

Oldershaw scores double gold at the junior world's in Brazil

Burloak Canoe Club member Mark Oldershaw completed a golden sweep in the canoe singles events Sunday, placing first in the C-1 500 metres at the world junior canoe and kayak championships in Brazil.

Oldershaw clocked 1:57.252 seconds for the victory. Robert Nuck of Germany was second at 1:58.152 and George Teodorescu of Romania third in 1:59.747.

It was an incredible weekend for Oldershaw, who also won the C-1 1,000 by more than five seconds on Saturday. It was the first time in his career he'd face the European powers in international competition.

Fellow Burloak Canoe Club member Larry Cain, of Oakville, was the last Canadian to pull off the double gold feat in 1981 in Bulgaria.

He went on to win gold and silver at the Olympic Games.

The only other gold medal by a Canadian in the solo events at the junior world's was accomplished last time around, in 1999, by Thomas Hall in the 1000m event.

A Canadian twosome — Attila Buday and Michael Orschak, won gold in the C-2 event in 1991 in Austria.

"It was very exciting for me to beat the Europeans," said Oldershaw whose previous international experience was two Pan Am championships.

"Just before the race you look around and

you see all these big paddling countries like Hungary and Germany. You're definitely ready to go."

Following his 1,000m victory, he credited a 10-day training session with Olympic bronze medalist Steve Giles in Nova Scotia this summer for his success.

"It feels incredible. It makes up for a lot of hard work. I was surprised to win by that much. But once I got the lead I was feeling so strong that I wasn't even tired."

Oldershaw also helped the men's C-4 500 crew to fifth with Ian Mortimer of Ottawa Gabriel Beauchesne-Sevigny of Trois-Rivieres, Que., and Andrew Russell of Dartmouth, N.S.

Last year's Burlington athlete of the year, Oldershaw, 18, is heading into his OAC year at Burlington Central.

Oldershaw, who paddles almost daily on sixteen Mile Creek in Oakville, weather permitting — as Cain did before him — could not be reached prior to our press deadlines.

In an interview just before his departure, he said the Olympic Games were a definite goal.

Looks like he's right on track.

Mark Oldershaw is pictured earlier this year in training on Sixteen Mile Creek. Last weekend he pulled off a sensational double gold medal performance at the junior world's in Brazil.

Photo by Peter C. McCusker



Blades runner-up in Jr. tourney

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7:45 p.m., with Buffalo paying a return visit.

The weekend is actually the annual showcase tourney with all the provincial junior A teams at Mississauga Iceland. The Blades play their game on Sunday, 12:30 p.m. against Bancroft.

On Monday, 7:30 p.m., the Blades are in Hamilton to take on the Kilty B's.

The Blades were edged 4-3 by Wexford in Sunday's tournament championship at Ice Sports.

Wexford turned out to be the Blades Achilles Heel in the weekend tourney as they also won the preliminary round showdown 5-2 to win their division.

The Blades, though, beat their other two divisional rivals — 5-0 over North York Rangers and 11-1 over Pittsburgh Jr. Penguins — to lock up the wild card spot in the finals.

They then edged New York Applecore 3-2 in the semifinals.

Oakville Skating Club and Parks and Rec department join forces to offer learn to skate programs for youth

Last spring, the Oakville Skating Club and the town of Oakville's parks and recreation department decided to join forces in the service and delivery of instructional skate programs for the community.

The Oakville Skating Club is a community based, non-profit sport group that has been teaching skating since 1937. The club not only attracts competitive skaters but also offers

the community a 22-hour weekly schedule of recreational/introductory skate classes for preschoolers, youth, parents/tots.

With their club offices at River Oaks Arena, the Oakville Skating Club coordinates sessions at River Oaks, Glen Abbey and Oakville arenas.

Their Canskate program is a nationally recognized program of Skate Canada. All of their coaches are adults and are certified through the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) and are High Five trained. Class ratios are small and all skaters are members of Skate Canada.

Over the last few years the Oakville Parks and Recreation Department has had numerous requests from the public to provide a standardized instructional skate program.

That said, the Oakville Skating Club, with its proven track record in instruction and a depth of technical expertise, became the town's choice to deliver the learn to skate program.

