NSW KARATE FEDERATION STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Three competitors from the Newcastle University Karate Club joined forces with other competitors from Newcastle Chito-Ryu and travelled to Liverpool to contest the NSW Karate Federation State Championships on Sunday, 28 March. This tournament was held a little earlier in the year than it has been previously which made it hard to get together a strong team, but nevertheless the results of those who did compete were very good for a big tournament so early in the year.

For Instructor, Martin Phillips, this was an opportunity to get back in the ring after a year in Japan and two years away from all style competition. Martin was narrowly defeated in the semi-final of the Open Men’s Heavyweight Kumite, but after one more win managed to take third place. After the individual event Martin joined two competitors from Warners Bay dojo to get second place in the Men’s Team Kumite event.

Top competitor Sandra Mavin stepped up a division to enter the Open Women’s Heavyweight Kumite. After a slow start, Sandra defeated all opponents winning that event and the Colts (U/22) Women’s Heavyweight Kumite. Sandra also won all of her matches in the women’s team kumite when she teamed up with two competitors from Warners Bay dojo, but the team unfortunately only managed second place.

Barry Redman entered the Men’s Colts Middleweight Kumite and the Senior Middleweight Kumite. Barry did well to take third place in both events.

NEW ZEALAND UNIVERSITY GAMES

After much organisation the Newcastle Uni Karate Club prepared a team to send to the NZ University Games in Christchurch, 2-5 April. The size of the team was not as large as instructor Martin Phillips had hoped, but the outstanding results made up for that.

The four members making up the team arrived in Christchurch on the first day of the games. Karate was only a one day event, to be held on the last day of the games which gave the crew a bit of time to relax, enjoy and take in the sights of Christchurch. We weren’t even off the bus from the airport before we got into trouble for making fun of the Kiwi accent. “What could we do but laugh though, they sound funny.” After a bit of a sleep in on the first morning we got out and met some of the other competitors. The word was around, “These guys (and girls) must be pretty good to come to New Zealand for a tournament.” Well that was a fair comment to make, we didn’t want to argue with the locals!

Two nights before the tournament we went out to see the city. After a while we got a bit hungry and stumbled across a kebab shop. A kebab and a bottle of red wine each and we were dancing on the tables. That wasn’t exactly the best preparation but it was good for building team spirit. If you’re ever in town, make sure you check it out - we’ll be back if we’re ever around there again.

Anyway, on to the tournament, the whole purpose of the trip. Mellissa Branda was entered in the women’s heavyweight novice division for kumite. Still relatively inexperienced, Mellissa approached the competition a little nervously, but after a slow start she went on to win her first fight in good form and eventually took out first place in the event.

Dut to her good performance, Mellissa also competed in the open women’s division. More about that later. Sandra Mavin was next up, coming off a performance which earned her three gold medals at the state titles the previous weekend. Her first event was women’s open kata, where she blitzed the opposition and took out first place. Sandra also competed in the women’s open heavyweight kumite placing first, and then entered the women’s open kumite division. Sandra went through to the final where she met Mellissa who was on the other half of the draw. The Newcastle girls took out first and second place - Sandra first, Mellissa second.

Barry Redman took on Instructor, Martin Phillips in the Open men’s kata event. Unfortunately Barry narrowly missed the cut-off for the finals but Martin made it through to take second place. In the kumite however, Barry and Martin were in separate events. Barry was in the middleweight division, Martin was in the heavyweight. Both competitors took out third place in their respective divisions. Unfortunately, both had to pull out of the open kumite event due to injuries.

All up the medal tally for Newcastle University stood at 4 gold, 2 silver, and 2 bronze. Not bad for four competitors. Of course the fun didn’t finish there. With a few days left after the tournament the team took the opportunity to tour around the Canterbury region, and go bungie jumping and white water rafting.

COMING UP - THE NEWCASTLE CUP

The Newcastle Cup Karate Championships will be held at the Forum on the 2nd May. This event will be co-hosted by the University Karate Club and Newcastle Chito-Ryu. The event is expected to attract some of Australia’s top competitors for a day full of action. If you would like to compete or just want to know more about the tournament, please contact the University Karate Club or the Hunter Valley Martial Arts Centre;

Ph: 4956 8876. By Martin Phillips
**UNI SOCCER CLUB GOING ON-LINE**

In a first for Newcastle soccer the University of Newcastle Men’s Soccer Club have recently signed a sponsorship deal that will see local company CastleNet become their multimedia partner.

CastleNet will handle all the soccer club’s on-line activities, including the provision of a large web site and web address, as well as a number of other projects the club has planned. The soccer club is excited to have secured the simple yet effective web address of www.unisoccer.com.au.

