

Filipino Martial Arts

Digest

Special Issue
2006

WORLD ESKRIMA KALI ARNIS FEDERATION



Publisher

Steven K. Dowd

Contributing Writers

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Stefan Jerzenbek | Caroline Concepcion |
| Sharon Burns | Connie Fidel |
| Sonny Napial | Kris Vasquez Davantes |
| Tom Sipin | Heather House |

Contents

From the Publishers Desk

Stefan Jerzenbek - President of WEKAF

Sharon Burns, New WEKAF Vice President

Master Sonny Napial New WEKAF USA Director

Message from Thomas Sipin

Schedule of Events

Tournament Divisions

Men's Division Results/Forms

Master Warlito "Lito" Concepcion

Women's Division Results/Forms

From the Backyard to 5 Star *****

Young Practitioners Division Results/Forms

A True Champion

Jacob House

Jenna Lewein

Russ and Cecille Denney

Junior Team Canada

A Final Word

Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort

Filipino Martial Arts Digest is published and distributed by:

FMA Digest

1297 Eider Circle

Fallon, Nevada 89406

Visit us on the World Wide Web: www.fmadigest.com

The FMA Digest is published quarterly. Each issue features practitioners of martial arts and other internal arts of the Philippines. Other features include historical, theoretical and technical articles; reflections, Filipino martial arts, healing arts and other related subjects.

The ideas and opinions expressed in this digest are those of the authors or instructors being interviewed and are not necessarily the views of the publisher or editor.

We solicit comments and/or suggestions. Articles are also welcome.

The authors and publisher of this digest are not responsible for any injury, which may result from following the instructions contained in the digest. Before embarking on any of the physical activities described in the digest, the reader should consult his or her physician for advice regarding their individual suitability for performing such activity.

From the Publishers Desk

Kumusta

The WEKAF 9th World Tournament, which was held at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort in Orlando, Florida. The WEKAF 9th World Tournament was the major event after many qualifying regional tournaments throughout the world.

It was an honor for the FMAdigest to be able to first put together a Special Issue before this event, which entailed the history and events leading up to this event.

The Fmadigest has the to thank the staff, members, and participants for their help and input for this issue and the prior issue. But the FMAdigest would like to really extend its thanks to Tom and Sue Sipin who has coordinated with the FMAdigest in both issues. Without them these two WEKAF Special Issue most likely would not have come about.

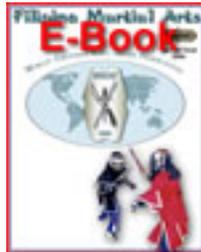
It is hoped that the FMAdigest will be able to bring an extensive Special Issue on the events leading up to the 10th World Tournament in all its stages and then be able to have the results of that tournament.

Visit the World Escrima Kali Arnis Federation website at: www.wekafusa.com. There is a free newsletter, which will keep you up-to-date on the events of the WEKAF.

So enjoy this issue and get ready for the WEKAF 10th World Tournament.

Maraming Salamat Po

Learn More about the WEKAF



[Click Here](#)



[Click Here](#)



Stefan Jerzenbek - President of WEKAF



Grandmaster Canete, new WEKAF President
Stefan Jerzenbek, new WEKAF Vice
President Sharon Burns

On behalf of the World Eskrima Kali Arnis Federation I want to thank Master Tom Sipin, his family and the organizing committee for their work concerning this year's world championships.

Although a lot of people were concerned, whether the tournament fees and hotel prices were too high, everyone I spoke to and heard from after the tournament was more than happy and satisfied with the way the tournament was run. We had an excellent place to stay, with plenty of activities to do after the fighting or during

the days before and after.

One could really speak of a championship of short ways. You get up, grab something for breakfast on your way down and were right at ring-site. After the fights you could walk up to your room, fresh up and go out and have some fun.

As someone, who has been around WEKAF tournaments for the last twelve years, I can truly say that this year's tournament was one of the smoothest we ever had. The matching up was professionally handled and I know of no one who was upset with the way things run and even if you had some problems that didn't concern the fighting, there was always someone who tried to solve things in a fast and easy way.

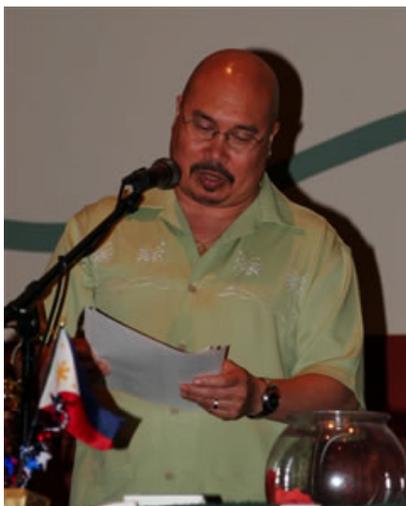
As for the championships itself I think we are on the right way. We had participants from seven countries and we had quite a lot of young fighters and a lot of the old ones who have been there for years and who hopefully will share a bit of their experience with the newcomers. But we have come a long way from the days I started to travel to international tournaments. Of course we still have a long way ahead of us to bring the sport of Arnis to the place where we want it to be, but I believe if we work together we can move on fast and reach our goals in a not too far future.

As for the people criticizing the way we do our tournaments, I invite you to join us and help improve the sport, because that's how we see our tournaments, as a sport and a way for people from different styles all over the world to get together have fun playing together and meet new friends. Cause at the end of the day that's what we all shall be: friends with a passion called Filipino martial art.

Sharon Burns - New WEKAF Vice President

Congratulations on a successful World Championships. To the Four Winds Crew , PJ and the rest of the world that chipped in with Judges and referees that stayed until it ended all deserved a pat on the back. The venue was Unbelievable and the staff with the hotel where first class. To Dale and Antonio with the computer skills, life just became easier. The ladies on the front desk made the competitors process much easier. Equipment was swapped with lighting speed and plenty of it. Problems where fixed asap. Overall it is a hard act to follow for the next International country. It has set a first class standard of what we are looking for the future of WEKAF. There was a even spread of medals across the countries.

Master Sonny Napial Voted in as New WEKAF USA Director



Master Sonny Napial

WEKAF USA Director

Chief Instructor, Bandalan Doce Pares Association

Having just returned from Orlando and participating in all the activities associated with the WEKAF World Championships, I was asked to write down my experiences and thoughts from this last WEKAF Worlds.

I will first start with what I thought was a beautiful venue. The Disney Swan and Dolphin resort was fabulous, though expensive. There were plenty of activities for everyone to do if they were not competing or attending in the tournament. The Resort can easily access many of the Disney World sites since it is located on the Disney World properties.

As for the tournament itself, Tom and Sue Sipin worked furiously if not courageously, to make this event, the best WEKAF Worlds that was ever staged. They went out of their way to make the people who were working with them, comfortable and appreciated. I had come with my group, from the Bandalan Doce Pares Schools of the West Coast, to not only compete but to help run the tournament through the computerized tournament program, written by Dale De Los Reyes, a student of mine. My group helped develop this program and first used it at the 2003 WEKAF Western Regional. Even though it was not quite ready for prime time, we put it into action at the 2004 WEKAF Worlds Championships in Cebu, Philippines, and impressed many who first saw it in action. Because of this program that Dale wrote, I truly believe the 2006 WEKAF Worlds truly ran with amazing efficiency. Of course, the program was not the only reason this tournament ran with efficiency, it was the hard work of all the people who volunteered their time to make this event successful. I personally could not express how grateful I am to my team who worked the computer desk, to the people who kept the rings running, and to the people who judged and refereed the matches. This allowed us to meet our daily

tournament schedule, and gave the families and friends some time to enjoy Disney World.

I was very disappointed in the number of countries who participated. Some no shows were due to Visa problems, which is understandable after 911, and some did not show up due to the cost. This is an issue that the World WEKAF Council will have to deal with when the bids for the next World Championships outside of Cebu, Philippines, is submitted in the next WEKAF Congress in 2008.

Those countries, who did participate, I believe was shown a first class affair and will remember this World Championship as the one that will be the gauged against by any subsequent World Championships. This will be a hard act to follow!!

In my opinion, the vast majority of the judging was very fair. Yes, there are always some controversies, especially during the premiere divisions of the Men's Single Stick fighting. This is an issue; we have been struggling with and have been working hard to minimize these controversies. Through my experience from the previous World Championships, this tournament had less than any before.

The following tournament, FMA International Invitational, introduced some padded stick competition, using a different scoring method called engagement. This was the idea of Tom Sipin, to try to introduce the padded stick events to the WEKAF offerings, but yet keep it exciting. The FMA International Invitational was used as a testing ground for these types of fighting divisions. It was hoped that this would attract those schools only willing to fight padded stick fighting. This was also used to try other experimental changes to the WEKAF style fighting such as Multiple Weapons in fighting and forms division. Those competitors who competed all came back with some very positive remarks. This also will have to be considered in the next WEKAF World Congress in 2008.

