

Local martial arts student attends tournament in Britain

Waters participates in British demo

Martial art student Terri Waters has had an exciting time lately pursuing her career in the martial art of Kuk Sool Won.

In June, she traveled to the United Kingdom to attend the World Kuk Sool Association U.K. Tournament and Master's Exhibition. Then in October, she participated in the World Kuk Sool Association world championship held in Houston's Reliant Astro-Arena.

Waters' visit to the U.K. was at the invitation of master instructor Richard Roper of Kuk Sool Won of Kingwood. Roper said, "Terri had expressed a desire to visit the U.K. after Kuk Sool Won of Kingwood had received a number of visits from my former (U.K.) students earlier this year. Since Terri has always exhibited the best quali-

ties of a good martial artist, plus her outgoing and friendly personality, I felt these qualities made her a good candidate for such a long, exciting trip."

Waters was able to spend three weeks in the U.K. and had ample opportunity to experience another side of life "over there." Apart from entering the tournament and placing as a medal winner, Waters was also able to participate in the rigorous British training sessions. These training sessions will assist her in furthering her ambition to reach the rank of second degree black belt known as Kyo Sa Nym.

The World Kuk Sool Association U.K. Championship is a

huge event, taking place over one-and-one-half days, culminating in a master's exhibition with Kuk Sool masters from around the world demonstrating throughout.

One final treat for Waters before she came home, and perhaps the most exciting, was an invitation for her to participate in the British black belt student demonstration team. Waters was part of the break fall, forms and technique teams.

Also, Waters' instructor Roper gave her the unique opportunity to demonstrate with him as part of his personal demo team, a part normally reserved for much higher ranks. During

the demonstration, a section of "light relief" allowed Waters' personality and American presence to shine, which was very much appreciated by the British audience.

The World Kuk Sool Association main world championships followed in October, a two-day event held at the Reliant Park Astro-Arena.

This year's event provided Waters a good opportunity to put to good use the experience she gained from training and competing in the U.K.

She entered six events, making her a contender for a grand championship award. Her overall performance was excellent;

she achieved two gold medals, one for weapons forms and the other in sparring.

At the end of the two-day event, Waters had medalled in every event, and in the female section of her age group, she scored the highest points.

The grand championship competition, however, includes males and females, and a male was named the champion of Waters' age group.

Waters has practiced the martial art of Kuk Sool Won for nearly six years and is currently training at Kuk Sool Won of Kingwood. She is also an assistant instructor at the school.

For more information on Kuk Sool Won, call 281-359-KICK(5425) or visit www.kuksoolwon.com or www.kuksoolwonkingwood.com



Waters