



Yeoman Kevin Bonello is tripped up during York's 5-2 win over Laurier. Bonello notched two York goals.

ANDRÉ SOURJOUON

Basketball team splits weekend doubleheader

By SYDNEY ST. NICHOLAS

The York Yeomen basketball team opened up the regular season Friday night with an 83-60 loss to the Bishop's Gaitors. The Yeomen fared better on Saturday downing the Windsor Lancers 88-83 in OUA A exhibition play.

In Friday's contest it was a game of experience over youth. Experience won. With a lot of new players and a new format, it appears that York will not be ready to face the more experienced teams until January.

Shooting proved to be York's downfall, hitting 25 of 65 from the field. However, being a young team trying to establish a running game, one can only wait until the Yeomen begin to gel before they get into the flow.

Leading Yeomen point-getters were Jeff Root with 13 points and Jeff Mcdermit with 10. Bishop's was led by Pierre Taibblin with 21 points.

Without a bona fide centre returning, the Yeomen are forced to play a quicker game. Yeomen coach Bob Bain says that running is one way to reduce the centre's importance.

Speed is another factor that figured in York's loss. The faster-paced game created numerous turnovers which Bishop's took advantage of, creating a fastbreak game of their own. Bishop's scored at least 20 points on easy lay-ups gathered from turnovers.

In Saturday's game, the Yeomen appeared relaxed and were able to

mobilize their running game to down the Lancers by a single.

Being an exhibition game, the Yeomen were not as pressured as in the previous regular season match against Bishop's. The win showed that the Yeomen can compete with the stronger teams, even without a centre.

York's Jeff Krupski and rookie Jim Clarke put in solid performances. Krupski got the fastbreak moving, putting down two very impressive slam dunks to ignite the Yeomen while Clarke played very steadily down in the low post all game.

The Yeomen showed positive signs late in the second half. Down 66-65, Clarke went to the line to shoot two, sinking one to tie the game at 66. Both teams traded baskets until the final two minutes when Clarke once again took his spot on the foul line. Two successful freethrows upped the Yeomen lead to 80-79 and they never looked back.

Leading the Yeomen offence was Jeff Root with 17 points. Windsor's top scorer was jazz Dhaliul with 22.

Although the regular season does not begin until January, both games provided a preview of the 1988 Yeomen. Defensively, York's play on the glass was sloppy, allowing Windsor to capitalize on second and third rebounds. Mental lapses also proved costly, resulting in numerous turnovers.

The Yeomen must remedy these difficulties if they plan to be in OUA A contention come January.

Rugby

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to 11-0. Already it looked as though the game was over, but the Golden Gaels weren't finished. They counted one more penalty kick before the end of the half to help themselves to a 14-0 lead.

For the Yeomen, the second half opened with less promise than the first. With only nine minutes gone, Queen's notched their third penalty kick to add to their lead. It was 17-0 Golden Gaels with 30 minutes left in the game.

The Yeomen, however, wouldn't say die. Their first points came courtesy of a successful penalty kick from Brian Armstrong. Armstrong scored again only minutes later with another penalty kick to make the score 17-6, Queen's.

The Yeomen kept on coming. Nearing the midway point of the second half, Bill Hanna carried in to the Queen's end-zone to complete a third try and conversion, cutting the Gaels' lead to 17-12.

Minutes later, Brian Armstrong showed that he wasn't done for the

day as he put up another good penalty kick, to make the score 17-15.

York was back in contention. With 10 minutes left in the game, Craig McTaggart gave the Yeomen their first lead with a try and conversion. McTaggart's efforts provided a 21-17 margin for the Yeomen.

However, the Gaels countered to make the score 21-20 York. The game could have gone either way. But as the final seconds elapsed York's Sean McElrea completed a nifty run for a try to put the game out of reach for Queen's.

Yeomen captain Andrew Saunders said he wasn't surprised by the incredible comeback. "We knew that whatever side had the wind in the first half would have the advantage.

"We really need this win. If we had lost today we'd have been 0-2 against them going into the playoffs," Saunders said.

Saturday's win puts York's record at 5-2 going into post-season play. The semi-finals begin next weekend at the York field, when the Yeomen will meet for a re-match with the Golden Gaels.

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