

sports

Depth in '83 field

By ELISSA FREEMAN

Top-notch field hockey coach Marina van der Merwe will have plenty of tough decisions to make this year—and she couldn't be happier.

For the first time in five years, York's renowned field hockey team has a bumper crop of players vying for a spot on this year's 15-member contingent. The dynamic tandem of Van der Merwe and assistant Kathy Broderick, whose previous accomplishments include guiding the 1983 National Team to its silver medal in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, are extremely excited at the prospect of having so many talented players to choose from.

Van der Merwe believes this year's large turnout is due to a number of reasons. The young kids have become aware of the fact that York University doesn't just consist of members of the senior national team," she explained.

"Also, I feel that the game has gained in popularity in the high schools, so the younger girls feel more confident in their skills."

Even though there are no longer any national members gracing the squad, there is still a small but strong nucleus of returnees. On defence, fourth-year veteran Mary Cicinelli brings with her a wealth of playing and coaching experience. Cicinelli has not only been with the team during its championship moments, but she has also coached Ontario's Red Team (16-17 yrs.) during the summer months.

Also on defence, second-year player Fiona Reid can be considered

a real threat. Emerging as a promising playmaker, Reid is also a member of the Canadian Under-21 team which was runner-up to England in the Carribean Cup and victorious over the U.S. in a Colorado Springs tournament.

Laura Branchaud is another veteran who is "a very dangerous forward and technically looking very good," according to Van der Merwe. Branchaud was supposed to be on the national team but an untimely appendicitis attack scratched her from the line-up.

Surrounding these three prominent players is a core of six other returnees and 13 hopeful rookies. The returning players are Debbie Lamb, Liz Kunkle, Beth Macaskill, Kim Cauchon, Brenda Garel, and Laurel McLaughlin.

The rookies are a varied bunch hailing from different points around the country and overseas: Kim Hobbs and Allison Thompson are both from Alberta, Stella Couban originates from Halifax, and Tracey Dawson is the overseas representative from New Zealand.

The rest, who hail closer to home, include: Sandra Mayberry and Vanessa Gonsalves of Morningstar S.S., Susan Watt of Mayfield S.S., Jane Galaski of Cobourg, Ellen Phipson from Cedarbrae C.I., Sandra Li, Monarch Park S.S., Allison DiDonato, Welland, Jackie Graham, Agincourt C.I., and Brenda Shantz.

"These rookies are more skilled, more athletic and learning very quickly," emphasized Van der Merwe.

Torch & Flame league offers full slate for '83

By CRAIG DANIELS

Whether you're looking to hone your competitive skills or to push that old body into an activity and have some fun, York's Inter-College Athletic Program is once again ready to meet your needs.

Recreation York, the branch of the school's Physical Education Department dedicated to keeping the York community fit, trim, healthy and happy, is offering a full slate of activities in two separate Intramural leagues—each league designed to suit the different athletic needs of its participants.

"The two leagues are designated 'Torch' and 'Flame', with the former being the more competitive of the two," explained Recreation York's Student Liaison Representative David Demonte.

"Basically," said Demonte, "the Torch league is comprised of a single, representative team from each College. Students play for the team of the college that they are affiliated with. Winning teams in each sport earn points for their college. The college with the most points at the end of the year are declared Torch champions."

Alumni was last year's winners in the men's division while Calumet took the women's division. The overall combined Torch champion was Calumet College—considered the team to beat this year, according to Demonte.

The first sporting activities ready to start next week in Torch competition are: Combined Tennis, Combined Golf, Men's and Women's Flag Football, Coed Volleyball on Sept. 19, Men's Soccer, Sept. 20, and

Combined Inner Tube Water Polo, Sept. 23.

The Flame league is much more recreational than the Torch, with the stress on participation rather than winning. This year, as an added incentive for students to become involved, glass beer mugs will be presented to members of winning teams in each sport, as they are in Torch competition, said Recreation Co-ordinator Arvo Tiidus. Last year's best-represented team in Flame competition was McLaughlin College.

The Flame league, like the Torch, offers a wide selection of activities in both Men's, Women's, and coed categories: Coed Softball and Badminton, Sept. 19, and Men's Soccer, Sept. 20, are the first slated to get underway this fall.

Now in its 18th season, Demonte is expecting an increase in the combined participation for inter-college competition over last year's 10,000-strong turnout.