During this Congress, the USA delegates voted me in as the next WEKAF USA Director. This is a great honor for me and I am looking forward to continuing the commitment by WEKAF USA members and the previous directors, to bring Filipino Martial Arts to the forefront of Martial Art.

In closing, I hope everyone had a positive experience in Orlando. It was great seeing old friends, and meeting new ones. I hope to continue seeing all of them in the future.

Congratulations to Tom and Sue Sipin for staging such a great show! This was the best yet! My thanks to Antonio Lucero for running the divisions with his usual efficiency, and to my wife Linda, for all the hard work she put into, in getting the divisions and brackets ready for each day of competition. Finally, to Master Tom Sipin, for leading us the last four years. It was his hard work, commitment, dedication, and fore thought, that has raised WEKAF to the level it has achieved.



Grandmaster Thomas Sipin
and his wife Sue Sipin



A message from Grandmaster Thomas Sipin, 9th WEKAF World Championship tournament coordinator and past President of WEKAF USA:

It's difficult to sum up my impressions of the World tournament. To talk about its success seems immodest, but there remain some questions that should be addressed. So let me tell you what I heard from competitors and spectators, and you can make up your own mind.

We know that this was the largest WEKAF world championship ever held outside of the Philippines. That's no disrespect to Los Angeles or London, because each tournament builds on what came before; I expect that the next world championship will run better than this one. There is now a core group of volunteers who have gotten very, very good at the logistics of an event of this size. As a result - and as a relief to the competitors and families - there was very little guesswork for the participants. The whole event ran on or ahead of schedule, people knew who was in their divisions, and they could plan for their competition (and their down time) instead sitting inside the venue waiting to be called for days on end.

All events except the dance were held in the 35,000 sq. ft. Pacific Ballroom at the Walt Disney World Dolphin. The opening reception was Sunday night. Opening ceremonies were Monday, with a Parade of Countries, the various national anthems sung by team members, and forms competitions in the afternoon and evening. Children, Teens, Women and Senior fighting was all day Tuesday, with everyone enjoying the largest fireworks displays of their lives at night- the 4th of July. Men's single stick fighting was on Wednesday, with Grandmaster Bong Jornales teaching a Filipino Rope seminar after. Double stick fighting and team competition was on Thursday, with Master Graciela Casillas following with edged weapon training. Thursday night was the "blow-out" at the Atlantic Dance hall at Disney's Boardwalk - a short walk away, and a "kids' dance" at the Dolphin. Friday was the first day of the FMA Invitational, featuring traditional WEKAF style fighting. WEKAF Chairman Emeritus and Doce Pares Grandmaster Dionisio Cañete ran training for several hours afterward. The closing banquet followed later. Saturday featured padded stick fighting, using new "engagement" scoring and "Smak-Sticks", which appeared to be thoroughly enjoyed.

The padded stick fighting at the WEKAF Invitational was received enthusiastically. The Italian team members in particular were vocal in their support, even while they were still taking inventory of their new welts. The Australian team also participated in this event with their signature fervor, as well as fighters from Germany. As we look for ways to bring WEKAF to a wider audience, perhaps these new rules will be part of the appeal.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the help of dozens of people, from our wonderful event planner (thanks PJ) to Senator Herb Kohl and U.S. Congressman James Sensenbrenner, both of Wisconsin, who worked to facilitate the visa

process for several international teams. Thanks to everyone who contributed; what made this tournament enjoyable is directly traceable to your efforts. Sonny Napial has taken over the reins of WEKAF USA, and will be running the National tournament in 2008 with the support of many of these same volunteers. We wish him the best of luck. The organization is in good hands.

Schedule of Events

Below is the current Agenda for the World Tournament Event, including the 9th World Championships and the 2006 FMA Invitational Tournament

Sunday - July 2, 2006

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1:00 - 5:00 PM | Congress/Executive Board Meeting |
| 1:00 - 6:00 PM | Tournament Set-up |
| 2:00 - 6:00 PM | Event Registration |
| 7:00 - 11:00 PM | Welcoming Ceremonies/Reception Dinner |

Monday - July 3, 2006

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 8:30 - 10:30 AM | Registration |
| 1:00 - 12:00 PM | Parade of Countries WEKAF Forms Championships |

Tuesday - July 4, 2006

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 8:30 - 10:30 AM | Mandatory Rules Meeting |
| 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM | WEKAF Sparring Championships Single Stick Divisions: Seniors, Women, Juniors and Children Double Stick Divisions: Juniors, Women |
| Evening | Fourth of July Spectacular |

Wednesday - July 5, 2006

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM | WEKAF Sparring Championships Single Stick Divisions: Men |
|-------------------|---|

Thursday - July 6, 2006

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM | WEKAF Sparring Championships Single Stick Divisions: Men (completion) Double Stick Divisions: Men Team Fighting Divisions |
| 9:00 PM - ? | WEKAF Dance Party on the Boardwalk |

Friday - July 7, 2006

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM | Invitational Tournament Martial Arts Seminars (TBA) |
| 7:00 - 11 PM | Dinner - Awards - Closing Ceremonies |

Saturday - July 8, 2006

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM Invitational Tournament
Martial Arts Seminars (TBA)

Tournament Divisions

The divisions and weight classes for forms and sparring for the World Tournament are listed below:

Sayaw/Forms Divisions

The following groups will be used for forms divisions:

Boys and Girls (Under 10)

Boys and Girls (10-11)

Boys and Girls (12-13)

Jr. Boys and Girls (14-15)

Jr. Boys and Girls (16-17)

Men and Women (18-39)

Senior Men and Women (40+)

Synchronized Group Form

Within each group, there are 4 divisions:

Traditional Single Weapon

Traditional Multiple Weapons

Open Single Weapon

Open Multiple Weapons



Sparring Divisions

The following groups will be used for forms divisions. Those noted with an asterisk may be further divided by weight, depending on the number of competitors the day of the event.

Children and Teens Divisions

Girls Ages 6-7 *

Girls Ages 8-9 *

Girls Ages 10-11 Lightweight

Girls Ages 10-11 Heavyweight

Girls Ages 12-13 Lightweight

Girls Ages 12-13 Heavyweight

Jr. Girls Ages 14-15 Lightweight

Jr. Girls Ages 14-15 Heavyweight

Jr. Girls Ages 16-17 Lightweight

Jr. Girls Ages 16-17 Heavyweight

Boys Ages 6-7 *

Boys Ages 8-9 *

Boys Ages 10-11 Lightweight

Boys Ages 10-11 Heavyweight

Boys Ages 12-13 Lightweight

Boys Ages 12-13 Heavyweight

Jr. Boys Ages 14-15 Lightweight



Jr. Boys Ages 14-15 Heavyweight
Jr. Boys Ages 16-17 Lightweight
Jr. Boys Ages 16-17 Heavyweight

Women's Divisions (Ages 18-39)

Women 100 & Under
Women 101-110
Women 111-120
Women 121-131
Women 132-145
Women 146-161
Women Over 162



Men's Divisions (Ages 18-39)

Men 112 & Under
Men 113-117
Men 118-122
Men 123-127
Men 128-132
Men 133-137
Men 138-142
Men 143-148
Men 149-154
Men 155-161
Men 162-168
Men 169-176
Men 177-184
Men 185-194
Men 195-205
Men 206-220
Men Over 220



Seniors Men's - Ages 40-49

Senior Men Lightweight 132 & Under
Senior Men Middleweight 133 - 162
Senior Men Light Heavyweight 163 - 186
Senior Men Heavyweight 187 - 220
Senior Men Super Heavyweight 221 & Over

Senior Men's - Ages 50+

Senior Men Lightweight 149 & Under
Senior Men Middleweight 150 - 180
Senior Men Heavyweight 181 - 210
Senior Men Heavyweight 211 & Over

Senior Women's Divisions (Ages 40+)

Senior Women Bantamweight 125 & Under
Senior Women Lightweight 126 - 140
Senior Women Middleweight 141 - 160
Senior Women Heavyweight 161 & Over

Men's Double Stick Sparring Divisions

Men Double Stick 120 & Under

Men Double Stick 121-128

Men Double Stick 129-136

Men Double Stick 137-147

Men Double Stick 148-158

Men Double Stick 159-170

Men Double Stick 171-181

Men Double Stick 182-194

Men Double Stick 195-205

Men Double Stick 206-220

Men Double Stick Over 221

Women's Double Stick Sparring Divisions

Women Double Stick Bantamweight 125 & Under

Women Double Stick Lightweight 126 - 140

Women Double Stick Middleweight 141 - 160

Women Double Stick Heavyweight 161 & Over

Junior Boys and Girls Double Stick Sparring Divisions

Jr. Girls Ages 12-17 Lightweight

Jr. Girls Ages 12-17 Middleweight

Jr. Girls Ages 12-17 Heavyweight

Jr. Boys Ages 12-17 Lightweight

Jr. Boys Ages 12-17 Middleweight

Jr. Boys Ages 12-17 Heavyweight

3-Person Team Sparring (Open Weight Class)

