

Webster both durable, dominating

By ALAN ROBINSON
AP Sports Writer

LATROBE (AP) — He may not have been the center of attention, but Mike Webster played a pivotal role in the Pittsburgh Steelers' four Super Bowl championships.

Offensive linemen like Webster don't enjoy the notoriety of glamour positions like quarterback, running back and receiver, where the Steelers had such well-known players as Terry Bradshaw, Rocky Bleier and Lynn Swann.

But the 6-1½, 250-pound Webster has been widely regarded as the best player in the National Football League at his position, center. He has been named to the Pro Bowl the last six seasons — five of them as a starter — and has been selected almost annually to All-Pro teams.

He has been both durable — he's played in 163 consecutive games — and dominating. One of pro football's strongest players, Webster is one of just six remaining Steelers who played on all four Super Bowl title teams.

That's why, at age 32, these are changing times for Mike Webster. He may be at the peak of his game, but the Steelers aren't. Once regarded almost annually as the Super Bowl favorite, the Steelers now find themselves fighting just for a playoff berth every season.

"The players here had such great chemistry," said Webster, whose consecutive game string is the third longest in the NFL.

"It takes a while to develop that with another group of players. And the NFL has gotten better since I've been playing. There are so many great teams now — it gets tougher and tougher every year. It's going to be very difficult for a team to go to four Super Bowls in six years like we did."

A former All-Big 10 center at Wisconsin, Webster is a farm boy from Tomahawk, Wis., who came to the NFL in what undoubtedly was the greatest draft class in league history — the Steelers' Class of 1974.

In the first five rounds of that draft, the Steelers managed to select four future All-Pro players and potential Hall of Fame candidates: Lynn Swann, linebacker Jack Lambert, wide receiver John Stallworth and Webster.

Webster said he and his fellow '74 draftees had no idea they would be as successful as they were, winning Super Bowls in their first two seasons in the NFL.

"A draft like that doesn't happen every year, but it did," Webster said. "We had some great coaches and they got some great players. But you just can't predict that something like that will happen, especially in football more so than any other sport. So many things can happen."

"But I'm not to the point yet where I spend my time reflecting on those things. I don't have the time. The chemistry and attitude of those teams was so great. It's been written and said so many times, but the Steelers would do whatever it takes and this team did that for six years. But the more you do that, win like that, the tougher it is to get back."

Many of the faces that he played with for years are now gone from football, including Bradshaw. For nearly a decade, almost every Steelers offensive play started with two players handling the ball: Webster and Bradshaw.

Now, Webster is working with two other quarterbacks, Mark Malone and David Woodley.

"There's no difference, none at all," Webster said. "The best way I can help the team is to do my job, no matter who the quarterback is. Terry was Terry — a great football player and a great person. He'll always be successful."

"But I wouldn't say there's that much difference in playing now as before, when we were in the Super Bowls. There are still challenges. This can be an exciting team. I've never been satisfied with what I've done, you can't be. There's always the possibility you can do it better."

Lundquist loses weight to gain gold

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Steve Lundquist, whose Evel Knievel existence has kept him as banged up as a football player, had to shed 20 pounds in a crash diet before earning his 100-meter breaststroke Olympic gold medal with a world record performance.

"I was so fat I needed two mirrors," Lundquist quipped. "I like fast cars and motorcycles and I do some crazy stuff," said the Southern Methodist University senior who broke John Moffet's world record Sunday with a 1:01.65 clocking.

Lundquist's quest for speed led him to the sport of water skiing last October and he damaged his left shoulder.

"I wasn't paying attention like an idiot," Lundquist said. "I love all the dangerous things I'm not supposed to do."

During recuperation, his weight soared to 205 pounds, good for a heavyweight boxer but not optimum for a swimmer.

While Lundquist was apparently eating himself out of a chance for an Olympic gold medal, John Moffet was improving fast.

"I decided the blubber had to go," said Lundquist, who trimmed down to 180 on a diet of ice tea and one salad a day.



