



KMA HAP KI DO NEWS

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Dustin Ledbetter Goes Back to Korea



Dustin Training in Korea in 2007

One of my earliest memories at KMA was when I was 11 years old and I was having problems with a bully at school. I didn't know what to do so I turned to Grand Master Lee and asked him what I should do. The first thing he told me was to inform the school teachers about the situation, which I did. Then, at one point after that, the bully pushed me in the lunch line. I didn't know what to do, since the teachers didn't do anything but give him a warning, so I went back to Grand Master Lee for advice. He told me I should confront the bully and tell him that I didn't appreciate him picking on me. And that is exactly what I did and from then on, he never bullied me again. This was my first lesson I learned from Grand Master Lee and it wouldn't be the last.

I started taking Hap Ki Do lessons at the age of 11. I heard about it through my best friend, Charles Celli, who'd been in it for awhile. I really wanted to train in some kind of martial art because back when I was little, I wanted to be like my hero, Jason David Frank, the green and white Power Ranger. My parents told me if I could keep my grades up in school, they would put me in martial arts - so that's what I did. Waking up every Saturday morning and going to Hap Ki Do class was very hard for me but it soon became easy when I started improving in Hap Ki Do. I was a very impatient young man but I stuck with it. Back then, I believed that I could get my Black Belt in three years, but I never considered all of the obstacles along the way.

I finally got my Red Belt when I turned 13 and at the time it was required for a Red Belt to stay at that level for at least a year. When the annual Black Belt Test came around, KMA had just built a brand new school and the tuition rate went up because they now were offering classes six days a week, instead of only Saturdays. My mother couldn't afford Black Belt testing and yearly tuition so I took some time off. I came back the following year around Christmas time to practice hard and to earn my Black Belt, but that year in high school, I was playing baseball, so again, I had to quit Hap Ki Do in the Spring. Near the end of baseball season, I started Hap Ki Do again, but my mom told me that she wouldn't be paying for classes any more because I wasn't attending very regularly. That is when everything sank in for me. I loved Hap Ki Do with a passion and I didn't want to quit since I was so close to getting my Black Belt. Hearing Grand Master Lee and the other instructors teaching that with hard work anyone could earn their Black Belt, I didn't want to let them down. So I started paying for Hap Ki Do lessons myself and I made sure I made it to class as often as possible. From then on, I trained really hard and by 2006, I had earned my 1st Degree Black Belt and even made the KMA Demo Team. Charles had made it to Black Belt too - I

was happy that we both made it. Training seemed to get even more intense when I became a Black Belt, but with the encouragement from the instructors, I never gave up.

In July of 2007, Grand Master Lee took a team of KMA students, including me, to compete in the 7th Triennial International Hap Ki Do Federation Competition. It was the best experience of my life. The best part of my trip was training at the International Hap Ki Do Federation Headquarters, which is actually the birthplace of Hap Ki Do. In the Korean tournament, I was part of the KMA group that won 1st Place for Group Competition. Being on that team made me feel proud of myself and of all the hard training I have done. In September 2007, I earned my 2nd Degree Black Belt and through Grand Master Lee, my training has further intensified.

At 19 years old, I am now entering a new chapter in my life. In August, I am going to South Korea to teach English to elementary school children for one year. My connection to Korea through Grand Master Lee and KMA made this opportunity possible for me. Without KMA, I would not have had the chance to work with kids in the first place, since I've taught lower-ranking Hap Ki Do students ever since I was about 13 years old. Since my long-term goal is to teach Mathematics in the U.S., my experience of teaching Hap Ki Do at KMA and English in Korea will help make my future in education bright. I am very grateful to Grand Master Lee and KMA.

NEW DATE FOR Great Lakes Hap Ki Do Championships

KMA will host an International Hap Ki Do Federation-style tournament called the **Great Lakes Hap Ki Do Championships, on Saturday, October 4, 2008, from 9:00am to 6:00pm, at the Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek, Michigan.** **This tournament will be open to ALL Hap Ki Do students from KMA, every KMA satellite school, and every Hap Ki Do school in the Great Lakes area.** All ranks are encouraged to participate.

This will be a great time to test your Hap Ki Do abilities and to prepare for the 8th Triennial World Hap Ki Do Championships in 2010. Start training now to be a winner at this tournament! For more information about this tournament or KMA, log on to www.koreanma.com.



KMA is participating again this year in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. The 24-hour event will be held at the Lakeview High School track from 12:00 noon on July 11 to 12:00 noon on July 12.

As many of you know, Master Schreiner is a cancer survivor and the American Cancer Society helped him tremendously to fight the disease. Because the Relay for Life is one of the American Cancer Society's biggest fundraisers of the year, KMA is a strong supporter in Master Schreiner's honor.

This is always a fun and rewarding event for the whole family. If you would like to assist in planning this event, please contact Brandy Brown, 964-3174.

