



American Judo

A Journal of the United States Judo Association

Summer 2007



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OKINAWA CITY, OKINAWA, Japan — Third-degree black belt Paul Newman watches Cedrick C. Bevis, 10, and Uta Sakira, 9, square off during judo practice April 1 at the Okinawa City Sports Complex. For the past decade, Newman has been the driving force behind the American's participation during the Budokan Judo Club's practice at the sports complex. (Official U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Bryan A. Peterson) (Released)

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American increases participation in Okinawan Judo training

by Lance Cpl. Bryan A. Peterson

Date written: April 1, 2007

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OKINAWA CITY, OKINAWA, Japan — Every Saturday and Sunday for the past 10 years, Americans and Okinawans get together at the Okinawa City Sports Complex to practice Judo, the Japanese martial art that derives most of its form from ancient Jujitsu techniques.

Among the American practitioners who frequent the complex is Paul Newman, the environmental protection specialist with the Facility Engineers Environmental Office on Camp Hansen and a driving force behind American participation in the Budokan Judo Club's practice in Okinawa City.

According to the Jimmy Pedro's "Judo: techniques and tactics," judo is known for its throwing techniques but also includes numerous techniques for pinning, choking and joint locking an opponent into submission. Judo, which means "gentle way," does not include strikes, punches or kicks, which differentiates it from other martial arts.

Newman, who began the martial art when he was 29, said he started because his kids were doing it and didn't think much of it.

"My daughters were going through Judo when we were stationed in Hawaii," he said. "I always used to harass them because I didn't think Judo was hard at all. So, I figured I would try it out. Let me tell you; it's physically the hardest thing I have ever done."

In 1997, he took his Judo training with him when he received orders to move to Kadena Air Base. Since then, he has earned his black belt and become an instructor

Newman teaches students throughout the week at Kadena Air Base and Camp Hansen and volunteers his time at the sports complex on weekends. He encourages his students to come to the sports complex on weekends.

"What I like to do most is teach anyone who wants to learn and have them come down here to apply the moves," said the retired Air Force technical sergeant. "When you can learn Judo and apply the techniques here with people who have been learning this all their lives, it's the best way. It's like eating yakisoba in the states and eating here. Sure it might taste good there, but here it's authentic."

Kenji Aguni, a 5th-degree Godan black belt, said American participation at the sports complex has greatly enhanced performance of both American and Okinawan students.

"The Americans bring strength to the table," he said. "Although strength is good, it's not the only thing that can help someone in Judo. Technique is the majority of it. But the Americans make us work harder and put us in better shape. They make us stronger, and they learn how to apply their strength with techniques."

Yakei Nakamatso, the Okinawa City Budokan sensei and a 6th-degree Rokudan black belt, said the Okinawan and Americans have created a relationship that cannot be broken.

"It's good to have the interaction because it makes both sides more comfortable with each other," he said. "Judo is practiced all over the world, and ten years ago we had very few Americans join us. Since Paul became active here, their participation has increased."



Ten-year-old Cedrick C. Bevis began Judo at the age of five and has practiced it since. He said since moving to Okinawa and becoming a member of the Kadena Judo Club, his passion for the martial art has grown.

“I would not want to be anywhere other place to perfect my Judo skills than here,” he said. “I learned a lot from the states, but to actually be around the area where the art began is a better feel for me. I come here every weekend and every weekend I get better.”



OKINAWA CITY, OKINAWA, Japan — Craig O’Neal puts his opponent in an arm bar April 1 at the Okinawa City Sports Complex. Every Saturday and Sunday for the past 10 years, Americans and Okinawans alike get together at the Okinawa City Sports Complex to practice the Japanese martial art that derives most of its form from ancient jujitsu techniques. O’Neal is a judo student with the Kadena Judo Club. (Official U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Bryan A. Peterson) (Released)



OKINAWA CITY, OKINAWA, Japan — Third-degree black belt Paul Newman watches Cedrick C. Bevis, 10, and Uta Sakira, 9, square off during judo practice April 1 at the Okinawa City Sports Complex. For the past decade, Newman has been the driving force behind the American’s participation during the Budokan Judo Club’s practice at the sports complex. (Official U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Bryan A. Peterson) (Released)



OKINAWA CITY, OKINAWA, Japan — Cedrick C. Bevis, 10, and Uta Sakira, 9, square off during judo practice April 1 at the Okinawa City Sports Complex. Every Saturday and Sunday for the past 10 years, Americans and Okinawans alike get together at the Okinawa City Sports Complex to practice the Japanese martial art that derives most of its form from ancient jujitsu techniques. Bevis is a judo student with the Kadena Judo Club. (Official U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Bryan A. Peterson) (Released)



Why Do We Punish Ourselves So? by Larry Beard



Thinking that I am still 21 and invulnerable, I recently was working out with a student with arms bigger than my legs, 75 pounds heavier, and 20 years younger. Chokezilla wrapped gorilla-like arms around my pencil-thin neck and began to squeeze. Despite reduced blood flow to my pea brain through my constricted neck, I suggested that rotating his ham hock of an arm a quarter turn to the left would improve his choke. After the movie (sans popcorn), uncontrolled snoring and drooling, and funny sounds in my ears, I woke to see his big grin as he said, “You’re right. It does work better. Yep, yep, yep.”

Why do we do this to ourselves? Why do we routinely roll around with kids twice our size and half our age (or am I the only dumb one out there)? Could long-term oxygen deprivation to the brain cause us to think this a good idea? Have we learned to enjoy abuse? Lack of O₂ might explain the choke stuff, but judo is so much more.

