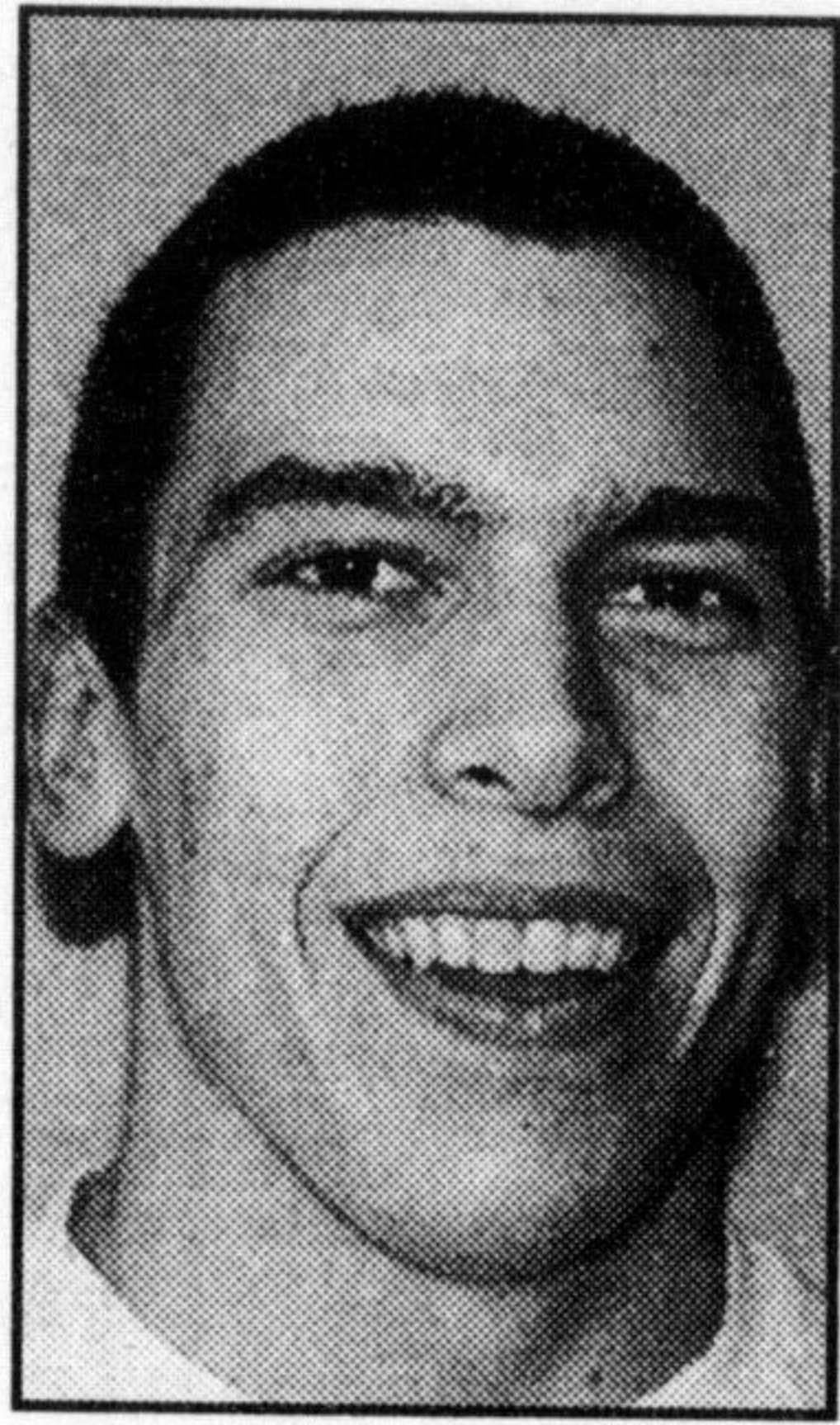


Heffron, McCart win first EC national titles

E.C. Drury wrestlers combined equal parts victory and revenge at the Canadian Cadet/Juvenile Championships Saturday at Brock University.

