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JUDO

INCORPORATING BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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July 1976



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David Starbrook throws his opponent with tai otoshi during the 1975 European Championships at Lyon when he powered his way through the repechage to take the Bronze medal.
Photograph by David Finch

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OLYMPIC COUNT-DOWN

incorporating reports on the

1976 Senior European Championships Four-Nation Tournament in London Final Preparations of the British Team

by Tony Reay

Judo Magazine presents to its readers a round-up of events affecting the British Olympic Squad in the final months of preparation for the Montreal Olympic Games. This report is laced with photographs from David Finch's considerable library of photographs.

Within a few weeks of reading this issue, the world's top sportsmen and sportswomen will be vying with each other to attempt to secure the highest honours in the field of sport; an Olympic medal or at best an Olympic title. The British public with the full knowledge that the sports people representing them belong to that remaining few who can truly be classified as amateurs, will once again be willing their favourites on despite the odds they know are stacked against them. And there lies the one glimmer of hope, that strangely, we always do better when we are up against it, when there seems to be little hope. True, there are a few of our sports that have good backing and no doubt the media, newspapers and television will be following those particular sports. But I have that feeling that once again the underdogs, the unsung heroes and heroines, will be the ones who will be keeping the old flag waving. We can remember only too well how, in 1972 at the Munich Games, our Judo lads col-

lectively and man for man, did better than any British sportmen — and yet hardly a television camera could be found to relay the news, they were, of course, all employed elsewhere recording the successes of other countries.

1976 Senior European Championships — 6/7 and 9 May

On the second leg of their flight to Kiev, the British team were treated to an antidote to pre-contest nerves when just after take-off from Moscow the passenger door of the giant Russian jet flew open at a thousand feet. A very brave Russian soldier took it upon himself to secure the offending door and was eventually able to do so with 'Alex' Alexander hanging on to his legs and other members of the British team piling in to help. This however was nothing compared to the incredible confusion that awaited them at Kiev when officialdom was seen at its best with no two officials having any idea of what the other one was doing. The situation was such that on the first morning of the competition the President of the European Judo Union warned the organisers that unless there was an improvement he would instruct all teams to return home and boycott the event. Slowly, as each day went by, things did improve.

Just one week earlier Ray Ross, the Team Manager, had won approval from the Executive Committee to

gamble on these Championships to place the leading British fighters in a better position for Montreal and to throw every effort into the team event. With one last-minute change and Tony Johnson doing the seemingly impossible by securing in one day a visa, Paul Radburn replaced the injured Peter Donnelly with the rest of the team being: Keith Remfry; Bob Bradley; Paul Eales; Dave Starbrook; Brian Jacks; Bob Diebelius; Vass Morrison; Neil Adams; Ray Neenan and 'Alex' Alexander. Holding back both Jacks and Starbrook for the team event only, Ray Ross put Radburn into the light-heavyweight individual event and a trimmed down Diebelius into the middleweight individuals. With just one day's notice Radburn did exceedingly well in this, his first major international senior event. He fell just short of rating a medal getting to fifth place. In his first contest he beat within 20 seconds the very experienced Vajetitch of Yugoslavia and went on to score an amazing waza-ari win over Betanov of the U.S.S.R. who is current world bronze medallist. He then beat Dalia of France but eventually lost by a narrow margin to Van de Val of Belgium which if he had won would have put him in the finals. In the repechage Paul dominated the contest only to be penalised seven seconds from the end with a keikoku to lose the chance of a bronze. Nevertheless, this was a remarkable debut and augers well for the future.

The other British fighters worthy of mention in the individuals were the two lightweights Neenan and Alexander. Alex was the more impressive having the much stiffer opposition, they both finished in fifth place.

The team event was the success story for Britain. Being unseeded the opposition was tough but Ross's gamble paid off and by winning a bronze medal next year's team is assured of a head start.

In the first match Britain beat Bulgaria scoring as follows: Neenan (koka loss); Morrison (yuko win); Jacks (waza-ari win); Starbrook (ippon win) and Remfry (ippon win). In the next round Alexander replaced Neenan and the very strong Polish team met a similar fate at the hands of the British. Alexander (ippon win); Morrison (koka win); Jacks (yuko win); Starbrook (ippon loss) and Remfry (koka loss). Morrison's win was against this year's individual bronze medallist and Jacks beat this year's individual silver medallist.

The British team was very popular with the Russian spectators and this was shown even in the next round when Britain were to meet the mighty Russian team. This Britain lost 2 to 1 but they put up a great battle. Keith Remfry was the one British winner with both Morrison

Keith Remfry and Bert In Den Birken of Holland congratulate each other after their classic contest at Crystal Palace.



and Starbrook losing and the rest forcing a draw. It was generally felt that had this been an individual event both Jacks and Morrison would have won on a decision. Starbrook, labouring with an injected arm lost to a Russian he has beaten twice before.

This bronze medal will give a new team next year a flying start, I say new team because as will be seen, there will be a number of retirements after the Olympic Games.

And so with his Olympic team taking shape, Ray Ross was still undecided about the lightweights. There was no doubt that Alexander appeared the better at this event but Ross still needed another testing ground. This was to be the Four-Nations Tournament to follow a few weeks later.

Four-Nations Tournament — 23 May

Along with weight-lifting, modern pentathlon, yachting and cycling, Judo was chosen to be included in the big-five and described by the sponsors Faberge Incorporated as "Brut Olympic 5". The Judo event took place at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre on Sunday, 23 May watched by an almost capacity crowd. Originally billed as a triangular match involving Belgium, Holland and Great Britain it was just one week earlier that the Federal Republic of Germany asked if they could take up the invitation they had declined earlier. A triangular match would have been just comfortable but with four nations the proceedings seem to drag on. However, most of the crowd seemed well satisfied when it became clear that Britain had won the series and many of the parties of schoolchildren who had travelled to the venue by coach had to depart before the final rounds.

As it turned out this was an ideal time to hold such an event, partic-

ularly when Team Managers were faced with the problem of final selection of their Olympic teams.

Not only did this event show that Britain have the strongest team but also that the 'B' team, or our second runners, were equal to the best that other countries can provide.

I would think that ex-farm boy George Barrie, undisputed boss of the Faberge-Brut perfume empire whose annual sales top 160 million dollars, would have been well satisfied if, looking down from his Manhattan suite of offices, he could have seen the large audience of mainly young people on that day; he would have been well pleased, I'm sure. True that such sponsorship would be to him a drop in the ocean. But other large concerns who could also do the same just don't bother. To give so many young people an exciting event to remember and to bring together the top fighters of four nations in friendly combat must be a satisfying reward.

The crowd welcomed the teams as they marched into the arena but never was the applause so great as when the British team, at the end of the parade, stepped into the hall. This must have been a great encouragement.

In the first match, West Germany versus Belgium, it became clear that many fighters were competing for a place in their Olympic team. Contests were very close and tense, although West Germany won this round very convincingly by 5 wins, 4 of them with ippon with most of the results being achieved in newaza.

The next match was Great Britain versus Holland and in the first contest, though we were not yet to know it, 'Alex' Alexander set the ball rolling for an eventual victorious British team and for himself — a brilliant afternoon's display of Judo — both skilful and aggressive. In just 80 seconds he effected yoko-



Bob Bradley proudly acknowledges the applause after his sensational win for the British 'B' team against West Germany in the last contest.

shiho-gatame on Harry Peters to score an eventual ippon. 'Vass' Morrison also on this day became the pride of Britain when, in just 30 seconds from the opening of the contest, he scored waza-ari with seoi-nage on Peter Kneteman. Absolutely bouncing with confidence he proceeded to dominate his opponent scoring a koka with a splendid ren-

raku-waza sequence culminating with ko-uchi-gari. At 3.25 'Vass' clinched the contest with a superb ippon-seoi-nage. Jacks, with much at stake and almost definite for the Olympic team, confided in me earlier that he would be treating his Dutch opponent with great caution. He didn't want to take any risks at this stage and his opponent promised

to be a difficult one with almost the same style as Brian and with a left uchi-mata — and being a young contender — ready to chance anything. Certainly his opponent, E. Baselmans, proved very difficult and astute. There was very little in it until, with just 40 seconds to go in the six minute contest, Brian was penalised with a keikoku for pushing his opponent out of the area. Dave Starbrook at 4½ minutes showed the stadium just what had to come and Jan Bosman was on the end of that classic tai-otoshi. With the match comfortably in the bag Keith Remfry, obviously playing to instructions, went to the full six minutes which earned both he and his opponent, Bert In Den Berken, hiki-waki.

Next it was the turn of the Great Britain 'B' team against Belgium. This resulted in a 4 to 1 win for Britain with Neenan, Adams, Diebelius and Donnelly all scoring with ippon.

The match which everybody in the stadium had been waiting for, Great Britain versus

The referee is very much up with the action and saves Engelbert Doerbrant from a broken arm. In a flash 'Vass' Morrison had spun in for a perfect juji-gatame.



West Germany, came next. Alexander did very well to secure a draw against Alexander Liebkind. 'Vass' scored yuko with seoi-nage at 4.29 and with clock-work precision slid into juji-gatame which had his opponent tapping furiously. In the next match Brian Jacks faced his old foe Fred Marhenke. Of their previous three meetings Brian had won the first and lost in the next two, but this time if it had been an individual competition I am sure that Brian would have been given the nod. In every way he tried to open up Marhenke's defence and at half way Brian attacked with a rally of kneeling seois both left and right and had the stolid and experienced Marhenke rocking but with no score. Certainly Brian put in many more attacks but at time hiki-waki was given. Dave Starbrook also drew with Gunter Neureuter, having just recovered from an injury Dave was not going to take any chances with his Montreal ticket. At 2½ minutes Keith Remfry scored a koka with harai-goshi and therefore won the nod at time giving a British win over West Germany 2 to nil. Robert Heil the German Sports Director told me afterwards that he had thought this competition might help him to solve his problems for settling his final team for the Olympics but it had only given him more headaches.