Face it: Arm locks aren’t simply uncomfortable. They hurt. So why do we routinely open ourselves up to arm locks until our students finally see the opportunity to whip into them too fast and hard with not quite enough control?

Throws can hurt too. The first thing we teach, after how to tap out, is how to protect yourself when thrown. We tell students that if they fall right, they won’t get injured. Yet how many times have we been pounded, had the breath knocked from us, and been tossed onto our noggins, all of which left us grinning? Are we stupid?

My shoulder cusses me on a regular basis, my elbow permits me to do morote-seoinage against only unresisting partners, and my knee routinely wakes me at night. We spend countless hours sweating in the dojo while our friends party. When we lack partners, we tie our obi to a tree and uchi-komi to exhaustion.

We rearrange our schedules and lives to show up for class, whether or not we feel physically and mentally fit. Sometimes students show, sometimes not. We’ve all had students who can’t afford judogi, so we find one in the back room that someone paid for but forgot to pick up, lose their dues checks, or have the club pay their entry fees, and then have them quit without notice. And we can say we actually enjoy this?

Yep. Face it — judo is addictive. It gets under your skin and in your blood. We live and breathe it. Judo consumes us. We think that Illustrated Kodokan Judo should be required reading in elementary school, that the NCAA should adopt judo and show intercollegiate matches on Saturday afternoons, that black belt affairs should replace black tie affairs, and that politicians should have to earn at least shodan rank before entering public office (look what it did for the former Soviet Union).

So why ask why? Simply don a judogi for the time of your life.



Dr. Lawrence A. Beard holds Rokudan rank in judo. He is an Associate Professor of Special Education at Alabama’s Jacksonville State University and teaches at the JSU Judo-Jujitsu Club.



Bernie Semel Referee Clinic Was Held in June

GOLTZ JUDO CLUB



BERNIE SEMEL REFEREE CLINIC

Saturday June 9, 2007

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

ALEXANDER HUGHES COMMUNITY CENTER
1700 Danbury ROAD
CLAREMONT, CA 91711
909-399-5490

ENTRY FEE: \$20.00 (includes lunch)

Key topics to be covered:

- The application of *dynamic* judo.
- Understanding newaza.
- The importance of teamwork.

There will be both classroom time and time on the mat. Bring your gi!

If you are thinking about getting started as a referee, or if you have recently become a national referee, this clinic is designed for you.

For more information contact:

Gary Goltz
909-985-0486 Fax: 909-985-3786
gary@goltzjudo.com
www.goltzjudo.com

Sanctioned by the USJA





Ogden Judo School Reopens! by Dave Overbury

Ogden Judo School was established in 1953. In October of 2006 we were forced to temporarily close our doors because the city of Long Beach had purchased our property for re-development and Sensei Ogden had decided to retire.

We have now re-opened at 17647 Lakewood Blvd, Bellflower, Ca. Our new Dojo is located at 17647 Lakewood Blvd, Bellflower, Ca. It is a new facility with a matt size of approximately 20 by 30 feet.

The black belts in the picture with me are in order:

Eddie Richardson, Nidan;
Jose Rivera, Shodan;
Al Perez, Shodan;
and Glen Kuwatta, Shodan.



Grassroots Clinic with Terry Kelly on Sunday April 29, 2007

We had a great clinic featuring Terry Kelly from the Santa Rosa College Judo Club with his daughter Amy. Jin Iizumi was on hand to show a few techniques as well. The highlight was Terry's induction to the USJA's Hall of Fame as 2006 Coach of the year and Amy as Outstanding Masters Female Competitor of the 2006. 65 judoka attended!





How to Celebrate a Birthday...



Gary Goltz's birthday present to himself!



Club Info Needed by USJA Headquarters

Dear USJA Club Leaders:

Here at the National Headquarters we have been implementing a new judo database. We are making great progress and hope to have the system ready for all coaches and secretaries to download their club rosters by the beginning of next year. In the meantime, please email rosters@usja-judo.org to request a roster to be emailed to you, or to your club secretary, or both.

In an effort to keep our records updated and our lines of communication open, I ask that you please supply the National Office with your club's physical address, your email address, your club's website address and the club's secretary information. When we supply people with your club information we would like to give them the most up to date information about you and your club.

You may email this information to dd.weller@usja-judo.org or you can send the information into the National Headquarters, USJA, 21 N. Union Blvd., Suite 200 Colorado Springs, CO 80909.

Thank you all for your cooperation in this matter and most of all, thank you for all the support you give and have given to the United States Judo Association.

Sincerely,
Katrina R. Davis
USJA Exec. Office Manager

katrina.davis@usja-judo.org

Thank you to the USJA

Dear Mr. Webb, *President USJA*

Dr. DeMars, *Vice President USJA*

Mr. Weers, *Secretary USJA*

Mr. Slaven, *Treasurer USJA*

Miss Davis, *Executive Office Manager USJA*

Mr. Goltz, *COO*

Mr. Nakawaki, *Legal Counsel*

Mr. Bowles

Mr. Bregman

Mr. Szejter

Mr. Contardo

Ms. Holtze

Mr. Pedro

Mr. Sprayley

Mr. Monto, *Kata Committee Chairman USJA*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you at the United States Judo Association for your generous help and support of Jeff Giunta and myself at the 2007 Pan-American Judo Championships.

