

Mississauga's Rob Stewart, at six-foot-seven-inches is overshadowed by Wilt Chamberlain during a shooting contest in the Simon Fraser University gym. Stewart says Chamberlain was the first person to ever make him feel really small.

"BIG MAN" Pressure on Stewart to lead Clansmen

By JOHN STEWART
Rob Stewart, at a height of six-foot-seven inches has always been a basketball big man, but now he is a basketball BIG MAN.

A BIG MAN is not only tall, but is expected to do the majority of the rebounding at both ends of the court, score a lot of points and of course, intimidate the opposition with his solid play in plugging up the middle on defence.

Stewart, of Portway Avenue in Mississauga, is the only senior starter on the Simon Fraser University basketball team and is carrying the big load as the only really tall player the Clansmen can boast.

Rob, a forward on Canada's national basketball team for the last two years has had to make the adjustment to the centre position this year while taking on the role as captain and team leader both on and off the court.

The Clansmen are only 6-7 in a disappointing year that has been injury-filled. "I'm playing well myself," Rob said yesterday in what is obviously a bit of an understatement.

Stewart, who has never been a big scorer, is averaging 19 points a game for SFU and has picked off over 13 rebounds per game.

After beating five Canadian schools to start their schedule, the Clansmen have gone only 1-7 against American competition in NAIA play.

But Rob has averaged 24 points a game against the American teams and Saturday in a 77-67 defeat of Montana State, the Mississauga drilled 34 points and wrestled down 19 rebounds in what he calls the best game of his career.

Stewart feels the experience he is gaining in the Canadian-American circuit will stand him in good stead when he returns to the national team. "I scored 24 points against a seven-foot centre we played from one of the American schools," he notes.

With two juniors, a freshman and a sophomore starting for the Clansmen, Rob knows that, "the pressure is completely on me."

He has to take care of the bulk of the rebounding, be the key man in Simon Fraser's help-out defence, score, and stay away from foul trouble since there is nobody of comparable size, or ability, behind him.

The adjustment has been somewhat difficult for Rob who had to learn to play with his back facing the basket in the pivot position. "I can't shoot from

too far out or there's no one underneath to rebound if I miss," says Rob whose outside shooting is one of the strong points of his game.

Although Rob admits the Clansmen aren't likely to "go anywhere" this year he sees his role as keeping the players together by setting an example with his play both in games and in practice. "Everyone realizes, including me, that if I have a bad game we're in trouble."

Nevertheless, Rob relishes the chance to play almost all the time, gain valuable experience and grow more confident in his game.

Over the summer, Rob had an opportunity to play against one big man who he says made him feel like a dwarf. Wilt Chamberlain, who was vacationing in the Burnaby, B.C. area dropped by the SFU gym to work out. The two men played the shooting games that are one of the staples of basketball practice.

"I never felt that small before," says Rob of the experience. "His arms were as big as my legs. He dwarfed me."

The games included one where baskets didn't count unless they were rimless. Wilt demonstrated his infamous ability to shoot the eye out of the basket in practice, but Stewart says he did manage to beat him "a couple of times."

When the SFU academic year ends, the fourth year student will be coming home to live in Mississauga and hopefully gain some weight on his 205-pound frame. He will also go on a weight-lifting program.

But Rob may not be home all that much. The national team will tour Europe in May; play in the World Cup of Basketball which will see five games in Canadian cities in July and August; play in the World Student Games in September; and then in the Pan American Games in Mexico. "Then it's only eight months to the Olympics," reminds Rob who says Canada will have an excellent chance at a basketball medal.

When Rob does go back to the national team it will again be in the mould of "mobile forward" who plays good defence and is active in the running, fast-break offence.

It will be a change from the more glamorous role of big shooter, big rebounder and key defensive man for Simon Fraser but the enthusiastic city contribution to the national team isn't likely to enjoy it any less.

Ventures give Oakville present

By DAVE O'BRIEN
Dixie Ventures are ardent supporters of the Christmas spirit that it is better to give than receive.

Ventures handed rival Oakville Blades a beautifully gift wrapped four points in back to back Central Ontario Junior B Hockey League meetings and their generosity vaulted the Blades into first place, one point richer than Burlington Mohawks.

The first gift was rather sloppily presented at Dixie Gardens Thursday evening, where the sharp Blades skated away with a 14-6 triumph.

On the next night, Ventures yielded two more points via a 6-5 loss but not before throwing a scare into the large gathering of Blade's boosters by coming eerily close to tying it with five seconds remaining.

