

Dear Tribal Leaders and Community Members,

Fletcher Stephen Linton Jr.(Stevie) is an enrolled tribal member of the Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel. He is a Brazilian Jiu Jitsu fighter and looking for sponsorship to maintain his competition schedule,tournament fees, travel, and nutrition. In order to generate money he is looking to perform seminars for martial arts gyms.

I have attached pictures of his competitions and a letter from Stevie regarding his career.

He can be reached at (760) 315-1434 or his mother, Linda Linton (760) 315-0916 or his father's email flinton1@aol.com

As a Veteran, college graduate, and athlete, he is a positive role model for the tribal youth and we look forward to his continued success.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Brandie Taylor
Vice-Chairwoman

Introduction Letter

Hello, my name is Fletcher Stephen Linton, Jr. (Stevie). I am a native belonging to the Santa Ysabel Iipay Nation, and I am currently living in Philadelphia, PA with my girlfriend. We moved here from North Carolina, where she was going to medical school, and where I owned and taught at small martial arts academy, known as Moreno Brazilian Jiu Jitsu of Greenville. I'll start with a little history of just how exactly I got to where I am now, all the way from my hometown of Ramona, CA in the county of San Diego.

When I was 17, I swore into the United States Marine Corps back in May of 2000. And a little after my 18th birthday, on September 11th 2000, I started basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. From there, I went to Marine Combat Training in Camp Pendleton, followed by a fifteen month stint in Pensacola, FL where I received my specialized training in avionics electronics maintenance, followed by even more specialized training in Lemoore, CA for about 4 months. And then finally, after all that, I received my orders to MCAS Cherry Point, NC in February of 2002. And I would live in North Carolina for the next 10 years, recently moving this past July, to Philadelphia.

While I was in North Carolina, I served my active duty in the Marine Corps and was honorably discharged in 2005 after 5 years of active service. From there I chose to stay in NC to continue training with my Brazilian Jiu Jitsu instructor Jerry Moreno, who is now a second-degree black belt in BJJ under Master Luiz Palhares (Luiz is a 7th degree red and black belt in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, and was promoted to black belt years ago by Legendary Rickson Gracie, of the famous Gracie family, who started the art over 90 years ago in Brazil). After a year of working in a local factory in New Bern, NC to gain my residency, I used my G.I. Bill and started my college career at a local community college and later transferred to East Carolina University, where I would graduate, with honors, in the summer of 2010 with a B.A in Sociology and a minor in English, all the while still training and working my way up to the rank of brown belt in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu.

A little about my Brazilian Jiu Jitsu career, I started training BJJ formerly under Jerry Moreno in the August of 2003, my love for wrestling helped me catch wind of Jerry's teaching about 15 minutes away from Cherry Point, where I was stationed. I would soon be promoted to the rank of blue belt in November 2003, with just under 3 months of training, which is rarely heard of. After that I would continue training and competing in as many tournaments as I could, and in April of 2005, I was promoted to the rank of Purple belt by Master Palhares, with just over a year and a half of training, which is almost unheard of as well. But I was training twice a day and competing almost every weekend I could, and winning. And the BJJ scene was very small back then, so I would often travel hours to compete, to places like Ohio, New York, Virginia, Georgia, and all over North Carolina as well.

When I got out of the Marine Corps, progress slowed because of work and school, and I would not receive my next rank until December 2008, when Jerry promoted me to the rank of brown belt. After college ended, I opened a small BJJ

school in Greenville North Carolina in August of 2010, and from there I would receive my Brazilian Jiu Jitsu black belt from Jerry November 12, 2011. I would continue to teach BJJ, and also Mixed Martial Arts to my advanced students until I decided I needed to venture off and continue on with my own competitive career while I still could. So I sold my school to my top student and moved to Philadelphia with my girlfriend, and I now train at Maxercise Brazilian Jiu Jitsu academy, one of the oldest BJJ schools in the country, under Saulo Ribiero Black Belt John Disimone.