The British 'B' team did exceptionally well to draw with Holland 2 - 2, who had earlier fallen to Britain 'A' 3 to 1. Holland beat Belgium 4 to nil and Germany beat Holland 3 to 2. The British 'B' team took West Germany to an incredible 1 - 1 draw with Bob Bradley pulling off a fantastic arm-lock at 5.23 in the last contest against Jean Jacques Kominski. This lifted his team tremendously and brought tumultuous applause.

Britain, therefore, were overall winners and with agreement, Britain 'B' were not included in the comp-



'Alex' was the favourite with the youngsters who pressed him all day for autographs at the Four-Nations Tournament.

etition results, silver medals were presented to West Germany and bronze medals to Holland and Belgium.

Final Preparations for the British Team

The next day a British party comprising Keith Remfry, David Starbrook, Brian Jacks, Vaccinuff Morrison and Neil Adams travelled to Japan for a three week training period in Tokyo. Within a few days it was found that the YMCA Hostel in which they were billeted just could not provide the food with sufficient protein and vitamins and the cost then went sky-high. Donnelly found he had problems with the old leg injury and Jacks suffered a most uncomfortable carbunkle on his back and for the youngster of the party, eighteen year-old Neil Adams, the experience threatened to be a little unnerving. However, as it transpired,



'Alex' demonstrates his superiority in newaza against Alexander Liebkind of West Germany.

morale was high and Neil was protected by the more experienced and heavier members of the party whenever he was likely to be overwhelmed which sadly the Japanese tend to try to do on small foreigners.

Actually, it was the turn for the Japanese to be surprised, they just could not believe that one so powerful and skilful at Judo could be so young and Neil made a good account of himself. Due to the poor food and miserable conditions and because money was running out the party left Japan two days earlier than scheduled.

According to Brian Jacks, training attitudes have still not changed in sixteen years and there seems to be an underlying apathy in the Japanese

Squad because of the very tight hold that the old Senseis still have on the Japanese scene.

On the 11th June the British Olympic Squad travelled to Edinburgh for one week's training with an army squad and a Scottish squad. In much pleasanter surroundings and accommodated by the army in Edinburgh Castle with first-class food, the Squad went into their final phase of training. With tremendous facilities and attention given to their every need the Squad were all in tremendous spirit.

At a press conference on Monday, 21 June, the Olympic Team Manager announced the British Olympic team for the 1976 Games as follows:

LIGHTWEIGHT:
LIGHT-MIDDLEWEIGHT:
MIDDLEWEIGHT:
LIGHT-HEAVYWEIGHT:
HEAVYWEIGHT:
OPENWEIGHT:

Constantine Alexander
Vaccinuff Morrison
Brian Jacks
David Starbrook
Keith Remfry
Keith Remfry

Reserves:
Raymond Neenan
Neil Adams
Robert Diebelius
Paul Radburn
Robert Bradley
David Starbrook

With regard to the open-weight entry for Great Britain Ray Ross left his selection until absolutely the last moment.

It has been no easy task selecting the final team. Starbrook, Jacks and Remfry were a foregone conclusion but then injuries always lie in the wake of such predictions. The light-weight situation was a problem with Ray Neenan being considered number one up to the 1976 European Championships. But at those championships Alexander assumed that spot with his brilliant display, both in the individuals and the team match. This was later confirmed at the Four-Nation Tournament in London when Alexander scored two 'ippon' wins as against Neenan's one 'ippon' win and two drawn contests. As we can read in the daily newspapers with other sports, it is the current form which matters in the final selection.

Very few people realised that at the Four-Nations Tournament we would be seeing Starbrook, Jacks and Remfry in international competition for the last time. After the Olympics they will all be retiring after long and glorious careers, Brian Jacks will have been 12 years on the international scene.

Ray Ross himself will be giving up the post of Olympic Team Manager after Montreal. The reasons are obvious, "I will see my wife and children this year for the first time in my so-called leisure time when they will be staying near us at the Scotland camp", Ray told me just a month ago. "Since 1971 I have had three days holiday with them. The requirements of the job are now so great that the post demands a professional man. The game has changed enormously since I took up the job. In the socialist countries only Russia and East Germany had full-time



Dave Starbrook throws Jan Bosman of Holland with his famous tai-otoshi, the last one we shall see in international competition in Britain.

squads, now all of them treat Judo in a professional manner. I would not like to see our squad totally professional but surely the Team Manager should be a professional?" says Ray.

Certainly for Ray since he was appointed in 1971 the job has taken very much of his free time, he has had no fees and no rewards other than the glory of the successes from time to time of the many British teams he has been responsible for. There have been plenty of knocks but I can tell you that the responsibility being put onto the shoulders of one man has proved better than when we had a selection committee. Members of that committee were sometimes accused of being more concerned with putting fighters they

had themselves trained into a British team just for the prestige, than who was best for Britain.

Who will the new Team Manager be? Certainly the picture looks better for whoever gets the job than it did one year ago. Ross hands over to the new manager a very experienced and young squad which includes: Seth Birch (aged 21); Neil Adams (18); Stuart Travis (21); Bob Diebelius (22); Paul Radburn (21) and Peter Donnelly (24). Each one of them has already competed successfully on the international scene. Also it must be remembered that this year's team ensured that Britain will be seeded in next year's European Championships which will be a great advantage to a young team and will give a new Team Manager an encouraging start.

KATA? WHY BOTHER?

by Peter Johnson

On Saturday, 15th May 1976, at Stockton-on-Tees, the British Judo Association held what may be laughingly called their National Kata Championships.

The literature, which stated that we should book in between 12 noon and 1 p.m., proved to be fiction, as the organisers had secretly decided (without telling the competitors or judge Mr. John Cornish) that the Kata would start at 11 a.m. We fooled 'em though, by being ready on time to hear them say "the judges haven't turned up — we can't understand it". They eventually found three 'stand-in' judges. We had a pre-championship chat to the effect that those who had entered for the Ju No Kata (two pairs), and

the Katame No Kata (three pairs), would have no championship unless they joined together as one category! This was after the literature had stated that 'Where there are fewer than four pairs entered in a category, the title will be held vacant'. These competitors had to obey or withdraw. As some had undertaken a round trip of near 500 miles to enter they agreed.

It occurs to me that with five whole days between the closing date and the 15th, there was ample time to inform the people in these categories of the shortage of entries so that they had a chance to withdraw before making the trip. Perhaps the organisers realised that a part of the championship would be missing if these entrants withdrew and

Continued on page 34

CORRESPONDENCE

Sir.—Once again we have been through the exercises of the National Kata Championship, and once more it has proved to be a mockery of competition. For this the British Judo Association must accept its full share of the blame. It would seem to members that they are paying lip service to what a large number of members want, i.e. a National event for Kata, then doing their best to kill the whole idea off.

Again, as in 1975, it was coupled with the Women's National Team Championships, like a cartoon before the main event, and proved to be a negation of a year's hard work and training, as in 1975, when they barred all modern versions of Kata a few weeks before the event. I do not question too deeply the ethics of removing a National Championship from the National Sports Centre, as one recognises that it could prove to be a stimulant for the sport in other areas, but surely, the entry fee of four pounds per Kata entry was nothing short of prohibitive, especially when a number of entrants competed in three categories, and were charged twelve pounds for the privilege, this is in addition to the cost of getting to the venue, which for some meant a journey of over two hundred miles. Coupled to this was the sudden decision to change the time of starting the contest from that printed quite clearly on the entry form, it could have meant that some contestants could have arrived to 'book in' and not even having the chance to compete for the money they had paid. One of the Kata judges actually found himself in this position, arriving too late to adjudicate.

The method of judging was nothing short of amazing, as, apart from the Isutsu Kata, not one of the judges saw a complete Kata performed. The whole thing was done in an

entirely piecemeal fashion, with the judges selecting, apparently at random, an entry to perform two sets from a Kata, and another entry to perform a different two sets from the Kata, and deciding the winners of the 1976 National Kata Championship in this manner, a truly disgraceful way of judging Kata at any level.

One can hardly blame one club entry from leaving the centre in disgust, declining to wait for the presentation of their awards. This contingent included the Katame-no-Kata Silver medallists, the Nage-No-Kata Silver medallists, the 1975 National Kata Champions, the 1975 Silver medallists, who also held the 1975 Annual Rose Bowl award. A top Official of the British Judo Association ought to have attended and declared the contest void.

Whilst congratulations are extended to the couple who gained a hat-trick of Gold medals, who, incidentally, were not conforming to the laid down rules for Kata, i.e. Red belt Tori, White belt Uke, I left the Centre with a definite impression that their performance appeared to have been taught by a choreographer, rather than a Judo coach. It was more of a ballet than a display of an aspect of a Martial Art. I ask one thing, at least, from the British Judo Association, either let us have a properly organised National Kata Championship, or betray Dr. Kano's ideals on the importance of Kata and let the whole thing sink into obscurity.

What a tragedy for Judo if this is allowed to happen, for the performance of Kata is a necessary and satisfying aspect of Judo, or any Martial Art, calling for a far higher degree of technique and perfection than its counter part in contest work.

