

Yeomen ripped apart by Carleton

by dave nimon

You have to feel a little sorry for the York basketball team. Year after year they hope to have more than just friends and family of the players attend the games. Every year they hope that the stands will be jammed as the Yeomen do battle against their opponents. And those times every year when there are good crowds in attendance, York proceeds to go out and stink up the joint.

This year the team kept up with this questionable tactic for getting fan support by losing badly to a top notch team, Carleton Ravens, by a score of 80-35 before some 400 fans on Saturday.

There could be many reasons given for the slaughter but only one of these reasons is important. That is the fact that there are a few players on the team

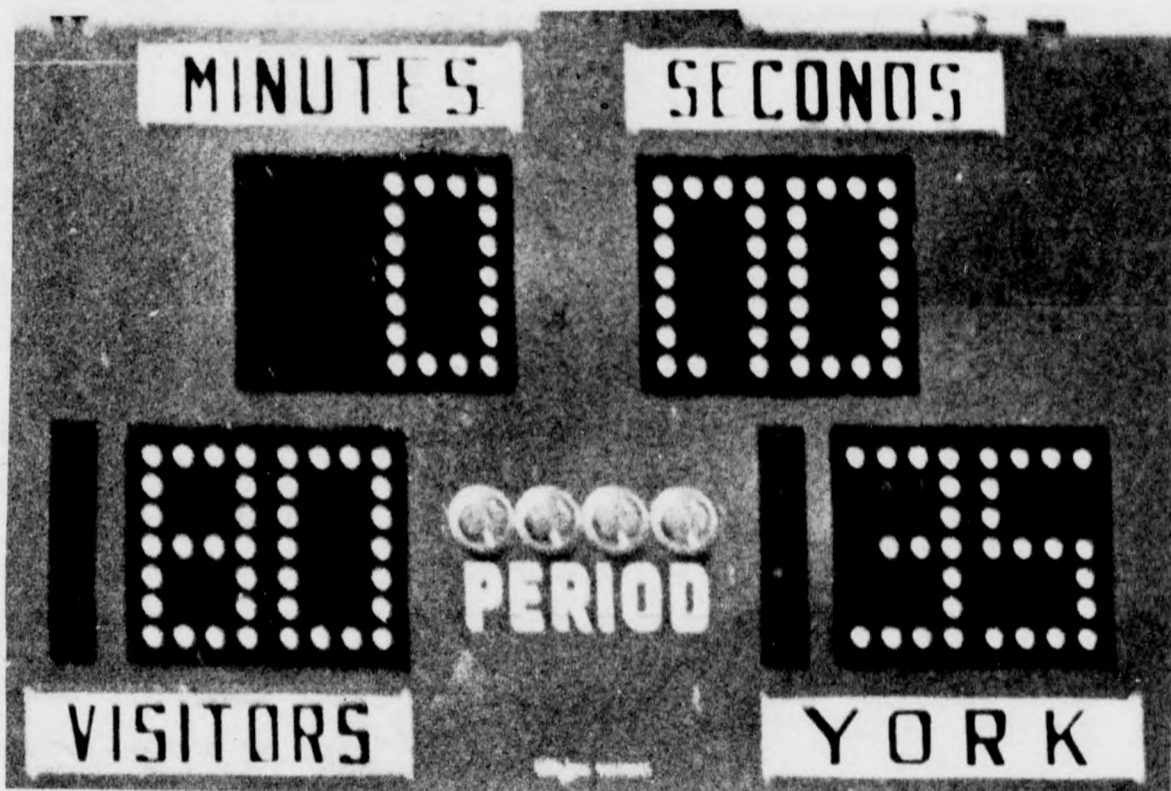
heavily relied upon to do the scoring. It is not telling tales out of school to say that these players are Brooke Pearson, Chuck Gordon and Gord Burns. Sure, there will be the odd game when one player or another not mentioned will get a hot hand but the fact remains that these three must do a lot of scoring for York to do well.

On Saturday, these three combined for 20 points where they should get at least 45 between them. Gordon fouled out after just 12 minutes helped by a poor decision to keep him playing when he picked up his fourth foul. He got only three points. Pearson played his second poor game in a row and wound up with eight. Burns led the team in scoring while tallying only nine points.

York would not have won even if these players had performed well. Carleton is just a damn

good team. Yet the low score attained by the Yeomen shows that there just isn't anyone on the team who appears at this point in the season quite capable of picking up the slack when the top three are not producing.

A few years ago the Windigoes (as the Yeomen were then called) had just one consistent scorer. Now there are more. Now York has a defensive specialist in Gus Falcioni. Now there are non-starters who, while they can't score 20 points a game, can still be relied upon to play a solid game. Now York has a schedule that is no longer mickey-mouse in nature. When the Yeomen play as they are capable of doing, York will stay with any team. When the Yeomen as a team let down as on Saturday, top teams like Waterloo-Lutheran, Western and Carleton are going to sock it to 'em but good.



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by Scott McMaster

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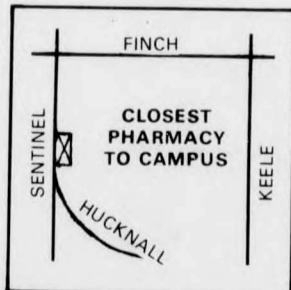
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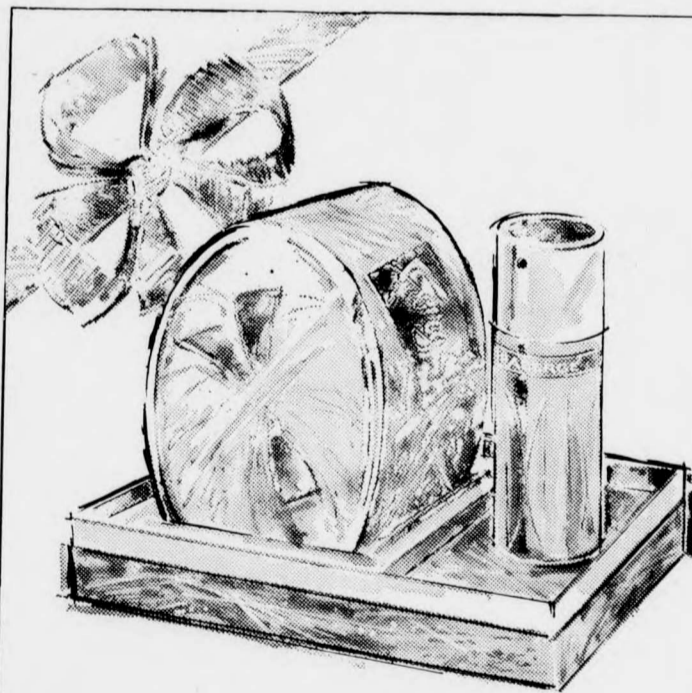
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