



SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2001

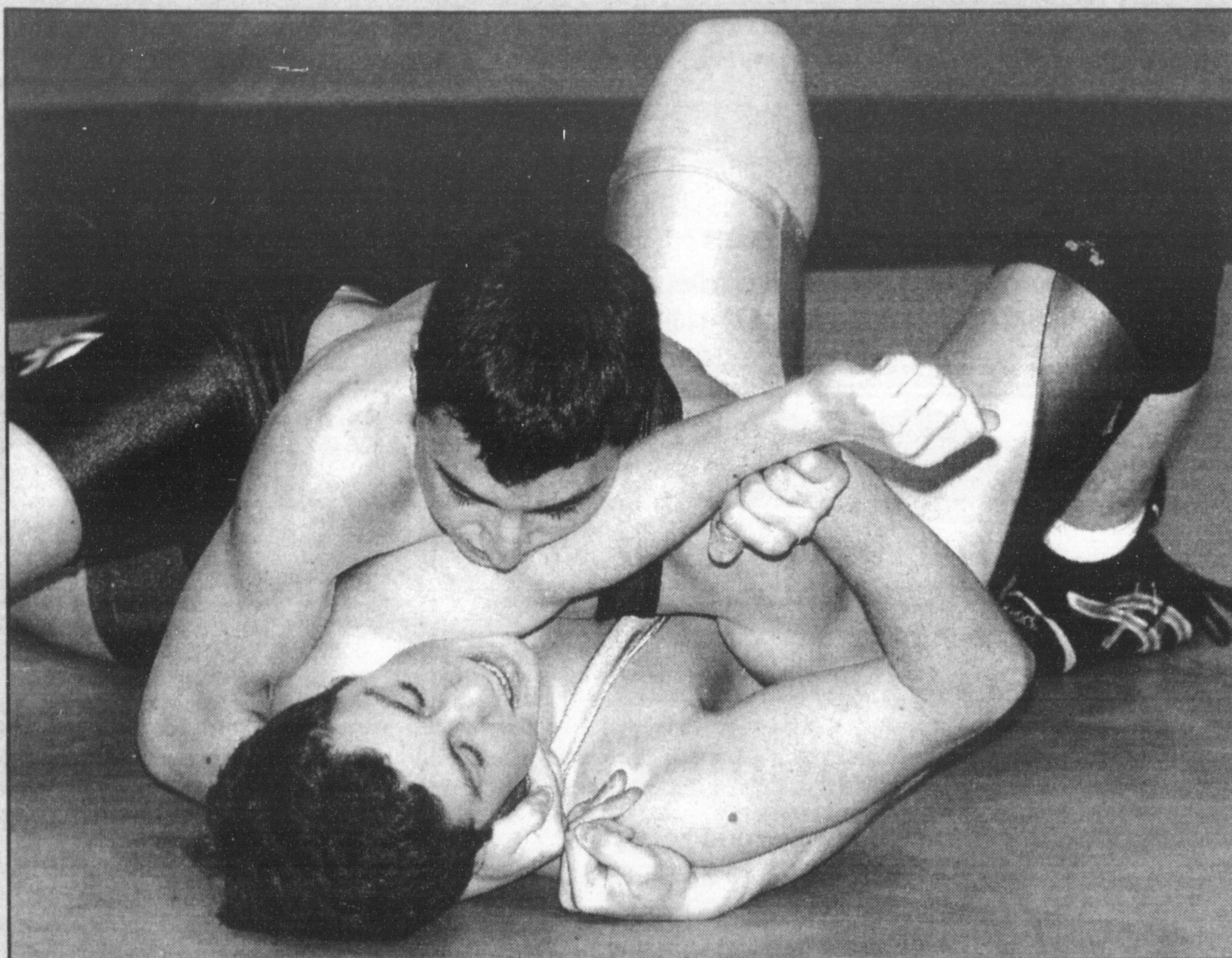


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

E.C. Drury's Jeff Morgan (bottom) is on the losing end of this match-up against Maniposa wrestler Davis Toffan Sunday morning. However, overall the team went on to medal.