P. J. MELLETT,
Billericay, Essex.

KENDŌ forum

by Roald Knutsen

Twice a year the Kendo Renmei holds a weekend camp as part of the all-the-year-round general training programme. These camps are designed to involve dojo groups from many different areas in outdoor practice in direct contrast to the more routine activities in the dojo. These events are under canvas with training on rough hill ground in the South Downs near to Lewes. The most recent, held in the first week in June, was attended by 36 students of all ranks from juniors up to 5th dan.

I don't intend here to merely give a recital of what we did at the camp but rather to show the value of old Budo methods applied to what we may fondly believe to be modern training. I am rather inclined to stress the traditional in Budo and the weaponed arts; well, here at these camps we go right back to the tradition without any transition and it is quite surprising to some people just how realistic training can be when completely out of the artificial environment of the dojo.

It may come as a surprise to some of my readers to learn that any form of Budo practice in a specially designated dojo or training hall only dates back at the most a hundred years. The dojo as a place for military training was the product of the decade or so right at the end of the Tokugawa period and the beginning of the Meiji period (1868). Before that there are records of indoor training but these dojo seem to have been used for other purposes as well. They were often contained within

castle precincts or associated with the buildings within the perimeter of the *buke yakata*, or headquarters which was not necessarily the local castle. If we take the era of recorded practice of *naginata* and swordsmanship, a span of well over 1,000 years, then the "dojo" period is very recent indeed.

It is quite common to see within the various Japanese Shinto shrine complexes small or large areas of ground marked off for sacred use by long grass plaited ropes called *shimenawa*. These ropes indicate that the particular area is under the patronage of a *kami* for some particular purpose. The area is ritually pure. It is thought that the earliest training places for the fore-runners of the martial arts were connected with ritual impurities (shedding blood, for example) and ritual cleansing, especially cleansing with the sword, bow, or spear. It is a well recognised fact that there have been the closest possible relationships from the most ancient times between Shinto and *bu* (in Bu-do). The use of open spaces for training continued throughout the fully documented late-feudal period (roughly between 1490 and 1868) and still continues in several vigorous major *kobudo* traditions.

A large number of *kobudo* masters argue that unless training is taken out of the artificial surroundings of a special building with perfect floors then the students will not be able to understand fully how techniques developed or how the forms will work in more normal everyday conditions. Therefore practice is often in the open air, on mountainsides, in thick undergrowth, on sandy beaches, in woodland, and so on. All with the aim of giving reality to the true object of the exercise. Experience shows that this element of physical realism makes it no more difficult to teach the mental or intellectual meanings of Budo and may even help because movements



Morning Iai-jutsu training in the Saga Kenseikai Dojo, Kyushu. Roald Knutsen was awarded *menkyo-kaiden*, or licence to teach, one of the traditional *Muso Chuko Eishin-ryu*. This dojo is strictly orthodox in Iai and Kendo.

on rough ground makes most students more fully aware of all their bodies. The constant use of perfect dojo floors in kendo, for example, leads many students to "forget" their legs until they may have to face the unusual. Realisation at this late stage is disastrous as anyone who has fought against the *naginata* can vouch!

Outdoor training helps to broaden perspectives. It enables reasonably intelligent people to look at their Budo from an entirely new angle because, for one thing, the nature of the ground prevents any sort of "normal" dojo style being followed. At our Kendo Renmei camps, and we have quite some experience behind us, we have found that we can introduce fresh thinking to such matters as basic postures and unusual follow-up movements from these. In Iai-jutsu in the dojo it is sometimes difficult to give students a true idea of the walking (advanced) forms

because the surroundings are artificial, but outdoors with natural obstacles whole groups of these same students quite easily understand how we deal with such problems as pre-emptive Iai, with *maai* (interval or space), or with multiple opponents.

I think that too much emphasis on one particular aspect of Budo can lead to error since that emphasis produces imbalance and ultimately distorts proportions. Nowadays, and in kendo terms that means the past hundred years or more, the greatest trend has been towards the use of the *shinai* or bamboo sword. There is now little or no proper use of the *bokuto* or wooden sword, and it was even reported to me at the camp that in some European quarters (British? God forbid!) people would like to see *kata* eliminated from normal training.

Reading, as I always do, David White's often penetrating comments, I must say that I agree with this



Roald Knutsen, 5th Dan, with Ogaki Susumu sensei, 7th Dan Kyoshi, at Tagawa in Kyushu, this April.

view that there may be a return to the more spiritual values of Budo. I think I would prefer to say intellectual rather than spiritual because I, too, have been plagued by newcomers who present themselves at the dojo as "hooked" on Zen—they usually last three weeks . . . if that.

Shinai-Kendo is not true kendo as I and many other senior *yudansha* well know. I personally don't think all is well in the kendo world. I think that a very great deal of what passes these days for kendo is abso-

lute rubbish. If David White is correct in his assessment, and make no mistake about it, there are many very senior and influential Budo masters who are working to this end, then we may gradually see the balance redressed. Until that time, in kendo at least, there will be a sharply marked division between those aiming at the traditional values and those who mistakenly think that competition at all cost is all there is. In the meantime our very active programme of traditional Budo will continue unabated—and undeterred.

Early Morning Training

D.W. again stimulates my pen—he's as good as a tonic. He comments on Japanese training times and mentions the habit of early morning practice. Getting up and deliberately going to the dojo, at say, 6 a.m. once now and again is a reasonable experience. How about going every day at that time? Last March and April in Kyushu I had that unreasonable experience every day for over a fortnight. I had volunteered! Some Japanese kendoka are fully committed to this sort of thing and I believe that the present mayor of the city of Osaka, who is a kendo master, trains seven mornings a week before going to his office suite. All very well if you are training in Japan but I thought I would put it on record that pretty regularly over the past six years some of my Iai group at my Brighton Butokukan dojo practice at six in the morning three times a week.

FINAL DATE FOR COPY

The Publishers ask contributors to kindly note that copy for the JUDO Magazine must be received by them not later than the 10th of the month if intended for inclusion in the following month's issue.

THE MARTIAL ARTS SCENE

—from a personal viewpoint

A. T. Francis

As a reader, sometime contributor, and long term supporter of *Judo*, I would like readers to know of developments in the Martial Arts and I will keep this article as factual as possible.

The British Karate Control Commission came into being in 1967-8 with official encouragement following much adverse publicity and questions in the House of Commons.

The founding members consisted of the then known major karate organisations and since that time several extra style associations have been admitted—Goju, Sankukai and Wado Ryu for example. There are now eight associations (one is suspended).

By 1970 the Commission was in receipt of Sports Council grant and our team did well at the First World Championships in Japan.

Karate became successful and therefore popular and increased expertise in administration became desirable. Nearly two years ago we appointed our first full time General Secretary and established an office at New Cross, London. We were then deluged with publicity resulting from Kung-Fu films, the David Carradine "Kung Fu Commercial" on Sunday television and "Kung Fu Fighting" was the title of a record in the top twenty. The British Kung Fu Council was formed (with the help of Mr. Tony McCarthy of World of Sport T.V.) and has since done some good work vetting, controlling and trying to co-ordinate Kung Fu activities. There is still much to be done but Mr. Christopher Carvalho (Co-Chairman) and his

team have helped all Martial Art practitioners by keeping in check many exploiters. Quality Chinese sifu are now joining and this speaks well for the future.

A brochure "The Ugly Shadow", was produced in May 1975 and 30,000 copies distributed nationally. This had much impact and at the press lunch, at which The Rt. Hon. Denis Howell, Minister for Sport and Mr. Walter Winterbottom spoke in support, it was pleasing to see so many fellow supporters including Mr. Tony Reay and Mr. Jim Elkin who need no introduction to readers of *Judo*.

The main Martial Art groups quickly realised the importance of co-ordination and co-operation and The British Association of Korean Martial Arts was formed in 1975. This organisation is making sound progress and has needed the co-operation of eight separate Korean groups to amalgamate into one organisation so that true Korean Arts may be maintained at a high technical standard. They are soon to adopt their own standard licence book similar to that of the B.J.A. We will hear a lot from this group in the future.

National and local newspapers, local authorities and others wish to refer their queries to one central office and so by co-operating together the Karate, Kung-Fu, Korean Arts and Aikido bodies can now have a central service capable of giving good service to sports centres and enquiries. A central check can also be made for work permit applications.

Growth continues apace and thus the future will, we hope, see increased co-operation among all the following bodies:

- The English Karate Board
- The Scottish Karate Board
- The Welsh Karate Board
- The Irish Karate Board (when formed)
- The British Kung-Fu Council
- The British Association of Korean Martial Arts
- The British Aikido Association

No doubt other arts will also co-operate in due course.

The advent of professional "contact" karate has necessitated a provision being made for representation of those promoting events. Again the promoters are co-operative,

medical advice is being followed and suitable rules are in existence.

All this activity has unfortunately not been without growing pains and international successes in competition have been offset by political trouble at home. However, there is now much goodwill for karate unity and the future seems assured. Part of the "Code of Conduct" generally adopted is that all members will deal with and recognise only the official governing bodies of their "brother" Martial Arts. During the course of this year it is hoped an announcement will be made formally bringing all the arts together for purposes of co-ordination, but encouraging them all to develop technically in their own way.

Who would have thought 25 years ago that we would have seen such an upsurge in all these activities: there is no sign of demand abating.



DOING IT IN STYLE

Eleven year old Tanya Bacon of the Archer Judo Club is shown winning her way to a silver medal in a Barking & Dagenham Sports Council competition. The instructors of her club are rightly proud of Tanya's harai-goshi, and so they should be. It takes time and a lot of patience teaching children — and even more effort in developing a big throw.



