

Worlds in October for Bermuda Austrian Kickboxing hosts WAKO

By Kristina Ingham

The Bermuda Karate/Kickboxing Organization plans to send several fighters to Villach, Austria to compete in world championships in Light Contact, Low-Kick and K1 Rules from October 19 to 25.

Villach is located in Carinthia, the southernmost state in Austria. Second from left below is Ennio Falsoni, WAKO President, who visited Bermuda for the BIG tournaments in the 1980's.

Mr. Falsoni, Ottmar Felsberger and Nikolaus Gstattner with the poster of the Championships, are saying to everybody: "Don't miss it!"

WAKO official webpage



Garon Wilkinson
and Sentwall
Woolridge



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Fighters to face world's best::

Two sets of Bermuda martial artists have embarked on international events with fighters from both Sanshou and kick-boxing taking on the best in the world.

The team representing Bermuda in Sanshou at the 10th World Wushu Championships includes Talia Iris, Sentwali Woolridge, Garon Wilkinson, Khalid Pitcher, Shannon Ford, Reyel Bowen, and Jermal Woolridge.

Coach Damion Wilson corner Jason Dill and manager Oscar Lightbourne will also travel.

The Bermuda national Sanshou team took part in their very first world championship tournament at the 9th World Wushu Championships held in Beijing, China two years ago. At that tournament, four athletes represented Bermuda with Woolridge placing fifth in the male heavyweight division.

The venue for the championships is Ricoh Coliseum. The weigh-in and opening ceremonies will take place on October 24 with the competition commencing the following day.

The second group of martial artists will compete at the World Association of Kickboxing Organisations (WAKO) World Championships to be held in Villach, Austria.

Skipper Ingham, founder of Bermuda Karate Institute (BKI), along with senior student Gladwin Phillips, WKO karate champion in 1994, left Bermuda last week with two athletes competing from Bermuda Kickboxing Organisation in the K1 section of World Championships.

The competition runs from October 19 to 26 with Ray Sillar, who teaches Muay Thai at BKI and student Darren Lee fighting in different weight categories. The tournament is a qualifier for a new event called the Martial World Games to be held in Beijing in 2010.

Iris captures gold with TKO

BY BERMUDA SUN STAFF

Don't mess with Texas? Texas better not mess with Talia Iris.

Bermuda's lone female san shou fighter made a sensational start to team Bermuda's build up to the World Championships by capturing a gold medal at the Legends Of Kung Fu Championships in Plano, Texas on Sunday. She squared off against the only other female competitor and forced her opponent's corner to throw in the towel in the first round after some devastating head shots sent her flying to the canvas.

The deciding blow took place after Iris' opponent throw a front kick and she countered with a straight right to the head that sent her opponent to the floor.

