

## TKFI'S MATC FAIRS WELL AT HALEY'S CLASSIC

April 26, 2015 at 1:09pm

April 25th Butte College Gymnasium, Chico, California

The Annual Haley Classic held at Butte College attracted some 200 athletes from Oregon and Northern California. Athletes competed for gold, silver and bronze medals in Kata, Kumite, and Kobudo events. 7 Grants Pass athletes, coached by Mark Gattey, competed in Kata and Kumite events with several athletes competing for the very first time. Saito Soke was the guest of honor.

Every athlete had a wonderful experience.

Michele Barnes, our only adult participant, commented, "The competition began for us long before we even arrived in Chico. We had been training and preparing for this event for quite awhile due in part to Shihan Tony traveling to Grants Pass and also graciously having us train with him and his students at his dojo in McMinnville. Back at home, we must also credit our dojo family of Sensei Jim and Shidoi Robert and Misty for their valuable teaching and insight backed by lots of encouragement."

"I was so nervous to be in an environment so foreign. I was also thinking that I might be the only first timer in my division, which wouldn't give me the chance to learn and better myself. But it turned out I had 4 other people, who I competed against, that were also competing for the first time. After having to perform Annanku 3 times, I fortunately ended up winning the gold in Kata and bronze in Kumite. I was much less nervous when it was over and felt so good about what I had accomplished. Going to the tournament really left me feeling inspired to train harder and be better. Hope to see a big group going to the Saito Karate-do Classic in McMinnville next month so we can all have a great experience!"

Our winners:

Andreas Gattey, 6 year old Novice, Silver Kata, Silver Kumite  
Elise Gattey, 8 year old Intermediate, Silver Kata  
Matthias Gattey, 10 year old Advanced, Gold Kata, Gold Kumite  
Alexa Barnes, 10 year old Novice, Gold Kumite  
Sebastian Gattey, 12 year old Advanced, Silver Kata, Silver Kumite  
Kelsey Kitts, 16 year old Beginner, Gold Kata, Gold Kumite  
Michele Barnes, Adult Novice, Gold Kata, Bronze Kumite

Congratulations to all of you!



L-R Mark Gattey, Kelsey Kitts, Alexa Barnes, Elise Gattey, Michele Barnes, Matthias Gattey, Saito Soke, Andreas Gattey and Sebastian Gattey.

