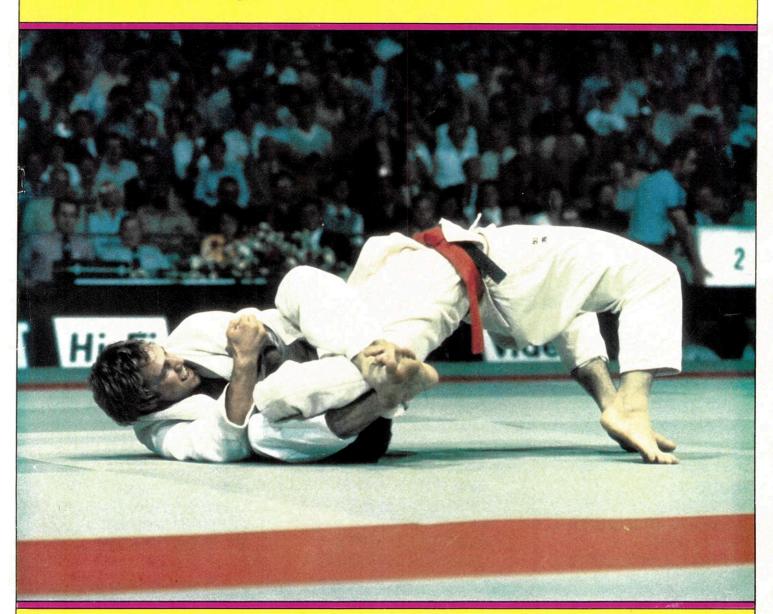
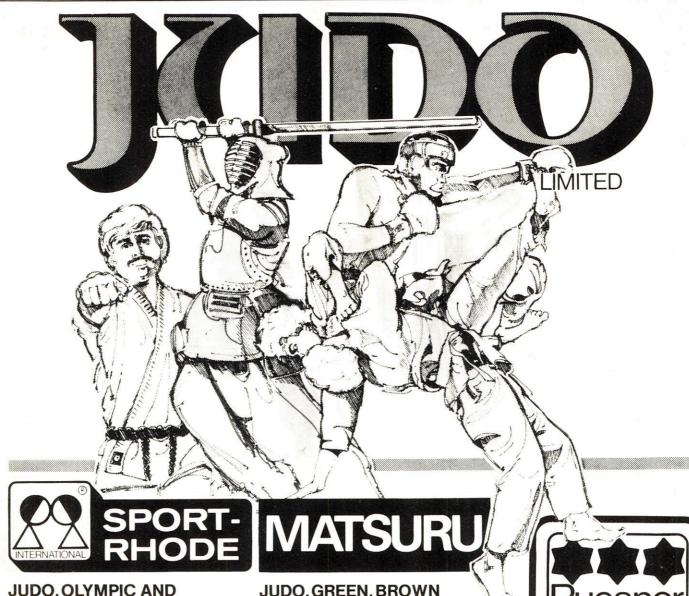
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NEIL ADAMS TAKES THE 71 KILO TITLE

Contents: NEIL ADAMS Champion of the World—Colin McIver Maastricht: The full story by Frank Smith. Centre Photo Page.

Vital Judo: A living sport—John Goodbody



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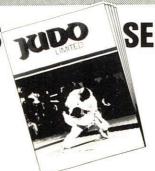
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Editor: Colin McIver.

MAASTRICHT 1981

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MAASTRICHT 1981

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REPORTERS

John Goodbody (UPI Paris). Frank Smith (FJR). Colin McIver.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

David Finch. Colin McIver. Frank Smith.

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COVER PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID FINCH:

Neil Adams applies Juji-gatame to Jiro Kase (Japan) for the World Title.

INTRODUCTION...

XII World Championships Maastricht 1981

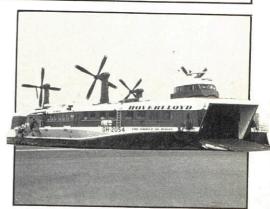
It is with mixed feelings that I write this report on the 12th World Championships held recently in the Dutch town of Maastricht. One could not complain about the siting of the event or about the organisation, for the town of Maastricht was ideally situated for such an event and the Dutch Judo Association could not be faulted for their organisational efforts. I think however that the event somehow lacked the atmosphere of a World Championships. Perhaps it was that I expected too much after the 1979 World Championships where the atmosphere was electric and the French team performed so



Perhaps it was that the venue, the Eurohal, was just a little too big or maybe it was as John Goodbody has said: "There was a notable lack of atmosphere partly because the Dutch themselves were non-existent." Most certainly I thought the standard of the competitors was lower than in the last event although it is wrong to generalise for this event produced some remarkable champions.

There were some great moments and some great matches but there were also some very poor matches and very dull periods. Maybe that's what it takes to make a World Championship.

COLIN McIVER



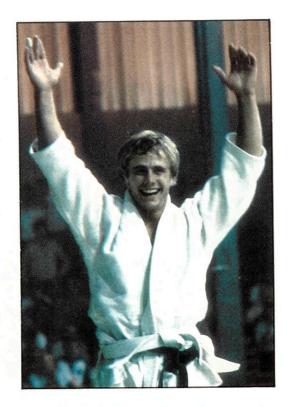


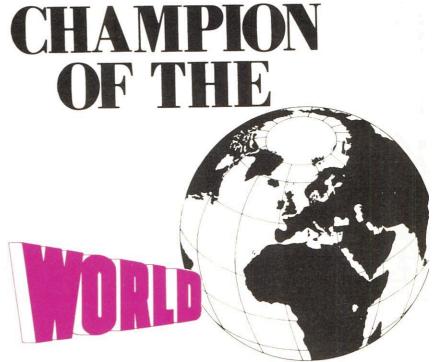


- 1—Hover route to Holland.
- 2—Maastricht, Shopping Area.
- 3—Street parking for bikes in abundance.

NELADANS

by COLIN McIVER





It took Neil Adams just three minutes and thirteen seconds to defeat Japan's Jiro Kase and become the first-ever non-Japanese to win the World Middleweight (Under 78 kilos) title.

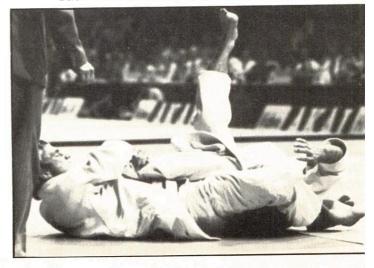
Although this weight division contained some very strong competitors, Adams superiority was clearly obvious. From his first contest with Davaadalai of Mongolia to his final contest with the Japanese Kase he did not make any visible mistake and it was soon obvious that victory would be his. Adams will be long remembered for this immaculate performance which takes him into the ranks of the truly great champions.