The parks and recreation department, as a partner, will assist the club with their program evaluation and quality assurance and train staff and volunteers in High Five concepts of healthy child development.

They will also support the club in their efforts to become one of the first community sport groups to work through the accreditation process outlined by Parks and Recreation Ontario (PRO).

To register, call the Oakville Skating Club at 257-7771.

Classes begin the week of Oct. 9.



The OMBA bantam champion Braves. STANDING: John Elias (Coach), Chris Pacheco, Matt Elias, David Hunter, Jim Hunter (coach), Scott Hall, Dustin Whitcomb. KNEELING (from left to right): Bruce Thomas, Brendan Quinless, Adam Cormier, Isaac Hall, Julian Richards, Alex Hall. ABSENT: Bryan Morton.

Braves win OMBA bantam championship

The Braves used strong pitching, solid defense and timely hitting to defeat the Blue Jays 11-4 and claim the OMBA's bantam championship.

The Braves broke open a tight 4-3 game in the 4th inning on a bases clearing double by Brendan Quinless. Quinless added two walks for a perfect day at the plate.

Isaac Hall went 3 for 3 with an RBI while Dustin Whitcomb and David Hunter added RBI singles. Matt Elias contributed a single, a walk and two runs scored while Alex Hall walked and scored twice, including a steal of home. Bruce Thomas, Scott Hall and Chris Pacheco each scored once.

The big hit of the day however went to Graham Kitching of the Blue Jays who cracked a ground rule double more than 300 feet to straight away centre.

Winning pitcher was Julian Richards who surrendered one earned run over four innings while striking out seven. Starting pitcher Elias yielded just one run over two innings while Isaac Hall came on in the seventh to earn the save.

The defense featured a heads up double play triggered by 3B Adam Cormier and a fine running grab in left field by Scott Hall.

Congratulations to coach John Elias and the Braves for a fabulous ending to a great season.

OMBA is moving to fall tryout dates

The Oakville Minor Baseball Association is moving to a fall tryout schedule for its rep program.

Beginning this fall, tryouts will be held to select teams for the 2002 baseball season. Tryouts will begin the weekend of Sept. 21.

Details regarding times and locations will follow.

Paralympic champ in town Friday to help promote CN Tower climb

Canadian Paralympic champion Jeff Adams will be climbing the CN Tower — in his wheelchair! — on Thursday, September 20.

Adams will be climbing all 1,776 stairs to illustrate everyday barriers faced by people with mobility impairments.

And on Friday, September 14, Oakville's Golden Griddle will donate \$1 for every customer the entire day — including their \$9.99 all day breakfast buffet.

It will all be donated to the Variety Village Outreach Program — an initiative dedicated to promoting accessibility for Canadians.

Adams will be on hand from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to greet patrons.

Don't miss the boat

Now is the time to take a boating course to get your Canadian Coast Guard operator certification.

Oakville Power and Sail Squadron is once again offering its popular series of fall and winter boating courses, starting very shortly. Courses will include:

- basic boating — the standard introductory boating course, recently updated;
- pilot and advanced piloting — for more advanced boating skills;
- and Celestial navigation — for off-shore and ocean navigation skills.

Second and final registration will be held on Thursday, Sept. 13, 7-10 p.m., at the TOWARF building, east side of the Harbour at the bottom of Navy Street.

Courses start Monday, Sept. 17 and will still be held at Oakville Trafalgar High School, Mondays and Thursdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

For full details on all courses and dates or any other information please call the Squadron's info line at (905) 469-3167 (leave message and you'll be called back).

Or visit the website at <http://oakville.cps-ecp.org>

Aquatic Club tryouts

The Oakville Aquatic Club will hold its tryouts/placement dates Sept. 5/10/12/17/19, 5-7 p.m. at Glen Abbey pool. Call 842-0903.

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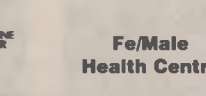
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Mike is starting Grade 9 at St. Thomas Aquinas and Scott will be in Grade 6 French Immersion at St. Marguerite D'Youville school. In addition to being strong students, both boys juggle very busy schedules involving rep hockey in the winter and rep baseball in the summer.

Their hobbies include computer games, reading and sports. Mike will start hockey officiating this fall.

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