THE BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION

Newsletter Supplement

AS I WAS SAYING

By TONY REAY

This issue of the magazine should be out in time for the five members of the British Olympic team and the two officials—the Team Manager and the Team Doctor—to pack a copy into their Olympic bag for reading on the long journey to Montreal.

The message from all of us back home is simple and very much from the heart: "We are proud of each one of you. We will be thinking of you constantly. We know that you will do your best as we have seen you each do many times in the past. We know that the long tortuous path has not been easy and we know that the rewards have been really very little. But as sportsmen, you do carry the greatest honour on your Olympic blazers. We do know also that there have been difficult times of pain or frustration, sometimes both. We know that during those times it is so tempting to say to yourself, 'Is it all worth it?' It is easy to say this when woolly thinking and misguided bureaucracy seems to stand in your way. You are not alone. Other British sportsmen have had similar

treatment and sometimes worse. But you must know that there are people who do care and are dedicated to trying to make your path easier. In this we are all united in British judo. We know that you will be keeping the old flag flying and we wish you every bit of luck. Whatever happens we will be willing you on and whatever the outcome we want you back safe and sound. Good luck lads! Show them that we can still give them a good run for their money".

AROUND THE AREAS

Anyone interested in refereeing courses and examinations in the Eastern Area should note that John Benson, the Area Executive Committee Representative, is now also the Area Refereeing Representative and any refereeing requests or queries within the Area should be directed to him. For the time being all other correspondence to the Area Committee should be sent to the Area Chairman, Miss R. A. Bird.

Frank Smith is the newly elected Chairman of Midlands Area for the

next two years. After the Association Annual General Meeting the E.C. representative for the Area, Brian Regan, will be standing down after two years of much work and heavy responsibility holding down both positions. For his devotion and service to the Area in the past, Brian has been made Vice-President of the Area.

At a Northern Ireland Judo Federation A.G.M. recently all the Area officers were returned to office.

Association members living in Scotland are reminded that Individual Membership applications should be forwarded direct to the Membership Secretary of the Scottish Judo Federation, 8 Frederick Street, Edinburgh, EH1 2AE.

North-West Area have re-appointed Arthur Tomkinson as their E.C. representative. He is the longest serving member ever to have worked on that committee.

At a recent A.G.M. of the Welsh Judo Association all the officers were returned in the elections for an Area committee. Club secretaries in Wales should forward their club application for registration direct to the Secretary of the Welsh Judo Association. Until further notice all correspondence to the Area committee should be forwarded to the Chairman and E.C. representative, John Perrins.

London returned all the committee members for a further term of office at a recent A.G.M. which was attended by 18 Member Clubs.

NATIONAL COACHES

At the most recent E.C. meeting Roy Inman's application for the post of Honorary National Coach was approved. Two excellent papers written by Peter Barnett, Co-Ordinator of National Coaches titled; "Role of

National Coaches in the British Judo Association" and "Range of Coaching Awards" have been accepted and approved by the E.C.

EXPENSE CLAIMS

Quite a large number of Association officials do not claim their expenses from the Association for travel, meals and accommodation whilst undertaking Association work. This is greatly appreciated by the Association but in order that such monies can be accredited in the correct column of the Accounts, members are requested to use the new-style Association claim forms and sign the appropriate statement indicating that the official concerned does wish to donate such money to the Association.

NATIONAL SUB-COMMITTEES

The co-option of Ian McCullam to the National Competitions Sub-Committee has been agreed by the E.C. The E.C. have also agreed that from 1977, two National Refereeing Courses should be held per year, one in the North and one in the South, in order that increased interest and demand can be satisfied.

WOMEN'S JUDO

In order to assist the Association's programme of cost-curbs Miss Marie Fourt has arranged that some sessions for this Squad take place at cheaper venues than Crystal Palace National Sports Centre.

The President of the International Judo Federation recently informed the E.C. that the Pan American Judo Union would be holding a championships for senior women either at the end of this year or next year and that this would make possible a World Championships in 1978 or 1979. If this happens then the possibility of women's judo being included in the 1980 Olympic Games would be very real.

In studying Ellen Cobb's programme for the Young Women's Squad the Finance Sub-Committee and in turn the E.C. are very pleased with her initiative in arranging such a varied and interesting programme which is entirely self-supporting and she has been congratulated by both committees.

Miss E. Williams of the Southern Area has been awarded the Mont Clair Shield which is presented to the most outstanding player in the Young Women's Trials each year.

ASSOCIATION LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The following were recently successful in their application for Life Membership of the Association: Sub.-Lt. I. C. Taylor; Mr. M. Hopkinson; Mr. B. A. Baldock and Mr. J. Hawksby. Association Life Membership costs £20 and applicants should apply to the E.C. and address their correspondence to the General Secretary, The British Judo Association, 70 Brompton Road, London, SW3 1DR.

BJA SQUADS FUND A final appeal on behalf of the BRITISH OLYMPIC JUDO TEAM

In the last analysis, when the runners are settling into their starting blocks and when the judomen step out into the contest area, it will be the man who is fittest, sharpest, the most fit and the best prepared and ready who will win.

As far as the British judo team is concerned the preparation in the lead up to that moment has been the best that we have been able to offer within their truly amateur status. But there is just one thing more we can do in these last few days.

In the words of David Jenkins, Britain's 400-metre gold medal hope, "Just as in Munich, the Montreal Olympic village is going to be a concrete jungle . . ." He has written to Arthur Gold, Secretary of the British Athletics Board telling him that he and his coach, David Hemery are going to do it their way if he is expected to bring back a gold medal. "The catering is going to be slipshod and in the 19-storey blocks there will be only one lift per 1,000 athletes. That's going to mean waiting ages to get out of the

building to go for meals and training . . . that's not for me", says Jenkins.

Ray Ross, our own Judo Team Manager is also concerned and I must say with what I have heard I share that concern. Ray would like to get the lads away from that depressing and frustrating atmosphere for just a few days in the crucial period just before the start of the competitions. He would like to take them well away from Montreal to the quaint old city of Quebec, just to relax. The cost would not be much but of course we can only depend on the Squads Fund for any financial help that might be forthcoming. Help us in this last bid—to help the lads. It would be a pity if the preparations that have gone before should be threatened.

Your donations—however small—would be greatly appreciated as soon as possible. Thanks again.

Tony Reay
(responsible for the B.J.A. Squads Fund).

B.J.A. NATIONAL DAN GRADE REGISTER

Appendix Sixteen — Promotions confirmed 19/3/76 to 6/5/76

MEN TO 1ST DAN	CLUB	AREA	DATE
Alveranga, J.	Kingsbury	L	7/3/76
Anstee, D. R.	I Kuei Kan	WJA	2/5/76
Armstrong, R. L.	Pirelli Judokwai	M	2/5/76
Ash, E. F.	Bridlington	Y/H	19/4/76
Buttery, K. F.	Sankeys Well	M	6/4/76
Celino, N.	Glasgow	SJF	7/3/76
Clark, M. C. E.	Renzu Kwai	S	11/4/76
Cole, R.	Ashington Welfare	N	14/3/76
Collett, T. A.	?	S	3/4/76
Dearden, A. J.	Huddersfield	E	21/3/76
Goodison, D. J.	Cheltenham	We	10/4/76
Graham, M. H.	Matsumachi	We	21/2/76
Gray, M. J.	Biggleswade	NHC	13/3/76
Gritz, B.	Maccabi	NHC	7/3/76
Hartley, D.	York R.I.	Y/H	21/3/76
Head, C. W. J.	Gloucester YMCA	We	21/3/76
Henry, A.	Bushido	Y/H	21/3/76
Heron, A.	Middlesbrough	N	21/3/76
Holt, A. J.	Coventry	M	2/5/76
Johnson, J. T.	Kynoch	M	13/3/76
King, R.	York R.I.	Y/H	2/6/75
Lane, P. W.	Challney J.C.	NHC	13/3/76
Levey, D. J.	Harlow	NHC	1/5/76
Little, L. J.	Stretford	NW	25/4/76
Mahoney, P. M.	Judokan	M	25/4/76
Morrissey, D. J.	Hemel Hempstead	NHC	13/3/76
Newman, D. B.	Neath YMCA	WJA	2/5/74
Papadopollos, K.	?	L	7/3/76
Reed, R.	York R.I.	Y/H	25/4/76
Rispin, T.	Sheffield	Y/H	2/5/76
Rodda, J. R.	Workop Sports Centre	M	21/3/76
Rowe, J. J.	Aces	We	10/4/76
Sammons, R. C.	Redbridge	NHC	24/4/76
Shooter, K.	Kingspark	L	7/3/76
Shuker, S. D.	Mid Sussex	S	11/4/76
Somerville, R.	Motherwell YMCA	SJF	2/5/76
Stockton, J. N.	Nechells	M	13/3/76
Taylor, I. C.	R.N.J.A.	RN	10/4/76
Thacker, R. F.	Ramsey	E	30/5/76
Underwood, M. A.	I.P.M. Gravesend	S	7/3/76
Warren, G. S.	Walthamstow	L	15/4/76
Wheeler, C. J.	Shin Wa Kwai	Y/H	21/3/76
Whitehead, M. B.	Aireborough	Y/H	11/4/76
Willcock, D. J.	Doncaster	Y/H	21/3/76
MEN TO 2ND DAN			
Beevor, K. D. D.	?	NHC	13/3/76
Coulthurst, R.	D.K.H. Tokei	L	20/4/76
Daly, P. M.	Olympic	NHC	14/3/76
Edwards, F.	St. James J.C.	L	11/4/76
Farr, D. J.	West Drayton Boys Club	NHC	6/3/76

Hockley, J. E.	?	NHC	11/4/76
Liddiard-Jenkin, D. N.	Tower Hamlets	L	11/4/76
Owens, P.	Stockton YMCA	N	15/3/76
Webster, D. S.	Olympic	NHC	2/5/76

MEN TO 3RD DAN			
Abbotts, M.	Kodokai	M	30/4/76
Catling, V. F. G.	?	NI	11/4/76
Revels, R. C.	Biggleswade	NHC	13/3/76
MEN TO 4TH DAN			
Eales, P. A.	Renshuden	NHC	11/4/76

WOMEN TO 1ST DAN			
Bartlett-Sando, J. D.	Camden	L	7/3/76
Bridge, J.	Otanikwai	NW	14/3/76
Coleman, N.	?	L	29/4/76
Percival, K.	Rustons	M	2/5/76
Snee, J. A.	Coventry	M	16/4/76
West, B. A.	Budokwai	L	7/3/76
Woodard, M.	Budokwai	L	7/3/76

NATIONAL DAN GRADE REGISTRAR

Please note that Dr. P. Elliott will be on holiday and also attending the Montreal Olympic Games during the entire month of August. Phyllis will also be representing the British Judo

Association at the International Judo Federation Congress. Any correspondence for the National Dan Grade Register can be sent to Head Office but unfortunately cannot be dealt with until her return on the 3rd August.

