



The highly charged interactive phenomenon Worlds Fastest Drummer competition completed WFD's twelfth outing as a featured attraction at NAMM Summer Session 2012 in Nashville, TN. The contest consisted of two categories, Battle of the Hands™ and Battle of the Feet™. The Preliminary Heats were held July 12th-14th. Included in the event were technical demonstrations, insight sessions, and appearances by WFD Champions and World Record Holders Matt Smith and Eric Okamoto.

The top ten Fastest Hands and top ten Fastest Feet then stepped into battle at WFD World Finals, on Saturday, July 14th. The event was open to the public as a feature attraction for NAMM's Public Day! The event was received by a packed

audience who cheered wildly for the entire competition. Also appearing was musical director Chris Patterson, aka Krushar, and the ever beautiful and talented Miss WFD 2012 Jennifer Seay of West Virginia.

The Battle of the Feet winner was 'Vital Remains' drummer Jack Blackburn of Houston, TX with a score of 870 Singles, followed by second place Tim Phillips of Yucaipa, CA (836), and third place Leonardo Baroncini of Indianapolis (810). The Battle of the Hands winner was 23-year-old Daniel Rice of Fort Smith, AR with a very respectable 1005 Singles in 60 seconds. Luis Rodriguez of Dallas placed second (952), while Nick Stefano of Wantage, N.J. placed third (931).

Dan Laskowski, who traveled with his wife Brigitte from Canada and placed 4th for fastest feet (763) added, "Since I began 10 years ago, it has changed my life!"

WFD Champ Eric Okamoto set a new World Record for double paradiddles of 1198 in 60 seconds! Other WFD records held by Eric include 1744 in double strokes and 1279 in paradiddles.

"This year's Finals were packed out with excited fans! It was great to see Jack Blackburn of Vital Remains take Battle of the Feet. His predecessor Tim 'the Missile' Yeung of VR took the Feet honors back in 2006. Man! I can't say enough about Daniel Rice; this was Daniel's 3rd attempt at WFD! Many may not know this, but besides being a WFD Champ Daniel also has a full scholarship to Duke University Law School!"- said Boo McAfee, creator of WFD.

Over \$12,000 in prizes were provided by Pearl, Sabian, Remo, Axis, Vic Firth, Power Wrist Builders, Modern Drummer, Alfred Publishing, BOSO and Drumometer. Grand Prizes included 2 PEARL Vision Kits, fully loaded with SABIAN Cymbals, a 1 year supply of Vic Firth drumsticks with the winner's name on them, 100 REMO heads, AXIS double Pedal, Instruction books by Alfred, 'World bragging rights' and much more!

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