



# MAT BURN



## アギーランドの柔道

## Agīrando no jūdō

### JUDO IN AGGIELAND TEXAS A&M JUDO TEAM

BY RP TAYLOR

Although it's not the "University of Texas" it is the "first and largest university in Texas". Like anything else, when one becomes a part of something so large, they must find their group for it to feel like home. With all the options students may choose to be a part of, Aggie Judo is one of them.

The Aggie Judo Team has accumulated plenty of well-deserved hardware as a testament to the program's success since its establishment by Cpt. Lester R. Hewitt in 1962. Throughout the 60 years of the team, it's been led by some great coaches.

*Continued on pg. 3*

## *Inside:*

Photo Credits: Chris Nyland

Judo in Aggieland • P 1, 3, & 6

What's Love Got To Do With It  
• P2, 5, 7 & 8

Tom Braverman's Transition • P4

Making The Roster • P9

Upcoming Events • P10

If there is effort, there is always accomplishment.

Kano Jigoro



*Diana far left end in blue, William in front of her with a green belt, and David far right end in white.*

## 愛の魔力とは

### **AI NO MARYOKU TO WA** **What's Love Got to Do It?**

Everything! Love has everything to do with it! At least for David and Diana Yoshida it does. With Valentine's Day being celebrated this month, we thought it would be very cool to highlight one of the love stories of Eastside Dojo.

Their story began at a dojo far, far away almost three decades ago in 1994, as they were both competing on the collegiate level. David had earned a wrestling scholarship to Southern Illinois University. His father, Ron Yoshida, who had competed for the Air Force and was coaching judo at the time, built a judo program to accompany the wrestling program at the university.

Diana was training in northern Illinois at Elgin Community College at that time. Diana went on to win the Collegiate Nationals! After a win like that, of course the Olympics were the next stop on her judo journey. So, she came to DFW to train for the 2004 Olympics. At the time, David was working alongside his dad, who was the head coach at Becerra Judo at the time. David and Diana had previously reunited at the 2002 Senior Nationals and continued to their connection while she was in town. Surprisingly, her weight class didn't qualify for the 2004 games. Something did happen by the end of that period of time that made those years of training in the metroplex worthwhile. David and Diana had fallen in love.

2006 was a big year for the couple. David retired from competition and began training Diana for the 2008 Olympic games, and they got married on September 23rd. For the next two years he was her training partner. Unfortunately, or not, depends on how you look at it, Diana didn't make the team that year, so she chose to move forward with her plans begin having children.

