

Sports and Recreation

Don't count us out this year—Cosentino

Bryon Johnson and Bruce Gates
In sport all successful teams have one thing in common: the winning attitude.

Coach Frank Cosentino of the football Yeomen knows what that's all about during his days as coach of the Western Mustangs when he turned them into a national power.

Now that attitude is starting to rub off on the Yeomen. And although the team still has a way to go before attaining national pre-eminence, the feeling is there that this will come in the not-too-distant future.

Never mind that the Yeomen dropped a 16-9 decision to Cosentino's old team, the Mustangs, at Western last Saturday. ("They had to come from behind to take those two points away from us," he pointed out), there's a feeling of confidence that the Yeomen's 4-3 season last year was not because they play the weaker teams in the league.

"I think we've got the capability to win each game we play," he says, "but it's going to require the maximum effort from every player."

That maximum effort powered the Yeomen in their game against Western. The coach relied on everybody to carry out his assignments with a minimum of error in order to get the job done. And it worked to perfection in the first half with the Yeomen going to the lockers ahead 9-0.

The special teams had a lot to do with this lead: York opened the scoring in the first quarter when punter Sergio Capobianco's kick slipped through the Western receiver's hands. York recovered at the Mustang 35. Two plays later Capobianco

returned to the field to boot a 34-yard field goal. He added two more field goals before the half.

Cosentino acknowledges that his team still has to eliminate costly errors, as they did in the second half of the Western game when they turned the ball over to the Mustangs and nullified scoring chances of their own.

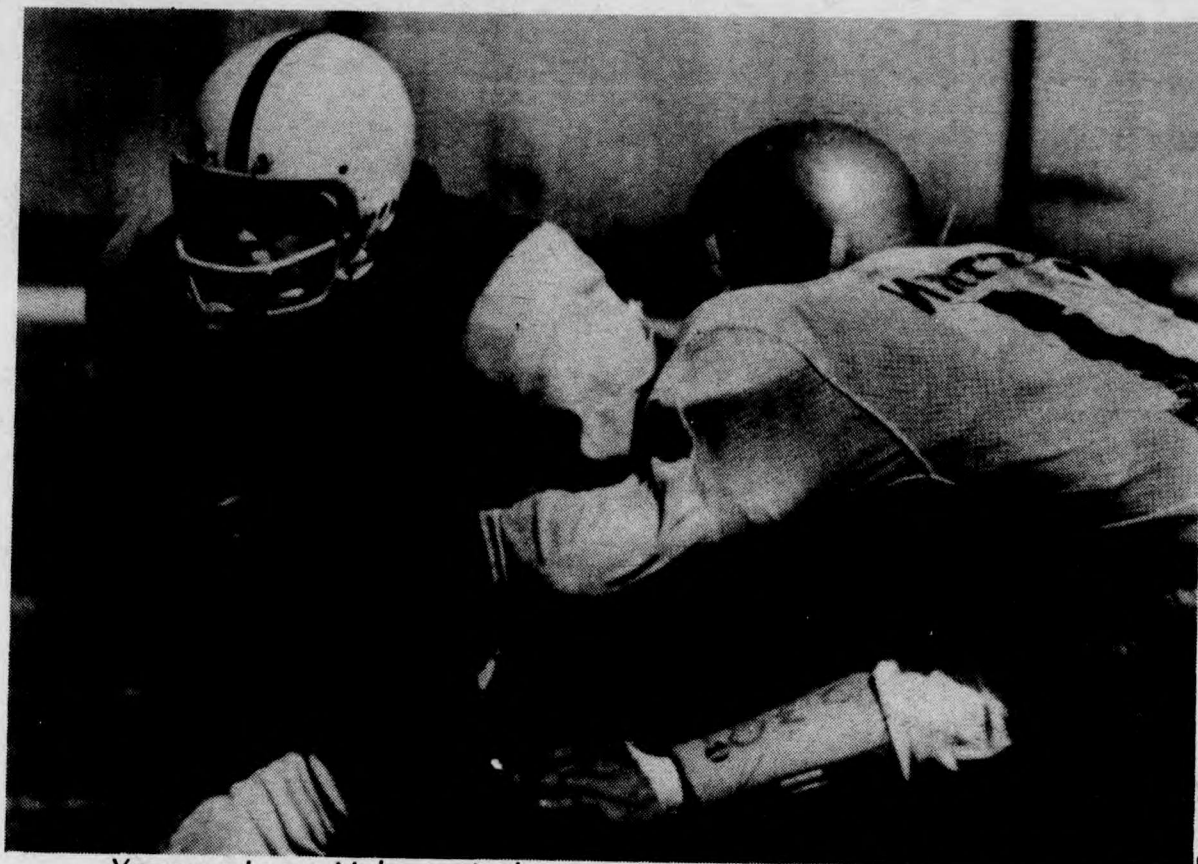
An interception of a Mike Foster pass inside the Yeomen's 20 yard line in the third quarter eventually led to the only touchdown of the game by Mustang Greg Marshall. That touchdown gave the favored Mustangs the lead for the first time (a field goal put them on the board earlier), and two more field goals later in the game rounded out the scoring.

