

SPORTS



Following their second straight loss to UofT, the Yeomen were dropped to fifth place nationally, down from third spot last week.

Robert Cabral photo

Soccer Yeomen hit Blue wall

by Kerim Gomleksiz

The unlucky Soccer Yeomen got robbed by the UofT Blues last Wednesday.

Bad luck combined with terrible finishing and a not so kind referee gave York a 1-0 loss to the Blues.

With the win, the Blues clinched first place in the OUAA

East and get home field advantage in the playoffs.

York dominated UofT and proved that they're the more talented side. This was one game they should have won.

The Yeomen simply couldn't capitalize on countless scoring opportunities throughout the match.

As York coach Eric Willis put it, "we played well but couldn't put

the ball in the net. . . If we scored one, we would have had three, it was that kind of game."

In the first half York's Manny Rapone hit the crossbar, and defenceman Kevin Greig hit the post on a beautiful shot from far out.

In the second half, the Yeomen proved it just wasn't their day, missing chance after chance.

York's offensive stars played

the whole game as if the ball were glued to their shoes. Gino Pollastrone, Tony Pigniatello and Hunter Madley all held on too long, even at close range.

One bright spot for the Yeomen was goalie Paolo Peschildio, who had no chance on the game's only goal, scored by ex-York student Drew O'Neil.

Lopsided penalties also played

a part in this one: York drew three yellow cards in the game to UofT's one.

Although at printing time, the results of the Yeomen's battle for second place has not yet been decided, Willis didn't seem concerned about the loss.

"Now we have to put this loss aside and concentrate on our next game and the playoffs," said Willis.

Hockey men crushed by Laurier

by Josh Rubin

If Hawks lay eggs, then the men's hockey squad from Laurier must have made one out of gold.

Despite losing six of last year's twelve forwards, the Golden Hawks gave the York Yeomen a convincing 8-4 thumping in both teams' regular season start last Thursday.

The Yeomen, coming off a victory at a UofT tournament, were never really in this one. Laurier captain Mike Maurice scored the first of his eventual hat trick on the night just 4 minutes into the first period.

The Hawks added one more just before the end of the period, but the Yeomen were lucky Willie Popp was having a good game. Their third-year netminder stopped all but two of the 16 shots sent his way in the opening frame.

In the second period, the York offence picked up a bit, but the defence was still left on the ground, and Popp gave up a couple of goals on traffic in front of the net.

After Kevin Bonello pulled the Yeomen to within a pair, the Hawks added one more late in the second period to make it 6-3

Laurier.

York coach Graham Wise finally took pity on the beleaguered Willie Popp and pulled him out before the third period, replacing him with Ted Mielczarek. Explained Wise afterwards "It wasn't in any way a reflection of how he played."

With Mielczarek between the pipes, the York defence mysteriously tightened up, and gave the Yeomen a chance to get back in the game.

Despite pulling the gap to two goals with ten minutes left, the Yeomen just couldn't finish off the task.

Laurier left winger Kevin Smith notched an empty-netter and then Mike Maurice rounded out the scoring with his third goal of the night with just 34 seconds left.

After the game, Laurier coach Wayne Gowing, who led his team to the CIAU championship game last year, hinted that more can be expected of the Yeomen as the season wears on.

"It's still really early, and they've got great speed and size," Gowing said.

Next up for the Yeomen is this weekend's jaunt to Quebec, where they meet UQTR Friday evening, and then travel to Montreal to take on the McGill Redmen this Saturday.

Working
out the
glitches

by Riccardo Sala

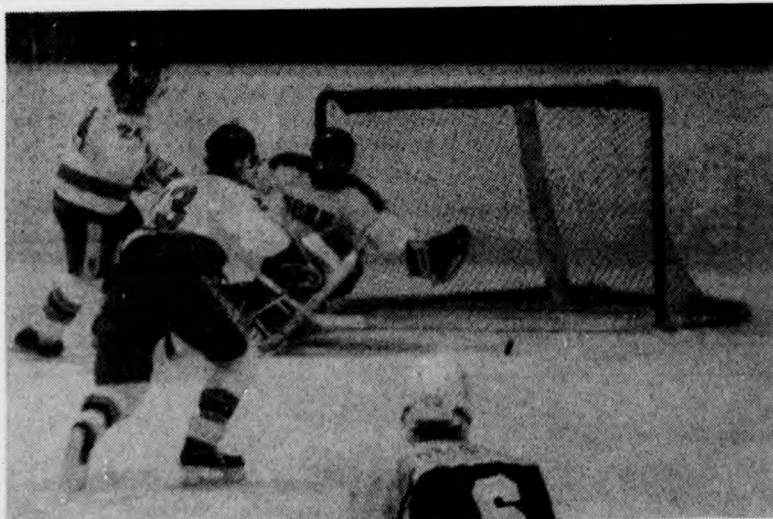
With the regular season only a week away the hockey Yeowomen have been keeping their skates sharpened in exhibition play.

Last Wednesday night the Yeowomen played the A division Mississauga Chiefs at the Ice Palace.

Despite dominating much of the match, the York side came away on the bottom end of a 4-2 score. Scoring for the Yeowomen were Cindy Murray and Karen Moffitt.

"I think that we outplayed them, we had more shots on goal," said York coach Debbie Maybury. "They (the Chiefs) took advantage of some weak defensive plays," she added.

The Yeowomen see pre-season action again this Wednesday. After that, they host a tournament at the Ice Palace this weekend, then on to the regular season November 6th.



A helpless Willie Popp watches the puck head in.

Emmanuel Papachristou photo