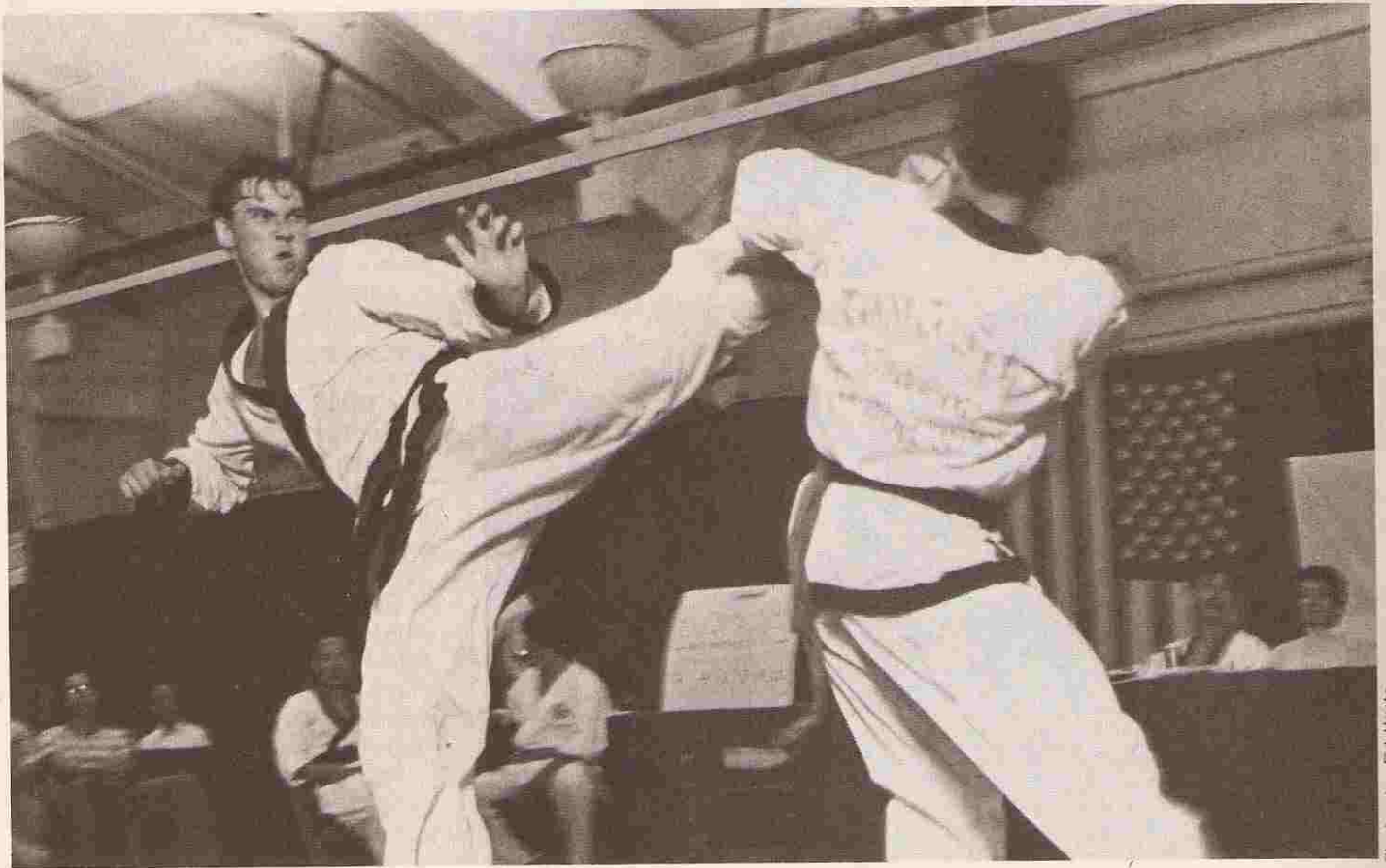
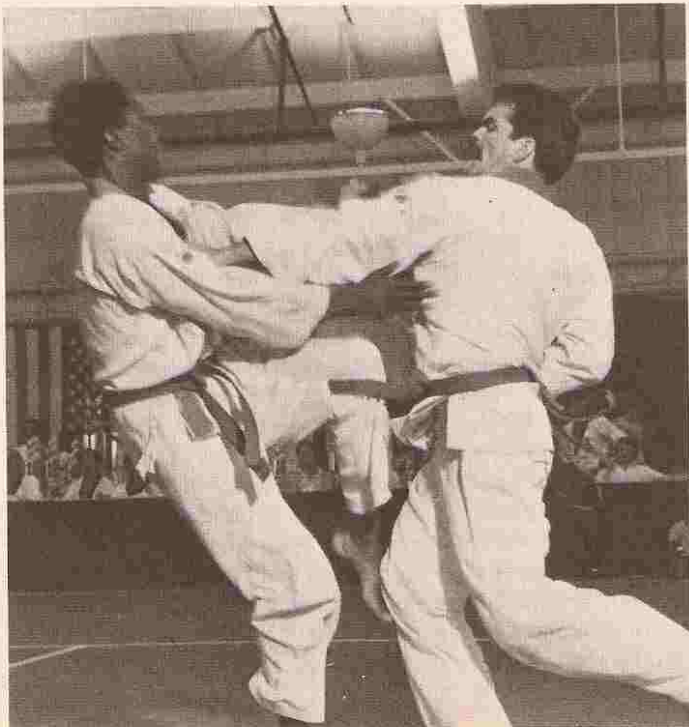