LATE CLUB NEWS

HARLOW JUDO CLUB is situated at Harlow Sports Centre. The next promotion examinations will be held on Sunday, 18th July at the Centre. Terry Adams, East Essex County Coach will be present. Examinations will be as follows: 10.00 am for Men and Women ungraded, 9th Kyu, 8th Kyu and 7th Kyu. 11.30 am Men and Women of 6th, 5th, 4th, 3rd and 2nd Kyu. 2.00 pm Men and Women 1st Kyu. 3.30 pm 1st to 2nd Dans and 2nd to 3rd Dans Men and Women. For further enquiries write to: The Secretary, Harlow Judo Club, Sports Centre, Harlow, Essex.

A SPECIAL JUDO COURSE FOR BEGINNERS

(Kyu grades and Mon grades of the age of 15 years or over.)

To be held at the Budokwai for five full days from Monday, 23rd to Friday, 27th August. Two two-hour sessions per day, 10.30 am to 12.30 pm and 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm. Includes technique instructions, kata and daily talk-ins. Conducted by **Tony Reay, 4th Dan**. Fee £15.

Applications should be sent to The Manager, The Budokwai, 4 Gilston Road, London, SW10 with a £5 deposit. **Book early to avoid disappointment.**

JAPAN OMIT STARS

BRITAIN NAME TEAM FOR OLYMPICS

by John Goodbody

Japan seem to have done their best to ensure that their comparatively poor performance at the Munich Olympics (only three gold medals out of a possible six) will be repeated this month at the Montreal Games. They have selected the winners of the All Japan Weight Category Trials in Fukuoka irrespective of their past records, their form against foreigners and their experience of international events. Consequently, Shozo Fujii, arguably the greatest middleweight the world has ever seen (three World Championships and three gold medals), has been inexplicably, incredibly, unbelievably omitted from the team because he lost the Final of the Trials to Sonoda on a close decision. Sonoda, admittedly a fighter whom every other country would have been delighted to pick, has been named instead. Still the Japanese selection system is extraordinarily antiquated. Everyone knows how Fujii has never shone in domestic competitions as he has done in big international events—he did poorly in last year's selection contests for the World Championships but this still didn't stop him from putting on a dazzling exhibition in Vienna.

Fujii's squat build makes him very awkward to throw while his kouchigari/seionage combination often uproots the tall foreigners. Sonoda is better equipped to cope with Fujii's attacks and, therefore, Fujii apparently spent many wasteful periods of their final struggling to throw his fellow-countryman with tomoenage—without success. This is the second time that Fujii has missed the Olympics. In 1972 Shinobu Sekine, the reigning All Japan Champion, was, with reasonable grounds, pre-

ferred. He went on to take the gold medal in Munich but displayed little zest or originality.

Sonoda may well win in Montreal. But the Japanese decision has deprived them of their best middleweight, increased the chances that they will lose the gold medal and stopped us all from seeing the phenomenal Fujii win the supreme accolade in the sport.

This is not the end of the Japanese mistakes. Their best light-heavyweight, Ueguchi, who had been left out of the World Championships team, is also out of the Olympics squad. In April's All-Japan Championships he was a wazari up on Sumio Endo in the final but was finally countered. Nevertheless, it was still an excellent performance by Ueguchi. But in the final of the Weight Category Championships he lost to Ninomiya, who has managed to lose enough weight to slim down under 14st. 9 lbs. Ninomiya is therefore selected.

Again Ninomiya could well win the gold medal but the method of selection is far too stereotyped. Japan, of course, can afford to do this because they have so many outstanding fighters. And it will need a run of defeats to make them change this system. This is what happened in American athletics when for years their Final Olympic Try-Outs settled the squad. The first three in every event went to the Games irrespective of what occurred previously. There were famous instances of world record holders, unbeaten for three years, tripping over a hurdle, falling flat on their faces, getting up,

finishing fourth and still not being picked. Eventually and thankfully the system became more flexible.

I am not alone in my distress at the Japanese selection method. Isao Okano, the team trainer who had nothing to do with the method of picking the team (another mistake), is equally depressed. At least the Trials brought some of the best men available through to win places—at lightweight, Minami, surely favourite for the gold medal, and at heavyweight the magnificent Endo. The other heavyweight is the World Open Champion, Uemura, but I suspect that Endo will contest the Open category (the class above all which the Japanese long to win) and Uemura the heavyweight division.

It remains, inevitably, the strongest team in the Games but still not as formidable as they could have mounted. At the time of writing I have not had all the Russian team but Tass have announced that Novikov will be the heavyweight representative and Chochosvili in the Open division. Dvoynikov is rumoured to be moving up to the middleweight class, leaving Nevzorov in the welterweights—the class in which he took the world title last year.

The French have named a predictable team: Delvingt (lightweight), Vial (welterweight), Coche (middleweight), Rougé (light-heavyweight and Open) and Bertet (heavyweight). Coche and Rougé both stand excellent chances of winning medals, of course, and the Japanese must be concerned about both of them. Rougé as the reigning world champion and Coche as European Champion have the experience and ability to win Olympic titles. In addition, the French have prepared with a thoroughness which equals that of the Communist countries.

It would be foolhardy to predict that Britain will win as much deserv-

ved honour as they did in 1972 when three medals were won. As team manager, Ray Ross points out: "The standard internationally has improved considerably since 1972. Four years ago we were ahead of most nations in technique and contest expertise. Many of the Communist countries were only dabbling in judo then. But now they have become more serious. You only have to look back to last year's European Championships when their fighters won 20 out of the 24 medals available in the individual events".

Nevertheless the team which, with the exception of the lightweight division almost picked itself, looks capable of securing at least one medal between them. The team is:

Lightweight:

Constantine Alexander (London)
Reserve, Ray Neenan (London)

Welterweight:

Vass Morrison (London)
Reserve, Neil Adams
(London/Midlands)

Middleweight:

Brian Jacks (South)
Reserve, Bob Diebelius (London)

Light-Heavyweight:

Dave Starbrook (London)
Reserve, Paul Radburn
(Northern Home Counties)

Heavyweight:

Keith Remfry (London)
Reserve, Bob Bradley (South)

Open:

Keith Remfry (London)
Reserve, Dave Starbrook (London)

The one leading fighter, who was unavailable to be considered for selection was Solihull's Peter Donnelly, who damaged his leg seriously in Japan. He obviously stood a good chance of being picked for the Open division, particularly after his performance in last year's World Cham-



Ray Ross, British Team Manager.
Photograph by David Finch

pionships. However, one hopes that he will come again for the Moscow Games.

What particularly impressed me at June's training camp in Edinburgh was the willingness of a number of fighters, who knew that barring an accident they would not be going to

the Games, to give the probable team a really testing series of workouts. People like Paul Eales, Roy Inman and Dave Lawrence were happy to give up their holidays in order to help train the squad.

Many of the squad's fighters may now be retiring from serious competition but they wanted to go out with a flourish. And it is a tribute to the spirit of the squad that all these people felt compelled to go to Edinburgh. It was rather a sad moment when the week ended because so many of the members of the group, who, individually and collectively, have trained so hard, will be ending their careers and will never come together as a squad again. Any successes that Britain obtain in Montreal will be partly a reflection of the enthusiasm and ability of the reserves.

The team know this. "This has been the best training camp I have ever been on in my life", said Brian Jacks, who has seen a few. The support of the Army and Scottish squads was invaluable too. The advice of people like George Kerr and Colin MacIver and the facilities at Edinburgh Castle, where the squad stayed, and Meadowbank where Andy Bull is manager, helped make the week a memorable occasion for everyone who was there. And now for Montreal.

THE ARMY JUDO CHAMPIONSHIPS ALDERSHOT

Travis Wins Open Title

Once again the performance of Travis (3rd Dan) dominated the Army Championships. Travis won both the Light-heavyweight Title and the Open (Class B) Championships. His opponent in both finals was Millings who, although an ex-

perienced 1st Dan, was no match for Travis, who won by a throw from a pick-up in their first contest and a strangle in their 'Open' bout.

Another performance worthy of equal note was that of Connor, the

BAOR Champion who won the Welterweight and Open (Class A) Titles. Young proved a most worthy opponent in both these finals to earn the Mitchell Trophy for the best losing finalist. Their welterweight bout was so close that it went the full distance with Connor winning by only a yuko. However, in the Open final Connor managed to obtain a ju-ji-gatami to gain a full ten point win.

