

# sports and recreation

## 2,000 watch Yeomen's first league loss

By Bruce Gates

A record crowd of more than 2,000 basketball fans jammed Tait McKenzie last Saturday night and witnessed what was probably a playoff preview. And although Yeomen dropped a close 78-75 decision to the Laurentian Voyageurs, home court advantage with those 2,000 fans for playoff games is still a possibility.

York still has the advantage in the race for first place because they beat Laurentian 85-76 in November, and that nine-point spread was not overcome by the Voyageurs on Saturday. Therefore, in the event of a tie, Yeomen would get first place.

To do it, the Yeomen will have to win their remaining four matches, and that will not be easy, since the teams they have to play, Toronto, Carleton and Ottawa, are all fighting for the last two playoff spots.

Laurentian coach Richie Spears said after the game he tried to de-emphasize the nine-point spread. "I told my players to forget about it and concentrate on winning," he said. "It was only when we saw we were going to win and had a seven-point lead that we decided to gamble

on beating the spread. But the breaks didn't go our way at the end."

Saturday's game was a game of breaks. And it was a game that had everything, including a drummer, a bugler, and six men dressed as cheerleaders—pom poms and all—who helped ease the high tension that was in the stands.

Some of that tension rubbed off on the Yeomen early in the game. York took an early lead, but with less than three minutes played, the referee dislocated his shoulder, and the game was held up while another official dressed.

That meant York had to wait around and soak up the tenseness in the atmosphere, putting pressure on them, while the Voyageurs, who didn't have to cope with the fans' pressure, could regroup.

When the game resumed, Yeomen had lost some of their edge and were missing their outside shooting. York then ran into problems under the boards against Laurentian's two big men, Varick Cutler and Bruce Burnett, and were guilty of some costly fouls and turnovers.

The result was a 44-37 Voyageur halftime lead.

A rejuvenated Yeomen team came storming back in the first five minutes of the second half to take a 53-50 lead. Determination was written on the Yeomen's faces as they drove through the Voyageurs' key-area defence for some spectacular scores; and they played more effectively under the boards.

York's early second-half momentum had Laurentian reeling, but slowly the momentum shifted, and Yeomen determination turned to consternation when some close calls by officials went in Laurentian's favour. York had a couple of questionable offensive fouls called against them in the Voyageur key area, which cost them important points.

Laurentian finally grabbed a 66-65 advantage on two free throws by Bruce Burnett with less than seven minutes left, and the Yeomen never recovered the lead. Laurentian built their lead to nine points with less than two minutes remaining, and by the time the Yeomen regained the momentum and pulled to within three points, it was too late.

Laurentian scoring was dominated by its American trio of guard Charlie Wise, forward, Bruce Burnett and centre Varick Cutler, who netted 67 of the Voyageurs' 78 points.

It was Charlie Wise, more than anyone, who was York's undoing. York held him in check the last time these two teams met, but he was practically unstoppable Saturday night. Wise controlled the game's pace whenever he had the ball, and with less than four minutes left on the clock, he killed off more than a minute of playing time, which hurt Yeomen hopes of coming back.

Further affecting the Yeomen's comeback aspirations was the foul trouble four of the team's starting five ran into toward the end of the second half.

York still appeared to be recovering from their lack of league competition of recent weeks. Those early games against weaker teams



Dave Coulthard, 15, barrels his way toward the opposition's net

didn't put them under much pressure to produce, and a young team needs pressure in order to mature. The Laurentian game should go a long way toward that end.

"I think we proved we're the better team," Voyageur coach Richie Spears said after the game. When the Big Trio are hot, it's hard to argue otherwise. But York has better scoring balance, and in a key playoff game this balance could be York's biggest weapon. They might get the chance to use this weapon against Laurentian in the near future.

**Parting Shots:** Yeomen were 60 per cent from the floor and 9 for 9 from the line, Voyageurs averaged 63 per cent for field goals and were 18 for 26 at the line...York was ranked number two in Canada before the Laurentian game...The starting five dominated Yeomen scoring. **Dave Coulthard** netted 20

points, **Lonnie Ramati**, who appeared still to be bothered by his ankle, scored 16 points, **Bo Pelech** hit for 13, **Ted Galka** scored 12 and **Paul Layefsky** had 10. For Laurentian, **Bruce Burnett** had 33 points, **Charlie Wise** netted 19 and **Varick Cutler** sank 15...Last week's basketball photo was of **Frank Zulys**, not Phil Moore...Yeomen played U of T Tuesday, but the score was unavailable...Next Home game is this Friday against Toronto.

