



Vacaville Police Department

660 Merchant Street

Vacaville, California 95688

Communications Center: 707.449.5200

Internet: <http://www.cityofvacaville.com/departments/police/pressrelease.php>

Press Release

Today's Date:

June 1, 2009

Date & Time

Occurred:

May 22 to May 24, 2009

Submitted By:

Gordon Makimoto

Phone:

449-5200

Narrative:



On May 22 to May 24, 2009 four (4) youth from the Vacaville PAL Makimoto Judo Club Competed in the California State Judo Championship in San Diego, California. The tournament had approximately 550 competitors from throughout the State. The event was a double elimination style tournament, requiring the contestant to lose twice to be eliminated from the tournament. Competition divisions are created by age and weight with no consideration to belt color.

The four(4) Vacaville youths were Michael Fife, 14 years old; Cody Costello, 13 years old; Ronnie Wise, 12 years old and Hunter Costello, 9 years old. All four (4) of the youth have been doing well in local tournaments and were eager to compete in the State Championships.

This was Hunter's first appearance at the State Championships and she did excellent. She won all three (3) of her matches by throwing her opponents for immediate wins. While her matches were scheduled to last three minutes, none of her matches lasted longer than 30 seconds. She was awarded a Gold medal.

Michael Fife is Vacaville PAL judo club's most experienced player. He won his first two matches by throwing his opponents for immediate wins. On his third match, Michael fought Anthony Igne (Mojica Judo). The match lasted for the entire three minutes. Michael lost the match by a penalty and dropped into the loser's bracket. Michael then won his next three matches by throwing or pinning his opponents and got a second chance to fight for first place. He fought against Anthony Igne again. This time Anthony was able to throw Michael for a win. Michael was awarded a Silver medal.

Ronnie Wise fought well but did not place. He won his first match by throwing his opponent for an immediate win. However, he then lost his next two matches and was eliminated from the tournament.

This was Cody Costello's first time at the State Championships. He won his first match chocking his opponent for a win by submission. However, he then lost his next two matches and was eliminated from the tournament.

Michael, Cody, Ronnie and Hunter will compete in the USJF National Judo Championships in San Francisco this coming July.

The Vacaville Police Activities League Judo Club is coached by Officers Gordon and Lucy Makimoto of the Vacaville Police Department. For questions about the Vacaville PAL program, please contact Officer Gordon Makimoto at 449-5200 or Amanda Slade at 449-4004.

Criminal activity can be reported at www.cityofvacaville.com/departments/police, or you can call "Crime Stoppers" and leave an anonymous tip at 707-644-STOP(7867). Crime Stoppers may pay up to \$1,000 for information that leads to an arrest.



The Police Activities League program is one of the oldest citizen-building youth programs in the nation. It builds friendships between law enforcement and children within the community. By helping our youth we help the future of our community.

The Vacaville Police Activities League is a non-profit organization. One hundred percent of all contributions stay in the City of Vacaville.