

Hando's fighters see off best of UK

Students' medal feast at national champs

STUDENTS at Old Harlow-based Hando Ju Jitsu Club were hugely successful in the UKMAGB/Jikishin Ju Jitsu Association National Championships held at Tilbury Docks.

Competitors came from all over the UK, including Wiltshire, Cornwall, Lincolnshire, West Sussex, Essex and London.

A team of 18 from the club, based at Mark Hall Sportscentre, joined more than 400 competitors at the event.

They won an incredible 15 medals: five gold, seven silver and three bronze, in almost every category, including ground fighting, sparring, open hand kata, weapons kata and random attacks.

The club instructors - Earl Walker, a 5th dan, and Jackie Walker, a 4th dan - are the husband and wife team who run the club, which also has a base at Ongar Leisure Centre in Chipping Ongar.

Earl Walker, the head instructor, said: "We are immensely proud of the whole team, who worked so hard and dedicated themselves to training for the competition.

"The hard work was justly rewarded, and all of the individuals performed well on the day."

Jason Plume was the only adult competitor, and he also medalled in the random attacks category at blue/purple belt.

The medal winners were: Alfie Jenkins silver junior 30-35kg sparring; Archie Goodger silver junior 30-35kg ground-fighting; Ben Mays gold junior 30-35kg ground-fighting; George Burnett silver junior 45-55kg ground-fight-



MEDAL JOY: The Hando Ju Jitsu Club fighters

ing; Jason Plume bronze senior green/blue belt random attacks; Joseph Buckley silver junior 30-35kg ground-fighting; Kaitlin Bell gold junior 7-9 years white/orange weapons kata; Kaitlin Bell silver junior mini-warriors open

sparring; Lewis Mays bronze junior 35-40kg ground-fighting; Luke Godfrey silver junior U30kg ground-fighting; Michael Lyons bronze junior boys 55-70kg ground-fighting; Rhodri Morgan gold junior 7-9 years white/

orange belt open hand kata; Ruby Freeman gold junior 7-9 years white/orange belt weapons kata; Ryan Fleming silver junior 12-15 years green/blue belt weapons kata; Will Lyons gold junior U30kg ground-fighting.