You have shown us that you believe in us and our hard work. Without you, we would have had to fully fund this championship ourselves. With your help, support and generosity, we did extremely well and won the gold in all three contested divisions: Nage-no-kata, Katame-no-kata and Ju-no-kata.

This win has gotten us selected to compete at the World Kata Championship to be held in Japan in late October!

With this honor, we intend to train even harder to get ready for this next championship. We will again strive to do our best to make you all nothing less than proud!

Thank you.

Heiko Rommelmann, Jr.
Jeff Giunta



Our Judo Experience - A Letter to Judo America

My two young boys have been studying Judo with Gerry Lafon and his diverse, experienced coaching staff at San Diego Judo America for 2 years now. Starting at ages 4 and 5, their shared experience will be one of their first memories. What they've learned here will help shape their future development and grant them a perspective influenced by this special school.

Their earliest lessons were basic and fundamental, but of the highest value. From the beginning, the mental aspects of the sport were integral to the training; don't quit, always do your best, honor your teachers, understand the idea of respect and show respect, understand the idea of toughness and be tough, try not to cry, listen carefully, speak when words are needed, think, and have fun. Importantly, learn when to be serious and when to be silly. Take care of your teammates take care of your opponents.

As for technical advancement and instruction, the coaching style pushes and supports at the same time. The coaches obviously have a great depth of knowledge, but they teach Judo at a level the kids can respond to. They use a remarkable balance of expectation, humor and disciplined reprimands. The structure of the class itself helps our kids learn. Its approach combines variety within a consistent structure of recognizable units: the physical conditioning section, the instruction section, and the application section. This gives the kids milestones in each class it gives a rhythm. Our boys learned the basic techniques slowly and at times they got disheartened. The coaches always encouraged them when this happened; they never become impatient or disinterested.

At home, we talk about the importance of these lessons and how they relate to the other learning environments they find themselves in. Judo, in fact, has become part of our family language, and why shouldn't it? The education they receive in the thinking sport of Judo is real, and we can measure its benefits outside of Judo class. Our young kids see for themselves that the attitudes they develop during training can be applied elsewhere. Their practical experience with balance, flexibility, strength, and endurance at Judo helps them understand and accept the demands they face elsewhere even at this early age.



(L to R) Gerald Lafon with Evan, Hiroko, John and Connor Wilson

As our boys learn the lessons of Judo, their training regimen helps us learn more about our boys. Attending Judo class with our kids provides a window into their world that is difficult to get elsewhere. Parents don't often go to day school to watch their kids grow and learn. By involving ourselves and attending Judo class, however, we can watch them as they handle success and failure, stress and pain. We can see how they approach problem solving and how they work in a team. Their Judo experience helps them individually and as brothers. Our oldest son has physical handicaps; generally, these are ignored and he pushed as hard as anyone else. This attitude by the coaches fosters a relaxed acceptance by the other students that normalizes his shortcomings. I'm proud of our sons - they practice the lessons they teach.

As parents, we know Judo can be learned and applied only if the boys commit to the program. Sometimes it's hard to stay the course; our kids always struggle with the technical requirements oftentimes other interests or activities conflict with Judo practice in our kid busy lives. My responsibility as a parent is to choose a setting for our boys where they are continually exposed to the fundamental lessons discussed above. I believe my responsibility extends to keeping them in programs where such lessons are found Judo America in our case.

Connor and Evan's Parents - John and Hiroko Wilson



James Wall gave a Grassroots Clinic on Judo Games

USJA - SATURDAY MORNING grassroots clinic series

Saturday June 16, 2007

9:00AM to 11:00AM



FEATURING JAMES WALL ON JUDO GAMES!

Games are designed to be fun and challenging but to also help build mental and physical abilities while keeping kids interested in learning. Sensei Wall is an expert on judo games and writes a regular column in Growing Judo the USJA's on line magazine

GOLTZ JUDO CLUB
Alexander Hughes Community Center
1700 Danbury Road
Claremont, CA 91711
909-399-5490

Fee: \$10 USJA members, \$15 non USJA members

[Download a Registration Form](#)

Sanctioned by the USJA

For More Information Contact:

Gary Goltz
909-985-0486
gary@goltzjudo.com
www.goltzjudo.com

Proceeds went to the USJA Grassroots Funding efforts





Judo Games Look Like Fun!





THE BLIND JUDOKA by Ed Carol

I'd just finished a fairly strenuous workout with one of the tougher guys at the Vince Tamura Judo Institute when Tamura Sensei approached. "Ed, will you work with a beginner for me?"

"Always, Sensei," I replied. "Why do you ask?"

"Because this man is special. He used to run cross-country track in college but can't any more. He wants a sport that he can do."

Vince left but shortly returned leading a brown-haired man about 5'8" and 145 pounds. He was unremarkable except that Sensei allowed him on the mat with shoes. The man clutching a new judogi was blind.

"Ed, this is William Wainwright. I told him that you'd help him learn judo. Will, this is Ed Carol, one of my black belts."

"Hi, Will. So you ran cross-country in college?"

"Yes sir, Mr. Carol. Coach stationed men around the track to guide me."

"How'd you do?"

"I usually won but took only third in the nation my last year of competition. Had to quit after that. Law School was way too hard."

In the locker room I explained the rules and showed Will how to don his judogi. Bowing back onto the mat, we began. Wiry and quick, Will had excellent control over his body. He quickly learned to fall well. I had only to explain exact steps and he'd perform them perfectly. He remembered everything.

