

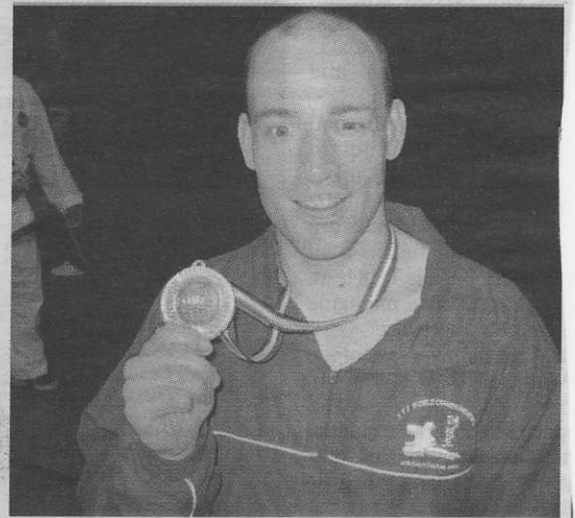
Taekwon-do instructor, Shane Fitzgibbon, made history last week when he led the Irish light-contact kickboxing team to its first World Championship gold in Karlsruhe, Germany. There were over 70 countries and 3,000 competitors taking part. Facing a tough German team in the final, Fitzgibbon won his bout and also took a bronze medal in the 80kgs individual category. His gold and bronze in this event match the gold and bronze he won in last month's ITF Taekwon-do World Championships. Fitzgibbon teaches Taekwon-do & Kickboxing in numerous locations around County Galway. For information, telephone 087-2070577.

Galway Taekwon-do instructor takes gold

Local martial arts instructor, Shane Fitzgibbon, captained the Irish team to victory at the ITF Taekwon-do World Championships at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham, England.

First he had a breakthrough when he took a bronze medal in patterns, becoming the first male ITF Ireland member to place in that division, while in the team sparring the Irish squad defeated Canada, England, and Netherlands to face Argentina in the final. Fitzgibbon won his all-important bout to ensure victory and world championship gold for Ireland.

World Open Martial Arts Grand Champion in 2000, Fitzgibbon has won seven World Championship medals to date and has been one of the leading stars of the martial arts world over the last 10 years. He captained the European squad three



2007 Taekwon-do world champion, Shane Fitzgibbon with his third world gold medal, and seventh medal in all.

times in the Intercontinental Cup, leading the team to gold on each occasion. Next year he will again act as Irish captain in the European Championships in Italy, the World Festival in Korea, and the World Cup in

Uruguay. He will also represent Ireland in the Kickboxing World Championships in Florida, USA.

As well as competing regularly, Fitzgibbon runs Taekwon-do Academies. Beginner classes start this month. For further inquiries contact Shane Fitzgibbon 087-2070577.