

SUKIPT

A unique double for Christina

MULTI-TALENTED Christina Edris completed a unique double at the Malaysian Institutions of Higher Learning Games (Sukipt) when she won the women's karate individual kumite 68kg and above gold in Johor Baru yesterday to add to the silat gold she won earlier in the competition.

The Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) student defeated International Islamic University of Malaysia's (IIUM) Siti Hajar Mohd Azhar in the karate final at the Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) campus.

Last week, she had beaten Nur-abillah Natasya Abdullah of Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) in the pencak silat olahraga 60KG and above decider.

Christina, who is a former national backup athlete in karate, said she

did not expect to achieve the double but is happy her hard work in both disciplines has paid dividends.

"I had lost early in the silat competition and had finished second in the karate event in my first Sukipt (2014), so I did not really expect this double," said the 23-year-old.

"I had been doing my karate training in the morning and my silat in the afternoon as part of my preparation for this tournament. It was quite a challenge, managing the two different techniques.

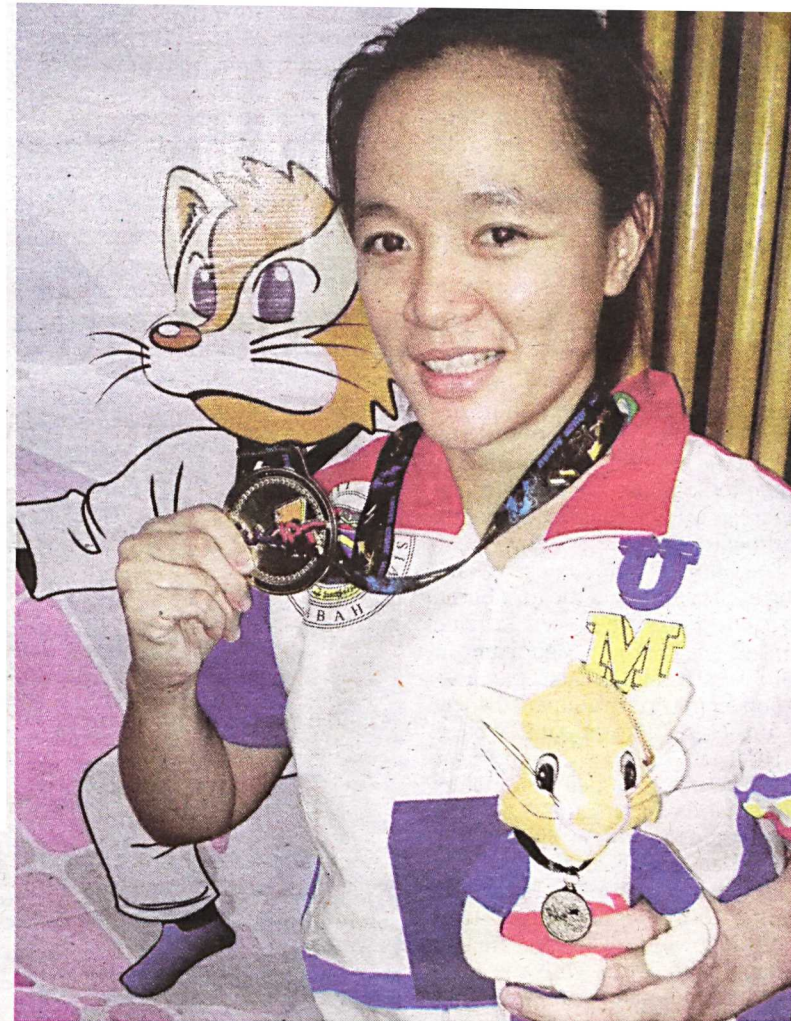
"My target here was to try and reach both the finals and I am glad I exceeded that.

"I will continue to work hard as I hope to represent Malaysia in university competitions such as the World University Games in the future."

As expected, national exponent S. Shree Sharmini of Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) won the women's kumite under-68kg gold while the men's events saw Ravin Vijaya Kumar (Taylor's University) as well as UPM duo K. Teagarajan and V. Devaraj emerging victorious in the under-75kg, under-84kg and above 84kg divisions.

The round-robin format women's judo competition witnessed UiTM Noor Fazira Mohamed (under-48kg), Norhidayu Muliar (under-52kg) of UTM, as well as UiTM duo Fatin Izzati Ahmad Rosidi (under-57kg) and Puteri Najeeha Abd Aziz (under-63kg) winning their weight classes.

Singapore Sea Games bronze medallist Iskandar Alwi won the men's pole vault, soaring to victory



Christina Edris wins karate and silat gold at the Malaysian Institutions of Higher Learning Games in Johor Baru yesterday.

with a new games record of 5.00m. The former mark of 4.30m was set by Muid Iqbal Hakim Mustafa Kamil (Politeknik Merlimau Melaka) in 2012.

UM's Choo Kang Ni also set a new games record en route to winning the women's discus. Her throw of 39.15m erased the former mark of 31.72m set by Mazreca-John (UiTM) two years ago. UiTM's Nurin Nazirah Mohd Shukur won the women's triple jump with a leap of 10.79m.

National archer Fatin Nurfatehah Mat Salleh (Universiti Sains Malaysia), who won the women's individual compound on Tuesday, bagged her second gold of the games after winning the Olympic com-

pound individual event while Ibrahim Syaza Abdullah (IIUM) won the men's title in the same discipline.

The men's Olympic recurve individual gold went to Atiq Bazil Bakri of Universiti Malaya (UM), who is also a national archer, while UPM's Fairuz SM Rahim took the women's title.

Defending champions UiTM maintained a healthy lead at the top of the overall standings with 44 gold, 41 silver and 30 bronze though second placed UPM (28-15-15) mathematically still have a chance to overtake with 31 gold on offer over the final two days of competition. UM are third with 20-13-13. **By Fadhli Ishak**