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# JUDO

INCORPORATING BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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Photograph by Dr. Ken Kingsbury, British Team Doctor.

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# IN AND AROUND THE DOJO

## WORKING TOWARDS A GOOD COMBINATION

by TONY REAY

Photographs by DAVID FINCH

A "combination" is the common word we use in judo when we refer to a particular type of throw being used when another type of throw has failed. This is known as *renrakuwaza* (combination techniques) and in general depends on the opponent defending strongly against the first throw but leaving himself weak in the opposite direction and vulnerable to the second throw. It is different to *rensokuwaza* (continuation technique) which is the continued employment of the same throw and therefore roughly in the same direction (depending, of course, on the opponent's defence action). Both, however, convey the same competitive attitude that any fighter who calls himself a fighter should have—and that is constant attack or continued attack.

The beginner will have by now deduced that a "combination" in judo parlance does not refer to strange old-fashioned underwear nor does it mean the complete combining of two throws together which could leave him in a terrible mess.

Every judo enthusiast who practices beyond the stage of beginner has a *tokui-waza* (favourite technique), this is the technique he is assumed to do the best or which he prefers to do because of its success rate. As one improves in standard the *tokui-waza* might change, or better still, one might develop other *tokui-waza* giving a greater range of

technique. Also, as one climbs the grade ladder it becomes obvious that one must develop a combination which will either lead from, or into the *tokui-waza*.

*Morote-seoi-nage* (shoulder throw using both hands grip) is one of the most popular and commonly used throws whether in your local *dojo* (training hall) or in international competition. Certain throws do however enjoy a period of greater popularity than other throws. When such a throw comes into vogue it is not long before people build up certain resistances and defences. It is then that we see a "shift" to another throw which in its turn enjoys a period of usage until defences are built up against it, and so we see constant change over the years though we might not always be aware of it. *Morote-seoi-nage* comes back with regular frequency however. It is a real winner and one of those rare throws which, provided *tori* (the person attempting the throw) has built into his overall technique a powerful and skilful opening because it is almost impossible for an opponent to twist out of, it invariably scores *ippon* (the maximum 10-point score which wins a contest outright).

In this article I will concentrate only on a suitable combination using *morote-seoi-nage* but the reader should realise that as his standard increases—so does the standard of







his opponents—and so more than one sequence of *renrakuwaza* needs to be linked with the *tokui-waza*. *Morote-seoi-nage* into *o-uchi-gari* (major inner reaping) is well worth perfecting and can be adapted vice-versa, i.e., *O-uchi-gari* into *morote-seoi-nage*.

As with all attacks one should never "telegraph". This applies more so today possibly than ever before. In my opinion top standard *judoka* are these days faster and more fit than before. Records are being broken in other sports all the time and in judo the more popular it becomes around the world, the more fierce the competition. If you "telegraph" it means that in the practice of your throw you have built into the opening of your attack a bad

habit which conveys to your opponent that an attack is imminent. It is therefore vital that you have a good experienced coach watching you through the early stages. It is harder to get rid of a bad habit than it is to learn a new skill and if the bad habit has become part of your overall action—it will always remain with you.

For the reasons so far given I favour the jump-in-with-both-feet-*morote-seoi-nage*. The step-in style is too casual and slow. All the best exponents of *morote-seoi-nage* I have seen virtually explode with the jump-in-with-both-feet entry. That is where we commence with the photographs, figure (1).

In the first set of photographs we see the complete action of *morote-seoi-nage*, figures (1), (2), (3) and (4). Obviously the photographs depict my own "style" which need not be copied as a "style".

I emphasise the word "style" because some people confuse this with the meaning behind the term "skill of technique". Actually the two go together but "style" is that special peculiarity of each individual in putting together the overall "skill". "Style" is one of the many attractions of judo which stamps all of us as individuals. "Style" keeps and will always keep the enthusiasts talking and helps to keep the sport "alive". I was often amazed with some of the Japanese old boy *Senseis* (teachers) who constantly attempted to "kill" or stifle any attempt of "style" or individuality. Other sports have suffered considerably from coaches with this attitude who attempt to stamp out the freedom of expression of the individual which I call "style". How often do we refer to Endo's "style" of *uchi-mata* (inner thigh throw) or Jack's style of *uchi-mata*? So different that one can almost be excused for thinking that they are different types of



throw — yet they are both quite excellent "styles" of *uchi-mata*.

Getting back to the point of the article. Look at figures (1) to (4) again and then imagine the opponent (or *uke* if you like) has blocked the *morote-seoi-nage* in its early stage. To even suggest "block" is anathema to some coaches who would say you should immediately "avoid" an attack and never "block". This I would suggest is the attitude of people who have never been on the end of the arms of a good strong opponent. They can't have experienced much contest or have been off the mat too long that they have forgotten what it is really like. One has only to analyse a piece of film of a good class contest frame by frame to see that (a) against a good fighter there is no time to avoid, and (b) the instinctive reaction to a powerful attack is to "block" or "kill" the initial impetus of the attack. THEN, and only then, will it be advisable to move into an avoiding action in order to frustrate any further or

continued attack. Certainly immediate avoidance is O.K. against a light attack which because of lack of power has little chance of success anyway.

In figure (5) *uke* has blocked the *morote-seoi-nage*. At this stage, *tori* realises that he must either recover his position—that is to jump back out of danger, or—to change his direction of attack into an area where his opponent has left himself weak. Well! The faint-hearted—or in some cases the wise man, might well take the former course. But why waste an opportunity when he has broken past the defending arms—why not press home the attack?

To achieve "full-house", *tori* changes direction (6) and drives *uke* to his (*uke's*) rear with *o-uchi-gari*. *O-uchi-gari* can be a very skilled throw and for perfection there are nice touches to be added to it. The beginner can do well to just think at first of the basic principle of this particular type which is; man can



hop forward on one foot easier than man can hop backwards on one foot. This basic principle can be seen being applied in figures (6) to (8). Dave Finch felt that the action warranted a sequence taken from another angle and from the side, figures (9), (10), (11) and (12).

In figure (12) Dave has given us a close-up because he feels that the beginner can so easily miss an important factor with *o-uchi-gari* and that is that *tori's* head should drive into the direction of the throw. Let's put it another way. Imagine you are a footballer heading the ball into the net. You would not (unless you played for Chelsea) even think of heading the ball with the top of the head. Every lad in this country knows from the time he first starts kicking a football that to head a ball you head with the forehead. So with *o-uchi-gari* apply the same rule—head the opponent's chest (on the side on which the leg is being hooked) and follow through even when the opponent has gone down. When he does go down make sure you pin his shoulders to the mat for if you just sit him down on his rear you will be lucky to get just a *waza-ari* (7-point throw).

By following *uke* through and pinning his shoulders back onto the mat *tori* can make sure of a chance of scoring *ippon*.

Once having perfected this "combination" try it the other way around, *o-uchi-gari* leading into *morote-seoi-nage* remembering that for the *morote* *tori* has to spin in deeper and be prepared to turn a full 180 degrees.

One word of advice. Do not treat the opening to a combination as a mere feint as a boxer can do. Judo fighters respond to the feel of the initial effort and not so much to what they can see. If the first attempt is not powerful enough an opponent will not respond knowing

that you are not really trying to throw him with that first attempt. The result can then be that he is well balanced for your second attempt and is waiting to counter you. The attitude should be: Really try to throw with the first attempt and only when he has stopped you effectively—only then—will it be the right time to swing into the second throw.

Another point, when practising with very low grades it is almost useless trying to use a combination simply because he will not have sufficient experience to know how he should react to the first attempt. I have seen many high grades come unstuck and bewildered by the fact that a combination has not worked on the much lower grade. In such a case one should go back to attempting basic single throws. With the case of the higher grades combinations become quite an art when dealing with their own grade standard. In time a good judoka will not only be able to defend against one line of attack but because of his vast experience he will be able to defend equally well to an attack in the opposite direction. Combinations are then employed at fine angles of attack and this opens up a whole new field particularly if continuation attacks are mixed in with the combinations. And that is the whole point of judo and why so many people have compared it to chess—there is no end to the moves and counter moves.

*Editor's note:* In this series we are hoping to offer readers of all grades and coaches of all standards material which they can draw from to work on in the dojo. "In and Around the Dojo" will feature an article in each issue in order to give readers something new and interesting. The next issue will describe a particularly useful *shime-waza* (strangle-technique). Don't wait for your Club Secretary to hand down the well-thumbed club copy—book your order for *Judo* magazine NOW!





# OLYMPIC REPORT MONTREAL 1976

by VIVIEN FRYER

*Photographs by Dr. Ken Kingsbury, British Team Doctor.*

## DAY ONE:

### THE HEAVYWEIGHTS

Certainly a seeding system as used in tennis would have benefited the proceedings. Many a medal was won because all the real opposition was in the other pool, and many a deserving judoka lost a chance at a bronze or silver simply because all the big guns were in his pool. Witness the first match of the entire competition, which was between Endo of Japan and Novikov of the U.S.S.R. Novikov won the contest on a decision after no score at all, and went on to meet Pak, the Giant of North Korea, who had a bye in the first round. Next, Remfry, who appeared to be in good form, met Zausz of Poland. He managed to get a yuko, which was fortunate as the Pole scored two kokas and incurred a keikoku, so Keith won. It was, all in all, a rather boring match, of the kind that causes Judo to be unpopular as a spectator sport. The heavyweights rarely do show a great deal of energetic technique, but the first two days of Olympic judo were among the most boring competitions I have ever witnessed. This might be because with only one mat, there is nothing to divert your attention during the long minutes of ground-work impasse situations, re-bandaging, tying belts, injuries, and so on. Remfry seemed to take a great deal of time trying to force an opportunity for groundwork instead of taking opportunities for throws which presented themselves. Undoubtedly he feels he has a greater

chance in newaza, but it results in a less interesting spectacle, and the inevitability of warnings for passivity. Every technique attempted seemed to be too close to the edge of the mat so that entries into groundwork were stopped by the referee anyway. At time, the audience stifled a yawn, and the British among them breathed a sigh of relief.