# TEXAS A&M JUDO 2021-22



## アギーランドの柔道 AGĪRANDO NO JŪDŌ

*CONTINUED*

### TAMU JUDO COACHES

Bob Perez 1993-Present

Dan Gomez 2007-2021

Cory Klemashevich 2015-2021

JF Chamberland 2005-2014

Theo Williams 2000-2005

Hiram Hodges 1992-1995

Dr. Gary Berliner 1988-1993

Dr. Wiley Cunagin 1979-1983

Joe Fuller 1973-1974

Gibbs Dibrell 1973-1974

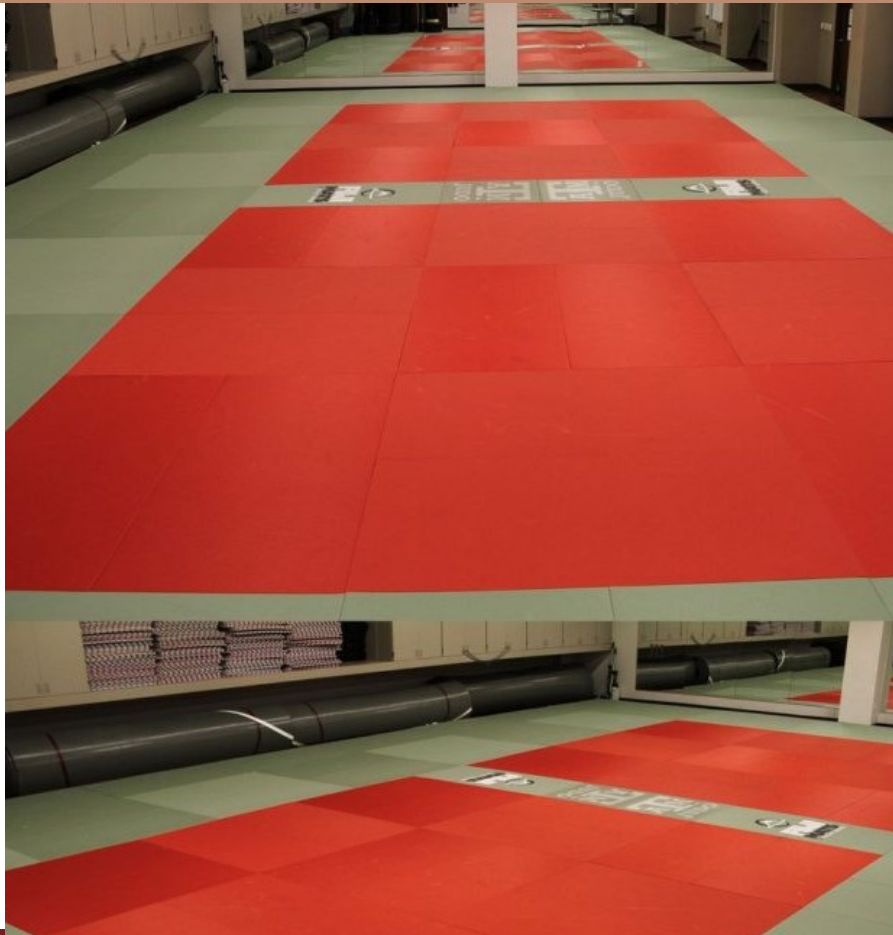
Neal Schuleman 1973-1974

G. Delberty Antwiler 1971-1972

Dr. Blanton 1965-1966

Larry Stephens 1963-1965

Cpt. Lester R. Hewitt 1962-1964



# The Beginning of the Rest of His Life

## TOM BRAVERMAN'S TRANSITION

Speaking of Texas A&M Judo Team, we sat down to speak about the Maccabi Games with Tom Braverman and found out that he was waiting to be admitted to the university. When asked why that was his #1 choice of colleges, he said one main reason was the judo program amongst other things.

“So, who is Tom Braverman?” you may be thinking. He is a young man standing at the entrance to the beginning of the rest of his life. Anyone who has been a senior in high school knows that this time in life can cause a little bit of trepidation to creep into your mind as you ponder your future. But, since Tom began taking judo at the age of six and is an accomplished brown belt at just 17 years of age, hopefully he’s able to apply the principles of judo to make this season of his life little less nerve wracking.

“What are the Maccabi Games?” you now may be wondering. The Maccabiah (official name) is sometimes referred to as the “Jewish Olympics”. These Games are held every four years in Israel attracting the most outstanding Jewish athletes from around the world. As one of the largest, elite, competitions, the Maccabiah grew to over 9,000 athletes from over 75 countries making it the third largest sports event in the world. In keeping with its mission to perpetuate and preserve the American Jewish community by encouraging Jewish Pride, strengthening Jewish bonds, and by creating a heightened awareness of Israel and Jewish Identity.

Tom and his family are planning to travel to Israel in 2023 for the games and a family vacation. That will be an awesome trip for the Braverman family after Tom returns home from his first year in college. Let’s all hope Tom gets into the college of his choice and has a great year of training for the “Jewish Olympics”!





# The Yoshida Family

*continued on pg. 7*

ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT A NCAA SPORT,  
ALL TRAVEL EXPENSES ARE COVERED FOR  
ALL JUDO CLUB MEMBERS WHEN THEY  
TRAVEL TO COMPETITIONS ACROSS THE  
NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY.  
ALSO, COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIPS ARE  
AWARDED TO INDIVIDUALS BASED ON  
THEIR JUDO ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

### ENDOWED JUDO SCHOLARSHIPS:

TEXAS A&M JUDO SCHOLARSHIP  
ESTABLISHED IN 2005

BOB PEREZ JUDO SCHOLARSHIP  
ESTABLISHED IN 2014

MIKE AND LORI MORGAN  
JUDO SCHOLARSHIP  
ESTABLISHED IN 2018

NOT BAD AT ALL FOR A NON-NCAA  
SPORT. GO AGGIES!

TODAY, THE CLUB'S CONTINUED ACHIEVEMENTS ARE EVIDENT  
IN THEIR ENDEAVORS UNDER BOB PEREZ AND HIS TEAM OF  
COACHES.