Sentwali Woolridge

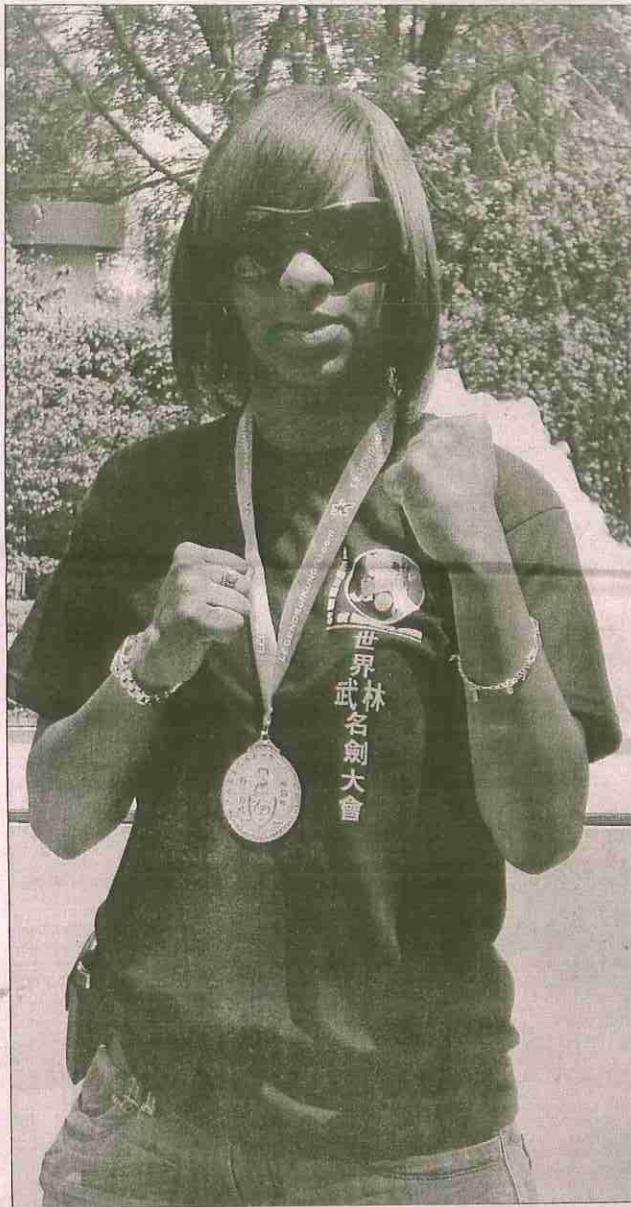
Sentwali Woolridge competed in the 150-159 lbs division. He squared off against his international opponent from Spain requiring a translator for the judge's orders before the fight. The fight did not last long however after Woolridge took his opponent down hard after he tried to throw a front kick. He took him down with a body slam a second time forcing his opponent to give up for the TKO victory. Woolridge took the platform for his second fight some 20 minutes later and lost in a very controversial two rounds to nil decision. After losing the first round Woolridge came back in the last half of the second round with some great boxing shots to put his opponent in trouble and push him off the platform twice. Despite his dominance, two out of three ring judges ruled the round in favour of the opponent. This spurred the head referee to call the judges in for a meeting however the round was not overturned. Woolridge ended up with the bronze.

Garon Wilkinson

Garon Wilkinson took the mat next for Bermuda team in the 160-169 lbs by dominating his bigger, stronger opponent from the opening bell with a counter taking him to the mat. He went on to dominate the rest of the round with a number of punch kick combinations and managed to remain on his feet. He stamped his dominance in the second round by flooring his opponent with a front kick of the front leg and secured three points after the center referee indicated that this was a "clever" technique. He went on to dominate the rest of the round and was awarded the fight with a two rounds to 0 victory.

Khalid Pitcher

Wilkinson was due to fight his second match right after the match following his first fight however the chief judge allowed him a little more rest time and sent Bermuda's Khalid Pitcher in to fight in the 170-179 lbs. This was Pitcher's first overseas san shou match. Pitcher also



DON'T MESS: Talia Iris won the gold medal at the Legends of Kung Fu Championships in Texas last weekend.

had a much bigger opponent and landed some great jabs but failed to capitalize on this suffering a number of takedowns. Pitcher however did well enough to settle for the silver medal in his category.

Wilkinson returned to the ring after Pitcher's bout and once again dominated the opening round with great punch-kick combinations and eventually floored his opponent with the same front kick that sent his opponent to the canvas in the first match.

He was awarded the first round by the judges. As a result of fighting back to back fights, fatigue began to set in and Wilkinson was taken down once prompting the judges to award the second round to his oppo-

nent.

In the deciding third round Wilkinson continued to land combos however was taken down twice in the round forcing two out of three judges to rule the fight in his opponent's favour. Wilkinson settled for the bronze medal.

Reyel Bowen

Fighting last for the Bermuda team was young heavyweight Reyel Bowen also in his first overseas tournament. He used the ring extremely well landing a number of punches as well as a takedown. Bowen was awarded the first round and continued to dominate the second setting his opponent up for a devastating round house kick to the head that forced

a standing 8-count and therefore the advantage to Bowen. The Bermuda fighter was able to capitalize on the damage he caused with his kick and dominated the rest of the round and was awarded the 2-0 victory.

