

# Sorce competitors capture titles in local Taekwon-Do tournament

## 200 participate in Championships at South Milwaukee

The second annual Milwaukee Invitational Taekwon-Do Championships hosted more than 200 competitors, 300 spectators and numerous volunteers Sept. 30, in the South Milwaukee High School 6-12 Campus field-house.

"This event requires months of planning and involves more than 40 volunteers to run it, and is well worth the effort," tournament director Pete Sorce said. "We get a lot of positive feedback about the tournament experience and the memories it brings to the competitors, which reinforces why we do it."

Children and adult competitors from cities around the state including Peshtigo, Oshkosh, Oneida and Hartland and from McHenry, Ill. attended the event, which was hosted by Sorce Martial Arts of South Milwaukee. Sorce has been teaching martial arts in South Milwaukee for almost 10 years.

The event featured eight separate competitive rings where participants in various age/rank divisions competed simultaneously in three different categories,



PHOTO COURTESY OF PETE SORCE

Joining instructor Pete Sorce (center) after winning the overall championships in the Taekwon-Do Tournament hosted by Sorce Martial Arts in South Milwaukee are Paul Bitzan (left) and Yi Li (right).

including forms, board-breaking and sparring. Spectators could view the activities and hear the sound of boards breaking from the stands or from ringside.

Results were tallied after each division completed three events, and awards were presented thereafter. First, second- and third-place trophies were awarded in each division. Medals were awarded for fourth place. Major competitive trophies were

awarded to the top performers in the following categories:

Men's overall grand champion — Paul Bitzan, Sorce Martial Arts, South Milwaukee; women's overall grand champion — Yi Li, Sorce Martial Arts, South Milwaukee; girls overall grand champion — Kristin Mahan, Chosun Black Belt Academy, Oshkosh; Chris Vang, Ko's Yong-in Martial Arts, South Milwaukee; school spirit award — Hartland Park & Recreation Taekwon-Do, Oshkosh.

### AROUNDTOWN



CNI PHOTO BY CHARLES AUER

**MASTER OF SELF-DEFENSE** — Chris Hanson, a student at Sorce Martial Arts, breaks a board during the taekwon do tournament at South Milwaukee High School on Sept. 30.