Soccer Club President Dave Lewsam is ecstatic with the relationship, saying that the club will benefit from the deal in many ways. “We will be able to communicate more effectively with our members and supporters, and attract new players”, Dave said. “CastleNet sees the soccer club as an avenue to promote its products to a potentially large target market on campus.”

Managing Director of CastleNet, Mr Adesh Goel, is also delighted with the arrangement. “CastleNet is pleased to be involved with University Soccer Club”, Mr Goel said. “Our involvement will bring many benefits to the club and ourselves. We look forward to a long term relationship with the club and to expanding our relationship to other areas and clubs.”

*by Michael Kmet*

*The deal is done! Soccer Club President, Dave Lewsam with Adesh Goel, Managing Director of CastleNet.*

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**VSU - THE ANTI-STUDENT BILL IS HEL**

On 11 March 1999 Dr David Kemp, Federal Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs introduced the Higher Education Legislation Amendment Bill 1999 (which aptly shortens to the HEL Amendment Bill 1999) into the House of Representatives. The HEL Bill is a blatant attack on student organisations at Australian Universities which

- will undermine the autonomy of Australian Universities to make decision about their internal operations;
- aims to silence the student voice and eliminate student say in the running of facilities and services provided for students on Australian university campuses;
- will result in a steady degradation in the existing student built facilities and the cessation of a large range of important student services.

The HEL Bill was considered by the Senate which decided to have the Bill investigated by its Senate Employment, Workplace Relations, Small Business and Education Legislation Committee. Submissions to this Committee close on 3rd May and the Senate Committee will report to the Senate on 25 May 1999.

All students and university staff who value the extensive facilities developed on campus and the wide ranging services provided for them by the Sports Union, University Union, NUSA, NUPSA and the Central Coast Campus Union and who wish to continue to have a say in what happens in these areas on campus in future, are urged to write expressing their opposition to the HEL Bill to Senator John Tierney, the Chair of the Senate Committee and send a copy to their local Federal Member of Parliament and to Dr David Kemp. Submissions do not have to be long - just outline your key concerns about the proposed legislation and ensure your views opposing the Bill are forwarded before the 3rd May deadline. Send your submissions to

- The Secretary
  Senate Employment, Workplace Relations,
  Small Business and Education Legislation Committee
  S1.61 Parliament House
  CANBERRA ACT 2060

(The Secretary is Mr John Carter - Fax 02 6277 5706)

- Dr David Kemp MP - Fax 02 6273 4117 or email: D.Kemp.MP@aph.gov.au

- Senator John Tierney NSW LP
  251 Wharf Road, Newcastle NSW 2300
  Fax 02-4929 3595 Email: senator.tierney@aph.gov.au

- Local Members of Parliament in the Hunter region include:

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It's on again, and this time it will be the biggest event in ECG history.

Six thousand competitors and officials will converge at the University of Western Sydney Macarthur and outlying areas from July 5-9 for five days of competition and fun. ECG will also be a qualifier for the prestigious Australian University Games to be held in Perth in late September.

The Sports Union is currently looking for team managers and athletes to compete in the following sports at ECG:

- Archery
- Athletics
- Aussie Rules
- Badminton
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cycling
- Golf
- Gridiron
- Hockey
- Judo
- Netball
- Oz Tag
- Rowing
- Rugby Union
- Women’s Rugby 10s
- Rugby League
- Soccer
- Softball
- Squash
- Short Course Swimming
- Table Tennis
- Ten Pin Bowling
- Mature Age & Disability - Ten Pin Bowling
- Wheelchair Tennis
- Touch
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Volleyball

However, ECG is not only about competing in your chosen sport. There is a huge social program organised and you can be part of what many describe as the highlight of their time at university. The camaraderie and team spirit amongst the 200+ Newcastle athletes is amazing.

Competitors and teams will have to arrange their own transport in Sydney. However, the Sports Union has booked accommodation for all the Newcastle athletes. We will be staying at the Hunts Motel and Function Centre, Liverpool. Cost will be $40 per night which includes breakfast.

If you are interested in representing Newcastle University or wish to nominate as team manager please see Lisa or Mick at the Sports Union office (upstairs in the Forum) or ring us on 4921 6960. Also note that the standard of ECG is relatively high and most of the Newcastle University teams have trials or qualifying marks.

by Michael Kmet

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Australian University Sport has announced the membership of the Australian Team for some of the sports to be competed at the World University Summer Games from 3 – 13 July 1999. The Team will be travelling to Palma de Mallorca on the island of Majorca (Spain), situated 132 miles from Barcelona in the Mediterranean sea.