Similar to Wilkinson, Bowen only had a few minutes to recover for his second match. He was able to dominate the first round however fatigue set in the next two rounds and his opponent landed a number of outside leg kicks however Bowen's efforts were good enough for the silver.

The Bermuda Team returned to Bermuda on Wednesday night with one gold, two silver, and two bronze medals. ■

■ PHOTO SUPPLIED

ST. GEORGE'S

Continued from back

of players more than capable of doing the job. Our biggest problem is who to leave out.

"I've got no worries. I'm happy to be where I am and I think whatever XI we pick will be more than capable of winning the game."

Foggo, who will chair a panel of selectors that also includes coach Clay Smith, captain Lionel Cann, Barry Sousa and Gary Brangman, relishes the lengthy, sometimes heated, discussions that traditionally follow the final trial matches as the selectors hammer out their final squads.

"I love it," he admits. "I love being a part of the whole process. There is so much cricket knowledge in that room it makes my job easier. It does get heated at times but that is the good thing about having five individuals. Everyone has a different opinion and at the end of the day we come to a collective decision that is

best for St Georges."

Foggo believes picking a team as champions is a very different job to that faced by the challengers.

"They have to think about leaving out certain batsmen and making sure they can pick a team to get 20 wickets."

Much happier

"I'm much happier to be in our position. We always look to pick a team that can win the match and I'm sure we can do that this time."

St. George's President's XI faces a vice-presidents XI at Wellington Oval from 10am on Saturday.

A similar match will occur simultaneously in Somerset before the respective selectors adjourn for meetings that often goes on long into the night before the two XIs are announced in the early hours of Sunday morning. ■



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Khano debut on Saturday?

BY JAMES WHITTAKER
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Khano Smith could make his debut for Lincoln City in English League Two this weekend.

The Bermudian striker, who penned a short-term deal with the Imps last week, has been granted international clearance and is expected to feature against Torquay United on Saturday.

Smith, 28, told the *Lincolnshire Echo* earlier in the week that he was hoping red tape would not put the skids on his debut.

"The worst part of it all is the waiting, but it is in the hands of the U.S. Federation now," he said on Wednesday.

"But I'm confident that it will all be done before the weekend because I would like to be available for Saturday's game against Torquay."

That prediction proved prophetic and the *Bermuda Sun* understands Smith was understood to play yesterday. ■

San shou fighters off to World Championships

BY JAMES WHITTAKER
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Bermuda's full-contact mixed martial arts fighters are in Canada this weekend to take on the world's best. Seven san shou fighters are competing in the World Wushu Championships at the impressively named Rich Coliseum in Toronto, starting tomorrow.

It is the second time Bermuda has sent a team to the world championships and Garon Wilkinson, president of the san shou association and one of the fighters, admitted they were facing a grueling challenge. He said it would be an 'extraordinary achievement' for any of the seven fighters to come out with a podium finish in the championships which features 1,500 athletes from 85 different countries.

The team, five of whom had strong performances in the Legends of Kung Fu tournament in Texas recently, has gone through months of preparation to prepare themselves, physically and mentally for the unique challenges posed by the brutal, full-contact fighting style.

Bermuda team

Talia Iris - Female <60kg (132 lbs)
Sentwali Woolridge - Male <70 kg (154 lbs)
Garon Wilkinson - Male <75kg (165 lbs)
Khalid Pitcher - Male <80kg (176 lbs)
Shannon Ford - Male <85kg (187 lbs)
Reyel Bowen - Male <90kg (198 lbs)
Jermal Woolridge - Male +90kg (+198 lbs)
Damion Wilson - Head Coach/ Corner
Jason Dill - Corner
Oscar Lightbourne - Manager

"The world championships bring out the 'who's who' in the sport of san shou. This is the absolute highest standard of competition in our sport and all of our training is geared towards performing well in this competition," said Wilkinson.

He said the 'luck of the draw' would determine how far the Bermuda ath-

letes went in the elimination competition.