"Overall it should be a good year," he said. "I want to stress the amount of fun both leagues can be. It's a great break from the books, you meet new people, and you don't have to be an athlete to participate. Sign-up sheets and notices should already be up around the colleges. If anybody has questions, they can call me or the Recreation Department at 667-2351. That's what we're here for."

Recreation York also has a helpful handbook out this year available in Room 303 of the Tait MacKenzie Building. The handbook gives a bevy of information on intramural and casual recreation activities complete with who to get in touch with and how.

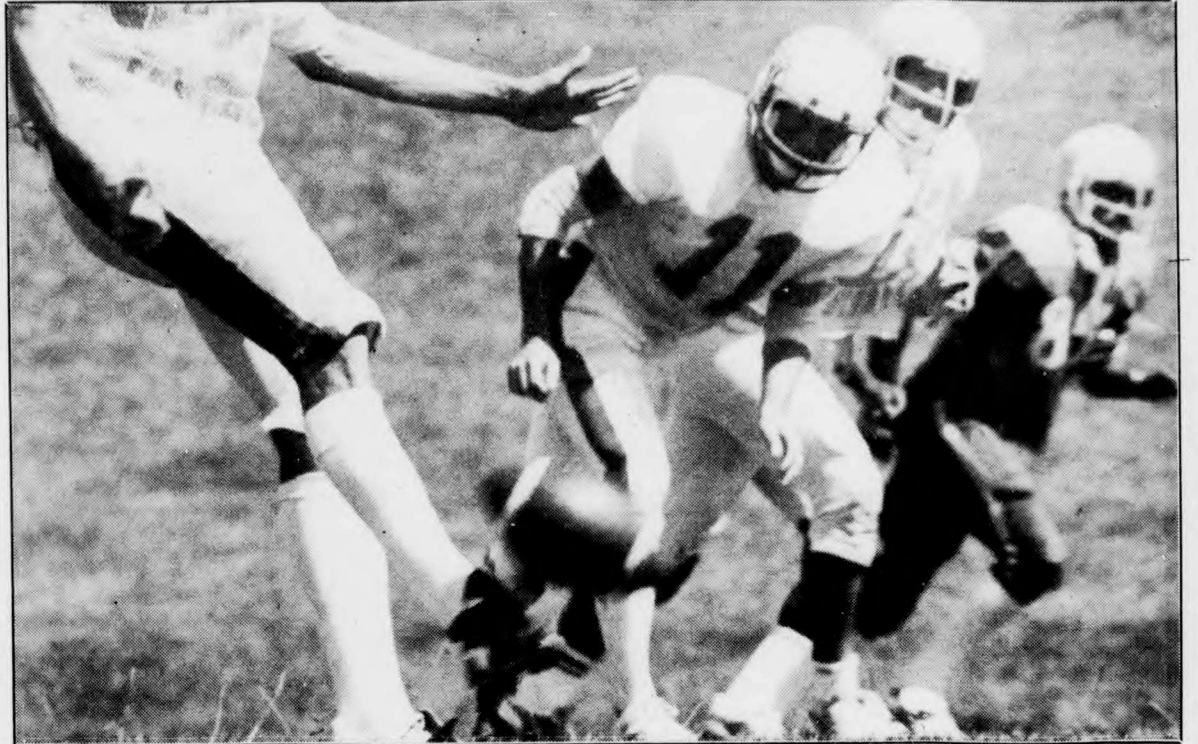


PHOTO: MARIO SCATTOLONI

The York Yeomen kicked off their 1983 OUAA regular season schedule with a 23-16 loss to defending league champion Western Mustangs

Loss to mighty 'Stangs doesn't awe York

By MARK ZWOLINSKI

The Western Mustangs picked a most opportune time to score their first touchdown of the 1983 Ontario University Athletic Association (OUAA) football season. After failing to touch end zone paydirt through seven quarters (including a 5-3 loss to U of T a week ago in exhibition play), the defending Yates Cup champion Mustangs capped an 85-yard fourth-quarter drive with their first seven points of the year to turn back the Yeomen 23-16.

Labatt's Blue MVP Jim Kardash was the Mustang culprit, taking a 14-yard pitch from quarterback Andy Rossitt with less than eight minutes remaining to give Western their third consecutive opening day victory over the Yeomen.