I have been training with Maxercise's competition team since the first day I moved here, in late July, and I train twice a day during the week, and once on the weekend. Since I have been here I have competed in the International Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Federation's (IBJJF) American Nationals Tournament, in Carson, CA, taking 3rd in both my divisions. Prior to the American Nationals competition I took 3rd in the North American Grappling Association's tournament they held in Wildwood, NJ back in August, and I just competed in the IBJJF No Gi Pan tournament, in NYC, where I lost my first match on points to Gracie Barra 3rd degree black belt Bruno Fernandes, and was not able to place. My next competition is the New York, Abu Dhabi Pro Cup Trials Oct. 27th, in NYC, where I plan to win my division and earn a free trip the much larger international tournament in U.A.E.

I am currently funding my own training, and travel for all these competitions across the nation, which is very hard. I sold my school, my car, and everything else I owned to be able to fund this lifestyle. Jiu Jitsu tournaments often do not pay money, making it really hard to maintain the training lifestyle necessary to compete at the highest levels in this sport. Sponsorship is essential, and that is my second mission, after compete and win, my second goal is to garner sponsorships to maintain my competition schedule, and later travel around the country, and or world performing seminars for other martial arts gyms to generate income as well. This is very common practice for active jiu jitsu competitors, and eventually when I am done competing, I plan on opening another Jiu Jitsu academy, and teach the art that I love.

I am seeking sponsorship from my fellow native tribes, in hopes they can see through this letter, my attached articles, pictures, and video how truly dedicated I am, and see interest in helping me continue my career as an active competitor. Any type of contribution will help, expenses are not cheap, my training cost 720 dollars every six months for jiu jitsu, 450 dollars every year for weight lifting and conditioning, which is just a regular gym membership, I train myself in strength and conditioning. Nutrition needs are around 100 dollars a month; especially when dieting, and tournament fees are around 100 dollars for entry, plus travel, which can be a fifty dollar train ticket, or a 4 to 500 dollar plane ticket. So like I mentioned previously, any and all contributions will definitely help me continue on my journey, and will be greatly appreciated and will not go forgotten.

This letter's length is a lot longer then I initially planned, I hope you find the time to read the articles I have attached written by others, about my quest, and I hope you also have to time to watch and enjoy some of the video links I have attached. Thank you for you time and I greatly appreciate any contribution you can make to my quest in advance

AV 2012

AMERICAN NATIONALS JIU-JITSU CHAMPIONSHIP

AV 2012

AMERICAN NATIONALS JIU-JITSU CHAMPIONSHIP



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IBJJF IBJJF IBJJF

INTERNATIONAL BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU



Lots of great life lessons yesterday at the Nationals. I dropped down to the Masters division to get some matches (no one in 1 age division) and had some really tough matches including one against this gent! The winner of our match would advance to finals.

About two minutes in my gi sleeve rips at six inches up my arm. Like a dumbbell, I not pack an extra gi and was on the verge being disqualified when my opponent graciously offered his spare gi for me to use so we could finish our match. He could have easily remained quiet and taken a dive to the finals but he did not. His gesture allowed me an opportunity to try to finish I started. I wound up winning the match by submission.