I'd worked with the blind before. I'd wrestled in the 8th grade in Iowa, but when I moved to Kansas City the only wrestling in town was at the School for the Blind. Wrestling those guys was like grappling with a vice grip combined with a meat grinder! I had a fair idea of what Will could do if he really wanted.

Will sometimes had trouble getting to the dojo, so I gave him rides. He walked with a white cane that he continuously tap-tap-tapped in front of him. Judo lessons were helping because the tapping slowed though he walked faster. His confidence level was growing though he was reluctant to work with anyone but me. After four months Tamura Sensei promoted Will to yonkyu. He was a good green belt.

One day while working out I asked, "Why won't you work with anyone else?"

"I don't trust anyone else."

"You no longer need to trust anyone. You can hold your own, and you know it. What's the real reason?"

"Ed, I'm so afraid that I will throw someone onto another person that I just can't work with others."

This admission from a man who routinely threw me surprised me. He didn't seem afraid of hurting anyone when he tossed me around!

"Will, got a few questions."

"Fire away." Will twisted his head, a motion he performed when nervous.

"Where's the wall?"

"Which wall?"

"The one with the windows."

"The wall is 15', 4 1/2" directly in front of me and behind you, about 2' closer to you."





“Will, is there anyone else on the mat right now?”

“Tamura Sensei is near the gate working on the mat with Billy. Dwan is almost in the far corner doing uchikomi with Phil. Ken is practicing falls from the fence along the window wall about 4' out and using over half the wall.”

I had no doubt he was right to the half inch! The Tamura Judo Institute had a spring-loaded floor that made falling easy. It also helped Will locate folks. I didn't know he could identify them too.

“Will, you know where you are in relation to mat edges better than anyone. From now on you're going to work with others besides me.”

I put Will with Ken Smith, a nidan who would hurt you if he thought you needed it. He was nice to Will until Will threw him with osoto gari! Will immediately graduated to real judo training! After that class, I'd often put him with new partners. Their only complaint was that he was too careful.

Will trained until he was ready for his brown belt, then disappeared. Though I never saw him again, I bet thanks to judo he's walking faster and tapping his cane less than ever.

Ed Carol, yodan in judo and sandan in jujitsu, teaches at his Ichi Ni San Judo and JiuJutsu club in Kaufman, Texas.



JUDO FIRST DAY COVERS by Ronald Allan Charles

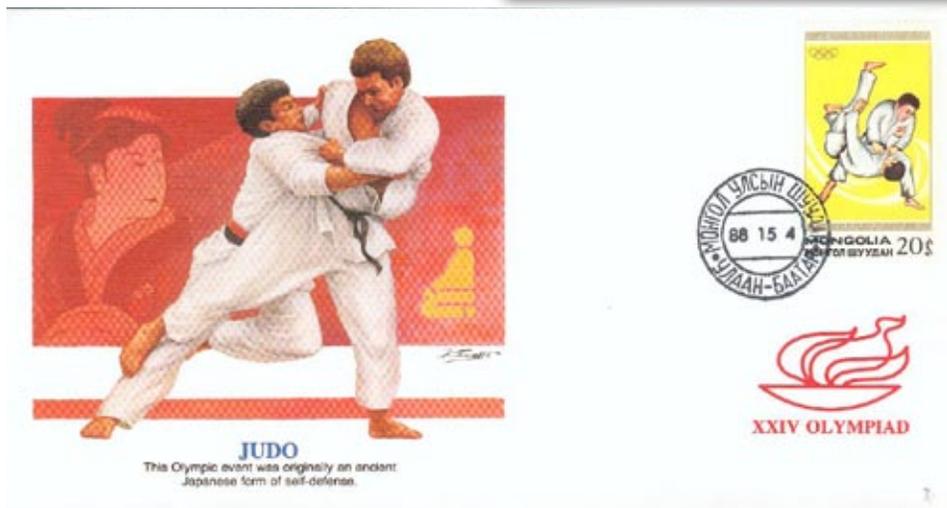
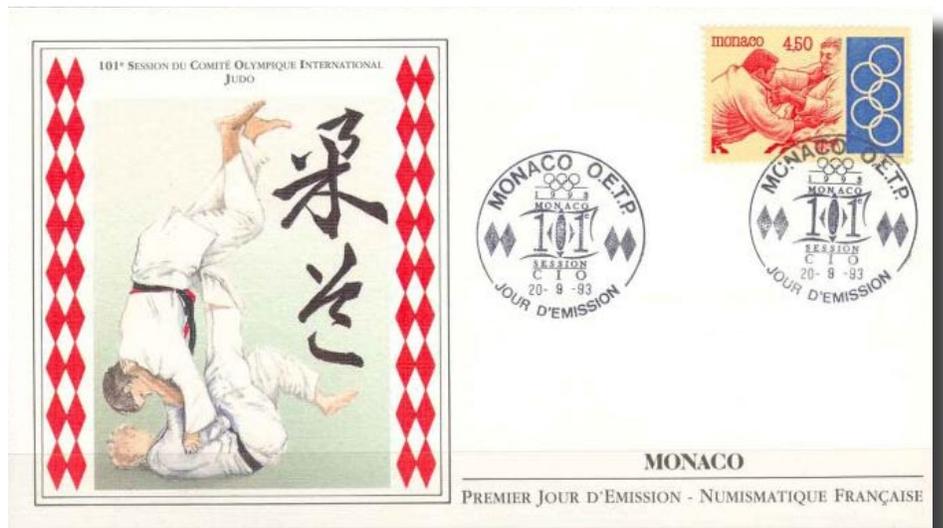


“Free” is my favorite four-letter word in the English language. Well, “judo” is a toss-up, but that’s what judo’s about. Actually, “free” is a word I know in several languages, whereas “judo,” is the same in every language. My second favorite word, without counting letters, is “cheap,” though this ties with “reduced for quick sale” and “two-for-one.” “Reduced for quick sale” frequently is what I serve for dinner and sometimes for lunch and breakfast too, providing three-for-one. Economizing makes my life what it is today – easy, with time for judo.

