SPECTACULAR RESULTS OVER THE WEEKEND FOR TEAM BATH JUDO!

The University of Bath judo came first overall at BUCS national championships, this weekend 18th & 19th February.



Uni. Of Bath Squad & coaches. Finn Gleeson, your judo teacher, far right.

BUCS is the organising body who run championships around the country for all sports done in Universities and colleges. Last weekend was the judo championships, held at Warwick University, Walsall. Individual contests were held on Saturday and the team event was on Sunday.

[Gold, Kyu grades/lower level]

In the individuals Bath, won 1 Gold, 2 event. This is coached by Finn Gleeson, your school. The haul in the advanced

Golds, 2 Silvers several times a



Silvers, and a Bronze in the lower level of Gleeson Judo who teaches judo at level, was even more impressive, with 4 & 1 bronze. These athletes are training day on the full-time programme. Finn's



students only started judo in October of last year and train two or three times a week. On the Sunday in the team event, the women, fielding a team one short of the require three athletes, still won Gold, not loosing a contest all day! The men came second, beating many other university teams five to zero. The University of Bath having won more contests than any other university won the overall title!



[Gold, Dan grade/higher level]

[women's team, Gold]



[men's team, Silver]

Judo competitions are divided into weight categories, but also grade level for BUCS. The University of Bath has athletes that cover all categories, we had a team of close to thirty (although some weren't fighting at the weekend due to recent injures). The High Performance programme covers the higher level and the student, recreational club the lower level.

Finn Gleeson who also teaches judo at your school is responsible for the student's recreational club. These students started their judo journey last October. Since when they have entered two competitions winning; 1 gold, 2 silvers, 3 bronzes and a 5th place, in preparation. BUCS, is a very big event with over two hundred

and fifty judo players fighting. On Saturday, contests, some unlucky twists of fate. One, the recreational club) took just short of eight Normal contest times are 4 minutes. The exhausting in the extreme! The winner came the nearest receptacle! It was a very weekend.



there were some incredible between two Bath students (from & a half minutes to decide! battle was truly epic. Physically off only to be ill immediately into satisfying and impressive

['Special' training with a full-time trainee – *Prisca Awiti Alcaraz*, now fighting for Mexico internationally, she still visits Bath uni when her schedule allows]

Finn Gleeson often uses athletes from the full-time programme to help out in 'Special' training events. These are for the more experienced students and take place six times a year at the Uni. Of Bath. These are invitational events, so only students with the right amount of experience are selected. It gives another target to work towards, as well as being enormous fun & very instructive. Students at the very beginning of their judo life can experience top level judo in a managed and controlled training session. Of course the selection of full-time athletes is just as strenuous! I only pick those who I have seen train and can trust to look after the



small judo players they will be training with. Development, learning and education what it is all about!! Links between Finn's students and the University's judo programmes are getting stronger year by year. Many who have left primary school are now training in the evening clubs. As yet no

Gleeson Judo student has made it onto the fulltime programme, but it might not be long now!

['Special' training @ Uni. Of Bath]

This report is not to frighten you into thinking judo is all about fighting and competitions, blood & guts, no no, far from it! It is the knowledge and skills to teach and coach to this kind of level and result, that demonstrates the range of knowledge I have.



[a school session]

I teach judo to primary school children with all the control and guidance required, just as easily as to university students, both are beginners, both need help, guidance, encouragement and attainable goals! I provide all this. I have been running Gleeson Judo for over fifteen years, teaching for over thirty, along with many other things, to make me the judo teacher I am. My aim is to help build confidence, strength, fortitude, social skills and an empathy (which is so important in today's society), which helps with wellness and the ability to combat bullying. In short, education!

I am re-building my website again over the next few days, but any questions you may have about judo or my teaching of it, please feel free to contact me; finn@gleesonjudo.com.



Finn Gleeson, presenting a piece of his art work to the University of Bath's Judo Programme's Head Coach, Juergen Klinger (7^{th} Dan, recently deceased.)



Finn Gleeson 5th dan, M.A., QTS, PGCE, BA(Hons)