

Tang Soo Do

Chun Sik Kim



Their backgrounds may have been different, but their goals are relatively the same: To make a good living out of teaching while promoting the art of tang soo do.

For Hyun Chul Hwang and Chun Sik Kim, tang soo do is what is most important to them right now. They have studied it, they believe in its principles, they can make a good living from it and, most important, they are excellent instructors in it.

Hwang, the son of tang soo do founder and Grandmaster Hwang Kee, owns a school in Springfield, New Jersey. Kim owns two schools in East McKeesport and Monroeville, suburbs of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Hwang first took up tang soo do at the age of seven. Naturally, it was his father who provided the impetus for him to take up a martial art. "The martial arts weren't popular for kids in Korea. People thought it was too rough, so only men took it," recalls Hwang. "I don't think I would have taken it if not for my father."

In 1973, Hwang left Korea for Athens, Greece. In effect, his father made him a tang soo do goodwill ambassador. "In America there were already good tang soo do instructors," says Hwang. "Greece was virgin territory."

After setting up a school in Athens, Hwang spent one year in England teaching. He then went to the United States to start a school. "I picked New Jersey because my sister lived there," he says.

In addition to teaching at his school, Hwang is a member of the Tang Soo Do Federation board of directors and chairman of the technique advisory committee.

Hwang says he does not stress tournament competition in his instruction. "Tournaments more and more are stressing the offensive, which is a con-

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Hyul Chul Hwang

flict with the tang soo do philosophy. The philosophy and goal of the martial arts is to stress the defensive. I would like to see more defense stressed in tournaments."

Hwang is hoping to propose a point structure in tournament scoring that would give points for good blocks or a block-and-counter combination.

"I want to have a clinic for defensive scoring," says Hwang. "So far, I have had good response from people. With defensive scoring you get more of a feeling for the art."

When not teaching, Hwang spends time as an artist, specializing in Oriental brush work.

Kim started tang soo do at the age of 10 after studying judo and boxing. "As soon as I started tang soo do, it helped my confidence," says Kim. "When I got my black belt I decided to stay with it as a career."

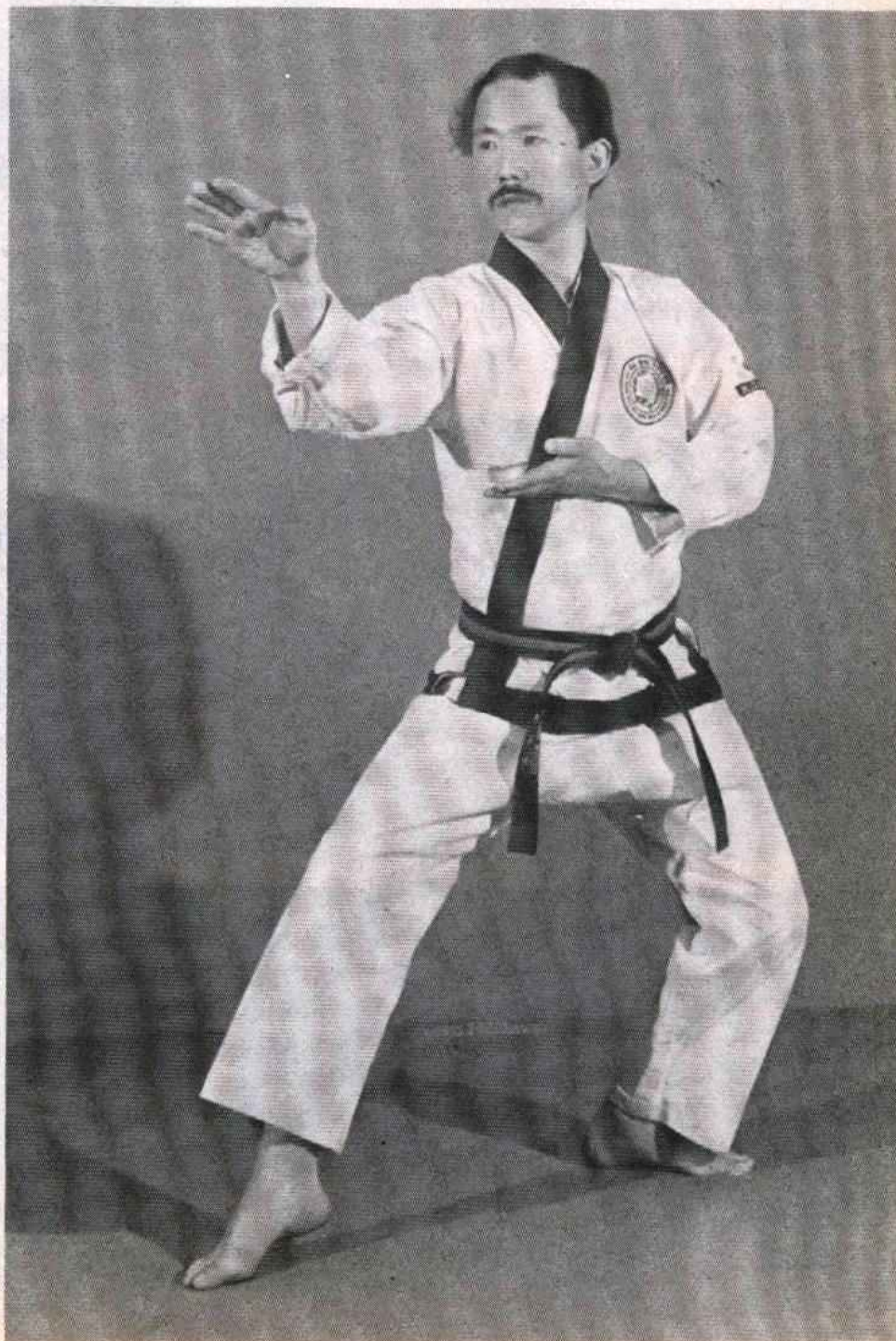
After teaching tang soo do in the Korean Army, Grandmaster Hwang Kee dispatched Kim to the United States. In 1974, he chose Pittsburgh to open his first school. "There weren't many martial arts schools in the area and Pittsburgh reminded me of where I grew up in Korea," says Kim.