TOURNAMENTS



Photos by Ed Ikuta

Moving clockwise from above, Gary Tarr performs a sift kicking technique; two peewees spar; Jeong Sook Lee receives plaque from tournament directors who praise his dedication; red belt competitor performs left reverse punch.





Brian Langton (left) kicks his way to become grand champion; (above) H.C. Hwang, director, at opening ceremonies.

Points Given for Defensive Techniques

First U.S. Tang Soo Do Moo Duk Kwan Karate Championships

The first attempt at issuing points for both defensive as well as offensive techniques in a national, noncontact tournament exclusive to tang soo do practitioners was described as "encouraging" by an official of the United States Tang Soo Do Moo Duk Kwan Federation.

"It was not completely what I had hoped for, but it was encouraging," said H.C. Hwang, director of the first annual karate championships sponsored by his organization. "So many of the participants had the attitude that they only get a point with offensive techniques. They've been doing this so long that to change it we'll need more educational clinics in tang soo do."

The change Hwang spoke of achieving was the change that he and other officials of his federation have said would take tang soo do tournaments out of the category of competitive sports and elevate them to the level that practitioners maintain they should be.

"Tang soo do is not a sport," Hwang continued, "it's an art, and we're going to continue with tournaments like this. Issuing points for defensive techniques is now the regulation of our federation, and I am proud that I started this in my town."

Held at the Concord Hotel in Monticello, New Jersey, a well-known resort area in the Catskill Mountains, the first annual United States Tang Soo Do Moo Duk Kwan Karate Championships encountered one major problem which was alleviated only a few days prior to the opening—obtaining an insurance policy for participants.

"When one of my senior instructors held the same type of tang soo do championship in Connecticut, he paid \$313 for the very same insurance policy I acquired in my state," said Hwang. "But I paid \$950."

It was a hot 90 degrees with 90-percent humidity when the opening ceremonies began at 11 a.m. More than 600 competitors and spectators had filed into the large indoor tennis complex of the Concord Hotel where eight rings had been set up on what were normally half-a-dozen tennis courts during the week. Until the event concluded, sometime after 10 p.m. that night, at least three or four of the rings were simultaneously in use with forms, freefighting or breaking competition.

Competitors from 30 different schools came from as far away as Florida and California. Jeong Sook Lee, a federation board member who brought his students from Santa Barbara, California, was presented with a plaque from tournament directors, who praised his dedication and loyalty in promoting tang soo do.

