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**JAPANESE TEAM WINS "BEST IN THE SHOW" FOR THE 15th ANNUAL
DOUBLE DUTCH HOLIDAY CLASSIC AT THE APOLLO THEATER**

30 years ago, DOUBLE DUTCH was thought of as a game played by New York City Black teenage girls. The 15th Annual **DOUBLE DUTCH HOLIDAY CLASSIC™**, held Sunday, December 3, 2006 at the Apollo Theater, displayed how diverse, both in gender and ethnicity, the sport of Double Dutch has become. Teams from 20 United States cities were joined by a team from Wijngem, Belgium, and 3 teams from Kanagawa, Chiba, and Kyoto, Japan. GM7, the team from Chiba, Japan, made it the 9th time in the past 11 years that a team from Japan has won 'BEST IN THE SHOW'. GM7 had 4 males and 2 females doing Double Dutch routines that you had to see to believe. Finishing in 2nd place were the Bouncing Bulldogs from Durham, North Carolina who consisted of one black male joining 2 white males and 3 white females to nearly beat the Japanese dominance. A-ZUS from Kyoto, Japan finished in 3rd place.

OTHER WINNERS WERE:

SINGLES

4/5th GRADE.....BABY JAZZY JUMPERSBROOKLYN, NY
6th GRADE.....STAN'S PEPPER STEPPERSFAR ROCKAWAY, NY
7th GRADE.....JUNIOR JAZZY JUMPERS.....BROOKLYN, NY
8th/OPEN.....STAN'S PEPPER STEPPERSFAR ROCKAWAY, NY

DOUBLES

4/5th GRADE.....BABY JAZZY JUMPERS.....BROOKLYN, NY
6th GRADE.....STAN'S PEPPER STEPPERSFAR ROCKAWAY, NY
7th GRADE.....GREENBELT SITY STARSMITCHELLVILLE, MD
8th/OPEN.....STAN'S PEPPER STEPPERSFAR ROCKAWAY, NY

NOVICE FUSION

1st PLACEGREENBELT SITY STARSMITCHELLVILLE, MD
2nd PLACE.....BOUNCING BULLDOGSDURHAM, NC
3rd PLACE.....#14 RAIDERSLAUREL, MD

ADVANCED FUSION (BEST IN THE SHOW)

1st PLACEGM7CHIBA, JAPAN
2nd PLACE.....BOUNCING BULLDOGSDURHAM, NC
3rd PLACE.....A-ZUS.....KANAGAWA, JAPAN

While New York City teams dominated the Singles and Doubles, no New York City team finished in the more difficult Novice and Advanced Fusion categories. The Bouncing Bulldogs from Durham, NC finished 2nd in every competition except the 7th grade Doubles, where they came in 3rd. Nobody can remember the last time a team from Harlem or the Bronx competed in the Holiday Classic, although DOUBLE DUTCH was started in 1973 at IS10 in Harlem. All jumpers were black teenage girls in 1973, but now Double Dutch is international, with male and female jumpers of all ethnic groups competing and winning.