A surprising win in Pool B was Kote of Senegal, one of the few African countries which did not withdraw from the Olympic Games. He beat Schaedler of Lichtenstein in a fairly lively fight during which the African had the upper hand most of the time, and scored a yuko for osoto to win the match. Novak of Czechoslovakia won a decision over Airio of Finland with a yuko for uchimata.

In Round 2, Novikov beat Pak in a contest so slow that it was hard to believe that we were not watching a slow-motion film. Each got a shido for passivity and then Novikov scored a koka with the Russian's favourite ura-nage to show they were both still alive. Pak is not at all in Novikov's class, and it was surprising that the Soviet player took so long to win.

Kovacevic, Yugoslavia's rising star, defeated Chandri of Puerto Rico and then Remfry was back in the limelight, this time against Petrounov of Bulgaria. Again, a far



Keith Remfry attempts a strangle on his way to beating his Korean opponent and winning a Montreal Olympic Silver medal.

from sparkling performance, but the Remf managed a yuko for taniotoshi close to the end of time, to win the match. Remi Berthet of France lost his first contest against Petrovsky of Hungary, who scored a koka with sotomakikomi. In Pool B, Neureuther of West Germany beat Kote of Senegal with ushiro kesagatame in less than a minute and a half. Jalaa of Mongolia won his match against Daminelli of Italy by default, and Novak of Czechoslovakia went down to Wallas of Austria on a koka for ashiguruma. Jaime Felipe of the Netherlands Antilles, who Colin McIver tells me has been training in Scotland recently, was nonetheless defeated by Allen Coage of the U.S.A. who scored ippon with a taiotoshi. The large U.S. contingent in the audience were delighted to see Coage

win, especially since he dispelled the boredom with a throw.

Novikov and Remfry now met. Novikov knocked Remfry down with osotogari for a yuko, and also scored a koka. Remfry put up a good fight but did waste a lot of time close to the edge of the mat where any throw was likely to be out of the area, and in attempting groundwork, maddeningly slow as you watch the last seconds slip away, and with them the medals. It was unfortunate, especially since at times it really looked as if Remfry could have beaten the Russian—and that is true; I am not a chauvinist.

Neureuther beat Jalaa with ippon for uchimata, and Coage got a yuko for taniotoshi to win against Wallas of Austria. The contest between



Neureuther and Coage was perhaps the most interesting of the afternoon. The American got a koka early on, and it was undoubtedly his undoing. He guarded his advantage a little too carefully, and was ahead until seconds before the end, when the German drew level with a koka. Of course he had been attacking a great deal to try to overcome his disadvantage, so when time came, there was a split decision, and the more aggressive German won the referee's casting vote, and the American lost his chance at the silver. However, he faced a very easy repachage pool.

In the evening, the repechage started with Endo against Pak. The enormous difference in height of the little squat Japanese against the towering Korean lent an air of comedy to the fight, making it hard to take it seriously. From the lofty heights of the seating in the Velodrome (lovely for cycling but not so good for watching judo as you have a bird's eye view from even the best seats) it looked like a couple of children petulantly playing for holds. One unspectacular koka for a kouchigari from Endo won him the decision. Kote of Senegal put up an excellent fight against Jalaa of Mongolia. It should be remembered that in the last Olympics, Mongolia won a silver medal, so they are not to be underestimated. (The medal was later taken away because of a positive dope test). Jalaa eventually won with a kesagatame for ippon. Endo now met Kovacevic. The Yugoslav put up a good fight against the far more experienced Japanese—to the point that at time there was no score and the decision was split. Referee Roger Bascobert of France gave the decision to the Japanese.

Next Coage scored a yuko early on against Jalaa, quickly followed by a waza-ari which he converted to ippon with kesagatame, for the bronze medal.

Remfry met Endo in a very good match. Endo scored two yukos, and Remfry gave it all he had in trying to even up the score. However, I must say that Endo's win was fairly deserved, and to him, the other bronze.

Now Novikov met Neureuther in the final. Novikov never had any trouble with the German who was thrown for a full point with a faultless osotogari in one minute nineteen seconds, which had the audience applauding with heartfelt enthusiasm. And so, the first Gold to the U.S.S.R., and the silver to West Germany. Okano's prediction of six golds to Japan was already on the skids.

## DAY TWO: THE LIGHT-HEAVYWEIGHTS

The first fight of the afternoon preliminary rounds was Canadian Joe Meli of Alberta, supported vociferously in his contest against Arthur Schnabel of West Germany. The German defeated him with ippon in just over four minutes with kuzure-kamishihigatame.

An interesting sidelight I can report to you on this, having been living in Canada for a while now, is the extraordinary manner in which the Canadian Judo mandarins went about selecting the team. Chris Preobrazenski who had been representing his country in Judo in the light-heavyweight division for several years, and recently picked up a couple of medals at the Pan-American Games in Mexico, had been assumed to be the Olympic entry. He went with a Canadian team to train in Japan for six weeks in the spring, at considerable expense to the taxpayer, and represented Canada at the Tournoi de Paris. He was injured, training, a few months ago and was in hospital for a while. He had been out only a few days when he was told that if he did not compete in the Canadian

National Team Championships, there was no chance of his being on the team. Naturally, despite being warned not to by doctors, he entered, and in a weakened condition, was defeated. Meli won the title. Preobrazenski had not been too worried, assuming that the team

for the Olympics would be selected after a special training session. However, this was not to be. Overriding the views of Hiroshi Nakamura, the Coach, and with flagrant disregard for the best interests of the country, Meli was put in the Olympic Team. I think his performance was a just



Brian Jacks attacks Obadov of Yugoslavia with left uchi-mata.



answer to the Canadian selection committee. I doubt very much whether Preobrazenski could have got anywhere with Starbrook, whom he would have met in the third round, but nonetheless, he had a far greater chance than Meli.

It is interesting to note that the Japanese did exactly the same thing this time. They put in their team the winners of the All Japan weight category Championships, regardless of any other criteria. Perhaps their overall performance has taught them something too; national winners are not always the right people to put in international competitions.

All other competitors in Pool A had byes. In Pool B there was also only one match. Van der Walle of Belgium defeated Zuvella of Yugoslavia with a yuko for tai-otoshi, as well as two kokas. Zuvella scored one koka.

José Ibanez of Cuba lost to Carlos Pacheco of Brazil after being constantly warned against passivity. It was a disappointing match. Jean-Luc Rougé of France, the reigning World Champion, next met José Coravaca of Nicaragua and disposed of him in 38 seconds with haraigoshi. Zouagh of Morocco failed to show up for his match against Starbrook, so the next match was Jorge Portelli of Argentina against Tsendaivsh of Mongolia which the Argentinian won with mune-gatame. Next Schnabel of West Germany beat Laszlo Ipacs of Hungary on a split decision. Lobe of the Cameroons not turning up gave the win to Djiba of Senegal, and Ramaz Harshiladze of the U.S.S.R. had a similar walk on part in his scheduled match with Sankies of Guyana. Jeaki Cho of South Korea won with osotogari against Maduro of the Netherlands Antilles, in 27 seconds!

In Pool B Dietmar Lorenz of East Germany defeated Van Der Valle of

Belgium with hadaka-jime — not seen too often in competition. Next Antoni Reiter of Poland won his match against Paul Buechel of Lichtenstein with udehishigi-juji-gatame, also a technique not often seen.

Ninomiya now took a mere 42 seconds including the 30 seconds holding time, to beat Salem of Kuwait with tateshihogatame. What a long way to come for twelve seconds of competition! A competitor from North Korea with the unusual name of Ung Nam An beat Atanasov of Bulgaria with osotogari for a koka. Roethlisberger of Switzerland defeated Benitez of Puerto Rico with yokoshihogatame for ippon. Tommy Martin of the U.S.A. took only 22 seconds to throw Thorsteinsson of Iceland with morote-seoi-nage—to great applause. Johan Schaltz of Sweden, whose Coach of course is our own Tony MacConnell, defeated Pollak of Austria with osotogari, and Comrie of Panama scored a yuko with ouchigari against Engkian of Singapore to end the round.

Jean-Luc Rougé only managed a yuko for a haraimakikomi against Pacheco of Brazil. Starbrook finished his match against Portelli of Argentina in one minute eighteen seconds with tai-otoshi for ippon. Schnabel of Germany lost to Djiba of Senegal on a keikoku. Harshiladze scored a yuko for a yokotoshi against Cho of South Korea. In Pool B Lorenz beat Reiter with a waza-ari for a ko-uchigari. Ninomiya took only one minute to get a tateshihogatame (again) to defeat An of North Korea. Roethlisberger of Switzerland beat Martin of the U.S.A. with a yuko for a tani-otoshi, and Schaltz of Sweden beat Comrie of Panama on a keikoku.

In round 4, Pool A, Rougé met his arch-rival Starbrook. This was the meeting many had awaited; in the World Championships even the

French admitted that Starbrook had done all the hard work for Rougé to walk off with the title, and vengeance was at hand.

Rougé was warned for passivity early on in the match by American referee Kim. Then Starbrook got him in a holding, but it was broken. Starbrook made a lot of attacks, and at one point Rougé pleaded injury and the French doctor was summoned to the mat. The end of the match came with no score, and the judges gave a split decision. We held our collective breath and amid cheers from British supporters and whistles of derision from the French, Kim gave the decision to Starbrook. Ray Ross was jumping up and down at the mat-edge; Dr. Kingsbury wore a wide smile.

