



PHOTO: MARIO SCATTOLONI

Astro turf weeds 'em

By ELISSA S. FREEMAN

The Yeowomen field hockey team tangled with two of Ontario's powerhouse in exhibition matches this week and came out losers.

Playing after a short hiatus from league play, York dropped a 1-0 decision to the Waterloo Athenas and lost to cross-town nemesis U of T Lady Blues 3-1.

The U of T match-up was played on astro turf surface at Lampart Stadium—the same surface with which York will have to play when the squad travels to McGill for Part II of the Ontario Yeomen's Inter-university Athletic Association's (OWIAA) Eastern Divisional play.

"On astro turf, the ball moves really fast," said goalkeeper Debbie Lamb, "and sometimes it seems as if our feet aren't moving as fast as the ball."

"Our passing must also be extra crisp," she added. "On grass you can get away with making a bad pass or shooting the ball ahead of the player. But on astro turf, the passing must be dead on."

Although the Yeowomen have had limited experience on astro turf, aside from McGill, the three other Eastern Division teams, Queens, Trent, and Laurentian have had next to none. The York squad should have no trouble handling the teams they have already beaten.

"I think that they'll be O.K.," mused coach Marina Van der Merwe, "and I'm optimistic that we'll be able to do just as well as last time." (In Part I of the OWIAA tourney, the Yeowomen went 4-0.)

Fortunately, York's encounter with Waterloo and U of T afforded them one last look at the teams they will eventually have to overcome when East meets West to decide the OWIAA championship as well as the two Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union's (CIAU) representatives. Last year, York finished second to U of T in the OWIAAs and fifth in the CIAUs.

Patent that comeback

By MARK ZWOLINSKI

York's Rugby Yeomen haven't patented their last minute comeback yet, but they're working on it.

After trailing by five points through 40 minutes of play, the Yeomen scored a try on the final play of the game to pull out an 18-9 win over the Queens Golden Gaels last Saturday afternoon.

"We had our backs to the wall again and came up big again," said coach Mike Dinning. "They know they cannot afford to lose another game."

Winger Pete Johnson's last second effort aced the game for York. Mark Whitfield connected on his second of two converts on the day.

Number eight man Dimece Kokonakis got the comeback started

with a try at the 70-minute mark. Mark Macaulay got York's only first half try with Dave Berto adding the extra point.

The win leaves the Yeomen in sole possession of second place in the OUAA's east division with a 4-1 record. And with four games remaining they'll be looking at finishing the year out at no less than 7-2 in the race for an OUAA playoff berth.

In an earlier game the York second team walked over the Queens seconds 19-6 to notch the Yeomen's first victory in nine years over the Golden Gaels.

The Yeomen are on the road this weekend traveling to London for a game against the Western Mustangs before returning home Wednesday night for a match with Laurier.

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