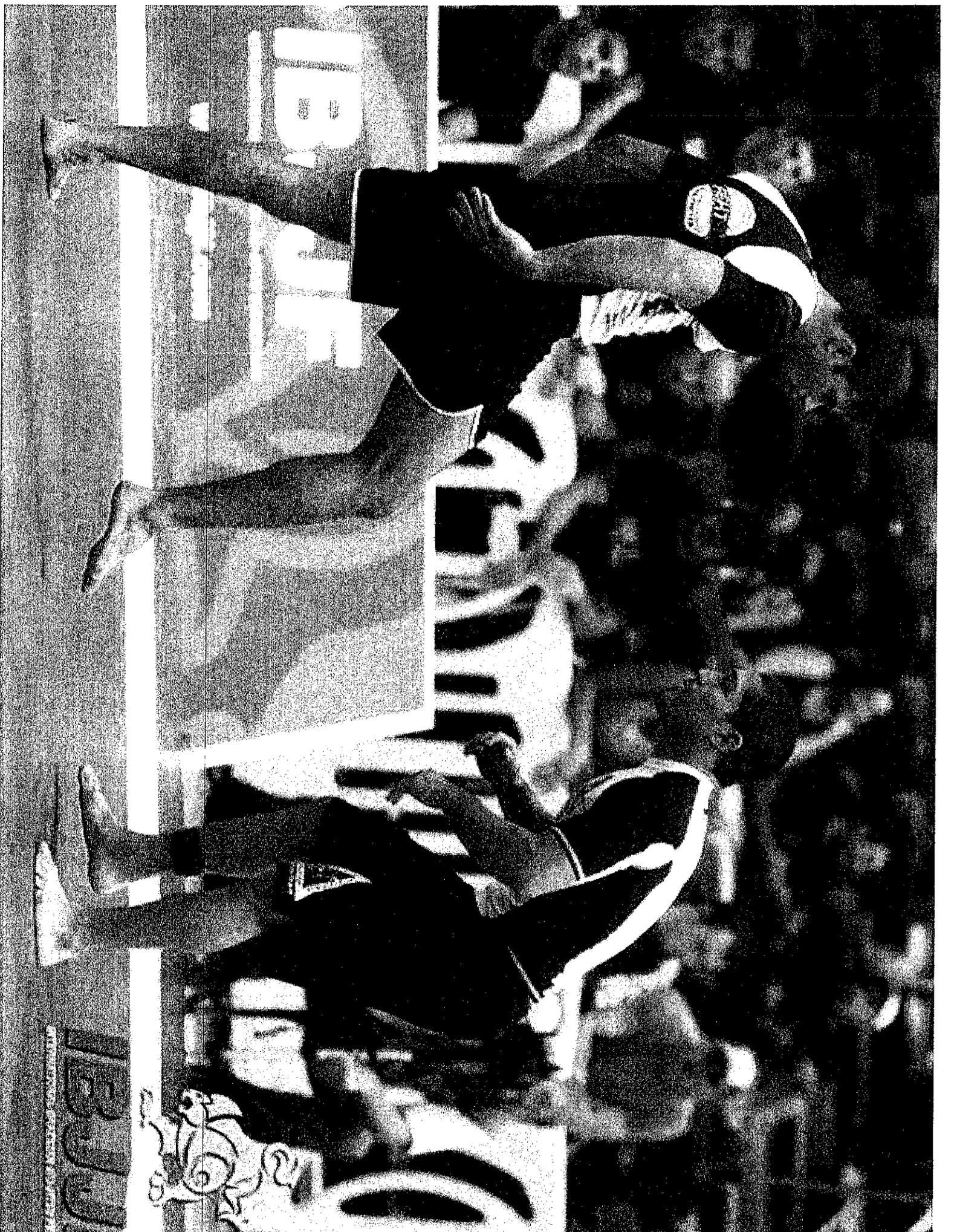
Respect, Integrity and Honor. Many talk about it, this gentleman's actions displayed it. Respect to Steve Linton of Jacksonville Gr Jiu-Jitsu. with Stevie Linton.