Men's Division Results/Forms

Mens Traditional - Single Stick

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| 1 Henry Cabillon | USA |
| 2 Rodolfo Angeles | Philippines |
| 3 Brian Scot | USA |
| 4 Trent Day | Australia |

Mens Traditional - Double Stick

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| 1 Dale De Los Reyes | USA |
| 2 Timothy Suehiro | USA |
| 3 Alex Carty | England |

Mens Open - Single Stick

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| 1 Remigio Berandot | Philippines |
| 2 Ariel Gonzales | USA |
| 3 Ermar Alexander | England |
| 4 Joshua Teves | USA |

Mens Open - Double Stick

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 1 Timothy Wolchek | USA |
| 2 Matthew Cerbas | USA |
| 3 Scott Dent | Australia |

Mens Traditional - Single Stick

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| 1 John Garcia | USA |
| 2 Michael Turk | USA |

Mens Traditional - Double Stick

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| 1 Steve Van Harn | USA |
| 2 Peter McNally | Australia |
| 3 Michael Soto | USA |

Mens Open - Single Stick

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| 1 Robert Serrano | USA |
|------------------|-----|

Mens Open - Double Stick

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| 1 Jun Davantes | USA |
| 2 Jon Hill | USA |

Senior Mens Traditional - Single Stick

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1 Warlito Concepcion | USA |
|----------------------|-----|

Team Carenza Open (3+ team members)

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| 1 Kick Connection | USA |
| 2 Phils | Philippines |
| 3 DP Sacramento | USA |

Mens Flyweight - 112 & under

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| 1 Randy Chippy Angeles | Philippines |
|------------------------|-------------|



Mens Featherweight - 123-127

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| 1 Rodolfo Angeles | Philippines |
| 2 Andrea Citarelli | Italy |
| 3 Rino Balinado | Germany |

Mens Lightweight - 133-137

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| 1 Dean mandapat | USA |
| 2 Leo Perfesto Casayuran | USA |
| 3 Phill Ireland | England |
| 4 Raaj Kovinthan | Canada |

Mens Welterweight - 138-142

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| 1 Timothy Wolchek | USA |
| 2 Joshua Teves | USA |
| 3 Ivano Bonomo | Italy |

Mens Light middleweight - 143-148

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 1 Francis Fletcher | USA |
| 2 Fabio Diveronica | Italy |
| 3 Sean Jamieson | Australia |
| 4 Rick Chambers | Australia |

Mens Middleweight - 149-154

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 1 Adan Correa | USA |
| 2 Timothy Suehiro | USA |
| 3 Luke Finucane | Australia |
| 4 Vincenzo Trigila | Australia |

Mens Super middleweight - 155-161

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| 1 Ermar Alexander | England |
| 2 Ariel Gonzales | USA |
| 3 Josh Pueblos | USA |

Mens Light Cruiserweight - 162-168

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| 1 Rudy Ochoa | USA |
| 2 Remigio Berandot | Philippines |
| 3 Henry Cabillon | USA |
| 4 Francesco Galasso | Italy |

Mens Cruiserweight - 169-176

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 1 Anthony Ordiniza | USA |
| 2 Scott Dent | Australia |
| 3 Bernarso Patrizi | Italy |

Mens Super Cruiserweight - 177-184

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| 1 Gerald Rafael | USA |
| 2 Richard Bobiles | Philippines |
| 3 John Suson | USA |
| 4 Alex Carty | England |

Mens Light Heavyweight - 185-194

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| 1 Kim Paulin | USA |
| 2 Roger Barnes | England |
| 3 Michael Schneider | Germany |
| 4 Brian Scott | USA |

Mens Junior Heavyweight - 195-205

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1 Vladimir Sedlarevic | Australia |
| 2 Pablo Vasquez | USA |
| 3 Chris Caban | USA |

Mens Heavyweight - 206-220

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| 1 Scott Irlslinger | USA |
| 2 Allan Talusan | USA |

Mens Super Heavyweight - 221 & over

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| 1 Jise Garcia Jr. | USA |
| 2 Stefan Jerzenbek | Germany |
| 3 Justin Lemke | USA |
| 4 Stephen Paul | USA |

Mens Featherweight - Double Stick 121-128

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| 1 Andrea Citarelli | Italy |
| 2 Rino Balinado | Germany |

Mens Welterweight - Double Stick 137-147

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| 1 Dale De Los Reyes | USA |
| 2 Joshua Teves | USA |
| 3 Phill Ireland | England |
| 4 Ivano Bonomo | Italy |

Mens Middleweight - Double Stick 148-158

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 1 Ermar Alexander | England |
| 2 Rick Chambers | Australia |
| 3 Sean Jamieson | Australia |
| 4 Fabio Diveronica | Italy |

Mens Super Middleweight - Double Stick 159-170

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| 1 Jesus Marroquin | USA |
| 2 Dominic Alvarez | USA |
| 3 Francesco Galasso | Italy |
| 4 Matthew King | England |

Mens Cruiserweight - Double Stick 171-181

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 1 Bernarso Patrizi | Italy |
| 2 Scott Dent | Australia |
| 3 Gerald Rafael | USA |
| 4 Thorsten Knopf | Germany |

Mens Super Cruiserweight - Double Stick 182-194

| | |
|--------------|---------|
| 1 Alex Carty | England |
|--------------|---------|

| | |
|--|-----------|
| 2 Brain Scott | USA |
| 3 Roger Barnes | England |
| 4 Ed Gorenak | Canada |
| Mens Super Heavyweight - Double Stick 221 & Over | |
| 1 Justin Lemke | USA |
| 2 Allan Talusan | USA |
| 3 Alexander Knopf | Germany |
| 4 Stefan Jerzenbek | Germany |
| Senior Mens Middleweight - 133-162 | |
| 1 Ernest Gonzales | USA |
| 2 Stephan Han | USA |
| Senior Mens Light Heavyweight - 163-186 | |
| 1 John Garcia | USA |
| 2 Librando Castillo | USA |
| 3 Peter McNally | Australia |
| 4 Barry Jamieson | Australia |
| Senior Mens Heavyweight - 187-220 | |
| 1 Peter Fitzgeorge | England |
| 2 Dave Bennett Jr. | USA |
| 3 Joel Dietl | USA |
| 4 Alan Taylor | USA |
| Senior Mens Super Heavyweight - 221 & over | |
| 1 Michael Turk | USA |
| 2 John Black | USA |
| 3 Greg Kennin | USA |
| 4 James Montgomery | Canada |
| Senior Mens Cruiserweight - Double Stick 171-194 | |
| 1 Ernest Gonzales | USA |
| 2 Barry Jamieson | Australia |
| 3 Peter McNally | Australia |
| Senior Mens Light Heavyweight - Double Stick 195-205 | |
| 1 Christopher Rew | Australia |
| 2 Eric Werschin | USA |
| 3 Peter Fitzgeorge | England |
| 4 Michael Soto | USA |
| Senior Mens Heavyweight - Double Stick 206 & Over | |
| 1 Michael Turk | USA |
| 2 Joel Dietl | USA |
| Senior Mens(50+) Lightweight - Under 150 | |
| 1 Robert Garcia | USA |
| 2 Warlito Concepcion | USA |
| 3 Arcady Grenader | USA |

Senior Mens(50+) Middleweight - 150-180

1 Dave Hoover

USA

Senior Mens(50+)Cruiserweight - 181 & 210

1 Dennis Yauger

USA

Senior Mens(50+) Heavyweight - 211 & Over

1 Gabriel Rafael

USA

2 Jojo Matthews

USA

Exhibition) Mens Team Sparring Open

(3 team members only)

1 Philippines

Philippines /USA

2 Germany

Germany

3 Tae Kali Do

USA

4 Australia 2

Australia



Australian Team



Great Britain Team



German Team



Italian Team

Master Warlito “Lito” Concepcion

By Caroline Concepcion



My husband, Master Warlito “Lito” Concepcion has been practicing martial arts for many, many years. However, this last year has been an incredible journey, not only for him, but also for our entire family.

As a wife, I wanted to support my husband’s dreams; as a mother, I wanted my children to understand why their father is so passionate about martial arts - now they know why. Not only were their eyes open to the popularity of Filipino Martial Arts, but a sense of pride has been instilled in their heritage.

It all started on November 5, 2005 at the Western Regional WEKAF Tournament in Oxnard, California. You must understand, Lito was already 62 years old! This was the first time he ever competed in Forms and Single-Stick Sparring. Luckily, he qualified to go on to the National WEKAF Tournament in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in February 2006. And again, he qualified to compete at

the World Tournament.

The Walt Disney World Resort was the perfect place to hold the tournament. Having the tournament at the same location made it very convenient and the set-up for the competitions was organized. We all thought the venue was spectacular - our family got hooked on the delicious root beer floats at “The Fountain”; the food at “Shula’s Steak House” and “The Flying Fish” restaurants were both gastronomic experiences.

