

Saturday, April 12, 2008

Team Cobra Kai Fights Tonight In Tuff-N-Uff Mixed Martial Arts Vegas Debut!



NOTE FROM STEWART: OK, so politics and law is such nonsense lately that I have not bothered posting anything since March 20, when I posted about our kids' jiu jitsu teacher, Uly Gomez, fighting in his first MMA bout. I will be posting on law and politics again soon, what with the Nevada State Republican Party Convention coming up.

I've also been invited to speak to a class at Stanford University on May 1 about enemy combatant status, extraordinary rendition, torture and other fun topics brought to you by the politicians in Washington DC. So, I will be posting some in preparation for that visit to Stanford and I will post my thoughts on it when I get back.

But for now, once again, the only thing worth posting about is MMA - at least the fighters are honest, courageous, and are willing to put their own butts in harms way for what they believe in, which is entirely opposite from the lying, cowardly politicians in DC who's motto is "I never fought, and ducked Vietnam, but I love to send other people's kids to fight while I talk shit." Compared to the honesty, truth and integrity of MMA, law and politics is more like pro-wrestling - just a choreographed show put on for us out here in the "unwashed masses" while the actual decisions are all made ahead of time in back room deals. So, here is something worth talking about!

COBRA KAI JIU JITSU FIGHTERS TO FIGHT IN AMATEUR MIXED MARTIAL ARTS TONIGHT, APRIL 12, 2008 IN LAS VEGAS!



Six fighters from Cobra Kai will be fighting in the [Tuff-N-Uff Fighting Championships](#), at the Tropicana Hotel. Tuff-N-Uff is billing this as a California v. Nevada event.

Here is what Tuff-N-Uff has to say about the event tonight:

Top fighters in California and Nevada will square off in the first sanctioned amateur MMA event in Las Vegas on April 12th at the Tropicana Hotel & Casino. Doors open at 6:00pm. and fights start at 7:00pm. Many fighters coming from California have trained at the legendary Pit academy with Chuck Liddell and other well known fight teams. Some of the best schools in Las Vegas will be entering fighters to fight in the Tuff-N-Uff Fighting Championships including the renowned Cobra Kai operated by TUF coach, Marc Laimon. The famous gym, Xtreme Couture will also have many competitors and they're more than ready to defend their home turf. Female fighters as well as Super Heavyweights will be slugging it out. Only in Las Vegas will you see History be made with the fastest growing sport in the world.

I don't know much about the fighters coming in from out of state, or even much about the guys fighting out of Randy Couture's Xtreme Couture gym, but I can tell you that all of the guys from Cobra Kai are serious, tough as nails, no-joke fighters, especially on the ground. Because my kids train jiu jitsu at Cobra Kai, I have seen the Cobra Kai fighters roll on several occasions and I can say without a doubt that they are tough as pit bulls. Actually, the best way to describe them is ground fighting Jedi - because they are wizards on the mat. If they can take their opponents down and keep the fight on the ground, I predict a clean sweep for Cobra Kai.

Just to put it in perspective, there was a grappling smoker a while back between students from Xtreme Couture and Cobra Kai and it was a Cobra Kai dominated massacre, kinda like an old school Gracie Jiu Jitsu invasion of a judo school or like a scene out of that Bruce Lee movie where he went in and cleaned house on the whole Karate school.

Of course MMA is not the same as submission grappling. Adding in strikes does change things up a lot. But unless the fighters from Cali are as good at keeping it standing as Chuck Liddell, they are going to find themselves on the floor for the duration, and that is a whole different world. Some liken it to being tossed into the ocean, with the jiu jitsu guy being a shark - even if you are a lion on your feet, on the beach, once you are dragged down into the "ocean" of ground-fighting, you are in the shark's element and are helpless. They don't call the rear naked choke the mateo leon (the "lion killer") for nothing.

But maybe a better way of describing it is to say that it is like being on another planet, in a different atmosphere. Unless you have spent some serious time there, and have adapted to function in that alien world, you will be like one of those guys in a sci-fi flick who has his space helmet suddenly ripped off who looks around frantically, not knowing what to do, clawing at his neck and then his head explodes (or implodes, depending on the sick mind of the film-maker). At least with a choke he just goes to sleep and twitches a bit.