John McCart and Kevin Heffron secured the school's first ever national juvenile gold medals. Together with fellow veteran Chad Merritt, who placed fifth, the trio earned plenty of payback along the way to their fierce finishes.



John McCart

Heffron, a highly skilled 54 kilogram grappler, capped the finest individual season in Drury history by upstaging Ontario Junior champion Matt Crockett 11-9 in an eagerly anticipated rematch.

An explosive 6-0 start paved the way to victory.

This followed three other wins and provided redemption for Heffron, who after losing the provincial high school gold in controversial fashion last month left no doubt as to who is Canada's top 54 kg. juvenile.

The only thing that would have made this national title run any sweeter would have been avenging his provincial loss to Brampton Centennial's Chris Rouse — who was defeated in the second round by a New Brunswick wrestler Heffron went on to dominate 11-1.

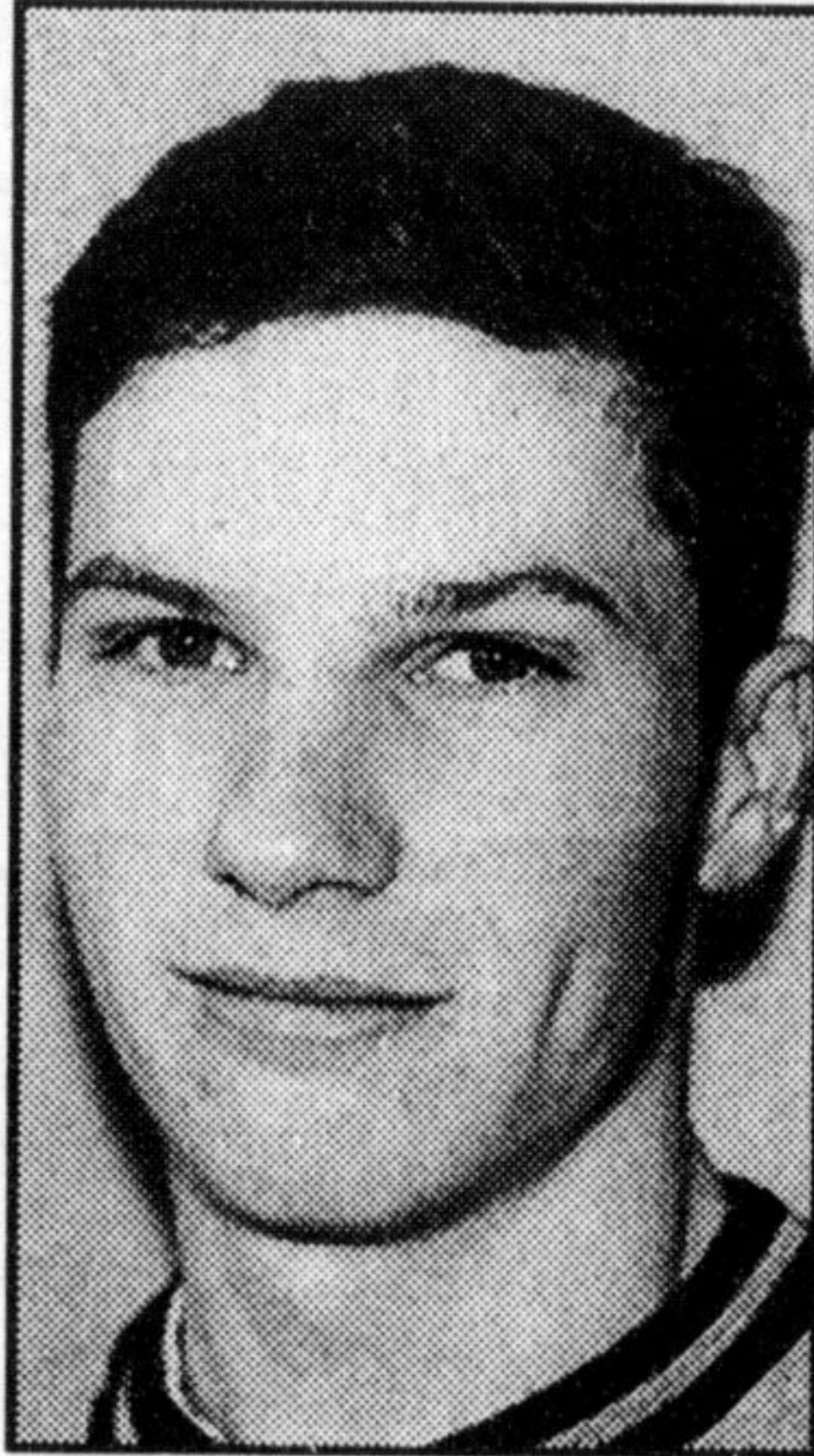
His 1998/99 campaign featured 51 wins and 13 medals, the most by any senior. Ten of those were gold, which ties him with McCart and Chris Denich for the most in a season, while his career gold medal count now stands at 34 — also a school record.

