

UNSW Judo News

OCTOBER 2007

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2007 World Championships—Rio de Janeiro

First impressions of Rio are the sunshine, lines of sandy beaches (said to be badly polluted) Traditional Portuguese architecture, and incredible steep rocky peaks seeming to rise from the very streets. A spectacular place, but dangerous for the unwary tourist – one of the Slovakian athletes being robbed at knifepoint the day before his competition.



Rio's famous Corcovadia looks down on the city

This was the biggest ever World Championships by far – around 750 athletes from almost 150 countries. Unfortunately the organisation left much to be desired, and was marred by the political intrigue and the machinations of the new IJF President and his cronies. There were countless disputes and delays over the issue of tickets, reneging on agreements and commitments made to the IJF when their bid was successful.

Day one - +100, -100, +78, -78.

Not a good day for AUS. No wins, and no repechage. Semir was disappointed to go out early to POL, thrown with a big haraigoshi. John Brendecke was outclassed and outpowered by GEO. Simone Dahl was unable to trouble PUR. Catherine Arscott fought with courage and spirit vs SRB and will certainly benefit from the exposure at this level.

There were big surprises in the defeats of both Japanese stars Inoue and Suzuki, who were only shadows of their best. Even their women could only manage two silver medals. BRA delighted the partisan crowd to take gold in 100 and bronze in +100.

Day two – 90, 81, 70, 63.

Another disappointing day for our team. Emily Bensted going down to MGL, and Daniel Kelly again losing to his foe from Athens, Gordon (GBR). Unfortunately Gordon's progress was halted one fight short of letting Daniel

into the repechage. There was some spectacular fighting on perhaps the most entertaining day – stars were 63kg Veteran Gonzales (CUB) outlasted them all to win yet again. Decosse FRA took silver, with bronzes to Tanimoto (JPN) and Willeboordse (NED); 70kg Emame FRA, Rousey USA, Bosch NED, 81kg Camilo BRA Burton GBR Bischof GER 90kg Tsirekidze GEO, Iliadis GRE, Huizinga NED, Meloni ITA.

Day three – 73, 66, 57, 52

A better day for Australia, with Carli Lewis beating her GEO opponent first up, then going down to RUS in the repechage. Ivo Dos Santos had two good wins vs NOR and COL. His run ended at the hands of World Champ Derly (BRA). Kelly Fong went out quickly to SRB, and Andrew Collett lost to PRK after a spirited battle. Again there were some great fights, and some bad refereeing, especially against a couple of the Japanese.

52 Monteiro (POR) was unimpressive, but made the final, lucky to beat the young Brazilian in the semi.. Favourites La Rizza (FRA) and Nareks (SLO) surprisingly fell by the wayside. The title going to Shi (CHN)

57 Fernandez (ESP) grovelled her way into yet another final, to be smashed by Kye (PRK) who is becoming another Tamura, taking her World Title tally to four.

66 Here we saw the first PJU final – Joao Derly (BRA) successfully defending his title against veteran Arencibia (CUB).

73 Another surprising result with Wang (KOR) edging out Mammadli (AZE)



The Aussie team

Day four – 60, 48 and Opens.

In the 60kg Matt D'Aquino started well with ippon over TAN, then went down to UZB. No repechage. In a final few would have predicted, Houkes (NED) defeated veteran Khargiani (GEO).

48kg. Ryoko Tani (Tamura) had a tough draw and battled to semis, taking GS wins over FRA and PRK. Not impressive, very tactical. In the final faced defending champion Bermoy CUB and won fairly easily.

The Mens and Womens Open categories again produced some surprises, with Mikhaylin (RUS) going out early. Muneta and Tsukada gave JPN two more gold medals.

In the women, Polauder (SLO) made it to final with some grinding wins, but was no match for Tsukada (JPN).

So, after a shaky start, JPN emerged as the top nation with most medals, thanks to three gold on the last day. Host country BRA was next, also with three gold. FRA scraped into third place, and will be disappointed at some of their stars.



The impressive competition hall - pity the organization didn't match

FOR ALL THE NEWS

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Judo NSW "Fight Nite" : UNSW Wins Through to Final

The Black Suits strike again! In what turned out to be a disappointing start to the JFA's "Fight Nite" tournament, only UNSW and Zenbu turned out teams. The evening was boosted by the last-minute inclusion of a "President's Nine" to enhance the evening.



