

Moraga Resident Wins Bronze at International Karate Championships

Submitted by Thomas Westernoff



After long hours of training and success at State and Regional tournaments, Chris Wellbrook qualified for the 2007 National Karate Championships held in Winston-Salem, N.C. and placed third in the nation.

Based on his performance, he was invited to the AAU-USA National Team trials in hopes of making the world team.

In August, he was told he would represent the 13-year-old black belt division for the National Team at the International Karate-Do Championships, held in Osaka, Japan on March 23, 2008.

After 16 hours of travel, he arrived at the competition. With more than 700 competitors at the event, including 29 in Chris's single elimination sparring division, he successfully powered his way through his first four fights, making it to the final four. He fought hard in his next round, but was defeated. The next fight was for third place. He came out very aggressive, and was able to overpower his competitor, winning the Bronze medal for the U.S., and having the experience of a lifetime.

Other Karate News

A Total of 17 Karate & Fitness Place USA Team Members, lead by Sensei Thomas Westernoff, returned home from the AAU 1st Round Qualifier held in Chico, Calif., with 29 Medals: 9 Gold, 11 Silver, 9 Bronze.

Team Members Results

Name	KATA	KUMITE	KOBUDO
Brandon Tokuyama	Gold	Gold	
John Krakowski	Silver	Bronze	
Michael Doucet	Silver	Silver	
Chris Wellbrook	Gold	Gold	Silver
Mykaela Lewis	Silver	Bronze	
Cole Jeter	Gold		
Ryan Jeter	Bronze	Silver	
Edward Chen	Silver	Bronze	
Victor Chen	Silver	Silver	
JD McPhee	Gold	Bronze	
Jospeh Tsuboi			
Nick Luckenbach	Bronze	Bronze	
Haze Mach	Bronze	Bronze	
Jacob Plutt	Gold	Gold	
Omid Boozarpour	Gold		
Nate Oto	Silver		
Morgan Langstaff	Silver		

(Jacob, Edward and Ryan swept the Kata division by taking 1st, 2nd and 3rd – a great team showing. Congratulations to our Team, first timers and some of our youngsters who have been training with us for nearly 2 to 4 months and came back home victorious!)