The UK Team Championship was won by Royal School of Artillery. They pulled off an excellent semi-final win (4 bouts to 1) against 4 Light Regiment RA. Full credit must go to their heavyweight, Donna-thorne (Green belt) who beat a 1st Dan. In the final they met an equally

strong team from the School of Electrical Engineering. Although the final result was close (3 points to 2), the School of Artillery won the first three bouts, so their victory was never in doubt.

The final of the Army Team Championships between the Royal School of Artillery and 1st Battalion The Parachute Regiment, who were the BAOR winners, proved to be a most fitting end to the two days. After four contests the score was two bouts each with the outcome depending on the last bout. In this Siddell brought off an excellent morote-seoinage, the best of the Championships, to make the Royal School of Artillery the new champions.

CLUB FORUM

THE BUDOKWAI—*Reg Oliver writes:* Welcome back from Japan the Budokwai members of the British Olympic Squad.

The Dan gradings adjudicated by Senior Examiners Brian Jacks and Malcolm Hopkinson in June were a great success as were the Kyu gradings officiated by Tony Sweeney and Malcolm Hopkinson.

The next Dan grading will be held on Sunday, 5th September and the next Kyu grading on Sunday, 12th September; both commencing at 2.30 p.m.

The Budokwai summer courses were always popular and well attended especially by judoka who because of travel, could not attend the club as regular members. This year's Budokwai summer course will be held from Monday 23rd to Friday 27th of August inclusive and will be conducted by Tony Reay (4th Dan) a Budokwai instructor. There will be guest appearances of Budokwai members of the British Olympic team and also other resident Budokwai

instructors. This course is for all Kyu grades and Mon grades of 15 years or over. The course is non-residential and there will be morning and afternoon sessions of two hours each incorporating throwing and ground-work techniques, continuation and counter techniques and there will also be kata instruction on traditional lines. There will be course talk-ins each day on various aspects included in the course programme. The course fee is £15. Book now and include a £5 deposit. Applications should be made direct to: The Manager, The Budokwai (Summer Course), 4 Gilston Road, South Kensington, London, S.W.10.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD JUDO CLUB. The new address of Hemel Hempstead Judo Club is: Dacorum Sports Centre, Park Road, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. The practice times are: **Sunday:** 10.0 to 12.0 — Juniors. **Monday:** 8.0 to 9.30 — Seniors. **Monday:** 7.0 to 8.0 — Juniors. **Thursday:** 8.30 to 10.0 — Seniors.

Continued on page 38



KENDO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Japanese dominate Worlds Best Kendoka

Report by DAVID FINCH

Since the inception of the World Kendo Championships at Tokyo in 1970, Japan has maintained its position as the World's foremost exponents of the sport.

At Bletchley Leisuredrome on Saturday, 17th April, 1976 they dominated 16 other nations with a fine display of kendo, as good as any seen at the two previous World Championships.

Britain reached the quarter-finals after coming second in their initial three-nation pool losing to the U.S.A.

by 3 contests to 2, but beating Malaya 4-1. In their next round Britain convincingly defeated Morocco by four contests to one and then lost to Canada 5-0 in the quarter-finals.

Top left: Y. Nakano, 8th Dan, of Japan, performs Kendo-no-Kata and demonstrates a shomen cut to K. Horiguchi, 9th Dan, also of Japan. *Right:* In the Japanese masters match K. Horigome, 8th Dan, attacks with a thrust to the throat of T. Morishima, 8th Dan.

Photographs by David Finch

In the semi-finals Japan devastated the U.S.A. 5-0 while Canada defeated the Republic of China 4-1.

The final again saw Japan sweep the opposition aside as it annihilated Canada 5-0.

The Championships had initially started at Crystal Palace on the previous Thursday when the representatives of the 21 nations present, met and staged a series of goodwill matches and displays of kendo and naginata. These superb exhibitions continued at appropriate times throughout the Championships.

The individual tournaments were staged on the Sunday at Bletchley and saw Japan triumph again, against strong opposition.

Our own European Champion, David Todd, reached the last 16

losing to 7th Dan Hosoda of Japan who finished third overall. The other members of the British team were knocked out of the Championships in the early rounds.

In the semi-finals it was Yokoo of Japan against 51-year-old 6th Dan C. T. Wu of the Republic of China and Ono of Japan versus Hosoda.

Yokoo defeated Wu and went on to fight 6th Dan Ono in the final which he won two points to one.

It is interesting to note that of all the Martial Arts to emerge from Japan that have reached world status, kendo is the only sport in which they remain so crushingly dominant. The next Championships may see a weakening of that grip.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF BRITISH KENDO ASSOCIATION

Results of Shodan Shiken (Dan assessment) held at Bletchley Leisure Centre, Buckinghamshire on 17th April, 1976 during the 3rd Kendo World Championships.

Dan	No. Entered	No. Passed	Nation Entering
1st	37	15 (GB10)	B, CH, GB, NL, S
2nd	25	14 (GB4)	B, CH, D, GB, F, I, MAL
3rd	17	11 (GB5)	B, F, GB, MAL, USA
4th	9	6 (GB4)	B, GB, F, I
5th	1	1 (GB1)	GB

British Kendo Association Members

To 1st Dan — T. Hood, D. Troman, K. H. Davies, B. Eslami, D. Stewart, S. Killick, A. D'Amico, J. McEwen, K. Povey, B. Hartley.

To 2nd Dan — T. Palmer, B. Kay, J. Bush, G. Dockway.

To 3rd Dan — J. King, E. Baboolal, P. Cronin, A. Oliver, M. Mulrooney.

To 4th Dan — M. Davies, T. Holt, E. Schofield, J. Howell.

To 5th Dan — A. P. Hopson.

ENGLISH OPEN JUDO CHAMPIONSHIP FOR MEN

In conjunction with London Area & N.H.C., at South Ruislip Leisure Centre on 18th September 1976. Write for entry form to: The Centre Organiser, Stonefield Way, Ruislip. Tel: 01-841 5614.

Shota Chochosvili—Russia

Photographs and Commentary

by DAVID FINCH

It was only by pure chance that Shota Chochosvili fought in the 1972 Olympics and won everlasting fame. He was originally ranked number two in Russia to Soloduchin who unfortunately was invalidated out of the Munich Games by an appendix operation.

Earlier that year 19-year-old Londoner, Angelo Parisi, had thrown a raw Chochosvili for ippon with tai otoshi (body drop) on his way to becoming European light-heavyweight champion at The Hague.

Five months later and after intense Russian preparation, 22-year-old Chochosvili threw the world light-heavyweight champion, Fumio Sasahara of Japan, for ippon. He then lost to Dave Starbrook on a split decision but returned through the repechage to take the Olympic gold medal and put Starbrook into the silver medal position.

The following year at Madrid, Chochosvili, an ex-sambo wrestler from Georgia, went heavyweight and won the open silver medal at the European Championships. Each year since, despite his outstanding all round ability, he has remained runner-up in the European open category to fellow Russians, Sergei Novikov and Givi Onashvili.

In 1974 he again won a silver medal when he came second to Muratani of Japan in the World University Championships.

It was only last year that Chochosvili was really unleashed and given

his head during the Vienna World Championships. Looking exceedingly fit and every bit a contender for the Open title, 6ft. 3in. Chochosvili barely raised a sweat as he carved his way through the opposition. Neither Japanese, Uemura nor silver medalist Ninomya were able to exercise the authority in their contests shown by Chochosvili. On meeting the 1973 World silver medalist, Haruki Uemura, the Russian student from Gori University towered above his adversary, took a left handed grip and immediately threw the Japanese with the most powerful migi sasae

Shota Chochosvili



Chochosvili defends against Tripet's attack, slips his left arm around the Frenchman's waist, picks him up and swivels through 270° to slam him on the mat for ippon.



tsurikomi ashi (left propping drawing ankle) technique seen at the tournament (refer to December issue of *Judo*, page 4 for photos). Unfortunately for the Georgian, Uemura reacted instantly by grabbing Chochosvili's left trouser leg and both men were lifted three feet from the mat by the throw's impetus. They crashed down heavily with the Russian being momentarily stunned but awarded a wazari. Uemura seized the opportunity and clamped on kami shiho gatame (upper four quarters) and held on for the 30 seconds while the dazed Chochosvili tapped the eventual gold medalist's back thinking that he had scored ippon instead of wazari.

Chochosvili fought his way back through the repechage and took a bronze medal. His favourite tech-

niques are sasae tsurikomi ashai hiza garuma, harai goshi and ouchi gari.

He is an exceedingly good prospect to repeat his earlier performance of an Olympic gold medal and will spearhead the Russian attack on the heavier weights at Montreal with Vladimir Nevzorov—current world light-middleweight champion—in the lighter weights.

Vladlem Andreyev—Russia's chief judo coach says. "We now have quite a number of high class judoists. The problem now is to turn them into extra-class judoists capable of vying with the Japanese on an equal footing".

The Japanese as a judo nation will endeavour never to be second to anybody. The Russians with fighters like Shota Chochosvili will certainly try to put them there.

AREA NEWS

BRITISH ARMY

SMI T.A.D. Hellicar

The BAOR Team and Individual Judo Championships 1976 were held at the BAOR School of Physical and Recreational Training on the 10-11th April and were generally reckoned to be one of the most successful meetings held so far.

There were 73 entries in the various categories and six teams contested in the Inter-Unit Competition. This resulted in a total of 207 contests over the weekend and produced some hard, spectacular and spirited Judo. The competition was so keen that only one of the defending champions managed to retain his title and that was Bdr CONNOR now of 40 Fd Regt who held on to his welterweight title.