Adams first contest, against the Olympic Silver medallist Davaadalai, lasted just under two minutes thirty seconds, before the Mongolian was forced to submit to the now famous Adams Juji-gatame. His next contest went to time but Delmo of Brazil was no match for Adams, who scored with Uchimata. Latreche of Algeria was victim number three in just over two minutes, the technique this time was Osotogari. To win a place in the Final Adams then faced Doherty of Canada who had already defeated the strong Dutch, Cuban and United States players. Adams however, had the edge throughout the contest and scored a Waza-ari with a lightning fast Kouchi-gari.

The final contest was a joy to watch. From the first moments Adams showed his complete



Above . . . NEIL ADAMS v JIRO KASE in the Under 78 kilos Final. Below. . . NEIL ADAMS with the winning Juji-gatame.

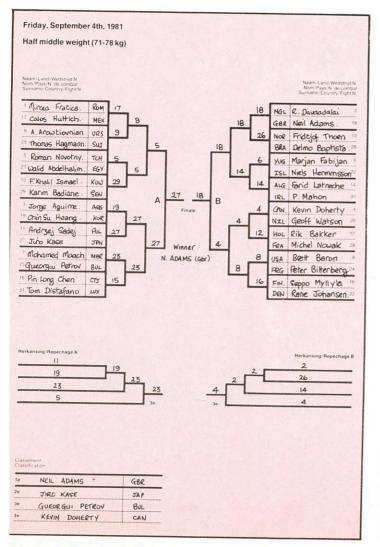


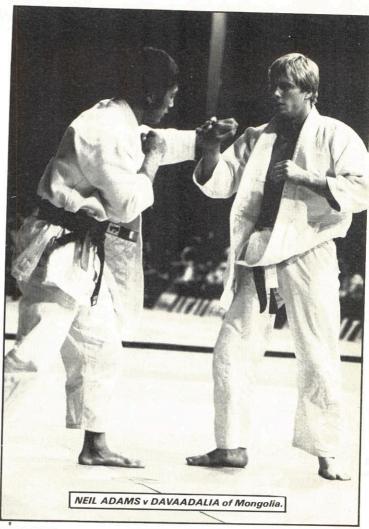
superiority over his stocky Japanese opponent. In the first few seconds a lightning fast Uchimata had the Japanese in the air and the hearts in the mouths of all the British spectators. Seconds later the Japanese was in trouble again and did well to escape from a fierce Juji-gatame attack. It was now clear that Adams was going to win and it was only going to be a matter of time. The crowd did not have to wait long. With under three minutes of the contest time gone, Adams scored a Yuko with Ippon Seoi-nage and finally secured the Juji-gatame which was to win him the match and the World Championship title.

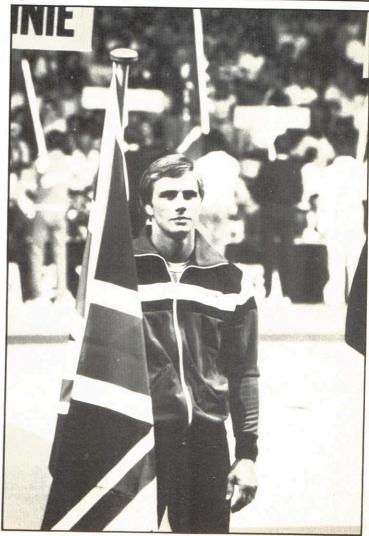
For ten minutes the applause and chanting from the delighted groups of British supporters filled the stadium and I do believe there was not a dry eye among us as they joyfully sang the National Anthem. It was a great moment in the history of British Judo.

With this victory behind him, Adams must now go on and pursue his ultimate goal; the Olympic Gold Medal in 1984 in Los Angeles. Adams success here must also give confidence to many of the younger British players who are following in his footsteps. It only takes one to break the barrier and it won't be long before others follow.

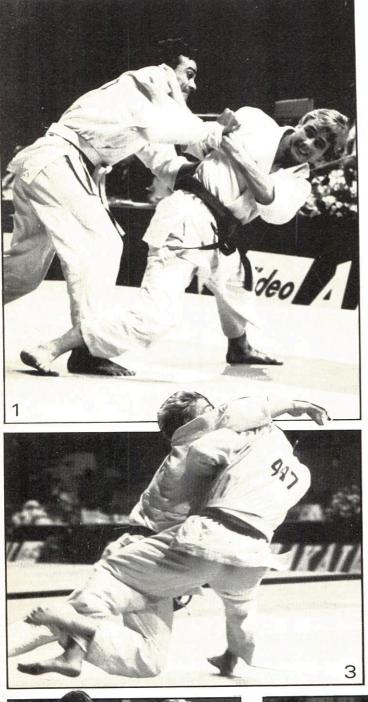
Brian Jacks, the new British Team Manager, could not have got off to a more successful start, although he now has the formidable task of improving on this performance.







ATTACKING IN STYLE: ADAMS PHOTO-FOCUS





- 1-Eri-tai-toshi on Baptista (Brazil).

- 2—Another Tai-toshi attack on Baptista.
 3—Ouchi-gari on Latreche (Algeria).
 4—A strong Uchimata attack in the opening seconds of the final.
- 5—Ko-ouchi-gari attack on Davaadalai (Mongolia). (photos a, b and c).









VITAL JUDO: A LIVING SPORT

BY JOHN GOODBODY - U.P.I. BUREAU

"I suppose anyone who is passionately interested in something gets moments like that, when right there in front of your very eyes everything that you only suspected you believe in actually comes to pass." The words are those of the England football team manager Ron Greenwood, talking about the 1953 Hungarian team. But I read them on the day after the Eleventh World Judo Championships had ended and they had particular force because they were so appropriate to my feeling as I came home to Paris.

The Maastricht World Championships were generally a mediocre tournament. There were too few bouts in which fighters had to raise their ability to achieve victory. Sometimes, compared to Paris two years ago, there was also a notable lack of atmosphere, partly because the Dutch themsleves were non-existent. The overall standard at the beginning of the Olympiad was inevitably lower than in the last two years because so many experienced fighters had retired after Moscow.

But there were splendid compensations. Nothing was more distinctly memorable for British eyes than at Middleweight (Under 78 kilos) with Neil Adams becoming the first British man ever to win any world title. Japan's Yasuhiro Yamashita took two Gold medals with an ease that was extraordinary. Bernard Tchoullouyan was impressively skilful in the Light-Heavyweights (Under 86 kilos). Katsuhiko Kashiwazaki in the

YOSHUHIRO YAMASHITA with ANTON GEESINK

Lightweights (Under 65 kilos) won all his contests (like Yamashita) on Ippon—something that had not been done in the World Championships since 1967 when their compatriot Light-Middleweight Hiroshi Minatoya completed the feat.

All of these fighters, in their radically different ways, illustrated for me Ron Greenwood's words. It was not so much the fact they won. But they shared the common distinction of winning in a manner that makes Judo vital, a living sport. They fought with savage skill. They threw people cleanly. They used sharply defined techniques. They went for Ippons.

