

Sports

Cosentino delivers

George Eadie

Frank Cosentino's mission, on arrival at York in 1978, after a decade as a standout quarterback in the Canadian Football League and two national titles as coach of the University of Western Ontario Mustangs, was to turn a team which hadn't won a game in two years, and only 3 or 4 in its history, into a competitive unit.

The difficulty of this assignment can't be overemphasized. In football, more than any other sport, winning traditions perpetuate themselves. Every League has its perennial winners; Dallas and Pittsburgh in the N.F.L.; Edmonton in the C.F.L.; Western and Toronto in the O.Q.I.F.C. Breaking into this elite group is even more difficult in university football, since coaches cannot actively recruit and top notch players are attracted to winning teams.

Nevertheless, in only his first year as head coach, Cosentino

brought the Yeomen their first winning football season ever.

When last year the league was expanded to include such teams as the powerhouse Western Mustangs, and the top rated Laurier Golden Hawks, Cosentino once more hoped to file a competitive team, and again the lads responded with a winning 4-3 record. However a much criticized decision by the Ontario University Athletic Association which stripped the Yeomen of a victory against Guelph for using what they considered an ineligible player, managed to eliminate York from post season play.

Cosentino, however, was totally satisfied with the team's performance and record.

The dramatic two year turn around is something of a feat, which Cosentino attributes to "Quality coaching, a good programme, and a long range point of view." A good attitude is another necessity he feels. "Players must find the fact that they are going to practice, to do hard physical labour and to sweat, enjoyable."

His role as coach, "is to conduct a program that recognizes that enthusiasm, maintain it, and channels it into what he wants to get done."

Clearly, those views have paid off. In the last two seasons Cosentino and his boys on the coaching staff have dramatically raised_York University's football program from skid row to full fledged respectability.

Could this be the year that the red and white achieve another first, and goes all the way to the championships? It's not likely, but don't be surprised with anything Cosentino pulls out of his hat.

This year's plans call for the team to be as competitive as any in Canada. Considering the dramatic surge of success in the last two seasons, this lofty goal seems realistic. Cosentino expects last year's defense, which gained so much respect around the league, to be back this year missing only two starters.

The offense which deployed

an outstanding attack, and a budding ground game will be fine tuned, using the same basic format as last year.

New additions to the already solid coaching staff, boasting Dave Pickett as Defence coordinator, Ron Gilchrest in the defensive secondary and Gord Whitaker handling the offensive line, will put new blood behind the bench. Doug Harris, Phys Ed Head at Wexford Collegiate will take over the coaching duties of the defensive line, and Mike Elion, former C.F.C. star receiver and currently a lecturer at York, will be a fulltime coach.

Big season ahead for York

Rose Crawford

With the begining of another school year upon us, York's athletes are getting set for another rigorous sports season.

Already, the football and soccer Yeomen are in the middle of tough training camps under the coaching of Frank Cosentino and Eric Wiliams, and most of the Yeowomen training sessions will get under way next week.

This year, York is scheduled to host a number of important events. Among them are the Early Bird Field Hockey tournament on September 26 and 27 in which teams from across Canada will be competing, including last year's national champions from the University of Toronto. Also on September 27, York will be the site of a large high school meet in which 1,500 participants will be expected.

Later this fall, York will play host to the 1980 Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union Field Hockey Championships, which will be played at Toronto's Lamport Stadium November 6 throgh 9. After last year's second place finish at the national championships, Coach Marina Van deMerwe is very optimistic about the upcoming season. Most of last year's players will be returning to York, including Sheila Foreshaw, Laurie Lambart and Laura Branchaud, who are all members of the National Field Hockey Team, as well as Cathy Majors, who plays on the provincial team.

During York's Homecoming Weekend, October 17-18, sports fans across campus will be able to get more than their money's worth as dix different Yeomen teams will be in action. They will be the football, soccer, hockey, rugby, swimming and squash teams.

In addition to all these events,

watch for the following during the coming months: Mens:

Sept. 20—Football—York vs. Western

Sept. 20-Rugby-York vs. Western

Sept. 27—Waterpolo—York U. Invitational

Sept. 27—Soccer—York vs. Laurier

Women's:

Sept. 27—Cross-Country— York U. Invitational

Oct. 24, 25-Volleyball-York

U. Invitational

Nov. 29—Speed Swim— O.W.I.A.A. Sectionals



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