



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Spartan Colin Burnham gets the upper hand on Milliken Mills' Jeremy Stockton during E.C. Drury's annual invitational tournament Wednesday. Burnham gave a strong showing but lost this 57.5 kilogram match.

## Narrow title win for Drury

E.C. Drury High's wrestling team retained its invitational tournament title Wednesday.

But unlike most years, holding onto the crown proved to be an actual challenge this time around.

The Spartans' margin of victory dropped from 53 to 12 in a single season — with up-and-coming Hagersville pushing the hosts all day long.

Port Credit was close behind for third while rounding out the top five squads were Georgetown and Milliken Mills.

Drury's lack of dominance this year was due mainly to a sharp decline in golden performances. Last season, seven grapplers topped their weight classes while only two did so Wednesday.

Championship efforts — their first ever at the holiday showcase — were delivered by senior co-captains Rory McDonnell and Andy Wadeson.

McDonnell took his second title of the year in the 141

pound division, prevailing in four straight matches to improve his team leading win total to 17.

Wadeson (127 lbs.), also turned back each and every challenger to take his first gold of the year, after securing silver at two previous meets.

In the finals, he upstaged Matt Knock — one of few grade 10 wrestlers to ever medal at the holiday tournament.

Also taking runner-up status were Adam Baxter and Jordan Lumb while bronze medals were recorded by Chris Holmes, Ryan Faria and Sean Burnham.

Rob Petherick, Jeff Roberge and Mike Roy rounded out the top five finishers in the open division.

Among the novices, Ben Beech led with gold — his second this year — while silver medals went to Dan Iwasa-Madge and Jay Harnet.

Placing third were Adam Smith and Geoff Morgan.

## Haydar cracks NCAA's top-10

Darren (Mini) Haydar has reached the innermost sanctum of college hockey scorers — the NCAA's Top 10.

The Milton sharpshooter broke into the illustrious club this past week with a couple of two-point efforts in back-to-back non-conference games with his New Hampshire Wildcats.

At Harvard Thursday, Mini delivered the winning tally 4:17 into the third period — negotiating both opposing defencemen before faking out the goalie with an upstairs backhand.

Then he and big brother Jeff assisted on the final marker in UNH's 4-1 victory.

Two nights later at the Whittmore Centre, New Hampshire's electrifying junior drew a pair of first-

period helpers to guide the hosts past Princeton 6-3.

Jeff also chipped in with an assist in the third.

The younger Haydar — the 1997/98 Provincial Jr. A League Player of the Year and now property of the NHL's Nashville Predators — is currently tied for 10th in the NCAA scoring race with 11 goals and 15 assists in 18 games.

With nearly half the season left, he has a legitimate shot at equalling his freshman total of 27 goals and 50 total points.

Meanwhile, Jeff has been showing strongly as a two-way player with the Wildcats. He sits with one goal and six assists.

Nationally, UNH was ranked fifth as of yesterday.

## Free skating now offered

Milton's arenas are now offering free public skating.

At John Tonelli Sports Centre, public skating is available throughout this month on Saturdays from 1:15 to 2:45 p.m. while the same goes for Memorial Arena — only on Sundays from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

From there, free public skating will be held at various times through January as well as the March break.

This winter treat comes courtesy of Tim Hortons.

*Fax team reports and sports story ideas to Steve LeBlanc at 878-4943, or drop them off at The Champion, 191 Main St. E.*

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We also wish to thank the Milton District Hospital Foundation who recently honoured us as a PLATINUM BENEFACTOR for donating over \$100,000 for the purchase of medical equipment.

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