This is an amateur event, so it is not very likely that the strikers entering it are of world class caliber, while it is a friggin fact that the jiu jitsu of the Cobra Kai team is world class. Hence my prediction of a jiu jitsu massacre and shut-out unless one of the Cobra Kai guys gets cocky and decides to stay on his feet for some reason.

One of the Cobra Kai team fighters is Chis Holdsworth, who used to train at the Gracie Academy in Torrance California but moved to Vegas last year to train and teach at Cobra Kai. Here is a video of some of his matches. The lead in music samples the soundtrack of Star Wars, which is appropriate because Chris is like the Anakin Skywalker of Jiu Jitsu, the kid has such potential:

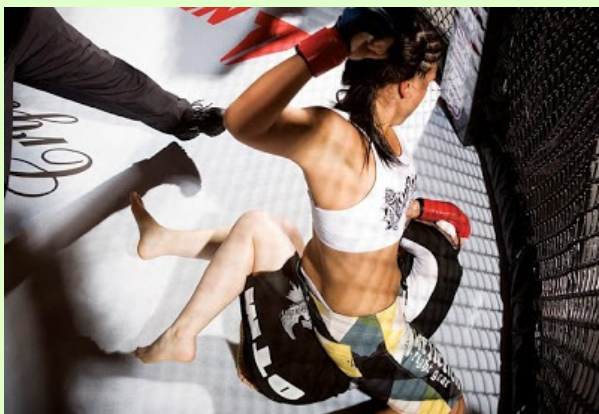
Chris has some slick, sick jiu jitsu and has already made a name for himself on the grappling circuit (but my kids know him as the "itsy, bitsy spider" guy because while showing the kids a move he told them to walk their hand on the mat like an itsy, bitsy spider). Keep an eye on Chris. My wife predicts he will win by triangle (with those long spider legs) but I think it will be by Rear Naked Choke (RNC) or by armbar from the top position.

Another guy fighting for Cobra Kai is Jerry "J-Shap" Shapiro, who is an explosive, dynamic scrapper. He also has a mean guillotine choke, and if I had to bet money on it, I would call it as a win for J-Shap by some form of guillotine or Darce-choke. Here is a video of Jerry grappling and competing in pankration:

Next up is Bill "the Grill" Cooper, who is just amazing on the ground. Here is a video of him winning first place at the 2007 World Grappling Championships in Turkey:

Cobra Kai has three other fighters on the card, Coats-Cobb Adams, Brian Kangas, and Jason Carpenter. I could not find video of them rolling, but I have seen them on the mat and they are slick, fast, and skilled grapplers. Kangas is especially dynamic and very strong.

There are also two female bouts up tonight, which is great! I do wish the UFC would get over its old-fashioned aversion to womens MMA. Women fighters train just as hard, and many are just as tough and skilled, as the men, as has been shown by women fighters in other events, such as Bodog.



What counts is your heart, your brains, and whether you came to scrap, *not* what is between your legs. Heck, my nine year old daughter routinely beats *all* of the boys her own size in grappling, both

in class and at tournaments. She is tough as nails - just ask the boys.



My daughter, Sedona, about to slap a RNC on yet another boy in class



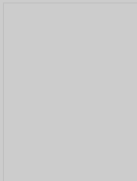


Sedona Rhodes, first place winner, beginner gi-division, 50-59.9 lbs, NAGA 2008. In second place is her classmate, A.J (a very tough, skilled kid in his own right).

And its not just in grappling that women have shown their mettle. Female boxers, Thai-boxers, and wrestlers have been leaving their blood, sweat, and sometimes their teeth, in the ring and on the mats for decades, so I don't know what Dana White's problem is, other than being a male chauvinist.

