

Team Strong At Bossier Challenge



Students from the D'Arbonne Martial Arts Academy had a very successful competition at the 2009 Bossier Challenge Karate tournament held at Parkway High School on January 31st 2009. The tournament featured competitors from the ArkLaTex region and a wide variety of martial arts styles. Pictured are (from left to right, back row) Rodney McPherson – 1st place in Black Belt Weapons, 1st place Black Belt Men's Advanced Forms; Georgia Booth – 1st place 12 & 13 year old Int. Forms, 1st place 12 & 13 year old Int. Girl's Sparring; Bethany Rhodes – 3rd place 12 & 13 year old Int. Forms, 4th place 12 & 13 year old Int. Girl's Sparring, 2nd place 12 & 13 Chanbara; Wesley Edwards – 1st place 14 & 15 year old Int. Sparring, 1st place 14 to 17 year old Chanbara; Garrett Nyegaard – 1st place 10 & 11 year old Chanbara, 2nd place 10 & 11 year old Int. Sparring, 4th place 10 & 11 year old Int. Forms; Dylan Jung – 1st place 10 & 11 year old Beginning Forms, 4th place 10 & 11 year old Beg. Sparring, 3rd place 10 & 11 year old Chanbara; Allison Gillmore – 2nd place in Black Belt Women's Forms, 3rd place Black Belt Women's Sparring, 2nd place in Black Belt Women's Weapons, 2nd place Adult Chanbara. (Front row, from left to right) Lance Wilkins – 2nd place 8 & 9 year old Int.

Forms, 4th place 8 & 9 year old Adv. Sparring; Jake Odom - 3rd 8 & 8 year old Beg. Forms, 4th place in 8 & 9 year old Beg. Chanbara; Zachary Bayless – 2nd place in 8 & 9 year old Chanbara, 1st place in 8 & 9 year old Beg. Sparring, 3rd place in 8 & 9 year old Beg. Forms; Gabe Ogden – 2nd place 8 & 9 year old Adv. Sparring, 3rd place 8 & 9 year old Chanbara, 4th place 8 & 9 year old Int. Forms, 3rd place in 9 and under Weapons; Kristin McPherson – 1st place in 12 & 13 year old girl's Adv. Sparring; Devin Jung – 2nd place in 6 & 7 year old Beg. Sparring, 1st place in 6 & 7 year old Chanbara, 2nd place in 6 & 7 year old Beg. Forms. Not present for the picture, but also winning at the tournament were: Jacob Hicks – 2nd place 12 & 13 year old Int. Sparring; Brantley Turnage – 4th place in 8 & 9 year old Chanbara, 1st place 8 & 9 year old girl's Beg. Sparring; and Clay Thirdkill – 3rd place in 10 & 11 year old Int. Sparring, 1st place in 10 & 11 year old Chanbara. As usual, our students were very successful at this tournament. Every one of our competitors who entered the tournament, placed in at least one event. The students are gaining confidence and a knowledge of competition tactics. I look forward to more success and growth for our team. The students at D'Arbonne Martial Arts will next be in competition at the South Central Regional Championships to be held at La Tech University Memorial Gym on Feb. 14, 2009.