Jim Boyington, who fired three closing period goals to make the game close, missed scoring a fourth goal by inches when his surprise goalkeeping performance of goaltender Keith Mills went wide.

At Dixie, experimenting coach Tony Callam seemed perturbed at the thought of heading back to the laboratory to find out why his formula vanished after 40 minutes of play.

Callam had instructed his defencemen to follow the play closely and to carry the puck more, even in enemy territory. When they followed their mentor's prescription as directed, the game was close. One result was two quick second period tallies by rearguard Steve Dixon, both coming from well inside the blueline.

Venture players abandoned that particular style in

the third period and Blades, always the opportunists, were quick to take advantage of their host's disorganized state for eight goals.

Bryan Ross drew the first cheer from the partisan rooters when he turned the red light on with a backhand drive after Phil Gaidy fed him the puck with some diligent work in the corner.

Blades roared back with three goals and never looked back.

In the second period, Ron Rowlin took over the netminding duties in place of a shaky Dave Quennell and Ventures rallied to take a 4-3 lead on two goals by Dixon and one from Paul Stanfield.

In typical Oakville fashion, Blades maintained pressure for a 6-4 margin after two periods.

Blades scored on five breakaways in the closing segment to ice the game while Ventures' only response came from Ross and Brian Cutler.

Dixie dropped the fancy pants and went back to basics fundamentals in Oakville for a much better showing.

Quennell rebounded for a spectacular display of goaltending and was peppered with 43 shots while his mates unleashed 19 at Mills.

After a scoreless opening tilt, Oakville exploded for five goals while Phil Gaidy and Jimmy Baker did the honor for the guests.

Boyington went on the rampage in the final frame with three goals but his efforts alone were too little and too late.

Ventures host Brampton tomorrow night at Dixie Gardens beginning at 7:30 and travel to Burlington Saturday and Streetsville Sunday.



Breakaways were the order of the night as Oakville Blades connected on six third period free chances and dumped host Dixie Ventures 14-6 in a wild Central Ontario

Junior B Hockey League meeting Thursday evening. Here, John Holmes sends the puck over a sprawled Ron Rowlin for the 12th Blade goal.

Strong nets three goals as Reps defeat Rangers

Mississauga Reps needed a "Strong" effort to escape with a 6-1 Metro Toronto Hockey League Minor Peevée AA division victory over North York Rangers.

Ken Strong, no stranger when it comes to netting the rubber disc, turned the red light on three times to spark the Mississauga attack.

Strong opened and closed the scoring for the victors and added the insurance marker on a beautiful solo effort.

In addition to Strong's trio, Mike Hough contributed two goals and Shawn Vantor potted a lone.

Reps continued to show power as they whitewashed the Toronto Blues 6-0 on the strength of Mike Franchetto's two markers.

Doug McGillivray, Vantor and Hough also shared the scoring spotlight.

GH Woods briefly shook their mysterious slump and battled Malton Jets to a 2-2 tie with an inspired effort. S. Argall and G. Fournier

did the honors for GH Woods. M. Humby scored a first period goal to short circuit Globe Electronics but the powerful Electricians repaired their system and charged back for a 3-1 conquest.

ATOM AA
David Rogers rifled two goals and assisted on two others to help Rex Lumber chop down the Toronto Marlies 8-0 in a lopsided contest.

Peter Keegan also bent the twine twice while Jeff Smith picked up a goal and four helpers. Other single goal scorers were Steve Pollitt, David Emerson and Kevin McKee. Ian Wood claimed the shutout.

Keegan blasted a crucial tally as Lumber and Toronto Blues skated to a 1-1 stalemate.

MINOR ATOM A
Scott's Colonels came up with a flawless effort and were rewarded with a 2-0 verdict over Mississauga North Stars.

Blaine Elcome picked up

the shutout and got all the offensive help he needed from Dan Kelly and Steve Berry.

Berry's clincher came while Colonels were short-handed and seemed to drain the starch from the North Stars.

In a rematch, the clubs battled to a 3-3 draw with Greg Books, Adam Popaduke and Scott Hampel pumping in goals for Scotts.

PEEWEE AA
Six goals in nine minutes stood up as Christie Cookies put it to Dorset Park 6-1.

R.J. Thompson and G. Gilbert powered the explosion with a pair apiece while D. Newson and M. Connell blasted singles.

Balance highlighted the Cookies next victory, a 3-1 decision over Toronto Blues.

Dave Marchiori, D. Moitso and Connell each found the range once.