Increasingly over recent years contests have been won without adventure, by fighters content to score a Koka and cruise to victory, just doing enough hacking at their opponent's legs and other half-committed throws to woo the referee not to give them a penalty. This is a negation of Judo and, in the long run, it is ineffective. To throw someone in Judo you should try

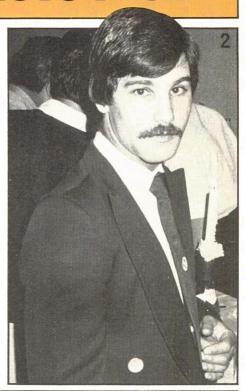


for an Ippon, if you go for a Koka (and I have heard coaches advise people to do this) you will rarely achieve it and probably do less. Here on the Continent, fortunately, Britain is renowned for producing men who actually attempt throws.

"Style is what makes us believe in a thing. Nothing but style." I used these words about the British team after the cataclysmic European Team Final at Crystal Palace against the Soviet Union in 1974. And Adams fighting as the direct inheritor of that tradition, has now transcended their feats. The baton was handed over by that team after the 1976 Olympics to Adams. He set off alone and now has broken all their records. An Olympic Silver Medal, two European Senior Titles, a World Championships Bronze Medal and finally the World Title. For sustained supremacy no one can match his record. He is Britain's greatest-ever competitor.

maastricht PHOTO-PAGE

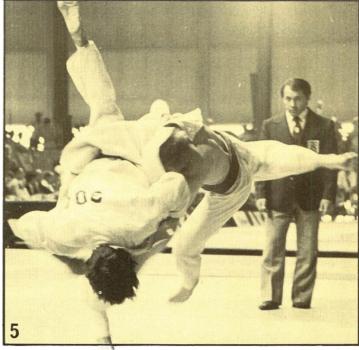


















7— Gold: Yasuhiro Yamashita (Japan), Silver: Wojciech Reszko (Poland), Bronze: Andres Ozsvar (Hungary) Open category, 2— Reserve Lightweight Steve Chadwick. 3— Yamashita strangles Reszko (Poland) in the Open final. 4— Kashiwazaki (Japan) with the superb Kuzure-yoko-shiho to win the final. 5— Tambour (Belgium) scores Ippon in the 71 kilo event. 6—78 kilo Gold: Adams (GB), Silver: Jiro Kase (Japan), Bronze: Doherty (Canada), Bronze: Petrov (Bulgaria). 7— Adams' Ko-ouchi-gari on Doherty (Canada) to reach the final. 8— Bell (GB) is thrown with Sode-tsuri-goshi. 9— Shozo Fujii (Japan) four times World Champion and Charles Palmer, IPP, UF. 10— Yamashita scores Ippon with Uchimata (prelims.). 11— Morewaki (Japan) attempting to turn Petrikov (Under 60 kilo final). 12— Russian medallists Khubuluri and Bodavelli. 13—Norwegian World Championship Team with Tony Macconnell.

















If I can claim that title for Neil Adams then Yasuhiro Yamashita laid a strong claim to be the finest man Japan and perhaps the world has ever produced. He does not look impressive. Most Japanese heavyweights appear as if they have just been leading a baton charge of riot police—and usually have. Yamashita is not like that. No broken nose or cauliflower ears-just a large smiling face. His lack of disfigurement recalls the reply of the senior Samurai in Kurosawa's film The Seven Samuari who when asked why he was not picking one hardened but badly-scarred warrior to protect the village, replied: "It's not the man with the scars we're looking for. It's the man who gave him the scars." When Yamashita beats a European he does it with such deftness that he looks like a Tokyo businssman successfully completing a deal for another cargo of Toyota cars. Although twenty-and-a-half stone, he moves with amazing speed. He quickly knows how to shift the direction of an attack to adapt to an opponent's movement. Against Robert Van De Walle who might be only a lightheavyweight but who did win the European Open title last year, he threw him first for Waza-ari for Ouchi-gari. Then forty-five seconds later he swept in for his Uchimata. Van De Walle tried to get off the end of it but Yamashita kept turning and finally tipped him over for Ippon.

Yamashita has been unbeaten for four-and-a-half years. He has won a record five successive All-Japan titles. He has now become the first man ever to win two titles at the same World Championships (Ruska did his double at the Olympics). I do think there is a shortage of talented big men at the moment-which makes his own ability seem greater - but I think he is so far ahead of everyone else that he would have been outstanding in any era. This applies equally to most of the other Gold medallists at these Championships. But just how outstanding is Yamashita? Would he have beaten either Geesink or Ruska in their prime-at the time they won their Olympic titles? I asked Geesink this. He replied that the rules of competition have changed greatly and this has affected the style of Judo, so making it impossible to guess. He thought Yamashita was magnificent but believed his own contemporary Isao Inokuma (whom Geesink incidentally never met) would have won the title this year. I think Yamashita would have had more problems with Geesink because of his height and reach than Ruska. Remember Ruska was by no means unbeatable at his peak. He lost a preliminary bout in the 1972 Olympics and was thrown cleanly at the 1969 World Championships. And in any case we have probably not seen the zenith of Yamashita's potential. Only 24, he will surely continue to improve. In the meantime Japan can bask in the glory of his excellence.

If Yamashita seems certain to go on until Los Angeles, Kashiwazaki is less certain. By 1984 he will be 32 years old. "That is old for someone of my bodyweight." he said. There are also plenty of Japanese eager to take his place. But he leaves a profound memory behind; he used a superbly fluent Sumegaeshi in the Final against European Champion Constantin Niculae, and his groundwork was inspired. He used his fist to entwine his opponent's jacket and then employing this as a lever winched his own leg from between those of his opponent. The real surprise for Japan was the early defeat of light-middleweight (Under 71 kilos) Kiyoto Katsuki. Everyone expected him to get at least a medal but Hungarian Sandor Nagysolymosi took such an extreme right-handed grip that Katsuki was unable to penetrate his defence. The Japanese heavyweight Masato Mihara also got into all sorts of difficulty when faced with Roger Vachon of France, who uses an extreme left-handed grip. Both Japanese seemed unable to adapt their moves, startling for a country where gripping like this is so common.

