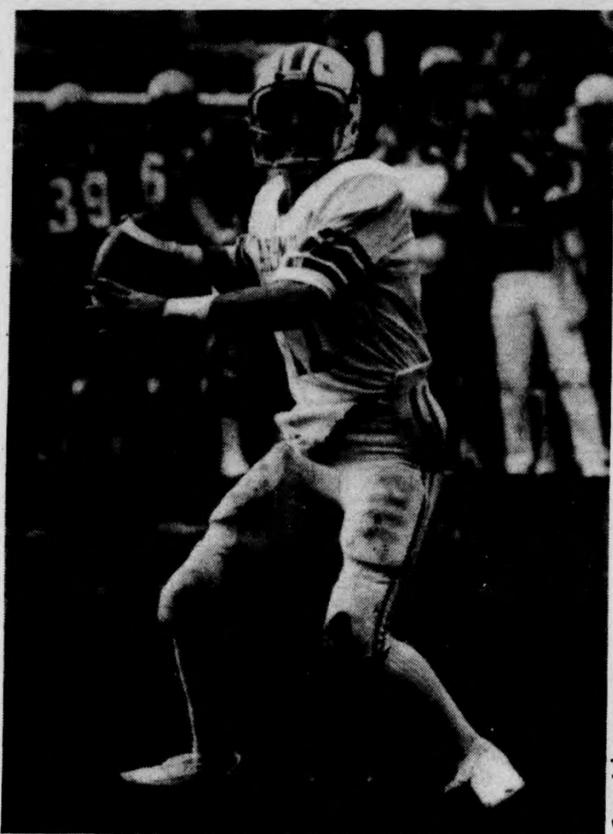


Sports and Recreation



"They didn't think I could pass," said Acadia QB Mike Cosgrove after Ayemen's 34-12 demolition of Western at last weekend's College Bowl. But pass he did, completing 14 of 17 for 276 yards.

Bryon Johnson

Injuries riddle puckmen

Neil McKay

This year's edition of the hockey Yeomen must be asking themselves what they have done to so displease the hockey gods above. When captain Alf Beasley was taken heavily into the boards by a Western Mustang last Wednesday night, he suffered a broken jaw and joined an already lengthy list of injured puckmen.

Blair Lewis, the team's top rearguard, is still feeling the effects of a knee injury incurred six weeks ago during the U of T tournament. Scott Densem (broken jaw) and Dave Gaston (broken leg) are two of the club's better attackers and when they will be able to return to the team is still unknown. John Lovell and Joe Palumbo are also hurting and coach Bruce Reier has been forced to juggle his lineup every game so far.

Last Saturday night Jeff Black scored both goals as Laurentian Voyageurs came from behind to tie Yeomen 2-2. York's record now stands at 1-3-1. George Darnowski once again provided stellar goaltending, turning aside 30 of 32 shots.

"Under the circumstances, I'm quite pleased with the way the team has performed so far," said Reier in reference to the number of injuries to key players. "The guys are working hard and they're still optimistic."

"Last year we started off the same way," said Beasley prior to the 8-7 loss to Western. "I think we were 1-7 before we managed to turn things around. We're going to do all right this year. When we're passing well and everyone is skating we'll win our share." Beasley is not expected back until after the Christmas break and his absence will be noticed. Last year Beasley was selected as the most valuable player by his teammates.

On a brighter note, Al Sinclair has returned to school after a brief stint with the police force

and his presence will definitely bolster the attack. Prior to his departure two weeks ago, Sinclair had, along with Frank McCarthy, been the team's most dangerous forward.

The league is operating under a new format this year. All twelve teams are in a single division with the top six clubs qualifying for post-season play. "Our goal this year is to make the playoffs," said Reier. "I expect us to finish fifth or sixth."

McMaster and U of T lead the league with 11 and 10 points respectively, and they, along with Laurentian and Guelph, appear to be the teams to beat according to Reier.

U of T Blues have somehow managed to put together another strong outfit despite having lost the services of six top players and coach Tom Watt to the Canadian Olympic team. Former captain Gord Davies is acting as interim coach.

On the canvas

The York Yeomen wrestling team made its first competitive appearance at the Waterloo Invitational meet last Saturday, scoring an unofficial first place finish ahead of larger teams from Guelph and Waterloo. Of the 128 fine wrestlers present, York contributed seven. Yet, this small contingent captured first, second, third and fourth place finishes.

Wrestling at the 128 pound weight category, Jim Mendicino fought hard to win two bouts, but was beaten in his third, to capture a fourth-place standing, while Dave Tooke defeated his first three opponents, and lost to a fourth. Although Tooke had beaten the second place finisher earlier on, he had to settle for third, due to the meet's draw system.

At 144 pounds, Mike Pomer wrestled well in two very tough matches, but was eliminated early in the tournament.

Gord Hansed, who hadn't seen action on the mat in the past two years due to a knee injury, came back to capture two wins in the 152 pound weight category, but lost his third match, eliminating him from the tournament. Also at the 152 pound level, Tony Cosen-

tino fought two matches in his first university tournament, but was quickly eliminated.

Jonathan Graham, another rookie fresh out of Central Tech, won three hard-fought matches, losing his fourth to Dave Kinsett of the Richmond Hill Wrestling Club, to place second in the 160 pound weight category.