Six University of Newcastle students have been selected in the Australian Team to date. They are:

- Martin Kelly ........ Judo
- Richard Nicholls .... Tennis
- Steven Anjelov .... Soccer
- Scott McIlroy .... Soccer
- Nick Johns ......... Soccer
- Doug West ......... Soccer

This is a wonderful achievement as the World University Games are not only the pinnacle of competition for university students, they provide competition at international level which is truly world class. The World University Games (also referred to as Universiade) is the second largest international, multi-sports event after the Olympic Games. Many competitors who win medals at the Olympic Games have previously competed in the World University Games. Past Australian student medal winners in this elite event include Emma George (Pole Vault) and Nathan Rickard (50m Freestyle) in Sicily in 1997, and Shaun Creighton (Steelpleshace) and Alison Inverarity (High Jump) in Sheffield in 1991.

Congratulations !!! and say hello to Christopher
FACILITIES UPDATE: Another exciting year for your Sports Union! A new sports pavilion on Ray Watt oval has been O.K.ed and the first sod should be turned in July. Ray Watt will become one of the premiere facilities in the Hunter and will cater for a number of activities. Don’t know where the new Pavilion will be? If you take the back way into the Campus past Edwards Hall, take a peek to your right as you drive past and have a look see at the varied wild life (and I’m not referring to our soccer team!) and deep green of the grass on the oval and imagine a new sports building where the old one is now.

While you’re driving/riding/running/skateboarding/whatever around the Campus, keep going past the sparkling gem which is the Forum, head down towards the railway line (bet you didn’t realise there are a stack of all day parking spaces available here did you?) and there you will find an area set aside for our NEW BASEBALL OVAL. Our Baseball Club, along with many in Newcastle, have identified the need for another diamond in the region, and this facility when completed should be another good reason to support your Sports Union.

SQUASH AND TENNIS PAVILION. We’re putting a new broom through the place to ensure your comfort is enhanced and the Pavilion continues to offer the many sports and activities available there. New carpet, refurbishing of the Change Rooms, new refreshments area, modified sales and office space, and don’t forget the new indoor golf driving range (soon to have video facilities as well!) and a resurfacing of all our tennis courts - far out! Most of these will be accomplished over the mid semester break so as to not impact on your sporting agenda.

NEW COURSES OF INSTRUCTION: Belly Dancing takes place on Tuesday, 5.00pm to 6.00pm for 4 weeks starting on 20 April! Ever given it a try? You don’t even need a belly! 

Golf Tuition: To take advantage of our all weather indoor facility, we have secured the services of Golf Professional Michael Jones to take golf coaching at the Squash and Tennis Pavilion. Need to hone your skills while it’s dark or bucketing down? Think about coming over for a hit of a small white ball.

There are loads of other classes of instruction and social sports available, at all times of the day and at all locations. To find out more, call Lisa on 49216960.

ANNUAL SOCIAL GOLF DAY: All students and staff are welcome to this annual event at the end of June (date to be confirmed), at Charlestown Golf Club. $30 includes green fees, slap up BBQ lunch - plenty of novelty events as well! For more info contact Michael Jones on 0413 482968.

MAY FIXTURES:

**Baseball (1st, 2nd, 3rd Grade)**
May 2: Uni v Boomers at Boomerang
May 8: Uni v Toronto at Waterboard Oval
May 16: Uni v White Sox at Uni
May 23: Uni v Lakers at Uni
May 30: Uni v Belmont at Miller Field

*1st Grade: 2.30pm, 2nd: 12.15pm, 3rd: 10am.*

**Rugby - Mens 1st Division**
May 1: Uni v Easts at Uni No.1
May 8: Uni v Wanderers at Uni No.2
May 15: Uni v Maitland at Marcellin Park
May 22: Uni v Singleton at Uni No.1
May 30: Uni v Hamilton at Uni No.1

*4th Grade: 11.20am, 1st Grade: 3:00pm, Womens: 4.30pm. *Sunday game.*

**Soccer - Mens 1st Division**
May 1: Uni v Kotara South at Uni No.1
May 8: Uni v Easts at Fred Wright
May 15: Uni v Barnsley at Uni No.1
May 22: Uni v Marks Point at Baxter Field
May 29: Uni v Bellbird at Uni No.1

*3rd Grade: 11.45am, Reserves: 1.15pm, 1st Grade: 3.00pm.*

**Soccer - Womens Division A**
May 2: Uni v Garden Suburb at Ray Watt
May 9: Uni v Adamstown at Novocastrian Pk
May 16: Uni v Port Stephens at Ray Watt
May 23: Uni v New Lambton at Ray Watt
May 30: Uni v Cessnock at Turner Park

*May 2, 16, 23: 10.30am. May 9: 12pm. May 30: 9am.*

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