

Welsh hospitality 'subversive'

Exposure to Britain's best aids rugby club

Over the holidays, a group of 26 players from the York Rugby Club travelled to Wales to take on some of the Welsh teams in this, a stronghold of world Rugby.

For openers, the Yeomen faced an all star squad in Newport in their first match. Eight of the home

side's players had represented Wales in international competition and six of these were chosen for the British Lions, comprised of the best players in England, Ireland, Wales and Scotland. The Yeomen played strong defensively and were only behind 16-4 with fifteen

minutes to play before the effects of their long travel of the previous day caught up with them. The final score was 40-4 but the Yeomen displayed the fact that experience and exposure to this standard of competition would quickly bring their game up to the Welsh calibre.

Five more matches were played, the scores in each becoming progressively closer as the Yeomen adjusted to the different type of play and the game conditions. Coach Larry Nancekivell summed up the playing side of the tour: "We went to Wales to learn from what

are regarded as some of the best rugby sides in the world. This we undoubtedly did and I believe it will show in our club games this spring and summer and in the Varsity matches next fall. Some of our younger players - Rob Panzer and John Santon, for example - were some of our brightest players as they rose quickly to the level of the competition and they, together with our experienced players, bode well for the future performances of the York Rugby Club."

Nor was the playing side the only excellent part of the trip. Said Club President Jim Boyd, "The hospitality of the Welsh people was fantastic. They did everything possible in order to make us feel welcome especially during Christmas and New Year's. This great hospitality was doubtless responsible for our fatigue in some of the games." Club Captain Bob Ross summarized the feelings of the whole tour party; "An absolutely fantastic trip. An unbelievably friendly and hospitable people and excellent rugby. Who could ask for more?"

So the Yeomen have now visited Yugoslavia and Wales. Be part of the next tour - contact Larry Nancekivell in the Physical Education Department or Jim Boyd at 636-8134 and come out and join in the winter social activities or the spring practices beginning in March.

York outwrestles Nationals, falls to Russian

Two members of the York wrestlers competed in the Montreal Invitational Tournament. Half of the teams there were representing the States, eight members of Canada's National Team were present, while John McPhedron and Tony De Thomasis of York's team were representing Central Ontario.

McPhedron appeared to be heading for first place after

defeating last year's CIAU champ, but he ran into a tough U.S. opponent and lost by a close score of three to one, settling for second spot. De Thomasis went through all his matches without a defeat until he met Victor Zielderman. The Russian Zielderman came third in the last Olympics, and dominated his weight class, pinning all opponents. He finished first with De

Thomasis in second. The team standings saw New York Athletic Club finishing first with 55 points, Central Ontario second with 46, and Canada's National Team third with 35.

On January 11, the York University wrestling team competed in the Queen's Invitational wrestling tournament in Kingston. All OUAA teams excluding Windsor participated.

Three American teams also competed. The University of Western Ontario dominated with St. Lawrence University of New York State also doing well.

All York wrestlers fared well. Three placed second, John Pickard, last year's winner, in the 150 pound class, Bill Howse at 109 pounds and Ted Hayward in the heavyweight division. Dave Simms was finally eliminated after wrestling Pickard in a late match.

Practices are from 5:30 to 7 in the wrestling room at Tait Mackenzie.

John Pickard aided by Johnny McPhedron and Dave Simms are coaching. All are welcome. Get in shape and win some trophies.

Participation proves the key

By MARK WIJK

Some interesting developments are occurring in the inter-college sports this year. In the half year report of 1974, McLaughlin (4,400 pts.) is in first place with a slim lead over perennial champion Stong (4,355 pts.) Following these in order are; Osgoode (3,495), Founders (3,068), Bethune (2,877), Vanier (1,809), Glendon (1,741), Winters (1,069), Calumet (745), Grads (369), and Atkinson (325). The MBA boys (and girls) didn't enter a team.

Anyone with inter-college news should get in touch with the Excalibur office (Room 111 Central Square, phone 667-3201.)

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