Predictably Harshiladze defeated Djiba, with osotogake in 1½ minutes. In Pool B, Ninomiya won a waza-ari against Lorenz for an osotogari, and Roethlisberger of Switzerland beat Schaltz of Sweden with a koka for a te-guruma.

Tension mounted as Starbrook came back to the mat to face Harshiladze. Although the U.S.S.R. team are mostly quite keen on newaza, Harshiladze was too careful to get entangled with Starbrook on the mat; Dave made several excursions into newaza, but his adversary was quick to get back on his feet. Harshiladze scored a koka and then a waza-ari; Starbrook attacked again and again, but the Soviet was very defensive by now, and the attacks led nowhere. At time the decision, of course, was for the U.S.S.R.; we could only hope for a bronze.

Ninomiya took less than a minute to score a submission with okuri-eri-jime on Roethlisberger. It is interesting to note that both Ninomiya and Sonoda in the Middleweight are pushing 30 years old, which in the

Japanese team is unusually old. Ninomiya was in fine form.

The evening repechage matches were over quickly; there had been so many wins by default. Cho of South Korea defeated Djiba with kesagatame. An of North Korea beat Salem of Kuwait in 52 seconds with osotogari. Starbrook looked a bit doubtful at the start of his match against Cho, who took the initiative in newaza with yokoshihogatame. However, Starbrook got out of that very neatly and after a couple of attempts threw the Korean with taiotoshi for ippon after just under two minutes. The Bronze medal was ours.

In the other pool, Lorenz beat An with tsumi-goshi with half a minute to spare; he scored a waza-ari early on, after which a long-drawn-out newaza session in which the German was mostly on top. Despite having the advantage, he did not intend to incur a penalty for passivity; he attacked frequently, and scored a koka. Then came the text-book throw which put the Korean flat on his back for ippon.

It was a great surprise to the old hands in the audience when Lorenz lost his last repechage fight, losing on a scoreless decision to Roethlisberger of Switzerland. It was the most interesting match of the day, filled with action on both sides, considering which it was surprising that there was no score at all. It was a pleasure to see a new face on the podium when tiny Switzerland won their second Olympic Judo medal.

The final, a ten-minute contest, was between Harshiladze and Ninomiya. Ninomiya scored a yuko for osotogari. Harshiladze was warned twice for passivity, the Japanese once. Then they were both warned again until the Soviet had a keikoku and Ninomiya had a chui. At that point they really got moving. Nino-



miya was just applying a strangle when time came, and in view of the penalties, the gold went to the Japanese.

So, Japan's first gold; to the U.S.S.R., the silver; Starbrook added an Olympic Bronze to the Silver he won at Munich, and Switzerland took their second Olympic medal in Judo. I was glad to see Dave get his medal, but as I made my way home, I began to wonder if perhaps these Olympics would cure me of judo-mania, finally. I was finding it just a little boring.

### DAY THREE:

#### THE MIDDLEWEIGHTS

The Middleweight preliminary matches started well with an ippon for Motta of Brazil against Doye of Senegal with a tai-otoshi in just over two minutes; then followed Brian Jacks who threw Muzfer of Kuwait in a minute and three-quarters with tai-otoshi also. Next Obadov of Yugoslavia got a koka against Ultsch of East Germany. Adamczyk of Poland scored ippon with morote-seoi-nage against Guldemont of Belgium, and de Frutos of Spain got the decision against Gudjohnsen of Iceland with a yuko for seoi-nage. Huber of Venezuela won against Kaiser of Lichtenstein with ippon for ashiguruma in 27 seconds! Then Elmont of Surinam went down to Dvoynikov of the U.S.S.R. on kuzure-kamishiho-gatame. Yesilnur of Turkey scored ippon in ten seconds against Santos of Puerto Rico, the fastest match to date, with uchimata.

In Pool B, Endre Kiss of Hungary dashed local hopes to the ground along with Rainer Fisher of Canada, who withdrew because of injury. Park of South Korea won by default when Strom of Sweden failed to turn up. Petkov of Bulgaria, adversary drawn against Jong of

North Korea, also failed to show. Baganey of Australia lasted just one and a half minutes against Isamu Sonoda of Japan who downed him with ouchigari for a point. Fred Marhenke of West Germany scored a koka with kosotogake to win his match against Batsuh of Mongolia. A Moroccan rejoicing in the name El Aribi El Jamali was not competing, due to the withdrawal of his country and was probably not sorry when he saw the draw, for he would have met Jean-Paul Coche, who won by default. Jatowtt of Australia won by default against Tchagou of the Cameroons, and Jonston-Ono of the U.S.A. won by default against Dara of Mali.

In Round 2, Pool A, Jacks scored a yuko for a seoi-nage, which gave him the decision at time against Motta of Brazil. Slavko Obadov of Yugoslavia next met Adamczyk of Poland, and it might have been an exciting match, had not Obadov cut it very short, scoring ippon with kosotogake in 27 seconds. A yuko for morote-seoi-nage won the next match for Frutos of Spain against Huber of Venezuela.

Dvoynikov used kata-guruma to defeat Yesilnur of Turkey, with a point.

In Pool B, Kiss was forced to retire, injured, from his match against Park of South Korea, half way through the contest. North Korea's Jong was beaten on a waza-ari for uchi-mata by Sonoda. The next contest between West Germany's Marhenke and Coche of France drew a great deal of loud audience participation. At time the only score was a koka for the German and with Sonoda in the offing, it looked like the end of the road for Coche—a great surprise, as he must surely be one of the best judoka in competition today. Later on, speaking with

*Continued on page 26*



## THE BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION

### Newsletter Supplement

## AS I WAS SAYING . . . . .

By TONY REAY

Elsewhere in this issue we have excellent coverage of the Judo events at the Montreal Olympic Games. John Goodbody sums up the tremendous efforts of our fighters who, against ever-increasing fierce competition, have collected for Britain in two successive Olympiads the total sum of five medals with eleven fighters in all, involved. Vivian Fryer gives us a complete run-down of each day's events.

Much has been written in the national press but I think Tom Crowley sums it all up for us in *Judo* in his letter in the Correspondence column. Television, however, was again poor when we consider the coverage of other sports as R. Whittaker points out also in the Correspondence column.

Much has been written also about most of our team intending to retire from competition although to date only Ray Ross has informed the Executive Committee that he does not intend to re-apply for the post of Olympic Team Manager. This job has now grown to such proportions

that I cannot see anybody of the right calibre being able or prepared to do the job in an honorary capacity as Ray Ross has been doing. It remains to be seen how the Executive Committee will sort this problem out. Indeed, how they will tackle the overall question of team managers for the future.

The final medals table for the 1976 Olympic Games was as follows:

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Japan	3	1	1
U.S.S.R.	2	2	1
Cuba	1		
South Korea		1	2
Great Britain		1	1
West Germany		1	
Poland			1
Italy			1
Hungary			1
U.S.A.			1
Switzerland			1
Yugoslavia			1
France			1

The International Judo Federation Congress was also held at Montreal.



Phyllis Elliott was the Association's official representative and our second delegate was Richard Palmer, Deputy General Secretary of the British Olympic Association. Phyllis has written a very good factual report about all the Judo contests that took place and in due course she will also complete a report of the Congress.

I understand that the Congress was as concerned as most observers seem to have been with regard to the low scores of many of the contests. They have made some changes which will effect many competitors and officials. From what I have heard many of the contests were very boring in the first two days and did very little to enhance Judo competition in the eyes of the general public. There has been much criticism that none of us should ignore if we want to see Judo develop.

This was not a pleasant competition for the competitors themselves with cramped accommodation, poor facilities and very tight security. Thanks to the Squad Fund we were able to alleviate the pressures a little for our lads. The British Olympic Association daily allowance was really a joke at £1 per day. This is equivalent to 1.70 Canadian dollars and when one considers that a glass of refreshment in the village cost 1.20 dollars plus a mandatory tip of 25 cents, it is easy to see how far that allowance went.

The British Judo team, however, impressed everyone in their preparation and many sportswriters and non-Judo officials have commented on their hard training. The Team Manager and the Team Doctor, Ken Kingsbury brought each fighter to the peak of fitness for the day of their competition.

#### NEW WEIGHT CATEGORIES

Coming into effect on the 1st January, 1977, will be the new I.J.F. weight categories for future world

championships and as the European Judo Union presented most of the proposals that were adopted at the Montreal Congress, presumably they will soon follow suit. There are now seven weights and the open category has been eliminated. Only one person per country will compete at each weight. The Congress did not give titles for each weight which I think is a pity as I find that most people both in and outside of the sport like to identify a weight by a name or title. I will therefore take the liberty of giving a title to the weights as listed below for I am sure people will be ringing Head Office asking "What is a middleweight now?" or "What is a lightweight now?" Competitors have to watch their weight and train accordingly and with many the re-adjustment will take some time. That is why I thought you should know about these changes as soon as possible for I am sure the British Judo Association will adopt these weights very soon as there will be no point in working with two sets of weights. The new weights are as follows but please remember the names given to them are not official names:

*Featherweight*—Up to and including 60 kilos.

*Bantamweight*—Over 60 kilos and including 65 kilos.

*Lightweight*—Over 65 kilos and including 71 kilos.

*Light-middleweight*—Over 71 kilos and including 78 kilos.

*Middleweight*—Over 78 kilos and including 86 kilos.

*Light-heavyweight*—Over 86 kilos and including 95 kilos.

*Heavyweight*—Over 95 kilos.