Following two consecutive years as the country's top cadet, 105 kg. McCart made a triumphant leap up to the juvenile class. He too went 4-0 to become the Spartans'

only three-time national champ — eclipsing Thomas Jensen, who won twice as a cadet.

The star heavyweight clinched the title with an impressive counter and follow up pin-fall against Hamilton's Sebastian Crosta, who had outdistanced him 5-2 a month earlier at the high school provincial championships.

McCart also used pinning combinations to take rounds one and two before pulling off a 10-point superiority victory in the semifinals. He closed out the season with six gold medals.



Kevin Heffron

Meanwhile, Merritt exacted a measure of revenge in the 63 kg. fifth-place match.

After being toppled 11-1 by Alberta's Daniel Lamaro in the quarterfinals, he turned the tables on his western rival during their return engagement, with an over the back throw to score the pin and a second straight top five showing at nationals.

Merritt's season win total, 49, was just two shy of Heffron.

Silver medals at both the provincial high school and the Ontario Junior Championships helped highlight his outstanding year.

Although overshadowed by these three veterans, a handful of other Spartans showed strongly at the nationals as well.

Leading the way was Matt Baxter, who went 3-2 in the cadet class, while Rory McDonell's juvenile debut was marked by a solid 2-2 effort.

Adam Baxter, Chris Holmes and Tom Gallinger also fared well and picked up valuable points in helping their affiliate Guelph Wrestling Club capture the team silver.

Finishing just one point ahead were the Calgary Junior Dinos.

Scots taking the ice

Scotland's Ayr Jets Ice Hockey Club will invade Memorial Arena next Friday (April 23).

The visitors will participate in a mini goodwill tournament which includes the Canadian Silver Streaks, Air Canada and a representative from Milton's Sunday morning industrial league.

Approximately 10 years ago the Ayr Jets hosted a similar event featuring three provincial teams, one of them local. Now it's their turn to enjoy some international hospitality.

Games will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and fan admis-

sion is free. Sponsoring the tournament is the Waltzing Weasel, which will then hold a benefit dance complete with live entertainment from Carl Cooper's Three Men and a Drum Machine, starting at 7 p.m.

A portion of the proceeds will go towards bus transportation costs for the touring team, with the balance going to the Milton Minor Hockey Association.

Tickets for the dance are \$5 per person and can be obtained at the door. Advanced tickets can also be purchased by calling Ben Hall at 876-2446.