1 Para won the Team Championship by defeating 2 Fd Regt by 3 contests to 2 with the result depending on the very last contest of the championship. This was a tremendous achievement by the Para's, whose team was reduced to 4 men due to an injury to their captain, Cpl HENDERSON and who were unable to field a substitute at this particular weight.

All the winners now go forward to the UK to contest and I have the feeling that more than a few of the titles will be coming back to BAOR.

Individual winners were:

SPECIAL KYU 'A' (under 11 stone)
8 KYU — orange belt and below:
Gnr ROY, 2 Fd Regt

SPECIAL KYU 'B' (over 11 stone)
8 KYU — orange belt and below:
Gnr HEERON, 40 Fd Regt

HEAVYWEIGHT
L/Cpl CRITCHLOW, 4 Gds Armd
Bde HQ & Sig Sqn

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT
Bdr McNAMARA, 2 Fd Regt

MIDDLEWEIGHT
S.S.I. JOHNSTON, APTC

WELTERWEIGHT
Bdr CONNOR, 40 Fd Regt

LIGHTWEIGHT
S/Sgt HULL, REME

OPEN 'A' (under 11 stone)
Bdr CONNOR, 40 Fd Regt

OPEN 'B' (over 11 stone)
S.S.I. JOHNSTON, APTC

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE AREA

April seems to have been an active month with more than the usual amount of judo events taking place (if that is humanly possible).

The Area "Grades" Championships took place at Haltonprice Sports Centre, Hull on Easter Monday. The event was reasonably well attended, except for the Kuy grade divisions, which had a disappointing few entries.

The winners were as follows:

Lower Kuy Grade — J. Jackson, Bridlington.

5th Kyu - 2nd Kyu — A. Gibbard, Doncaster.

1st Kyu — E. Ash, Bridlington.

1st Dan — T. Altoft, Grimsby.

2nd Dan — P. Becket, York R.I.

3rd Dan — D. Shelton, Doncaster.

The area men's training sessions at Huddersfield Sports Centre continue to be one of the more successful area events with spirit sweat and, in some cases, a large amount of skill in evidence.

The grade championships the day after the inter-area, should prove most useful to all who enter in both. The leaders will receive a medal or trophy and a fair percentage of

others will receive any points they have earned towards their future promotion. Fighting the same grade all the time makes every fight a points scoring contest. As a one-time 3rd Dan, I know how difficult this can be, you can fight countless numbers of contests and not have one chance to score points.

On 2nd May the Doncaster Reed Cup took place at Doncaster J.C. Things eventually worked out. Our thanks to Rita Turgoose and Dave Shelton who organised the event.

The results. 1st, Huddersfield A; 2nd, York R.I. A; 3rd, Wakefield A; York R.I. B.

The Area League is now under way with most clubs having fought two or three matches. One hopes this year will prove as successful as last year.

EASTERN AREA

R. I. Matthews

The Area Kyu Grade Championships were held on 23rd May at Bury St. Edmund's Sports Centre. Congratulations to all the new Area Champions and to the silver and bronze medalists.

The Area Team Championships were held at the same time. Congratulations to Norwich YMCA J.C., who emerged as the 1976 Gold medalists, for the second year running.

The Area schoolboy squad, numbering 39 players, enjoyed a multi-sports training session on 29th May at Bury St. Edmunds Sports Centre.

The highlight was the instruction given by George Glass, 4th Dan, National Coach, who showed some excellent tactical and technical moves, which should be of considerable benefit to the Area players. Another course is planned for later in the summer.

The Area senior squad has been preparing for the 1976 National Team Championships. Monthly training sessions have been held at Norwich YMCA J.C., under the Area Team Manager, Peter Parkinson, 3rd Dan. Autumn training sessions have been arranged for 5th September, 3rd October and 7th November, starting at 10.30 a.m.

On 21st May two Area schoolboy clubs, Peterborough and St. Neots, were invited to take part in the Bedford Championships. St. Neots won two of their three matches (beating Peterborough and Harpenden), while Peterborough only managed one win, over Harpenden, and narrowly lost to Bedford. Unfortunately neither club managed to reach the finals. Thanks to Bedford for a very enjoyable evening.

The next major Area events are: Senior Individual Championships: 12th September. Kyu Grade Team Championships: 12th September. Schoolboy Individual Championships: 3rd October.

Reminder: The monthly Area Newsletter can be obtained by sending a cheque/P.O. for £1.50, payable to "B.J.A. Eastern Area" (for 12 issues), to R. I. Matthews, 71 Benland, Bretton, Peterborough.

WELSH JUDO ASSOCIATION

There will be a B.J.A. Referees Course and Exam to be held at R.A.F. Sealand, Deeside. The Theory Course and Exam will be held on 17th/18th July, fee is £2 and the Practical Exam will be held on 1st August, fee £1.

Accommodation can be arranged for a small sum at R.A.F. Sealand.

Applications, with fees and state if accommodation is required for one or two nights, to: — Mr. J. Hulton, "Conway", Bryn Awelon, Mold, Clwyd.



OFFICIAL NOTES

Vic Davis

There must be something special about a club that has won four national team championships and produced three individual national champions in eight years. This is the achievement of Stratford-on-Avon Aiki Kwai, and it's success is directly due to the dedication of its founder, Brian Eustace, 4th Dan.

When Brian is not teaching Aikido, he is talking about it or studying it — he has a copy of nearly every

book ever published in this country on the art. He takes three two-hour coaching sessions every week in addition to three junior judo classes. As a top coach he is in demand all over the country.

Brian won his first coaching award seven years ago. In 1972, national coach Jim Elkin appointed him senior coach, and two years later he became regional coach responsible for the Midlands and Northern area. Now, with Jim concentrating on the job of BAA chairman, he has taken over as national coach.

He became interested in the Japanese martial arts after years as an all-round games player and athlete. He wanted to keep fit for his job as a policeman. Only later, when he became the official coach to the police forces of England and Wales, did he give serious thought to the



Brian Eustace (right) demonstrates the basic technique, shomen ate, with Ray Ziel, of Stratford.

(Reproduced by courtesy of the "Birmingham Evening Mail")

aspect of self-defence. The Home Office had decided that aikido, with its emphasis on restraining techniques, was the most suitable form of unarmed defence for the police, and, with Jim Elkin, Brian devised a simple repertoire for police instructors.

Judo had been one of his interests for some years, but in the early 1960's he began to practise aikido in the Uyeshiba style under a professional instructor in Birmingham. At that time, there were few aikido clubs. In 1965, his interest in Tomiki style began, mainly as a result of a visit by Senta Yamada, 6th Dan, and the formation of the Stratford club came the following year. Brian achieving 1st Dan under H. Kogure, 5th Dan, a year later.

It was not long before Stratford players made their first appearance in the national aikido championships, and in 1971 they were runners-up for the team title and took several individual prizes. The Midland domination of aikido competition, under Brian, now 2nd Dan, was on its way.

Remarkably, he has never placed undue emphasis on the competition side, in fact he does not believe that aikido should be the major competitive sport that judo and karate have become. His teams are well-trained and keen to uphold a fine record. They do well, not because they have been pressured to do so by their coach but because his methods bring out the best in themselves.

Visitors to Stratford may be surprised by the relaxed atmosphere, the absence of rigid discipline — the wide range in the ages of the players, from 16 to 63, with many in the over-30 group. For, though glad to see keen youngsters (his main ambition is to build up a strong nucleus of good, young players), Brian Eustace turns no-one away who is keen to learn and will conform. During his

term as national coach he hopes there will be an increase in the number of young 1st Dans.

He is proud that his own club has produced 12 Dan grades, and although some have moved away they are helping to spread aikido by organising new clubs in Redditch, Evesham and Belfast. The most significant boost to British aikido, he believes, was the visit of Tetsu Ehara, 5th Dan, two years ago, but there is still a gap to be filled by the production of an up-to-date technical manual. Perhaps, one day, when he has fewer commitments, Brian will fill that need.

Midland and Northern Championships

The Midland and Northern Aikido Championships, held at Scarborough on June 5th brought another win for Stratford-on-Avon, who took the team title for the fourth year running.

The outstanding player was Andrew Eustace, of Stratford, who won both the tanto randori and randori kyoghi events and was also in the winning ninin dori and open kata teams.

Results

TANTO RANDORI: 1 A. Eustace (Stratford); 2 Barry Vigrass (Sheffield).
RANDORI KYOGHI: 1 A. Eustace, 2 S. Honor (Stratford); 3 P. Clee (Stratford).

NININ DORI: 1 A. Eustace, C. Lloyd, P. Clee (Stratford); 2 Rhodes, Miller, S. Pudsey (Scarborough); 3 S. Honor, G. Thurman, M. Reynolds (Stratford).

KATA (restricted class): 1 Miss P. Spinks and R. Jones (Leeds); 2 S. Honor and C. Lloyd (Stratford); 3 Miller and Rhodes (Scarborough).
OPEN KATA: S. Honor and A. Eustace (Stratford); 2 Goodship and McGinnis (Newport Pagnell); 3 H. Harris and L. Hall (Evesham).

so did not tell them. However, I doubt whether it was a question of deviousness so much as incompetence. Incidentally, I would be very grateful if someone could explain to me how one can judge Ju No Kata against Katame No Kata even with a fully experienced team of Kata judges. We were also asked if those in the Nage No Kata category would perform two sets for the judges. Each couple were given *different* sets to each other. How one can judge Te Waza against Sutemi Waza is also a mystery to me.

