

# UNSW Judo News

FEBRUARY 2008

## ACT OPEN CONFIRMS AUSSIE TEAM FOR OCEANIA

This year's ACT Open had that special feel that comes when there is a lot at stake for many competitors. In several categories the results would determine if they would be selected in the national team for the OJU Championships in March - the final Olympic selection event. The UNSW contingent was a little down in numbers, but strong nevertheless, and they came away with some pleasing results.

On Saturday we had Paddy and Eamonn Kearney and Eamonn Briers. Eamonn Kearney showed good judo and fought gamely in the u16 division. Eamonn Briers also found the going tough against much older opponents. Paddy fought extremely well to finish equal third in Kindai Cup u66kg selections - and was chosen as a reserve for the Australian team. He also took silver in the u16 60kg.

In the seniors on Sunday the club had a good day - and was unlucky for it not to be better. Daniel Waldmann made an emphatic return to major competition, taking bronze in the tough mens 73kg category. Even better, all his wins were by ippon, and with good variety in both tachiwaza and newaza.

Our women fared very well. In the +78kg Janelle Shepherd was sharp and aggressive to take gold without too much trouble. As expected, her toughest fight was against clubmate Laisa Laveti, with Janelle running out the winner on penalties. Laisa surprisingly lost to Simone Dahl, to take bronze.

Kylie Koenig put the disappointments of Perth behind her and showed she is coming back into top form with her bronze in the 63kg. In fact, she should have been a finalist, being robbed of a win against Emily Bensted by an unbelievable piece of refereeing incompetence.

Kylie clearly threw Bensted with a great combination - only to have the point given against her! A protest was lodged but predictably dismissed - referees do not make mistakes, as usual!!

Sonya Chervovsky was a little disappointed to come away with silver in the 52kg, losing out in the final to arch rival Kasumi Muramatsu (VIC). She did have good day though, with impressive wins over Chelisa Chester (VIC) and Kristie-Ann Ryder (QLD).

As always, the weekend schedule allowed some diversion from the serious business of competition, and our guys once again enjoyed the hospitality of the World-famous Canberra Carotel. Not to mention the ice cream shop in Dickson...

Our French guests, Bernard and Marie-Odile Messner from Strasbourg watched the tournament with interest, and were impressed by what they saw.

Thanks also to our team of supporters - Kazuya, Sayaka, Nicholas, Mick and Phil - for helping out over the weekend, and making the trip even more enjoyable.



## TEAM for OCEANIA ANNOUNCED

The Judo Federation of Australia has announced the National team that will contest the 2008 OJU Championships in Christchurch, New Zealand.

The team is a strong one, and carries the hope that Australia will provide the majority of Oceania places at the Beijing Olympics. **The team includes five UNSW members: Sonya Chervovsky, Kylie Koenig, Janelle Shepherd, Laisa Laveti and Semir Pepic**

In accordance with the IJF selection quota, the Oceania Region is allocated only one place per weight category in the Olympics. Competition is expected to be severe for the coveted Olympic berths...

### WOMEN

**48kg** Tiffany Day  
**52kg** Kelly Fong, Sonya Chervovsky, Kristie-Ann Ryder  
**57kg** Maria Pekli, Carli Lewis  
**63kg** Catherine Arlove, Emily Bensted, Kylie Koenig  
**70kg** Deborah Hill, Gabrielle Clarke, Zoe Bourke  
**78kg** Catherine Arscott, Stephanie Grant, Stephanie Palumbo  
**+78kg** Janelle Shepherd, Simone Dahl, Laisa Laveti

### MEN

**60kg** Matthew D'Aquino, Steven Giudice, Beau de Casanove  
**66kg** Ivo Dos Santos, Stephen Brown, Taro Malcolm  
**73kg** Andrew Collett, Dennis Iverson, Brent Iverson  
**81kg** Tom Hill, Mark Anthony, Chad Trethowan  
**90kg** Daniel Kelly, Priscus Fogagnolo, Morgan Endicott-Davies  
**100kg** Matt Celotti, John Brendecke, Mick Cutajar  
**+100kg** Semir Pepic, Jake Andrewartha, Stephanos Georgiadis

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# UNSW



# JUDO

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# SYDNEY OPEN PROVIDES PLENTY OF MEDALS

## Great Club Effort in Second State Selection Tournament

UNSW club had a powerful turnout for the Sydney Open on 17 February. In some categories poor entry numbers denied them real competition, but still the results were pretty special.