MINOR ATOM AA
After dropping a 6-3 verdict to Royal York, Consolidated Fastfrate rebounded for a 5-3 win over

Wexford. Fastfrate overcame a 2-1 deficit on goals by Tom Hogg, Ken McNulty, Stephen MacDougall and Steve Franchetto to post the win. Gord Cruickshank had opened the scoring for Fastfrate.

McNulty paced Mississauga in the Royal York game with two goals and Greg Milkovich netted a single.

MIDGET A
Eddie Howell, Bob McCullough and Domenic Amodeo collected singles to help Repls triple the count on Downsview 3-1.

Reps also beat Etobicoke Canucks 3-1 with McCullough getting two and Howell one.

The Mississauga Repls will be well represented in the Royal York Invitational Tournament which runs Thursday thru Sunday.

Reps will have teams in the minor atom, minor midget and midget categories.

Crescent Plumbing heads to Florida

Anita Bryant, look out! There are a bunch of young hockey players intent on drinking from the Florida sunshine tree.

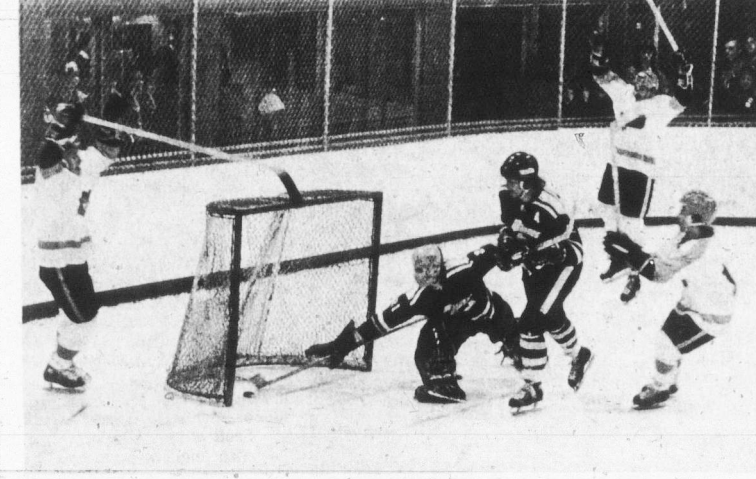
Crescent Plumbing, the Bantam A entry of the Mississauga Repls in the Metropolitan Toronto Hockey League are out to soak up a little sun and play a little hockey in the relative comfort of Florida.

The team will join many other Mississaugans on a pilgrimage south starting on Friday when they leave for St. Petersburg. They will be taking part in a tour-

nament which will also feature teams from Boston, Martingrove and Winnipeg.

The boys return to Canada again on January 3. The trip has been made possible by the sponsorship of Terovac Industries, Hill Tours and the MTHL.

Crescent Plumbing hopes to continue their winning ways of Saturday when they banished the Royals at Dixie Arena to a 4-0 defeat. In that effort Bart Beaumont blasted a pair of markers while Steve Borsok and Chris Jazard triggered single efforts.



No doubt about it. Oakville Blades netminder Rob Parker reaches in vain to stop a shot by Danny Sutton (left), Larry Stevens (top right) and Dennis Chadala celebrate. There was no more to cheer about, however, as Streetsville Derbys dropped a 3-1 Central Ontario Junior B verdict to the first place Blades.

Upsets in Cobblestone Tourney

Two upsets were scored in the Cobblestone Tennis Tournament yesterday as top seeded Jeffrey Silverstein, of Wingfield and Sue Gillespie of the Criket Club, went down to defeat.

Jerome Rubin defeated Silverstein in the Boys 14 year-old division 7-5, 5-7, 6-4. Silverstein was up 4-1 in the third set but failed to maintain his advantage.

In the Girls 16 year-old Division, Clare Lardner defeated Gillespie 6-3, 7-5. Bill Cowan of Cobblestone downed Mike Puc 6-3, 6-1 in the boys 16 year-old division, while Lee Myers reigned victorious in the girls 18 year-old match defeating Pat Sinclair 6-2, 6-4.

Result of the boys 18 year-old division were unavailable before press time.

Host players from Mississauga did not fair well

as many went down to defeat in the tournament.

Neil Stark lost on Friday by default when he failed to show for his match against clubmate Remus Gudbillis.

Cobblestone sensation Chris Little was downed by Mohammed Cassim of the Wingfield club 6-3, 6-1 in boys under 18 action.

Jeremy Pridham was downed by Wingfield's Nigel O'Rourke 7-5, 6-1 in boys 16 division.

Mississauga's Sue Black lost to North York's Debbie Wilson 6-1, 6-2.

In the boys 18 category Cobblestone's Graeme Hibbard downed Wingfield's Larry Dime 6-1, 6-2.

