



(New Orleans, LA – On Saturday, Oct. 19, 2013, two historical events occurred for Dillard University. Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough, the 7th President was installed during the 144th Anniversary of the University’s Founders Day ceremony, and the White Tiger Martial Arts Club of Dillard University attended its first Mixed Martial Arts competition.

Three Dillard University students Adam Berry, Briana Birchmore, and Trenell Williams went to the Battle of the Belts Mixed Martial Arts competition in Baton Rouge, La. The students competed like champions, winning five first-place titles, one Grand Championship and a second place trophy in the adult 18 and up age group.

Williams, a junior, won first place in Women’s Weapons, first place in Women’s Sparring, and the Grand Champion (Best of the Best) by scoring a 9.99 by all judges. Berry, a sophomore, won first place in Men’s Traditional Forms and first place in Men’s Sparring. Birchmore, a junior, won first place in Women’s Self-Defense and second place in Traditional Forms. The team received several invitations to compete in future Mixed Martial Arts competitions such as “The Big Show” in Extension Opelousas, La., and Louisiana PRO-AM Karate & Kung Fu Nationals in New Orleans. Nov. 2 - 3, 2013, White Tiger Martial Arts of Kenner, La. and the DU Club will host their first ever United States Korean Martial Arts Championship and Seminar on campus in Henson Hall. The championship will feature Chief Master Steve Seo of Korea.

Congratulations to Dillard University’s White Tiger Martial Arts Club, Norward Sears, Instructor and 2nd Degree Black Belt and Peter Stevenson, Director of Recreation, Health and Wellness and 1st Degree Black Belt for a job well-done.

“The accomplishment of your team represents the leadership and commitment of your program. Congratulations and keep up the good work,” said Larry Billingslea, Tournament Director and 5th Degree Black Belt. For more information on Dillard’s martial arts program contact Peter Stevenson at (504) 816-4656.

