

# SPORTS

## Yeomen rugby team edges Western on weekend

By RANDY UGOLINI



**REACHING FOR THE SKY:** Strong defense supplies edge for Yeomen in their victory over the Mustangs last Saturday.

After spotting Western a man, the Yeomen rugby team held on to defeat the Mustangs 12-9 at home last Saturday.

The win was hard earned. Midway through the first half, York's D.J. Rogers was ejected from the game for splitting open a Western

Yeomen 12  
Mustangs 9

forward's head. As a result, the Yeomen were forced to play the remainder of the match with only 14 players as opposed to the usual 15.

Western opened the scoring with an early field goal. But Brian Armstrong quickly put York on the board with a 22 metre field goal, followed by a two point conversion.

The only try of the game was

scored by York's Andrew Saunders. Saunders carried in the ball on a nifty outside run from in front of the Western posts. The four point try put the home side ahead by six at the end of the half.

In the second half, it was up to the shorthanded York team to fend off Western's attack.

The Yeomen began with an Armstrong field goal from close range. It was his second field goal in as many attempts, and his eighth point of the day.

But the second half belonged to Western. With the wind at their back, the Mustangs attacked in waves, forcing York into a familiar defensive posture.

In the final 40 minutes, the Yeomen narrowly held Western to only two field goals. Two others failed field goal attempts, which would have given Western the game,

proved to be costly as York ended up winning by three.

Strong defense supplied the winning edge for the Yeomen. According to Armstrong, playing defensive rugby is nothing new to the Yeomen. "We're definitely a defensive team. Our game is more of a kicking game — more of a kick and chase type of offense."

For Armstrong, York's "kick and chase style" suits his game just fine. The rookie scrum-half scored eight of York's 12 points against Western. He has also claimed 30 of the Yeomen's 47 points to date.

"We have to play with what we have," explained Armstrong. "We have some big forwards, so we're working the offense in tight and using a lot of running plays. We played well (against Western) con-

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## Soccer men split weekend series

By "HOWIE" MARR

The soccer Yeomen played two games on the weekend and at times it looked like they fielded two different teams for each game.

Saturday against Laurentian the Yeomen showed their lethargic side and were justly defeated by a 2-1 score. Sunday it was time for the energetic Yeomen to show their colours and the results was a well-earned 2-1 victory over Carleton.

Sat. — Yeomen 1 Laurentian 2  
Sun. — Yeomen 2 Laurentian 1

The Laurentian game was a hard-hitting match. The Voyagers initiated most of the play while the Yeomen were caught flat-footed. The result: Laurentian staked themselves to a 1-0 lead in the first half. Lorie Owen-Turner was credited with the first Laurentian goal, but the credit should have gone to the Yeomen who knocked the ball into his own net.

But the Yeomen were not ready to roll over. A penalty shot was awarded to York and Dario Gasparatto blasted the ball by the Laurentian goalie to tie the game up.

The Yeomen looked as though they were going to hold on to the tie

in the second half, but with 10 minutes left in the game York proceeded to score their third goal of the night. Unfortunately, two of the three goals were scored on York's own net. The third being a shot that was deflected by goalie Steve Johnston. Nick Milanovich was credited with the winning goal for Laurentian.

Coach Norm Crandles said after the game that the Yeomen didn't lack the necessary aggression for the win.

"We had no shots in the second half; we didn't have it," said Crandles after the 2-1 loss. The loss left the Yeomen with a .500 record, and a must-win situation Sunday against Carleton.

But the Yeomen responded convincingly against the Ravens to put themselves in the Eastern Division playoff picture. Head coach Eric Willis undoubtedly gave his team some added encouragement before the match because York showed the aggression that escaped them against Laurentian.

They opened the scoring early in the game after a scramble in front of the Raven's net. Mike Mazza emerged with the ball from a cluster of players and placed it into the net for an early lead. York was able to

hold the lead until the middle of the second half thanks to some brilliant goaltending by Jeff Buchanen.

Buchanen made two penalty shot saves and numerous others until he was finally beaten on a rebound. Buchanen had made the initial save from a Carleton shot, but failed to clear it and Paul Vidovich of the Ravens was there to tie the game.

But the Yeomen didn't panic. Jimmy Karoganis stole the ball deep in the Carleton zone and scored from the corner to give the Yeomen the 2-1 victory.

"We had to win, we were in a desperate situation," said Willis after the game. "We face the same situation every game of the season."

Willis credited Buchanen with a good game. He had decided to go with Buchanen after Johnston had a very unspectacular game the day before.

"Both goalkeepers should feel fit for the game," said Willis in regard to the switch. Willis also wanted to keep Johnston's confidence intact.

For the Yeomen their 3-2-1 record leaves them still in the playoff picture with two games remaining against a strong Toronto team. This weekend they will play Queen's and Carleton followed by the Toronto matches the week after.

## Blue Bowl — so what is it?

By RANDY UGOLINI

The Blue Bowl is a football game played between York and U of T, held annually at Varsity Stadium. This year it is held on Thursday, Oct. 6 at 7:30 p.m.

Although York has won 3 of the last 4, U of T has dominated the event by a margin of 14 games to 3.

There are many facts and fallacies surrounding the Blue Bowl. For example, U of T has a slim lead in total points with 570 as compared to York's 208. Also, the average score of a Blue Bowl game is 30-12 for U of T. One common fallacy this year is that Blue Rodeo are starting for the Yeomen.

This year, coach Nobby Wirkowski and his Yeomen will be trying to avenge last year's 36-7 drumming, and improve their season record to 2 and 3.

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