Anyway, good to see other fight orgs are down with womens' MMA. these should all be great fights!
I'll post afterwards with some thoughts. [s Cobb-Adams](#)

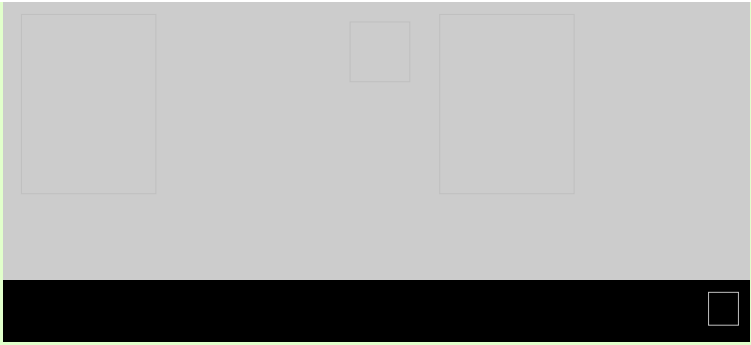
Here is the full fight card:

Randall Schuckman vs. David Good

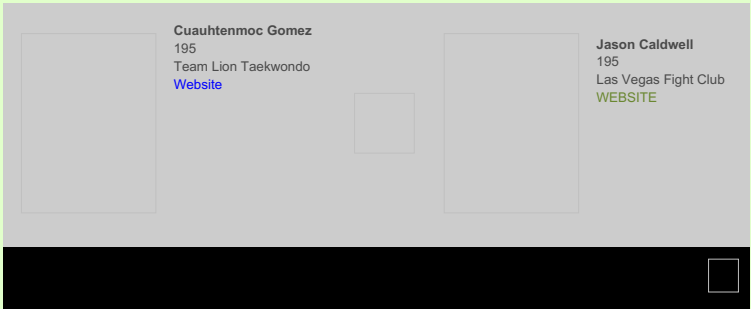
	Randall Schuckman 130lbs Team Rugburn Website		David Good 130lbs Alvidrez Combat Grappling WEBSITE
			

Coates Cobb-Adams vs Jesse Busk

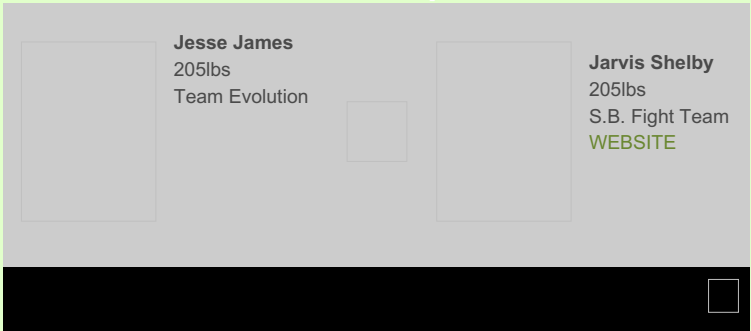
Coates Cobb-Adams 185lbs Cobra Kai	Jesse Busk 185lbs Las Vegas Fight Club
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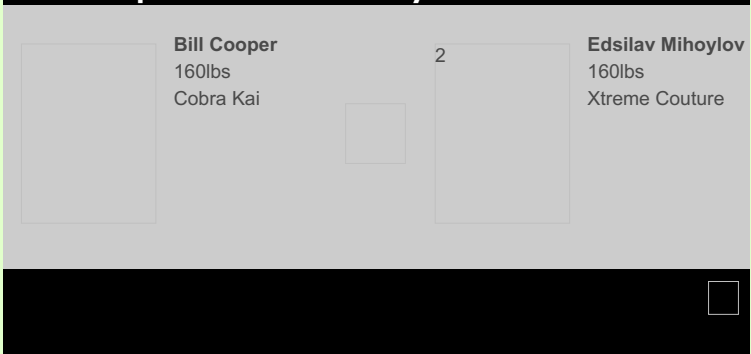
Cuauhtemoc Gomez vs Jason Caldwell



