

# Sports & Leisure

Sunday, April 19, 1998

**Complete Auto Body Repairs**  
**FLOYD NELSON**  
 All Insurance Claims  
 Body and Paint  
**The Body Shop**  
 R.R.#1 Georgetown  
**Tel. (905) 873-8102**  
 Fax (905) 873-4834

## Georgetown native off to Moscow to get a grip on arm-wrestling title

**K**erry Kuenzig is using some strong-arm tactics to muscle his way to Moscow. Kuenzig finished fifth at the recent Canadian championships in Kelowna, B.C. That qualified him for the Golden Bear Tournament in Moscow, an event which



Kerry Kuenzig is preparing to take on the world as he prepares for the Golden Bear Tournament in Moscow. The arm wrestling tournament attracts the sport's top competitors from 26 countries. Kuenzig qualified for the event with a fifth-place finish at the Canadian championships.

Photo by Ted Brown

brings together the best arm wrestlers from 26 countries.

Kuenzig, who lived in Georgetown until moving to Guelph last year, began arm wrestling 11 years ago and success at his first tournament whetted his appetite for the sport.

"It was something I thought I would maybe do for the weekend but I was kind of good at it from the start," he said.

Kuenzig is now a little more than 'kind of good.' He won 10 straight matches to start the national tournament before back-to-back losses dropped him to fifth. He previous best finish at Canadians was third, a feat he accomplished twice before moving up a weight class to the 174-pound division this year.

Kuenzig said arm wrestling continues to grow in popularity but it still must contend with a negative image.

"Most people think it's this rough bar stuff," he said. "Everybody does it. There are lawyers, hockey players—I'm a welder. It's people from all walks of life."

One thing is for sure, the world championships will be no walk when the tournament opens April 21. All matches in the double knockout tournament will be held on one day, meaning Kuenzig could face up to 15 or 20 matches depending on the number of competitors in his class and how well he does.

"I'd like to be in the top five," he said, "but realistically I think I'm looking at the top 10."

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer



Todd Speakman delivers a kick while Sensi Chris Boreland looks on. Speakman recently became the first graduate of the Little Bushi blackbelt program, which Boreland developed to help generate and maintain interest among young martial arts students.

Photo by Herb Garbutt

## Earns black belt at eight

# Acton youth a Little Bushi

By HERB GARBUTT  
 Staff Writer

**A**t eight years old, Todd Speakman is a little warrior and he has the belt to prove it.

The eight-year-old from Acton has been involved in martial arts for four years. Recently, he became the first to earn a Little Bushi (warrior in Japanese) black belt.

The Little Bushi program was developed by Chris Boreland. He began working on it in 1992 and refined it to its current state in 1994.

Martial arts have junior and adult black belts, however, a junior black belt cannot be awarded until the age of 16. Boreland came up with the idea of a way to reward young martial artists while watching his own son, Dustin, go through the process toward earning his junior black belt.

Each belt has a written curriculum of skills that must be learned before they can progress to the next belt. The program was recently adopted by the Canadian Matsubayashi-Ryn Karate Do Association. Boreland said 14 other dojos have already contacted

him to advise them on how to institute similar programs.

Boreland said the Little Bushi program still requires a lot of effort but breaks down the basic skills to give young children more attainable goals while they are learning. He said that helps boost self-esteem and sustain their interest in martial arts.

"I think (Dustin) was an exception," Boreland said. "He could spend a year working at a belt and it wouldn't bother him. But I've seen children walk away from martial arts. Part of that is because as a child their interest is all accomplishment based. This lets them keep a constant progression and shows their achievement."

If Speakman is an example of the program, then Boreland's goal of maintaining young people's interest in martial arts has worked. His training so far has covered self-defence, kata forms and patterns, Okinowan weaponry and stranger response.

"He's a very committed young boy," Boreland said. "Sometimes he's in classes five days a week and sometimes he'll take two classes in a row. He's going to become a very proficient martial artist."

## Athletes of the Week



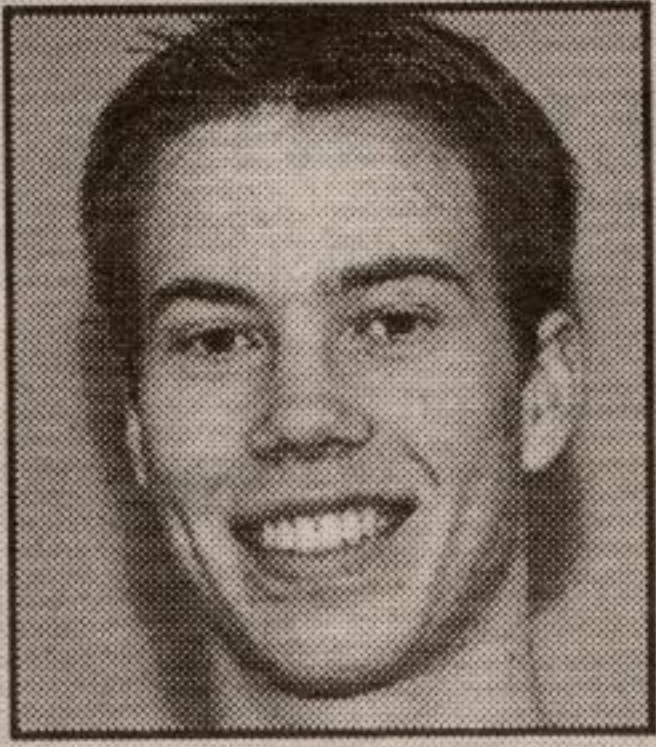
JILLIAN JAHN



FRASER HEWITT



DONNA KOSTER



RYAN GLEDHILL

The Acton High School Athletes of the Week are Jillian Jahn and Fraser Hewitt.

Both Jahn and Hewitt were chosen for their contribution to the mixed doubles badminton team as they competed at a tournament at Bishop Reding in Milton.

The Georgetown District High School Athletes of the Week are Donna Koster and Ryan Gledhill.

Koster was one half of the senior women's doubles team, and placed second at the same Bishop Reding tournament.

Gledhill was half of the

men's senior doubles badminton team, placing second as well.

Both advanced to the Halton Secondary School Athletic Association championships Wednesday at Bishop Reding where Gledhill and partner Dave Markham placed third.

LEASE \$186\*

DOWN \$888

\*48 MOS., FREIGHT & P.D.E. INCLUDED. \$13,785.

Or Get  
**4.8%**  
 no limit  
 financing for  
 up to 60  
 months



**Red Tag Days Are Here!**

**1998 Toyota Tercel CE 4**

•AM/FM Cassette •Int. Wipers

•60/40 Rear Seat •5 speed Manual Transmission

Ask about our Toyota  
 Grad Program

**GEORGETOWN TOYOTA SALES**

15 MOUNTAINVIEW RD. N. - GEORGETOWN

877-2296 Tor. 874-4276

WEBSITE at www.haltonhills.com/toyota or E-MAIL at Toyota@atpc.on.ca

\*Based on a 48 mos. walkaway lease. First payment, and security deposit due on delivery, based on 96,000 kms. Additional km charge of \$0.07 if applicable.



BC531M-B