

UNSW Judo News

APRIL 2011

OCEANIA JUDO CHAMPIONSHIPS 2011 EIGHT MEDALS FOR UNSW ATHLETES!!



The Australian team arrived late Wednesday night (Tahiti time) after a long trip that began early Thursday morning! (Yes, that's right...over the dateline...)

All UNSW members of the team were in good spirits and rearing to go. They were soon settled into their accommodation – a very nice beach-side resort just out of town. There were a couple of final training sessions where the athletes put the finishing touches to their preparation.

The program for the event had the seniors and the junior and cadet women fighting on Saturday, with male juniors and cadets on the Sunday.

With so much at stake for the senior men and women, in the form of Olympic qualification points, the competition was keen, to say the least.

Sonya Chervonsky was desperately disappointed to take second behind Hannah Trotter in the 52kg category. Sonya easily won her way to the final, and was dominating that fight, scoring waza-ari with a nice pickup, and having Hannah down a penalty through dominating the gripping duel. Towards the end, though, she tried an osoto attack and was countered for ippon.

Kylie Koenig was a bit rusty, and somewhat tentative, after several weeks absence with a dislocated finger, but was still able to dominate the category. She comfortably topped her preliminary pool with clear ippon wins, and then totally dominated the final against fellow Aussie Stevie Kelly.

Janelle Shepherd returned to competition after a self-imposed temporary retirement. Unfortunately she only had one fight, vs Fiji veteran Sisi Rasokisoki. Sisi is still a formidable opponent, but was no match for Janelle,

who won with a big makikomi after a couple of minutes.



Janelle (L) and Kylie on the podium

In the men, Nik Pejic started well, winning his first fight, but was then thrown with Haraigoshi by experienced DeAbrieu of New Caledonia. Nik came back, easily taking bronze after beating teammate Ben Donegan.

In the junior and cadet women Karen Dasilva had an outstanding debut at this level, and shone on the day. Her performance was remarkable...emerging with two gold medals in the junior and cadet women. Karen won all her fights by ippon, and showed excellent techniques and variety.

The Australian team totally dominated the senior categories, taking 10 out of 14 gold. The only criticism of the tournament was that there were too many fights to be accommodated on the day, with the fighting continuing well into the evening.

Sunday. Despite being in some difficulty during the week with a viral infection which put his participation at risk, Kevin DaSilva had no trouble in his first round of the junior men's 60kg, winning within a minute with seionage. In the final with teammate Nathan Katz, Kevin dominated the gripping duel, and scored waza-ari

with a fast taiotoshi for the win. Dylan McDermott had to wait until the final fight in the division to step onto the mat, but made the most of it with a clear win with seoi in about 1 minute.

Then we came to the teams event for men and women, which was the qualifier for the right to represent OJU in the world Teams Championships in Paris later this year.

Nik Pejic lined up in the Aust men's team for their final match with New Zealand, and although fighting up a category, gave new OJU silver medalist Mark Brewer a hard fight before going over to Kataguruma. **The mens team won the match, thanks to great performances by Priscus Fogagnolo, Duke Didier and Mark Anthony.**



Recognising her performances on Saturday, Karen DaSilva was selected in the Australian women's team for their opening match. She made the most of it with a clear ippon win with osaekomi. Sonya Chervonsky (above) then stepped in for the deciding match vs New Zealand, fighting up a weight category to 57kg, and winning a very tough fight in golden score, thanks to a neat seoi near the end. **The womens team also came through as winners, a great end to a very successful weekend.**



Karen Dasilva: double gold winner!

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QLD INTERNATIONAL OPEN

GOOD PERFORMANCES FROM UNSW ATHLETES ACROSS ALL AGE DIVISIONS

There were great results across the board for UNSW in the second major competition of the year – 4 gold medals, 5 silver and 6 bronze! But even these impressive figures don't tell the full story, especially the development of some of our youngsters.