However, the best part of the week was meeting the teams from the Philippines, Germany, Italy, Australia, Canada, Great Britain and USA. We also got re-acquainted with the wonderful people we met previously at the Regional and National events. We enjoyed watching the parade of nations. Each of us had a favorite fighter we cheered for during the sparring matches.

Of course, the competition in Super Senior Men’s Lightweight Division between Arcady Grenader and Lito was the most memorable. On Tuesday, July 4th, these two men fought 4 rounds and didn’t even need CPR! Later that afternoon, he sparred against Robert Garcia, the 2-time defending WEKAF champion. Lito ended up with the silver medal. He said he valued this medal the most because he really had to fight hard for it.

It has been almost three weeks since our family attended the 9th World WEKAF Championship at Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida on July 2-9, 2006. And still, each time we get together, we keep reminiscing about that fabulous week. As soon as we got back home, Lito started training his students for the next tournament.



Arcady Grenader and Warlito Concepcion.

It is an honor to be part of WEKAF and we will see you in Cebu in 2008.

Conception Combative Martial Arts Academy

(707) 557-9164

Email



www.concepcion-combative.com

Women's Division Results/Forms

Womens Traditional - Single Stick

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 1 Rowena Opigal | Philippines |
| 2 Hanyann Ng | USA |
| 3 Marie Gestole | USA |

Womens Traditional - Double Stick

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| 1 Raelene Meneses | USA |
| 2 Mayrasol Sison | USA |

Womens Open - Single Stick

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 1 Jenny Noval | USA |
| 2 Christine DeGuzman | USA |
| 3 Amy Wilke | USA |
| 4 Ruth Arcilla | Philippines |

Womens Open - Double Stick

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| 1 Marie Therese Borces | Philippines |
| 2 Felica Haggerty | USA |
| 3 Sonya Mlodzikowski | USA |

Womens Traditional - Single Stick

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| 1 Connie Fidel | USA |
| 2 Ellen Orlovski | USA |

Womens Traditional - Double Stick

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 1 Wendy Wigger-Jornales | USA |
| 2 Ellen Lutrey | USA |

Womens Open - Single Stick

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| 1 Pat Wilke | USA |
|-------------|-----|

Womens Open - Double Stick

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| 1 Arlyne Reyes | USA |
|----------------|-----|



Senior Womens Bantamweight - 125 & Under

- 1 Connie Fidel
- 2 Arlyne Reyes

USA
USA

Senior Womens Lightweight - 126-140

- 1 Ellen Lutrey

USA

Senior Womens Middleweight - 141-160

- 1 Graciela Casillas
- 2 Wendy Wigger-Jornales

USA
USA

Senior Womens Heavyweight - 161 & Over

- 1 Heather Turnbull
- 2 Ellen Orłowski
- 3 Bobbie Villezon

Canada
USA
USA

(Exhibition) Womens Team Sparring Open (3 team members only)

- 1 Philippines
- 2 Kick Connection Women



Philippines /USA
USA

Womens Bantamweight - 101-110

- 1 Jenny Noval
- 2 Marie Therese Borces

USA
Philippines

Womens Featherweight - 111-120

- 1 Raelene Meneses
- 2 Kari Schultz
- 3 J. B. Sherry Ramos
- 4 Thursica Kovinthan



USA
USA
Canada
Canada

Womens Lightweight - 121-131

- 1 Christine De Guzman
- 2 Ruth Arcilla
- 3 Luisa Palmieri
- 4 Marie Gestole

USA
Philippines
Italy
USA

Womens Welterweight - 132-145

- 1 Linda Pulido
- 2 Laura Joy Hachmeister
- 3 Simona Pompili
- 4 Cassandra Kwan



USA
USA
Italy
Canada

Womens Middleweight - 146-161

- 1 Holiday Buen
- 2 Felica Haggerty

USA
USA

Womens Heavyweight - 162 & Over

- 1 Rosalie Garcia
- 2 Hanyann Ng

USA
USA

Womens Bantamweight - Double Stick 125 & Under

- 1 Jenny Noval
- 2 Raelene Meneses
- 3 Marie Therese Borces
- 4 Kari Schultz

- USA
- USA
- Philippines
- USA



Womens Lightweight - Double Stick 126-140

- 1 Ruth Arcilla
- 2 Luisa Palmieri
- 3 Jinhee Uncangco
- 4 Laura Wright

- Philippines
- Italy
- USA
- USA

Womens Middleweight - Double Stick 141-160

- 1 Laura Joy Hachmeister
- 2 Wendy Wigger-Jornales
- 3 Felica Haggerty

- USA
- USA
- USA

Womens Heavyweight - Double Stick 161 & Over

- 1 Rosalie Garcia
- 2 Hanyann Ng

- USA
- USA

From the Backyard to 5 Star *****

By Connie Fidel

Bandalan Doce Pares, Hayward, Calif.



Connie Fidel

This is my fourth time attending the WEKAF World Championship tournament since 2000 and I was very impressed by the high level of organization. And not only for the tournament itself but also for the venue, pre and post tournament gatherings, seminars, accommodations, and activities outside the tournament for all ages to enjoy. I have also been a spectator at three Olympic Games and WEKAF is on the cusp of moving in that direction if that is where it wants to go.

Some of the specific niceties that I enjoyed were: the display of each country's flag, the singing of each country's national anthem, the podium for medal winners, a clear schedule of each division and when to compete, printed out brackets for each division, the competitors packet, access to an

exercise gym, and of course the Walt Disney Resort itself.

After reading the last FMA digest's articles submitted about the WEKAF tournament, I think it was a consensus that the players and spectators really had a memorable experience. From the very first email contact from the planning committee we knew what to expect and that is was going to be a first class event.

As a little girl at about age 8, I remember many family gatherings at my Auntie Mary's house in Stockton, Ca. Always in the late afternoon, I would hear sticks smacking in the backyard, and watched my uncle practicing different moves and techniques. I remember how fast they were moving the sticks, and I was scared to get too close...not knowing that down the line I would be doing that too someday!

A few years later my Dad took my family to visit my uncle in Los Angeles, and he had a workout studio in his backyard. As a young adult, I had the opportunity to train with Bahala Na and Master Leo Giron for 6 months in Master Giron's backyard. When I joined Bandalan Doce Pares, my grandmaster had his dojo...guess where? In his backyard.

Finally, I've come to know that training in the backyard is a cultural tradition that continues today for many eskrima schools. I also train and practice in my backyard. We also know that the Filipino Martial Arts is practiced worldwide in over 25 countries, and it's time to progress the art from the backyard to the world arena.

I remember two years ago in Cebu, Master Tom Sipin was running around saying "Mickey with sticks in 2006".... And he made that dream become a reality. Kudos and hats off to the Sipin's, Napial's, PJ, the tournament directors, and all the behind the scenes planners. You did an EXCELLENT job! It's going to be a hard act to follow. Thanks for raising the bar to the next level and continuing WEKAF's growth process and journey from the backyard to a Five Star World Class Event.

Young Practitioners Division Results/Forms

Children Boys/ Under 10 yrs.

Traditional - Single Weapon

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| 1 Gabriel Patalinghug | USA |
| 2 Ian Lundy | USA |
| 3 Cody Schneider | USA |

Traditional - Double Weapons

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| 1 Joshua Velez | USA |
| 2 Cody Rutledge | USA |

Open - Single Weapon

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| 1 Eric Denney | USA |
|---------------|-----|

Open - Double Weapons

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| 1 Joshua Hill | USA |
|---------------|-----|

Traditional - Double Weapons

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| 1 Kyle Velez | USA |
|--------------|-----|

Open - Single Weapon

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| 1 Cody Smith | USA |
| 2 Jonathan Routis | Philippines |
| 3 Joseph Routis | Philippines |

Open - Double Weapons

| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| 1 Emmanuel Patalinghug | USA |
| 2 Pierce Armstrong | USA |

Junior Boys / 12-13 yrs.

Traditional - Single Weapon

1 Robert Clifford

USA

2 Cole Van Harn

USA

Traditional - Double Weapons

1 Matthew Quintero

USA

2 Jason Koch

USA

Open - Single Weapon

1 Cody Velez

USA

2 Jacob House

USA

Open - Double Weapons

1 Ray Rubin Chan

Philippines

Junior Boys / 14-15 yrs.

Traditional - Double Weapons

1 James Arseneault

Canada

Open - Single Weapon

1 Jake Morales

Philippines

Open - Double Weapons

1 CJ Patalinghug

USA

2 Augusto Gamboa

USA

Junior Boys / 16-17 yrs.

Traditional - Single Weapon

1 Winston Pisco Mori

USA

2 Nick Zellmer

USA

Traditional - Double Weapons

1 Peter Barna

USA

Open - Single Weapon

1 Martin Yamat

USA

Open - Double Weapons

1 Ronald America

USA

Children Girls / 10-11 yrs.

Traditional - Single Weapon

1 Annalisa Cruz

USA



Junior Girls / 12-13 yrs.