Thinking that, like last year, these two sets were to eliminate some couples and leave about four couples for the finals where the full Kata would be performed, we went ahead, when each pair had done their two sets, we were horrified to hear them announcing the winners!

This must be the only National Kata Championship where nobody actually performs the full Nage No Kata or the full Katame No Kata! Is that not a fantastic situation? One of the most amazing things in the minds of experienced competitors and onlookers alike, was the judges' choice for the Gold medal in the Nage No Kata category.

Bearing in mind that there were only two sets being performed, let's look at their performance. The following are facts which can be confirmed by anyone who, with an appreciation of this particular Kata, was watching.

Tori, a well known contest player, wore a Black belt of proficiency which stood out in contrast to the Red and White belts of the other performers. Uke wore a Blue belt. I doubt whether this was gamesmanship, but rather the first example of the judges' lack of attention to detail. Under proper rules of competition one assumes that this would have invalidated their performance.

Then, Tori at one time staggered and nearly fell and later, during a standing throw, lost her grip on Uke who landed in a heap.

Uke frequently showed signs of indecision and omitted the 'resistance' to Tsurikomi Goshi. Tori's footwork while moving about had a peculiar toe pointing and ankle straightening before being placed down, which seemed more suited to the ballet than a contest area. If we are to believe in the relevance of Kata movement to Judo technique, it would be hard to believe that this player gained her well deserved reputation by moving around the contest area in this fashion.

This couple, under the eyes of experienced, knowledgeable judges would probably have been placed fourth, as there were at least three couples whose performance was free from *as many* faults.

If my remarks give offence to this pair, then I apologise, as my intent is not to 'knock' their display, but rather to emphasise the standard of judging. It is obvious that all couples endeavour to do their best on the day, and it is on that performance *only* that they should be judged. Can anyone disagree with that?

Prior to the competition we told the organisers that we would not be available (if we won), to attend the evening show. Perhaps that was where we went wrong? No thought is given by organisers to whether it is convenient from a practical or a financial aspect for winners to stay late to perform. If anyone does ever take the trouble to work out proper procedures for Kata competitions, I hope that one of the first things that is eliminated, is the obligation to perform at the evening show. I wonder if Brian Jacks is ever asked to repeat his performance in the eve-

ning after winning a contest! Because we had travelled up overnight without sleep and because we were so disgusted with this 'national', we decided to leave immediately and asked if we could take our medals with us. We were told to wait an hour for a presentation at 2 p.m. On the stroke of 2 p.m. they announced that ALL medals would be presented at the evening show! We left!

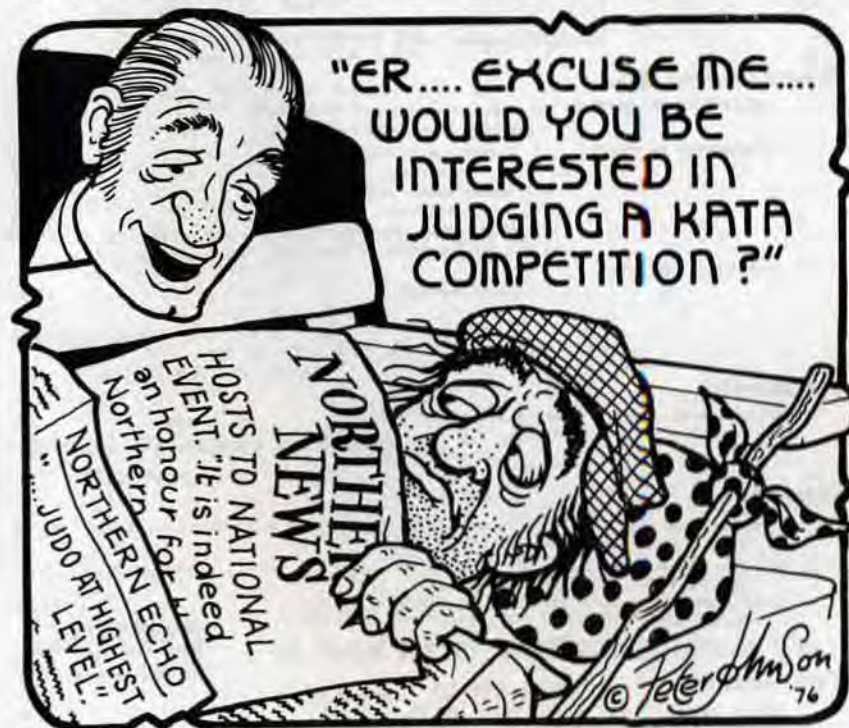
Another thing, why on earth does this Kata competition have to be tacked on to the Women's Team Event? Perhaps the BJA have forgotten that it ceased to be a 'Women's Only' event in 1974. We also now have evidence that if this competition is moved away from the National Sports Centre, there are less entries.

Mr. John Cornish has been appointed National Coach with a special interest in Kata. It is hoped that by next year, procedures will be laid

down and proper standards formulated for Kata events. If such a thing comes about, I hope that the judging will be based on factual, visual evidence of ability by the performers.

It is obviously too late to do anything about this extraordinary affair, with its inept organisation and unnecessary discourtesy by officials. One wonders sometimes, just who some officials think they are running things for — themselves or the fee paying members.

In conclusion, I and my Kata team would like to thank one of the 'stand-in' judges for her courtesy in taking the trouble to telephone me on the following evening to apologise for the shambles. She was kind enough to try to explain without any attempt to 'waffle' and was the first to admit that she was not a qualified Kata judge.



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White superior quality cotton Fundoshi 36" x 12"	each	.60
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White cotton 'Judo' shirts. Small 26, 28, 30 & 32.		.97
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Crimplene-Satin, in Navy-blue, Dark-red, Green and Black.		£1.62
With Judo characters silk-screened in Gold.		
Crimplene-Terylene, in Navy-blue, Dark-red, Green and Black.		£1.94
Carriage .9		

Holdall

Judo Holdall with waterproof compartment, double handles, zip top, in Black only.		£5.47
As above, but for Karate, in White.		£5.47
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Blazer Badges

Judo Blazer Badges embroidered new B.J.A. design, washable, Size 4" dia.		.97
" Blazer Badges embroidered new B.J.A. design, with Gold wire, Size 5" dia.		£2.81
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Karate Badges. Wado Ryu or Shotokan style. Approx. 3" dia.		.35

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Watch

Ladies Gold plated, 21 jewel incabloc sunrise dial 4 8 raised strikes (yellow with black), waterproof. Black strap — total length 7 1/2".		£19.62
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Jewellery

Cuff links with Judo motifs.		£2.19
Carriage .9		

Bound Volumes & Binders

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Visit by German Team

On May 7th to May 10th we were visited by 30 members of 1. Judo Verein Langen from Neu-Isenberg, Germany. This is the twin town of Hemel Hempstead and the people of this judo club are very good friends of ours. The tournament, which was held in the new sports centre at Hemel Hempstead and ended in a draw with 10 wins each, attracted quite a few spectators who seemed to enjoy the judo.

N.H.C. Area Championships

John Howe won a bronze medal (-63 kg.) in the Northern Home Counties area championships at South Ruislip sports centre on May 22nd. Coming top in his pool he then reached the semi-finals losing only to the eventual gold medalist.

LONDON JUDO SOCIETY—from *Eric Dominy*: By the time you read this we shall have opened at our new address and many of you will have seen that we were not making idle boasts about the size and potential of the club.

However, at the time of writing the building programme had not gone according to plan. A well known construction firm who had contracted to lay the main drainage for the showers and sanitary arrangements delayed us over a month holding up the other tradesmen. However, many members led by the wonderful club spirit shown by our Bill Barritt who seemed to be everywhere, formed a volunteer labour

force each weekend using their professional experience with painting, carpentry and others sweeping the large floor area. A "Sander" was put into operation and the beauty of the parquet floor was revealed. The time and expense saved by these members is unbelievable and has enabled us to open on July 1st as scheduled.

The first event for the new building was our own Junior Championships. This was immediately followed by the Surrey Boys' and Girls Championships and trials.

The next Examinations to be held are as follows:

Sunday, 8th August: 10.0 Junior Boys; 2.30 1st Kyus (Men and Women) for Shodan.

Seniors must produce a current B.J.A. licence. Examination fees are: Juniors 25p. L.J.S. Seniors 50p. Visitors £1.

Congratulations to Colin Fordham on winning the gold medal on the 15th May. To top this he went on to qualify for his Shodan the following day at the last Examination to be held at our old address. Well done, Colin.

London Karate Kai. Membership is still increasing and with our larger training area we hope for even more members.

Weapons Section. Mike Finn is now teaching Nun-chaku, Sai, Bo-jutsu. Details on application. Our new phone number is 01-622 0529.

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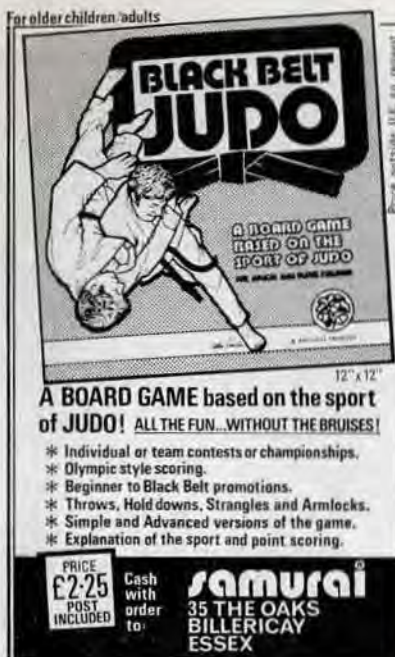
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