

# Yeomen lost 15-9, but it was a great game

By PETER G. BUDNICK

As head coach Dave Knight feverishly drove his big Lutheran offensive line through its pre-game rehearsals, his obsession was complete, as the only comment blasted from his lips was "Don't even wanna talk ta yah nah!"

Knight, nervously scolding and encouraging his men, appeared fearfully aware of the challenge York's Yeomen were about to hurl at his team. The game that followed more than verified his fears.

With the Golden Hawks receiving the opening kick-off, Lutheran's "scheme" of "beating the opposition physically" quickly revealed itself, as they consistently ran the ball up the middle; hoping, as they openly admitted, to batter York's defensive line into oblivion, thus permitting them to unleash their excellent running backs Skinner and McGregor, and play the "ball control" style of football that coach Knight has stubbornly worshipped in all his years of football.

Play after play, Lutheran's huge linemen savagely lunged into a visibly lighter Yeomen defense; yet time after time the Yeomen held, strangling Lutheran's running game to an agonizing halt.

As the test of strength continued, defensive tackle Hartley Phillips shattered a Lutheran screen play with a jarring tackle, which threw the Hawks for a 10 yard loss, forcing them to punt. Once John Reid returned the ball to York's 43 yard line, quarterback Larry Iaccino went to work running a sweep to Lutheran's 40 yard line, from where Don Gilpin boomed a punt to Lutheran's eight.

Deep in their own zone, Lutheran were again ferociously hammered to a stop by an inspired Yeomen defense. As Lutheran continued in a futile attempt to run the ball, defensive-back Mark Dzieduszyki alertly nailed Skinner for another loss, forcing the Hawks to punt, giving York the ball on Lutheran's 25 yard line.

Not wasting any time, Iaccino quickly ran a roll out to the Hawks 13 yard line, then ran up the middle to the six yard line. Suddenly it was halfback Fred Yurichuk throwing the ball, after a handoff from Iaccino. The huge Lutheran team froze in shock as Yurichuk expertly rifled the ball to Reid in the Hawk's end-zone as York jumped ahead six to nothing.

Dazed at the thought of being behind, an enraged Lutheran stampede rumbled into York territory, struggling their way up to York's 20 yard line, beyond which they could go no further against the remarkably tough Yeomen defense, and had to content themselves with a field goal.

Immediately after taking possession of the ball, York was on the move again. Iaccino, receiving more protection than at any time this season, hit Ray Kaake with two quick passes bringing York to the Lutheran 45 yard line. Before Lutheran's defensive backs could catch their breath it was Iaccino to Reid and then again to Kaake as York stood on the Hawk's 25 yard line. Another Yeomen score seemed imminent as a crown of close to 3,500 held their breath. Then, after a fake to Dickinson, Iaccino fired a looping pass into the end zone, where a gust of ill wind held the ball up just enough to permit a Lutheran interception by defensive-halfback Turnbull, bringing one of York's more exciting drives to a crashing stop.

Before the Yeomen could adequately overcome their disappointment, Lutheran quarterback Gray suddenly stung the Yeomen with a long, long bomb to offensive end Harvey, bringing the ball up to



Excalibur-Tim Clark

Lutheran end Terry Harvey pulls in a clutch pass, one which helped break York's inertia

York's six yard line, from where fullback McGregor battered his way into York's endzone for a score, making it Lutheran nine, York six, as the first half quickly came to a close.

With the second half, a stand-off emerged until Lutheran slowly inched its way against a determined Yeomen defense to strike again with a field goal, giving the Hawks a six point lead.

Undaunted, a hungry York offense snapped right back with a savage charge into Lutheran territory. Fullback Dickie Dickinson blitzed his way on two successive runs to the Hawks 37 yard line,

from where Iaccino quickly hit end Jimmy Miller with a pass to the Lutheran 10 yard line. Halfback Yurichuk then brought the ball four yards closer to pay dirt, but no further, as York settled for a field goal by John Reid, making it Lutheran 12, York nine.

Unable to move the ball on the ground, Hawk's quarterback Gray took to the air again, hitting Harvey with a pass to York's 25 yard line, where, try as they could, McGregor and Skinner couldn't escape the ferocious tackling of the Yeomen's defensive squad, which totally nullified Lutheran's running game and once more

forced them to be satisfied with a field goal.

With only moments remaining in the game and possible victory still in sight, a fiery Yeomen offense again began to rip through the Hawk's defensive team as Iaccino struck with a pass to Reid on Lutheran's 49 yard line. Two violent runs by Iaccino and Dzieduszyki shoved the ball to the Hawk's 39 yard line, from where Iaccino hit Miller with a pass to the Lutheran 20 yard line. With seconds remaining on the clock, few doubted the Yeomen's ability to score; yet, just as victory appeared in their grasp, it was ab-

ruptly snatched away with an alert interception by Lutheran halfback Passmore, as the unforgiving clock quickly ran out leaving the score Lutheran 15, York 9.

It would appear that York's painful loss to Lutheran could be attributed to "bad luck", "the breaks" or something of that nature, yet, when interviewing the Yeomen in the dressing room after the game, no one heard a murmur of complaint or "sour grapes".

In fact, when asked to comment on the extent to which "the breaks" influenced the outcome of the game, York's big defensive captain Ken Dyer clearly reflected the sentiment of the entire team when he said, "there are no breaks, just good teams that take advantage of opportunities — Lutheran took advantage of their opportunities".

With the Lutheran game, York clearly demonstrated that they are a power to be reckoned with. Not only did the Yeomen offense run for more yards against the Hawks than any previous team; but the Yeomen defence also came of age as they smothered the most awesome running attack in Canadian college play today. To pick out any particular "stars" out of a game like this, not only would be unfair but impossible; the "team", a group of dedicated athletes and coaches, shone brighter than anyone expected it to.

When approached for a comment after the game, coach Nobby Wirkowski, visibly suppressing his emotions, quietly and simply said, "I am proud of my boys." To those of us who watched their performance last Saturday, it was obvious that the Yeomen are a team to be proud of.

## Statistics

	York	Lutheran
First downs	10	10
Yards rushing	121	110
Yards passing	128	116
Fumbles	1	2



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