But heavyweight Jermal Woolridge, who finished fifth at the last world championships in Beijing two years ago, the experienced Sentwali Woolridge and Wilkinson himself are expected to be the island's strongest contenders.

Big things are also expected of Bermuda's lone female fighter Talia Iris. Wilkinson, who was part of the team in Beijing, said they had modified and improved their training methods since the last competition. "I feel that we are far better equipped than we were two years ago."

"I had the opportunity to train with one of the top US san shou fighters in the 90's earlier this year and I have had a chance to implement some of his training methods into our own training."

"We also have had access to more sparring partners with some of the fighters from Skipper Ingham's gym that are taking part in the WAKO World Kickboxing Championships in Austria taking part in a number of our sparring sessions." ■

'BCB UNFAIR'

Continued from back page

competition is over the top. "The BCB could have deducted them points or given them a fine instead. "There were teams throughout the whole tournament who didn't show up to games. Are they going to be banned as well?"

Other teams

Social Club failed to field a team for several games in the group stages before pulling out of the tournament altogether. And Somerset did not field a team in their final group game against Bailey's Bay.

"All we're asking for is consistency," said Cann. He admitted that Rangers' omission from the 2010, 20-20 cup would make life easier for his own team

as they bid to retain the trophy.

But he insisted a competitive tournament was more important.

"You're talking about one of the most prestigious clubs in Bermuda - treating them like that is not good for the game."

"We are trying to get people out to watch the game, a punishment like this is excessive and is bad for the tournament."

"They should have showed up for the game. The sponsors deserved better and the public deserved better but the BCB's punishment is over the top."

"I hope Rangers appeal and get this decision reversed." ■

FACING BAN

Continued from back page

to be honest," Boulevard player/coach Andrew Bascome said. "Football is supposed to be an avenue out. Now you go to a game and you don't know if you're going to be safe."

Police Commissioner George Jackson has called on the public to assist Police in identifying troublemakers at football matches.

He said: "The violence that we have seen at our sporting events is a representation of critical social ills that are affecting our community as a whole."

"It is unfair to drop the ball at the feet of the BFA and blame the Bermuda Police Service."

"I would ask any fans who know of individuals who want to be violent at football games to contact Police." ■

SPORTS BRIEFS / Freddy Hall records seventh shutout

Lighbourne brothers win final Thundercat race of the season

COMPILED BY DON BURGESS
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Powerboat

Results from the final race day of the season.

Juniors: Heat #1: 1st place Aaron Rance-Cariah and Brandon Sousa; 2nd place Kevin Pacheco and Adrian Maitato; 3rd place Michael Rance-Cariah and Dylan Houlishouser. Heat #2: 1st place Michael Rance-Cariah and Dylan Houlishouser; 2nd place

Kevin Pacheco and Adrian Maitato; 3rd place Aaron Rance-Cariah and Brandon Sousa.

Thundercats: 1st place #75 Brian and Mark Lighbourne; 2nd place #5 Patrick Stamper and Roger Simmons; 3rd place #27 Jonathan Gaugain and Luis Viera.

A CLASS: 1st place A37 Darius Zuill and Victor Fishington; FB CLASS: 1st place FB 111 Frank Mello and Brandon DeSilva (43 mins 28 seconds); 2nd place FB 16

David Selley and Jordan Fletcher; D STOCK: 1st place D8 Graham Sutherland and Nic Lindo (44 mins 49 seconds); D MOD: 1st place D42 Brandon Frank and Steven Eversley (43 mins 36 seconds); Jet Skis: 1st place Mod ski #2 Vermonde Virgil (15 mins 28 seconds); 2nd place Mod ski #1 Dorann Simons; 1st place Stock ski #1 Jonathan Cumberbatch (16 mins 19 seconds)

Sailing

Kelsey Durham helped Brewster Academy of Massachusetts win the Cummings Cup. Durham skippered the boarding school's number one boat and he was third in the first heat of the day, which also qualified for him for the finals. The finals was a two-heat affair with Durham and crew Austin Colcord winning by two boat lengths. Durham also sailed off with the win in heat to win the Cummings Cup for the

first time in school history.

