

York wrestling team a strong contender to win CIAU title

By MARIO PIETRANGELO

The Yeomen wrestling team worked hard over the summer assembling and training an impressive line-up which is sure to be a strong contender for the CIAU championships.

Besides travelling extensively, the Yeomen had the opportunity to train with the Korean National Team who were competing at the June Canada Cup. A number of individual team members also went to Japan and Europe to train and compete with the world's best wrestlers, gaining experience which could be a deciding factor in the Yeomen's quest for a national championship.

The upcoming season's schedule includes some extremely tough tournaments. The first major tournament, the Sunkist Open, will be held later this month in Phoenix, Arizona, followed by the Simon Fraser Invitational in Vancouver. During the Christmas break, the Yeomen will travel to Florida for a training camp and to compete in the Sunshine Classic. In January, the team will wrestle in Michigan and, in February, they will compete in an international tournament in Cuba.

The work-outs have been vigorous this year but, as team member Roy Sue Wah Sing indicated, "The practices are still a lot of fun." Sing praised coach John Park, noting that "he is a great coach because he maintains an excellent athlete-coach relationship."

York wrestler Johnny Cho said, "This is a great team, [but] everybody is going to have to work really hard just to make the A team which will represent York at the OUA championships."

Paul Hughes, the 1986 Commonwealth Games Champion, believes the Yeomen have continued to improve and are now stronger than ever before. Richie Hart, runner-up at the 1987 Canada Cup, feels that "there are possibly three or four wrestlers on the York team who have an excellent chance to make the Canadian Olympic team."

Yeomen coach John Park is also optimistic. "This is an Olympic year," said Park, "and I am expecting a really great performance from all of our wrestlers. The York team looks exceptionally strong in the light and middle-weight divisions. This is greatly due to the return of seasoned veterans such as Stan Tzogas and Steve Sammons. However, the Yeomen could experience some difficulties in the heavy-weight classes, especially since Park has decided to let York's prime heavy-weight, Pat Findley, focus primarily on making the Olympic team."

Undoubtedly, York's biggest challenge will come from the perennial powerhouse, Concordia University.

Other universities which could potentially threaten an upset are Western and McMaster.

Field hockey team improves record

By PAUL CONROY

The York field hockey team travelled to Western this past Saturday and, on a very poor quality field, the team twice defied the chilly autumn weather and both times they came out on top.

In the first game against McMaster the girls had some difficulty wading through the lengthy grass but still managed a 4-0 victory on goals by Sandra Levy, Sharon Creelman, and Cathy Timmins, who potted two.

The second contest, against Western, which the Yeomen won by a 7-0 margin, was interesting in that 5 of the 7 goals were a result of penalty strokes. Creelman and Levy netted two each, Timmins got another, with Dale Peltola and rookie Monica O'Brien rounding out the scoring.

Tough times may lie ahead, however, as this week the squad travels to Guelph, and on Thursday go to Lampport Stadium to tackle cross-town rivals U of T, a 4:30 start.

York's rugby team also made the trek to Western on Saturday and banged their way to a 14-10 win over the Mustangs. It would be hard to say how the Yeomen were affected by the field conditions, or if they even noticed. This week the team is hosting Queen's, Saturday at 1:00.

Soccer action saw the men's team go to Peterborough. Though they are not playing up to what the coaching staff feels is their potential the squad still managed to beat Trent 2-0. Goalscorers for the Yeomen were Mike Mazza and Steve Kussman.

The win leaves the York squad well positioned for the upcoming home and home series with the U of T, first at Toronto and then back here on October 14 at 4:00.

The women's soccer team had a very disappointing weekend, losing both of their matches.

In the first loss, against Carlton, disallowed goals on questionable calls by the officials paved the way for a 2-1 loss. The only Yeowomen

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goal to be allowed was counted by Nancy Smith. Sunday saw them play in a very choppy game against Queen's. The Yeowomen had a lot of trouble with ball control in this one and the Kingston side came away with a 2-0 win.

The two losses leave the team in a tough position. They'll have to come up big in their next game versus Ryerson, and again at Toronto on October 13 if they hope to make the playoffs.

Another York team in great danger of missing the playoffs is the Yeomen football squad who lost last

Saturday to McMaster in Hamilton 33-32.

The Yeomen jumped out in front early on a one-yard TD run by Mike Raymond, followed by an 11-yard TD pass to Keith McFarlane from Adam Karlsson, but the Marauders kept fighting back.

With only 27 seconds left in the game and the score knotted at 32, the McMaster punter lofted an unbelievable 60 yarder into the York end-zone for the game winning single.

Another disappointing loss, but the team has little time for remorse. Upcoming is the game of the year against the University of Toronto, better known as the Blue Bowl, this week at Varsity Stadium. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

York football Yeomen play high school ball

At the beginning of the football season, many people (including me) had predicted the York Yeomen would finish with a strong showing in the OUA. After four games, however, the Yeomen's record stands at one and three, in a three-way tie for fifth place, raising the possibility that the Yeomen could be spectators come playoff time. Ever since their season-opening victory over the Guelph Gryphons they have performed in a manner similar to that seen in the high school ranks.