Marty celebrates his Ippon win over Morgan

In the match that counted, UNSW and Zenbu went right down to the wire. With both teams short on numbers, at the end the score was dead even – three ippon wins each plus a draw. For Uni the winners were Francis Young, Roman Sulovsky and Martin Kelly. Sonya Chervovsky had fought out a tough draw in her first encounter, and officials decided that the women should fight again to decide the overall match. This time Sonya prevailed with a fine ippon from her yoko sutemi.

Later, the Uni team went down narrowly to the President's Nine, but with their earlier win they qualified for the final night on 30 November. The full UNSW team was Eamonn Briers, Francis Young, Sonya Chervovsky, Roman Sulovsky, Chris Angus, Andre Aravena, Martin Kelly.



The UNSW Black Suits (minus Francis Young)

We look forward to having our full contingent ready for the final...and a lot more supporters.

Warren and Rob's Tokyo Adventure - Rosser's report

A one week trip to Japan to study at the home of judo "The Kodokan".

The purpose of the trip was to update Rob Maurency and me on the Judo Kata (pre arranged patterns of technique). The course was quite intense with two Katas a day it was taxing on the mind and the body (especially the knees) as a lot of the Kata is performed from a kneeling position. There were over 240 Judo players, including some former world medalists, attending the course from all over the world and it was an amazing sight to see them all gathered on the mat.

At the end of the week we had to perform a Kata in front of the Assessors from the Kodokan. Rob and I had chosen Kime no kata which includes sword and knife defences, very Samurai in spirit. Unfortunately I had a brain explosion and forgot a section of the kata, so getting a much sought after diploma for our performance was rather slim. We waited till the end of the confusion of the presentation ceremony but didn't hear our names : (. We saw others that we thought should have easily received the honour of a diploma still within our group, which sort of made us feel a little bit better) The final two days after the course had been completed was spent visiting some old training venues and friends that both Rob and I knew from previous training stints in Japan. It was amazing to see that after 15 years not a lot had changed. The trip would not have been possible without the funding from the Black Belt Register (the technical body) for Judo in NSW.

Our role now is to pass on the knowledge

Olympic Solidarity Training Camp Canberra

With the support of the IJF Olympic Solidarity funding, the JFA held an elite training camp at the AIS Canberra from 25 - 30 August. The camp was attended by Australia's top athletes, and also by a visiting group of Japanese judoka, selected from Tokyo's top high schools.



Sonya Chervovsky and Janelle Shepherd were there from UNSW and both performed extremely well under the watchful eyes of the national coaches. For Janelle it was her first solid training experience since returning from knee surgery, and Sonya also has had her share of injury concerns.

Both girls shrugged off their problems and trained with great spirit, showing they are returning to their best form when it really matters, and the Olympic selections draw closer.

Australian University Games Gold Coast

With a meagre entry of only around 40 competitors, one has to wonder about the future of this competition, which has been a part of University judo since time immemorial.

The womens entries consisted of our four UNSW girls, plus ONE other, reducing the tournament to little more than a farce. So we won the team event by default, Sonya was untroubled to win the 57kg, with Francesca third, and Stef the +57kg over team-mate Alysha. In the womens Open, Francesca and Stef finished second and third respectively. The men's division was better, but not much. There were only four teams, and UNSW could not field a full side, and so finished last due to forfeiting a fight every match.

In the individuals, Lucas Stojanov fought well to win the 66kg. Jacob battled on in his first tournament, but could not manage a win.



Sonya armlocks Jennifer Purcell to win womens 57kg

Queensland International Open Brisbane

The 2007 QLD International Open was the biggest ever, attracting around 180 entries from around the Country, plus a strong junior team from New Caledonia. UNSW was well represented, mainly by those players remaining for the Uni Games the following week.

In the juniors, Francis Young fought well to take the u13yrs 60kg, and then backed up for experience in the u16s, where he was unplaced.

Our sole senior male was Alex Else, who lost his first fight, won his next, and then lost out for bronze to local Luke Stuart.

Janelle Shepherd, still on the comeback trail, was more convincing to take out the womens 78kg category, despite a golden score loss to TAS Steph Grant on a very dubious penalty.

Azita showed some good judo to come back after an early loss to Cathy Arlove (VIC) to take bronze in the 63kg.

Stef Brown and Francesca Bennet had some tough fights but could not get amongst the wins.

Our fighters were well supported by Lucas, Noa and Alysha, ill and injured, and photographer Jacob.

Unable to compete, Sonya had the duties of assistant coach to JB who struggled through the day with laryngitis.

UNSW PEOPLE...

Good to see **Daniel Waldmann** back on the mat, beginning recuperation to get back to where he was.

Kylie Koenig – working hard and making good progress from extensive knee surgery.