KMA Summer Class Hours

Mon: 5:00-5:30pm	Little Ninjas (4-6 year olds)
Mon: 5:45-6:30pm	Super Ninjas (White thru Green Belts, 7 thru 12 years old)
Mon: 6:30-7:20pm	Adult Class (all ranks, 20 years old & older)

Tue: 5:45-6:30pm	Super Ninjas (Blue thru Black Belts, 7 thru 12 years old) combined with the Teen Class (all ranks, 13 thru 19)
Tue: 6:40-7:30pm	Demo Team

Wed: 5:00-5:30pm	Little Ninjas (4-6 year olds)
Wed: 5:45-6:30pm	Super Ninjas (White thru Green Belts, 7 thru 12 years old)
Wed: 6:30-7:20pm	Family/Combined Class (all ranks, all ages)
Wed: 7:30-8:30pm	Moo Yea (Kum Sool)

Thur: 5:45-6:30pm	Super Ninjas (Blue thru Black Belts, 7 thru 12 years old) combined with the Teen Class (all ranks, 13 thru 19)
Thur: 6:40-7:30pm	Adult Class (all ranks, 20 years old & older)

Fri: 5:30-6:20pm	Sparring (all ranks, all ages – everyone must have full gear!!)
Fri: 6:30-7:30pm	Moo Yea (Kum Sool)

Sat: 9:30-10:15am	Super Ninjas (all ranks, 7 thru 12 years old)
Sat: 10:30-11:30am	Teen and Adult Class (all ranks, 13 years old and older)
Sat: 11:30-12:00	Black Belt Class

On Gup Promotion Saturdays, we will have the Super Ninjas Class, but no Teen/Adult or Black Belt Classes.

****Reminder that all KMA students must bring their sparring gear to every KMA class****

KMA's 275th Gup Promotion is scheduled for June 21, 2008.



Battle Creek Cereal Festival Parade, June 12

KMA has been invited to march in the BC Cereal Festival Parade on June 12. All KMA students are asked to **line up at 5:30 in full uniform (with comfy walking shoes).**

The parade kickoff will be at 6:00. Mark your calendar now & watch for more details for this fun event.



KMA is now conducting a "Little Ninjas" class, specifically designed for 4-6 year-olds. This class will enhance your young child's skills such as focusing, teamwork, self-control, balance, memory enhancement, discipline, fitness, and coordination. This is a 30-minute class, every Monday and Wednesday, 5-5:30pm.

If you have a 4-6 year old (or know 4-6 year old) that you believe would benefit from this class, please pick up a brochure and sign up today!

KMA Students Perform at "Kidney Walk"

On June 1, KMA students provided an awesome Hap Ki Do demonstration for the National Kidney Foundation's Kidney Walk at Leila Arboretum. Everyone enjoyed the event – we had many positive comments from the spectators. Thank you to everyone who helped make this a success!

Happy June Birthday Wishes!!

Andrew Henry	6/2	Hayden Lewis	6/15
Max Craig	6/4	Morgan Genoe	6/16
Philip Paul	6/5	James Meredith	6/16
Rick Brown	6/7	Christian Miller	6/16
Brett Taylor	6/7	Tyler Grossman	6/19
Tina Pestun	6/8	Adam Gibson	6/20
Valerie Kemp	6/10	Richard Engelhart	6/21
Dustin Ledbetter	6/10	Ronald Schwartz	6/29
Tara Patterer	6/10	Jesse Struble	6/29
Jeriah Grayer	6/11	Cierra Barker	6/30
Chris Micklatcher	6/11	Alaina Holmgren	6/30
Kaylynn Brown	6/12		

Moo Yea (Kum Sool) Classes

On May 7, 2008, KMA will begin conducting **Moo Yea (Kum Sool)** classes for anyone who would like to learn this ancient traditional martial art, which is the grandfather of all "modern" Korean martial arts, such as Hap Ki Do, Tae Kwon Do, and Hwa Rang Do, and Kuk Sool Won. **Moo Yea** is separate from the Hap Ki Do program at KMA. **Moo Yea** training includes sword, spear, wahl-doh (half-moon sword), archery techniques, weapon forms, and more – all focusing on precision and accuracy.

KMA is a member of Ee Sheep Sah (24) Bahn **Moo Yea** K'young Dahng Association – **KMA is the Association's first U.S.A. affiliate school.**

KMA was honored with a visit by Korean Grand Master Jae Hwan Kim, Chairman of Ee Sheep Sah (24) Bahn Moo Yea K'young Dahng Association. Grand Master Kim is providing guidance for the **Moo Yea** program at KMA.

KMA Weather Policy Reminder

For the safety of our students, **KMA will be closed during "Tornado Watches" and "Tornado Warnings"**. If a **"Tornado Watch or Warning"** is announced in advance, to be in effect during KMA class hours, KMA will be closed.

If a **"Tornado Watch"** announcement is made during KMA class hours, class will be stopped and students will be sent home. For students whose transportation is not at KMA, Class Instructor(s) will stay at KMA until student transportation arrives. Parents – please stay posted on weather advisories.

If a **"Tornado Warning"** announcement is made during class, **everyone** inside the school will take cover in the Girls' Locker Room until the warning has expired. We can be reached by calling 963-5425, 317-0552, 274-5363, 986-0123.

If KMA must close for any reason, it will be announced on WBCK (FM 95.3), WOOD TV (Channels 8 & 41), and WWMT (Channel 3).

Thought for the Month

All creation sings God's praise.



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