Three consecutive losses followed the victory, one of them a 32-2 shellacking at the hands of the Windsor Lancers, a team York has had relatively good success with in the past. Perhaps the biggest game of the season followed when the defending champions, Western Mustangs visited North York Civic stadium. In that context the Yeomen, resembling the Bad News Bears of football, proceeded to beat themselves with errors and handed the Mustangs a 28-14 victory. More importantly,

Karim Hajec



they gave the 'Purple People Eaters' a share of first place, while they began their slide to the basement. Still, the season was far from over and York still had a chance at finishing first or second.

This past weekend the Yeomen were on the road to McMaster and needed a victory, not only to move them up in the standings, but to instill some momentum and confidence heading into Thursday's big grudge match against the University of Toronto. Instead, the Yeomen lost in the dying moments of a close and exciting contest. After the game Yeomen coach Frank Cosentino felt the Yeomen had played their best game of the season and came up a point shy.

If this had occurred against a top-rated team, Cosentino would be justified in seeing something positive in their performance. The McMaster Marauders, however, are a team in the rebuilding stages, a team that would have been handled easily if the Yeomen had played up to their pre-season potential.

Three games remain for the Yeomen. First, a trip to Varsity Stadium to confront their arch-rivals, the U of T Blues. Last year these two teams played one of the most exciting games ever played in Canadian college football. It is unlikely they will equal that performance this year, but anything is possible on the collegiate gridiron. Next for the Yeomen will be a trip to Waterloo. To put it simply, the general consensus of those who follow the OUA is that if you can't beat Waterloo you shouldn't be playing football. The important thing to remember here is that a losing team loves to be a spoiler, and the Yeomen simply cannot take Waterloo or anybody else lightly.

If York has any intention of making the playoffs they have to win the next three contests. The first two games should see the Yeomen prevail, the final contest will be the most difficult. Laurier will come to town to close out the regular season in a homecoming game on October 24.

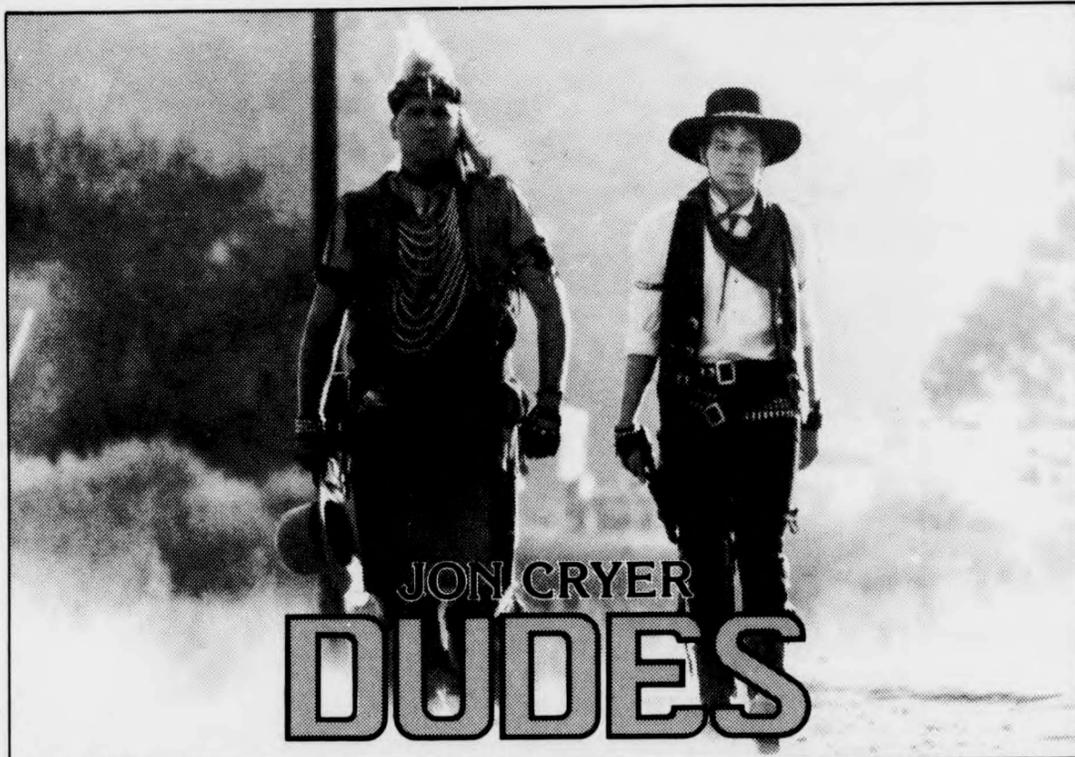
In previous years, York has failed to win the key games, especially when Laurier is involved. You only have to go back to last year when York played Laurier for the final playoff spot. After four quarters of domination by Laurier, York came up 20 points short in a 30-10 loss to the Golden Hawks. This year Laurier is just as strong, and could again be battling for a final position in post-season play.

Today the Yeomen are far from being "the team to beat" in the OUA. Just finishing on a winning note will take a dramatic turnaround.

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