#### INTERNATIONAL JUDO CALENDAR

The 1976 Junior World Championships will take place in Madrid on the 18th/19th December. I understand that the General Secretary has been given the task of finding spon-

sorship to send a team to represent Britain and this he has been able to do successfully. I know only too well the difficulties he must have had for I remember being given the same task to deal with in just a few weeks last year. This prompts me to point out that for two years now every international event for men to which Britain has sent a team has been covered fully by grant aid and sponsorship. I felt this should be mentioned as some people might suggest that our present financial difficulties are due to our heavy international commitments. The 1978 World Junior Championships will be held in Venezuela.

#### FIRST NATIONAL REFERENDUM

Readers will remember that earlier this year we held a referendum and forms were sent to all registered clubs asking whether or not theory should be re-introduced into the senior and junior promotion syllabus. I presented a report of the returns to delegates at the A.G.M., but forms continued to be returned to Head Office in the following weeks. In all, 283 club secretaries or chairmen completed the referendum forms which gives 35.4% return of all the registered clubs at the time. Taking into account the cost of postage and other problems this can be considered a good response and shows that many Judo people were concerned about the subject. To the first question, "Should theory be re-introduced to the promotion syllabus (both senior and junior)?" 260 were marked "Yes!". Those who replied "No!" to this question number 23. Those who replied "Yes!" to the first question were further asked if theory should be introduced as (a) compulsory and part of the promotion examination, or (b) separate to the examination and therefore voluntary. Of the 260 who had marked "Yes!" to the first question 220 indicated that theory should be introduced as compulsory and part

of the promotion examination. The remaining 40 qualified their "No!" with varying ideas. For example three said that theory should be compulsory for seniors and voluntary for juniors. Another suggested that for promotions into the Dan grades theory should be compulsory and for Kyu grades theory should be voluntary. Another club suggested that both (a) and (b) should be left to the discretion of the Examiners. On one of the forms that said theory should be compulsory was added the comment, "... but not kata which should be separate and voluntary."

The main result of the referendum therefore was a resounding "Yes!" for theory to be re-introduced to the syllabus both for seniors and juniors and that such theory should be compulsory. It is now left to the Executive Committee to decide whether or not to introduce again theory into the syllabus and if so, the date of introduction. I am sure the powers that be will be guided by this very valuable referendum.

Letters accompanied 28 of the papers returned and as has been indicated many of the forms included useful comments. In almost all of the correspondence the writers indicated that they appreciated the feeling of involvement that the Referendum had engendered. One however stated that the issue should be decided by the Executive Committee whose job it was to govern. A number wrote that such similar referenda with regard to the broad policy of the Association would be a good thing for the Association and would create greater harmony. Much of the correspondence contained a number of good ideas and further indicated that club officials felt that the matter under review was very important to their clubs. All the correspondence will be made available to the Executive Committee when they come to decide upon the issue should they so desire it. In



the meantime on behalf of the Association I wish to take this opportunity to thank all those club officials who made the effort to join in the exercise. Such interest has shown that Judo is thriving very much at club level.

### ORGANISATION SUB-COMMITTEE

This Sub-Committee has met on two occasions since it was formed as a result of an A.G.M. decision earlier this year. They met in August and September and will now meet every month until a final report can be submitted for consideration to the Executive Committee and the next Annual General Meeting.

The committee have considered papers from its own membership but very few ideas or suggestions have been received from Areas, Member Clubs and individual members. If you have any suggestion at all for the improved organisation of the British Judo Association please write immediately to the committee Chairman. The closing date for contributions is the 10th November. Address your correspondence to Head Office. After that date proposals for the basic structure of the Association will be formulated.

### REGISTRATION FEES

Club Secretaries are reminded that registration fees for Member Clubs will soon be due for the period 1st January to 31st December, 1977.

### COACHING SERVICES

Much work has been going on in the Summer months preparing the ground for the coaching services which will be available to clubs in the years to come. It is the Association's policy to make available the same facilities throughout the country and at reasonable rates that every club can afford. In the wake of the Olympics there will be new members joining your club in the

next few months. Peter Barnett, the National Coaches' Co-Ordinator has been making preparations and a very important meeting involving all the National Coaches was held recently. He has also been in touch with all the coaches listed in the Scheme and the Secretary responsible for Coaching at Head Office can put a Local Education Authority in touch with the nearest one.

National Coaches are available to any club requiring their services and if your club could do with a session or course you should get in touch with Head Office or Peter Barnett himself. It would help if you could indicate exactly the type of service you want in order that you can avail yourself of the services of the best person available. Here is a list of the groups that a National Coach will cater for:

#### Competition training:—

- Seniors
- 18 to 21 year olds
- 16 to 18 year olds
- Schoolchildren

#### Coaching and other type of courses:—

- Club Coach
- County Coach
- Senior Coach
- Kata
- Teachers training course
- Fitness training course
- Club visit

For your further information here is also a list of the National Coaches so far appointed:

A. J. Sweeney, R. Barraclough, Miss E. A. Viney, C. Baker-Brown, M. Leigh, J. B. Coldwell, P. Brown (Royal Marines), S. R. Hoare, George Glass, R. Inman, J. P. Cornish, P. Barnett.

**Note:** Ray Ross is not included in this list but is, in fact, an Honorary National Coach. However he has indicated that he wishes to rest from all Judo activities for one year apart from his usual club practice, that is.

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Will all members please note that Individual Membership Certificates are now issued from ASSOCIATION HEAD OFFICE. All applications, both initial and renewal for senior and junior Individual Membership should be sent direct to: The British Judo Association, 70 Brompton Road, London, SW3 1DR. Cheques or Money Orders should be made payable to the "BRITISH JUDO ASSOCIATION"

Supplies of the new application form are available from Head Office upon request. As a reminder the fee at present for an initial application for seniors is £2.30 for which the applicant will receive a membership certificate and record book by return of post and a renewal membership certificate costs £2.00. Junior certificates cost £1.

### FORTHCOMING NATIONAL EVENTS

**Schoolboys' Individual Championships.** This event will take place over two days on the weekend of 16/17th October. All weights up to 50 kilos will be competing on the Saturday and the heavier weights from 50 to over 70 kilos will be competing on the Sunday. Spectator tickets are available from Head Office at £1 per day for adults and 50p per day for schoolchildren. The venue is the

Crystal Palace National Sports Centre and contests will commence each day at 10.00 a.m. continuing throughout the day to the finals in the evenings. Come along and see Britain's future stars in action.

**Women's Open Individual Championships.** This popular event with overseas visitors will take place at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre on 23rd October and will commence at 10.00 a.m. with the finals in the evening of the same day. Members of Britain's 1976 Olympic Team have been invited to attend and a Home International match between England and Scotland teams of Under-20 young men will be held during the break before the Women's finals. Spectator tickets are available from Head Office at £1 for adults and 50p for schoolchildren.

**National Promotion Examination.** On the day after the Women's Open a National Promotion Examination will be held at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre for senior men and also for senior women of 1st Kyu and above. Booking-in will commence at 9.00 a.m. and the contests will commence at 10.00 a.m. Candidates should make sure that their Individual Membership is up-to-date. If it is not—send your application immediately to Head Office in good time before the examination.

### NEXT MONTH

As a result of the recent B.J.A. referendum the Executive Committee have decided to re-introduce theory into the Promotion Examination Syllabus for Senior Men and Women. Read the details in this magazine next month. How Keith Remfry won his Silver Medal is included in the second part of Vivien Fryers 'Olympic Report' and a further article in the new series 'In and Around the Dojo' is also featured together with all the news and latest reports. Order your copy of *Judo Magazine* now!



# BRITISH JUDO'S GREATEST

by John Goodbody

They retired—the greatest judo team that Britain has ever had—doing exactly what they have done for the last six years: winning medals against the fiercest fighters in the world. As the Games of the 21st Modern Olympiad ended in Montreal they said farewell to the sport that they have graced for so long with another epic exhibition of skill, strength, stamina and indomitable spirit. After the successes of recent years it did not seem possible that this squad would be able to keep up the momentum for a final triumph. But they did. You would have thought that they were going out for their first European Junior Championships by the look of zestful determination in their approach—a team hungry for success rather than one sated with medals and glory. Remfry's silver medal, Starbrook's bronze and two fifth places were more than we could have justifiably hoped for.

To gauge the extent of this team's performance let us compare it with that of France. About 200,000 people are registered members of the French Judo Federation (according to *L'Equipe*, the authoritative daily sports newspaper, judo is the fourth most popular sport in France). This plus hefty government support provides the finance to maintain the National Squad for long periods in Paris. Whereas we get the occasional weekend at Crystal Palace they get months together in Paris. In addition their individual competitors get substantial subsidies for their own training. In Montreal they were able to afford to take nine reserves including, incidentally, Angelo Parisi

whom they housed in a flat in the centre of the city. These reserves were specifically there to help train the actual team. Therefore, whereas Dave Starbrook had no British light-heavyweight to practice with, Jean-Luc Rougé, his great rival, was able to train with Angelo.

Moreover, France are certainly not short of talent at the moment. They won the European Team title from the Russians in Kiev this year. In Rougé they have the reigning world champion and Jean-Paul Coche the 1976 European middleweight champion. But despite all these advantages they still won fewer medals and had less all-round success than Britain. And what, I think, is more important they didn't have the attractive approach of the British team.

This was not an event that can have won many new admirers to the sport. Britain were one of the few nations who had fighters prepared to throw anyone. In addition, Dave Starbrook was not alone when he observed that these didn't feel like the Olympics because the nearest competitors were about 60 yards away from the mat edge and separated from the action by a cycling track and rows of officials. Consequently there was often little atmosphere. This was a pity because there were some fascinating contests although often spoilt by a lack of action. From an international point of view the Olympics resolved itself into a tussle between the Japanese and the Russians selections. It is true that they didn't always meet in the final—although on three occasions

they did—but that was because of the vagaries of the draw. It really is about time that the International Judo Federation did something about introducing some sort of seeding because often the best fighters don't get the medals. I understand that they are considering changing the system of competition. But as it is there are a few fighters who have demonstrably been deprived of Olympic and World Championship medals.