Football

Freddy Hall posted his seventh shutout for Quinmpiac University last Sunday as his team beat Sacred Heart 1-0. His school will play the Long Island Blackbirds today (Friday) at 4pm Bermuda time. The University is tied for second in the North Atlantic Region in the latest National Soccer Coaches of America poll. ■

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■ SAILING

Youth to challenge for U.S. championship

BY COLIN THOMPSON

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Two of the island's elite sailors will be competing at this weekend's Intercollegiate Sailing Association Singlehanded

Laser Nationals in Corpus Christi, Texas. Multiple Female Sailor of the Year Award

winner Katriona Williams and 2012 Olympic Games hopeful Jessie Kirkland will put their skills to the test against some of the world's best — such as Olympians Thomas

Barrows and Juan Maegli. Kirkland will be representing alma mater St. Mary's College while compatriot Williams will be among those carrying the hopes of Old Dominion University.

Williams will be sailing in the laser radial while Kirkland is competing in the laser full rig.

Both sailors will have to make the necessary adjustments sailing in the singlehanded Laser in fickle conditions, and are optimistic their respective teams can put in a strong showing during the regatta. Williams said: "I think Old Dominion has the opportunity to do very well. We have been training very hard and are ready to have all of our hard work pay off in Texas."

Williams' best showing at a national championship was at the 2007 Singlehanded Nationals in

Seattle, Washington where she placed third overall.

She also placed third at the Women's Doublehanded Nationals in San Francisco earlier this year.

In the lead up to this weekend's regatta Williams has spent time acclimatizing to the laser radial and reckons she's in good physical shape.

She said: "We haven't sailed lasers very much this semester but practice Tuesday to Friday and compete on weekends as well. I'm ready to give it my all at the nationals."

Second appearance

Kirkland also intends to give it his best in what will be his second appearance at the Singlehanded Laser Nationals.

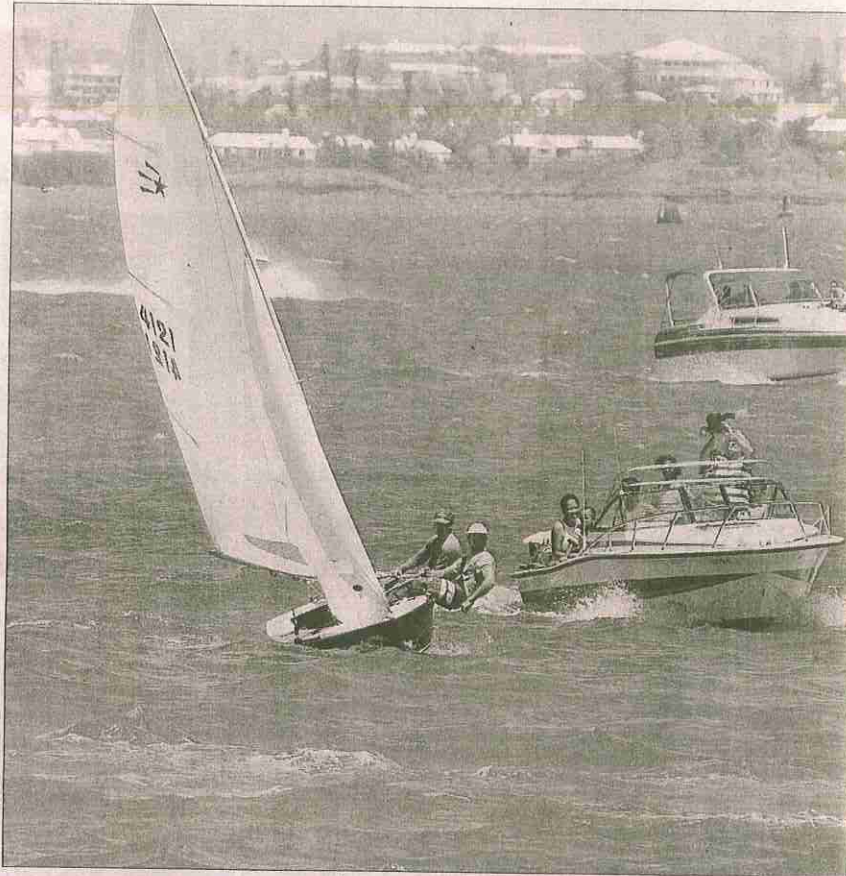
He said: "I feel good heading into this event. Since the competition is very good I hope to finish a respectable top eight."

