



Powerful Westwood jrs. meet Erindale in Peel final

MALTON — You could have easily excused Ben Murdie, coach of the Peel champion-winning Junior Westwood Wildcats, if he had scrapped his zone defence after Port Credit made shambles of it in the opening quarter of their semi-final Thursday afternoon.

Murdie had second thoughts about it too when the Warriors, a team that possessed an explosive scoring threat, soared into a 12-3 lead with an almost flawless shooting percentage. The zone defence kept the Warriors out but Port Credit continually looped long baskets over their heads.

Murdie could have switched to a man-to-man style in the hopes of holding off the Warriors but he didn't and Westwood dominated the rest of the game to advance to the Peel final with Erindale with a 53-45 win.

"It was just a matter of time before they'd start missing those shots," he explained after the game. "I thought of going to a man-to-man defence but they couldn't have shot like that for a whole 32 minutes."

Port Credit couldn't maintain the momentum and after the Wildcats had erased Port Credit's win, the teams battled on even keel for the rest of the match. With less than a minute remaining, Westwood hit a 49-45 lead. Fouls hit the warriors in rapid succession in the last 22 seconds to enable the Wildcats to add four more single points from the free throw line.

SUPER GUARD
Some fancy ballhandling by Westwood's super-guard

John Graham and forward Basil Forrester helped the Wildcats control the game in the late stages and force Port Credit to draw fouls in order to get the ball back.

The game had been billed as a classic. Port Credit had lost its only two league games to the Wildcats and had beaten them in a tournament. The two teams didn't disappoint the packed house on hand for the game.

John Tutty, coach of the Warriors, was disappointed. He was especially unhappy with the officiating which kept his top players such as Bill Lawrence and Dave Pittenburg in trouble. Lawrence had his fourth in the third period and he was the leading scorer for the Warriors with 14 points before fouling out with two minutes left. Pittenburg had 11 and Stu Julius added eight. Port Credit picked up 21

fouls to Westwood's 13 and that was the eight-point margin.

For the Wildcats, Graham hooped 16 points to lead both teams. Tony Adair followed with 15 with Mike Doyle and Dave Robbins adding eight each.

"It was a team effort," added Murdie. "Graham is our top ballhandler but everyone had a great game. Graham did a great job for us of ragging the ball in the last minute. He's the best

ballhandler I've seen in a long time."

WEST SEMI-FINAL
In the western division semi-final at Lorne Park, the first upset of the playoffs occurred when second-place Erindale who had an 8-4 record toppled the Spartans (12-0) 48-47 in a thriller.

The teams were tied at 46-46 in the final minute of play when Blake Medlar stepped to the foul line. The football star sank two

perfect foul shots to give the Raiders a 48-46 lead which they hung on to despite the fact Wolf Weiss sank a foul shot for the Spartans with two seconds left.

Rick TeBoekhorst was the top Raider scorer with 14 points while Ken Ratts paced the Spartans with 16.

The two teams—Erindale and Westwood—will meet in the second half of the mid-junior doubleheader at Brampton Centennial Thursday night.

Vic Risinger (almost squatting) wheels away after hooping two points in the east division semi-final between Westwood and Port Credit last week. Risinger had 22 points to lead the Westwood Wildcats to a 48-44 win in the game which Port Credit almost pulled out of the fire.
(Times Photo by Bryan Cantley)

ANOTHER WESTWOOD FINALIST

Baby Wildcats survive surge for berth in midget cage final

MALTON — It's tough when you lose the life and soul of your ball club through fouls and coach Bob Gardner's Westwood Wildcat midgets came precariously close to dropping their semi-final

with Port Credit after starry Vic Risinger left with six minutes left.

At that time, the baby Wildcats held a commanding 14-point lead — 39-25 — and, for all intents and purposes,

the Malton boys who swept to the Peel east title with a 12-0 record had ensured themselves of a berth with Lorne Park for the Peel title Thursday night at Brampton Centennial.