Japan therefore, with four Gold and two Silver medals, just about maintained their level compared to Paris (four Gold and three Bronze), although Yamashita was a source of understandable pride. He has become a national figure. I have never known, in six World Championships and three Olympics, so many Japanese journalists at a gobal Judo event. The Soviet Union just about clung onto second place with four Silver medals but like East Germany (two Bronze medals) they tend to concentrate on the Olympics and are still building up a new team. By 1983 they will

World Championships VIENNA 1975

	UNDER 63 KILOS	
1	MINAMI	JPN
2	KASHIWAZAKI KATSUHIKO	JPN
3A	REISSMANN TORSTEN	GDR
3B	MARIANI FELICE	ITA
	UNDER 70 KILOS	
1	NEVZORO V	URS
2	DVOINIKOV	URS
3A	KURAMOTO	JPN
3B	акімото к	JPN
	UNDER 80 KILOS	
1	FUJII	JPN
2	HARA	JPN
3A	ADAMCZKY A	POL
3B	COCHIE J	FRA
	UNDER 93 KILOS	
1	ROUGE JEAN-LUC	FRA
2	ISHIBASHI	JPN
3A	HARSHILADZE	URS
3B	BETANOV V	URS
	OVER 93 KILOS	
1	ENDO	JPN
2	NOVIKOV ANATOLI	URS
3A	TAKAKI	JPN
3B	PAK	PRK
	OPEN	
1	UEMURA	JPN
2	NINOMIYA	JPN
3A	CHOCHOSVILI S	URS
3B	LORENTZ DIETMAR	GDR

PARIS 1979

-		
	UNDER 60 KILOS	
1	REY THIERRY	FRA
2	KOA WOO JONG	KOR
1	MORIWAKI YASUHIKO	JPN
3A	MARIANI FELICE	ITA
3B	MARIANI FELICE	IIA
	UNDER 65 KILOS	
1	SOLODUKHIN NIKOLAY	URS
2	DELVINGT	FRA
3A	PAWLOWSKI JANUSZ	POL
3B	SAHARA	JPN
	UNDER 71 KILOS	
1	KATSUKI KIYOTO	JPN
2	GAMBA EZIO	ITA
3A	NAMCHALAURI	URS
3B	ADAMS NEIL	GBR
	UNDER 78 KILOS	
1	FUJII	JPN
2	TCHOULLOUYAN BERNARD	FRA
3A	HEINKE H	GDR
3B	PARK	KOR
30	1.00	
120	UNDER 86 KILOS	GDR
1	ULTSCH DETLEF	FRA
2	SANCHIS	JPN
3A	TAKAHASHI	BRA
3B	CARMONA	BHA
	UNDER 95 KILOS	
1	KHUBULURI TENGUIZ	URS
2	WALLE V D ROBERT	BEL
3A	NUMAN HENK	HOL
3B	NEUREUTHER GUNTHER	GER
	OVER 95 KILOS	
1	YAMASHITA YASUHIRD	JPN
2	ROUGE JEAN-LUC	FRA
3A	VARGA	HUN
3B	CHO JAE KI	KOR
	OPEN	
1	ENDO	JPN
2	KUZNETSOV VITALI	URS
3A	KOVACEVIC RADOMIR	YUG
50	ROUGE JEAN-LUC	FRA

both surely collect more honours. South Korea got three medals but their Gold medallist Chong-Hak Park was the least impressive of all the winners.

France again did well. Although neither of their Olympic Champions, Angelo Parisi and Thierry Rey came in the first three, they still collected three medals. The team's technical director Piere Guichard is confident this team is the same one which will fight in Los Angeles. Parisi was their biggest disappointment although I had not expected him to do well this time. He has had too many injuries and started training too late to make any real impact. In addition he is now in the same position in France as he was with Britain in 1973; he is accepted as outstanding. There is no deep need, no hunger, for him to succeed as there was at the 1972 Olympics for Britain and 1980 Games for France. 'Ange', however, is such a force of nature that he needs only to recover his inspiration (as he has done in the past) to return to his imperial best. Judo needs him even more than France.

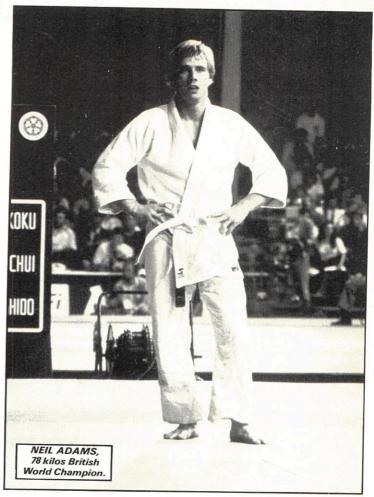
Apart from Adams, Britain did not have a distinguished tournament. But the team's average age is only 22 and there is much talent to be developed. Once Densign White learns some strategy on the mat and adds a bit more weight, he is going to take some stopping. He has some of the important things—movement and two fine throws. For someone of 19 fighting in his first World Championships he showed enough promise to make his future very exciting. Gavin Bell, too, could develop into a potential European medallist because he has the confidence and control to use his Seio movement—and keep on using it. Arthur Mapp was nowhere near his Moscow form. With as badly damaged knees as he has, I am not surprised.

The one person I was sorry not to see in action was Paul Radburn, whose return from injury has been just too recent to allow him to be considered. His aggression and basic technique are magnificent. With careful handling he could be a major force as either heavyweight and super-heavyweight. A number of his rivals in Maastricht were delighted he was not there.

And so to Neil Adams, because his victory was so very much the climax to Britain's performance. "A miniature Yamashita" was how Tony Macconnell described him to me; and he looked that. I thought before the event he had a lot going for him this year. There was less pressure because he had not won a European medal (for reasons only the referees know). He had continued training after Moscow despite his evident disappointment. He had once beaten the Japanese entry Shiro Kase. The Olympic Champion Shota Khabarelli had lost in the Soviet Union trials and was not picked. He got a good draw. Personally I thought he would definitely get a medal but secretly would have bet on the Gold.

But what I did not expect was the way he did it. He destroyed the oppostion. He never looked like losing any contest. He was quite clearly the best middleweight in the world. If you think I am overstating the case because he is British then this is what my colleague Jean-Francois Agogue of L'Equip, who has covered the last eighteen European and last four World Championships for the French sports daily, had to say about him..."Like Tchoullouyan, Adams has the public for him but not always the referees and judges. So he took the contest against Kase in hand and humiliated his adversary, inflicting a terible armlock after only three minutes. The public, on their feet, gave a very, very long ovation to this quite exceptional Champion."

I don't think I have ever seen a Japanese so outclassed as Kase was in this World Championships Final. They have lost earlier in bouts but they have never looked quite so secondrate. Adams himself thought Kase was "psyched out," because he never attacked once. The only disappointment was that the Final was so short. It was like settling down to a six-course meal in a three-star restaurant in Lyon and after a delicious hors d'oeuvre suddenly having the second mouthful of fish snatched away.



Kase knew after Adams had first tried Juji-gatame, what might be coming. But Adams has learnt one central feature of groundwork—to acquire a winning technique one must know dozens of ways into it. The crowd, in particular the overwhelming support he got from the British section of it (I don't remember such enthusiastic support from any group from a visiting nation at any World Championship) revelled in the situation. It was like a Punch and Judo Show. They almost laughed with delight as the pair went into the ground again and Adams worked his way towards his favourite move. 'Look out' they might have shouted to Kase, like a crowd on a Brighton beach, 'He is going to nail you this time.' As Adams leant back to break open Kase's grip they yelled 'Heave! Heave!' The hands came undone. Neil smiled as the lock came on. Kase tapped. Britain at last had a World Champion.

When I woke up the next morning on that sunny Saturday by the Meuse in Maastricht there was a warming feeling in my stomach. There still is now.