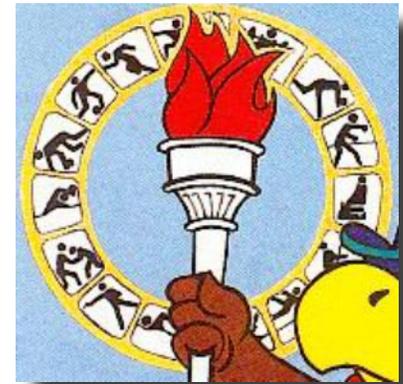
I seek that minimum effort - maximum return route even when teaching judo. I teach ippon seoi-nage after o-goshi, emphasizing arm placement as a major difference. That’s two-for-one. Similarly I teach two-for-one with uki-otoshi and sumi-otoshi, pointing out the difference in direction of the throw. And of course it’s efficient to teach a throw with a counter, and when that throw is o-soto-gari and an effective counter is o-soto-gaeshi, it’s easy. It is efficient and realistic to teach an escape when teaching a hold-down.

It gets better. I’ve streamlined my teaching so that sometimes I offer techniques three-for-one. For example I combine teaching of harai-goshi, hane-goshi, and uchi-mata. Time I saved teaching those last night allows time for me to write this article. It’s about collecting First Day Covers, but you surmised that from its title. It is not about Covering All Techniques the First Day in Judo.

First Day Covers, commonly called FDCs, are envelopes or cards commemorating a special event, usually with a relevant picture to the left. The cancellation or postmark date, of course, will be the first date of the event. Some events last several days, but the cancellation indicates the first day.

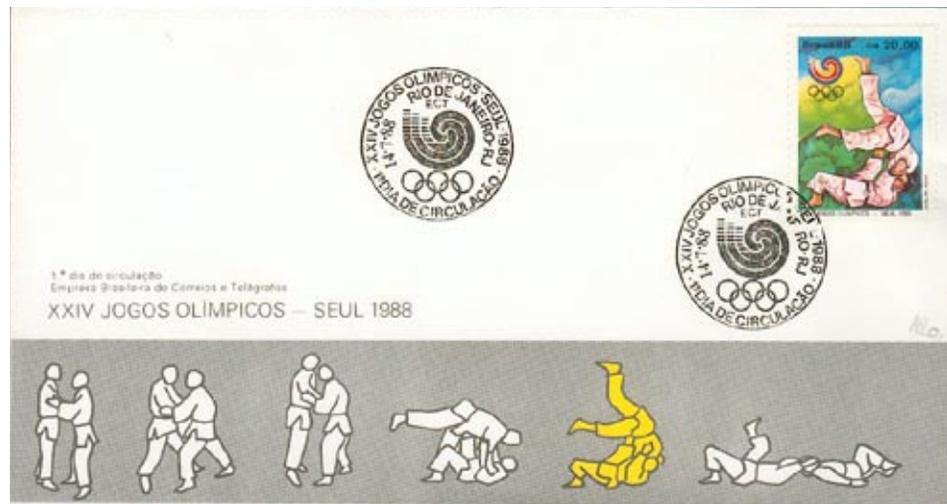


You have to look pretty hard to find judo on this stamp from Benin. (You have to look pretty hard too to find Benin on your map.) The picture to the left saves digging up your magnifying glass. Nope, that's not judo to the left of the bird's right hand. It's wrestling. Judo is just above the hat's front bill, which coincidentally is above the bird's bill. (Bills on bills -- what folks face on payday.) The silhouette shows a judoka seated in seiza. Don't believe me? Okay, find that magnifier.



Editor's note: for those of you who can't find a magnifying glass, we have enlarged the image.

You could learn tomoe-nage from this one.

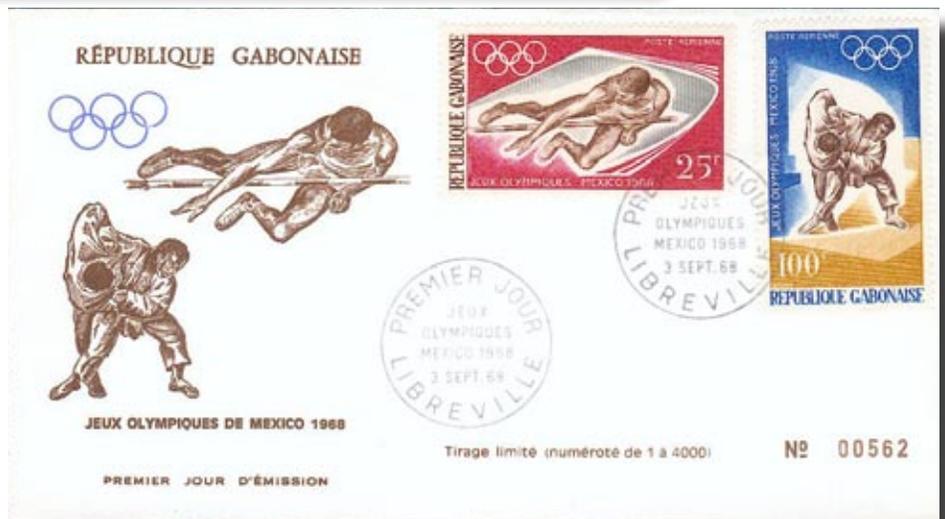


Many first-day cover envelopes duplicate the stamp image.





