

S'pore's Sun grabs world bronze medal

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SINGAPORE now have their first-ever taekwondo medallist at a world championship.

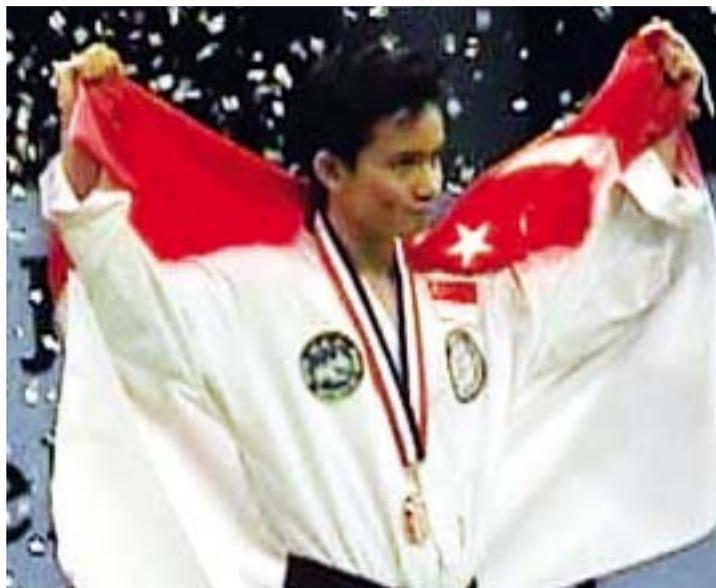
Jonathan Sun achieved that distinction, when he won a bronze medal at the prestigious International Taekwondo Federation (ITF) VII Junior and XIII Senior World Championship (Oct 14-19) in Daejeon, South Korea.

Sun, 19, finished third in the senior male individual patterns for the third-degree black belt category.

Argentinian pugilists took gold and silver.

Sun won three rounds and was the only Asian medallist in the category, which saw a total of 24 competitors.

"I'm really glad to have won a medal before going off to my national service because I really wanted this," said Sun, a member of the Island Taek-



Sun is the first Singaporean to win an ITF world championship medal.

wondo Centre. I've been training really hard especially for the last eight months, and I felt a lot of stress until the moment my hand was raised by the umpire in the first round.

"After that, I just trusted myself and my training."

Said Island Taekwondo Centre chief instructor Daniel Sng: "This is the first time that a Singaporean has won a

bronze medal for the country in a world championship.

"That alone is a huge achievement for us."

Singapore's other competitor at the championship, Clement Goh, reached the last eight of the junior first degree black belt individual male pattern category.

A total of 714 participants from 31 countries took part in the world championship.

Chinese athletes in court action?

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THE 5pm deadline came and went on Saturday, but there was no word from the two China-born athletes or their parents, if they would accept the latest offer of a new contract by the Singapore Athletic Association (SAA).

The deadline was extended by an hour, but there was still no response.

Now, the dispute between Luan Wei and E Xiaoxu, both 20, and the SAA could end up in court.

According to Edmond Pereira, the lawyer acting for the two athletes, they are unhappy that the SAA have refused to provide any concrete details on the type of education and coaching that will be provided under the new contract.

The new contract was offered by the SAA after the parents of Luan and Xiaoxu demanded compensation



Luan Wei (top) and Xiaoxu's (above) future is still uncertain.

when the pair were dropped from the association's Foreign Talent Scheme.

"The parents are bitterly disappointed with the SAA," Pereira said, yesterday.

"It is only reasonable for them to want to know what is in store in terms of education and coaching for their children in the new contract and these have not been provided."

Luan's parents and Xiaoxu's mother, E Shang Ying, are scheduled to meet Pereira today to discuss the next course of action.

Two possible scenarios are an amicable settlement between the two parties or legal proceedings.

When contacted yesterday, SAA president Tang Weng Fei declined any comment.

But it is believed the association will not be offering revised contracts to the pair or any compensation.

1ST STBC SECONDARY SCHOOLS BOWLING LEAGUE

T-shirts work their magic

Siglap Secondary Team 2 going great guns

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HAVING led the Singapore Tenpin Bowling Congress (STBC) Secondary Schools Bowling League Division One over the last two weeks, Siglap Secondary School Team Two have attributed part of their success to an unlikely source ... their school bowling T-Shirts.

Team stalwart Cody Teo, said: "We felt really odd when we started, as we wore our school uniforms while everyone else were wearing their own bowling T-shirts."

"In the end, after getting the school's approval, we finally printed our own T-shirts and it has done us wonders."

"Wearing the T-shirts have really helped us," said James Wong, 15.

"Of course, they are comfortable, but I also feel they have been lucky for us," the

teenager added, somewhat modestly.

The team's performance in the second round on Saturday, held at Cathay Bowl, The Chevrons, speaks for itself.

Game two on Saturday saw the quartet of Lewis Loh, William Ng, Cody and James dominate the division one competition. They emerged as the Team of the Week for the second consecutive time, with Cody bagging the Weekly High Game Award (236 pinfalls). William was named the Bowler of the Week.

Cody led his nearest rival by 53 pinfalls and he said: "It's a great feeling to have bowled so well today. My team's morale, teamwork and the motivation we give each other are the main factors behind our success and it helped me bowl my highest game so far in my life."

What makes their success even more



WEE TECK HIAN

From left: Cody, William, James and Lewis have been unbeatable over the last fortnight.

remarkable is that Siglap Secondary does not offer bowling as a Co-Curricular Activity (CCA). The four friends, all in Secondary 3, noticed a poster of the league in their school and approached their head of department (HOD) for physical education to register.

Besides setting their sights on winning the division, the boys also hope that their performance will help lay the foundations for bowling as a CCA in their school.

WEEK 2 RESULTS:

Premier Division

Highest game of the week: Nicholas Tang, 248 pinfalls (Catholic High Team 1)

Bowler of the week: Nicholas Tang, 655 pinfalls (Catholic High Team 1)

Top 3 teams

- 1 St Joseph's Institution Team 1
- 2 Singapore Sports School
- 3 Catholic High School Team 1

First Division

Highest game of the week: Cody Teo, 236 pinfalls (Siglap Secondary School Team 2)

Bowler of the week: William Ng, 496 pinfalls (Siglap Secondary School Team 2)

Top 3 teams

- 1 Siglap Secondary School Team 2
- 2 CHIJ Katong Convent Team 2
- 3 Chung Cheng High School

"Our HOD has been happy with our performances so far," said James. "If we can continue to play well, hopefully at the end of the season he'll be convinced to start a bowling CCA."

The third round of the Secondary Schools Bowling League 2004 resumes this Saturday at Cathay Bowl, SAFRA Tampines, from 10am.

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