York's highlight of the afternoon was at the 169 pound level, when Dave Carmichael, wrestling in his first meet in a year-and-a-half, fought a physically demanding match for second place, and went on to clinch the gold medal with a fifth consecutive victory.

This year, York welcomes a new wrestling coach, Albert Venditti. A former national team wrestler, Venditti possesses a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to pass on to the York team. Looking back on the meet, he commented: "The York Yeomen wrestling team had a very successful and fine showing by all wrestlers. I am looking forward to the upcoming tournaments."

The Waterloo Invitational proved to be a good start for the Yeomen who face one of their toughest tests next Saturday at the Ryerson Open.

Shortstops

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Women's Basketball team started league play on the weekend of Nov. 10, after accumulating an 11-2 win-loss record in pre-season play. The league opener added another victory to the record, a 58-45 win over Windsor University.

Coach Flint commented: "The team members now perform like veterans since they have experienced all calibres of play. They gained valuable confidence from the preseason. This will certainly help them in the tough season ahead. York is now recognized as a formidable team in Ontario."

In their first home league game the Yeowomen defeated Ryerson by a score of 104-32. Top scorers were Barb Whibbs with 25, Kim Holden with 22, and both Anne Kinsella and Elaine Stewart with 12. Ryerson's high scorer was Bonnie Bowler, who sank 14 points, almost half of her team's total score.

This win brings the York record to 3-0 in league play.

"Our players showed their maturity by executing their offence and closing down Ryerson's top players. I am really pleased with the way the players are working together. This certainly helps bring everyone's talent out," said Flint.

The team travels to Hamilton for their next league game against McMaster, then faces Carleton at home on Dec. 1.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Coach Bob Bain's "new-look" Yeomen cagers were handed their first defeat of the season, a 93-78 loss to Damien College. However, the Yeomen came back very strong the next evening to overpower the host Western Mustangs, 110-73, to win the consolation round of the fourth annual University of Western Ontario Invitational.

The key to Damien's win in the tourney opener Friday evening was their ability to hold all-Canadian David Coulthard to a season-low eighteen points. Team-mate Bo Pelech scored 32 points before fouling out late in the game while attempting to re-establish the Yeomen defensive game, which seemed to be lacking throughout the contest.

"We got hammered on the boards. It's as simple as that," commented Bain after the loss.

The consolation final proved to be a totally different story, with the Yeomen totally dominating the bewildered Mustangs. No less than five Yeomen hit the double figures, led by David Coulthard with 33 points, followed by Bo Pelech with 25, Paul Jones with 15 and Ron Kaknevicius with 13, while rookie guard Enzo Spagnuolo added 10.

This weekend, the Yeomen host the second annual Excalibur Classic. Play begins at 7 pm on Friday, Nov. 23 at Tait McKenzie.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Last Saturday, York's volleyball Yeomen edged the Laurentian Voyageurs 3-1 (15-2, 15-6, 20-22, 15-11) in a best of five meet at Tait McKenzie.

York Coach Wally Dyba spoke with Excalibur after the meet. He was surprised and happy with the easy victories in the first two games, but expressed concern over the team's trend towards early, fast wins and then greater difficulties later on. Last Wednesday when York met U of T, this is just what happened. York opened the best of five contest with a quick 15-4 victory and then lost two games before they managed to get going again (taking the match 3-2). Explained Dyba: "We're blowing teams out in the first game, and then easing up on them. We're not going in for the kill."

"Team effort" beats GG's

Diane Rene

The York Yeowomen volleyball team eased their way to victory in three consecutive matches (15-10, 15-9, 15-13) over the Ottawa GG's on Friday, November 16 at Tait McKenzie.

Coach Merv Mosher explained that his team was optimistic before the game, but didn't really expect to run away with the matches. "We went into it with high spirits. We expected to win overall, but not in three consecutive matches. Everybody was really psyched-up for the bout; the whistles blew, we were ready to go, and spirits were high."

There were no real standout players in Friday's game as Coach

Mosher explained that "it was an overall team effort. Everyone played well, even though we were a bit disadvantaged by size. Our team is shorter and not as big as Ottawa's, but their downfall was their lack of team effort. Each one of their players was a unit instead of a collective force."

From a bystander's point of view, one could not disregard the individual efforts of Ellena Mckendry (no. 15) and Maria Taylor (no. 3). The Ottawa team was strong, but the Yeowomen's collective efforts, combined with excellent spiking and digging, clinched the victory.

Presently, York is in first place, with two wins to its credit. The

Ottawa team is in second spot, with one win against the Guelph Gryphons and a loss against the York team. Coach Mosher is confident that the Yeowomen can make it to the finals and win, and hopes that the team can compete in the Nationals. "Saskatchewan won the Nationals last year. They're a strong team, and they'll probably be in the Nationals again this year. Our team wants to be able to compete in those finals this year, and they can do it if they set their goals right."

This year, the Yeowomen are better equipped to compete on a national level. "They're older, they've played more games, so the team is stronger. Once you acquire skills in a sport, then experience is needed, and we have it this year," said Mosher.

The next game the Yeowomen are slated to play is against the Gryphons at Guelph. "The Guelph team is quite weak, so we expect a victory there," commented Mosher. "On Tuesday the 22nd, we play the Waterloo team. They're a bit stronger, but not as powerful as our team."

The next big match is on Dec. 6 against Western. "That should be a biggy," noted Mosher. "We'll see some good competition. Western has always had a strong volleyball team."



Diane Rene