But the decision of the International Judo Federation to raise the number of classes to eight (seven weight categories and an Open division) is less satisfactory. They are scarcely assisting the International Olympic Committee to keep the size of the Games within reasonable bounds. As has become common with other international sports federations, everyone is eager to pay lip-service to having a smaller Games but no one is prepared to do anything about it. Nor am I enthusiastic about the possibility of having women's judo in the Moscow Games. By all means let us have continental and world championships but I am not convinced that there is a genuine demand for it in sufficient countries to warrant it being included in a Games when so many other sports (for example Karate) are still excluded. Judo having justifiably got its foot into the Olympic door is now trying to get its whole body through as well.

What the I.J.F. need to do is to examine ways of making the sport more positive. I am coming round to the view that the wrestling system could be used in judo. In Freestyle and Greco-Roman, competitors receive a certain number of minus points depending on their superiority in a contest. To win by a fall gives the winner no minus points and to lose by a fall, four minus points. Between these two extremities the minus points are determined by the superiority of the decision. A total

of at least six minus points eliminates the wrestler from the competition, thus ensuring that he has at least two bouts. Certainly in Montreal we had too many bouts which simply lacked action. A fighter, ahead on points, was content to coast along to victory, doing just enough attacking to prevent him from receiving penalty marks. Under the wrestling system he would be encouraged to continue trying to throw his opponent because he needs to end the bout as dominant as possible.

One of the few competitors who escaped from this often stultifying competition with complete credit was the Russian welterweight Vladimir Nevzorov, whose smooth throwing style and varied attacks, brought him the welterweight title. He was the outstanding fighter of the Games. I was disappointed with his countryman Shota Chochoschvili this time. He has become far too negative and now relies overmuch on his counter-techniques at which he is formidably adept. He deservedly lost to Haruki Uemura, eventually the winner of the Open division, simply because he did nothing to justify him receiving the decision.

The Japanese must have been bitterly disappointed with their performances although they still took more medals (three gold, one silver and a bronze) than any other country. The tone of the whole competition was set in the opening bout which pitted Sumio Endo against Russia's Sergei Novikov. There was precious little in it but Novikov was judged to have come closer to scoring. Endo was not disgruntled at the decision but he realised the effect that it would have on his country's morale. He sought out the Japanese journalists to apologise as profusely as only a distressed Tokyo policeman can, for letting down his country.

Although Isao Okano said before the event that he expected Japan



to take all six titles this was surely said to maintain the confidence of the squad rather than genuine belief in its capacity. The Japanese not only failed to win three titles but those that they did take were acquired without flair or spectacular technique. The days of Hiroshi Minatoya winning the world welterweight title by throwing every opponent for *ippon* with an immaculate throw have gone for ever.

South Korea, Cuba, particularly in the person of the engagingly effervescent Hector Rodriguez, the winner of the lightweight crown, and Poland were often prominent while France had their moments — especially when Yves Delvingt defeated Yoshiharu Minami, twice world lightweight champion, in perhaps the biggest upset of the entire competition. He was the man that Okano, in common with everyone else, could not see losing.

Ray Ross said before the event that if British competitors failed to win any medals it would be because they lost to medal winners themselves. And he was proved correct. Constanine Alexander fought with spirit and determination in a most awkward lightweight draw to lose by a *koka* to Felice Mariani, who added an Olympic bronze to the world championships bronze he took last year. Vass Morrison could well have got a medal and really has only himself to blame. He lost a close decision to Japan's Kuramoto but against France's Patrick Vial, who has beaten Vass on a number of occasions in the past, Vass looked almost beaten before he started. As is his irritating habit he kept on taking Vial to the edge of the mat and then doing most of his serious attacks there. Often they ended with the pair going out of the area. In the final minute of this bout he did not attack enough although well down to the Frenchman. There was no lack of incentive — a bronze medal was at stake. Vass has still to

fulfil his potential and if he can only learn some determined contest strategy he could win more international medals in the future.

Jacks was unlucky. It was particularly sad that on an occasion when Starbrook and Remfry should have got medals to end their careers, Jacks should not have done so as well. He began brightly enough but against Slavko Obadov (Yugoslavia) a penalty point, mistakenly signalled by the recorder, was cancelled by the referee at the end of the bout. Obadov should have got the point in any case but the real point was that Jacks believed he was winning by the scores displayed on the board and consequently paced his fighting accordingly. Thus the contest was awarded to Obadov in a most unsatisfactory manner. But despite this annoying defeat nothing can tarnish Jacks' record. He has won more European Championships medals than anyone in the history of the sport except the Dutchman Anton Geesink. In addition he took the World Championship bronze in 1967 and the Olympic bronze in 1972. He has pioneered Britain's recent eminence in judo. In 20 years time we will recall his victories, not this unfortunate defeat.

Starbrook was superb. In the bout for the bronze medal he showed all his canny knowledge of the sport. Because he was stiff after the rest between sessions he lured his opponent, the Korean Jeaki Cho into groundwork to loosen himself up. Then, when the pair rose, Starbrook swept in for his favourite *tai-otoshi* and Cho was catapulted over the Briton's outstretched leg for *ippon*. Starbrook was so pleased with his win that he said he felt tempted to kiss his opponent on the forehead. But the Korean, he said, was so ugly that he stopped and patted him on the cheeks, instead. Only the Koreans seemed distressed at the result, as former opponents, whom

Starbrook had met in his 11 years of international fighting, came to congratulate him on his last medal.

As Starbrook had turned in for that final throw all the training, all the experience, all the tussling with opponents across the world seemed compressed into a split second. As he pulled the Korean off balance his career seemed to be frozen in microcosm in the action. There was the struggle for success and the pain of training. And as the Korean tumbled over there was the relief and the reward. He fell through the air on top of his opponent for the last time of his life and got the *ippon*. It was the most suitable ending to a magnificent career. He obviously thought so too, because both he and Ross, who has done so much to help over the years from the days when Ross taught him at the Renshuden, burst into tears on the edge of the mat. Even Charles Palmer admitted that he felt his own eyes were tingling. Emotions were certainly revealed in some surprising places that night.

In the Open category Keith Remfry was also rewarded with a medal. He had been unlucky with the heavyweight draw but had fought with persistence against both Endo and Novikov. In the Open Class he was more fortunate and what he proved quite conclusively after the week's fighting was that apart from the Japanese and Russians he is the best heavyweight in the world. It was the most splendid of comebacks after an injury which kept him out of the sport for 18 months.

Often I thought that Keith was better in the fights that he lost—particularly against Uemura in the Open final—than in the bouts he won. But he has a shrewd strategy and although he was unpopular with the crowd often scored some decisive knockdowns on his way to the final.

If his victory was less dramatic than Starbrook's it was none the less memorable. His silver medal was a deserved climax to a career that has brought him such famous wins as over Kaneo Iwatsuri, the All Japan Champion, at the 1971 World Championships.

In 20 years of world championships and 12 of Olympic Games in judo, Britain has won 10 medals in these premier events. Jacks, Starbrook and Remfry have won nine of these. The prime reason for their success over the years has been their individual ability. There is no substitute for talent—and the determination to fulfil that talent. But there have been other associated reasons which have helped them. They are the outstanding products of groups of judo men, who have trained with them over the years. People like the current members of the Olympic Squad can afford to say with justification that without their competition in championships and partnerships in training it would not have been so easy for this trio. The people who have practised with them are entitled to feel a particular pleasure because their victories demonstrate the success of the squads over the last few years.

Three other people must be mentioned as well as the British Judo Association's sponsors Joseph Sanders, the Investment Advisers, who have provided much of the financial support over the last few years. These are Ray Ross, Dr. Ken Kingsbury and Tony MacConnell. Ross and Dr. Kingsbury are the perfect partnership. Ross's own ability at the sport, his talent in leading squads in training—fighters react instinctively to example—plus Ken Kingsbury's expertise in physiology has ensured that they have the best possible preparation before an event and the best possible care on the mat. The retirement of Ross from the post of Team Manager is as



grievous a blow to the Association as the retirement of the trio of fighters. Dr. Kingsbury, we hope, will carry on—he is simply the best medical officer that any sports body has in Britain.

MacConnell, too, has been an invaluable source of guidance in the development of the Squad. His advice in particular to Remfry over recent years has been shrewd. And it is perhaps appropriate that he should have the last word on this trio because he is unusually placed—having been part of their success as a member of the Squad for many years and yet now being able to look at them more objectively as the National Team Trainer of Sweden.

This is what he said about them during the Games. "The three of them are very different characters. Brian Jacks is simply one of the greatest athletes in any sport that Britain has produced in the last 12 years. In judo he is unique. He seems capable of winning anything, absolutely anything. If he came back for Moscow you'd know that it wasn't really "on" for him to win a

medal, but similarly it wasn't really "off". Starbrook was a fanatical trainer: Cruel on the mat but soft off it. He could never have a fight in the street—but he's cruel on the mat. It's quite right for him to finish because he can't train like his body needs. Remfry is not only big but fast. When he was second in European Junior Championships in 1968 I knew my time was coming. I got afraid. His one big trouble is that one day he could be brilliant and bad the next. But when he's on-form he's almost unbeatable—just as when he won us the European Team Title in Gothenburg in 1971 when he threw Onashvilli. This team go out as the second best team in Europe after the Russians. There's no doubt about that. But the rest of the world have also looked at Britain another way. When they're looking for sportsmanship and guts they know it lies in the British camp. That's what they're respected for all over the world."