That game was a loss to a league power. The score was a far cry from the 56-4 shellacking they suffered against the Mustangs nearly two years ago. The attitude has changed. It has changed on the field—and is evident in the practices. There's hand clapping, back slapping, boisterous shouting and yelling.

Coach Cosentino says he's impressed by the team's approach: They work hard, show up on time for practices, do work on their own.

"That's probably been the nicest feeling of my return to coaching is the attitude of the players," Cosentino says.

But getting the Attitude is part of the coach's job too. It's the job of defensive co-ordinator Dave Pickett, offensive line coach Gord Whitaker, defensive back coach Ron Gilchrist, defensive line coach Arnie McCaig, and of course head coach Cosentino to develop a game plan for the team and to instill a positive feeling



Yeoman Larry Aicken grinds out yardage during Saturday's defeat at the hands of the Western Mustangs.

among players.

The Western game illustrated what the right attitude will do for a team that's in the building stages.

However, the Western game is now history and the Yeomen have to prepare for Guelph here on Saturday afternoon. Coach Cosentino isn't sure what approach his team will take until after he sees the game films of Guelph in action. But he has an idea of what to look out for.

Under new head coach Tom Dimitroff, the former Ticat coach and Argo assistant coach, the Gryphons have become a passing

team with left hander Mike Eykins at quarterback. York will also have to stop the running of John Lowe.

"They have a good attack," Cosentino notes, "and defensively they shut off Laurier's run and forced them to pass, which is something they don't do that often."

So both offensively and defensively the Yeomen will have to be on top of their game, using the same strong play that they used to scare the Mustangs.

A win over the Gryphons will set the Yeomen on the course Cosentino wants to see the Red

and White follow:

"Last year we wanted to be competitive with the teams in our division," Cosentino says. "This year we want to be competitive with the teams in the expanded division."

It's going to be tough, he admits. After all when you're in against the likes of Laurier, Windsor, Western and Toronto, you're in with tough company.

But Cosentino is realistic about his team's chances. All he'll say is that "We're shooting for another winning season."

It's not just a tournament, it's an event



Bjorn Borg

Graham Tobe

"To put on the type of show to make this tournament one of the most successful in the world, we had to create a business... it is not just a tennis tournament. It is an event!"

It was during ten days in August when York University was the focus of the tennis world when these words were spoken. And they were coming from someone who knew what he was talking about.

Ken Sinclair is a volunteer special projects director for Tennis Canada and was tournament director of the Player's International Tennis Tournament (The Canadian Open). Much of the credit for making the Canadian Open big time must go to him.

This year's Canadian Open, easily the most successful ever, was contested at the 4-year-old Tennis Center at the northeast corner of the campus.

The International, which drew a record attendance of 50,216 and was standing room only for four of nine days, grossed about \$500,000.