Ben and Kathy Kitzis - Former club members, now living in Korea are the new proud parents of twins, Nathaniel and Nell, below. (No, we don't know which is which)



?????



...on that subject **Warren (Sensei)** is getting worried at the club's direction – once were fighters – now the newsletter is full of baby photos and reports of 55th birthdays

Ex-member, now MMA star **Hector Lombard** brief visit 20 July. With him Ferrid Kheder, former French National player and twice champion of Tournoi de Paris.

Tokai visitor Kazuya Maruyama. UNSW's connection with Tokai University will be strengthened soon, with the visit to Sydney of

one of Yasuhiro Yamashita's star students. Mr Maruyama will arrive in November for a long stay, during which he plans to assist with the coaching sessions at the club and elsewhere. By all accounts he is a very talented judoka.

Frolics at VIOC.

One day the true story will be told of the frolics undertaken by some of our club members following VIOC this year. "What goes on tour stays on tour" !!



Armed and dangerous

Long time club member **Andre Aravena** has headed off to Melbourne with Maria and Riki to pursue his career– makes you wonder who made the offer??

We have heard occasionally from **Warren and Natalie** on their European tour. Sounds like they are having a ball, roaming the UK, Switzerland, Holland, etc. They also managed to catch up with Sarah Taylor while in London.

...and speaking of Europe, **Sonya and JB** are coming to the end of a four week training stint in France. Most of their time has been spent in

Strasbourg at CREPS Alsace, one of four elite development institutes in France. Sonya will cap off her trip by attending a training camp at the French National Institute in Paris. With Sonya have been **Carli Lewis** from Melbourne, and for a while our old friend **Gemma Chadwick**, who was able to come over from England for two weeks.

Sonya had been to CREPS earlier this year with the JFA scholarship group, and was eager to return to the centre.



The girls with the excellent coaching team at CREPS, **Sebastien Girardey (L)** **Eric Deschamps (centre)** and **Yacine Douma (R)**

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE "GOOD LUCK WITH THAT"

See club members Igor Smiljevic and Roman Sulovsky on the big screen!!!

Sun 16.Dec. Time: 11am Greater Union, Bondi Junction.

* 200 tickets available @ \$20 (AND THEY WILL SELL FAST)

* Presale finishes 30.Oct.2007

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NSW Teams Championships

A disappointing turnout from NSW clubs – miserable numbers...only about five member clubs entered teams. UNSW managed to muster three teams - women, masters and "A" men.

Our girls had little opposition, with only Zenbu having a team. Laisa, Azita, Alysha, Noa. Laisa ensured the trophy stayed with us with a strong ippon win over Maria Mucalj.

Jon Gould and Roman Sulovsky combined to give UNSW a win in the mens masters. Jon fighting a tough draw with Shane Alvisio, and Roman cleverly despatching heavyweight Steve Lead-beater for ippon.



UNSW's line up for the Teams event

In the men's A division there were five entries – Kugatsu, Zenbu, Macquarie Uni, Budokan and UNSW. Kugatsu's heavyweight powerhouse team once again proved too strong and emerged the winners.

Our team comprised Jon Gould, Matt Lipman, Rodrigo Azocar, Roman Sulovsky, Alex Else and Hugo Lee, and they had a mixed day. Matt Lipman again showed his worth and fought brilliantly, taking three wins and a draw from his matches, including the throw of the day – a smashing seoinage. Alex Else and Hugo Lee both managed wins after long breaks from competition. Jon Gould did it tough, choosing to fight the stronger opponents in the likes of Morgan Endicott Davies, and Lubo Petr.

MORE PICTURES, from home...



Adam, Tim and Duane with their medals at Illawarra Open



Maxine Gerbes (R) also at Illawarra



Coaching isn't always hard work

and away...



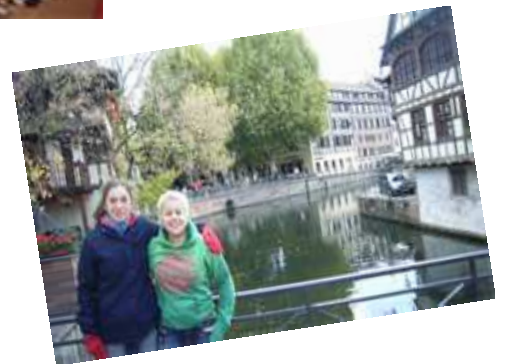
The residence at CREPS Strasbourg



CREPS Training sessions in progress—up to 150 players on the mat!



Sonya looks for juji in training



Sonya and Gemma do Strasbourg

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