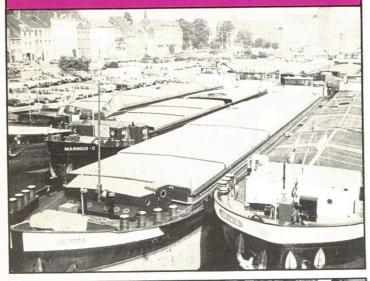
maastricht



THE FULL STORY as seen by Frank Smith



Top: EUROHAL. Site of World Championship. Middle: River Meuse - Commercial traffic. **Bottom:** No parking problems for bikes





Maastricht, the oldest and most southern town in Holland has much to commend it. Apart from its obvious beauty and architectural elegance it has no fewer than three hundred and sixty-five pubs and I am sure that after Neil Adams' tremendous victory, some of the British supporters tried their best to sample as many of them as

The Town really is a delight. Built on the River Meuse and just a stones throw from Germany and Belgium it is essentially a mediaeval fortress town though the Fort of Maastricht dates back to Roman times and with its tree lined streets and pavement cafes offering the tourist every facility it almost lives up to the tourist office claim . . . 'MMmmmm . . . MAASTRICHT A City of Delights.'

Not being a very good traveller, I never look forward to the actual journey in getting to competitions abroad but this time the trip was quite comfortable with an overnight trip down to the south coast and a Hovercraft trip at 60mph over to Calais where within a few minutes we were on a motorway that led straight through France, Belgium and Holland almost to the Hotel door. As for the Hotel, well that was the first pleasant introduction to Maastricht. Called the In-der-Hoof and just about five miles out of town it was originally a Coach House which had been skilfully modernised and added to so that it still retained its character and despite the very modern facilities retains its air of antiquity enhanced by some exquisitely hand-carved furniture which must have been worth a fortune. Fortunately the Hotel charges did not reflect this and though I was not very keen on the Dutch breakfasts of cold meats, cheese, bread and a fried egg it was a most enjoyable stay.

The whole atmosphere in Maastricht (Holland) is one of gentleness and politeness which whilst it was never to generate the excitement and atmosphere of the Pierre Coubertine stadium in Paris it was the never-the-less a pleasant change from the aggressive brusqueness of the French. There was one aspect that was similar to Paris and common to most modern cities and that was the difficulty in parking for which there seemed little or no provision in Maastricht itself. Indeed most of the shopping area is closed to traffic which whilst it made wandering around the shops quite comfortable it proved difficult to get there. The Dutch of course have it all worked out and they tear around on bicycles or mopeds which they have a disconcerting habit of riding on the pavement where they seem to have priority. Provision for parking bikes was available as the photograph shows.

The River Meuse is about two hundred yards wide at its most extreme and is spanned by four bridges one of which is just a few hundred yards from the Eurohal where the judo was to be held which is in a pleasant setting on the River's edge. This is a multi-purpose sports stadium which had been converted by the Dutch 'Judo-Bond' with the help of the local army camp and the local government. There were to be two adjacent mat areas which had been ingenuously placed on the required 'sprung wooden platform' by hiring a couple of hundred fork-lift stillages from the local dockyards and pinning them together. Unfortunately the whole effect was ruined somewhat by sticking one of the superb SEIKO scoreboards in between the two mats right in the middle which almost completely obstructed one mat from the view of the spectators in the end galleries. However more about that

The seating consisted of a scaffolding and plank arrangement which looked positively 'Heath-Robinson' and with a two inch gap between the two planks making up the seat looked decidedly uncomfortable and made me appreciate my collapsible photographer's stool with its canvas seat.



However, by the time the army had finished laying carpet and spreading boxes of flowers and plants around, everything looked very nice and with a large shopping and catering area and an absolutely superb Press Centre by Artifort and PTT (the Maastricht telephone district) coupled with very good organisation everything looked ready to go.

On touring the Eurohal the night before booking in and accreditation was to begin, we managed to talk to the SEIKO engineers who related the astonishing lengths the Company had gone to in order to provide the superb (if inconvenient) scoreboards. It seems that the Judo-Bond had initially approached European suppliers of time recorders etc, to supply the scoreboards on a 'free' basis in return for the guarantee of programme and press publicity and exposure on television for four days in the several European countries which had already agreed to take Dutch television coverage of the Event. Unfortunately none of these took up the offer but did not notify the organisers until some four months before the Championships. Solution to the problem came in a personal approach from Mr Inokuma to the president of the Seiko Company in Japan and they agreed to do the job but did not actually have any scoreboards of the design required. So . . . they made some at a cost of around £20,000 per pair and airfreighted them into Maastricht at the astronomical charge of £21,000. This was for 21/2 tons of equipment which you cannot exactly get into a small airmail envelope and with it came the Seiko Manager from London, the Assistant Manager, Kazuo Iizuka (Electronic timepieces engineering) specialist and Nico Struijk the Dutch Manager of the Company.

For the two days before the event they worked on the installation for 18 out of every twenty four hours and by the time the Championships started Kazuo had been working for 16 hours continuously. Of course it did not help when the army of helpers put carpet down and shot eighteen staples through the wiring and as each wire contained 50 cores, tracing all the faults was a nightmare. To their immense credit everything was working beautifully on time and the boards are really very good and it was not Seiko's fault that they were placed in the middle of the mats.

Whilst watching the Seiko people going quietly frantic I came across the story of the young Equadoran player Carlos Aquilla who was his country's only representative. His parent Association had not thought it possible to get him to the World Championships so he arranged his entry, arranged a few fund-raising

events, sought sponsors and begged and borrowed enough to get his fare for the numerous flights from Ecuador to Maastricht and arrived at midnight on Tuesday with no accommodation and nowhere to sleep. Fortunately he found the Eurohal where the army (in admiration) decided that such spirit should be rewarded and equipped him with a cot in the press centre where he spent the night. When asked was all the effort worthwhile he said that he was not very good and didn't expect to last more than ten seconds but at least he could say he fought in the World Championships. His draw did him no favours as he got Lopez of Peru in his first fight and Gavin Bell in his second who eliminated him. At least he lasted more than the expected 10 seconds.

So to Thursday with all the last minute preparations turning the Eurohal into a contractors playground during the morning but one by one they tidied up, packed their tools and moved out until at 12 noon when the public were all admitted all was in order. Well, mostly. There was the odd hiccup like the press officer giving the 60 or so photographers an allocated place in front of the jury tables on the long side of the mats with the television lights behind them only for the floor manager to change it and only allow photography from the ends of the mat which meant that because of the scoreboard placing one had to choose which mat to work on as the other was obscured. Now we were all facing into the television lights and good photography became almost an impossibility as the side of the players facing the photographer were in shadow!

I really get tired of Judo organisations who are desperate for as much publicity as possible yet at the hint of television completely ignore the photographers and journalists that are stalwarts of the sport and cause them to fight and scramble for places to work and then suffer the inconvenience of being moved by every badge wearer that passes by. One day some Association will realise that publicity has made the sport what it is and actually allocate good positions to the people to whom they give accreditation. I hope it's the BJA.