Bonspiel set

Two Mississauga rinks will compete in the 10th annual CFB-Thornhill Junior Mixed Bonspiel at Thornhill Country Club Dec. 26, 27 and 28.

The Mississauga Curling Club rink of skip Bill Coyle, Chris Hushagen, Mark Allen and Susan Morrison, along with Dixie's entry of skip Bryan Grice, Sue Wright, Bill Duck and Jill Rowette will compete with 34 other

rinks from Southern Ontario and the Buffalo area.

The bonspiel, started in 1965 for participants 20 years of age or younger, is co-sponsored by CFRB, which provides over 40 prizes, and the Thornhill Country Club and its members who donate ice time for the three-day event. Billposting for out-of-town rinks is also arranged by the host club members.

The Derbys battled with Oakville Sunday in a fast and scoreless first period. Both teams showing their best side in a manner that kept the fans on the edge of their seats.

Scoring didn't take place until well into the second

period with Oakville's John Holmes and Kevin Reid taking credit for the first two goals of the game.

The Derbys replied only once with an astonishing play by Larry Stevens and Danny Sutton.

Stevens, taking the puck from Oakville near centre ice, skated through the Blade defence but his shot was stopped short of the goal line.

A quick Sutton added the extra momentum needed to finish the job.

Desperate efforts to tie the match in the third frame of play gave the fans at Vic Johnston arena 20 minutes of superb hockey.

The occasionally disorganized but constantly persistent Derby attack was shattered only 11 times but thanks to an amazing John Traicus the score remained unchanged. "Yes Traicus is back" commented coach Barret in reference to Traicus dynamic efforts in net.

Traicus is just recovering from mononucleosis.

The sharp netminder was removed from his net in the dying moments of the game in a last effort to even the score. This plan backfired with just 18 seconds left when Oakville's Ron Heaslip broke the Derby defence and guided the puck into the empty Streetsville net to put the game well out of their reach.

The Derbys had the Burlington Mohawks beat in Burlington Friday until late in the final frame.

The hosting Mohawks attacked first taking a two point lead early in the game. This was reduced to one point by George Chandler before the opening segment closed.

Jeff Andrews and Joe Schaefer added the second period goals for the Derbys while Burlington could beat Derby net minder Traicus only once ending the second frame with three points

Wellwood finishes strong

Mississaugan Bill Wellwood, recently voted the Golden Horseshoe Circuit's 1974 Horseman of the Year, finished off his best season ever this week with 134 wins and \$419,740 in purses.

Wellwood's season wins put him in third place behind the circuit's leading driver, Ron Feagan, who boosted his win total to 192, 21 more than second-ranked Ron Waples. Pure earnings of Feagan's 60-horse stable reached \$542,870 while

Waples amassed \$493,870 to set a personal record.

Wellwood earned the title of horseman of the year for the fourth time since 1969, holding the title for three successive years before Ron Feagan, of Goderich, was awarded the honor last year.

The local driver's season was even more triumphant as his three-year-old trotter Surge Hanover, owned jointly by Wellwood, his wife, Jean, and Joanne and

Walter Musty of Colden, N.Y., was named best in its class.

Pacer Dar Hanover, owned and trained by Wellwood, also picked up the laurels for best two-year-old pacer of 1974.

The selections, conducted by the harness racing section of the Ontario Jockey Club, were based on votes by members of the news, radio and television media involved in coverage of the Golden Horseshoe Circuit.

Kelly, Patey, Sittler shine

Mississaugan Larry Patey notched his sixth National Hockey League goal Friday night as his California Golden Seals trounced expansionist Washington Capitals 5-2.

Seals are in the cellar of the Adams Division with 20 points, six fewer than the Toronto Maple Leafs.

Bob Kelly, the hardened Port Credit native, potted his eighth goal of the campaign to help defending Stanley Cup champions Philadelphia

Flyers to a 4-0 victory over Pittsburgh Penguins.

Kelly made it 4-0 in the last period and drew a large roar from the 17,007 Spectrum fans, normally accustomed to applauding his aggressiveness.

The win gives Flyers a comfortable 14-point cushion over second place Atlanta Flames in the Patrick Division.

In the most thrilling game to be played at the Gardens

this season, Mississauga's Darryl Sittler returned to action and pumped in two goals to help the Leafs double the count 8-4 over the Boston Bruins.

Sittler showed no ill affects of a troublesome shoulder as he unleashed two bullet drives that beat Boston goaltenders Gilles Gilbert and Ross Brooks.

The two goals by the fleet-footed centre were his 13th and 14th of the year.