

# Hockey Yeomen continue pounding OUAA opposition

## Impressive wins place York number one in national rankings

By EDO VAN BELKOM

The York Yeomen hockey team have been trouncing all opposition as of late and last week's action at the Ice Palace was no different.

Last Wednesday night the Yeomen downed the Waterloo Warriors by a score of 8-1 and Friday night they continued their shellacking of OUAA opponents, beating the Queen's Golden Gaels by a margin of 10-2.

With two National Student Team members on their roster in centre Steve Linsemen and goaltender Peter Crouse, the Warriors promised to give York some tough opposition, but these key members in the Waterloo line-up failed to stymie the York offensive machine.

Crouse failed to keep the Yeomen off the scoreboard allowing five first period goals behind him, while Linsemen was ineffective in the offensive zone. But these two players couldn't be held totally responsible as the entire Warrior team seemed to be playing hockey out in the parking lot and as a result the Yeomen were able to pelt the net area with rubber.

Crouse was replaced in the second period with back up Dean Benham. Benham turned aside 19 shots in the middle frame to keep the Yeomen off the scoreboard. But Benham couldn't keep York off the board all night as they put three more goals behind him in the third.

Yeomen goaltender Scott Mosey lost his bid for his first OUAA shutout at 6:26 of the third when Warrior Jamie McKee finally put Waterloo on the board.

Greg Rolston, who has been scoring goals by the bucketful of late, tallied four for the home side. Rolston played last year with the Marlies, scoring only 16 goals in 66 games.

Rolston attributes his lack of scoring to a shortage of ice time in the second half of the season. "In the second half I was getting about three shifts a game. They were really strong on right wing and the coach thought they could do a better job," Rolston said. "All those other right wingers signed pro contracts.



**GREAT SWING:** But the puck was out of the strike zone for Yeomen winger Greg Rolston in last Friday's hockey action against Queen's.

"I wanted to go back this year (as an average) and have another crack at it but I wasn't invited back."

Rolston credits his recent scoring surge to a quality centreman, something he had with the Marlies early in the year with the present Olympic team member Fabian Joseph. Rolston's centreman of late has been Brad Ramsden, a former Peterborough Pete, who has a tremendous puck sense enabling him to consistently feed the puck out to the front of the net. Ramsden counted three assists on Rolston's four goals. Marty Williamson, playing with several stitches on a finger on his left hand counted three assists while Rick Morrocco also counted three.

The Queen's Golden Gaels, one of the powerhouses of the OUAA just a few years ago, have been on a slide that has seen them deteriorate into a mediocre team in the middle of the standings. The major reason for this slide is that Queen's does not have a full time coach. The Gaels are coached by Mike Gillis, a former NHLer and a student at the Kingston university. Yeomen head coach Dave Chambers questions the part time coaching at Queen's and throughout the league saying, "Every team in the league should have a full-time coach or a coach with the time to handle the job."

Chambers is pleased with his team's play saying that they're not playing slack with every component of the team playing sound hockey.

And with a string of lopsided scores the team has to "keep its intensity and keep the goals against down."

Friday night was another scoring spree for the Yeomen led by Brian Small who counted four goals. Small, primarily a checker showed some offensive punch with the Texan hat trick. Brian Gray also got onto the scoreboard in a big way with three assists.

Notes: The Yeomen play the final home game of the year tonight against the Brock Badgers at the Ice Palace. . . Newcomer Ben Panniccia, a transfer student from St. Mary's University has scored a goal in each of the two games he has played. . . The Yeomen are currently ranked number one in the country. . .

## Criticism of stance on intramurals most disturbing

I find it most disturbing to witness *Excalibur* Sports Editor, Edo Van Belkom, come under attack for his stance on Intramural athletics at York. Certainly Mr. Van Belkom is entitled to his own opinion. So too are his critics. Nevertheless, my ire is raised by the attitude of those who have criticized Mr. Van Belkom. In typical fashion of the apathetic nature of today's student body, reaction comes about through negation rather than creation.

Beyond a shadow of a doubt, this year's *Excalibur* sports section is dramatically improved from those of the past. Yet it is all too rare an occasion that finds Mr. Van Belkom the recipient of gratitude for his diligence. Sadly, once again the old adage "it's easy to criticize" applies.

Enlightened individuals are bluntly aware of Mr. Van Belkom's large contribution to the York community. He has brought the brilliance of York Varsity athletics to the consciousness of the university population. This year, *Excalibur* Sports has covered all varsity athletics, including game stories, columns, features and an abundance of outstanding action photographs.

