



## Media Release

20 October 2003

### **Karina Bryant finalist for Sunday Times Sportswoman of the Year Award**

Camberley Judo star Karina Bryant has been named a finalist for the top award in the Sunday Times Sportswomen of the Year Awards 2003.

The award for Sportswoman of the Year was initially open to nominations from the public. Following the closing date for public nominations, eight judges from the world of sport drew up the shortlist of ten athletes who had set a benchmark for other competitors throughout 2003 by showing character and determination to rise to the top of their chosen field.

Karina is a member of the Camberley Judo Club and trains under her personal coach, Mark Earle. She has had an amazing year becoming European Champion in May and then picking up two medals at the World Championships in Japan (silver in the Open category and bronze in the +78kg weight category).

Her result at the World Championships qualified Great Britain's place in her weight category for the Olympics. Karina, who was Junior World Champion twice, now has an outstanding four Senior World Championship medals at just 24 years old.

Other results in 2003 include silver at the German Open, bronze at the Barcelona Open, bronze at the Rotterdam A Tournament and bronze at the prestigious Paris Super A Tournament.

The other nine finalists for the Sportswoman of the Year award are long distance runner Nicole Cooke, rider Pippa Funnell, Kelly Holmes, Paula Radcliffe, sailing star Emma Richards, swimmer Katy Sexton, freediver Tanya Streeter, disabled equestrian Nicola Tustain and gymnast Beth Tweddle.

The winner will be decided by the public on a telephone vote. **The number to ring to vote for Karina is 09013 800 805 (dial 01 for Karina) - calls cost 25p**

#### Note to Editors

The closing date is November 12 and the outright winner will be announced at an awards lunch at the Park Lane Hotel in London on November 26.

For more information please visit [www.timesonline.co.uk/sportswomen](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/sportswomen)

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