Traditional - Single Weapon

1 Ariel Gamboa

USA

Traditional - Double Weapon

1 Mariah Moore

USA

Open - Single Weapon

1 Alyssa Patgalinghug

USA

2 Erin Michaelis

USA

Open - Double Weapons

1 Amanda Thelen

USA

2 Alexis Denney

USA

Junior Girls / 14-15 yrs.

Traditional - Single Weapon

1 Brianna Beach

USA

Open - Single Weapon

1 Jane Noval

USA

Junior Girls / 16-17 yrs.

Traditional - Single Weapon

1 Riza Marie Empeno

USA

2 Veronica Mueller

USA

Traditional - Double Weapons

1 Tamara Delorenzi

Australia

Open - Single Weapon

1 Cassandra Beltron

USA

2 Denise Gibson

Australia

3 Jenna Lewein

USA

Single Stick Sparring Division Results

Jr. Boys 6-7 yrs.

1 Joshua Hill

USA

Jr. Boys 8-9 yrs.

1 Eric Denney

USA

2 Cody Rutledge

USA

Jr. Boys 10-11 yrs.

(Lightweight)

1 Cody Smith

USA

2 Kyle Velez

USA

Jr. Boys 10-11 yrs. (Heavyweight)

1 Edward Sean Hidalgo

USA

2 Emmanuel Patalinghug

USA

3 Johnathan Routis

Philippines

Jr. Boys 12-13 yrs. (Lightweight)

1 Matthew Quintero

USA

2 Robert Clifford

USA

3 Kevin Singh

Canada

Jr. Boys 12-13 yrs. (Heavyweight)

1 Ray Rubin Chan

Philippines

2 Cole Van Harn

USA

3 Jacob House

USA

Jr. Boys 14-15 yrs. (Lightweight)

1 CJ Patalinghug

USA

2 Ben Fox

USA

3 James Arseneault

Canada



Jr. Boys 14-15 yrs. (Heavyweight)

- 1 Matthew Bragstad
- 2 Augusto Gamboa

USA
USA

Jr. Boys 16-17 yrs. (Lightweight)

- 1 TJ Roque
- 2 Ronald America
- 3 Myththurayan Sivapalan

USA
USA
Canada

Jr. Boys 16-17 yrs. (Heavyweight)

- 1 Martin Yamat
- 2 Kerry Joseph Sheader
- 3 Jeffrey Clayton

USA
USA
Canada

Jr. Girls 6-7 yrs.

- 1 Mariah Misko
- 2 Katherine Schwerman

USA
USA

Jr. Girls 10-11 yrs.

- 1 Annalisa Cruz

USA

Jr. Girls 12-13 yrs. (Lightweight)

- 1 Amanda Thelen
- 2 Rose Frank
- 3 Isabelle Montgomery

USA
USA
Canada

Jr. Girls 12-13 yrs. (Heavyweight)

- 1 Erin Michaelis
- 2 Yvette Hernandez
- 3 Rebecca Junop

USA
USA
Canada

Jr. Girls 14-15 yrs. (Lightweight)

- 1 Jane Noval
- 2 Anna Lewein
- 3 Chanjayaa Kovinthan

USA
USA
Canada

Jr. Girls 16-17 yrs. (Lightweight)

- 1 Jenna Lewein
- 2 Denise Gibson
- 3 Riza Marie Empeno

USA
Australia
USA

Double Stick Sparring Division Results

Jr. Boys 12-17 yrs. (Lightweight)

- 1 Jason Koch
- 2 Robert Clifford

USA
USA

Jr. Boys 12-17 yrs. (Middleweight)

- 1 CJ Patalinghug
- 2 Kristopffer Hidalgo
- 3 Myththurayan Sivapalan

USA
USA
Canada



Jr. Boys 12-17 yrs. (Heavyweight)

1 Winston Pisco Mori

USA

2 Lucas Fehringer

USA

3 Jeffrey Clayton

Canada

Jr. Girls 12-17 yrs. (Lightweight)

1 Mariah Moore

USA

2 Jane Noval

USA

Jr. Girls 12-17 yrs. (Middleweight)

1 Jenna Lewein

USA

2 Anna Lewein

USA

Jr. Girls 12-17 yrs. (Heavyweight)

1 Erin Michaelis

USA

2 Amanda Thelen

USA

A True Champion

By Kris Vasquez Davantes

Sometimes, the medal counts tell only part of the story. Olympic viewers remember the names of Dan Jansen and Kerri Strug long after their fellow gold medallists have been forgotten, not just because of their skill, but because of the spirit they showed on the way to victory. The 9th WEKAF World Championships featured a story like that, though very few people knew about it at the time.

For those who weren't there, a bit of necessary background. This tournament is the officially sanctioned world championship for the World Eskrima Kali Arnis Federation, and there are only two ways to get there. You either work your way up, placing first or second at a regional qualifier and then first or second at the national level, or you can be a defending world titleholder seeded into the tournament. The first clue as to the character of the woman I am telling you about, Wendy Wigger-Jornales is that she did both. That is, she was a defending world champion in both forms and fighting, and therefore didn't need to come to the regional or national events. But she did; she put in the time and the effort and qualified the same way anyone else did.

One more thing you need to know: in judging the forms competition, it is assumed that weapons will not touch the floor, unless the competitor tells the judges in advance. Otherwise, the judges are to deduct a full point from the score. Wendy didn't notify the judges that she would be putting her weapon down, but since her pace didn't break when it happened the center judge approached her after the form was finished. "I just have to ask you," he said, "did you mean to put it down?"

Wendy faced a decision that very few people will ever face. In the heat of competition, with the gold medal a single word away from her, she had to decide whether to tell the truth - she had dropped the knife. It's easy for many of us now, who haven't put in the months of training time, who don't have adrenaline coursing through our veins, who aren't standing on the floor of the world championship, to think we'd have done the right thing. At the moment, my guess is that very few would. In fact, when Wendy whispered what had happened to a pair of friends a bit later, one of them - a well known official in this sport - said, "And of course you said, 'Sir, I absolutely meant to put it down.' I understood that reaction. But that's not what Wendy did.

She said what made up her mind, in the second she had to think about it, was seeing the faces of her students around her. She could have lied and she probably would have gotten away with it as far as the general audience was concerned. But she would know. Her husband, Grandmaster Bong Jornales, would know. So she set an example for those students that I hope they will always remember. Knowing it might cost her the gold, she said, "Sir, I dropped it." In that moment, putting her integrity above the external prize, she exemplified for me the kind of person a martial artist should be.

There's a bit of a twist in the end, because Wendy's performance was strong enough that even with the mandatory deduction, she took home the gold. A gold she truly earned, not one she would have to look on with regret. But she had no idea that would be the case when she made her choice; in most divisions, the deduction would have cost her the medal. She knew that, and she did the right thing anyway.

I should mention that Wendy has no idea that I am submitting this report. She's modest enough that the coverage will probably embarrass her. I hope that she'll forgive

me when she sees why I need to tell this story. If you've been to any tournament, from a local high school gym to a major world event, you know there are competitors who can hardly fit their egos through the door. I'm not saying they shouldn't be proud of what they've done. Heck, if I had Wendy's credentials - at least five world titles that I know of - I would take out a full page ad in the newspaper. But that's what makes her a better martial artist than me. She's in it for the love of the art, for her students, and for her own development. The integrity that she displayed in that ring didn't just happen to be there; it's a product of the way she chooses to live her life. She carries the spirit of the martial arts through everything she does. I hope that all of us, whether fortunate enough to know her or not, will learn from her example.

Jacob House

12-year-old forms Silver Medallist

By Heather House



1st Place Cody Velez, USA
2nd Place Jacob House, USA

From a parent's perspective, this was a really gratifying experience, the culmination of everything Jacob has been working for. From the time of the Regionals on, it's been a matter of, "Oh my gosh, we're at the *Nationals*." And then to make it to the World Championships...it was almost unbelievable to be there.

The thing that impressed me the most was to watch how hard Jacob was working. I'm not even sure that he understands the magnitude of his accomplishment. He was excited to be at the tournament, and especially to see the international competitors. He's never been overseas, so to hear all the different languages and accents was exciting by itself. Sometimes it got a little too exciting and we ended up using the theme parks to burn off some nervous energy.

The day of his competition, he ended up doing his form twice because the first scores had him in a tie with another competitor. My husband was so nervous that he couldn't even watch Jacob the second time; the first time through, he had done his form better than ever before. And when the marks came in, Jacob had second place. He'd rather have won, but we tell him to be proud of what he achieved. In this sport, anybody could have entered at Regionals and worked their way up, if they practiced hard enough and long enough. Anybody could have, but not everybody did. Jacob worked hard to get where he was. As he gets older, I hope he appreciates what dedication it took for a boy his age to train that way.

We have his certificates from all the tournaments hanging on the wall, along with his medals. When he goes to eskrima class, he sees the photo of his grandmaster with what looks like hundreds of trophies. He looks at that photo and says, "Wow, that's a lot of trophies." And we tell him, "that's a lifetime of work." This was a great beginning.