The first day, was to see the staging of the Under 95 kilo categories and the anticipated appearance of the man expected to be the star of the show Yasuhiro Yamashita, who was fighting in the heavier category and later in the week in the Open Event.

Yamashita had not been seen in Europe since the 1979 World Championships in Paris in which he was victorious and he still remains unbeaten in contest and is reputed to have improved his throwing skills it ceemed a foregone conclusion that he would retain his title. Marvin McLatchie was the British entry into the Over 95 kilo category though he seemed far to inexperienced to be able to make any impression so greater hopes were pinned on Olympic Bronze medallist Arthur Mapp in the lighter group. Arthur had slimmed down especially to compete in this category and there were some fears that his weight loss had been too drastic and would affect his performance though he looked fit enough.

The draw did nothing to help Marvin who drew the likely Silver medallist Grigory Veritchev for his first fight who first disposed of the ranked Czech, Vladimir Kocman in fairly rapid style throwing him for Ippon in the first minute. Marvin did little better and was held with Kesagatame with apparent ease whilst Veritchev went on to beat Reszko (Poland) by a Yuko for the somewhat dubious distinction of a final against Yamashita.

The Japanese star had coasted through his side of the sheet throwing both Gislason (Iceland) and Salonen (Finland) for Ippon with Uchimata and then holding the Spaniard Soler with Kamishiho-gatame, without even looking as if he had broken sweat. The Korean Yong Chol Cho faired little better in the fight for the final place and he too was thrown, this time with Harai-goshi, for Ippon in just 15 seconds.

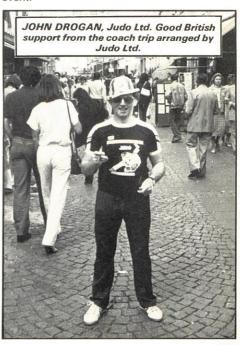
Veritchev did at least give Yamashita a fight in the final though he lost a Koka and a Yuko in quick succession to Ashiwazas and then fell to the inevitable Yokoshiho-gatame which seems to be a Japanese preference almost as much as the Europeans favour Kesagatame. Kocman came through the repechage beating McLatchie, Resko and Olhorn *en route* whilst Finland won its first-ever World Championship medal through Juha Salonen who held Cho to secure Ippon right on the bell.

So the expected title to Yamashita who is obviously streets ahead of any current heavy-weight opponent though it has to be said that he did not really have a very difficult draw and the range of good players in this category at the moment is severely limited. Even the much heralded Angelo Parisi looked jaded and ready for retirement. In his first fight the Olympic Champion barely earned a one point decision whilst his second contest against Cho went to the much more aggressive Korean by a Yuko and Angelo went home without even scoring. Only Veritchev and Olhorn (German Democratic Republic) looked like surviving to the next World Event in 1983.

The Under 95 kilo event was much better and if I could have laid a bet it would have been on a couple of my favourite fighters, Robert Van der Walle (Belgium) and Nguiz Khubuluri (USSR) to make the final, though Vachon (France) and Neureuther (Federal German Republic) were well-known Western opposition and the East German Rettig looked a handful. Neureuther was a bit unlucky and after strangling Komornicki (Argentina) in his first fight he then met Khubuluri who bounced him about a bit scoring three Yukos and a Koka and then went on to repeat the performance against Bielawski (Poland) to meet another of the vastly improved Koreans, Yong Chu Ha for a final place.

Not such an easy passage this time with the Russian winning by a Yuko from his favourite pick-up technique to earn a final place against none other than Van der Walle who had thrown Georghiu (Cyprus) taken a couple of Kokas Vachon and earned a split decision against Rettig to make it.

The final also went to decision with Khubuluri deservedly getting the nod, but all credit to Van der Walle whose behaviour is a credit to the sport though I must confess it beats me how he can continue at this level year after year at such a high standard as he doesn't exactly have a wealth of talent in Belgium to train with. He really is a super ambassador for his country and is always a delight to watch and his judo is superb. It remains to be seen if he can stay around for another World or Olympic event.



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Arthur Mapp never really got going, meeting the tear-away Cuban, Venancio Gomez who went off like an express train scoring a Wazari, Yuko and Koka on Arthur who could not get any sort of control of the man and this put him out of the Event with an injured knee which also meant his withdrawal from the Open Category to be substituted by Marvin McLatchie. Bronze medallists in this weight were Yong Chu Ha and the very awkward Vachon.

So, the first day was not all that Team Manager Brian Jacks had hoped it would be and no doubt there will be criticism of Mapp at the lighter weight, though if anyone should know about International competition Brian should and perhaps with a bit more time or an easier first round fight Arthur could have made a good showing.

Brian was only to be at the Event for one more day due to be prior commitments and then Colin McIver was to step into his shoes with Cliff Baker-Brown assisting but didn't Brian choose the right day . . . Friday, Adams and White, Under 78 and Under 86 kilos.

First on was the 86 kilo event with Densign White upgraded from 78 kilos to be Britain's representative and though a little too near the bottom of the weight category obviously with enough skill to do well against some formidable opposition. There was every judo man's favourite, Bernard Tchoullouyan (France), Seiki Nose (Japan), David Bodaveli (USSR), Detlef Ultsch (German Democratic Republic), Walter Carmona (Brazil), Garcia (Spain), Missalla (Federal German Republic) and Hirose (Canada) to name but a handful and a fairly even draw had them well spread though Densign would have to beat either Tchoullouyan or Bodaveli to reach the final.

His first fight was against Tommy Martin (USA) who like all the Americans had improved enormously and he proved it by giving Densign a tough time until fading in the last minute when Densign scored a Koka to go through to a bout against the very experienced Adalbert Missalla (Federal German Republic). This was quite a bout with each player scoring a Wazari and Koka but Densign staying ahead at the bell with a Yuko from Tai-toshi for a very good win and progression to meet Garcia of Spain who so far had only been on the mat for 41 seconds in which time he had thrown Gudjohnson and Papacostas for Ippon. White was a different kettle of fish however and the young Wolverhampton man went ahead with a Wazari fairly early on and stayed there until just near the bell when he put Garcia down for a Yuko from Ouchi-gari only to hesitate just long enough for the Spaniard to turn him into Kesagatame from which Densign could find no escape. Consequently a fortunate Ippon to Garcia though even this was earned easily as the timekeeper, mistaking who was holding activated the Osaekomi for Densign's side of the board and Ippon was given after 25 seconds as Densign had scored Wazari. However I doubt that the five seconds would have made much difference and with a little more experience and speed about the mat White will not get caught in similar situations and obviously he has a very bright future, preferably at this weight. Densign is not too sure whether he likes it or not though at just 18 years of age and bearing in mind the way he has 'bulked up' in the last year he is going to have great difficulty making 78 kilos in two years time for the World's or in three years for the Olympics. It would also be stupid to lose White or Adams with them both battling for the same spot. In this case I agree with Brian Jacks that the squad need is for both of them.