The Gabonese postal system evidently never got word about judo's exclusion from the Mexico Olympics. I wonder if they sent a team. Incredibly both stamp and envelope commemorate this non-event.



This FDC celebrating the Montreal Olympics from Saint-Pierre et Miquelon, a small French island off Newfoundland, shows judoka competing in a fig leaf-shaped area, surely a FIGurative representation. Oops, it's not a fig leaf after all. I'm confusing my leaves with uniforms Adam and Eve wore during their first match. It's a MAPLE leaf, which offers even less playing area.

So the idea is to have an envelope indicating judo with a postmark from that first day. A stamp must be affixed in order to get the postmark. If it's a judo stamp, the FDC is more appealing, and if the cancellation mentions judo or has a judo image, the item becomes more precious.

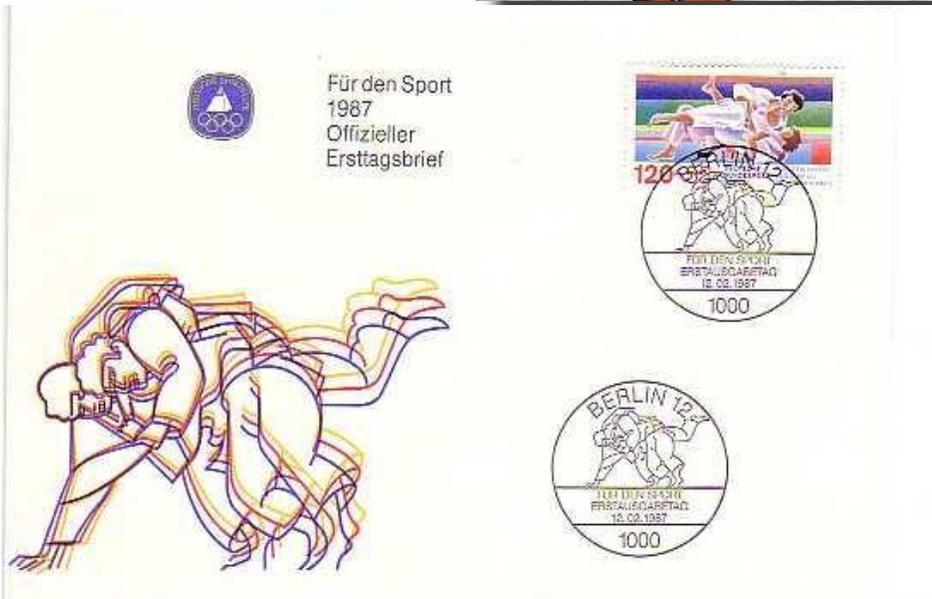


Collectors sometimes obtain three collectibles at one shot: a judo stamp cancelled with a judo postmark on a First Day Cover.





This tiger's no pussycat on the mat. He specializes in throwing with cata-guruma and following up with cata-gatame as a pin. And he's a specialist in several cata. Kareful.



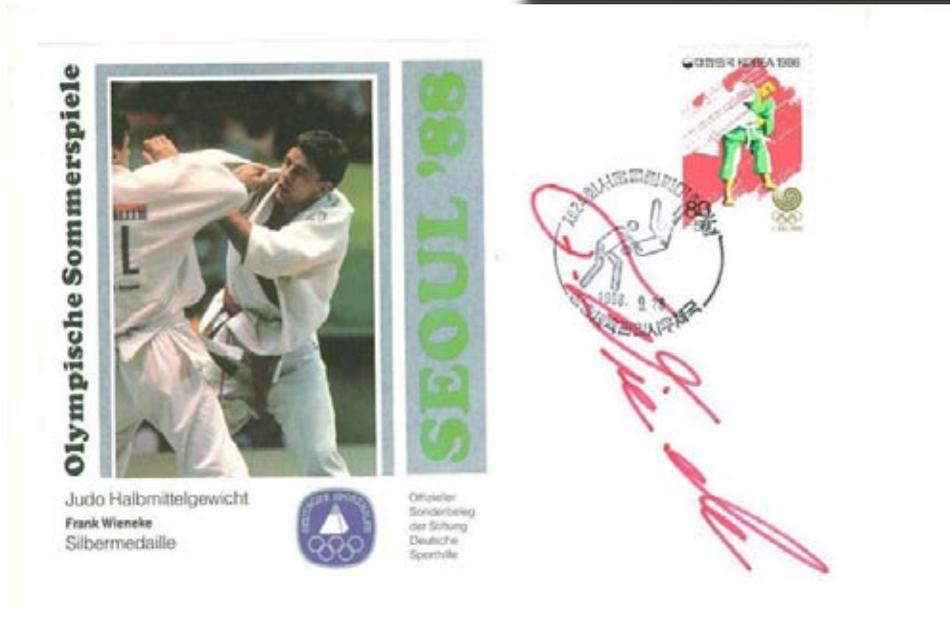
Speaking of cats, don't stare too long at this FDC before you compete or you may go into a catatonic trance and wobble onto the mat. That would be a catastrophe and might catapult you into the losers' bracket.

