

# P.J. Edgeworth takes success in stride

## Private Jet on pace to have all-star season

by Daniel Naccarato

Nobody's exactly sure what the P.J. stands for, but Private Jet would be a good guess.

P.J. Edgeworth, the starting wide receiver on the York Yeomen's football team, is in his third and, so far,



best year of his university career. His game has shown marked improvement compared to his first two sea-

sons. But, P.J. believes it may not be so much that his game has improved, but that his teammates have increased their level of play.

"We have a different offensive coordinator," Edgeworth said. "We're using more passing plays this year and passing is essential to a three-down offense. Our offensive line is better, also, giving the quarterbacks more time to throw. I was open last year, but I just wasn't getting the ball. This year, the quarterback is passing to me."

Edgeworth's football talent was evident throughout his high school career at Laurier High in his hometown of London, Ontario. He played tailback on offense and safety on defense. As a result, several universities made pitches for him, including Windsor, McMaster, and Wilfrid Laurier.

"My first choice," recalls Edgeworth, "was Laurier. That was when (present York coach) Tom



P.J. Edgeworth • Photo by Michele Boesener

Arnott was there. When he came to York, I came here."

When Arnott recruited him out of high school, he knew exactly what he was getting; a speedy player with soft hands, good concentration, and the ability to read defences. He also knew what he wasn't getting, a huge physical specimen. Edgeworth is only 5'6" and 150 pounds, several inches and pounds smaller than the average Canadian university football player, not to mention the average Canadian male. However, Edgeworth's size doesn't affect him.

"There are advantages. With my size and speed, I'm not an easy target to hit."

While he may stand only 5'6", he is the big man on the York offence once the game gets underway. He is the player that everybody on the team

looks to in key situations to make important plays. He appears to be comfortable with the role as team leader as he is fourth in the league in receptions, and in the top 10 in receiving yardage.

"It seems to be working out that way (his role as team leader). It's happening by chance, really. I just happen to be getting open and I'm catching the ball."

Edgeworth said motivation is not a problem for the Yeomen football in spite of the four year losing streak. Players are optimistic.

"We expected to beat McMaster and Windsor. Our only problem is that in close games we make mental mistakes which cost us. Take away five plays and we're 2-1. If everyone does their own job a win will eventually come. I'm going to do whatever it takes to win."

The Yeomen haven't been praised in the media during this recent losing streak but Edgeworth and his teammates won't let it bother them. After all, most of them have only been around for the last couple of years.

"I think it motivates us", said

Edgeworth. "No one likes to lose. Most of us aren't used to losing as we come from successful high school teams. The media isn't always going to have good things to say. We have

to take the good with the bad."

It should be no surprise that the two players Edgeworth models himself after in the Canadian Football League are 5'6" Gismo Williams and 5'5" Pinball Clemons.

"Seeing the two small guys like them succeeding in the CFL gives the incentive. Despite their size they're getting

the job done."

Edgeworth will be a key component of the football team in the years to come and the kind of player good teams are built around. He is uncertain about his future after his university career.

"I'll be here for my five years. As far as pro-football, it's not something that I'm banking on. Next year is my draft year. I'll wait and see what happens."

As for the near future, maybe the Private Jet will help the Yeomen take off.

**"The media isn't always going to have good things to say. We have to take the good with the bad."**

### All-star season stats (4 games)

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Receptions      | 22       |
| Total yards     | 321      |
| Yds. per catch  | 14.6     |
| Longest catch   | 31 yards |
| Touchdowns      | 2        |
| Kickoff returns | 3        |
| Total yards     | 65       |
| Yds. per return | 21.6     |
| Longest return  | 37 yards |

## University's athletics funding caught in budget crunch

by Shaul Tarek

The York University athletics and recreation program (A&R), with its \$2.3-2.4 million, is definitely not rolling in dough. At first glance, this sum is seemingly large enough to buy a small country let alone run an athletics program.

Yet, York's Inter-Collegiate Coordinator Pat Murray said her department is struggling to maintain the most basic services. The sports department includes a varsity program of 26 teams (13 men's, 13 women's), three to four thousand people in intramurals, and fitness and lifestyle classes with over 700 people.

The bulk of the athletics budget is collected from student fees. Each year, the program receives money through the office of the Vice-President Student Affairs. Mike Dinning, Director of Athletics and Recreation, with input from coordinators and staff, distributes the money to various teams, leagues, and classes.

Salaries within the department make up about 80 per cent of the budget. The staff includes coaches, administrators, and secretaries, as well as the people who take bookings in the tennis courts and the control room staff in the pool who hand out towels.

Exact figures allocated to intramural versus varsity athletics are not readily available, but the remaining 20 per cent of the budget breaks down about 60/40 in favor of varsity athletics.

Officials say the breakdown does not mean the university favors varsity sports. "It is important to realize that the costs associated are very different," said Dinning.

For example, intramural athletics only take place on campus, while about half of the varsity games are away requiring the university to pay for transportation and accommodation.

Other funds are raised from E.C.R.'s (External Cost Recoveries

like gym, pool, and ice rentals), gate revenue, corporate sponsorship, and attendance guarantees (universities

who cover the cost of York teams attending their tournaments.)

York has no large revenue gener-

ating sponsors, but does take in about \$35-\$40,000 in cash and donated products from sponsors including Coca-Cola, Pizza Pizza, York Federation of Students, York Lanes, and the Bank of Montreal. Corporate cash is used to promote the A&R program. Items such as the 15,000 desk-top calendars produced this year and free programs handed out at Varsity games are examples of the use of corporate sponsorship.

While the government funding cuts do not directly effect the A&R program, the undertone of "no growth" permeating the university as a result of the cutbacks has had deleterious effects.

Dinning said the program's bud-

get has been flat-lined or decreased for the last two to three years.

Murray agreed the program's funding has not been cut, but inflation and increasing costs of running the department lead to problems.

Some students have raised concerns regarding inequity in funding for women's and men's teams. Murray said, "[When allocating money we] do try to apply the same guidelines to men's and women's programs."

Dinning said inequity may result from their being a men's football team, but all other teams get twin (women's and men's) meal allowances, modes of transportation, and overnight accommodations.



Graphic By Aaron Ber

## Waterpolo Yeomen like fish out of water

By Mark Bayne

You may think that this weekend's waterpolo results are disastrous but scores can be deceiving. The Yeomen took on Western and McMaster, last year's second and third placed teams, and lost 18-2 and 21-3 respectively.

Beaten, but not defeated, applies in this case. Considering it is the first match of the season, and it's a young, rather inexperienced side, and the Yeomen lost four or five key players at the end of last year, one should turn a blind eye to the score and concentrate on aspects of the game.

Coach Ross MacDonald is optimistic the team will improve as the season progresses and is emphasizing a defensive approach to the game. This allows the offense to slowly build through careful positional play. York did get some offense going with Matt Jones putting in two goals against McMaster. Mike Neugebauer and Randy French scored against Western.

The team has yet to focus on its power play and will probably help to consolidate the teams offensive capabilities. This weekend they carefully executed their offense and some other strategies from practice.

Turn-overs left their defense vulnerable, allowing too many quick goals.

Fitness is a key factor for any waterpolo side and the team's stamina will improve.

York's next opponent is UofT, last year's first place team.