AP Wirephoto

Steve Lundquist of Jonesboro, Ga., swims his way to a gold medal in the 100-meter breaststroke in world-record time of 1:01.65 Sunday at the USC Swim Stadium.

The slang-talking Lundquist, a native of Georgia, had a saying for his predicament: "I was not a happy camper." "I was not a happy camper," Lundquist said. "He was in such pain. It was one of the bravest things I've ever seen anyone do."

Lundquist was the first to console the disheartened Moffet after the race.

scoreboard

Today's Olympic events

All times EDT Tuesday, July 31	West Germany vs United States 5:30-8:45 p.m. — India vs Malaysia	6-11:30 p.m. — Greco-Roman prelims, 100lbs., 114lbs., 130lbs., 150lbs., 163lbs., 181lbs., 202lbs., over-220lbs.
Women	Yachting At Long Beach, Calif. 4:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. — First race - seven classes	
Men	Modern Pentathlon At Orange County 5:7 p.m. — Swimming	
Women	Rowing At Ventura, Calif. 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. — Men's eliminations heats	
Men	Shooting At San Bernardino, Calif. Noon-7 p.m. — Clay-target trap; running game target; Air rifle	
Women	Soccer Chile vs. Qatar at Escapote, Md., 7 p.m. Norway vs. France at Harvard, 7 p.m. Italy vs. United States at Rose Bowl, 10 p.m. Egypt vs. Costa Rica at Stanford, 10 p.m.	
Men	Boxing At L.A. Sports Arena 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m. — Prelims	
Women	Cycling At Dominguez Hills, Calif. 14 p.m. — 4000-meter individual pursuit quarterfinals; Sprint prelims and repechage; Points race qualifying	
Men	Gymnastics At UCLA 12:30-2:20 p.m. — Men's optional exercise, 5:7 p.m. — Men's optional exercise and men's optional exercise team finals.	
Women	Team Handball At Fullerton, Calif. Men Group A Brazil vs. Argentina, 9:30 p.m. United States vs. Tunisia, 9:30 p.m.	
Men	Group B Yugoslavia vs. Iceland, 5 p.m. Switzerland vs. Japan, 8:20 p.m. Rumania vs. Algeria, 11 p.m.	
Women	Group B Sweden vs. South Korea, 2 p.m. Denmark vs. Spain, 5:20 p.m. United States vs. West Germany, 12:30 a.m.	
Men	At Los Angeles Group A 11:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m. — Australia vs. Spain	
Women	At Los Angeles Group A 11:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m. — Australia vs. Spain	
Men	At Los Angeles Group A 11:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m. — Australia vs. Spain	
Women	At Los Angeles Group A 11:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m. — Australia vs. Spain	

olympic medals

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Medals totals through yesterday's early events at the 1984 Summer Olympics with country, gold, silver, bronze and total medals won:

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
United States	7	3	0	10
West Germany	2	0	3	5
China	2	1	1	4
Canada	1	3	0	4
Australia	0	1	2	3
France	0	1	1	2
Sweden	0	1	1	2
Great Britain	0	1	1	2
Japan	0	0	1	1
Netherlands	0	0	1	1
Norway	0	0	1	1

major league baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	59	40	.596	—
PHILADELPHIA	55	47	.541	5½
Montreal	50	51	.495	10
St. Louis	50	53	.485	11
PHILADELPHIA	44	60	.423	17½

WEST DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Diego	51	42	.552	—
Atlanta	54	50	.519	7½
Los Angeles	52	53	.495	10
Houston	50	56	.467	13
Cincinnati	43	61	.413	18½
San Francisco	42	61	.406	20

Today's Games

Chicago 3, New York 6, 1st game
Chicago 5, New York 1, 2nd game
PHILADELPHIA 6, Montreal 4
St. Louis 4, PHILADELPHIA 3
Los Angeles 1, Cincinnati 0
San Diego 3, Houston 0
Atlanta 4, San Francisco 3