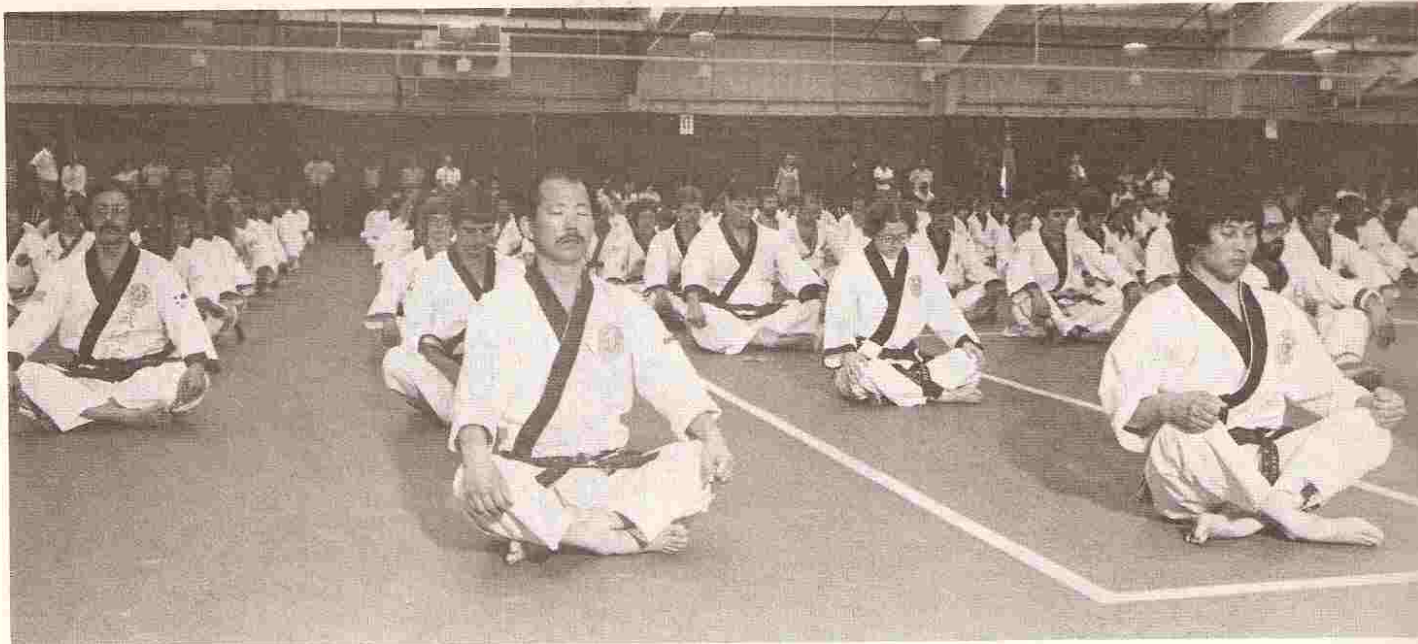
The directors, Hyun Chul Hwang, Chun Sik Kim, Yong Man Lee, Hoo Soo Hwang and Young Ki Hong, insisted upon strict compliance with the rules of the tournament. Stressing that tang soo do is an art and not a sport, they emphasized that strict penalties would be imposed against any participant who used excessive force or violated other rules of the competition.

The competition started after all the participants had lined up according to rank and recited the tang soo do pledge. Chun Sik Kim of Pittsburg led the warming-up exercises, using the middle-attack punch, and the roar from each "ki hap" filled the large arena.

The finals conducted that evening included competition for first and second place between all levels from white belt through black. Then there was the match for grand champion. Between the various final matches, special demonstrations were performed. Joe Goss of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, blindfolded himself and used a sword to split a cucumber placed on the stomach of one of his students.

The crowd also roared approval during the one-step sparring and quen song quan form performed by Young Ki Hong and H.C. Hwang. Spectator enthusiasm continued through a demonstration of ki by Hong. And after more final matches, Yi performed a demonstration that included his well-known split kick and flying sidekick that resulted in the breaking of boards held over eight feet in the air.

These demonstrations met with standing ovations from



Moo Duk Kwan Federation officials H.C. Hwang (left) and C.S. Kim (right) lead participants in meditation during the tang soo do opening ceremonies.

spectators, many of whom were friends and relatives of the competitors. The attentive and courteous atmosphere persisted throughout the day and night, and the discipline exhibited by all participants was contagious. As one spectator put it:

"It seemed to be more of a participant tournament than a spectator-type of tournament. The people who were participating were really into it."

Competitors ranged in age from peewees of five years to orange belt Sam Robbins, 75, of Hong's Tang Soo Do School of Monticello, New York. Robbins won second place in senior forms.

All judges had been chosen in advance of the tournament, a fact which may have resulted in the noticeable absence of serious injuries. But the aspect unique to this tournament was the team competition. Unlike instances in other tournaments where teams may be made up of a number of black belts from one school, each of these teams consisted of one blue belt and one red belt, which, in other arts, correspond to black and brown, respectively. The teams also had one junior, one woman and one peewee.

Each of the schools that could get enough students together entered the team competition. This generated audience participation, which resulted in continuing comments about how well the tournament was being run. Other comments emphasized the respect being shown by all competitors. One member of the audience, television and film star Bill Cosby, admitted that he was most impressed by the eliminations.

"For more than four years I performed many demonstrations at many tournaments throughout the country," said H.C. Hwang in answer to why he thought this tournament went so smoothly. "I observed how good and bad tournaments have been organized, and we tried to work out all the possible rough areas in advance."

RESULTS:

Sparring—GRAND CHAMPION: Brian Langton. **BLACK BELT HEAVYWEIGHT:** Brian Langton, 1st; Gary Cholakian, 2nd; Gary Tarr, 3rd. **LIGHTWEIGHT:** Leo Whooley, 1st; Robert McFovern, 2nd; Rick DiGirolamo, 3rd. **RED BELT HEAVYWEIGHT:** Mark Camillo, 1st; Salim Hasan, 2nd; Darrell Thomas, 3rd. **LIGHTWEIGHT:** Ed Callahan, 1st; Don Hawkins, 2nd; Brian Parkinson, 3rd. **GREEN BELT HEAVYWEIGHT:** Steve Puleo, 1st; Steve Sampilo, 2nd; Isaac McKie, 3rd. **LIGHTWEIGHT:** John Gehosky, 1st; Jeff Koproski, 2nd; William Beverlin, 3rd. **ORANGE BELT HEAVYWEIGHT:** Richard Wasserlaut, 1st; Tim Clough, 2nd; John Miller, 3rd. **LIGHTWEIGHT:** Dave Edwards,

