

Time to honour one of Milton's most successful coaches

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No one connected to E.C. Drury High School is foolhardy enough to believe they've seen the last of Larry Jaroslowski.

Nevertheless, the wrestling guru's official ties to the perennial powerhouse program are now over — with his retirement from teaching coming early this spring and a sure-to-be-well-attended retirement party slated for Saturday (6 p.m. to 2 a.m. in school's sports building).

I've never actually attended a teacher's/coach's retirement before, but to miss out on Jaroslowski's would just seem wrong.

After all, my memories of the man affectionately known as Mooch go back long before I even considered sports reporting, much less started covering his team's rise to provincial prominence.

As the friend of a few of his early grapplers in the mid-to-late '80s, I still vividly recall how Thomas Jensen's Canadian cadet title victory served as a championship catalyst for the Spartans.

Suddenly wrestling became the thing to do at Drury, and enrollment and success quickly grew.

With a ton of expertise and unrivaled dedication over the past



In the stands

with STEVE LeBLANC

25-plus years at Drury, Jaroslowski can now look back on a career that trumps not only his wrestling peers, but most other coaches in pretty much any given sport across the region or province.

With an unprecedented 12 straight team medals at OFSAA — including five consecutive golds — it's no wonder E.C. graduates have generally made a smooth transition to the university ranks.

When it comes to fundamentals, they're head and shoulders above the majority of the pack. Of course Jaroslowski's establishment of a strong elementary-level feeder system has a lot to do with that as well.

And Drury's success shouldn't be measured solely by its medal count.

It's hard to imagine that any

sport has galvanized a school community the way wrestling has at E.C.

In fact one of Jaroslowski's former wrestlers — Simon Vanellis — has even gone on to become one of his successors, while year after year team alumni come out in packs to offer support to the current roster.

Bottom line, Jaroslowski is the architect of one of the biggest sporting dynasties in Milton's history, and deserves a spirited send-off. Well, sort of — since none of us expect him to fade completely out of the picture.

Here's to you, Mooch!

Because There Is A Greater Need Than Ever...



In Milton, we

Do something about it!

Because kids can't take care of themselves

Illness isn't necessarily optional

Life isn't a level playing field

You can't always outrun **trouble**

And we'll all be **seniors** some day — if we're lucky



United Way of Milton

\$423,928

↑ \$34,323
from last year

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Food for Thought
Goodwill
Halton Trauma Centre
Nelson Youth Centres
Sexual Assault & Violence Intervention Services of Halton (SAVIS)
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Acclaim Health
ADAPT
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton
Canadian Mental Health Ass'n.
Canadian Nat'l Inst. for the Blind
Canadian Red Cross, North Halton
Community Living North Halton
Distress Centre North Halton
Distress Centre Oakville
Girls Inc. of Halton
Grace House

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Multiple Sclerosis Society
POSSE
Reach Out Centre for Kids (ROCK)
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STRIDE

Our vision: To lead in building a strong, healthy and inclusive community.

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