Over their beds in the Olympic Village in Montreal there was a slogan. It read: "Being British makes you more deserving of medals." We will always remember them.

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## Jim Elkin Comments . . .

Reading the August/September issue of *Judo* magazine, I was surprised at the omission of any Aikido news. What happened? There was plenty of forthcoming events in the calendar and other items of news.

However, I found the other items dealing with Karate, Judo and Kendo most interesting.

The formation of F.E.K.O. and its acceptance of membership to the English Karate Board, can only be

for the good of Karate in general. It is nice to see names which disappeared from view, back on the scene again.

That irrepressible nephew David White has used his pen to introduce some controversy into the Judo scene. A number of his comments were valid; from a layman's point of view—some people do find Judo boring to watch, but apart from the B.J.A. launching a campaign to explain periods of inactivity in Judo

contests, I cannot see a ready answer to it. Tony Reay, was absolutely right to draw attention to boring episodes that occur in other sporting activities—it is a case of either you are interested in the sport or you are not.

I believe that there is something special about Judo, in that it requires "some thinking" to follow it, also I might add some patience. But when a Starbrook Tai Otoshi comes off—then the waiting seems worthwhile.

The quote—"others like Karate, Aikido, Kendo, Kung Fu, as a method of disabling or killing an opponent. . ." Well as far as Aikido—a modern Martial Art discipline is concerned, there is NO underlying intention of even harming an opponent, let alone the above mentioned. Aikido has as its basic principle Harmony and Co-existence.

"The Medal Collectors" was a very interesting article, although it was a pity that this could not have been published in an earlier issue. However it gave a graphic insight into the hard work, time, effort and sweat that over a long period of time the Judo squad had put in to reach their standard, and such articles can only spur on the up and coming Olympic hopefuls.

On the Aikido front, the B.A.A. are holding their National event at the Abbey Sports Stadium, Birmingham Road, Bardsley, Redditch. This takes place on 17th October and commences at 11.00 a.m. It is hoped that full coverage of this event will be carried in the November issue of this magazine.

Opportunities for potential coaches, are being arranged by a series of coaching courses, please write to your Regional Coaches for dates and venues, if you show this kind of interest, it will spur them on to greater efforts on your behalf.

There should be information around regarding regional Dan grade promotion examinations, although I must admit I have not seen or received any notification of intent. Again Regional Coaches can give you this information.

On the subject of coaching, Mr. Yu, our Yoshinkan Technical director, is still holding his weekly Instructors course. He has moved to the Watford Sports centre. Also he has started a Wednesday evening members course for those who would like to study Yoshinkan style Aikido. Also on the Yoshinkan scene—discussions and plans have been going ahead for the Yoshinkan Aikido Headquarters Dojo in Bushey. A lot of hard work has started by the Yoshinkan members in renovating large premises, into what could well be the largest Aikido Dojo in Great Britain. Of course lots of money is needed, so if anyone has any to spare, please let me know, and I will pass them on to the enthusiasts concerned.

Had an invitation to Nottingham University, to watch the Championships held by Shotokan International, I found it extremely impressive. The very large audience showed their appreciation of the efforts of the competitors. The organisation of this event was something to be proud of and the organisers should be congratulated. What an atmosphere, I came away convinced that there is hope for the Martial Arts yet, if displays such as this are going around. I would like to thank Mr. Hamson the Secretary, also Mr. Asano, Chairman, for their hospitality.

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**Jim Elkin is Chairman of The British Aikido Association**

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Henri Courtine, I learned that Coche planned to retire after this Olympiad. It was a great pity that his last big competition should end in this way.

Jonston-Ono of the U.S.A. lost to Jatowitt of Austria on a waza-ari for an ashiguruma.

Back in Pool A, Jacks met Obadov; they had met before, and I am sure that Jacks was aware that he was up against a competent opponent; however after the Yugoslav managed a ko-uchi-gake which got him a koka, nothing that Brian attempted was successful, and at time Jacks had lost his hope for a departing medal, also; for he, too, is said to be retiring after this last International competition. A pity that his last important competition should end in controversy for the recorder had wrongly indicated a shido against Brian's opponent which had given Brian the impression he was in the lead. Only at the end of the contest did the referee correct the error.

De Frutos of Spain went down to Dvoynikov who held him with kuzure-kamishihogatame. In pool B, Sonoda was only able to score one yuko against Park of South Korea, but his ouchigari was enough to get him the essential win. Marhenke scored a koka which won him the decision over Jatowitt of Austria.

Obadov's fight against Jacks must have taken it out of him, as he lasted only one minute and eleven seconds against Dvoynikov who caught him with kuzure-kamishihogatame. Sonoda was on fine form against Marhenke; after scoring a waza-ari early on in the bout, he finished the match before three and a half minutes with another waza-ari for an uchimata.

In the repechage, Yesilnur of Turkey defeated Elmon of Surinam

with two waza-aris, and then was defeated himself with okuri-eri-jime by de Frutos of Spain. He then met Obadov, and the match was rather lacking in style but not in vigour as they each attacked incessantly. Each scored a koka, but Obadov also got a yuko for an ouchigari, which won him the match, and with it the bronze medal.

In Pool B, Paul Buganey scored a yuko with seoi-nage against Jong of Korea, in addition to three kokas. He has made great improvements, and the North Korean having incurred a chui had no chance of catching him up; he well deserved the win in an excellent match. However, his next match was not so interesting; this time against the South Korean, Park, who scored two kokas; Buganey got a chui for passivity, leaving the Korean the winner.

Park went on to meet Marhenke; to start with, not much style was evident in the tussle during which the Korean scored a couple of non-descript kokas; then, with just under three minutes to go, he pulled off a spectacular morote-seoi-nage to score ippon, and win the bronze. It had been a disappointing performance from Marhenke, bearing in mind that he had beaten Coche in the afternoon.

The final was ten minutes, and went to time. It was an exciting match with two yukos and a koka for Sonoda, who also incurred a shido, and one koka and a chui for Dvoynikov. It was one of the best contests seen so far, and certainly I found my interest reviving with the more lively judo of the lighter weight categories.

I discovered later on that Brian Jacks had injured his left elbow in his contest against the Brazilian; this impeded his progress, and made it impossible for him to use his usual

uchimata. A sad end to a brilliant career; but we shall not remember Brian as the one who was defeated in Montreal, but as the European Champion, who won a bronze in Munich, and so many other medals that I am sure even he has lost count. Mrs. Jacks did not seem to be there, either, and I am sure as a talisman for success, there can be none better. Brian has done so much for Judo in Britain, probably to the

detriment of his own future. With the constant, unfailing backing of his family from the word go, aided by his own well-founded belief in himself and determination to win, Brian has won titles despite broken bones and in the face of hostile crowds. He has been an example to us all, and let us hope that his future as a coach or in whatever other capacity will be as successful as has been his overall competition record.

VIVIEN FRYER'S REPORT CONTINUES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE.



## DAVID WHITE'S 'JUDO SHORTS'

Several people made pertinent—and a couple of impertinent—comments about my plea last month for "a little realism" in the Judo world.

On only one point does everyone seem agreed. The B.J.A. has to do more for the ordinary, average, member. It is not so much that they begrudge the annual subscriptions but that they feel the B.J.A.'s officers are not very interested in them. The inference is that the officers care about medals and top competitors and are failing at what I—for want of a better phrase—called "grass roots level".

The greatest failure—sorry to harp on it again, but it is so important—is the failure of communication. It is becoming very clear that if the B.J.A. is not to lose members there must at least be some sort of quarterly magazine or news-sheet

(perhaps as part of *Judo* magazine) sent out to all members as part of their subscription.

Richard Williams made some valuable suggestions in his review of the A.G.M., but they aren't going to solve the real difficulty of involving the ordinary member more in B.J.A. activities at all levels!

One gentleman got quite heated with me over the problem of "balancing the books". I don't want to go into this in detail, merely to suggest that we must have our list of priorities in the Judo world and cut our cloth accordingly (we don't need a five year plan). I certainly did not suggest that the B.J.A. could not balance the books, although it is fair to add that the books are harder than ever to balance in our inflationary times. The fact that no one has ever seemed to know how many



B.J.A. members there are is quite deplorable. I recall asking this question three or four years ago.

I have ambivalent feelings about publicity and publicists, partly because having worked for the B.B.C. and national and regional papers I know how ephemeral news is and how remarkable are the news values of sports editors.

It may not have sounded like it but I think the B.J.A., with its very small resources, is doing pretty well from a publicity point of view. I'm suggesting we worry less about publicity and more about "reforming" our national coaches and improving contact with the members.

Unlike some of those who contacted me I feel much more confident of the good sense of the B.J.A. officers and administrators. The B.J.A. is going in the right direction—albeit a little slowly—and I firmly believe the future is rosier than it has been for a long time. For too long the B.J.A. has drifted from crisis to crisis, success to success. It's all very well to be dedicated and enthusiastic but you have to have a plan, and know where you are going. This is just as valid for the individual as for the group or association.

On a minor point, I would urge Tony Reay to get out and have a look around the country if he really believes judogi are "whiter than white" these days. Perhaps things are a bit better than I suggested but I know a couple of clubs where the members could grow potatoes in their jackets! And if Brian Jacks ever becomes a professional coach I hope he'll buy a washing machine (I'm leaving town, Brian).

● I was a trifle surprised recently to hear from two people strongly critical of George Kerr's contribution to Judo. They suggested that George "only cared about George".

I find that rather uncharitable. Will you throw the first stone, friend? In fact it would be nice to hear from him about refereeing problems these days.

● I am continually astounded at the number of people who "promised things to Gunji Koizumi before his death". Don't misunderstand me, I'm impressed by the way they obviously revere his memory and consider themselves bound by their promises. He was clearly a crafty old so-and-so, in the best possible way. It would be fascinating to have a few reminiscences about him from the old-hands.