#### TEXAS COLLEGIATE JUDO CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

1ST – 1990, 1992-1997, 2000-2013, 2015

2ND – 1991, 1998, 1999, 2014

#### MID-SOUTH CONFERENCE – 5 STATE REGION TX, OK, LA, AR AND MS (2000-2003)

2ND – 2000

1ST – 2001

1ST – 2002

1ST – 2003

#### NCJA SOUTHWEST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 6 STATE REGION TX, OK, LA, AR, NM, AND MS

1ST – 2016

1ST – 2017

1ST – 2018

1ST – 2019

1ST – 2020

#### NCJA STANDARD FINAL STANDING

2ND – 1996, 1998, 2000, 2004, 2017

3RD – 1997, 1999, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2011, 2012, 2016, 2018,  
2019

4TH – 2010, 2014, 2015,

5TH – 2003, 2008

#### NCJA NOVICE FINAL STANDING

2ND – 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2014, 2017, 2018

3RD – 2013, 2015

4TH – 2016, 2019

#### NATIONAL COLLEGIATE JUDO ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIPS (NCJA) – Host

1992

1998

2010

2014

2017

2021

# AGGIE JUDO

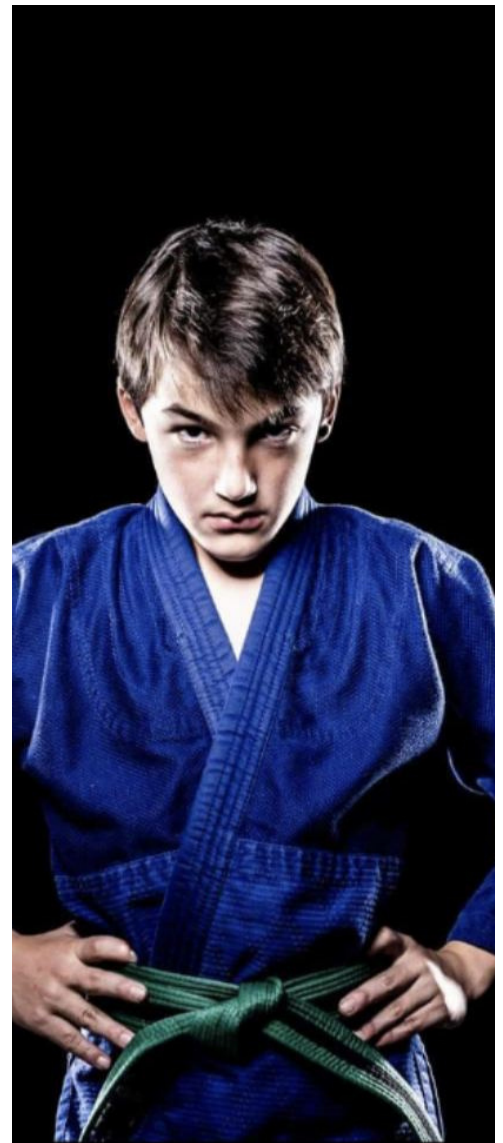
# 愛の魔力とは AI NO MARYOKU TO WA

## WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT

The very next year, their first son, William, was born. Four years later in 2014, they welcomed their second son, Jonathan, into the world. Today, David works as a Director for Tyler Technologies, and Diana has chosen to be a work at home mom after working as a paraprofessional for Plano ISD for a number of years. Now, the couple continues to coach and help as needed at Eastside. Just as David's dad spoke to them about judo being one way his family spent time together when his kids were young, it has indeed become the same for the couple and their children.