We had a number of stars – from the younger brigade there were Nina Takenaka, Karen DaSilva, both of whom won their cadet categories, and took a second medal in the junior women. Jack Newman had an outstanding competition, taking bronze in the junior men, and giving some of the senior men a bad fright in the 90kg.



Nina takes the cadet women 52kg



Jack holding Sean McDougall, Jnr men 90kg



Karen on top of the cadet women 70kg podium

Kevin Dasilva also was impressive in the junior men, decisively beating emerging rival Nathan Katz (Budokan) in their final.

Unfortunately a feature of the competition was the appalling refereeing all weekend. There were innumerable stoppages due to either refereeing incompetence or interference by the



Kevin gets his gold in Jnr men 60kg

Commission. No-one suffered from this bungling more than Maxine Germes, who was robbed of a medal through an incredible series of decisions.

In the seniors, Nikola Pejic confirmed his National no1 ranking with an emphatic win in the 73kg. His complete dominance of classy Josh Cook in the final was an indication of his superiority.



Nik (white) battles Josh Cook in the 73kg final

There was also a gutsy performance from Gemma Chadwick, fighting in a higher weight category to take second after some good wins.

Unfortunately there was disappointment for Sonya Chervonsky in her loss in the final of 52kg. Sonya was very sharp in her preliminary fights, but could not produce the same form in the final.



Sonya (white) vs Hannah Trotter in 52kg final



Harry (on left) takes on rhys Johnson in 90kg

There were also bronze medals for Kevin Dasilva (60kg) Jovan Pejic (81kg) Harry Grech (90kg) with some strong fighting in the senior mens very competitive categories. Kel Locke-Sodhi took 7th in the 81kg, his luck running out at the hands of Jovan in the repechage. Jack Newman exceeded everyone's expectations to also take 7th in the senior men's 90kg, where he too bowed out at the hands of clubmate Harry Grech. Our group once again enjoyed a social weekend in Brisbane, making the most of each others' company.



Gemma on the 57kg podium

NSW Results Summary:

Cadets

Karen Dasilva 1st 70kg
Nina Takenaka 1st 52kg
Vlad Kulikov 2nd 66kg
Luc Baumgartner 2nd 73kg
Dylan McDermott 3rd 50kg

Junior Men and Women

Kevin Dasilva 1st 60kg
Karen DaSilva 3rd 70kg
Jack Newman 3rd 90kg
Nina Takenaka 3rd 52kg

Seniors

Nikola Pejic 1st 73kg
Sonya Chervonsky 2nd 52kg
Gemma Chadwick 2nd 57kg
Kevin Dasilva 3rd 60kg
Jovan Pejic 3rd 81kg, Kel Locke-Sodhi 7th
Harry Grech 3rd 90kg, Jack Newman 7th

NOTE: STATE SQUAD TRAINING STARTS 30 APRIL AT BUSHIDO JC

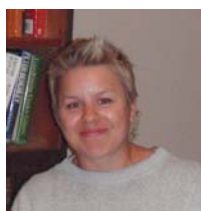
UNSW PEOPLE...and events

Adam Manfredi

returned home to the USA on 24 March to pursue his studies. Adam first came to the club in 2005, staying and representing UNSW in various competitions including the Australian Uni Games, until his graduation and re-location to Japan. We hope he might come back to see us again in the future.



Gemma and Azita gain their citizenship. Great to see these two girls finally attain their dream of gaining their Aussie passports! For Azita it has been a soap opera played out over many years. Gemma, now a police officer, is also now "true blue"...she just has to work on her accent. Wicked!

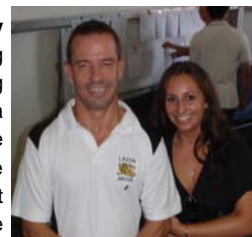


AIS Elite Training Camp 31 Mar – 6 April. 30 of the country's top athletes gathered in Canberra for the first of two elite camps in 2011. This one focussed on preparing the team for the Oceania championships. As always, the camp was a gruelling experience, with plenty of spirited randori. UNSW was represented by Sonya Chervovsky, Kel Locke-Sodhi and Harry Grech.