### Our U13 line up started the day off in style.

All the youngsters, some of them in only their first or second competition, fought extremely well. At the end Eamonn Kearney took away gold in the 42kg after some skilful and aggressive fighting. Jacques Saba also took gold in 60kg, unfortunately at the expense of clubmate Luc Baumgartner. Dylan McDermott Bronze in 34kg. Special mention needs to be made of the efforts of Liam Matthews-Peat, Marcello Gallupo and George Stylianakis. Pitted against vastly experienced opponents, all fought extremely well, and showed good technique and spirit.

In the U16's we fared even better in the results department. In the 60kg category Paddy Kearney showed more of his true capacity to take gold (and prevent a family feud) with Eamonn Briers 4<sup>th</sup>. Francis Young was on fire, and simply demolished his opponents to take 1<sup>st</sup> in the 66kg, and backed up with similar success in the 73kg combined. Rhys Brodie showed some good groundwork to take 1<sup>st</sup> in the 100kg. Indra Sadeli also fought extremely well, going down fighting to some seasoned competitors. It must be remembered that Francis, Eamonn and Indra are just 13, and competing against boys up to two years older.

**Junior Men and Women** Clay Brodie unfortunately had only one fight, but made no mistakes to win the +100kg. Harry Grech pulled out a terrific uchimata for ippon and 1<sup>st</sup> in 81kg. (Unfortunately at the expense of Aidan Fitzgerald)

**Our seniors carried on the good work:** Sonya Chervovsky was untroubled to take gold, fighting at 57kg. Janelle Shepherd again looked sharp and had the measure of clubmate Laisa Laveti to make it 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the +78kg.

Daniel Waldmann continued his great return to competition, and followed his ACT bronze with a fine win in the hotly contested mens 73kg. Daniel conceded the narrowest decision in a titanic battle with Nik Pejic, who surprisingly lost his next fight, giving Daniel the gold on a points countback.

Thanks to Mick Briers, Phil Kearney and Phil McDermott for their coaching and support of the juniors, and to Anabel Kearney, Nicholas Waldmann and Yasuhide Sakamoto for assisting as tournament officials during the day.

*Francis Young was on fire, and simply demolished his opponents...*

## UNSW Results - Sydney Open

### Boys Under 13yrs

Eamonn Kearney 1st 46kg  
Jacques Saba 1st 60kg  
Luc Baumgartner 2nd 60kg  
Dylan McDermott 3rd 34kg

### Boys Under 16yrs

Paddy Kearney 1st 60kg  
Eamonn Briers 4th 60kg  
Francis Young 1st 66kg  
Rhys Brodie 1st +81kg

### Junior Men

Harry Grech 1st 81kg  
Aidan Fitzgerald 2nd 81kg  
Clay Brodie 1st +100kg

### Women

Sonya Chervovsky 1st 57kg  
Janelle Shepherd 1st +78kg  
Laisa Laveti 2nd + 87kg

### Men

Daniel Waldmann 1st 73kg

## UNSW WELCOMES FRENCH VISITORS

We were very pleased and honoured to receive a visit from M. Bernard Messner 7th Dan and his wife, Marie-Odile, during February. A long-time friend of high performance coach John Buckley, Bernard was formerly the President of FISU, the World-Wide organization of university sport.



