



# SPORTS

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

FRIDAY JANUARY 24, 1997

## Up from the ashes not a phoenix but a griffin

By **STEVE LeBLANC**  
Special to The Champion

**S**COTT HOGARTH still has a month to go before his 26th anniversary in martial arts training, but the celebrations have already begun. The party started Sunday afternoon at the corner of Main and Ontario Street (above Roger's Video), where a "Gathering of the Clan" was held to christen his new training ground. The club, Fighting Griffin Martial Arts, opened its doors to students new and old this past week although regular classes won't begin until a grand opening is held sometime next month.

Those signing up within the week won't have to wait for training to start though. In addition to some pre-class warm-up time, students enrolling before January 31 will get an early-bird special on their first year's membership.

"We're offering \$200 off until the end of the month (from \$599 to \$399) and after that \$100 off if you sign up in February. This is a one-time offer only," said Hogarth, who was joined by a number of former students Sunday, including several black belts and a couple of his own mentors — Oscar Landry and Charles Platten.

The five-time world champion and holder of seven different black belts said that while he is starting a new club in town, his doors have never really been closed to his students.

When forced to close up shop at his old Main

### Devin Medland stones Brampton

Goaltender Devin Medland stoned a Brampton attacker on a third-period penalty shot, and handed his Tyke Select Winterhawks a 2-1 victory Saturday.

A spirited effort from Milton saw Joey DeAtie and Cole Madansky net goals while Andrew Neuwald celebrated his birthday with an assist on Madansky's tally.

Also drawing assists for the winners were Michael Brown and Michael Hannah.



"This competition (in Japan) will be the world championships of Okinawan martial arts."  
**SCOTT HOGARTH**

Street club a few years ago, due to tough financial times and organization problems, he took many of his students with him to Sheridan College in Oakville, where he has been teaching up to now.

"The first thing I liked about the training was the confidence I received," said 15-year-old Alex Kocenas, a student of Hogarth's for the past four-and-a-half years. "He's one of the better instructors you'll find in North America."

Hogarth has enlisted the help of two fellow instructors to teach alongside him once classes get rolling. He is hoping to attract a broad base of children and teenagers. "This community is in bad need of a place where kids can go to get some positive feedback," he said.

A pay-as-you-play program will also be available for husbands and wives on Sunday evenings. Classes — for adults and children — will be held up to five days a week, with at least 100 students expected to be part of the first wave.

In addition to reopening his doors in Milton, Hogarth will enjoy another treat later this year when he takes a number of his black belt students to Japan for the inaugural competition at a new, state-of-the-art dojo in Shurei City. As an added bonus, he will have the opportunity of training with the legendary Toyama Zenshu Sensei, an 8th degree black belt.

"We'll be going over in August and staying for a couple of weeks. This competition will be the world championships of Okinawan martial arts," he explained.

Right now however, Hogarth is content being the master of his own domain.

For more information on the club, call Tammy Hogarth at 878-8941.



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Scott Hogarth demonstrates a hold on second-degree black belt Derek MacDonald.

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