



GMA NEWS July 12

Hoosier Open BJJ Tournament news and notes:

Congrats to our Team Gentry/Small Axe/Atos members who competed at the Hoosier Open, one of the better tournaments in the Midwest. Those team members who medalled in their respective divisions include: Josh Hinger -1st, Marshall Leitz—3rd, Clay Thacker—3rd, Mike Miller—3rd, Jake Waltz—1st, Braxton Dalton—2nd, Trance Behling—2nd, Dominic Tejera—2nd, Noah Wilson—2nd.

Upcoming events/Class adjustments

July 4 th	<i>NO CLASS—happy Independence Day</i>
July 6 th	<i>OTHER THAN BJJ, NO Evening Classes</i>
July 6-8 th	William CC Chen Tai Chi seminar
July 9-13	TKD Daycamp 9:00-3:30
July 11 th	HKD testing 7:30
July 14 th	Parents committee fundraiser carwash 10:00-2:00
July 14 th	Demo Team 9:00-11:00
July 14 th	Lil dragon Buddy/Movie night 6:30-9:00
July 16-20 th	HKD Daycamp 9:00-3:30
July 21 st	World Champion Mendes Brothers BJJ seminar here 10:00 am
July 27 th	TTCA testing 5:30
July 28 th	HKD black belt class 9:00-10:30
July 28 th	TKD black belt prep class 10:30-12:00
July 28 th	Stickfighting 1:00-3:30
Aug 6-10 th	TKD Daycamp 9:00-3:30

Thanks to everyone
who voted us #1 in
the Reporter Times
Readers Choice
awards for the 7th
year in a row.

*****There are still a few spots left in the camps in July, but space is limited******
Earn points, get lots of intensive and advanced training, and rack up lots of classes for your next belt!

GMA Wishes a Happy Birthday to:

Carter Ewert 7-4	Dana Elliot 7-5	Mr. David Yoshida 7-8
Josh Britt 7-22	Mike Dodge 7-24	Isaac McFarland 7-2
Kristina Stout 7-27	Marshall Leitz 7-31	

Training Anniversaries

Congrats to those who are celebrating a year, or multiple years, of training. We appreciate their hard work, dedication, and friendship.

Jeremiah Deckard (HKD, 9 yrs)	Richie Long (TKD 7yrs)	Dominic Tejera (TKD 5 yrs)
Ethan Minton (TKD 5yrs)	Kyler Chylaszek (TKD 3yrs)	Don Roach (TKD 3 yrs)
Braxton Johnson (BJJ 2yr)	Shaun Bambery (HKD 1 yr)	Robbie Morales (TKD 1 yr)
Zane Taylor (LD 1 yr)		

Quotes of the Week

With the Summer Olympic games beginning soon, we will be celebrating TKD and other martial sports in the Olympics with our own “games.” It is also gives us the opportunity to discuss the pros and cons of martial sports. Being halfway through the year, now is the time to check the goals we set for ourselves in January.

Look for us at our FAIR BOOTH, and don’t forget that students can earn points for helping. Look for sign ups at the end of the month.



Opportunities are only opportunities if you take advantage of them.

The title is one of my favorite maxims of which I often advise my students. More importantly, you need to position yourself to be able to take advantage of opportunities as they present themselves. A great sale on an item isn't a deal if you haven't saved enough to afford it. A great job opening doesn't matter if you haven't done enough to be qualified for it yet. Of course, even if you are in position, you still have to act on it—otherwise they become *missed* opportunities and regrets.

Lately, martial arts opportunities have been abundant. While on vacation in Hawaii, I got the opportunity to sit down and talk to a scholar/master instructor of the rare Hawaiian martial art called Lua. It took a lot of research beforehand, and a lot of work and special arrangements for just an hour talk. Some people have wondered why I would go out of my way to do this while I was on vacation. Obviously, as much as I love martial arts, including the more academic side, it wasn't exactly hard to endure. More importantly, I may never again have a chance to meet this great martial arts mind and learn from him; it's not like I fly will be flying over there again anytime soon. I would be foolish to not take advantage of that opportunity.

We recently finished our first (and maybe only) longsword camp. We were able to use our connections with IU to bring in an extremely rare Western martial art, based on a one of kind college course. I had no doubt it would be good, but I was honestly surprised at how much I learned myself. I know it isn't exactly for everybody, but it was a great opportunity for those who were interested. This month we have the Mendes brothers—both world champions in BJJ—coming for a seminar. These will be the 3rd/4th different world champion to teach in our new location. They are innovators in the sport and art. They don't do many seminars and we have people who want to take advantage of this opportunity coming from throughout the Midwest.

Opportunities are something that I take as a big responsibility for our students. I have been blessed with the opportunity to give our students the best opportunities that we can and as many as they can handle—from trips to Korea to meeting/training with Olympic and world champions-- To learn from some of the best teachers out there. I realize not all of these opportunities are for everyone. I also realize that—as even one of our instructors put it—it is a shame that great opportunities often aren't cheap. So I don't expect every student to take advantage of every opportunity, although I am proud that some of our students put themselves in position to come close. From the kids who worked odd jobs and saved every bit of Christmas money to go to Korea, to the ones who sold videogames in order to go to a tournament, I am proud of our students who realize that learning—especially something they are passionate about—is worth the sacrifice. I am proud they did what they needed to do to take advantage of the opportunity.

All of our instructors have commented that our students have many more opportunities and are well beyond where we were at that age. Being able to offer opportunities to our students, and to have them realize what great opportunities they are, is something that I take a lot of personal pride in. As I have been working on this newsletter, we have had a couple of other *possible* opportunities potentially fall into our laps. Rest assured, if possible, we will take advantage of them, and hope that some of our students join us. Maybe they are not for you, but if they might be, don't let them become missed opportunity and regret. ---BLS

P.S. from BS: The Mendes brothers are coming because of the hard work and vision of Mr. Sledd, who also realizes how priceless of an opportunity it is to learn from the best. Thank you, Mr. Sledd, for bringing this opportunity to the school.

This Month in Martial Arts History (selected from “Dates with Destiny” in *Martial Arts Success* by John Corcoran.

July 1935. Mikonosuke Kawaishi introduced the concept of various colored belts to his judo school in France. Subsequently adopted by all martial arts around the world.

July 20 1973 Bruce Lee's death

July 21 1899(-Oct 27 1986) Birthday of arguably the founder of Hapkido, Yong Sul Choi

July 24 1936 Birthday of Dan Inosanto (kali, jkd)

July 27 1923 (-April 25 1994) Birthday of Karate legend, founder of Kyokushinkai karate, May Oyama (Korean born)