

IFFSKSA celebrates 25th anniversary

The International Federation of Funakoshi Shotokan Karate South Africa celebrated its 25th anniversary this weekend with two momentous events. The federation, under the astute leadership of karate stalwart Shihan Eric Governder, hosted its 25th Annual National Championship at the Old Mutual Sports Centre, University of KwaZulu-Natal on August 8. The tournament was attended by an enthusiastic crowd of about 1,000 spectators who witnessed some exhilarating karate displayed by the about 700 karatekas. Shihan Governder, said, "It was encouraging and satisfying to see clubs from afar as Griqualand, Gauteng, Kimberley and

Upington in Northern Cape and Christiana in North West Province as well' local and KwaZulu-Natal clubs making the trip to participate in the tournament." Adding substance and glamour to the championship were guests, MEC for Human Settlements and Public Works, Maggie Governder, Councillor Khanyisile Mthembu of eThekweni Municipality and Leader of the Minority Front, Mr A Rajbansi.

One of the highlights of the tournament was an outstanding demonstration by senior male karatekas Malvin Governder, Aldrin Governder and Adrian Governder. The perfectly choreographed and synchro-



Shihan Eric Governder, Kirrthi Hasraj, Aveline Hariellall, Engela Henning, MEC Maggie Governder and Councillor Khanyisile Mthembu.

nised moves received thunderous applause from the enthralled crowd. The winners of the senior male black belt kata division were Brian Governder in

first place followed by Malvin Governder and Denver Subramoney in second and third place respectively. The winners of the senior female black belts were

Grand Champion Aveline Hariellall winning both the kata and kumite followed by Kirrthi Hasraj who scooped silver in both the kata and kumite

also. Yvette Ramchunder won bronze in the kata with Engela Henning finishing third in the kumite section.