PHILADELPHIA (Denny 4-3) at Chicago (Borzi 4-1 or Rauschel 4-5)
New York (Lynch 8-5) at St. Louis (Koppeke 2-2)
Atlanta (Camp 5-3) at Houston (Knapp 8-6)
Los Angeles (Roneycutt 8-6) at San Diego (Thurmond 8-6)
San Francisco (Laseky 8-6) at Cincinnati (Price 4-7)
PHILADELPHIA (Denny 4-3) at PIRATES (Todor 5-2)
New York (Lynch 8-5) at St. Louis (Koppeke 2-2)
Atlanta (Camp 5-3) at Houston (Knapp 8-6)
Los Angeles (Roneycutt 8-6) at San Diego (Thurmond 8-6)
San Francisco (Laseky 8-6) at Cincinnati (Price 4-7)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Toronto	70	32	.686	—
Detroit	68	44	.607	12
Baltimore	63	48	.569	16½
Boston	63	48	.569	16½
New York	62	49	.558	17
Milwaukee	47	67	.412	24
Cleveland	43	67	.390	28

WEST DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Minnesota	62	49	.558	—
California	61	51	.546	1½
Kansas City	49	54	.476	4
Seattle	48	56	.458	6
Oakland	48	57	.457	6
Texas	43	61	.413	10½

Today's Games

Cleveland (Farr 1-7 and Smith 4-2) at Detroit (Bazema 1-2 and Benerup 4-7)
Boston 0, Toronto 0
Chicago (Wills 1-1) at Toronto (Alexander 8-5)
Minnesota 5, Cleveland 1
Kansas City 6, Milwaukee 10
Chicago 6, New York 4
Seattle 4, Oakland 1

Sunday's Games

Cleveland (Farr 1-7 and Smith 4-2) at Detroit (Bazema 1-2 and Benerup 4-7)
Boston 0, Toronto 0
Chicago (Wills 1-1) at Toronto (Alexander 8-5)
Minnesota 5, Cleveland 1
Kansas City 6, Milwaukee 10
Chicago 6, New York 4
Seattle 4, Oakland 1

sports briefs

Gwynn named NL player of the week

NEW YORK (AP) — Hot-hitting Tony Gwynn of the San Diego Padres was named National League Player of the Week yesterday. He batted .500 during the week ending with games of July 28.

Gwynn, the league's leading hitter all season long, was 14-for-28 with two runs batted in, hitting his average to .366. He also scored seven runs and stole one base.

In the American League, Don Mattingly, who hit .385 with two homers and six runs batted in in games from July 22-23, was named player of the week yesterday.

Steelers trade Courson to Buccaneers

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Pittsburgh Steelers traded veteran Steve Courson to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers yesterday in exchange for offensive guard and tackle Ray Snell, according to a Steelers spokesman.

Courson, 26, who's beginning his seventh year in the NFL, was a fifth-round draft choice from South Carolina in 1977. He has been a starter at right guard for the past five seasons, playing 73 career games, including 48 starts, according to team spokesman John Evenson.

The 6-1, 270-pound Courson started nine games in 1983 and was hampered by a pinched knee ligament.

Snell, 26, a 6-4, 265-pounder who started in 1983 and was hampered by a pinched knee ligament.

Snell, 26, a 6-4, 265-pounder who started in 1983 and was hampered by a pinched knee ligament.

Steelers' rookie guard Long hospitalized

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pittsburgh Steelers rookie offensive guard Terry Long was hospitalized yesterday after complaining of chest pains, said club spokesman Joe Gordon.

The 5-11, 272-pound Long, from East Carolina, was one of the Steelers' two fourth-round draft choices this year after being selected to The Associated Press' All-American team in 1983.

Long had been impressive in the first two weeks of training camp, according to club vice president Art Rooney Jr. and assistant coach Jon Kolb.

After reporting the pains, Long was taken from the Steelers' St. Vincent College training camp in Latrobe to Divine Providence Hospital in Pittsburgh for tests. He is expected to be sidelined for four to five days.

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