## Lady Luck for playoffs

By George Trenton

The Yeowomen hockey team will have to have Lady Luck on their side to make the playoffs after their tie game with the Guelph Gryphons at three a piece last Thursday.

At press time the Yeowomen were in fourth place, one point ahead of the University of Toronto Blues, in the Ontario Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Association standings with 7-6-2 record.

Tonight York will host the Blues and try to hold that fourth and final playoff spot. Saturday they will be hard pressed to beat the Queen's Golden Gals who are in third place.

In the game last Thursday York's first goal came early in the first period, with Linda Berry scoring from the slot on a low shot along the ice beating the Guelph goalie, Shirley Peterson.

Berry added a second goal in the next period when she deflected a hard slapshot from the point by Cindy Byrne.

The Gryphons scored two quick goals in the second period on York's goaltender Debbie Phenix. Phenix, who has played well of late (she had two shutouts in the past month) was pulled by coach Laura Smith and veteran Brenda Stewart played the rest of the game in net.

Alice Vanderley of York, who had several good scoring opportunities, finally put the puck into the Guelph net in the third period to make the score 3-2. Guelph tied the score late in the third period with a goal tipped in on a pass from the corner which surprised Stewart.

Ed. note: Due to severe space restrictions several sports stories had to be held.

## Spikers end season 3rd

The volleyball Yeomen terminated their season with a victory last week, against the U of T Blues with scores of 15-10, 15-8 and 15-12.

The Blues, who the previous week had beat Queens, the first place team in the OUAA, were no match for the Yeomen Saturday.

"When everyone plays to their potential we are unstoppable," says coach Wally Dyba.

The Yeomen finished the season third in Ontario.

Dyba cites Wayne Daniels as the best quick ball hitter in the league. He also commends Lino Girardo for his blocking, John Vares for his passing, Larry Simpson for his improvement, Sam Manfredi for his guts, Franko Girardo for his consistency, and Al Riddell for his serving.

"Showkat Hussein is probably the best non-starting starter in the league," said Dyba. "And Doug Kennedy and Jeff Russell are the best specialists."



Doug Kennedy tips ball over net

## Worth it for wrestlers

By Jeff Rayman

The long drive to Western University seemed to have no ill effects on the Yeomen wrestling team as their six-man delegation won four matches last Wednesday evening.

Jim Stit-118lb, John Sedito-142lb, and Tom Mastantuono-177lb, each won by pinning their opponents. Carlos Moniz-150lb won his match 16-11.

The other two members of the team were Gar Lok and Dave Tooke. Although both Tooke and Lok lost their matches, their fights were very close.

One difficulty the team found trouble adjusting to was an extended three minutes on each bout. Usually in the early part of the wrestling season matches are six minutes in length, in order to keep the overall time of matches down. Towards the end of the season however the matches are lengthened to nine minutes which is the official time of the wrestling bouts. Therefore when the finals come, wrestlers are prepared to go the full time period.

Coach John Pickard was very pleased with the results of the dual meet but felt that a drawback to the meet was that each wrestler could

only fight one match.

For this meet, York combined with U of T in order that a full team might be present at Western. However, only three wrestlers showed up from U of T, of which all three lost.

## Cosentino—a breath of inspiration

By Kim Llewellyn

The York Yeomen, perennial ne'er-do-wells of Ontario university football, are hoping for a breath of inspiration from new coach for 1978, Frank Cosentino.

The announcement of Cosentino's new position of head coach for the Yeomen football team followed former coach Dick Aldridge's appointment to coach of the Argo's farm team and subsequent resignation from York.

In Toronto's media Cosentino has received a lot of ribbing for taking on the team with the poorest record in the OUAA. One columnist equated his challenge with climbing Mount

Everest or being the first man in space.

But Cosentino feels differently. "Coaching the football team does represent a challenge," he says "but my



Frank Cosentino

whole philosophy centres around putting yourself into a vulnerable position because if you're not worried that much about failing then winning becomes a possibility".

He points out that the teams York is compared with have 30 to 50 years of tradition behind them. Varsity football at York has only been established for seven years.

Cosentino, who heads York's physical education department, brings to the post a ten year CFL playing background as well as six years of coaching experience with University of Western Ontario. Under Cosentino the Mustangs were Canadian champions in 1971 and 1974.