● Am I the only judoka to have come down from light-heavyweight to light-middleweight in about 18 months? I have not dieted, merely reformed my diet and done a little "much-hated" road running. Any competitors?

● It's probably a bit late to mention it, but at the British Open Championships earlier in the year it was interesting to talk to the Kurihara brothers who teach in Italy. Because of a 'plane strike they arrived at Crystal Palace without having slept for about 48-hours and without the time to warm up properly. It's hardly surprising they did not win medals, unlike the last time they were here—I think eight years ago.

I wonder how many foreign judoka find themselves in a similar position and then have a hassle over accommodation and transport. I took them back to their hotel because no one seemed to have organised any other transport.

The point I'm making is that if we want top competitors then we've got to lay things on a little better for them even if we decide they are not going to get "pocket money".



## OFFICIAL NOTES

Vic Davis

It's been a long, hot summer, and most clubs have been taking a well-earned rest before getting down again to serious practice.

But there are always a dedicated few willing to go on searching for good style and that ever-elusive perfection of technique that so few attain.

About 35 who obviously come in that category assembled at Leeds Athletic Institute for the annual summer course. They came from many clubs in the B.A.A., but the striking feature was the contingent of 12 from Belfast—easily the largest from one area—led by the indefatigable Ernie Sheppard, who never misses these gatherings.

Midland members, especially, will recall that Ernie learned his aikido at Stratford-on-Avon, where he proceeded to first kyu and was a national champion before leaving for Belfast, gaining his first Dan and forming a new club.

As a result of the Leeds course, Ernie has now been promoted second Dan. His wife, Christine, originally from Stratford, is also a proficient aikido player.

Others on the course graded first Dan were Roland Tann (City of London Police), Stretton Honour, Chris Lloyd and Andrew Eustace. The last three youngsters have fulfilled early promise under the guidance of Brian Eustace at Stratford-

on-Avon, and Andrew, Brian's second son, is the third member of the family to wear a black belt for aikido. Brian's eldest son, Martyn, who is 16 was Britain's youngest first Dan, won several national titles before going to Loughborough College to study physical education.

Mick Tracy, stalwart of the Red-ditch club, which he formed some years ago, received a well-deserved promotion to third Dan, and so did Mike Smith, of Towcester, a leading exponent of Uyeshiba style. Mike's Uyeshiba demonstrations and coaching sessions in many parts of the country has greatly impressed Tomiki players, and, clearly the two styles have much to offer each other.

Three other Uyeshiba players, Miss P. Spinks, R. Jones and G. Panesar, all of Leeds, were also graded first Dan.

Coaches for the course, Brian Eustace (National Coach), Mick Tracy and Mike Smith report that standards continue to improve. Excellent accommodation was provided for the players at one of the Leeds University halls of residence, and with good facilities for practice and coaching at the Athletics Institute this is obviously a venue which the B.A.A. will be hoping to use again.

Down in the West Country, members of the Frome and Warminster clubs have been appearing as television ambassadors for aikido. Bob Brebner tells me that the HTV Sports West programme did not quite turn out as they hoped because quite a lot of material was cut.

But the producers were "as pleased as punch" with it, and as Bob says, it should do aikido in Wiltshire and the West, and the sport as a whole, a bit of good.

Ray Ziel, of 13 Sackville Close, Stratford-on-Avon, is now the association's Registrar, and any inquiries about membership of the B.A.A., or queries about membership cards, should be directed to him.



## CLUB FORUM

**YARBOROUGH JUDO CLUB.**—*Liam Nolan writes:*—We are a new club in the Lincoln area, and we would like to let you know what we have been up to lately. Last month, along with several other Lincoln clubs, we were hosts to a large Dutch judo club (700 members!) **SPORT-SCHOOL** from near Amsterdam. My friends and I met some of their club while watching last year's World Judo Championships in Vienna; and they accepted our invitation to pay us a visit, and so 36 of them arrived on 4th June this year. The party included several dan grades whose average age was about 17 years! As their visit was planned to coincide with our Area Espoir Championships on 6th June, we witnessed some wonderful judo.

They were accommodated in our homes for their 3-day visit, and we were very sad to see them go. Our club provided a handsome statuette as an annual challenge trophy, which they won by a narrow decision. No sooner had our very weary, but happy Dutch friends boarded their large coach and vanished into the night, when I was reminded that we would again have the opportunity of competing at "international" level, as the famous Norwegian judo club **MARIENLYST** of Oslo would be arriving shortly. Preparations were again made to provide accommodation for the team of 12 players, and their first practice was at one of our city sports centres. The local judo strength, **NORTH HYKEHAM Judo Club**, along with a few other Lincoln lads just about demolished the whole Norwegian team in about 15 minutes of randori. Yours truly put their star player, Kent Westerby, in hospital for two days with concussion—a result of

skimming off my osotogari. I felt very much the villain all the week that they competed against the various clubs in the area. Once again we provided a challenge trophy, hand-made by our chairman, and once again our visitors managed to win by one fight—although to be fair to the Lincoln side we did field three juniors to make it a little even. Lincoln has numerous young dan grades (B.J.A.) and we just cannot have enough contests from other clubs.

As regards our own club I must say that we have had every assistance in getting started, mainly due to the enthusiasm of the manager of the Leisure Centre, Mr. Ray Cooper. Ray, a dan grade himself, is ex-coach to the Royal Marines judo squad, and we feel privileged to be under his guidance.

We would recommend these visits by foreign clubs to any club in Britain. You don't have to be a big club—there are plenty of clubs abroad just wanting to visit you. And you can pay them a return visit later, which means a very cheap and happy holiday. For everybody here it has been rewarding, but especially for me, as I and my wife Linda are off to Oslo in August, free of charge, in return for instructing at their annual international summer school of judo for two weeks. A nice way to see a beautiful country. If anyone has difficulty in contacting foreign clubs, contact the B.J.A. headquarters, or drop me a line. Happy judo!

Times of practice: Wed. 7-9 p.m. judo/aikido.

Fri. 6-9 p.m. judo (seniors 7.30-9 p.m.)

Mat area: 28ft. x 60ft.

**BRENT JUDO CLUB:** *Chris Read writes:*—Brent Judo Club now holds the World Record for continuous Judo, beating the previous record of 90 hours by 6 hours, a total of 96 hours on the mat. The record was broken at the 'Cosmorama' record breaking festival held at Lingfield Park Racecourse over the August Bank Holiday weekend, the 96 hours being from 12.15pm. on 27 August to 12.15pm. on 31 August. A team of six club members participated, the requirement being for at least one pair to be on the mat at all times, and a rota system was thus worked out. The six members of the team were:

Mike Callan, age 15, 18th Mon  
Alan Owen, age 16, 1st Kyu  
Mick Kane, age 17, 7th Kyu  
Kirk Isichei, age 19, 1st Dan  
Lloyd Mentor, age 22, 1st Dan  
Chris Read, age 26, 1st Kyu

The club's instructor, Peter Moring, was team manager, and two junior members, Robert Owen and Vince Hiney, assisted with general duties (getting refreshments, etc), although the festival organisers also provided helpers, members of the Scout Organisation, who were hard-working, and of great assistance to the team. The events were also adjudicated by Scouts.

Brent Judo Club has recently moved to Kingsbury High School's new gymnasium, Princes Avenue, Kingsbury, London NW9, and both senior and junior visitors are always welcome. Practises are held on Wednesday and Friday evenings (juniors at 6.00 and 7.00, seniors at 8.15) and Sunday mornings (juniors 11.00, seniors 12.00).

**LONDON JUDO SOCIETY** from *Bill Barritt*. At the time of writing we have been fully operational for two months and attendances at all our activities have shown a marked increase, in spite of the usual slump

during the Holiday period. The building itself has proved of interest to Film Makers, and a T.V. Film has already been made here. We should like to point out that we believe that a good practise at L.J.S. also helps you breathe more easily!!

**JUNIORS:** The next Examination for juniors, Boys and Girls, is on Sunday 7th November at 10 am. The Fee is 25p. The Special Sessions of advanced Junior Training have started. The response at first has been poor, but we blame this on the Holidays. The sessions are under John Hart and Norman Saints, and they promise all who attend a hard, but rewarding practice, with plenty of Contest Judo.

**SENIORS:** The next Examination for Men and Women will be for 1st Kyus trying for 1st Dan. This will also be on the 7th November, but at 2.30 pm. Current B.J.A. Licences must be produced. At this particular Examination there will be an opportunity for promotion from 1st Dan to 2nd Dan, subject to there being enough Candidates. Will those Men and Women interested in taking part, please forward their Licences and the Fee to reach L.J.S. not later than one week before the Examination. These will be returned if there are not enough Candidates. The Fee for both of these Examinations is £1.00 for visitors and 50p for L.J.S. A charge of 25p will be made for spectators.

**WEAPONS:** This Section has also expanded, and Mike Finn now runs Classes on Fridays as well as Mondays and Wednesdays.

**KARATE:** The L.K.K. continues to flourish under Keith Atkinson and to cope with his plans for expansion, we have allocated the whole of Tuesday and Thursday evenings to Karate. Keith is also running Special Training Sessions on Saturday mornings.



Mr BILL WRIGHT: As stated in a previous Issue of Judo, Mr Bill Wright is no longer associated in any way with the London Karate Kai. The London Karate Kai operates from no other address than 89 Landsdowne Way, S.W.8.