Most students panic over a paper and exam and are unable to gain the perspective to properly channel their energies. I've heard constant sob stories from the many who fail to realize organization and discipline in their endeavors. On the other hand, Mr. Van Belkom appears on the scene at most York sporting events to support and cover the teams and players.



MEL BROITMAN

At the same time he is also a student with the same academic concerns, anxieties and deadlines that all of us face. Yet game in and game out he has become a familiar sight at the Ice Palace or Gymnasium. Where are those so called thousands of dedicated intramural athletes when our varsity clubs take the court, field or ice?

In reality there are very few committed individuals involved in intramural athletics at York. I've personally participated and witnessed Intramural Torch competition in hockey, football, basketball, curling, baseball and soccer. Often times I am awestruck at the immaturity of many of the so called 'athletes.' Of course these teams lack the Chambers, Cosentinos, Van Der Merwes and Bains to act as mentors. Regardless, Intramural sport and its participants have a lot of maturing to do.

I still advocate that *Excalibur* provide some coverage of Intramural athletics. Maybe a standings table once a month.

However, anything more is ridiculous. If as has been claimed, there are 'thousands' involved in Intramurals, then they should have no trouble starting a newsletter of their own. Obviously with the 'huge' following, an Intramural newsletter should have no difficulty selling advertising or generating funds. The truth however is that no one has stepped forward with the initiative to begin such a venture. Financial proposals, administrative organization, legwork and commitment take real dedication. Like I said, "It's easy to criticize."

Not to mention; college newspapers exist in a wide variety on campus. Yet outside of maybe one or two, a startling lack of responsibility is evident. Once again the opportunity lies waiting. Where are the few serious individuals to invest the time and energy to turn a college 'rag' into a piece of actual journalism? Intramural athletics could revamp a newspaper and give their athletes the exposure they so dearly want. It just takes some effort.

Intramural sport still deserves its due credit. It does provide a great opportunity for social and athletic interaction among the university community. Some of my own fondest memories at York are tied up in Intramural sport.

No one is comparing Intramurals to Varsity Athletics. They belong to two distinctly separate arenas. But when it comes to recognition, exposure and the kind of reciprocal commitment *Excalibur's* sports section provides, the choice is clear. Varsity athletics, everytime.

## Chance offered for intramurals to gain exposure

With the amount of response my last column entitled "Intramurals can't compare to Varsity Athletics" has received I am compelled to offer a final word on the matter and hopefully a viable solution to the problem once and for all.

We have received six letters and counting on the subject of Intramurals, the proper spelling of which has justly been pointed out to me and as a result I stand corrected, and this is proof of the concern among the York community about coverage of Intramural activities in *Excalibur*. However, it must be pointed out that of all the letters we received the majority were from organizers of the program and not the participants. These people, I am sure spend long hours to ensure the smooth operation of the program and were offended by my remarks. This was not my intention.

It is unfortunate that we have received more letters on this subject than on any other issue like apartheid or the attempt to pull out of OFS, but such is the nature of the beast. It shows that some people out there take their intramurals seriously.

As a result of the response the intramural program here at



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York has received more publicity than could have been achieved in any other way. If the column served to pull together the organizers of the program and re-evaluate the state of various intramural leagues, then I have done my job. I do not knock the merit of the league, only some aspects of it.

Even those most closely associated with the intramural program must admit that there are some problems. We at *Excalibur* this year have pointed out problems in many areas of athletics, not solely within the intramural system.

So much for the subject of intramurals, now for the solution.

I formally present an offer to the people at Recreation York

and any other concerned party that I have extended to members of various varsity teams. When certain varsity teams go away on road trips I have allowed team members to write up reports of the team's activities, which is printed in that week's edition of the paper. If a weekly round-up is brought into our office on Monday morning a regular feature will be established. The report must be handed in early enough to allow us to plan its inclusion in the layout of the section.

Beginning with the edition of *Excalibur* that will come out after reading week, a substantial amount of space will be left open for a weekly round up of intramural activity. The first installment of this feature should be large enough to accommodate all the sports that have already been completed. Hopefully this will develop into a regular weekly feature, providing ample coverage of intramurals, something that has been evidently missing from the sports section in *Excalibur*.

This should be a satisfactory solution, and will hopefully bring "thousands" more readers to our section of the paper, and please all members of York's athletic community.