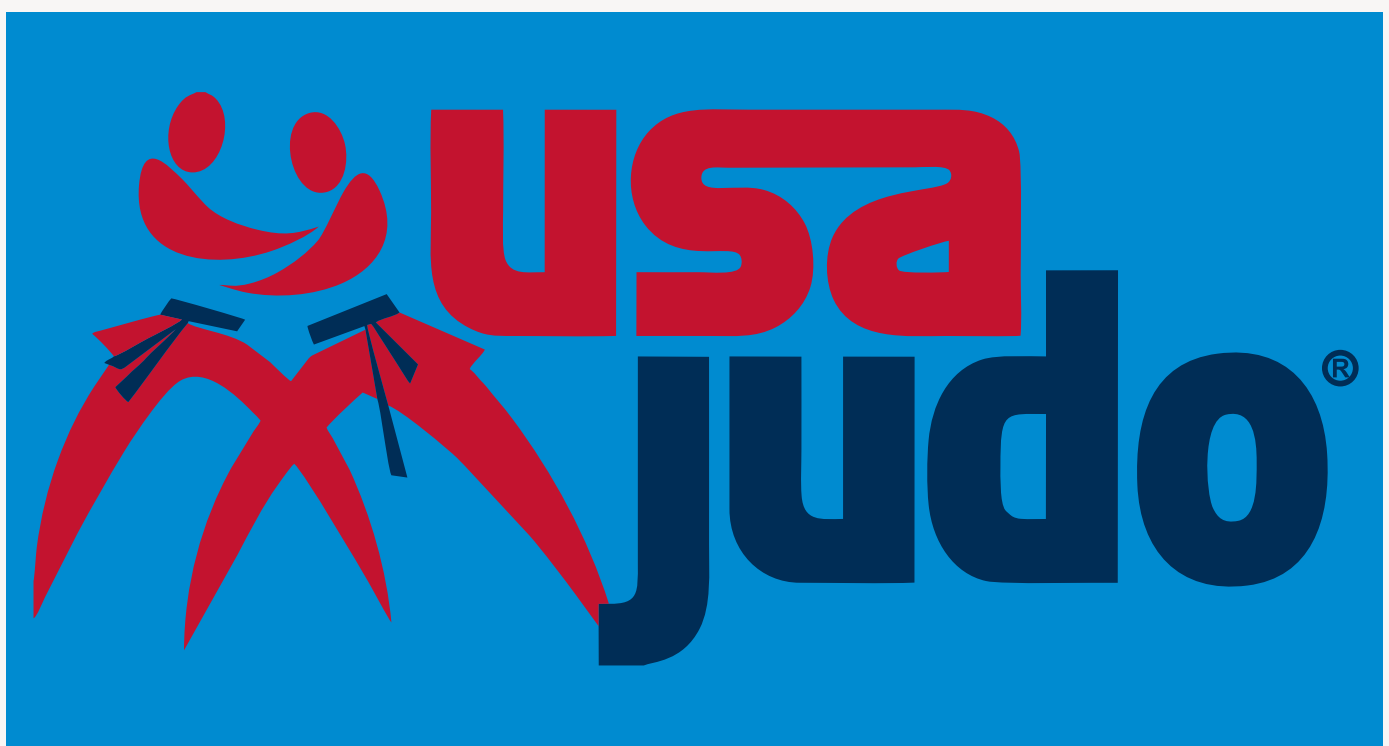
Their love of judo brought them together, their love for each other keeps them together, and their love for their boys keeps them moving forward as a family who loves this sport.

Now you understand why love has everything to do with it.









## MAKING THE ROSTER

WRITTEN BY R.P. TAYLOR

USA JUDO SENIOR NATIONAL  
CHAMPIONSHIPS

U.S. OPEN

USA JUDO NATIONAL JUNIOR OLYMPIC  
CHAMPIONSHIPS

USA JUDO YOUTH & SCHOLASTIC  
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

USA JUDO PRESIDENT'S CUP

JUNIOR U.S. OPEN

What do those tournaments have in common?

- They are all annual national tournaments.
- They are all sanctioned by USA Judo.
- You can win points towards your rank on the USA Judo Junior and Senior Elite National Rosters.

In order for an athlete to earn points on the roster, they **MUST** be a USA Judo member by the end of the event. If an athlete is not a member by the end of the event, the athlete will not be eligible for placement on the roster. Both Points and Classification earned at a particular event are current for a maximum of one year, or on anniversary date of that event (if a regularly scheduled annual event) if its anniversary occurs in less than a year.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## 31<sup>st</sup> Annual LONE STAR CLASSIC February 19, 2022

Sanctioned by USA JUDO and Hosted by  
Okuri Judo Club

**2022 TEXAS  
INTERNATIONAL  
JUNIOR & SENIOR  
TRAINING CAMP**

**WHEN**  
June 10 (7pm - 9pm)  
June 11 (9am-11am & 1p - 3pm)  
June 12 (10am-noon)

**WHERE**  
NTX Training Center  
2655 Premier Drive, Plano, Texas

**ALL AGES  
& SKILL LEVELS**

**ADVANCE  
TICKETS**  
\$60 (All Sessions)  
\$30 per session (includes  
both Saturday sessions for  
the single session price)

**AT THE DOOR**  
\$80 (All Sessions)  
\$40 per session

**SPONSORS**  
Becerra Judo  
Eastside Dojo  
NTX Training Center  
Dollamur Sports Mats  
Hatashita Sports

Camp Directors:  
Bert Becerra 214.906.0726



2022 MARCH 19-20  
Scholastic/Youth National  
Championships  
LANSING, MICHIGAN - USA



USA JUDO SENIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS  
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA  
MAY 21 - 22, 2022