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BRONX NEWS

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Bronxite steals show

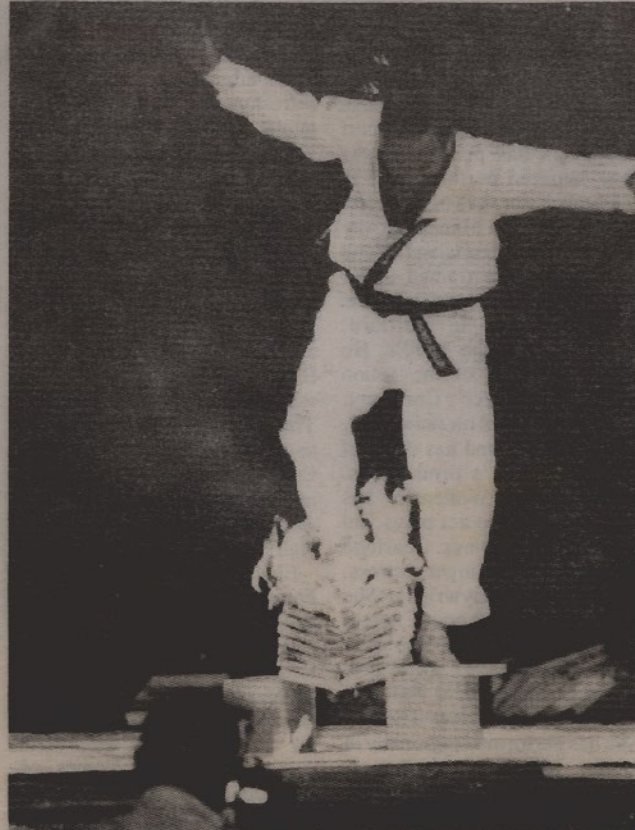
The Oriental World of Self-Defense is the World's #1 Martial Arts Show on this planet. That is why it was extremely gratifying for Bronxite Maurice Elmalem to steal the show recently at Roseland in Manhattan with some impressive glass shattering. Elmalem, who first appeared in Aaron Banks' productions 22 years ago, shattered 90 sheets of glass with a downward elbow strike to smash his own standing world seven-year breaking record. He also continued on his world record breaking path by breaking 50 sheets of glass with a side shu-to, again against his own world record.

"He was amazing," Bronxite Jennie Chi said. "This

was my first time seeing anyone shatter sheets of glass and to break 90 sheets is an incredible task."

Master Elmalem, enormously popular with the audience, has garnered accolades and world-wide fame with four world championships in breaking, six AAU championships, nine US Gold Cup Medals and three World Record in breaking. He is skilled at forms of multiple breaking techniques, who lives a balanced, well-rounded life as a dedicated husband and father of four, and very successful businessman, architect and owner of Maurice Contractors and Designers, Inc., headquartered in the Bronx.

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At the Oriental World of Self Defense expo, Bronxite Maurice Elmalem stole the show which such tricks as breaking flaming boards with his feet.



THIS WEEK IN BRONX SPORTS HISTORY

By Victor Mastro

June 1, 1933: Alan Ameche, Baltimore Colts FB (NFL) was born. He is best remembered for scoring the winning TD in the "Greatest Game Ever Played," 12/28/58, at Yankee Stadium.

June 1, 1939: NBC televised boxing's first TV bout, Lou Nova defeated Max Baer at Yankee Stadium.

June 3, 1932: John J. McGraw, (City Island) NY Giants, Baseball Hall of Famer, retired.

June 3, 1975: Pele signed with the NY Cosmos of the North American Soccer League for \$7 million for three years. (On the same date, guidelines concerning women in school sports were sent by the Department of Health, Education and Wel-

fare. Pele played his first game in America at Randall's Island.

June 3, 1997: Mike Marchiano (Fordham College) hit .493 to lead the NCAA.

June 5, 1925: Art Donovan (Mt. St. Michael's H.S.) was born. He was the first Baltimore Colt in the NFL Hall of Fame. He played defense and offense in his 12 year career.

June 5, 1955: NY Yankees' superstar, Mickey Mantle hit a homer that traveled an estimated 550 feet out of Comiskey Park, Chicago, Ill.

June 6, 1907: Bill Dickey, NY Yankees C, Baseball Hall of Fame, was born. He batted .313 in 12 years and helped the Yanks to win seven World Series from 1932 to 1943.

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Sports Talk

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Another impressive characteristic regarding Elmalem is that he practice Tae Kwon Do as a hobby. For his amazing "daredevil" breaking showmanship, he was presented with the World Champion Martial Artist Dare Devil title given by the World Professional Martial Artist Association. After smashing a two by four with a flying sidekick, a thumb break, and a downward heel kick on 10 boards set ablaze, Elmalem then left the stage and signed autographs and encouraged the kids to stay in school, stay away from drugs, work hard, dream high, and you can win.

Courage, strength and discipline were not only displayed by Elmalem at the Roseland. Grand Master Aaron Banks organized another splendid show of some amazing talent. He returned to New York to bring the martial arts into the entertainment world. Banks and Executive Producer Armando Mojica did not disappoint the faithful audience.

World-class athletes charmed, mesmerized and mentored the audience with demonstrations of kata, breaking and fighting. The Brazilian capoeira, presented by Master Mestre Ombrinho, was an exciting exhibition. The African Martial Arts was represented by Master Maasi Khalil and Ninjitsu in Combat by Sensei Roberto Hernandez. Breakers Elton L. Trower, John Drames and Professor Ernest Hyman all presented breathtaking feats of courage, control and power. Grand Master Carl Albright bent metal rods with only



Elmalem broke his old world record last week by shattering 90 sheets of glass with his elbow.

throat muscles.

Jiu-jitsu was represented by Master and Champion Rodrigo Gracie, gung-fu by Sifu Grados and Jerry "Fast Feet" Fontanez. The World Karate Champion, presented a kata which brought a roar of approval from all in attendance. The stars were extra bright on Broadway but more importantly the dreams and hopes offered by talented, dedicated people. Elmalem, Banks and the others made the real world, after the event, better and brighter. Real life heroes do exist and they do make a difference, especially to children.

Talking More Sports...

The PSAL baseball playoffs have begun and the Bronx schools are making a statement. City Champ favorite and #1 seed Lehman coasted in their first two playoff games with two shutouts, 5-0 and 6-0. They

now face #9 seed Port Richmond in the quarterfinal.

One of the best pitchers from New York City, Anthony Caban, pitched a three-hitter against Park West to keep the Lehman Lions in the post season. Teammate Radames Peralta followed with a two-hitter against #16 seeded Grand Street Academy to propel the Lions into the quarterfinal.

Against Park West, while Caban fanned 16 batters, shortstop Peter Sidler contributed three hits and left-fielder Cesar Guzman had two hits and three RBIs. In the Grand Street Academy contest, Peter Martinez paced the offense with a three run homer and Peralta pitched a brilliant game.

Lehman (31-2, 17-0 PSAL), who is the favorite to win the title, now plays a tough Port Richmond team,

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