Bernard & Marie-Odile at Thredbo Village

As President of Judo Alsace in France, he was instrumental in setting up our contact with CREPS in Strasbourg, where members of our national squad have trained on several occasions.

Visiting Australia for the first time, Bernard and Mari-Odile took time to visit the ACT Open, where they were favourably impressed by the standard of judo (if not the refereeing!) on display. For Bernard it was also an opportunity to meet up with long-time friend Peter Herrmann.

Their visit was not limited to Sydney. Following the ACT Open, they were shown around the Snowy Mountains region by JB, and enjoyed a relaxing week at Avoca, courtesy of Gail Galea. They also spent time in Melbourne, where they were hosted by JFA President Peter Alway, and Brisbane, where Patrick Mahon entertained them, and where Bernard was able to spend some time on the mat leading sessions for local students



Bernard shows his skills are not limited to judo

## UNSW PEOPLE...and events

**Sonya trains in Germany & France.** Putting the finishing touches on her preparation for Oceania, Sonya travelled to Germany and France at the end of February and early March for high-level training. This included four days at the EJU camp following the Hamburg World Cup tournament.



**Sonya (L) and a couple of Aussies wait to train in Hamburg**

**Janelle Shepherd** has also had to revise her final training plans, and has gone to Japan. Travelling with fellow Aust team member Catherine Arscott, Janelle has been training at Yamanishi university near Tokyo.

**Marty's birthday.** Martin Kelly won't admit to how old he is, but any excuse for having a few social drinks...

Haven't heard from **Gavin Kelly** in a while. Gav is in the Solomon Islands as part of the Aussie security force in that country. He has also found time to get along to the local judo club to provide some very welcome coaching.

Congratulations to **Azita Karpour** on two fronts - she has started a new job in the UNSW administration, which she hopes will become permanent. Her child-minding skills won't go to waste as she is also a proud new aunt to her sister's baby daughter Ariana.

**Noa Segoly** has also begun a new career with the ANZ bank. We'll miss Chocolart, and wonder if we can get discount cash instead of coffees?

**Gavin Kelly and Angela Deacon** appointed to Olympic Coaching positions.



## TRAINING IN JAPAN - Budo & Tokai Universities

With selection tournaments for Beijing looming, several club members took the opportunity to train in Japan to sharpen up for the big events. **Janelle Shepherd travelled with the national team to Budo University, while Kylie Koenig, Laisa Laveti and Sonya Chervovsky went with UNSW coach John Buckley to Tokai University.**



**The girls at Tokai Residence - note the trusty bikes**

Japanese university judo is tough and uncompromising - no place for the faint-hearted! The girls were all well tested, but came through very well.

The training at Tokai consisted of a conditioning session or technical judo session each morning, and a three hour randori session each afternoon. The randori session would normally include anywhere between eight to twelve standing randori of 5-6 minutes each, followed by groundwork or perhaps throwing practice.



**Sonya throwing at training**

For variety, the girls also went one Wednesday evening to Saitama University, where both Sonya and Kylie have trained previously. Here the training session was attended by two other universities, and included three members of the Japanese national team (with two World Medalists).



**Laisa in randori with Yasuhiro Yamashita - good luck!**

Each Saturday the girls travelled to the Kodokan and joined in the regular training session for teams from several Japanese companies, where the women are extremely strong and competitive.

There was a little time for R & R, and the girls were able to catch up with old friends Honami Yoshizawa and Hitoshi Kimura.

On the final Sunday, there was a special treat in the form of a trip to Hakone. The whole region was blanketed in snow, which made the hot spring baths even more attractive, and an excellent way to get rid of some of the aches and pains.



**Yes, it WAS cold! - Kylie and Sonya at Hakone**

## SHOTS FROM TOKAI TRAINING TRIP



In Tokai dojo



JB & Tokai head womens coach Shirase sensei

With the legendary Yasuhiro Yamashita



Catching up with Honami and Hitoshi



Sonya and Laisa warm up - with assistance



The heater doubling as a dryer

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