Tchoullouyan had progressed to meet Garcia and he disposed of him with a couple of Yukos from Seoinage to meet Nose in the final after the Jap had disposed of the magnificent Carmona (Brazil) when he retired with an

injured arm. In Paris, Carmona had thrown with a variety of techniques and in Maastricht he looked even better, beating ranked players Nedeltchev (Bulgaria), Obadov (Yugoslavia) and Gyani (Hungary) all with Ippon techniques. I am sure at full fitness he would have conquered the less than impressive Japanese player.

The final was a bit of an anti-climax with neither player getting in any major throwing attempts and the split decision going to the popular Tchoullouyan, with Ultsch and the exciting Bodavelli sharing the Bronze.

And so to our gilt edged chance of a title, Team Captain Neil Adams who had led the pre-tournament training looking fit and sharp and eager to get going and without doubt he was the odds-on favourite for the 78 kilo title though there could be difficult times with Michel Nowak (France), Kevin Doherty (Canada) and Arowtiovnian (USSR). Japanese player Jiro Kase seemed an odd choice for these Championships and he certainly does not have the style of most Japanese champions and at times his judo produced an impression that he had been coming to Europe for training! However he did enough and struggled through with wins against Sadej (Poland) 5 points, Hwang (Korea) 3 points, Petrov (Bulgaria) 1 point decision and Novotny (Czechoslovakia) on a penalty to take one final place whilst Adams was delighting the crowd with convincing wins, armlocking Davaadalai (Mongolia) and then throwing Farid Latreche (Algeria) with a hand assisted Ko-ouchi for Wazari and then for Ippon with a superb Osoto-gake after first repeating the Jujigatame on Delmo Baptista (Brazil).

Kevin Doherty came next who after a good win against Barron of the USA was looking very strong though seemingly too pedantic for the quick-silver Adams and this proved the case when Neil caught him with a fast Ko-ouchi-gari after just 49 seconds for a Wazari. This was more than enough to get him through to meet Kase whom he had previously thrown for Ippon in the Kano Cup and I don't imagine that this was far from the Japanese fighter's mind when within seconds of the start he was taking an airborne ride to go into a groundwork skirmish which had Neil doing the well rehearsed Adams turn into Juji-gatame. Kase hung onto his arm for 'grim death' until Matte was called, but this did not seem to alert him to the danger of Newaza and within a minute elected to join Neil in groundwork with the inevitable results. After one rolling miss, Neil turned him again with those powerful leg movements and came up with Kase's left arm to which the Japanese was really hanging on. Despite all his efforts at bridging and twisting and turning, Kase could find no escape and at 3.13 seconds Adams broke the grip to become the most enthusiastically acclaimed World Champion of the Event.

With the British contingent singing the National Anthem, (out of tune) at the tops of their voices it really was a memorable occasion and a nice bonus for the biggest contingent ever that had travelled to watch the British fighters.

Neil's popularity is in his style of judo and his exemplary mat behaviour for the World Championships are all about STYLE. Not the style of a players technique but the vivacious presentation of that skill with panache and elegance which is the true hall-mark of a Champion. The Japanese had it in Fujii and Endo and the French have it in Tchoullouyan and Neil Adams without doubt became a Champion in style. "Oh why?". . . bemoaned Colin McIver . . "Couldn't I have been Team Manager today?" Petrov and Doherty were the Bronze medallists and Nowak surprisingly went out when thrown for a Wazari by Bakker (Holland).

Chris Bowles had also looked pretty sharp in

training and Saturday saw him on the mat contesting the 71 kilogram category in the company of players like, Dyot (France), Tambour (Belgium), Secj (USA), Cyr (Canada), Katsuki (Japan) and Partchiev (USSR). Chris had a fairly good draw though he had to get past Tambour and Dyot to make the final but he started well enough earning the decision against the awkward Campo of Spain and then inexplicably lost to the Swede Kristensson when the decision went against him. Kristonsson then made his exit to Tambour which put Chris rather dejectedly out of the event and in all honesty a player of the class of Bowles should never have lost to Kristensson but then that's the fascination of the sport and of these Championships in particular and players that do their 'homework' sometimes get surprising results.

The category in itself was not too inspiring with Katsuiki giving a miserable performance to lose to Nagysolymosi (Hungary) in his first fight by a Koka and Partchiev went out in his first knock to Fetto (Italy) so unexpectedly we had the Korean Park contesting the final against the stolid and unimaginative Serge Dyot and the final reflected his style of play. It was somewhat of a relief that the Korean won with a strong Kami-shiho-gatame or we might have people copying Dyot thinking that his way was the way to win a title. Understandably the Koreans were as overjoyed as the British had been and their small contingent stood and sang their melodious National Anthem with tears streaming down their oriental cheeks. Lehmann showed some refreshing ability in winning one Bronze medal and Vujevic (Yugoslavia) had just to earn another one point decision over Nagysolymosi for the other.

The Korean contingent obviously disliked Dutch food even more than I did for they erected their own kitchen on the grass verge outside the Eurohal and with a pot-bellied charcoal burning stove belching out smoke and the smell of spiced meat they proceeded to cook a celebratory dinner! John Beard, videoing for the BJA Midland Area, momentarily got carried away and forgot that he wasn't at work and spent ten minutes persuading them to buy his charcoal at discount rates!

At 65 kilos there was much more entertainment, with most of it coming from Katsuhiko Kashiwazaki (Japan) who equalled the record set by Yamashita just two days earlier by winning the World title by scoring Ippon in every fight. On the way to the final he disposed of Sambou (Senegal) with a nifty line in Ushiro-kesagatame which he maintained long enough to tie up Sambou's arm in his own jacket and then shifted into Kuzure-yokoshihogatame for Ippon to move on to a fight with the reigning World and Olympic Champion at 60 kilos Thierry Rey (France). Obviously Rey had not been watching because after struggling through his first fight against Soubei of Egypt he let the Japanese fighter completely dominate him and he was soon tied up equally as well for another Ippon to Kashiwazaki. Next was Torsten Reissman who was soon disposed of with a nice Tomoe-nage for Ippon and then Jung Ho Wang of Korea was held in Tate-shiho-gatame to put Kashiwazaki in the final against Nicolae of Rumania. He had a less illustrious series of wins to make his final place disposing of Foley of Ireland on a penalty, Tsutui of Brazil on a decision, Hoogendijk on a Koka and Ponomerev of the USSR on a split

The final was something else and started in fine style with Kashiwazaki throwing Nicolae with Tomoenage for which the referee awarded a Koka. One judge then scored Yuko and the other judge felt it deserved Ippon! They settled for Yuko for a throw which seemed an obvious Wazari and perhaps the other reports you will read of the event will verify that this was indicative of the standard of refereeing which was inconsistent to say the least. Mr Kashiwazaki was however not to be deterred and at 1 minute 50 seconds he caught the Rumanian on

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the ground and went through his elaborate transfer from Ushiro-kesagatame through the tying up of the hand into Kuzura-Yokoshihogatame for Ippon and the title. Ponomerev held Tsutui for third place which he shared with the Korean Jung Ho Hwang who beat Rey quite convincingly by a Yuko.