"I am not too familiar with the local conditions, however, the venue has a reputation for solid breeze, which does not exactly play into my favour."

Unlike Kirkland, Williams is keeping her fingers crossed that heavier winds make their presence felt in Texas.

"We don't know what the conditions will bring, but I am hoping for wind," she said. "I have not sailed there before, but two of our coaches have been telling me about the local conditions since I qualified."

Hosting this weekend's regatta, which starts tomorrow, is the Corpus Christi Yacht Club. ■



■ PHOTO BY RAS MYKKAL
ZANDER KIRKLAND, seen here competing with his brother Jesse in the Long Distance Comet Race, will be sailing in the Intercollegiate National Championships this weekend.

Wushu fighters learn from championship losses

BY DON BURGESS

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Four out of seven of the Bermuda Sanshou team members took the platform on the opening day of competition on October 25 at the World Wushu Championships in Canada.

Despite the Bermuda team putting up formidable challenges to their opponents they all went down 2 rounds to 0.

Talia Iris lost to Gulsah Kiyak from Turkey, while Garon Wilkinson went down to Saidullayev Adilzhan from Kazakhstan. Iris landed some great head punches, however, she was unable to neutralize in the clinch and suffered a number of takedowns which helped her opponent to outscore her.

Wilkinson started off the match well flooring his opponent within the first 10 seconds with a counter punch and then taking him down later in the round. Wilkinson's much taller opponent used his reach advantage to score a number of straight left punches that would help him secure the match.

Shannon Ford was defeated by Adgeferson Diniz Da Silva from Brazil, and Jermal Woolridge was defeated by Patrick Schmid



■ PHOTO SUPPLIED
SHANNON FORD in his match by Adgeferson Diniz Da Silva from Brazil in the World Wushu Championships.

from Switzerland.

Ford was up against the same opponent that san shou fighter Leroy Maxwell fought in last year's Pan American Championships in Brazil.

"We all knew that Da Silva was

a takedown artist and we came up with a strategy for Shannon to avoid the takedowns."

Ford caught him with some good punches to the head and a few good kicks to the body however it was not quite enough to

beat the skilled Brazilian. Woolridge's match against Switzerland was very close and could have gone either way in the first round.

In the second round, the Swiss fighter landed more strikes and outscored Woolridge for the win.

On the second day of competition Sentwali Woolridge took on Ismail Aliev from Russia in an exciting 2 round match with the Russian coming out as the winner at the World Wushu Championships in Canada.

Woolridge attacked his opponent with some vicious leg kicks and took him down at the final buzzer at the end of the first round with a back leg sweep, however, the Russian forced Woolridge off of the lei tai (platform) twice in the second to win the round and consequently the match. On the third day of competition Khalid Pitcher battled Alex Cisne from the U.S. in a well fought two round match that ended with the American forcing Pitcher off of the lei tai twice in the second round.

Pitcher also forced his opponent once off the platform, but this was not enough to secure the victory.

Next the youngest member of the seven member squad, Reyel Bowen, took on Taras Gorobets

from the Ukraine in a very tightly contested match that ended in a TKO victory for the Ukrainian after Bowen took a hard leg kick to the outside of the knee and was unable to continue the match.

The 11th World Wushu Championships will be held in 2011 in Turkey.

The Bermuda team is also planning to compete at the eighth Pan American Wushu Championships in Argentina next year.

Bermuda Sanshou Association President Garon Wilkinson said: "I am very pleased with our athletes' performances during these championships. Every single one of us executed the game plan that our coaching team came up with and it was a simple matter of our opponents being better than us."

