

sports

Second half plague terminates Yeomen season

By PETER BECKER

It was sad. The football Yeomen dropped their fifth game of the season to the nationally-ranked McMaster Marauders 26-13 at York last Saturday.

A homecoming crowd of about 1,000 were on hand as York ended their home game schedule. The Yeomen now sit at the bottom of the Ontario University Athletic Association (OUAA) football standings (1-5), with only Windsor beneath them.

York played an efficient first half, out-scoring McMaster 7-3. The lone touchdown evolved on an interesting set of events. After having fumbled and the Marauders fumbling it right back, running back Terry Douglas rushed it over on an end run. The Yeomen lead should have been greater, but running back Joe Pariselli fumbled on the McMaster 25 yard-line, killing a scoring opportunity.

McMaster quarterback Phil Scarfone, ranked number one in the (OUAA), captained a second-half rejuvenation which led to three touchdowns.

Marauders' first major came on a 38-yard drive which culminated with a pitchout to Steve Malizia who carried it over. Their second touchdown had Scarfone throw passes to Clorindo Grilli, Rich Buchanan, and Bill Godkin, but Scarfone punched it through on a 5-yard keeper.

The third score was set up by a York fumble. Yeomen quarterback Tino Iacono fumbled on his own 40 with Mac recovering. Scarfone converted the turnover into points by combining with Grilli on a 37-yard pass and run for the payoff.

York scored in the final minutes of the game when Pariselli scampered 25 yards for the touchdown on a handoff. But the effort came too late to matter. Iacono hit receiver Mike Joyce three times in a last gasp drive. The Yeomen missed a two point conversion.

Kicker Mike Boyd converted the earlier score. For McMaster, Andre Shadrach added a field goal, single, and converted two touchdowns.

What's wrong with the Yeomen this year? "We do not lack talent," commented York running back George Ganas.

Others share that sentiment.

"It's hard to say what's wrong. York's personnel is as good as any in the league," said McMaster coach Bernie Custus.

"It's a new system for both offense and defense; maybe it takes a year to learn it," offered Iacono.

Yeomen play their next and final game at Windsor this Saturday. Game time is 2 p.m. Defensive Back Trevor Williams returns to action after being suspended from last weekend's game. Williams was involved in an incident with an official in Montreal in a pre-season game.

York has beaten Windsor in their last 12 meetings.

"We'll play the last game for our pride," said coach Dave Pickett.

"The game will be dedicated to two players, Rob Huber and Mike Lawlor (both graduating) who have shown dedication in building and developing football at York," he said.

