

Hockey Yeomen open their season with a tough 2-1 victory over Rams

By GARY MARR

The York Yeomen hockey team opened its season Sunday night with a tough 2-1 win over Ryerson. On the line this year is York's three straight OUA A championships.

The Yeomen and the Rams were close throughout the game, but York did manage a slight edge in the third which helped them to a win over an impressive Rams squad. Ryerson looked extremely strong against a York squad that is one of the best in the league. New head coach Graham Wise feels that Ryerson would "surprise a lot of teams" this year.

The Yeomen opened the scoring in the second period on the powerplay. Nick Kiriakou, selected York's most valuable player of the game, opened the scoring with a slapshot from the point to beat Ryerson goalie Gerry Iuliano. The goal was the result of some solid passing from Brian MacDonald and Bill Maguire, who received assists on the play. This is Kiriakou's third year with the team, and he thinks they "can do it again if the team works together."

The Yeomen suffered a let-down midway through the second period and Ryerson managed to tie it up. Jim Luciuk, Ryerson's game MVP, scored from Mark Symes and Dave Belec. York was two men short at the time of the goal, the result of successive penalties to Darren Gani, Mike James and Rob Crocock. Ryerson was able to win the faceoff in the York zone and feed it to Luciuk who slapped it by goalie Scott Mosey's glove to tie the game up. Mosey commented after the game that

Luciuk "fires the puck like a cannon. I had a bit of an angle and was far out, but he beat me."

Throughout the game, according to coach Wise, Ryerson managed to draw York into taking penalties, and the Yeomen were not effective playing four on four and three on three. "We like to go give on five, using four lines and six defencemen," said Wise. The third period was penalty-free and York profited greatly as they outplayed the Rams and grabbed the go-ahead goal.

Darren Gani scored to lift York to the 2-1 victory. He was fed a perfect pass and beat the goalie high on the blocker side, Nick Kiriakou and Doug Archie both received assists on the play. The Yeomen were outshot 31-26 in the game, but had a slight edge in the play.

The Yeomen have as strong a team as ever this year. The Yeomen are very familiar with the new head coach Wise, who had been assistant coach for the last six years. Nineteen players have returned from last year; eight of these players are in their fourth year with the team while seven are in their third year.

The Yeomen have plenty of talent with 15 players having played in the Ontario Hockey League junior "A" division. Last year, defenceman Bill Maguire, who is also captain, made the second all-star team for the OUA A. Centre Brian Gray was on the second all-star team as well. With some solid team play the Yeomen might duplicate their feats of the last two years, win the OUA A title, and possibly even reclaim the CIAU title they won in the '84-'85 season.



DRIVING FOR THE GOAL: Rugby Yeoman Dean Cluff makes a gallant rush and tries to avoid the Guelph tackles. However all was in vain as the Yeomen were thumped 21-0.

JENNIFER CRANE

Yeomen shutout by Guelph

By MARIO PIETRANGELO

The Yeomen rugby team was hoping for a big win against Guelph last weekend in order to keep their playoff hopes alive. The last time these two teams met, Guelph came up the winner in a 9-7 thriller. With home field advantage, it was expected that the Yeomen would be up for the challenge. However, things just didn't go the Yeomen's way, and they were defeated by a score of 21 to 0. Everything that could go wrong for the Yeomen, did.

York was able to stay close to Guelph throughout the first half, holding them to only 3 points. However, the roof caved in on the Yeomen early in the second half. York was unable to put up any resistance to the Guelph attack. Just minutes into the half, Guelph scored a try and a conversion, to give them a 9-0

lead. Only an outstanding defensive play, an open field tackle by Bruce Kirstead, prevented another Guelph score.

Guelph played a strong game, using quick passing plays to isolate the York defenders. This enabled them to run the ball up the field, almost at will. Guelph put the icing on the cake by scoring on a rather strange play, later in the half.

Guelph punted the ball and it appeared to be rolling out of the York endzone. Then, the ball suddenly bounced backwards and landed in the hands of a Guelph forward who stepped over the goal line for an easy score.

The play left many of the Yeomen shaking their heads in disbelief with the score at 15 to 0, things looked hopeless for the Yeomen, who rarely had control of the ball. The best scor-

ing opportunity for York came on a blocked kick. The loose ball was picked up by a Yeomen forward, about to go in for a score. The play was whistled down, however, because of an off-side infraction. Guelph continued to pressure York, and added another 6 points before the game was over.

The loss erased any hope of a playoff berth for York. Many of the York players were speechless and unavailable for comment. One Yeomen, Andrew Saunders, said, "We tried hard, but we just didn't get any breaks."

"We were beaten by a team that was much better than we were today," said coach Mike Dinning.

Perhaps the only positive note was that the York B team came up with a strong game and defeated the Guelph B team by a score of 23 to 0.

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