"There was not an issue of our athletes falling short of their standard."

"We will be paying very close attention to the semi-final and final matches trying to pick up as much expertise as possible. We continue to make ground on the rest of the world and eventually there has to become a point where the playing field evens out and then further down the road we leave everyone else behind." ■

■ BOWLING / Pinsplitters hold off fast charging Cubs

Who will catch Mackerel?

BY DON BURGESS
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FM-Continental League

Heading into the Christmas turn, Pinsplitters have a one game lead over Cubs. The little bears gained 15 games in the last match as they beat Nifty Rollers 26 to 4 while Pinsplitters were upset by Bermuda Pest Control.

Rochelle Harvey used her 245 game to roll a 620 series, besting all the men and ladies. Sheldon Thompson was the top male with a 236 and 616. Other good scores were bowled by Edna Mae Tuzo (221, 559), Patrice Tucker (215, 557), Troy Richardson (224), Henry Hughes (213), Ivan Troit (592), Gregory Simons (590).

Scores: Bermuda Pest Control 18.5, Pinsplitters 11.5, Cubs 26, Nifty Rollers 24; New Hope 19, The Invaders 11; Spicenix 20, Odd Balls 10; Pinjammers 12, Quikie Lickie Laundry 18.

Standings: 1. Pinsplitters 292.5-157.5; 2. Cubs 291.5-158.5; 3. Spicenix 268-182; 4. Pinjammers 265.5-184.5; 5. Quikie Lickie Laundry 225-225; 6. New Hope 210.5-239.5; 7. Bermuda Pest Control 197.5-252.5; 8. Nifty Rollers 167.5-282.5; 9. The Invaders 167-283; 10. Odd Balls 165-285.

Fishbowl League

Will any team be able to reel in Mackerel? The team has a seven game lead heading into the break. Second place Marlins fell a further three games behind this week after Mackerel white-washed last place Cow Polies.

Gladwin Harvey's 266 was the top scratch game. He was able to convert that into a 694 handicap series. Stephen Paul (230), Malcolm Santucci (224), Albert Botelho (203) and Brenda Burrows (206) were just some of the other 200s.

Besides Burrows, other top women were Vernell Harvey (199), Joanie Harper (188), Lynne Cann (186), Juliette Smith (184) and Marj Correia (172).

Scores: Hog Fish 1, Dolphins 3; Mackerel 4, Cow Polies 0, Barracuda 1, Goldfish 3; Tuna 0, Flying Fish 4; Marlins 1, Porgies 3; Snappers 3, Wahoo 1; Hinds 0, Swordfish 4.

Standings: 1. Mackerel 44.5-19.5; 2. Marlins 37.5-26.5; 3. Hog Fish 37-27; 4.

Goldfish 37-27; 5. Porgies 36-28; 6. Wahoo 34-30; 7. Snappers 33-32; 8. Tuna 30.5-33.5; 9. Dolphins 29-35; 10. Flying Fish 28.5-35.5; 11. Hinds 28-36; 12. Barracuda 27-37; 13. Swordfish 26-38; 14. Cow Polies 22-42.

Barritt's League

First place Pembroke Jrs beat up on last place The Old & The New 26 to 4. The loss left The New 290 games out of first.

Shane Williams rolled a 257, but it was Ty Williams with a 637 who led all bowlers with the high series. Williams also rolled a 254. Willoughby Harvey rolled a 245 on his way to a 621 series. Lamar Richardson missed out on a 600 series by one pin.

Scores: The Old & The New 4, Pembroke Jrs 26; Team Bouchee 24, Young Bloods 6; Haascope II, P.H. Club 19; Pin raiders 29, Sparks 1.

Standings: 1. Pembroke Jrs 350.5-99.5; 2. P.H. Club 284-166; 3. Pin Raiders 280.5-169.5; 4. Haascope 256-194; 5. Team Bouchee 252-198; 6. Sparks 155-235; 7. Young Bloods 131.5-318.5; 8. The Old & The New 90.5-358.5. ■

Wilkinson wins silver

BY JAMES WHITTAKER
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Bermuda martial artist Garon Wilkinson won silver at a prestigious international competition in the Caribbean.

