

## Zagozdzon's love of snowboarding began early, and only got stronger

But as a third grader, he was too young to be included in E.C. Drury School for the Deaf's weekly skiing trips to Kitchener.

Instead, he turned his attention to snowboarding at Glen Eden. And the rest is history.

"Snowboarding is one of the most amazing sports to ever be invented. I love it," said the aircraft assembler at Toronto's Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Canada Aerospace, whose Deaflympics dream — backed by those at Glen Eden, Spokes & Slopes and Corbett's — can be supported at [gofundme.com/martinzagozdzon](http://gofundme.com/martinzagozdzon).

The Zagozdzon brothers' love of sports — particularly of the downhill slopes variety — continues to be shared, as Michael is now vice president of the Ontario Deaf Sports Association.

To say he's proud of his sibling's accomplishments would be something of an understatement.

Said Michael, "Through hard work, dedication and training, he's earned the right to represent Canada. Martin's a great choice for Team Canada because his whole life is about

snowboarding."

That's no hollow sentiment, given the untold hours spent on the hills.

To that end, Zagozdzon was more than a little excited when Glen Eden opened early this season.

He can be found there most week nights, while weekends are reserved for trips to either Horseshoe Resort or Mount St. Louis Moonstone.

While known for his speed and balance, the local snowboarder has become increasingly confident with his tricks.

With that in mind, he's heading to Russia with more than an 'I'm just happy to be here' mentality.

"I want to represent my country and be a great role model in my community — to encourage deaf children to try snowboarding and perhaps go to the Deaflympics too someday," he said. "And of course my goal is to bring home some medals."

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## Wrestling twins claim Ontario gold

The Michaelis twins mirrored each other in more than just looks last weekend in Brampton.

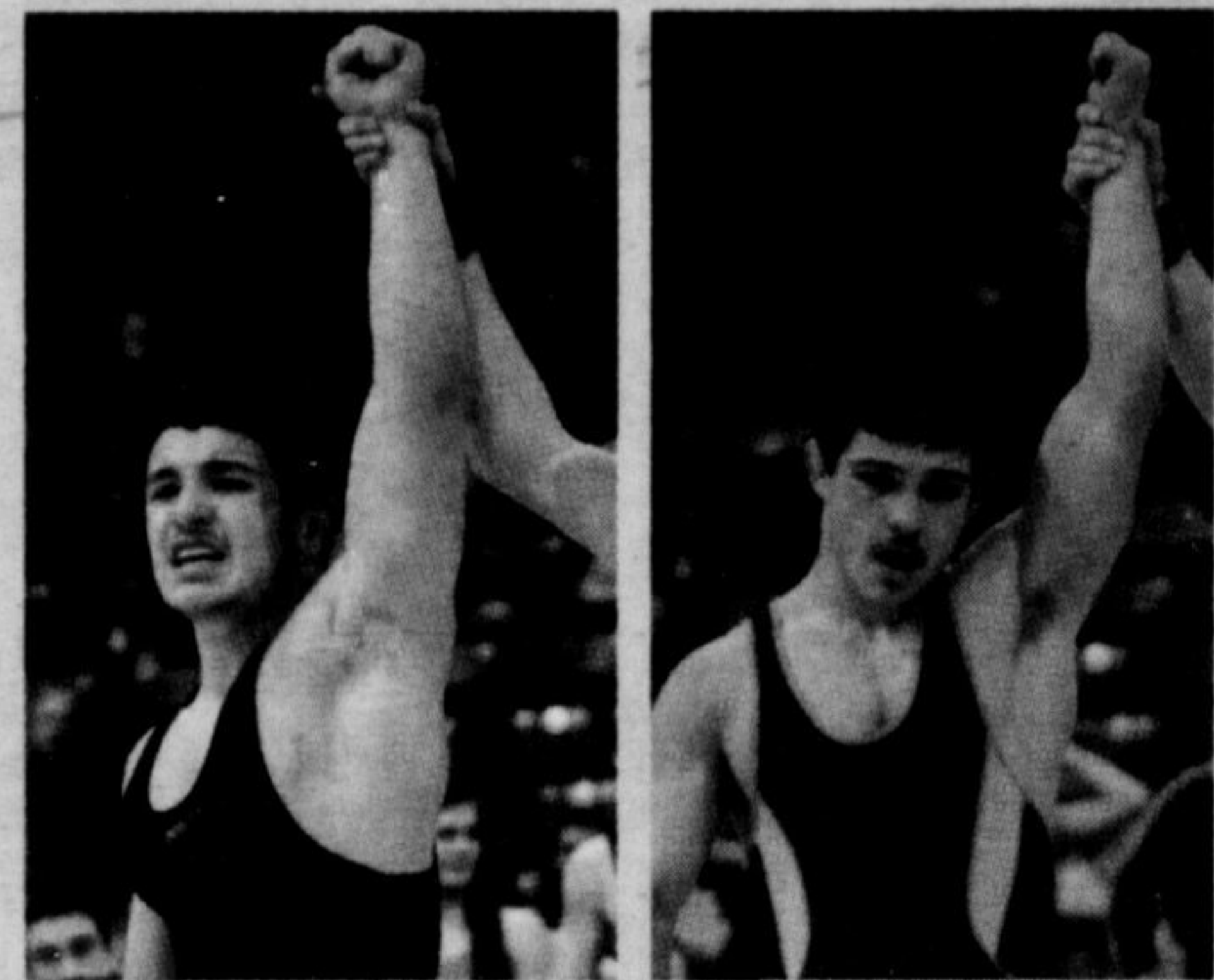
The Milton Dynamo Wrestling Club veterans delivered strikingly-similar performances en route to Ontario Amateur championship juvenile gold.

Neither gave up a single on the

way to the final, where Jake turned in an especially impressive 15-12 victory over Mariposa's Noah Erskine to reign supreme in the 72-kilogram ranks.

Following a first-round bye, he dispatched his opposition with 10-0 and 4-0 shutouts to reach the final.

Also a defensive specialist, Cole enjoyed three straight 10-0 superiority wins be-



Jake (left) and Cole Michaelis get their hands raised in gold medal victory at the Ontario championships. *Supplied photos*

fore upstaging York's Sebastian Galaote 16-8 for the gold.

The brothers are Craig Kielburger Secondary School's first-ever Ontario champs.

School captain Colin Moffat claimed juvenile bronze in the 69-kg. division, dominating Jacob Policarpio of the Matmen 14-2 after a 9-3

semifinal loss to eventual champion Amanie McLaren of Mariposa.

Nathan Nguyen won three matches to place fourth in the 58-kg. cadet class.

Craig Kielburger's wrestlers head to Oakville's King's Christian Thursday for the Halton championship and then host the Golden Horseshoe Athletic Conference (GHAC) championships Friday, Feb. 20.

## Reding delivers big run to consolation title

"What worked for us this weekend was the fact that we shared the basketball," said coach Alana Juzenas, whose Royals finished second in the regular season at 12-1 and begin the playoffs this afternoon at home against T.A. Blakelock.

"We would have loved to have been playing on the championship side, but after that first game we played some of the best basketball we have all season."

Following their tournament opening setback, Reding trounced London's Catholic Central 69-27 — with Brathwaite leading offensively with 20 points — and then upstaged Jean Vanier of Richmond Hill 69-48.

David had a team-high 18 points in the latter win.

His all-star team inclusion followed his win of the three-point challenge at the recent Silver Fox Tournament in Hamilton.



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