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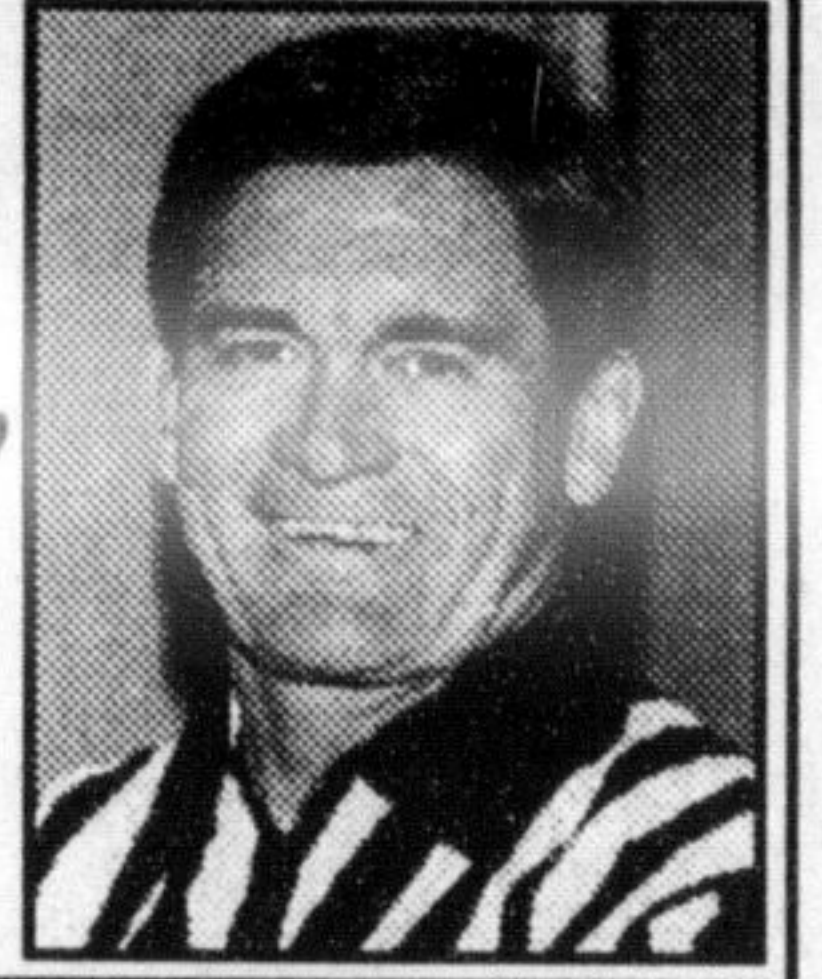
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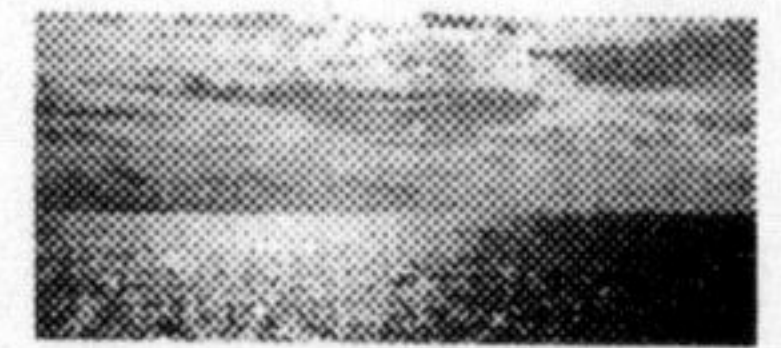


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VISITORS TO AUSTRALIA CAN EXPERIENCE THE OLYMPIC SPIRIT well before the start of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. Numerous Olympic facilities are already open to the public, including the 110,000-seat Stadium Australia, future home of the Games' opening and closing ceremonies. A National Football League exhibition game between the Super Bowl champion Denver Broncos and the San Diego Chargers will be held there on Aug. 8. One can also test the Olympic waters at the Sydney International Aquatic Centre, home of the Games swimming and diving events. ANOTHER REASON TO PLAN A VISIT 'DOWN UNDER'!



HERE'S ONE FOR YOU - A VISIT TO THE 'TITANIC' shipwreck site where you can actually get memorable views of the bow, bridge, officer's quarters, the propeller, staircases and debris spread across the ocean floor! You will be able to do so in a SUBMERSIBLE EXPEDITION departing from ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND. There are two departures planned - July 31 and August 11 for 11 days with only 16 participants! The cost? US\$35,500., and it will undoubtedly fill up rapidly! Reserve soon ...

???

DID YOU KNOW DEPT.: INTERESTED IN 'LIGHTHOUSES'? - we still have them along the shores of Lake Ontario - there is a monthly publication 'LIGHTHOUSE DIGEST' - phone 207-646-0515 to subscribe. One of our personal interests (love to live in one!), it is a very interesting read about their history and the present scenario.

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• from DOWN on page 26

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