



SPORTS

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19—The Canadian Champion, Wednesday, December 22, 1993

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1993

Sports SHORTS

Last Gasp New Year's race

The Milton Runner's Club is holding a "Last Gasp" 5 kilometre New Year's Eve Road Race, followed by a dinner dance.

Activity kicks off at 7 p.m. with the race, in which participants may run or walk. The course is flat along Main Street, Ontario Street, Woodward Avenue, Cabot Trail and Thompson Road.

The following party is open to everyone aged 19 or older. The evening includes dinner, a disc jockey, door prizes and a cash bar at the Leisure Centre. Full shower and change facilities are available.

Participants may choose to run, run and take in the party, or simply attend the party.

Applications are available at The Fitness Technique on Main Street, the Leisure Centre, or by calling race directors Peter Hawley (878-6974) or Bill Robertson (878-7756).

Wild 10th in Olympic trials

Milton speed skater Mark Wild, 19, who now trains in Calgary, turned in a 10th place performance at the Winter Olympic trials in Ottawa on the weekend.

That wasn't enough to qualify him for the Canadian Olympic team headed for Lillehammer, Norway in February (only the top five qualify), but it bodes well, according to his father Jeff.

"It puts him in a very strong position for the future," said Jeff.

"For him it's a great achievement."

Mark's specialties are the 500 metre and 1000 metre competitions.

Most of the skaters his son faced were older, in their early 20s, Jeff noted.

Mark attended Bishop Reding Secondary School in Milton but is finishing his high schooling in Calgary while working within a national speed skating training program there.

Leeder second in Egg Nog Jog

Sue Leeder of the Milton Runner's Club was first in her age category (30-39) and second woman finisher overall in the 11-kilometre Egg Nog Jog hosted by the Georgetown Runners club recently.

Leeder completed the course in 48:26, second only to Owen Sound's Tracy Barber (43:05).

Milton's Neil Whitelock was fourth overall in men's racing and first in his age category (30-39) in a time of 38:36. Brendan Mathias of Thornhill paced the pack in 37:19.

Tina Braam of Milton was fourth female overall in 51:44.

