

T A N G S O O T I M E S

ISSUE NO. 98

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OCTOBER 1999

P A L C H E T A N G S O O D O

229 SOUTH CHESTER PIKE

GLENOLDEN, PA 19036

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct 4 - Gup test at Dojang. No adult class.
Oct 22/23 - Region 8 Championships. No classes.
Oct 25 - Gup test at dojang. No adult class.

MONDAY NIGHT CLASS SCHEDULE

Oct 4 - Gup test at Dojang. No adult class.
Oct 11 - Hyung class. All ranks and ages welcome.
Oct 18 - Black Belt class. Red belts and higher.
Oct 25 - Gup test at Dojang. No adult class.

MASTER'S CORNER

There are three major achievements in the martial arts. One is having a white belt tied around you for the first time, another is having the master's belt tied around you, and lastly, having a black belt tied around you. I am very proud to announce the following Dan promotions, which will be presented at the Gup promotion test on October 25. These promotions are:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Dan Number</u>
SCOTT MUELLER	E DAN	28526
DAVE VORHEES	CHO DAN	31594

What makes these promotions so special is that Scott was the first Black Belt promoted after our school's name was changed to Pal Che and Dave is the first Black Belt promoted who began training as a white belt after the school's name was changed. All instructors are very proud of the way you both carried yourself during the testing process.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP UPDATE

The 2000 World Championships will be held in Anaheim, California, at the Anaheim Convention Center. The dates are August 11 - 13, 2000. The latest edition of the WTSDA Newsletter has detailed plans for the event as well as listings of local attractions. The WTSDA has negotiated reduced rates at hotels and theme parks.

NEW STUDENTS

We would like to welcome the following new students to our Dojang and to the worldwide family of Tang Soo Do:

DAVID FORTE	CHRIS BRYSIK	JERELL BROWN
DANIELLE WRIGHT	MARK WRIGHT	JASMINE DOUGHERTY
LINDSAY WRIGHT		

Train often and train hard. You are on the steep portion of the classic learning curve and every class should reveal something new and exciting to you. If you ever have any questions, do not hesitate to ask a senior student.

A THANK YOU

The following is a note I received from Dave Voorhees after he had completed his test for Cho Dan.

As everyone knows, I tested for my Cho Dan in mid-September. I could feel the energy as I walked into the testing room. I had been TO A Black Belt test before, but it is very different when you are the one who is sitting there waiting for your name to be called. I sat there and looked around and saw plenty of people including children who were testing for their Cho Dan. When I was asked what I thought about the test in general, I was not quite sure to say. I had dedicated almost four years of my life and had waited for that day to come. You would think that all the people watching would make one nervous, but when the testing began, it seemed as if everyone disappeared. Both physical and mental training had prepared me for this moment, and I WAS READY. At first, it did not seem real, but then I started pumping out those kicks and reality set in quick. All in all, I would say that the test was a real challenge but I did come through with strength and dignity. I appreciate the support and the friendship of all those who attended the test. Thank you for being there. A special note of thanks goes to Mr. Centrone for encouraging me throughout the entire test.

A SIDE STORY

Most of what I really need to know about how to live and what to do and how to be, I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate school mountain but there in the sandbox at nursery school.

These are the things I learned. Share everything. Play fair. Don't hit people. Put things back where you found them. Clean up your own mess. Don't take things that aren't yours. Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.

Live a balanced life. Learn some and think some and draw and

paint and sing and dance and play and work some every day. Take a nap every afternoon. When you go out in the world, watch for traffic, hold hands, and stick together. Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the plastic cup - the roots go down and the plant goes up, and nobody really knows how or why...

Robert Fulghum

FEATURE ARTICLE

Normally, after a Black Belt test we run excerpts from the applicants' theses, which they write as part of the promotion requirements. However, I did not keep copies of their theses so I will rerun an article from a prior newsletter, which has a theme relating to Dan promotion. This originally appeared in the June 1991 Newsletter and several issues since.

The 'Path' to obtaining a Black Belt may best be compared to climbing a mountain. To a new white belt, he looks at the mountain from afar and says to himself, "It doesn't look that steep or difficult. I'll get to the top in no time." However, as he begins his training and gets closer to the foot of the mountain, he begins to see that it is indeed much more of a difficult task than he first thought.

The orange belts are in the undergrowth of forests that lie at the foot of the mountain. They know the mountain is there, but because of the dense forests they cannot see it. It is all they can do to stay on the trail. They can, however, hear their Sahbumnim somewhere ahead of them saying, "This is the way, come this way. The 'Path' is over here."

Green belts have broken through the undergrowth. The mountain is not steep and they make rapid progress towards the summit. "How could anything be this easy? Sahbumnim has said this mountain is difficult - boy was he mistaken. I'm gonna break all speed records in getting to the top of this mountain. My Sahbumnim will be so proud of me."

The brown belt has passed the easy part of the climb. Now the 'Path' is very steep. He must be strong and powerful to continue the climb. Your Sahbumnim is pushing and pulling you without really touching you. "How does he do it?"

The red belt must be quick and agile. He walks a narrow, dangerous 'Path' that does not seem to be making any progress towards the summit. Luckily, all the climbing done to this point is causing all muscle groups to work in unison. This 'Path' has pitfalls such as ego and lack of humility that can cause one to falter in the quest. Your Sahbumnim is nimbly moving in front of you - indicating the 'Path'.

The blue belt has now almost reached the summit. The air is

rarefied, and he must clear his mind and prepare for that final assault. How bad do you want to reach the summit? You can turn back now, those last few steps are extremely difficult and dangerous. Who would know? The pinnacle is only a short distance away. Your Sahbumnim can only nod his head and point to the goal. You must do it yourself.

You've reached the summit! You stand there; proud and erect. You take your Sahbumnim's hand. He smiles at you and you notice a glistening in his eye. He welcomes you to the brotherhood as he bows to you. The legacy has been passed. You look down and see the 'Path' you've followed. You see the other students at various levels along the mountain. They look up at you and decide to try even harder. You're yelling encouragement to them, giving directions and help. But you can't touch to help them, they must do it themselves as people have done for two millennia.

You look around to enjoy the view. Then you see it!!! Another mountain!!! Only this one is more rugged, more difficult!!! This is the mountain of E Dan, which only one Cho Dan in five will be able to climb. Then it strikes you like a ridge hand to the temple, there will ALWAYS be a higher mountain!!!

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

THE BLACK BELT IS NOT WORN AROUND YOUR WAIST BUT RATHER IN YOUR HEART AND MIND; AND AS SUCH, IT MUST BE WORN AND SEEN IN YOUR EVERYDAY ACTIONS, NOT JUST IN THE DOJANG.

R. RAVER

1999 UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 4 - Gup test at Dojang. No adult class.
Oct 22-23 - Region 8 Championships. No class.
Oct 25 - Gup test at Dojang. No adult class.

Nov 22 - Gup test at Dojang. No adult class.
Nov 25 - Thanksgiving. No classes.
Nov 27 - Thanksgiving weekend. No class.

Dec 25 - Christmas. No class.