1st; Larry Lugaro, 2nd; Steven Friedman, 3rd. **WHITE BELT HEAVYWEIGHT:** Larry Trachtenberg, 1st; Robert Reed, 2nd; Alan Streigold, 3rd. **LIGHTWEIGHT:** John Antigani, 1st; Andrei Mark, 2nd; William Morales, 3rd. **WOMEN ADVANCED:** Linda Morey, 1st; Gloria Agnello, 2nd; Sue Sumpf, 3rd. **BEGINNERS:** Darlene Black, 1st; Kathy Rondelli, 2nd; Dawn Mitchell, 3rd. **JUNIORS ADVANCED:** Mike Cholakian, 1st; Mike Kim, 2nd; Tom Pisarczyk, 3rd. **BEGINNERS:** Jay Weston, 1st; Greg Pantzar, 2nd; Jung Ho Youn, 3rd. **MINI-JUNIORS ADVANCED:** Bernie Trotter, 1st; Joe Kurcin, 2nd; Brian Cobb, 3rd. **BEGINNERS:** Mike Macchiaoli, 1st; Martin Garlitos, 2nd; Edward Kim, 3rd. **PEEWEEES ADVANCED:** Paul Lee, 1st; Randall Batinkoff, 2nd; Bill Morio, 3rd. **BEGINNERS:** Ron Velasco, 1st; Vincent Schipani, 2nd; Eric Keller, 3rd. **MINI-PEEWEEES ADVANCED:** Renee Jacobs, 1st; Bruce Dexter, 2nd; Darrell Cobb, 3rd. **BEGINNERS:** Sam Lee, 1st; Robert McWilliams, 2nd; Sung Ho Ryu, 3rd. **SENIORS ADVANCED:** Greg Dispensa, 1st; Richard Newburg, 2nd; Thomas McNaney, 3rd. **BEGINNERS:** Dennis Diuguid, 1st; William Donegy, 2nd; Stephen Perry, 3rd.

Forms—BLACK BELT: Yeon Seo, 1st; Doug Pratt, 2nd; Paul Szantyz, 3rd. **RED BELT:** Kenny Roundtree, 1st; Raymond Rosado, 2nd; Scott Johnston, 3rd. **GREEN BELT:** John Gehosky, 1st; Glennie Regenye, 2nd; Michael Blasko, 3rd. **ORANGE BELT:** Mike Kirkpatrick, 1st; Richard Arbocus, 2nd; Joe Mele, 3rd. **WHITE BELT:** James White, 1st; Alan Streigold, 2nd; Robert Parkinson, 3rd. **WOMEN ADVANCED:** Brenda Shaheen, 1st; Lois Roccato, 2nd; Wendy Brophy, 3rd. **BEGINNERS:** Angele Martens, 1st; Carol Prpich, 2nd; Darlene Black, 3rd. **JUNIORS:** Mike Kim, 1st; Tom Pisarczyk, 2nd; Matthew Homisak, 3rd. **MINI-JUNIORS:** Scott Conrad, 1st; Martin Garlitos, 2nd; Gary Dispensa, 3rd. **PEEWEEES:** Paul Lee, 1st; Jeffrey Leber, 2nd; Randall Batinkoff, 3rd. **MINI-PEEWEEES:** Raymond Ketchel, 1st; Song Ho Ryu, 2nd; Sam Lee, 3rd. **SENIORS ADVANCED:** Richard Newberg, 1st; Thomas McNaney, 2nd; Don Drumm, 3rd. **BEGINNERS:** Stephen Perry, 1st; Sam Robbins, 2nd; Lloyd Oretsky, 3rd.

Team Sparring—H.C. Hwang Tang Soo Do School, 1st; Y. Kwon Tang Soo Do School, 2nd; K.Y. Yi Tang Soo Do School, 3rd; Y.M. Lee Tang Soo Do School, 4th; Y.K. Hong Tang Soo Do School, 5th.

Erie Open Surprises Everyone

ERIE, Pennsylvania—One of the top fighters in the nation, James Cook of Cleveland, Ohio, and a young newcomer in black belt freesparring, Michael Grotfend of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, came out on top for a chance to defeat local champ Bill Blanks in the 1978 Erie Open Karate Championships. Cook won the black belt heavyweight crown over Jeff Keep of Erie after Keep was disqualified because of excessive contact.

Grotfend had defeated Bob Tempalski of Rochester, New York, for the lightweight title, so the crowd was anxiously awaiting the outcome of the fight between Cook and Grote-