But, Risinger collected his fifth foul and life came back to the Port Credit attack. They chopped that margin to seven points with three minutes left before Westwood hiked it back up to 11. In the next two-and-a-half minutes Port Credit managed a healthy balance of field goals and foul shots to draw to within three points with 25 seconds remaining.

Malton snowmobilers hold races for entire families

MALTON — It didn't take long for the newly-formed Malton Snowmobile Club to organize their own club races for members of all ages from 10-and-under to adult.

Leona Elliott on a Yamaha was the winner of the Silhouette Hair Salon. The children's 10-and-under race was won by Michel Cliche on a Yamaha while Stephen Martin on a Ski-Doo won the children's 12 to 16 Leman. Ray Archambault on a Skiroule and John Martin on a Ski-Doo were first and second respectively in the Men's Leman race.

Westwood eventually hung on and won the game 48-44 but the closeness of the win against a team that had a mediocre record of seven wins and five losses to finish in second spot was enough to give Gardner a few anxious moments.

Three of Gardner's starting forwards are six feet tall or more, including Risinger. For the Warriors, Cam Stretton was a powerhouse. The tall, lanky centre came up with eight points in the first half but then tapered off to four in the final half. However, he provided some key rebounding and passing to enable Bill Moreland and Jim Thompson to hoop 10 and nine respectively and keep Credit in the battle.

Cheryl Martin was the winner of the first slalom ladies event. She took home a pair of F.V.T. goggles donated by Kar King of Brampton. Little Lori-Ann Martin followed later in the children's slalom when she powered her Ski-Doo to first to take home a record as her prize.

The final race was the Rope and Circle event for couples and the Ivan Elliott duo won this event on their Yamaha. Cathy Martin won a pair of goggles during a treasure hunt for girls eight-and-under.

Westwood might have been charged with some degree of complacency after running up the commanding lead but Gardner denied any such accusations. "This is a fantastic team, one of the better teams I've ever coached," he explained. "I didn't have to knock out any of the cockiness. There was not one degree of complacency that I could pick up. Port Credit had a lot of spirit and they didn't give up."

Risinger, before he went out, found the mark for 22 points. The big youngster, who'll be graduating to the already-strong junior team next year, has a good shot from outside the key and uses his strength to get underneath for rebounds.

In the men's slalom event, Bill Brocklebank drove his Rupp to a first over Harold Rose on a Snow Cruiser.

The next event was the Leman race for ladies.

Those competing were the families of R. Archambault, D. Potts, L. Wedgewood, Jack Martin, M. Zehodnik, R. Ross, H. Ross, R. Lihou, L. Whalen, Jim Martin, G. Evers, B. Brocklebank, J. Gerry, John Martin, I. Elliott, R. Burton, B. Allemang, G. Martin, B. Rowley, R. Smith, B. Codlin, L. Martin and Neil Thomas with Glenna Buker.

Without Gemmell's hot shooting, the Tigers had difficulty in controlling the good running attack of the Spartans.

The next event is March 6, for couples at Twin Lakes Motel, Havelock, Ont.

Mortiliaro's solo effort paces Wings

PORT CREDIT — An unassisted goal by Chris Mortiliaro in the final two minutes of play handed the Rangers a 1-0 win over the Red Wings in Port Credit paperweight action on Saturday.

Mortiliaro's shotout helped goalie Mike Sands pick up the shutout in the exciting battle.

In another game, the Maple Leafs downed the Kings 3-1 as Ken Gillies, Mike Chalovich and Greg Gilbert fired goals for the winners. Mike Hawke and Craig Gemmel had assists each for the winners. John York fired in Ken Greenfield and Paul York's passes for the Kings' only goal.

The Black Hawks nipped the league-leading North Stars 2-1. Larry Harris and Joey Timms picked up goals for the Hawks while David Newson scored from Harry Jones for the Stars.

Mark Lamb's strong goal-tending led the Canadiens to a 3-0 win over the Bruins. John Lennon, Paul Devoer and Mike Sproule were the marksmen in the win. Ken Strong had an assist.

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