His schools are called C.S. Kim Karate College. "I wanted to give my schools a little different name," says Kim.

Kim says he has about 300 students, with his largest class running up to 30 students. "I give private lessons until the student has learned the basics," says Kim.

In addition to his two schools, Kim is a member of the TSD board of directors and regional chairman for New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

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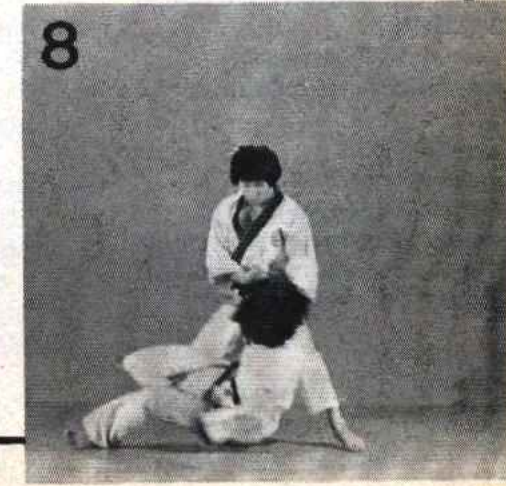
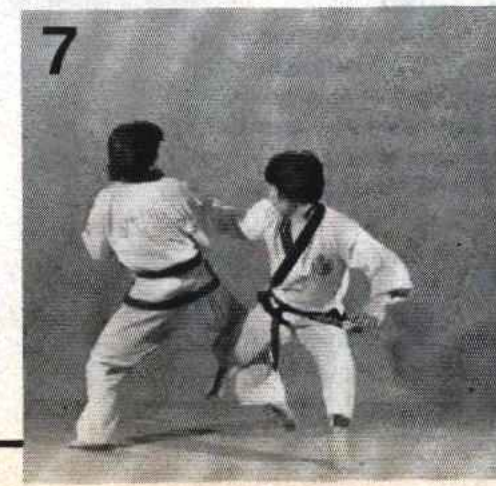
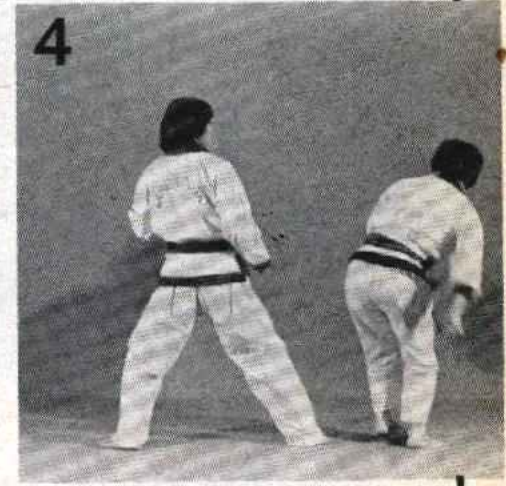
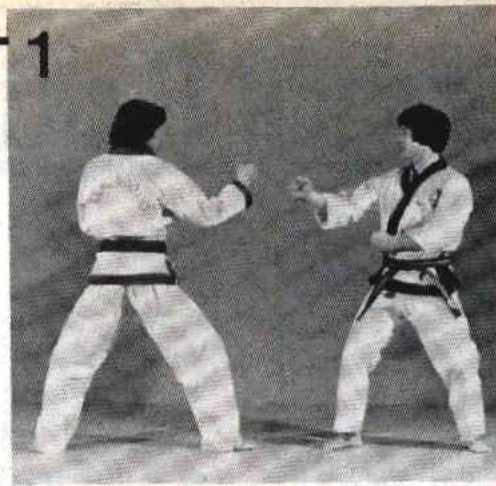


Tang Soo Do Techniques

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From the fighting position (1), Hwang goes up on the balls of his feet for balance while blocking the opponent's front kick (2). As the opponent moves in (3), Hwang counters with a crescent kick (4-5) to the head. The crescent kick, of course, is thrown inward out.





Kim, seeing his opponent about to throw a kick (1-2), steps in and blocks the kick at the knee (2) before it even reaches him. He then throws a roundhouse kick (3), follows by pivoting around into a crescent kick (4-5), and then pivots around the opponent (6), and sweeps him to the ground in preparation for a finishing punch (7-8).