Jenna Lewein

Age: 17 yrs.

Four Winds Martial Arts – Milwaukee, WI.



Jenna Lewein 1st Place

As a girl who had never gone to Florida, nor participated in a world tournament, I can honestly say that I wasn't disappointed with either. The grounds at the Swan and Dolphin were beautiful, as were the resort's swimming pools, and the variety of restaurants housed inside the resort made for great dining. The greatly discounted room price was something my parents greatly appreciated as well. The resort's location was also a perk, as it was within reach of every major Disney attraction; all my family had to do was hop on a complimentary bus or ferry.

From a competitor's viewpoint, the tournament's set-up was the best I can remember. There was plenty of room for both fighters and

spectators, and the food tickets the resort gave us came in handy for getting something to eat without having to run back upstairs to a restaurant. Frequent announcements updating the competitors on which divisions were about to fight were very helpful, not only to my sister, and me but also to my parents and grandparents because it gave them a better idea of when we were going to fight. This spared them from sitting in the ballroom for hours waiting for us to be called to a ring, which had happened at other tournaments. Overall, I was impressed with how smoothly the tournament ran, this allowed me to relax more and focus on my upcoming fights. I also loved that the tournament always finished ahead of schedule for once, which allowed me to enjoy my stay in Florida even more.

Four Winds Martial Arts

Master Thomas Sipin

10633 W. Oklahoma Ave.

West Allis, WI 53227

(414) 541-3656

Email

Website

Russ and Cecille Denney

Parents of Competitors - Alexis and Eric Denney

Doce Pares Sacramento – Sacramento, CA.

This was our very first time to participate in the World Eskrima Kali Arnis Tournament. It was an experience my family and I will never forget. We were very excited to hear that it was being held at the World Disney Dolphin Swan Resort, Orlando Florida. The venue in itself was very appealing because we've always wanted to go to Disney World and it was the perfect opportunity. The volunteers and staff were very friendly and they were well organized. From registration, event banquets and running the competition all together went smoothly.

Our children were in awe meeting competitors from different countries such as Italy, Germany, Australia, England, Canada and the Philippines. We also enjoyed

meeting and talking to the competitors. All in all our experience was wonderful and look forward to the next World Tournament in Cebu Philippines.

Doce Pares Sacramento

Master Nito Noval
65 Quinta Court, #J
Sacramento, CA 95823
(916) 375-0745

Email

Website



The 2006 WEKAF World Tournament was an outstanding event. Having attended Escrima Tournaments for nearly twenty years as a competitor, referee and judge I would have to say this tournament was the most organized and efficiently run that I have attended. Good sportsmanship, camaraderie and fun are words that are not always associated with competitive events, but they were emphasized and apparent at this event from the opening ceremony to the awards

banquet.

I really think that having the tournament at Walt Disney World added to this event. Many competitors brought their families and they were able to enjoy this event and all the theme parks and activities. I know mine sure did!

This world tournament was particularly special for me because my seven year old daughter Mariah competed. It was so exciting watching her compete and win her division. As a competitor I never felt as happy or proud. (or as nervous!- I guess I now know what I put my parents through!) I was impressed with all the junior division participants; there were a lot of great young fighters competing, which is great for the future of this sport!

All together this was an memorable experience for my family and me. Thanks to Tom and Sue Sipin, WEKAF and to everyone else who made this event possible, you did an exceptional job!



Chez Misko
Four Winds Martial Arts
Master Thomas Sipin
10633 W. Oklahoma Ave.
West Allis, WI 53227
(414) 541-3656

Email

Website

Miguel Santos had the ultimate WEKAF experience. As a student at White Tiger Martial Arts Academy (Fresno, California), he studies Bandalan Doce Pares under instructors

Antonio Lucero and Delfina Rodriguez-Lucero. After months of fundraising and working a side job, this sixteen-year-old white belt earned an opportunity to compete in the WEKAF World Invitational Tournament. There were new rules, new divisions and tough competitors, but he met the challenge and returned home with two gold medals in the single stick fighting division and the multiple weapons division. Along with his wins, Miguel had the fantastic surroundings of a Walt Disney Resort and first class accommodations made possible by WEKAF USA President and visionary, Tom Sipin. The entire time was truly magical.

Miguel Santos

I'm glad to see that all the hard work and training that we as competitors, students and instructors have gone through these past months have been put to good use. The environment at WEKAF's 9th World Tournament was one not only of competitive spirit, but also of camaraderie and respect. It's great to meet new people from around the world who share the love of martial arts and are willing to share their talent while applauding yours with equal respect, and what better place to do so than Disney World?

I enjoyed my experience at the tournament greatly, and I wait and train with much anticipation for the upcoming event in Cebu.



Ronald America, Doce Pares Sacramento Website



Mariah Misko 1st Place



1st Place Cassandra Beltron, USA
2nd Place Denise Gibson, Australia
3rd Place Jenna Lewein, USA

Junior Team Canada

“Best Experience of our Lives”

“A World Martial Arts Tournament That No One Will Ever Forget”



Members of Junior Team Canada: William Montgomery, Isabelle Montgomery, Kevin Singh, James Arseneault, Chanjayaa Kovinthan, Jeffrey Clayton, Myththurayan Sivapalan and Rebecca Junop. Members of Team Canada’s Senior Team were Raajcumar Kovinthan, Thursica Kovinthan, Heather Turnbull, JB Ramos, Ed Gorenak, Carlos Lopez, Ted Smith, Cassandra Kwan and James Montgomery. Team Canada’s coaching staff were Guro Rudy Cosico, Guro Laura Holmes, Wilma Cosico, Matthew Cosico and Rose Cosico.

I had one of the best experiences of my life. During the competition I was nervous, and a little scared, as this was my first time competing in an international competition. I didn’t think that I would have been able to do well. In the end I won a gold medal and a bronze medal. I felt it was worth it. As well as overcoming my fears and nervousness I made many new friends at the tournament...all of them were from different countries. I enjoyed the fact that when you fight you fight. But when your competition is finished, there really is no winner or a loser, there is just two people doing what they like. I learned more about the countries that my competitors came from and I hope to see them in the Philippines in 2008. This tournament has given me more confidence to do well when faced with a challenge that I know nothing about. I learned that hard work could bring success. I was impressed about how hard the competitors that I talked to prepared for this competition and I fully intend to apply this hard work principle to all aspects of my life.



James Arseneault, 15 years

This was my first international tournament, when I got there I was very nervous but when I was getting ready to fight I knew I was ready. In this tournament I gained a lot

of experience and had a lot of fun. I came third in single stick and double stick sparring and made some good fights and had a lot of fun. I also got to meet people from other countries and watch their fighting style. I want to learn more fighting styles in the next few years and someday be the best in the world. In my last tournament I was nervous before every event I was in but when I was in this tournament I was not nervous at all, I know what I had to do and I had a lot of fun doing it. The tournament was a great learning experience and I hope to compete in more tournaments soon.

Jeffrey Clayton, 15 years

At the tournament, it was amazing. There were so many people. The forms were cool. Oh my team, we got gold in forms. There were some very good forms that Philippines did. In sparring, I did two fights. Also, I sang the national anthem for Team Canada. I've been doing martial arts for three years: 3 years of karate and a year and a half of Arnis. On the opening day, there was a parade. So many countries! There was Germany, Britain, Australia, Philippines, Italy, U.S.A., and of course Canada. The favorite thing I did was when I met Jonathon. He is ten years old and represents the Philippines. Thank you.



William Montgomery, 10 Years

William Montgomery sang the Canadian Anthem at the parade.

The 2006 WEKAF Championships was an amazing experience. I gained a lot of knowledge about international tournaments and was also able to feel, first hand, the pressure as well as the content of being part of a worldwide event. Being able to go miles from home to compete in such a prestigious event was nerve wracking for me in many ways. But I really enjoyed the trip because I was able to meet so many people from all across the globe. Furthermore I was able to meet grand masters of the Filipino Martial Arts and learn things from them that I would not have otherwise been able to learn. By participating in this tournament I was able to get over my fears of fighting in the ring and fight different people from various countries that had different styles of fighting. By



doing so I was able to recognize what I was doing well and what I could take back from my opponent's style. Although the actual fight only lasted a few minutes, the experience was priceless. My adrenaline was pumping, my heart was racing and my head was all over the place. It was a feeling that I wouldn't trade for the world, and I definitely will never forget those few moments. Likewise, supporting my team meant a lot to me and I was greatly

delighted to be able to be there and cheer them on. I believe the support of team members played a huge role during our performances and is one reason why I was able to fight to

the best of my ability. I was very happy to have achieved third place in my division and received the bronze medal for stick sparring. It was a great accomplishment for me and I am very proud to be representing Team Canada. Being only my first time fighting in a tournament such as the WEKAF tournament, I feel in years to come I can do even better and accomplish much greater things. Along with everything I've already mentioned I also learned about new events that I had not known about or seen. This included team forms and team sparring, which I found very interesting might someday be able to participate in myself. Within the fourteen years of my life, this has been one of the most fun and educating experiences that I have been through. From the plane ride, to the hotel stay, and of course, the tournament itself, I have learned so much and can't wait for the next time that I will be able to participate in a WEKAF tournament again.