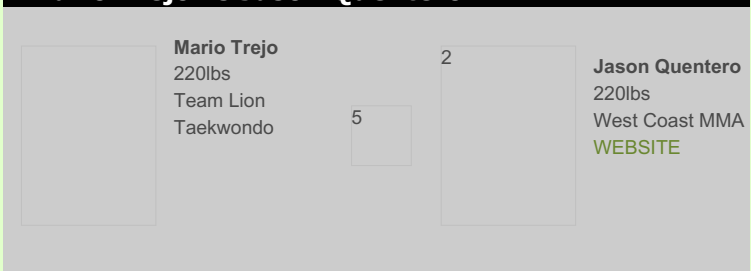
Jesse James vs Jarvis Shelby



Bill Cooper vs Edsilav Mihoylov



Mario Trejo vs Jason Quentero



Brian Kangas vs Don Stoner

2

Brian Kangas
160lbs
Cobra Kai

5

Don Stoner
160lbs
RCJ Machado
[Website](#)

4

Kimo Yadao vs Matthew Contes

2

Kimo Yadao
170lbs
Xtreme Couture

5

2

Matthew Contes
170lbs
LA Boxing

4

John Cooper vs Jason Ordonez

John Cooper

John Cooper
160lbs
Las Vegas Fight
Club
[WEBSITE](#)

5

2

Jason Ordonez
160lbs
West Coast MMA

4

Don Johnson vs Jesus Gonzalez

Don Johnson

Don Johnson
250lbs
Las Vegas Fight
Team

5

2

Jesus Gonzalez
285lbs
Ceaser Gracie
[Website](#)

4

Weston Duschen vs TBA

Weston Duschen
205lbs

TBA

2

Xtreme Couture

Website

5

2

4

Justin Linn vs Chris Ryan

2

Justin Linn

150lbs

Xtreme Couture

WEBSITE

5

2

Chris Ryan

145lbs

Legends

4

Brooklyn Huntsman vs Wayne Wrath

2

Brooklyn Huntsman

145lbs

Excel Defense Studios

5

2

Wayne Wrath

150lbs

Nation Kenpo

Website

4

Jerry Shapiro vs Steve Rios

2

Jerry Shapiro

135lbs

Cobra Kai

5

2

Steven Rios

135lbs

Team Evolution

4

Jason Carpenter vs Chris Chikami

2

Jason Carpenter

160lbs

Cobra Kai

5

2

Chris Chikami

160lbs

Team Caique



Chris Holdworth vs Daniel Garcia

2

Chris Holdworth
145lbs
Cobra Kai

5

2

Daniel Garcia
145lbs
S.B Fight Team

Tait Lund vs Critter Mooney

2

Tait Lund
170lbs
Las Vegas Boxing

5

2

Critter Mooney
170lbs
S.B. Fight Team

Chance Torres vs Shannon Good

2

Chance Torres
185lbs
Xtreme Couture

5

2

Shannon Good
185lbs
S.B. Fight Team

Mark Phan vs Troy Yania

2

Mark Phan
140lbs
Xtreme Couture

5

2

Troy Yania
140lbs
Team One Kick
WEBSITE

4

Lacey Schuckman vs Kaitie Tompkins

2

Lacey Schuckman
120lbs
Team Rugburn
[WEBSITE](#)

5

2

Kaitie Tompkins
120lbs
Five Dragons
[WEBSITE](#)

4

Byron Fields vs Justin Rote

2

Byron Fields
170lbs
Warrior Training
Center
[WEBSITE](#)

5

2

Justin Rote
170lbs
LA Boxing
[WEBSITE](#)

4

Shawn Rodriguez vs Alex Memar

2

Shawn Rodriguez
155lbs
LA Boxing
[WEBSITE](#)

5

2

Alex Memar
155lbs
Team Skip Kelp

4

Amber Molinari vs Jessica Halverson

2


Amber Molinari
155lbs
Sapao MMA
[WEBSITE](#)

5

2

Jessica Halverson
155lbs
Team Illusion
[WEBSITE](#)

-fight card subject to change-

Posted by Stewart Rhodes at 11:53 AM 

Labels: amateur fighting, Bill Cooper, Christ Holdsworth, cobra kai jiu jitsu, grappling, Marc Laimon, mixed martial arts, mma, uff-N-Uff, Xtreme Couture

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