

Sports and Recreation

Yeomen sunk by heavy Gaels



Yeomen had their hearts in it, playing their "best game of the year" according to Coach Mike Dinning, but "Queen's played better" to claim OUAA rugby title.

Hoopsters hot

Bruce Gates

After four lopsided victories in the past two weeks, York Yeomen are making it clear that, despite losing six key players from last year's first-ranked squad, they aren't about to concede basketball pre-eminence in the OUAA East to anyone.

One thing has stood out in the four games, and that's the play of all-star forward Bo Pelech, and guard Dave Coulthard, who was chosen as the most outstanding basketball player in Canada last March. They've scored 103 and 101 points respectively in the Yeomen's four wins, giving each an average of better than 25 points a game.

This year, Yeomen have adopted a "run and gun" style of attack, using the press and the fast break much more than they have in the past two seasons. It's a style of play that has seen them use the outside shot more often than they did last year, when centre Lonnie Ramati, at 6 ft. 9 in., ruled the inside. Ramati gave the Yeomen a dangerous inside game, taking pressure off the outside shooters.

But this year, York doesn't have that big centre and will rely much more on accurate outside shooting and good defence when they play against tall teams.

A key to York's defence is the play of Bo Pelech. He's been called the "most underrated basketball player in Canada" by McMaster coach Phil Tollestrup, formerly a Canadian national team member, who also figures that Pelech is the "best all-round player in the country."

Pelech's 24 points and 13 defensive and offensive rebounds against Laurentian in Sudbury last Saturday underlines Tollestrup's point. York won the match 94-57.

The Laurentian game was the first league contest for the Yeomen, who have also won three exhibition matches: a one-sided 117-52 romp over the Alumni on November 2 in the seventh annual Alumni game (the varsity side has never lost), a 94-66 rout of Western the following night, and an 89-57 conquest of McMaster in Hamilton on November 7.

Truth to tell, none of these teams ranks as national contenders and the Yeomen will have their hands full against teams like Waterloo, St. Mary's and Victoria.

But in the four games just played, York has shown that it won't be a pushover.

Bonus points: Six players scored all of York's points against Laurentian: Dave Coulthard with 26, Bo Pelech with 24, Grant Parobec (12), Enzo Spagnuolo and Ron Kaknevicus (11 each), and Paul Jones (10). Yeomen led, 39-34 at half time, "but we kind of blew it

open in the second half when our offence started to get on track," Coach Bob Bain said afterward. The "Bainer" says he thinks York can go as far as it did last year "and maybe even farther, if we're on top of our game." York's next games are this weekend in London at the Western Invitational. The following week York hosts the *Excalibur* Classic.

York gymnasts get revenge

Tom Bonislav

York's gymnasts, ranked as the premier squad in the nation, chalked up their first victory of the season Saturday in their second annual meet against the U of Michigan. Taking a lead right from the first event, they finished with 213.4 points. Michigan, which ranked third in the Big Tens, had a score of 211.4. In addition, York swept the top three individual places. Dan Gaudet was first with 54.65 points, Frank Nutzenburger second (52.95) and Dave Steeper third (51.9).

A scanty crowd of less than one hundred came to watch York exact its revenge for last year's defeat. With three men on the national team (which competes at the World Championships in Dallas in three weeks), York has one of its strongest teams ever. Yeomen's total score was a full fifteen points higher against Michigan this time around. Last year the Michigan team squeaked by Yeomen with a 3.2 point

Curling

Varsity curling season is upon us again and with a new season new hopes are rekindled. Last year's varsity team had good showings at the invitational tournaments by winning two of three and hopefully this year's team will improve on last year's effort.

The selection for this year's Men's Varsity Curling team will be that of playdown format. Complete rinks can contact the curling coach Mike Davidson at 222-2930 regarding entry into the playdowns. The final absolute entry deadline for playdowns is November 19.

Steve Church

On Saturday past, here at York, after a season of laborious practices, painful injuries, personal sacrifices and, above all, success on the field, both York Yeomen and Queen's University Golden Gaels put these rigorous facets of rugby behind them as they took to the field. This was what it was all about. The OUAA final

In a game of opportunistic play, Queen's ultimately engineered the coupe de grace of the entire season by defeating York 13-6, to capture their second consecutive OUAA rugby championship before 300 fans.

During the opening moments of the game, it appeared that York was going to walk all over Queen's. During the first ten minutes of play, they virtually had a stranglehold on Queen's, as they constantly lodged inside Golden Gaels 22-metre zone.

However, the Queen's backs saved what appeared to be sure tries by their powerful and incisive tackling measures on occasions when Yeomen were penetrating near the Gael's goal-line. This would be the closest York would be for a try all day.

Queen's opened up the scoring with a penalty goal by forward Allen Williams, making the score 3-0 midway through the first half. Later in the half, a fleet group of Queen's backs out-footed and overlapped the Yeomen backs as they pressed close to the York goal-line. As Queen's appeared to be going out of bounds, back line player Jim Slattery picked up the loose ball and dove over for the try.

