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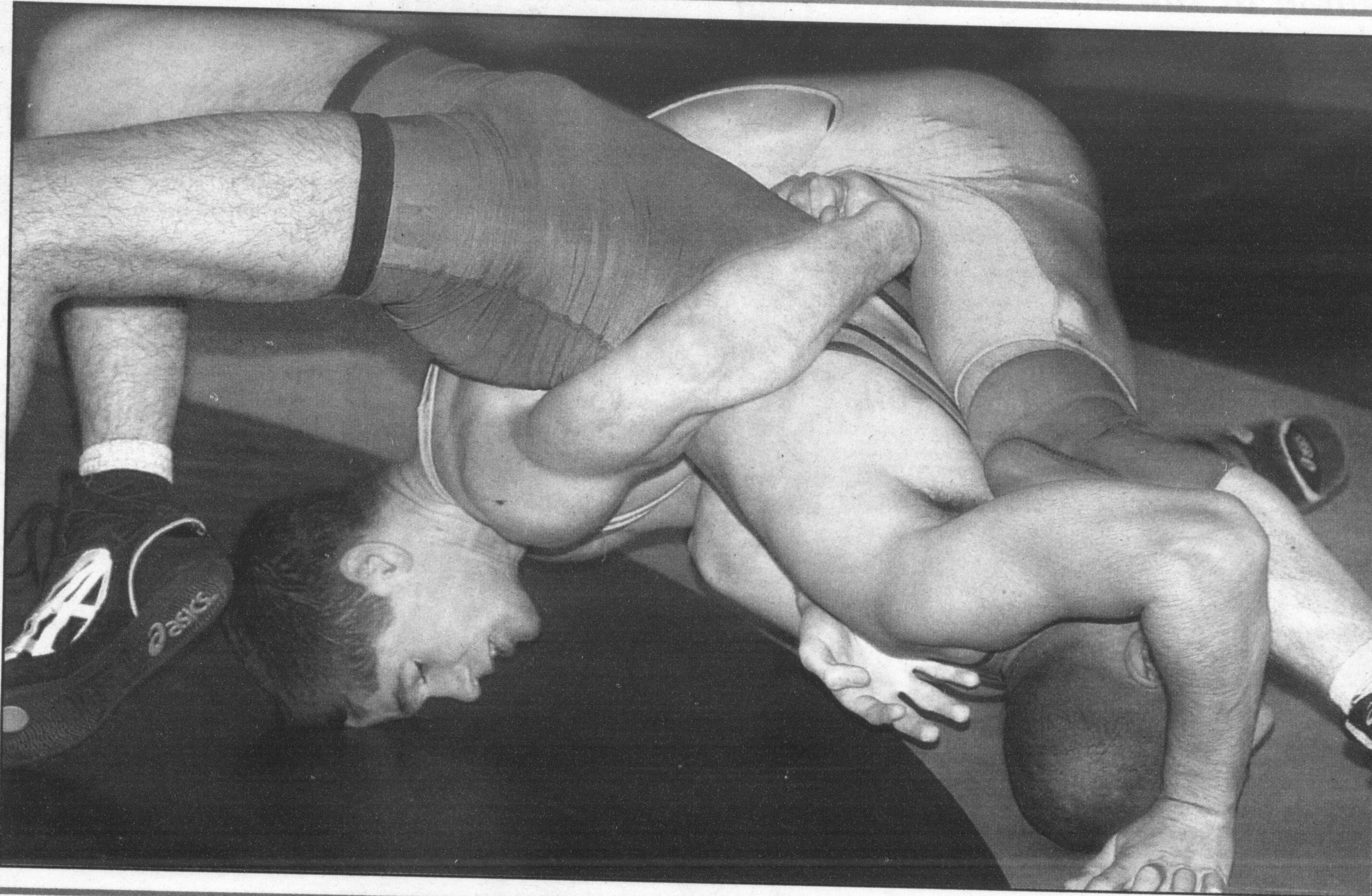
A Metroland Community Newspaper

Vol. 143 No. 98

Friday, February 21, 2003

32 Pages

\$1.00 (GST included)



Topsy turvey

E.C. Drury High School's Matt Knock (in gold) wrestles with Franco Elia of the Brebeuf Wrestling Club of Hamilton. Matt won the match in the 61-kg weight class, advancing to the next round, at the GHAC wrestling finals yesterday morning at E.C. Drury.

Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

United Way exceeds its fundraising goal for whopping total of \$380,000

By STEPHANIE THIESSEN
The Champion

This past Christmas, Anne Eadie received a present that rivaled anything Santa Claus could deliver.

It was the satisfaction of a job well done, and an extreme appreciation for a group of dedicated Milton volunteers — all wrapped up in some very good news.

Recently, this good news was released to the public. The United Way of Milton announced that it exceeded its goal of \$350,000 for the 2002 Annual Campaign by \$30,000, raising a total of \$380,000.

"One of the best things about exceeding our goal is that we exceeded it before Christmas. That's an

amazing thing. Others are just now achieving their goals," said Anne Eadie, executive director of the United Way of Milton. "I was ecstatic. It made my Christmas and New Year vacation even sweeter."

This is the third year in a row that the United Way of Milton has exceeded its goal, but this year's victory is all the more impressive.

"We haven't exceeded our goal in any year by that amount. It was a great achievement," Ms Eadie said, adding, "It wasn't easy."

The United Way raises money and then allocates it to organizations that can prove their ability to use the funds in a worthy manner.

Milton's United Way funds 25 local social service organizations, including Big Sisters of North Halton, Big Brothers of Halton, the Canadian

Institute for the Blind, and the Milton branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society.

Ms Eadie said she attributes the success of the 2002 campaign to the generosity of Milton residents with their time and money.

Volunteers are absolutely vital to the organization's success, she said, especially since the United Way of Milton employs only one full-time staff member — Ms Eadie, — plus one part-time and one short-term worker.

"Without them (volunteers), this wouldn't happen. We live in an extremely giving community. Milton is well-known for its support of the local hospital, the arts community and United Way. The bottom line is, this (happened because of) an

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