Tough Drury, Dynamo wrestlers show strong at Sunday's tourney

The E.C. Drury High School and Junior Dynamo wrestlers had a strong showing at the Guelph Age Group Tournament Sunday.

E.C. Drury co-hosted the event along with the Guelph Wrestling Club.

Drury won the High School Open Division, while the Dynamo Club placed third in the Bantam-Cadet Division.

Milton also earned two medals in the Kids division with their only two entries.

In the Open division, Drury won seven medals, three of them gold.

Champions were Andy Wadeson, Adam Baxter and Rory McDonell. Matt Baxter and Kevin Moore earned silvers in all-Drury finals, losing to Wadeson and McDonell, respectively.

Also claiming silver was Chris Guard. Wrestling strongly to earn bronze was Ryan Forte.

In the Bantam-Cadet division, the

Dynamo wrestlers earned three gold, two silver and one bronze. Gold medal winners were Jesse Ronan in Cadet, as well as Gary Ferrier and Kyle Churmet in Bantam.

Silver medalists were Adam Smith and Terry Perruzza, while bronze went to Colin Burnham and Kevin Tyler.

In the Kids division, Nick Ronan won his first career gold, while Aaron Stone captured silver.

Six different categories

Slalom race at Glen Eden Ski Area

The Milton Heights Racing Club will host its Sixth Annual Invitational slalom race at Glen Eden Sunday.

Up to 130 racers from around southern

Ontario will compete in six different categories for girls and boys: 12/13 years old, 10/11 years old and 9 and under.

There are awards for fastest single time

and best two combined times in each category.

Spectators are welcome to attend the action.

Jr. A playoffs should be most intriguing in recent memory

On any given night anyone can beat anyone.

That's one of sports' most common clichés — one that coaches love to trot out and one that reporters (at least those hoping for fresh quotes) dread to hear.

But that old adage seems to hold particular relevance when looking at this year's Ontario Provincial Jr. A Western Conference playoffs — which could be among the most intriguing in recent memory.

Depending on which area you choose to focus on — regular season standings, head-to-head records or late-season momentum — just about every team in the division appears to be a legitimate contender for this season's title.

So without further ado, here's a quick look at first round match-ups — with predictions and a bit of insight on each series.

Milton vs. Bramalea

Recent line shuffling has created more recognizable roles and subsequently met with favourable results for the Merchants.

Combine this with home-ice advantage and the division's regular season champs should advance without too much trouble — assuming they don't run into penalty problems, which have been a minor hindrance as of late.

Bramalea goalkeeper David Digironimo can steal a win all by himself every now and again, but overall the Blues don't have enough impact players to pull off an upset.

However, they could prolong the series if the Merchants don't find a way around their often effective neutral zone trap. Gritty forwards James



Up
front

with STEVE LeBLANC

Coleman and Dan DeLong will be called on to get their noses dirty and help combat this.

Milton's slightly improved powerplay plus the continued on-ice, off-ice leadership of captain John Nadalin should be key factors in a first-round series win. **MILTON IN FIVE**

Georgetown vs. Hamilton

Don't let Monday's 8-1 Georgetown romp fool you — this has the makings for a highly competitive series.

A number of Raider forwards are currently nursing minor injuries. Among them are leading scorer Stace Page and workhorse assistant captain Mike Knoepfli.

Against an extremely sturdy and physically confrontational club like Hamilton, these ailments could become a major factor and swing things in the steel-town team's favour.

Georgetown has won the last four meetings between these two teams — but three of those were with a much healthier lineup.

HAMILTON IN SEVEN

Brampton vs. Streetsville

Will late-season turmoil spoil the defending league champs title defense?

That's the big question surrounding the Western Conference playoff picture and

• see IT WILL BE on page 25

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