This semi-official FDC envelope produced with agreement of postal authorities features a photo of the competition area on silk, with six stamps showing close-ups of players competing. Attached to the stamps is a vignette, which sometimes does not pertain directly to judo. Sometimes the judo item is the vignette itself. You wouldn't mail something like this. Instead, you'd have the postal representative near the event cancel it, then wrap it carefully to take home, after which of course you'd send me a copy to post on the Judo Stamp List.





I used to think three-for-one was a collector's ultimate prize until I came across four-for-one items. The fourth tidbit is an autograph. Each of these First Day Covers is adorned with a judo picture, judo stamp, judo cancellation, and champion's autograph. One is signed by David Douillet of France, the other by Frank Wieneke (pictured on left) of Germany.



Are countries that issue judo stamps and FDCs major players in our game? Nah. Many do this to earn revenue and aren't prominent on the international judo scene. But do collectors care? Not a whit.

See over 200 judo FDCs from nearly 90 countries at the world's largest online collection (http://usja-judo.org/~judo_stamps), plus an assortment of FDCs of other martial arts, judo stamps, and coins. Detailed information and over 2,000 images will keep you busy a long while.

Ronald Allan Charles teaches judo in Goose Creek, near Charleston, South Carolina, when not traveling and sharing our art. He enjoys judo even off the mat. Collecting judo paraphernalia -- philatelic items, coins, and phonecards -- though not covered by membership insurance, has an unblemished safety record. It's something to do between practices. Good safe fun with no sweat whatsoever.



The Greatest Camp On Earth by Carl Hayes

It's all over for another year. This year's Greatest Camp On Earth in Matthews, N.C. was the biggest ever, the most fun ever, the most *lots of things* ever.



Many people think Judo Camp starts the day the Campers arrive. Not so. There's months and months of preparation, done largely by Debbie Rucker (Judo Slave) and her helper horde. Work begins in earnest about the middle of January. By the week of Camp, crews are on hand to do the many tasks of actually running the Camp.

There are registration tables to set up; mats to transport, lay out, tape, and cover; concessions and meals to make ready; Mat Moms to schedule; and a thousand other things, large and small to do before the Campers arrive.



At last, Campers start to arrive. They are of all shapes, sizes, and ages. Each is treasured, and each must be taken care of. For the youngest ones, there are Mat Moms wearing bright orange vests, who take care of the kids off the mat, and also stand by the edge of the mat to take care of children who must leave the group temporarily. We treasure our Mat Moms.



From Thursday morning on, the mats are filled with instructors and Campers from all over the world. On one mat adults learn matwork from Igor Yakimov; on the next, Tom Reiff teaches the use of a cane as a weapon. Nearby, Nick Lowe engages the littlest Campers in Judo games that teach balance and coordination, and works on a little guy's o soto gari. In other areas, Drs. Ronald Allan Charles and Donald Tyrell conduct coach certification classes, while Virgil Bowles, Ed Szejter, and several others teach various katas.



In the cafeteria, Gary Monto leads the examination team that first scares the wits out of the examinees, then works them mercilessly to determine whether they deserve promotion. Some pass. Others are told to study more and try another day. Richard Porro finds the examination grueling, and is relieved to receive his new rank of sandan. He looks a little worn out.

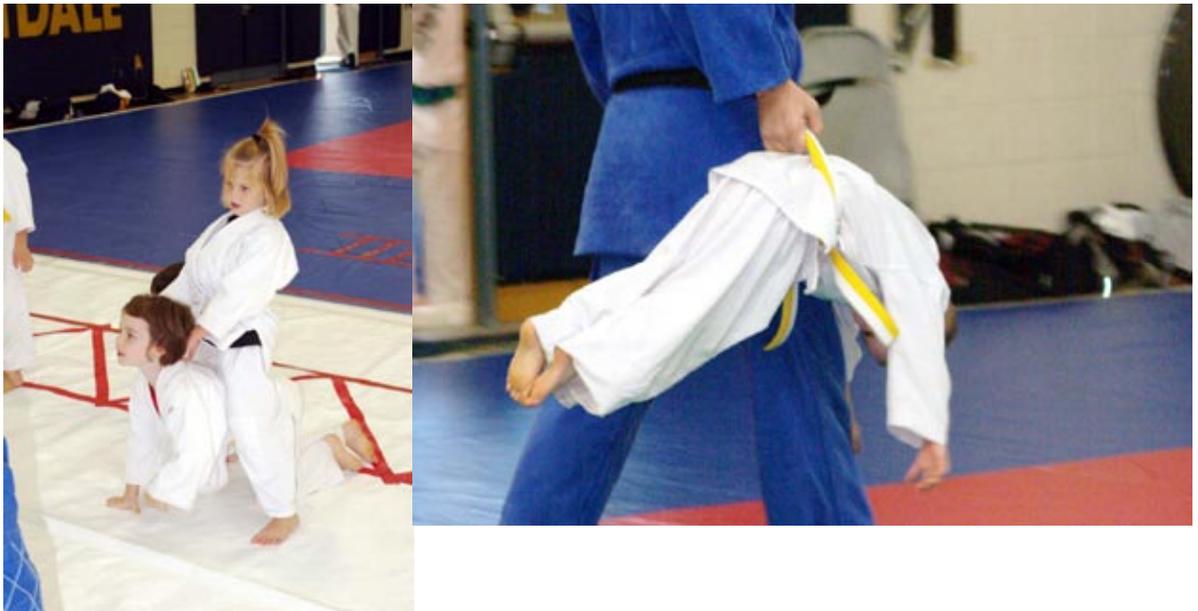




Out on the mats and in the Kids Zone where they rest between sessions, kids learn Judo, behavior, and self-control. All are having the time of their lives; some remain cool and collected.