Chanjayaa Kovinthan, 14 years

I've been training and competing in Martial Arts for 3 years. This competition was very exciting because it was my first international competition and it was my first time leaving Canada. At this world tournament I got to compete against some of the very best athletes in the world. I got to see many different styles and techniques while competing and watching the adults compete. The parade of countries was really cool. It was an honor to represent our country. I met and made friends with many people from different countries such as America and Great Britain. So this martial arts tournament was incredible for me because it was my first competition at the world level, it was my first trip outside Canada and I got to meet and make friends with people from all over the world. I look forward to more national competitions and the next martial arts tournament in the Philippines, 2008. Thank you.



Isabelle Montgomery, 12 years

It was a great experience for me for it was my first time going to a big tournament like this. The trip here and there was long but all worth it. The hotel was great, and the



hotel was huge. The time I had there was priceless, this experience was my first and hopefully not my last, because I would like to go to the 2008 WEKAF World Championships again in the Philippines. The first ceremony that happened was the parade of the countries. It was fun. All the countries were screaming chants of their country, for instance the Australians, AUSIE, AUSIE, AUSIE, OY, OY, OY! Then we walked

around with me and this other kid named William holding the Canadian flag, I was so honored to be holding the flag. Then after all the countries had walked an individual from

each country came up and sang their national anthem and William sang the Canadian National anthem with the French parts. The first tournament there that happened was the forms. I didn't participate in the forms but a friend of mine did, James, it was a great opportunity for me to see how the other countries are so I can get ready for the next WEKAF tournament. The day was long but it was a great scene! James was first up in his group. The Canadian team and I were all cheering him on. He gave a thrilling scene, but he dropped his stick once, which we all knew, the judges would have to deduct some marks. We were all sad, but he didn't give up and finished. The Filipinos were really good! The Filipinos really showed where this competition was originated in! The forms that they had formed was amazing, I couldn't believe what I was watching. It was quick, clean, and just unbelievable. Lucky for James he was the only one in his division doing that kind of weapon, (knife and single stick) so he got gold, the entire Canadian team was so happy for him. The next day was the sparring competitions, and I had signed up for that! Before it was my turn I was watching other sparring divisions that were going on. I was also getting pumped up for my match. Then my division was called up, I was nervous and happy, something that didn't really happen to me during competition. So I was gearing up, getting ready to face my opponent. So the fight had begun. I was fighting amazingly in my life that I had been in Arnis Canada. My opponent had jumped up in the air and tried to attack my head but I quickly moved out of the way and had struck him quick at his head while I was on his left side. Then out of nowhere my opponents helmet came off his head and I accidentally struck his neck then he collapsed, I felt so bad for doing that, but it was accidental. So the fight continued one part in the fight I was deducted one mark for masking my opponent, I was disappointed; it was hard to keep my hand down. At the end I lost, I was disappointed again. A few minutes after the fight my mom called I told her that I didn't get anything because I had lost. Later on in the day I got called to get my bronze medal! I was so surprised I thought I wasn't going to get anything, but I guess I got something. I was so proud of myself. I didn't call my mom because this is the present that I'm going to give her for her birthday! The next day was the adult's competition. This was going to be a great scene, our adults that had participated in the tournament was all bruised. Most of them didn't get a medal, we were sad, but still the experience was priceless, the entire team had a great time, we had fun and kept it safe. We finished off the week with the dinner with every single country that had participated in the tournament. The food was great and the entertainment was not bad but still a little entertaining. The next day we left the hotel to go to the airport. The long trip back had begun again. When I reached our final destination where I would see my mom and dad again after all this hard work. As I got out of the car I pulled out of my pocket the bronze medal that I had won and gave it to my mom and said, "Happy Birthday Mom!" She was so happy she had thought that I hadn't won anything so it was a surprise to her! Thank you!

Kevin Singh, 12 years

This spectacular event was hosted by the US in Orlando, Florida. The trip and the involvement in the tournament was a success, as we had accomplished a goal that team Canada had been training for. The tournament was an experience that Team Canada would remember for many years. Personally, when I stepped into the ring with my opponent I remembered our training, training that was intense. Getting tired wasn't an

option, nor should it be the outcome. In my mind these two aspects kept me going throughout the fights. Team Canada fought very well and this not only being my personal opinion but the opinion of many officials. We learned a great number of things in martial arts, through the mistakes we made to the techniques that our opponents used. This tournament allowed us to open doors down our paths of being excellent martial artists.

The results of the tournament allowed us time to reflect and think about how we can improve our fighting skills. Personally I placed third in my division and I understand why I have achieved such a rank. I also understand why the person in first place achieved his rank. With that knowledge I will polish my skills to be better than what I am now. Team Canada will be able to understand their weaknesses and we will be able to improve using what we have learned. Finally, the tournament was an event where winning wasn't the gold that one achieves but the experience that one gains. The experience was the prize; it was the true gold medal. With this experience we will train harder with a better understanding of our weaknesses.

Myththurayan (Mythu) Sivapalan, 16 years

The 9th WEKAF World Championship was the first major tournament for the members of Junior Team Canada. Although Filipino Martial Arts can be found throughout Canada, the Filipino martial arts tournament scene is still a rarity in this part of the world. This being their first international competition, the nature of the venue could have proven to be a distraction for our junior competitors, but when the tournament began, they threw themselves into the experience completely, with boundless enthusiasm.

The eight children and teens in Team Canada put all their hearts into their fights. They fought aggressively and strived to adapt to other fighting styles, many of which they had never encountered before. If the fights did not turn out as they had hoped, they did not dwell on their disappointments but instead sought out their teammates in other rings and cheered them on loudly and rather boisterously. Faces covered with the Canadian flag tattoos and vigorously waiving the large Canadian flag, Junior Team Canada demonstrated great national pride and team unity.

Canada's junior team stayed through all four days of the competition, watching and learning from the adult competitors, trying to absorb the variety of styles and techniques used by the international fighters. Despite evident exhaustion at times, they determinedly stayed at ringside and cheered on their adult teammates and, being Canadians after all, also cheered on competitors from the other Commonwealth countries in attendance...as long as we were not competing against them, that is. Our juniors made sure to befriend other kids from the USA and Philippines teams, sharing experiences, advice, and a lot of laughs. This mutual respect and newfound friendship was the subject of many of the stories recounted to friends back in Canada.

The end results of the tournament for our junior team, the team bonding, the new friendships, the competition experience, the new awareness of other styles, these outcomes provided immeasurable satisfaction to the coaches and organizers as well as justification for the time and money spent to bring a Junior Team Canada to Florida. The ever growing passion of these young competitors for Filipino martial arts, fueled by the World Championship and the inspirational forms and fights they watched, has already started to spread to the rest of the children and teens in our school, the majority of whom were not able to attend. At the next WEKAF World Championship in Cebu, there will

likely be a much larger Junior Team Canada, eagerly looking forward to the first of many world championships and expecting to have, as is frequently expressed these days by our 9th World Championship Junior Team members, the “best experience of our lives”.

Cassandra Kwan

Being apart of WEKAF is always an interesting experience, but experiencing the tournament as an official and spectator’s perspective has broadened my view of Filipino Martial Arts. One of the key things that I enjoyed seeing was the camaraderie among all countries and that at the end of the day, when all was said and done everyone left with a smile. Watching a lot of the youth compete in the tournament is always a pleasure knowing that at one point even I was there and seeing the good sportsmanship and integrity of the future generation of the Filipino Martial Artist is why I choose to continue with this sport and art.

In all tournaments there are ups and downs that are almost unavoidable, but what strikes me the most is the amount of dedication from some of the masters and instructors of the tournament. Master Tom Sipin that I met for the first time in 1996 whose son, Kelii Sipin, the Tournament Coordinator of the 9th WEKAF World Championships showed everyone how much they loved being apart of the tournament by sacrificing a lot just to continue the Tradition of WEKAF. Guro Rudy Cosico, our own Canadian Director and instructor had also sacrificed a lot to be in attendance including his health, but the love and passion for his kids and his students we all knew he wouldn’t miss it for the world.

I am personally grateful to again be apart of WEKAF, and I look forward to the next WEKAF World Tournament in 2008. I would also like to thank Sue Sipin, Kelii Sipin, and PJ Yauger for everything they have done for Canada.