To round out the scoring in the half, Yeomen centre Lloyd Lewis kicked a 20-metre penalty goal.

In the second half, one could describe what was observed as classic rugby. Rough, violent loose play, quick ball out to the backs, and "back-and-forth" field

play at a furious, breakneck pace.

Again, York quickly moved play into Queen's territory, but could only manage a drop goal by Jonathan Bell which concluded the scoring for York. Just as York seemed to re-establish momentum at this time, Queen's scored the try that sealed York's fate and deflated Yeomen. The try was the result of the scrum wheeling. With York winning the ball, scrum half Peter McFarland unintentionally passed the ball off to Queen's Slattery, who, in turn, fed the ball to Queen's scrum half Sandy Townsend, who side-stepped and burst through for a try. Williams booted the two point convert to finalize the score at 13-6 for Queen's.

As the game drew to a close, the strategy for York was for the backs to strategically kick for favourable field position. However, this play was to no avail. Until the final whistle, Queen's virtually won all of the ball.

The game was truly a demonstration of one team capitalizing on opportunities and lucky breaks, prompting coach Mike Dinning to say, "We applied pressure but couldn't finish off the plays, while Queen's took advantage of all the breaks going their way. However, I'm pleased with the guys. They have nothing to be ashamed of. We played our best game of the year — Queen's played better, that's all."

Parting Notes

Thank you Mike Dinning, Larry Nancekivell and Alan Voves for your unselfish contribution to our successful season; thank you Jim Callaghan for the sound operation of the equipment distribution; thanks to the Injury Clinic staff for their prompt and expert advice; thank you, Excalibur, for the coverage and recognition of our endeavors, and, above all, thanks to the entire York Yeomen Varsity squad

Spikers escape Blues

Sandy Simonits

On Wednesday, Nov. 7, the Yeomen volleyballers clashed with the U of T Blues for the second time in league play. However it was not a replay of the first match (York won in 3 straight games), but instead a 3-2 squeaker (15-4, 14-16, 14-16, 15-9, 15-8) in York's favour.

According to veteran setter Al Riddell, "Bad passing and serving (on York's part), allowed U of T to take two games, but high spiking averages and good back court play contributed to our winning this match."

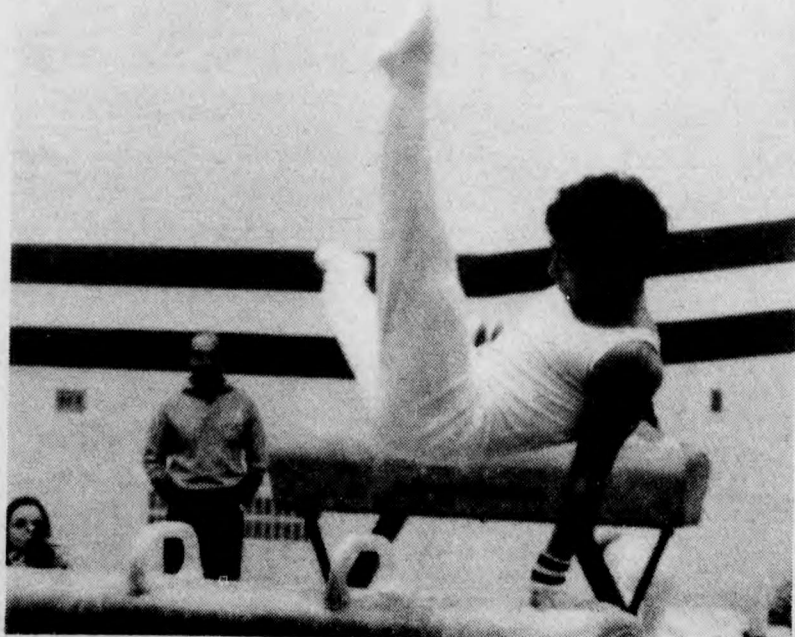
The host Blues had just come off a close 5 game loss to Queen's and were looking for their first victory against York, who had moved up to 8th ranking in the country (the only Ontario team ranked). And they almost succeeded, at one point leading, 2-1, in games.

The match started off with a quick 15-4 victory for York. But in the second game, U of T jumped out ahead and never gave up the lead. At one point the Blues were about to score game point with a 14-6 lead, but the Yeomen got their act together, scoring 8 straight points to tie the game. It was all they could do as the Blues added two more points to even the match.

The third game also had the Yeomen trailing for most of the game. Superior serving by Toronto led to bad passes by the York receivers, and as a result the Yeomen could not run their quick middle attack (probably their strongest offensive threat). By the time the fourth game began, the small but noisy U of T crowd was sensing a major upset. Their cheering helped the Blues to a 7-0 lead, but from then on York took control. Yeomen surged to win 15-9, and also won the deciding game, 15-8.

Franco Girardo played a very strong game for York, as did power hitters John May and Mark Ainsworth.

Next home match is Saturday, Nov. 17 at 2 pm when the Yeomen tangle with Laurentian.



Marc Epprecht displays form that led York gymnasts to win over Michigan