Queen's can't end hoopers' winning streak

By Bruce Gates

Last Friday night's outcome of the Yeomen-Queen's basketball game at Tait McKenzie won by York, 84-57, was summed up well by Gaels' coach Petc Smith:

"We played the bes we could. We couldn't play any better than we did, but it wasn't enough."

Queen's was outmuscled and outplayed by a larger and stronger Yeomen team that used its back-up players for much of the game, as coach Bob Bain played his entire bench.

York built up a 17-0 lead in the first few minutes of the game and probably could have doubled that with a little more luck around the boards.

At that point, York was defending well against Queen's shooting by boxing them out of the key area, and this resulted in some of the fans starting to chant: "We want a shutout, we want a shutout!"

Queen's finally cracked the goose egg and managed to put 22 points on the scoreboard by halftime. But the Yeomen, who appeared to slack off a bit after they had built up their early lead, sank 26 more points for a 43-22 lead.

In the second half, Queen's played better defensively and despite a height disadvantage, they often stopped York under the boards — something they did with some success during the entire game.

The Golden Gaels played stronger in the final 20 minutes, while York was trying fancy shots. The result was the Golden Gaels were outscored by only six points, 41-35, in the second half.

But the outcome was never in doubt, and the Yeomen prevailed, 84-57. The win gave York a 5-0 regular-season record.

It was not one of the Yeomen's finer performances this season. They shot only 46 per cent from the floor and 53 per cent from the foul line.

Said Bain: "We played well enough to win. That's about it."

Back-up centre Frank Zulys started the game and played strongly, leading the Yeomen in rebounds with 10 and sinking 15 points.

Guard Dave Coulthard led the team with 17 points, and regular centre Lonnie Ramati, who appears to have recovered from the sprained ankle he picked up in Ottawa, netted 14 points, including a dunk that had the crowd yelling with delight.

York's next regular-season game at home is this Friday night against the Ryerson Rams. And the following evening, the Yeomen will play an exhibition game, here against the Etobicoke Estonians in what will be a good tune-up game for their match next week with the powerful Laurentian Voyageurs.

"We are a much better team now than we were when we first played the Estonians," Bain said.

Earlier this season, York lost to them, 76-66, and many of the Yeomen would like to avenge that loss. "We're playing for pride," said one player.

The Estonian game will provide York with tough competition — the kind they will face next Saturday, Feb. 4 when Laurentian comes here to play what is shaping up to be the game of the year.

At stake will likely be first place in the OUAA East. If York wins, they could guarantee themselves of a first-place finish — provided they win their final four matches.

First place would guarantee the Yeomen home court for the first round of the playoffs and could ultimately result in their having the home advantage for the entire OUAA playoffs.

Parting Shots: Other leading scorers for York against Queen's were: **Bo Pelech** with 8 points, **Harry Hunter** with 7, and **Paul Layefsky** and **Ron Kaknevicius** with 6 each. High man for Queen's was **Stephen MacReady** with 13 points ... Earlier this week, Yeomen played the Rams at Ryerson. The score was unavailable at press time.

Bruce Gates photo

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Lady cagers' revenge

By Lisa Woo

The basketball Yeowomen put together a super team effort last Friday and outmatched Carleton 66-55, the same team that beat them 55-49 the weekend before.

The leading scorer for the Yeowomen was Silvia Peluso, with 28 points.

Though the team, due to injuries, had only eight players, they ran the ball well and set the pace of the game. (With five minutes left, they were twenty points up and managed to hang on to win.)

Four of the team members, three with bad knees and one with a severely sprained ankle, will be out for the rest of the season and the Yeowomen will have to face the rest of the season with this disadvantage.

The team is presently in fifth place in the league, tied with Carleton. Coach Skip Letheren was proud of the team who "played with a lot of heart" and is optimistic they will come away with two or three of the remaining four games this season, and clinch fourth place.

The York team is one of the smallest in the league, which at times makes rebounding difficult. The smallest guard on the team is 5'1" and the tallest player 5'8", as compared to the 6-footers on other teams. Their theme song is appropriately, "Short People".

Rookie fencers shine

By George Trenton

York's fencing teams will have something to look forward to in the future after last weekend's fine showing of rookie fencers at the Carleton Invitational.

Overall both the men and women's teams had poor showings according to coach Richard Polatynski. "We didn't do as well at the Carleton tournament as we did at the York tournament. I guess everyone just had an off day."

The men's epée team, comprised of solely first year fencers, were led to a third place finish by Rick Wheler who was York's most outstanding fencer of the tournament. Mike Stein showed promising form as the sabre and foil teams managed a fifth place out of a field of fourteen teams.

Although the women's team placed ninth out of nine teams, they are still in first place after winning their first sectional finals. They will go on to the second sectional finals which Polatynski feels they can win. "I am confident the girls, led by Sharon Boothby and Mary Lea Serpell, will make it to the finals and will come back with a medal." Last year Sharon Boothby made it to the finals. With a year of experience under her belt, Polatynski is sure that she will be in the running for a medal.

This Saturday the men's team will host the divisional quarter finals at the Tait McKenzie building. Polatynski says that if all goes well this weekend, all three of the men's teams should make it to the sectional semi'finals.

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