookies Mike Betcherman and Nick Del Principe, York's basketball Yeomen celebrated their season opener here Sunday with a 59-45 victory over Royal Military College.

Betcherman, a 6 ft. 1 in. forward from Osgoode Hall Law School, led the sporadic York attack with 15 points, including seven field goals and one free throw. His 10 rebounds also topped the Yeomen's efforts along the boards.

But the surprise for York was the work of Del Principe, a diminutive guard (optimistically listed at 5' 10"), who potted 12 points on the strength of six field goals.

The York attack, while never losing control of the game, was often erratic as evidenced by their lowly 33 percent

shooting average from the floor.

The score at the half was 21-11, and while this stands well for the Yeomen defence, it emphasizes the need for a more potent attack when they meet the stronger teams in the OUAA.

York's lack of scoring punch was evident in the backcourt where veteran Vince Santoro managed only 6 points and sophomore Ev Spence was shut out. It's apparent that lacking a high scoring individual, York must depend on overall team effort. When they fail to get top performance from any of their starting five they will be in trouble.

York's weaknesses were made more apparent in Saturday night's exhibition contest with Waterloo. Boasting several forwards in the 6'5" and 6'6" height range the Warriors walked over their smaller opponents for an impres-

sive 82-45 win.

Mike Moser, a perennial all-star for Waterloo, was again their top player as he bagged 35 points and 10 rebounds.

Santoro and Betcherman were high scorers for York with 11 and 10 points respectively. Newcomer Romeo Calegario grabbed in 10 rebounds to help York on the backboards where

the height differential was most pronounced.

BASELINE BANTER: Roger Haag was RMC's top gun Sunday netting 16 points in their otherwise non-existent attack. . . Only 75 spectators turned up for the RMC game. York hopes that both the fans' and their performance will improve as the season wears on. . . Based on Saturday

night's game Waterloo will again be a powerhouse this year in the OUAA. . . There's no indication that the East will close the basketball gap this year. Last year's all-western final with Windsor and Waterloo could easily be repeated. . . The Yeomen travel to Sudbury tomorrow night to renew their rivalry with the Laurentian Voyageurs. They return for a home contest Sunday at 2 p.m. against Lakehead at Tait.

New coach and players revamp girl's basketball

The women's basketball squad has a new look this season with an all-rookie lineup and a new coach in Alfie Lane. While still lacking height, the emphasis on conditioning and offensive drills has produced a more aggressive offensive game and a sounder defensive game.

In an invitational tournament at Guelph on the weekend, the Yeowomen were defeated 80-42 by the University of Ottawa in their first match. Ottawa sank 65 per cent of its shots from as far as 20 feet out. York ran into serious foul trouble but were able to play well defensively.

York came back to play their best and most exciting contest in years against a strong McMaster team which finished second in last year's Ontario

finals. The Yeowomen were defeated 62-45 after both York centres fouled out in the third quarter. York's main problem in this game was difficulty in sinking valuable foul shots.

Lane's coaching philosophy of hard work and all-out individual and team efforts is producing an optimistic attitude and outlook among his players.

York hosts Laurentian Friday night at 7:45 p.m. in the Tait McKenzie gym.

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