Wilkinson (pictured) medaled in the Advanced Men Traditional Open Weapons Division at the International Chinese Martial Arts World Championship held in Nassau, Bahamas earlier this month.

He performed a drunken straight sword form — a Kung Fu move — securing a second place finish behind Austin Chun of the U.S., who performed a flawless double broadsword form.

Wilkinson also competed in Open Hand Form, Short Weapon, and Long Weapon in traditional forms division but failed to make it into the top three.

In his last of the four events he pulled out a solid drunken sword form beating out other athletes who performed double hooks and monk's spade amongst various other weapons manoeuvres.

Wilkinson stated "This was an inaugural event so the number of entrants were fairly small compared to other Chinese martial arts tournaments.

"However, the advanced men's divisions were extremely competitive with a lot of depth; much more than I had expected.

"I felt that I had performed fairly well in the other divisions but I was a bit disappointed that I was unable to secure a podium finish.

"I knew in my final event, if I performed my drunken form with few errors that I should finish on the podium and that's exactly what happened.

"I have been competing with this form since I was a kid so I'm very confident performing it in major competitions."

Wilkinson fell short of the gold medal to Chun who had won the majority of the other traditional forms divisions.

Wilkinson, who is also president of the Bermuda San Shou Association, also witnessed the san da (san shou) fights where fighters from Azerbaijan went undefeated.

"There were some great matchups in the san da fights and it would have been very interesting to see our Bermuda fighters up against the Azerbaijanese. These guys were extremely aggressive and possessed great skill."

The fights were a part of the newly formed World San da League which is growing worldwide and which Bermuda has recently become a member of.

"This was a great tournament and it provided me with the opportunity to gauge my present level. I realize that I have lots of preparation ahead of me to get ready for next year's Pan American Wushu Championship in Argentina."

Upon completion of the tournament Wilkinson flew to Baltimore to conduct a san shou seminar at Jing Ying Institute under head instructor Shirfu Sean Martial. ■



Softball to hold men's league draft

Registration for winter season starts

BY DON BURGESS
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While softball is a team sport, the Commercial Softball League is trying a novel approach by having individuals sign-up for its winter season.

The men's league will be going through a revamp as a way to spark more competition and, hopefully, get more players interested in putting on their cleats to have a run around the bases.

The registration deadline is set for Friday, January 15. Teams are being accepted for the Co-ed and Women's Leagues. The cost for registering co-ed teams is \$800 while women's teams only pay \$750.

The Men's Division will be done by individual registrations followed by a draft. The cost is \$50 per player.

Danny Cook, CSL vice-president, said the league decided to move away from teams' registering as a way to bring a competitive balance to the division.

"It was BASA's (Bermuda Amateur Softball Association) idea and we decided to try it. The league had a lack of competitiveness."


In December of last year, the CSL held the Michael Preece Tournament in which all the players were put into a draft.

"It was very successful and the players seemed to love it. We didn't stick with it for the league because the teams' voted to play with their friends rather than try to make it competitive so when BASA approached us with the idea it wasn't a hard thing to agree to because there were only four teams. Three teams already agreed to put their names into a hat and make it a draft anyway."

Cook said he's hoping for four women's teams to sign-up.

"After not having any teams sign up last fall, I'm kind of concerned. I think we had four teams in our league last year so right now it's just a guess."

He expects 18 to 24 teams to sign-up for the co-ed league. The CSL will hold its annual general meeting on January 7 at 5:30pm at the old Youth & Sport boardroom. ■



THE BERMUDA TRACK & FIELD BOARD OF DIRECTORS WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK ALL WHO WERE A PART OF THE SUCCESSFUL BANQUET HELD ON DECEMBER 19, 2009 - ATHLETES, COACHES, OFFICIALS, VOLUNTEERS AND PARENTS.

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