The Imperial Tobacco Company, the new primary sponsor, insisted on hiring the Cleveland-based International Management Group (IMG), who meticulously packaged the event. They also delivered seven of the eight top ranked men players in the world.

The women's half of the tourney was comparatively minor league with Evonne Goolagong Cawley as the only name player competing for the women's purse which totalled \$35,000.

IGM was able to land the largest jewel of all: their client, Bjorn Borg, who easily disposed of 20-year-old American John McEnroe in straight sets in the final, 6-3, 6-3, to win the \$28,000 first prize.

The main reason the "Iceman" Borg came—28G's is small change for him—was the opportunity to play class competition on Deco-Turf II in preparation for the U. S. Open which he's never won. It is the third leg in the grand slam of tennis, at Flushing Meadow, New York.

"I've never had a chance to get used to it and I played very well on it. I feel comfortable now," Borg said while practicing for the tourney. "For me, this is a perfect program to get ready for the U. S. Open."

Ironically Borg was eliminated in the quarter finals at Flushing Meadow, and McEnroe was the ultimate winner. It is doubtful whether either would have been here if the clay courts of past were

still here.

Regardless, the tourney is a moneymaker. Sinclair estimates that the pie slices in the following manner: Tennis Canada gets \$130,000 for operating expenses, \$140,000 will be used to retire a Bank of Nova Scotia Loan for facility construction, and the IMG and Tennis Canada's Junior Development program get the rest except for \$50,000 towards 1980's operating costs (and a little more for capital development).

What about York? One dollar a year income from an estimated \$1 million property, hardly seems a shrewd business deal!

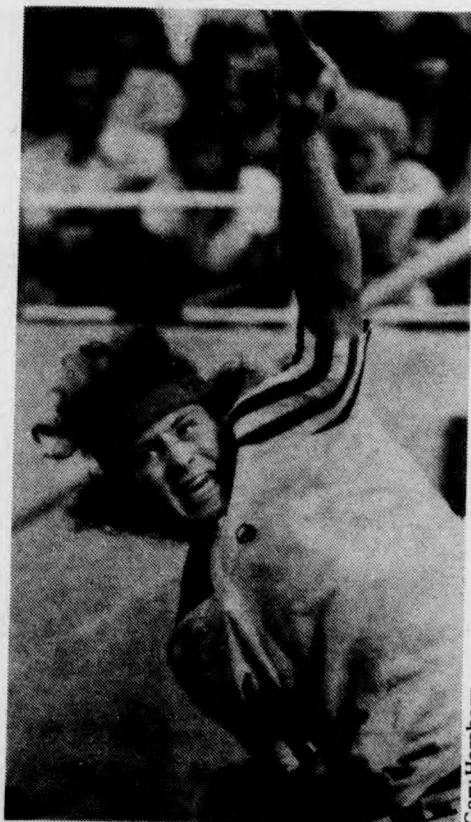
When this was suggested to Sinclair, he pointed out that all York students are able to use the facilities, when available, and the courts can also be used for clinics and tournaments. Also the old Founders courts which belong to York were resurfaced at no cost to the school. The land was not being used and probably would not be used in the foreseeable future due to budget cutbacks.

It would be ludicrous to suggest that the Canadian Open could be transformed from a non-event to a problem-less extravaganza in one year. Yet giant strides have been made in the past 12 months. And the future looks bright.

Plans for stands seating 10,000 people and permanent buildings for tennis shows, locker rooms, administration and entertainment areas are proposed for York's tennis center. There is some talk of an onsite hotel, to rival the student residences.

The fenced-in site spans 5 acres and is leased to Tennis Canada by York for a dollar a year up to 66 years. The past three

years, Tennis Canada has invested \$1,000,000 into courts, bleachers, landscaping and a public washroom. This year, it resurfaced the center court, one side court and built four new courts of Deco-Turf II, the same surface used at the U. S. Open. The three Founders courts were also resurfaced with the same. Total cost—\$202,000. The facility is largely maintained and operated by Tennis Canada, though Wintario has contributed a third of the capital development.



John McEnroe