OLYMPIC J.C.—from A. Whitcomb:—Situating at Waterside Farm Sports Centre, Canvey Island, Essex; a Promotion Examination will take place on Sunday, 24th October, as follows:— Signing in times for male and female—10.00 a.m. Ungraded, 9th Kyu, 8th Kyu and 7th Kyu. 12 noon 6th Kyu, 5th Kyu, 4th Kyu, 3rd Kyu, and 2nd Kyu. 2.00 p.m. 1st Kyus and 1st Dans. 3.00 p.m. 2nd Dans and 3rd Dans. Candidates should make sure that their Individual Membership is up to date. Further enquiries can be obtained from A. Whitcomb. Telephone: Canvey 64609.

THE BUDOKWAI. The Summer Course held at the premises was very popular with all who took part. Tony Reay has agreed to conduct another course in the Winter which will be called the "Budokwai New Year Judo Course" and will take place during the weekdays from the 3rd to the 7th January. The two sessions per day will take place from 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. This course will be a personal proficiency course for all grades of fifteen years or over and will be non-residential. The course fee is £15 for the full five days. Applications should be sent to the Manager with £5 deposit. We regret that accommodation cannot be arranged for course members but this should be no problem in London for that time of the year. Please send your application with deposit to: R. Oliver, Manager The Budokwai, New Year Judo Course, 4 Gilston Road, London, S.W.10.

The club is open for practice every evening of the week and on

Saturday afternoons. For further details telephone the Manager any time after 5.30 p.m. on 01-370 1000.

#### Next gradings.

1st Kyu and Dan grades—Sunday, 7th November, booking-in at 2.30 p.m. Beginners and Kyu grades to 2nd Kyu—Sunday, 14th November, booking-in at 2.30 p.m. Candidates should ensure that their B.J.A. membership is up-to-date as these cannot be renewed on the day of the grading.

HARLOW JUDO CLUB. In conjunction with Terry Adams and C. Baker-Brown the next promotion examination will be held at Harlow Sports Centre, Essex, on Sunday, 14th November, for both male and female.

Signing-in will take place as follows: 10.00 a.m. Ungraded, 9th Kyu, 8th Kyu and 7th Kyu. 12.00 noon. 6th Kyu, 5th Kyu, 4th Kyu, 3rd Kyu and 2nd Kyu. 2.00 p.m. 1st Kyu. 3.00 p.m. 1st Dan to 2nd Dan.

For further enquires please telephone Harlow Sports Centre.

THE YOUTH JUDO CENTRE (Dulwich)—Bob Ash writes:—Our club has recently moved its training hall to the following address: Bessemer Grange School, Dylways (off Sunray Avenue), North Dulwich, London, S.E.5. Training times remain the same, Mondays 6-9 p.m.

The club, which welcomes visitors and members during term and holiday time, continues to provide exciting training for juniors in its improved surroundings. We train in a large hall, on two extensive mat areas, which are due to be replaced by new Olympic-type mats in September.

Later this year, the Y.J.C. opens another dojo in Streatham. Training will be held at Julian's Primary School, 226 Leigham Court Road,

Streatham, S.W.16, on Fridays from 6 p.m.

Any juniors or seniors who wish to know more about training in Dulwich or Streatham should contact Bob Ash, 60 Rodenhurst Road, Clapham Park, S.W.4. (01-674 3466).

THE DERBYSHIRE JUDO CLUBS ORGANISATION—B. J. Shute writes: We are holding our third Open Individual Judo Championships for Men and Women at Derby Sports Centre on Sunday, 14th November, 1976. There will be events open to various grades and Open Ladies and Mens events. This competition has attracted a good attendance in the past two years from Midland area competitors and a few competitors from the rest of the country. We are therefore inviting all Clubs to send competitors to this event. I hope to get copies of the application forms, etc., into the next Midlands Area Newsletter, but Clubs in other areas will have to apply directly to Mr. B. J. Shute at Derbyshire Judo Clubs Organisation, 6 Church Street, Littleover, Derby. Entry closing date will be 6th November, 1976.

Non-returnable trophies will be presented to the winners of each event, eight events in all, and silver and two bronze medals to the runners-up.

SPEN VALLEY JUDO CLUB.—From W. Shine: On the 21st August the Spen Valley Open Junior Championships were staged at the Scatcherd Sports Centre, Morley, Nr. Leeds.

The championships, the first of what will be an annual event, were off to a fine start, attracting 220 boys from clubs as far away as Edinburgh, Liverpool, Manchester, Wigan and Hull, as well as the more locally based clubs in the Yorkshire and Humberside region.

As there were ten magnificent trophies to be won, along with the gold, silver and bronze medals, the organising committee of Spen Valley

were very grateful to the many qualified officials who generously gave their services to help make the event a huge success.

At the end of the day, after some memorable contests which had been fought out on three mat areas, and in front of a good audience, the honours were evenly distributed, with the host club keeping one trophy when Howard Bailey took the under 45 Kilo title. Whilst the Scots lads went home happy with two trophies tucked under their arms, and the long journey made worthwhile.

With "Roses" rivalry as fierce in Judo as any other sport between Yorkshire and Lancashire, there was some keen competition and one might declare a draw from this point of view with four trophies going across the Pennines and four staying in Yorkshire. The "outstanding player of the day" award went to under 35 kilo competitor Gary Davis from the Sumo Keido Kwan Club of St. Helens for some skilful and stylish throws, though he failed to take the championship trophy and had to settle for a bronze medal, but Gary's trophy in particular was not short of contenders with some tremendous young players giving all they had, in what proved to be a very high standard entry, and it is hoped that all these boys will be back next year to try again.

#### Results

Under 30 Kilo: K. McDonald, Wigan J.C. Under 35 Kilo: P. Blood, Sumo Keido Kwan—St. Helens. Under 40 Kilo: A. Farrimond, Saints J.C.—St. Helens. Under 45 Kilo: H. Bailey, Spen Valley—Nr. Leeds. Under 50 Kilo: D. Young, Tora Scotia—Edinburgh. Under 55 Kilo: D. Heslop, York RI J.C. Under 60 Kilo: P. Reed, York RI J.C. Under 65 Kilo: F. McDonald, Tora Scotia—Edinburgh. Over 65 Kilo: S. Hitchen, Wakefield J.C. Outstanding Player: G. Davis, Sumo Keido Kwan—St. Helens.



# KENDŌ forum

by Roald Knutsen

Budo requires for most of us unrelenting all-the-year-round study, however, in summertime we can sometimes get away from the dojo for a day or two in the country and even have time to think about the objectives of our training. Donn Draeger who should be a well known name to most readers, thinks these "slots", as he calls them, are very important and provide a useful window on our Budo.

If at all possible the ideal slot for the serious Budoka would be one that has some sort of military connotation. Many *sensei* believe that continual work in the dojo creates imbalances in Budo and here I am mainly referring to swordsmanship and the closely related arts. Constant practice of just one skill does not necessarily produce a specialist, it may only indicate a dullard who when faced by the unusual may have no idea at all of what to do. *Keiko*, or free practice, should always be balanced in measure by *kata*, the proportion of each decided by the experience of the leaders. Too much practice of the normal techniques leads to staleness and it is at this point that a related interest comes in useful.

In our Kendo Renmei and quite a number of the local area Kendo Renmei in Japan, we place the accent on strictly traditional attitudes to Kendo and Iai; we have two special slots each year when we hold our *kobudo* camps, one in the early summer and the other in September. These have specially constructed

programmes to present a variety of Bujutsu and Budo to those taking part in such a way that there is considerable difference to formal dojo training. In one of my recent "Kendo Forum" I discussed outdoor training both traditional and modern and pointed to the fact that historically speaking "dojo practice" has been customary for far shorter a period than "outdoor practice". It is an interesting point, isn't it?

All the great masters of the martial arts have stressed that progress is not just a matter of mastering physical techniques but can only come by training the spirit. Yamada Jirokichi *sensei* always emphasised in his important writings that the

Roald Knutsen and John Piper standing in front of the shrine that houses the wild spirit of Kami Kikazouchi-no-kami, the patron deity of the great Kashima Shrine. This beautiful building was constructed on the orders of Tokugawa Ieyasu in 1605. It was in this thick forest that Mr. Knutsen and Piper practised *ken-utsu* daily, sometimes in heavy frosty weather.



A recent visitor to England was Mr. Kamo Jisaku, 8th *dan* Iai, 7th *dan* Kendo, from Kyushu, Japan. He is shown here with his wife and members of the Renmei. Standing next to Mrs. Kamo is Miss Ohtsuki Hiromi who is the daughter of Ohtsuka *sensei*, 7th *dan*; kneeling at the right of the picture is Mr. Uchida Hirohisa, 5th *dan* Kendo, 4th *dan* Iai.

Budoka must approach his subject with a completely open and receptive mind. It is said that familiarity breeds contempt. The camps specifically set out to break up the *home-dojo-home* syndrome that most Budoka follow and to present everyone with a complete change of environment. There's nothing at all original in all this, and I for one would not claim such a thing. What we are trying to do, though, is very important. At these camps the Budo involvement at all levels is total and we achieve this by the strict enforcement of discipline. From the time of arrival late on the Friday afternoon to the departure of the whole group on the Sunday afternoon we involve everyone in the whole social and training structure and if the students come to these events with the proper attitudes of mind then they will gain immeasurably.

We aim to break down the unit identification barriers that Budo groups, indeed most humanity, tend to put up quite naturally when in close proximity to other groups. Two days does not give enough time to do this properly so we use the device of allocating most of the rank and file to artificial syndicates irrespective of dojo affiliations and through certain periods of the programme these syndicates work under designated leaders. People are given authority in order to train them to lead correctly as much as any group of students who are receiving training. All Budo study is relative to experience at all levels. At our camps we have a wealth of talent and like any good unit we must make full use of these talents. Some people are potentially good leaders, others are already so. The important objectives of these camps are to involve people

*Continued on page 38*



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