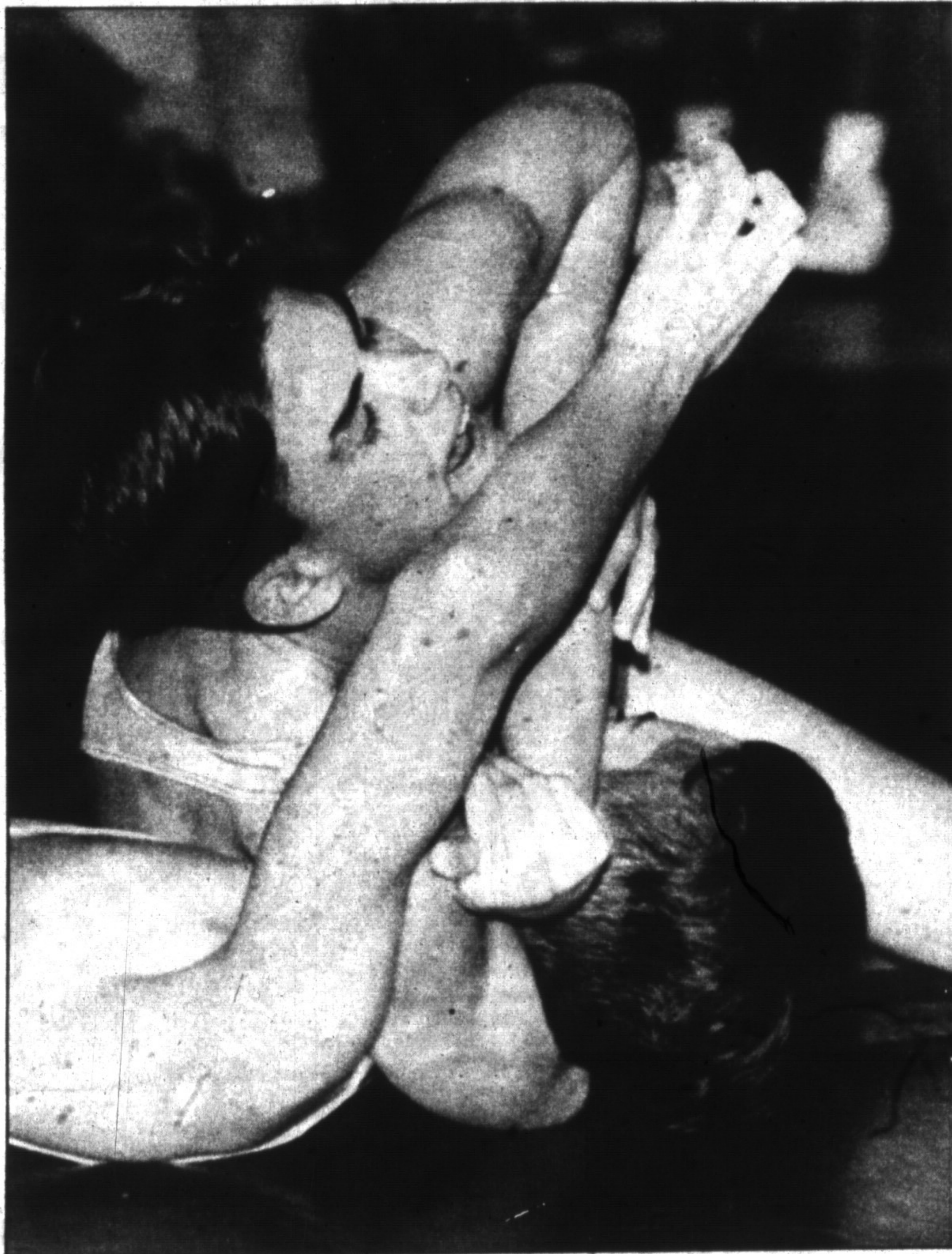


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE
 James Miller of E.C. Drury is all wrapped up in his work against Lester B. Pearson (Burlington) opponent Matt Down in 112 lbs. competition at the Drury Invitational last week. Miller was the eventual winner. For medal results, see story (right).

Merchants end '93 with win over Georgetown Raiders

By STEVE LEBLANC
 Special to The Champion

While it wasn't pretty, the hometown Milton Merchants were able to squeeze out a 6-4 victory over the Georgetown Chrysler Raiders Friday evening and skated away on a high note in 1993 league play.

A big 5-2 win over the Brampton Capitals Thursday night and a disappointing 6-2 defeat at the hands of the Oakville Blades last Tuesday gave the Merchants their fourth straight winning week. With just a quarter of the season left to play, Milton sits in fifth place in Central Ontario Provincial Junior A West Division standings with a 16-13-2 record.

The Merchants are still hoping to move up in the standings. They have made some big improvements over the past few weeks and finished December with an impressive 6-2 record — their only losses coming last Tuesday against Oakville and the previous Tuesday against the league-leading Hamilton Kilty Bees.

"We played some good hockey this past week. We've been moving the puck around well and got two out of three wins despite having a short bench," explained Merchant head coach Rick Bince. "However, we're still having some problems on defence."

Friday night's match with Georgetown began as a real goaltender's battle. While Milton controlled the play and took a 2-0 lead (on goals by forwards Mike McPhail

and Mike Cox), they fired a dozen other shots at Raider goalie Nick Montessano but were stopped cold by great glove work and diving saves. Picking up assists for Milton were captain Daner Finn, Cox and Adam Hagen.

Merchant goalie Jeff Lillie was also sharp in the first, stopping all eight shots fired by Raider attackers.

Milton was clearly the dominant team through the middle frame but couldn't increase their lead due to continued efforts by Montessano. Both teams fired more than a dozen shots but couldn't find the back of the net.

Georgetown took advantage of some shaky defence by Milton backliners early in the third and was able to tie things up at two in the first six minutes, on a big fake by Raider rear guard Kevin Lamb and a slapshot by team scoring leader Ian Ellis on the powerplay.

Milton sniper Ryan Delorande and Finn rifled in slapshots to take another two-goal lead but were outscored 2-1 near the end of regulation time and were in danger of going to overtime. Doug Sheppard notched Georgetown's third and fourth goals.

While the Raiders got a big two-man advantage in the final four minutes of the third, they just couldn't find the mark again. Finn took passes from Sean Lindsay and McPhail and flipped in an empty net shot at 19:59 to secure the win.

Also scoring for Milton was Rick MacDonald. Drawing assists were McPhail, Troy Sweet, Cox, Jamie Jan-

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Drury defeats high-powered wrestling talent to defend title in Invitational

The E.C. Drury High School wrestling Spartans came out on top in defence of their Drury Invitational Tournament title last Wednesday in Milton, despite facing the toughest competition in the tournament's history.

Drury won a three-way battle for first, scoring 65 team points to edge out Brampton Centennial by nine and Hamilton's Bishop Ryan by 11 points.

Georgetown placed fourth with 39 points while defending Ontario Federation of Schools Athletic Association (OFSAA) champions Chinguacousy rounded out the top five with 35 points.

Drury captured the title on the strength of 12 top five finishes, including three golds. Leading the way with the golds were Colin Widdis, Chris Price and Jay Near for the Spartans.

Price's victory was particularly impressive as he defeated defending Canadian Cadet champion Jamie Porteous, as well as longtime nemesis and former OFSAA champion Anthony Davis.

For Widdis it was the sixth medal in as many tournaments, including four golds.

He extended his record to 20-2 on the season.

It was the first gold of the season for Near and Price. They both had taken silver already this year.

Chris Denich, James Miller and Lee Black all reached the finals for the Spartans to win silvers. It was Denich's fourth consecutive medal in his sophomore year.

Rookie Grant Heffron went 3-1 to earn a bronze, his fifth medal of the season.

Fourth place finishers for Drury were Jeff Meads and rookie John MacKinnon, who each recorded five wins on the day.

Rounding out the top five for the Spartans were Jay Clarke and rookies Clayton Cowton and Navin Pulsar.

The team victory represented what Milton coach Larry Jaraslawski considered Drury's most impressive performance of the season. He noted that the final matches featured many highly regarded OFSAA medal contenders.

Picard's second shutout

Milton's Christy Picard recorded her second shutout of the year as the Middlebury College (Vermont) Panthers downed Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute 2-0 in women's university hockey action recently.

The Panthers now sport a 5-0 record.

Christy Picard played girls hockey in Milton prior to university.