Matthew Cosico

I personally had the pleasure and honor to attend the 9th WEKAF World Championships held in Orlando, Florida, U.S.A. on July 2 to July 8, 2006. Like any other sport where you have the honor and the opportunity to represent your country especially competing at the world level at any age, you really had to be there to soak in the whole entire experience. Whether you are a spectator, coach, instructor, an official or a competitor the emotion and excitement is like no other. Filipino Martial Arts is one of the most prestigious and exhilarating arts to watch and be apart of. From the forms, to the sparring and having the chance to attend seminars to expand your knowledge you know it is absolutely worth it. To watch all the traditional and open forms was the most graceful and beautiful thing. The sparring whether it is single stick, double stick or team sparring you know you are in for a great event. You have the opportunity to witness different styles; techniques and broken sticks fly in the air from grit, determination and are marked with bruises just to be named a world champion. It was amazing to see and be surrounded by coaches, masters, directors and competitors across the globe that have the same exact passion, love and interest in the same martial art as you do. To share stories with other coaches and competitors who you have just met on how hard you have trained and all the sacrifices that were made along the way just to represent your country is comforting as you are not the only one.

The welcoming ceremony dinner was an excellent icebreaker for all the countries to have the chance to eat, chat and mingle. When all the major events were done, a night out at the Atlantic Dance Hall located on the board walk was a great finishing touch to loosen up from all the hard work from the training and competition.

Team Canada had a total of 17 competitors and 8 out of the 17 were juniors. This is the first time members of our junior team competed at the world level. They had the time of their lives and the experience and friends they have made they wouldn't trade it for the world. The juniors that were in attendance at the tournament got along so well that they were taking pictures with each other, signing t-shirts and some were even trading their country team t-shirt just to have as a souvenir. In addition to souvenirs, everyone had the opportunity to purchase the tournament t-shirt and the art and design of the shirt was strikingly done. Every Team Canada member has one. To watch our future generation from each country that have the same passion as all the senior competitors was very comforting as we now know that the Filipino Martial Arts' future is good hands.

Master Tom Sipin, Sue Sipin and Kelii Sipin, thank you for hosting a world tournament that no one will ever forget. The effort, sacrifice, love and passion that you have to make this tournament the best ever was certainly succeeded. Also, thank you to PJ Yauger and Justin Lemke for taking great care of Team Canada. We really appreciate everything you have done for us.

I personally am very proud of all members of Team Canada especially our junior team. We all are looking forward to the next world tournament in 2008 to be held in the Philippines, which will be the anniversary for WEKAF! See you in 2008.

Rose Cosico

A Final Word

By Tom Sipin

The 2008 World Championships will again be held in Cebu. It will be held between June and August. Backing up from there, the Nationals will probably be around January with the venue most likely on the West Coast. That means the Regional Qualifiers should be between September and November.

Regionals are expected at this time on the West Coast, Southwest, Rocky Mountains, Midwest, Northeast and Southeast. There have been inquiries from the Northwest area. If anyone is interested in these events, please contact Master Sonny Napial, the new US Director.

The US Doce Pares Convention is usually sponsored and attended by many of our member schools. Options for a second North American Championship is being discussed with WEKAF Canada. In addition, a coalition of about 20 Filipino martial arts Schools in Mexico has proposed hosting a World Event also in 2007.

As Chief Arbitrator and Rules Chairman of WEKAF since it's inception, as well as US Director and past president, its been an interesting trip watching the organization evolve and knowing the reasons behind the "what and why": standardizing rules for improving safety, improving competition, better demonstration of the arts or increasing spectator awareness and appreciation. Interestingly enough, some people who are continually "down" on WEKAF are quick to list their WEKAF awards.

We have never claimed to be the sole representatives of Filipino martial arts competition, and as I have stated before most of our members train/study and compete in other aspects of the Filipino martial arts as well as other martial art disciplines. For most of us, it's only when preparing for each event that we spend more time limiting training to WEKAF rules. I personally like the rules we established for our padded stick fighting, because they promote action/response much closer to reality. Defense becomes much more important but the judging also recognizes the reality that most fights do not stop with one strike, unless the person struck allows it to.

Our competition rules are just what they are, rules for ONE type of competition. Are they perfect in all accounts - NO! By definition no rules can be. That doesn't mean they haven't any transferable qualities to either actual combat or the "real" Filipino martial arts.

In closing, I would like to thank Steven Dowd for the amount of effort and time he has spent not only on following our event, but all the work he does regularly to promote so many different people, organizations and events for the benefit of all those involved in the Filipino martial arts.

Thomas Sipin

WEKAF

Doce Pares

Four Winds Martial Arts



www.fwma.net

Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort

Orlando, Florida

The city of Orlando was proud to be a partner in hosting the 2006 WEKAF World Championships and extends a warm welcome to competitors and their families. They extend their greetings and their hope that the experience will be remembered with fond memories, of well-fought matches, and of new friendships formed.

The event was held at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort in Orlando, Florida.

Situated on 87 acres of beautiful lake front property, the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin allows you the ideal place to surround yourself with the magic of Walt Disney World® Resort. Enjoy quick and easy access to the Magic Kingdom® Park, Epcot®, Disney-MGM Studios, Disney's Animal Kingdom® Theme Park and Disney's BoardWalk entertainment district.



Walt Disney World - One of the most unique vacation destinations on earth! Bring your friends and family on a vacation to experience a world as big as your imagination and create memories to last a lifetime. Explore magic that knows no bounds as you sprinkle a little pixie dust on every aspect of your dream vacation. Experience world-class dining, electrifying nightlife, spectacular entertainment and abundant shopping and recreation. Enjoy an endless variety of

recreational activities that range from the thrill of high-intensity action to the delight of quiet relaxation. Indulge in a massage or take flight on a parasail - or anything in-between. Discover a magical place with four exciting Theme Parks and two incredible Water Parks.

Magic Kingdom Park - Enter a fantasy storybook world of beloved characters, timeless tales and bold adventures.



Epcot - Explore the awe-inspiring possibilities in a world of endless wonder and high-octane thrills, in a place whose entertainment inventory includes both a rich sampling of world cultures and a fun, enlightening journey to the technological frontier.



Disney-MGM Studios - Enjoy a backstage pass to the place "where showbiz is" and entertainment comes to life. A nostalgic view of the movie-making capital has been combined with revealing backstage tours, a variety of TV- and movie-themed attractions, and a delightful selection of eateries.

Disney's Animal Kingdom Park - Experience creatures real and imaginary in a mix of lush landscapes, thrilling attractions, and spine-tingling encounters with exotic animals.





Disney's Blizzard Beach Water Park - Storm into the most slushy, slippery, exhilarating ski-resort-turned-Water-Park anywhere!

Disney's Typhoon Lagoon Water Park - Plunge into a topsy-turvy tropical paradise of awesome snorkeling, sliding and bodysurfing.

Sea World Orlando - There's no place on Earth like Sea World Orlando! Where else can you challenge thrill-a-second rides one minute and count the teeth on a shark the next? Feed the dolphins, take in an incredible performance, and just try to stay dry when the world famous Shamu comes a-splashing!



Discovery Cove - Compliment you visit to Sea World Orlando by spending the day at this one-of-a-kind tropical hideaway. Soak in the stillness as you find yourself surrounded by acres of lush greens and deep blues. Experience both power and playfulness during your reserved swim with a bottlenose dolphin. Snorkel amid thousands of rays and exotic fish, and explore the splendor of coral reefs and grottos.

Universal Orlando - Introducing a new Orlando vacation alternative. Islands of Adventure and Universal Studios - Not one, but TWO amazing theme parks side-by-side, plus the happening nightlife of one of Orlando's hottest entertainment complexes. All conveniently located just a few steps apart. It's the only place on earth that takes movies, TV, music, literature and pop culture and converts them into high-speed thrills, 3-D excitement and unparalleled adventure.

Revenge of the Mummy - NEW in 2004 - A psychological thrill ride 3,000 years in the making! Plunge into total darkness, plagued on all sides by huge fireballs, swarms of scarab beetles and an army of rotting warrior mummies. Can you escape the awesome power of Imhotep's curse?



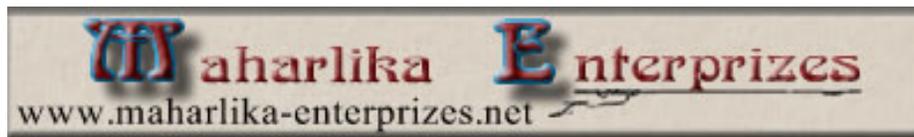




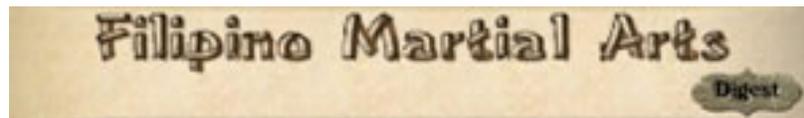
Filipino Martial Arts Magazine



Rapid Journal



Maharlika-Enterprizes



Filipino Martial Arts Digest

**Register your FMA School
Post your Event**

Advertise with the FMA Digest

An Ad in the Filipino Martial Arts Digest can create Business. Your Advertisement for Filipino martial arts equipment, books, videos etc, can be included in the Filipino Martial Arts digest.

Website Advertisement - Free

Subscribers Online {e-book} digest - \$5 per Issue

Website Application

Hard Copy Application