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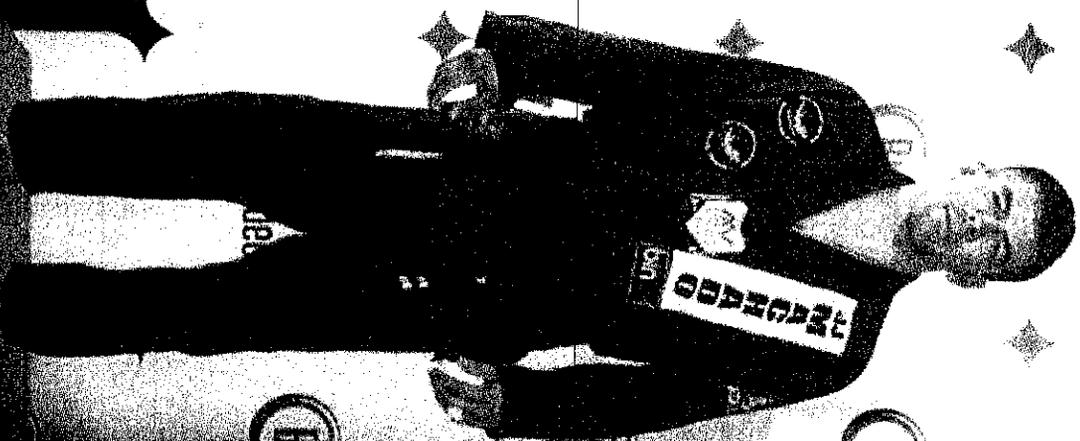
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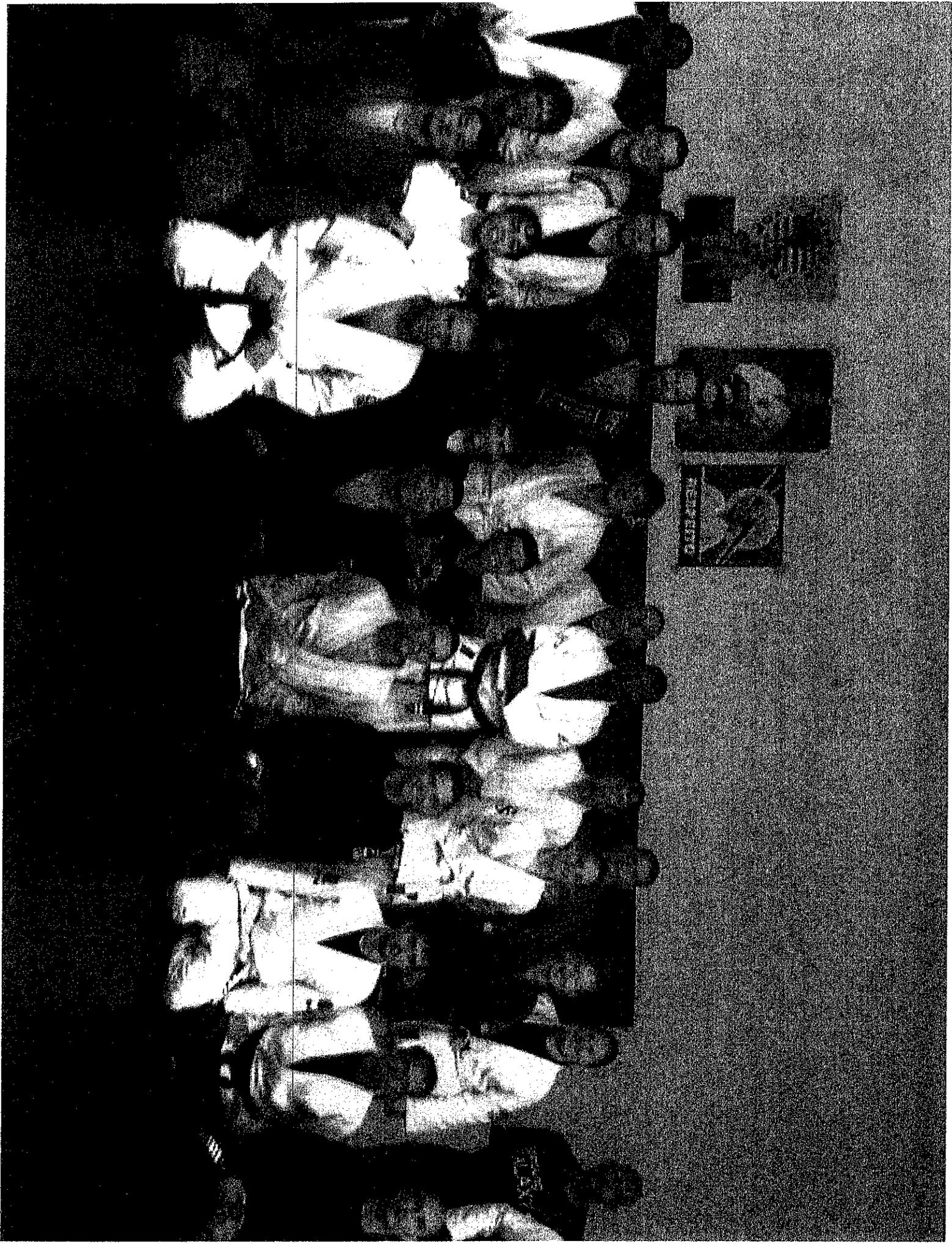


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2ND PLACE

1ST PLACE

3RD PLACE

MMA

GRAPPLING CHAMPIONS

DATE AT THE BEACH CHAMPIONSHIP - 8/4/12 & 8/5/12

NAT HOLMAN GYMNASIUM



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