

Sports & Leisure

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

MAM PRO SPORTS

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In point sparring

Read brothers get their kicks

They've taken different approaches but the Read brothers are battling their way to the top of their sport.

Rick and Robin Read took the first step—or kick—toward the world championships in Italy with top placings at the Ontario Karate Association championships in continuous point sparring.

Though their styles are dramatically different, they've been equally successful. Robin won the 30 kg class while Rick was second in the 35 kg class.

Continuous point sparring is like kick boxing but techniques are controlled and contact is limited. The head and body are legal targets and points are scored with either kicks or punches.

Rick, 13, already has a third-place finish at the 2000 world championships to his credit. He takes a patient, calm style in the sport that suits his personality. It was his laid-back nature that led him to the sport while the family was still living in Germany.

"He's a very shy, humble kid," said his mother Beatrix. "The schools can be very different over there. They beat up on one another. Once he started school we put him in karate."

With the experience of the world

championships under his belt, Rick is looking forward to the opportunity to return and use the lessons he learned.

"I watched all the fighters from the different countries," he said. "Normally I just used my legs but I have to use more than that."

Rick is also looking forward to another opportunity to match up against the competitor who beat him in the Ontario championship—the same competitor who gave him his only loss at the worlds.

Ten-year-old Robin picked up the sport a couple years after his brother. He went to his brother's practices and became interested in it himself. Robin didn't emulate his brother's fighting style, though as he goes on the attack and looks to dictate the pace of the match. It was a successful strategy that led him to victory in his first Ontario championship. He wouldn't mind following in his brother's footsteps to the world championships, though.

Training with his brother at the Family United Club in Hamilton, they are looking forward to the Canadian championships May 17-19 in Ottawa. The top three in each class will then earn an entry for the worlds.

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer



Rick, right, and Robin Read turned in impressive results at the Ontario Karate Association championship. Robin took first place honours in the 30 kg class in point fighting while Rick placed second. Both are now moving on to the Canadian championships in Ottawa with an eye on qualifying for the world championships in Italy.

Photo by Herb Garbutt

Tee it up at the Murr

The 18th annual Paul Murr Memorial Golf Tournament will again take place at Blue Springs Golf Course in Acton on Monday, May 13.

Last year \$40,000 was donated to the Canadian Cancer Society and organizers expect to maintain or surpass that amount this year which would raise their 18-year total to more than \$385,000.

Golf and dinner packages are available to suit all types of golfers with 7 a.m. (\$130 per player) and 1 p.m. (\$160) shotgun starts available on the championship 18-hole Turtle Lake course. Morning foursomes can play either regular golf or scramble while afternoon play is scramble only. An afternoon 9-hole golf and dinner package is available on the par 3 Trillium course for \$85 per player.

Company or corporate sponsorships are also available at a cost of \$150.

For further details and registration forms please contact John McNabb at 853-5615.



BRENT McCLUNG

McClung nets first college golf triumph

Brent McClung earned his first collegiate victory to lead the University of Detroit Mercy Titans to victory at the RMU/Duquesne Invitational last week.

McClung opened the tournament with a one-under par 71 at the 6,856-yard Southpointe Golf Club. With rough winter conditions for the second day, McClung shot a 76 on the second day to claim a one-shot victory over teammate Adam Walicki. A third Titan golfer, Luke LaFave was fourth.

The Titans, who led by 13 after the opening round, increased their margin of victory to 18 strokes on the final day.

Oldtimers tourney kicks off tonight

The Sports Unlimited Oldtimers tournament begins tonight (Wednesday) at the Mold-Masters SportsPlex.

There will be two games tonight beginning at 8:30 p.m. to open the 36-team tournament. Games continue Thursday (five games beginning at 6:15 p.m.), Friday (10 games beginning at 6 p.m.) with a full slate of games on Saturday and Sunday.

The Pigwear Maple Leafs will be looking for a fourth consecutive title in the 35 and over division while local entries the Blackhawks and Flyers will be looking to dethrone them.

The Acton Stingers and the Eagles will vie for top honours in the 40 and over division while the Silver Halos will have an entry in both the 50 and over and 55 and over divisions.

There will also be a university alumni division.

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