sports



NICE TRY. York's Devon Hanson just misses blocking Mustang punt.

Bad call beats Yeomen

BY DAVID BUNDAS

The football Yeomen fell short in their hunt for home field advantage in the playoffs and second place in the standings as the Western Mustangs took advantage of York errors to defeat them 35-27. It was a game that almost always seemed within the grasp of the Yeomen, but five costly turnovers sent the crowd of 1,615 at North York Stadium home with the bitter taste of defeat in their mouths.

On their first possession Western drove 71 yards with Tony Bianci capping the drive on a 12 yard draw for the touchdown.

On their first try York retaliated by mixing pass and run, and settled for a 27 yard field goal by Mike Boyd. The next Yeomen possession featured a 30 yard reception by Bob Harding, and led to a one yard TD plunge by George Ganas. After a short punt and a no yards penalty, York gained possession of the ball at the Western 18 yard line and Iacono took little time, throwing on first down to Dave Cynamon who pulled it in over the shoulder for an 18 yard TD to make the score 17-7.

Then the Yeomen's house fell in. James Kardash started the Mustang barrage sneeking behind defender Cugliari, who gambled for the interception, and scored untouched making it 17-14.

Mental lapses, which have plagued York for the past few games, were clearly evident on a York drive which brought them to the Western 31 yard line. The next five plays proved crucial in their defeat. First there was an offside penalty and then a fumble; Fortunately it was recovered by joe Pariselli. Next, an illegal procedure penalty negated a Del Zotto catch. The icing on the cake was a 59 yard TD by Western's Mark Pearson which started on a botched screen pass which he intercepted after Iacono threw over his receiver's head.

York fell even further behind on a fumble by Iacono which Pearson again scooped up for a 48 yard TD to make the score 27-17.

The second half wasn't any different with turnovers and penalties killing York. "No question we just gave up too much," Coach Cosentino said. "Western's a good football team and we can't afford to be so generous." Gord Buttinger put the game out of reach with a blocked punt which Western recovered on York's 26 yard line. Chris Byrne scored on a one yard dive on third down to make it 35-20.

With just over a minute left in the game Dave Cynamon pulled in an 18 yard TD pass—his second of the day—putting York within striking distance.

A questionable pass interference penalty against York proved to be the final blow to their hopes for a comeback. Donovan Brown knocked away a second down pass, apparently without contact, but the officials called the infraction. Cosentino felt his player had made a clean play and couldn't understand the decision.

On the brighter side, York finished the game with some impressive statistics. Tino Iacono threw 18 of 31 for 250 yards; Steve Del Zotto caught five for 77 yards; Bob Harding caught five for 75 yards; and George Ganas rushed for 105 yards on 17 carries. York totalled 426 yards in offence, compared to 288 yards for Western.

The playoffs begin Saturday November 3 at J.W. Little Stadium in London. If York can execute to their capabilities they have the talent to win this game, although a rowdy home crowd should aid the Mustangs.

Bundas' Odds: Western is favored by 3. Take York with the points. (Editor's Note: Bundas is 0-1 against the spread)

Creelman's return nets title for Yeomen field hockey team

By DEBBIE KIRKWOOD

The York Yeowomen field hockey team pulled off what in many people's mind was the upset of the year as they eliminated the previously undefeated University of Toronto 2-0 in their semi-final match Saturday. The Yeowomen then defeated the University of Waterloo 1-0 to take the Ontario Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Association (OWIAA) Championship at Lamport Stadium.

The upset victories, however, came as no surprise to Head Coach Marina Van der Merwe. She cited many factors that were instrumental in the Yeowomen's up and down season. The Yeowomen did not have the full services of Sharon Creelman until this final tournament, "and since she is a rather strong player, that made a difference," Van der Merwe said.

The team was also loaded with rookies and consequently needed time for them to come together and play like a unit, to familiarize themselves with strategy, and to learn how to properly execuite a game plan. Not until this weekend "did it all come together," Van der Merwe said.

All in all the play of the Yeowomen this weekend was superb both offensively and defensively. In their three matches played on the weekend the Yeowomen did not allow a single goal.

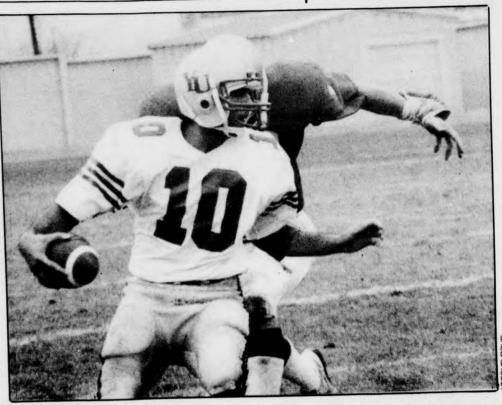
In their opening round match the Yeowomen faced the eastern division champion, Queen's University, and the Yeowomen defeated them handily 3-0 on goals by Sharon Creelman, Karen Hewlett and Sandra Levy. The team then set their sights on U of T, whose record during the regular season was quite impressive. In nine regular season matches the Lady Blues managed to rack up 55 goals against the opposition with only five goals against. The game was a scoreless affair until late in the first half when York's Karen Hewlett scored. As it turned out this was the only goal tht York would need. Two minutes into the second half Sharon Creelman scored the insurance goal.

