

COMMUNITY NEWS

YAN kickboxer participates in national meets

BY DON DECKER,
YAN News

Adam Hines, YAN member has seen many places such as Las Cruces, New Mexico, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and Carlsbad, California next to San Diego in just a matter of 6 weeks this year.

For being 15 years old, Adam, the kick boxer, is getting a name for himself as he goes from town to town participating in the International Kicking Boxing Federation (IKF) Muy Thai matches. This sport is not for crybabies or the weak.

And thanks to Hines' trainer, Richard Williams of Camp Verde, Hines is qualified to participate in any event in the arena of kicking boxing for his age and weight category. Almost any night of the week, you can find both Adam and his trainer inside of the weight room at Tunlii Community Center. Richard also coaches other fighters there as well.

Adam is the son of Arvel Beauty and Dawn Beauty of Yavapai-Apache Nation. Adam's brother is Avery who has done his share of kick-

boxing as well.

Mother Dawn has also traveled with her son, Adam to the international bouts and 2 years ago supported Adam in the Phoenix tournament which was held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in north Phoenix.

Adam is in demand and sponsoring tournaments sometimes pay for his airfare and hotel accommodations just to come and fight with one of the local contenders. "So, we're 2 weeks in New Mexico (Las Cruces) and 2 weeks later we are in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and then finally end up in Carlsbad, California for the Southwestern IKF U.S. title. They gave us gas money and put us up in a hotel and basically paid for the food," says Richard.

"The California group knew him already because they had seen him fight in South Carolina."

To be known for your talents is an attribute says Richard and the invites continue to pile up. "Adam is one of the best contenders in the IKF so President Steve Fossum of IKF approves him to fight. Adam fought the best on the east coast and then

the west coast and he won a 5-round," exclaims Richard proudly talking about the results of the fight on the east coast.

In Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, Adam's opponent was a 4-time champion and Adam beat him unanimously all 3 rounds on March 9 according to Richard. "His opponent was the home town guy and the hometown guy thought he was going to knock out Adam. His opponent and his dad looked at Adam and here Adam is tall and skinny. But they thought he was the guy that was going to knock out Adam. But we put a whoppin' on him," says Richard. Richard, the proud coach has other stories to tell about Adam.

After that fight Adam had to wait another hour to go on to fight Puerto Rico which was the strongest contender on the bracket. Puerto Rico ended up beating him but Adam went the 6 rounds with the endurance of a real fighter. "Adam went the distance with him. I think in my heart, Adam was the true champion because he had beat South Carolina (an hour earlier). "Adam is a tough kid and I mean, he fights, he'll take a little bit of punishment and he hasn't been knocked down in my presence," adds Richard.

Adam has been coached by Richard for a year and half now.

"We had to fight Angel Carrasco of Puerto Rico in that second fight and he's 7 time champ and he was the toughest one so we



did a draw so he won the draw. We were fighting an uphill battle but Adam went the distance and we lost to him on decision. I said to Adam to keep his head up because he's fighting the best kids in the world," adds Richard in a positive manner.

Back at the training room Adam is not partial to any one machine. "We're working with lots of weights to build muscle on him," says Richard.

Richard is not new to kicking boxing. He

Richard exclaims proudly about his coaching days with Larson. "I've made my name and I'm proud of the IKF which is the largest sanctioning body for kickboxing and Muy Thai in the world."

Richard goes back to high school days in 1982 at Camp Verde High School. He started with Tae Kwon do tournaments and his trainer was Nikko Fernandez. "He's the best trainer in Arizona and he trained a lot of USC fighters and he's got 10 UFC fighters, pros who make lots of money. I trained under him," adds Richard.

Richard has the credentials. "I'm passing it down to the kids as well," he adds as he throws in some more kudos about how he won the U.S. Championship title in 1997 where he fought in front of 10,000 spectators. "I learned from the school of hard knocks and it was my heart, and my dreams and my goals and got to fight in Hawaii," Richard says.

rior. It's going to take a lot of hard work and he's growing," says Richard. Some of the unpredictable is that Adam will be growing the most between the ages of 15 and 19 years of age. "It's hard to tell where he is going to land," Richard says about Adam's growth weight. Richard says Adam shows a lot of promise just like how Clifford Larson won the World Champion Kickboxing Championship.

Adam continues to work out and is proud of his academics with a "B" average in math at the Cottonwood Middle School. "I jog up and down the hill," he says about his exercise schedule which includes hitting the bags at the Tunlii weight room in the evenings.

Ask about his Myrtle Beach match on last March 9, he was low-



Adam with coach..



Adam Hines and coach

YAN News Photo

was the former coach of another well-known Yavapai-Apache Nation kick boxer, Clifford Larson. "He was the first ever Native American World Kickboxing champ so I made history with him (Larson),

Getting back to the star of Yavapai-Apache, Adam Hines, Richard sees a bright future for his trainee. "Just imagine being a 15 year old and being invited to fight coast to coast. He's been a very busy war-

keyed. "I won that first fight. Because I kept hitting him and I gave him a knotty eye," he recalls that fight.

Asked if he wants to be a professional fighter he says, "Maybe".

Cleaning up the roadway near the rez

By Don Decker,
YAN News

There is nothing more unsightly than roadside trash on the Middle Verde Road from I-17 to the boundaries of the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

And thanks to the concerns of YAN member Troy Kaska, the road just got a little cleaner.

"I ride my bike on this and do see all this trash. My cousin (Gertie Smith) and I were talking about this one day and said we should pick up trash," said Kaska.

Kaska, a Yavapai cultural specialist, rides the Middle Verde Road almost daily on his bike to the cultural center, a distance of 2 miles to the east.

On his first out-

ing, Kaska collected 4 giant bags of trash within 100 yards of the first turn off to Middle Verde community. "There's candy wrappers, clothes, old trash, Sonic, Mobil and McDonald's trash and other trash that has been blown in," he said as he held on to an empty plastic bag yet to be filled. By 10 that morning, it was getting hotter and the edge of the road appeared more promising.

"I'm going all the way to I-17 and then back on the opposite side of the road," he said as I-17 appeared half a mile away to the east.

"People drive on this every day and some of it is our tribal members who throw this (trash) out the window," he added. He's not par-

tial to anyone when it comes to roadside trash.

And thanks to the Nation's probation department with Monte Reimer, Kaska received the donated bags for the trash project.

"Some people think I'm on probation but I volunteered for this," he added with a chuckle.

Monte Reimer, probation officer for the Nation said he picks up all of the bags Kaska collects and throws them in the dumpster next to the Nation's recreation building. Reimer likes what Kaska is doing.

So, if you see Troy Kaska on the Middle Verde Road picking up litter, give a toot!



Troy Kaska contributing to a cleaner environment