Kerrith Brown was Britain's entry but he was unable to get past Janusz Pawlowski (Poland) despite a spirited performance in which he scored a Yuko only to see the Pole pull it back and add another Koka to go through. Pawlowski was then eliminated by the Korean which put Kerrith out of the contest. Without a doubt Kerrith Brown is Britain's best 65 kilo player at the moment but still lacks the edge and throwing ability to succeed internationally though his progress during the year is obvious to see. Like Club mate Densign White, he is still very young and has plenty of time but still tends to allow his opponent to dominate the contest in the hope of counters. Unfortunately at this level the man that's first in usually wins!

Sunday was the last day of the Competition and once again gave us the chance to have a look at Yamashita in the Open category and the fine lightweight players in the 60 kilo category which was to provide almost the best group of the Tournament.

The Open Category was improved on the Over 95 kilo category by the inclusion of some of the lighter players like Van der Walle, Gomez, Koestenberger and even Ireland's Terry Watt whose appearance against the giant Zinneker (Switzerland) was limited to just 1.20 seconds before being turned over for Ippon. Yamashita had a bit more of a difficult draw with Van der Walle or Parisi to beat to get to the final though once again the absence of skilful heavyweights were to make his job a little too easy.

Marvin McLatchie had an easier start against the 'Oxo Cube' Al Swtayhi (United Arab Republic) who really knew very little other than how to squat in defence and Marvin made somewhat of a meal of it before throwing for Wazari into Osaekomi for the full point at 3 minutes 6 seconds. This gave him a fight against the formidable Van der Walle whose superiority was soon evident with a Yuko throw into Kesagatame for Ippon after just two minutes which gave the Belgian player a fight against Yamashita for the final place. Yamashita had coasted through his fights with a Yokoshiho against Moura (Brazil), Kata-ha-jime against Berger (Canada) which he followed with a tremendous Uchimata on Van der Walle

after just 1 minute 49 seconds. Parisi had continued to disappoint with a mediocre performance against Van der Walle with both players receiving Shidos for passivity and Robert earning the decision with some good work in the last minute. This is the first tournament I can remember in which Parisi has failed to get a score on the board and for a player of his class this must have been quite traumatic. It's a bit like a star striker in a football team failing to score any goals and I did hear some comment that due to injury his preparation had been difficult but then it seems strange that the French should have selected him. Altogether this has been a barren year for Angelo, lets hope that next year he gets it all together and displays the skills which he is capable of.

The muscular, blond, Pole, Wojciech Reszko had topped the other side of the table with superiority wins against Osvar (Hungary), Soler (Spain) and Zaprianov (Bulgaria) and then held Koestenberger in a final flurry which saw his score a Koka and a Yuko all in the last minute. Reszko undoubtably had the hardest draw and most of his contests went to time which could account for the fact that in the final he appeared to have nothing left with which to oppose Yamashita and the impassive Japanese soon seized on to a powerful Okuri-eri-jime which he seemed to apply with nonchalent ease to take his second title.

This is the first time that any player has won two titles at one World Championships and he was also the second player to win a World title with Ippon scores and this he repeated in the open category which still leaves this majestic, disciplined fighter unbeaten and with a record run of successes. It seems that even the great Fujii might find his record four World titles threatened in 1983. Robert Van der Walle and Andras Osvar (Hungary), who was looking more mobile than of late, took deserved Bronze places.

The 60 kilo Event was a smashing contest with a variety of Ippon scores and some delightful performances from Bell, Kinces and Jupke whilst Phillip Takahashi (Canada) looked to be the most improved player of the tournament and was unfortunate not to do better than his Bronze place.

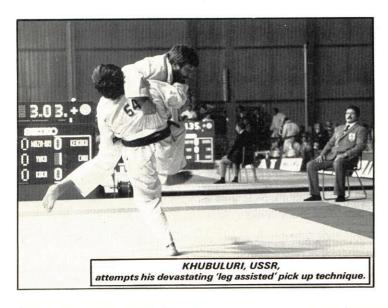
Gavin Bell was chosen as the British representative in this category in preference to Steve Chadwick who still somewhat unnecessarily travelled with the Team but as it was the choice was a good one, and Bell did extremely well in all his contests and with some experience looks like being our best lightweight prospect for some time. Gavin's first opponent was Shu-shan Lai of Taiwan who was quite a useful mover but Gavin scored two Yukos and a Koka from Seoi-nage and Tai-toshi to go

through to fight the aforementioned Carlos Aguilla of Ecuador who gave a spirited performance but lost to a similar score. This put Gavin against Phil Takahashi which proved to be tremendous fight with scores going either way until in the last minute with Bell coming to his feet from Newaza and both hands off the mat Takahashi whipped on a good Okuri-er-jime when Gavin expected a Matte call but finished up forced into submission. Never-the-less a good effort and obviously a hard earned lesson for Bell about depending on referee's calls.

Takahashi then met Petrikov (Czechoslovakia) who had not looked too convincing in his superiority wins over Maurel and Jiminez though he did a professional job on Tibor Kinces (Hungary) to win by a Yuko after Kinces had stormed through the preliminary rounds with Ippon wins from throws in all his contests. Once again Petrikov did a thoroughly workmanlike job on Takahashi and completely frustrated the Canadian to win by a Yuko and so meet Yashuhiko Moriwaki (Japan) in the final. The Japanese player had not looked anywhere near as spectacular as Takahashi or Bell yet he had quietly earned three Ippons, two from holds, to beat the stolid Mariana (Italy) in the last fight and also eliminating the high scoring Peter Jupke (Federal German Republic) who had been looking most impressive.

Mariani is no slouch in Newaza but he could not cope with Moriwaki who again slipped into the popular Yokoshiho for Ippon and then went on to take two Yukos off Petrikov with a Te-waza counter to Uchimata and a nice Tomoenage to the side for the title. Mariani managed another one point decision to take one Bronze medal never scoring higher than the three point penalty he gained in his first fight. Then in a remarkable fight against Eric Maurel in which he positively overwhelmed the Frenchman with scores of two Kokas, a Yuko, a Wazari and then an astonishing Ippon from a reverse, slow-motion Kataguruma during which he held Maurel on his shoulders up in the air for an apparent age before deciding where and how to dump him, Phillip Takahashi won the

Maastricht was not the most stimulating of World Championships and the reserved gentle approach of the Dutch audience produced a similar atmosphere but then there was Neil Adams and the gentlemanly Yamashita and meetings with Geesink, Ruska and Fujii to remember and I leave you with the opinion expressed by one of these famous Judo Champions on Yamashita. "He is obviously good, and the best around at the time, but until there is a skilful heavyweight who is prepared to attack him we shall never know how good he is!"





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