

# Visiting York squad wins over top club team, national side

## Soccer Yeowomen in Costa Rica-futbol canadian style

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**T**he soccer Yeowomen spent reading week in Costa Rica, returning with a 1-0 win against the Costa Rican national squad, and a 3-1 decision over the country's top club team.

The two wins in Costa Rica bring York's string of victories for the 1991-92 year to 16. These include four preseason wins, a perfect 10-0 regular season record in Ontario Women's Interuniversity Athletic Association play, and these two post-season triumphs.

In these 16 games, York

scored 80 times, while only letting in four goals, all but one of which were on penalty kicks.

The Costa Rican excursion continued the streak of personal injuries for York's goalies, with Daniela Bucciol sent off to the hospital with a badly cut knee in York's first game.

In the OWIAA quarter final against Western in November, keeper Cheryl Punnett broke her nose. Punnett did not make the trip to Costa Rica.

The Yeowomen went up first against the Champion club team. By the time that Bucciol went down, York had a 2-0



MEMBERS of David Bell's Yeowoman squad with players of Costa Rica's top club team, whom York defeated 3-1. York also beat the Costa Rican national team 1-0 in a second game

lead, thanks to goals from captain Portia Bariffe and midfielder Anna Porretta.

The game became increasingly physical, and Philomena Nevin, Bucciol's replacement in goal, was sent off following an incident with a Costa Rican striker. Costa Rica scored on the ensuing penalty shot, and York's Paula Ursini, usually a midfielder, had to suit up for a first ever stint in goal.

Despite playing one short, York managed a goal when Sam Hellens scored on a breakaway in the last minute of the game to call this one for the Yeowomen.

York coach David Bell was impressed with the results —

more so considering the poor field conditions and his team's 12 week layoff from outdoor soccer action.

The Costa Ricans were impressed as well, the president of their soccer federation, Gabriel Zamora, speaking at length on the radio about the team, complimenting York's strength in all dimensions of the game and concluding that the Yeowomen gave their hosts a "lesson" in soccer. Zamora urged local fans to come and watch the big match in the National Stadium that weekend between York and Costa Rica's national team.

Although they were stronger opponents than the

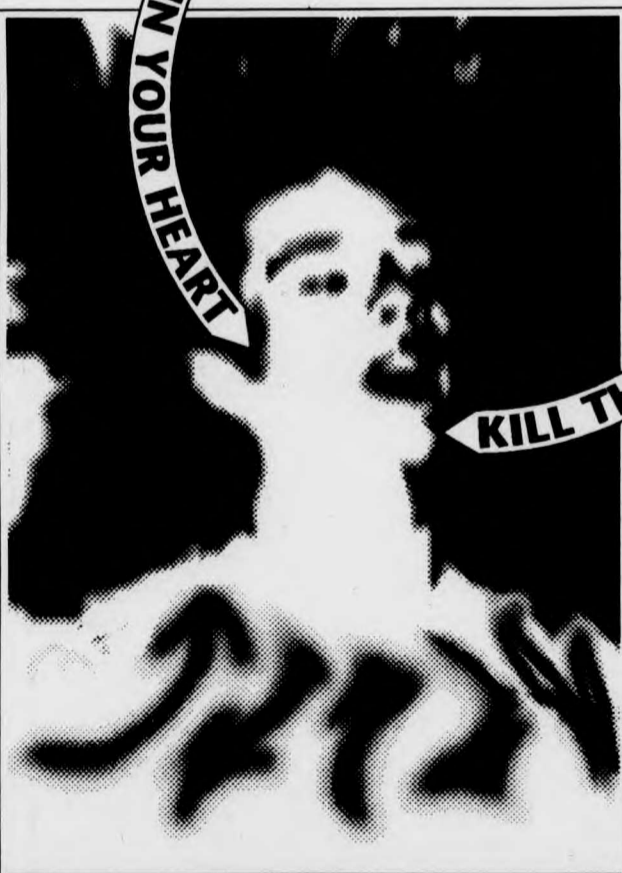
club team, York managed to control the National team with their speed, movement off the ball and their passing. Porretta netted the game's only goal midway through the first half. The Yeowomen had several shots miss by narrow margins. Paula Ursini preserved the York shutout.

The game against the National side was a chance for some of the retiring York veterans to display their talent one more time, veterans such as Patti Mitchell, Heather Gough and Kristin Bell. It was also a chance for some of the York rookies to show what they can contribute to future Yeowoman squads.



MEMORIES OF COSTA RICA-Team photo time has the victorious Yeowomen (2-0 record), including Paula Ursini in a hastily improvised role as goalie, as well as a Costa Rican host (right)

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