Rob Maurency continues to show the flag in England. In between his busy schedule, Rob recently competed in a newaza competition in High Wycombe, emerging with the bronze medal. Rob confesses that he had to resort to cunning to make up for a lower level of fitness!



Good to see **Amy Meyer** training again, and taking time out to have a sneak peek at the latest rivals. Here she is checking it out at the State titles with Warren.



A flying visit home! **Sonya Chervovsky** has already flown back to France to continue her training and competition schedule in Europe. She is seen here with her fellow OJU scholarship holders, Moira DeVilliers, Jason Koster and Mark Anthony.

NSW CHAMPIONSHIPS 6 and 13 MARCH

6 March (Juniors)

Karen DaSilva and Dylan McDermott were our only category winners in a hard day's fighting on 6 March. Karen's strong win over Naomi de Bruin was probably our best result on the day. Luc Baumgartner was steady to take second in his 73kg category, only a rather careless loss in one fight being the difference between silver and gold. Some of our other youngsters were having their first taste of major competition, and it proved to be something of a shock to several...more training needed!

Junior boys u12 Sam Worthington

Junior boys u14 Liam McDermott

Connor Kent

Cadet women

Karen DaSilva 1st 70kg

Nina Takenaka 3rd 48/52combined

Maxine Germes 3rd 57kg

Cadet men

Dylan McDermott 1st 50kg

Luc Baumgartner 2nd 73kg

Dylan McDermott 3rd 50/55 combined



Karen continues on her winning way

13 March (Seniors)

While some categories were well supported, notably the men's 66, 73, 81 and 90kg, the almost total absence of women competitors was a big disappointment. UNSW was also short of many of our top athletes through absence and injury.

Our best performers on the day were Kel Locke-Sodhi and Paddy Kearney. Kel was in a class of his own and totally dominated the 81kg category, disposing of all his opponents with ippon scores. His uchimata is really becoming a weapon.



Kel on top of the 81kg podium

Paddy was a tad lucky that Kevin Dasilva was disqualified in their fight, handing him a surprise win, but went through the others showing determination and good variety. A feature was his strong win over rival Nathan Katz of Budokan.

Veteran Gavin Kelly was untroubled to take the +100kg, although he had to work hard against tough Istvan Szas of Sydney Uni. Harry Grech was well below his best form, but still made it into the final pool of the 90kg with three good wins.

In the junior men, Luc Baumgartner and Jack

Newman had some hard battles, but finished out of the placings. Jack also fought with distinction in the senior mens division, taking one win, and gaining valuable experience.



Gavin Kelly winner +100kg



Paddy 1st Jnr men 66kg, Kevin 2nd

Junior men

Paddy Kearney 1st 66kg

Kevin DaSilva 2nd 66kg

Senior men

Kel LockeSodhi 1st 81kg

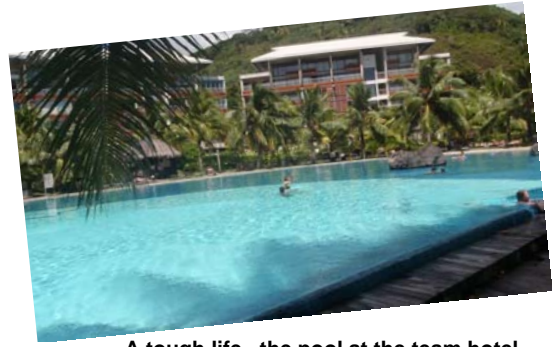
Gavin Kelly 1st +100kg

Harry Grech 4th 90kg

More pics - from OJU Champs



The Australian team gather to celebrate their successes



A tough life...the pool at the team hotel



Dylan McDermott wins cadet 50kg



Kevin DasSilva Jnr men 60kg gold



The mens and womens teams - AUS first, NZL second

...and from the QLD International Open



Kel vs Jovan in 81kg



Luc Baumgartner cadets 73kg silver



UNSW Cadets feeling good



Nina's bronze Jnr women 52kg



Jovan gets 81kg bronze

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