Some are just along for the ride, but others really get carried away.



Not everything goes according to plan. There is an occasional hurt fingernail, but instructors like Dan Clark are good comforters. It's all better very quickly.





Between activities, there is plenty of time to lie around ...



... and there are lots of places to lie around. This particular place, in the cafeteria, looks uncomfortable to me.

When Camp is over and we've lined up and bowed out ...



... we all look forward fondly and eagerly to next year's Greatest Camp On Earth.

Carl Hayes teaches Judo at the Tallahassee YMCA in the capital city of Florida. At The Greatest Camp on Earth he spends most of his time teaching children and taking pictures.

All photos in this article taken by Carl Hayes at The Greatest Camp On Earth, June 2007.



A coaching clinic also occurred during the 'Greatest Camp on Earth.'



Photos on this page are courtesy of Robert Sprayley



Patricia Hill Honored For Martial Arts Contributions

The World Sokeship Council recently honored Patricia Hill for her contributions to the martial arts by inducting her into the World Head of Family Sokeship Council Hall of Fame as Female Instructor of the Year. Formal induction ceremonies were held in Orlando, Florida, where she was the only female to present a mini-clinic alongside some of the most notable Grandmasters in the world.

The World Head of Family Sokeship Council is an exclusive union of 9th and 10th degree black belt Grandmasters or the equivalent from around the world. Membership includes some of the world's greatest martial artists from nearly twenty countries. Established in 1993 by Professor Frank E. Sanchez of Guam, the WHFSC is the world's most elite Grandmasters/Soke organization. Members include Don "The Dragon" Wilson, Jackie Chan, Bill Wallace, and Reylson and Rickson Gracie.



A former national judo champion, Hill Sensei has trained and received high rank in several arts, including Yusool, Hapkido, Yudo, and Jujitsu. She currently serves as Vice President of Martial Arts USA (www.martialartsusa.com). She holds judo sandan rank and kata credentials in the USJA and teaches martial arts in Alabama at the Jacksonville State University Judo/Jujitsu Club.



NAS Armed Services Judo Martial Arts Academy Promotion Awards Ceremony by Renee J. Robinson, Secretary Armed Services Judo & Jujitsu Academy, USAJA, FL 041

The Naval Air Station, Olympic Sports Judo and Self-Defense Program under the National Charter of the United States Judo Association, is alive and doing very well as evidenced by the student promotion and special awards ceremony held at the NAS Youth Center on Wednesday evening, 16 May 2007.



The nine students receiving promotions include, Jasmine S. Robinson, age 4, to Junior White Belt, Katie Joyce, 2nd Grade Junior Yellow Belt, Gavin Kelly, 3rd Grade Junior Orange Belt, Christopher Suszko, 4th Grade Junior Green Belt, Jonathan Smith, 2nd Grade Senior Yellow Belt, Kyle Schroeder and James E. Kelly, 3rd Grade Senior Orange Belt, Thomas Berekryei, Senior Green Belt, and Matthew Falcy, Senior 3rd Grade Brown Belt.

NAS and Pensacola community members also recognized included the academy, Scroll of Appreciation for Wendy Wilson, Pensacola News Journal, Lt. Col Christopher J. Joyce, USAF, Judo Dad of the Year, Donna Schroeder, Judo Mom of the Year, Ed & Donna Schroeder, Judo Family of the Year, James E. Kelly, Most Dedicated Law-Enforcement Officer of the Year, Larry Baldwin, Senior Coaching Excellence, Earl Wright, Senior Leadership Excellence, Anna M. Lopez, NAS MWR Employee Senior Leadership, Mary Sly, Senior Excellence Award, Thomas Roberts Most Improved Senior Excellence, Anthony Martinez, Senior Excellence, Renee J. Robinson, Volunteer of the Year 2005, 2007.



Special recognition included the Academy, Annual Founder, Award to Harry White, NAS Public Affairs Officer. Mr. White was recognized for extraordinary military and community support leadership excellence.

Final presentations for the evening included U.S. National & International recognition awards to Grandmaster H.G. Robby Robinson, 9th Degree Black Belt, for induction into the 2007 Action Martial Arts Magazine, Hall of Fame and the 2007 American Federation of Martial Arts Hall of Fame, Outstanding Achievements as a Grandmaster and Elite Platinum



Lifetime Achievement Award respectively, Sensei Larry Baldwin, 6th Degree Black Belt for induction into the Universal Martial Arts Hall of Fame, Judo Master of the Year, and Sensei Earl Wright, 2nd Degree Black Belt, inducted into the International Budo (Martial Arts) Magazine Hall of Fame, Judo Man of the Year.



This popular program was founded by Prof. Robinson in 1985 at the Corry Station Center for Information Dominance and is offered by the NAS Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Department. The primary objectives of Judo and Jujitsu are physical, mental and moral development. Active duty, family members and retirees, and DOD employees are welcome to participate in this year-long program. For more details contact senior coach Larry Baldwin at baldg5@juno.com



To order call toll free 877-411-3409, Fax: 719-633-4041, email: orders@usja-judo.org,
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