"We can't be disappointed with the way we played," said Yeomen coach Dave Pickett. "The effort was there, we just beat ourselves. The disappointment lies in the fact that we're just tired of coming close."

The Yeomen were supposed to be in awe of the Stangs and their mighty record(s) going into Saturday's game at J.W. Little Stadium—four of the last six OUAA crowns, three consecutive Yates Cup championships, and runner-up to UBC in the 1982 Vanier Cup national championships.

The Stangs also boast the OUAA's number one offence in 1982 with the nation's leading rusher of a year ago, Chris Byrne, bringing his 982 yards on 124 carries into the game along with the able arm of QB Andy Rossitt who had not thrown an interception in '82.

But the Yeomen did a little running, passing, and hitting of their own to surprise the championship-laurelled Mustangs.

Head coach Dave Pickett's defensive corps kept Byrne and co. at bay, yielding 401 yards to the high scoring Mustang offense, while picking off the first two interceptions Rossitt has given up in the OUAA. About 150 of those 401 yards came via a couple of bombs to Rossitt's favorite receiver Scott Callaghan after a stymied first half in which the York defense surrendered only 180 yards.

Newly-acquired offensive coordinator Bob Rainford pulled the right strings with the York offensive unit as the Yeomen racked up 311 yards.

Second-year pivot Paddy O'Neil, who saw limited action in his rookie season with a shoulder injury, replaced Tino Iacono in the starting backfield and impressed both Pickett and Rainford, completing 17 of 25 passes for 130 yards.

York's Labatts Blue MVP Joe Parisselli, returning from a year's sabbatical, rolled up 78 yards on 15 carries while third-year power fullback George Ganas grinded out 47 yards on 12 carries.

"Both the offense and the defense did their jobs," commented Pickett. "They executed well at both ends of the field and played well enough to win."

Western got off to their customary quick start, driving the ball 57 yards to York's 42-yard line where Kevin Rideyard kicked a field goal to give the Stangs an early 3-0 lead. Scott Callaghan gave York fitted memories of last year's opening-day game when he split the Yeomen secondary to corral a 32-yard bomb from Rossitt to set up the field goal.

Offence, defence did their jobs

York survived one of two Joe Parisselli fumbles in the game when they took over possession of the ball on their own 35-yard line on the next series of play. Defensive end Tim Potter pounced on the loose ball giving the Stangs good field position on York's 44-yard line, but a stubborn Yeomen defense left Western with another Kevin Rideyard field goal from 38 yards to up the score to 6-0.

Parisselli was quick to redeem himself when York took over possession of the ball, again on their own 35 yard line, as the 6'3", 210 pounder netted York a pair of first downs on six-and thirteen-yard rambles to drive the Yeomen to the Mustang's 37.

Steve Boyds' boot took over from there after York failed to advance the ball, splitting the uprights with his first of three field goals of the day to bring the score to 6-3.

With Western driving the ball at mid-field, up 10-6 after a Rideyard field goal and missed convert, York defensive back Trevor Williams stepped in front of a Rossitt to Kardash pass attempt, nailing the Western QB for his second interception of the game to close out the half.

"The fact that we have played Western before and are familiar with them didn't change our offensive game," Pickett said of Rossitt's two interceptions. "We went over things with key personnel but it's like I've been saying—the guys were doing their jobs."

Western field goal kicker Kevin Rideyard continued his workout in the second half, booting a 43-yarder after the Rossitt to Kardash combination brought the ball to York's 45 on a 17-yard crossing pattern over the middle.

But running backs Joe Parisselli and George Ganas went to work on York's next series of play, eating up 38 yards on a pair of draw plays which carried the ball to Western's 37.

York receiver Pat Disosomo, a rookie fighting for a job in the receiving corps, hauled in a pair of O'Neil sideline passes to bring the ball to the Mustang 15 where Boyd cashed in his third field goal of the day to bring York back to within four points, 13-9.

Mustang running back Chris Byrne spearheaded Western's next drive, again from their own 35-yard line, as the 5'11", 210 lb. fullback rolled for an eight-yard gain off right tackle.

But on second down and two, York's short yardage defense came up big. Sean Stone popped Byrne behind the line of scrimmage, knocking the ball loose. Steve Hart, coming up from the defensive backfield, pounced on the loose ball to give the Yeomen excellent field position at the Mustang 52-yard line.

Paddy O'Neil weaved a Joe