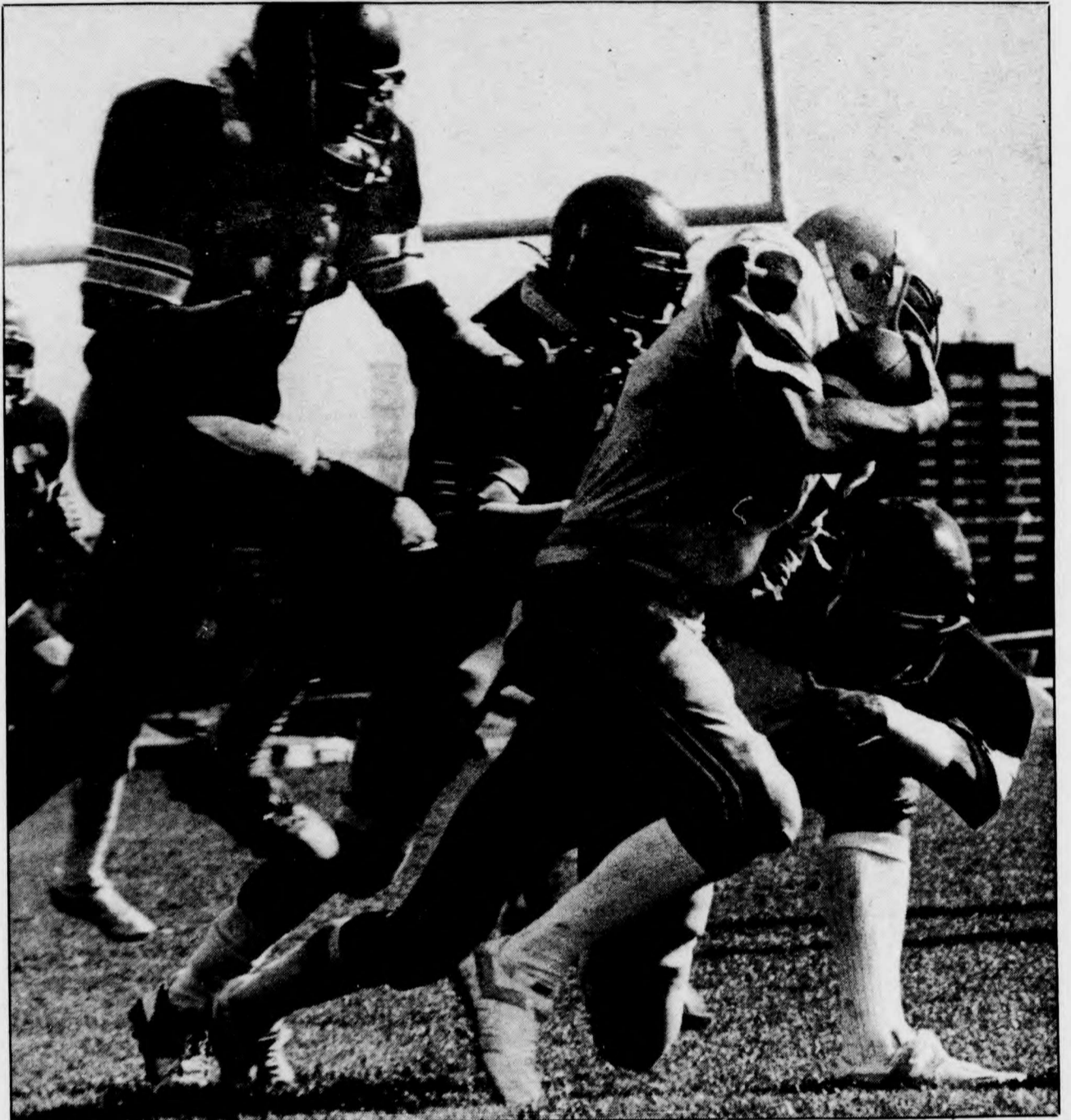


PHOTO: MARIO SCATTOLONI

Doors to professional soccer career hard to open for York journeyman

By MARK ZWOLINSKI

The soccer history of York Yeomen netminder Glen McNamara does not make for easy reading.

A self-described "hard-nosed soccer fanatic," McNamara attended a week-long tryout camp with the Cleveland Forests of the Major Indoor Soccer League (MISL) in September. He was sure that he was the number one candidate for one of two vacant back-up goaltending jobs.

But McNamara didn't count on a strictly enforced, but unspoken, code that is central to personnel development practices in the predominantly American-based MISL—they simply won't sign Canadian talent over American.

"I was literally told that if I was American I would have made it," McNamara said. "The coaching staff told me I had a good shot at playing in this league but that there was no way they (the Forests) were going to invest in a Canadian player if an American was in the same shoes."

At 22 years of age, the 6', 170 lbs North York resident has established himself as the top ranked amateur goaltender in Canada.

A five year veteran of the National Soccer League (NSL), a Toronto-based semi-pro circuit, McNamara was garnered best goaler in the league laurels while leading his Dinamo club to the championship finals in 1981 with 25 goals against in 27 starts.

While putting the finishing touches on a Economics B.A. at York in 1981, McNamara was voted to the all-Canadian first team while under the direction of Norman Crandles, who calls McNamara "the best I've seen in 30 years."

Dinamo coach Giorgio Piotti arranged a series of exhibition matches with Cleveland in late July of 1982, during which Forest's coach Jay Hoffman approached McNamara with the invitation to the September tryout camp.

"He asked me my name, age, and citizenship," McNamara recalled. "I believed that even though they had two veterans at the goaltending position they could bring me through the system with the intent of becoming a starter in two years."

"I honestly felt I had a chance of earning one

of three goaler spots on the team. It came down to a number situation there was no room for Canadians as imports."

At 22, McNamara also knows he is caught in what he calls an "age game", especially when it comes to playing professional outdoor soccer in the North American Soccer League.



PHOTO: MARIO SCATTOLONI

Yeomen netminder Glen McNamara dives to make a save during a game against Laurentian. But even with his efforts McNamara has been losing his battle to get his name on a pro contract south of the border.

The NASL has three Canadian teams (Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver), each of which drafts a handful of Canadian players from junior provincial teams. And of these hopefuls, few if any get a shot at cracking the big club's line-up. Most are sent to second and third teams for seasoning.

John McMann, the Blizzards' Canadian scouting director, looks at the situation involving Canadian talent with some indifference, calling it a "big problem" while maintaining that it is the goal of the Blizzard to employ as many Canadians as possible.

"The Blizzard is trying its damndest to bring Canadian talent up to the NASL," McMann says. "There is definitely a big problem there though."

"I could ring off about thirty goaltenders in Canada with the ability to go to the Blizzard's second and third teams. There's only room for three on each, though, and there is nowhere to go after that."

"You need what they call a green card (work permit) to play in the states," he continued. "What adds to the dilemma is that Americans aren't going to import a Canadian goaltender when they could get a first class European striker for the same green card."

"You have to look at it from a business point of view. Nothing short of a Canadian Roberto Bettega will do."

McMann estimates that there are between 35 and 40 Canadian citizens on the rosters of Canada's three NASL teams, but that there is little to be done to accommodate the overflow of Canadian talent.

"The potential for soccer players in this country is fantastic," McMann says. "Our goal is to have the Blizzard field an all-Canadian team one day, but we just can't accommodate them all."

"You'd have to have every major city in Canada operating a professional franchise to make room."