In the championship match York won a hard-fought battle over the University of Waterloo 1-0 on a goal scored, once again, by Sharon Creelman.

This is the sixth time in the last seven years (since 1978) that the Yeowomen have made it to the finals and the third time that they have emerged as the provincial champion (1980 and 1981 were their previous years of triumph). This victory also marks the sixth time in the last seven years that York has represented the central region (Ontario and Quebec) at the Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Union (CIAU) Championships to be held this week at the University of British Columbia.

Five other teams will join York in B.C., two teams representing the west and the prairie regions, two teams from the Atlantic provinces and one other team from the Central Region, Waterloo.

Although none of the teams at the CIAU championships are unbeatable, the competition will be stiff. But judging from last week's results, the Yeowomen like it that way.



DON'T LOOK NOW but York quarterback Tino Iacono will get a Mustang welcome as Western defeated York 35-27.

York V-Ball squad succumbs to Winnipeg national champs

By PETER BECKER

Two giants in Canadian women's volleyball battled it out for the gold medal Saturday in the final of the Tait McKenzie Volleyball Classic at York University.

The University of Winnipeg Lady Wesmen needed five games and over two hours to defeat the York Yeowomen 15-8, 12-15, 15-8, 3-15 and 15-13 to capture the crown.

The Lady Wesmen, defending Tait Classic and Canadian University champions, took home their third consecutive title of the four-year old event.

"It (the win) just shows how consistent our program is," said Winnipeg coach Mike Burchuk. "I was especially pleased with our defense and service return."

The silver medalist Yeowomen gave it all they had in the fifth and final game losing by just two points after overcoming a sixpoint deficit.

"It was a great match, but we played a bad first game," said York coach Merv Mosher. "I'm pleased we did that well against a top team in the country."

York breezed through its round robin play defeating Toronto (15-1, 14-16, 15-3), Laval (15-5, 15-11) and Dalhousie (15-4, 15-11). In their semi-final, Ottawa took the Yeowomen to four games before losing (15-8, 11-15, 15-8, 15-9).

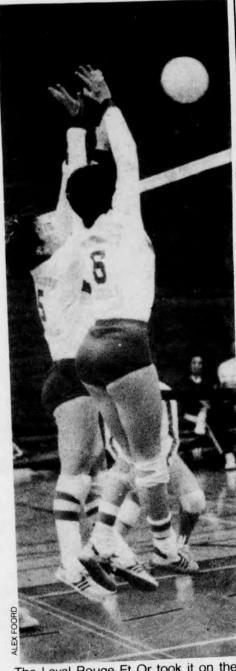
The Lady Wesmen finished at the top of their division by beating Moncton (15-2, 15-1) and Ottawa (15-3, 4-15, 15-9), their only loss going to British Columbia (9-15, 9-15). Winnipeg easily handled Laval in their semi-final needing only three games to send the Rouge Et Or down to the bronze medal match.

"This is probably the best tournament in Canada. We expect to see four or five of these teams back at the CIAUs," said Winnipeg's Burchak.

In the bronze medal contest, the Ottawa Gee Gees walked over the Laval Rouge Et Or three games to none (15-5, 15-10, 15-9) in the best of five match.

After losing to York earlier in the day, the Gee Gees (who also finished second to York at the OWIAAS last year) regrouped to put on an impressive performance against the Rouge Et Or. Fast paced ball placement, determined blocking and experience gave Ottawa the edge.

"We wanted to establish our transition game," said Ottawa coach Al Jeffrey. "We had trouble executing against York. When you get to this level, the finer points (of the game) count more. We wanted to go out strong."



The Laval Rouge Et Or took it on the chin from the Gee Gees as Ottawa won the bronze, 15-5, 15-10 and 15-9.

The tournament all-star team cosists of two York standouts, Donna Kastelic and Jill Graham, along with Kristine Drakich from U of T, Judy Szepesi from the Gee Gees, Erminia Russo from UBC and Ruth Klassen Burchuck, representing the Lady Wesmen. Tournament MVP honors went to Winnipeg's Jamie Hancharyk, her second in as many years.

The remaining teams in the tourney, Toronto, Dalhousie, UBC and Moncton finished in that order.