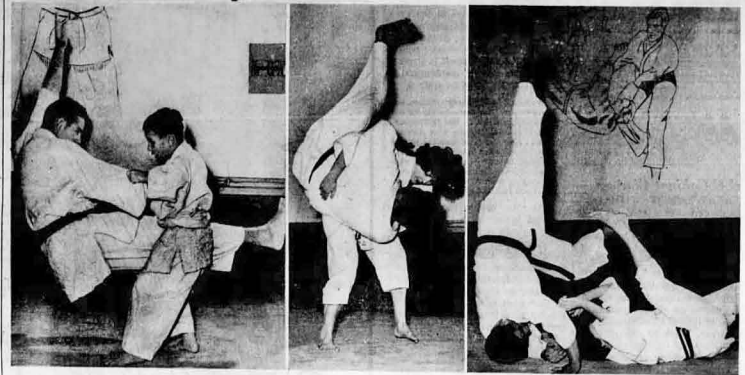


First There's an 'Umph'; Second a Thud; and Then a Weak Smile



Robert G. Vorge, age 5, tosses his FBI man-father, Robert A., with what appears to be very little trouble.

Joann Stevenish, a student, tries her learning on the instructor, Kyu Ha Kim, center photo; but the result, at right shows, that they both wind up on the mat and ready to try all over again.

—Post-Gazette Photos

Judo Lessons Fine, Except for the Bumps

Reporter Suits Up, Learns Photographer Was No Friend

By THOMAS HENNESSY

Post-Gazette Staff Writer

There is a college of hard knocks.

It's the Pittsburgh School of Judo at 122 Bradford Ave., Crafton.

Stop in sometime (visitors welcome) and you'll see about 100 students tossing each other around like the monkeys in Highland Park Zoo.

No monkey business at all, however, when these agile 100 pair off against each other three nights a week.

They are quite serious about learning the Japanese art of self-defense which started in 1882 and is undergoing a current wave of popularity throughout the nation.

All Walks of Life

"They" include secretaries, doctors, housewives, lawyers, a nurse and a college professor. In age, the students range from 5 to 65.

A newcomer to the Judo School first learns how to fall without fracturing anything but his dignity. This often takes weeks.

He then groans through eight of forty basic "throws" and is primed in other skills, such as "holds" and "chokes."

"It's a sport you never learn completely," said one school member. "You stay at it for years and years."

Belts Show the Ratings

The judoist's skill is advertised by the color belt on his judo suit. He can advance from a white to brown belt (there are three degrees of each). The expert is marked by a black belt, which is conferred in ten degrees.

Rises in belt status are achieved through tournament

ground. "After all, there is a limit."

The most adept in the school is the instructor, Kyu Ha Kim, a 27-year-old South Korean who won the judo championship of his country in 1950. Kim is now a Duquesne University student.

A fifth-degree black belt judoist, Kim rules over his class like a well-bred lion. He accepts any challenge from a student and the match usually ends in an "umph," a thud and the student looking up

at a smiling Kim.

When this reporter visited the school recently, he donned a suit and submitted to a test with school president Zaffuto. This was

done at the suggestion of a photographer (a former friend of the reporter).

The match ended in an unusually loud "umph," the

thud and the reporter's retreat to the pinochle table.

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1st Renewal Loan Granted

The first commitment to insure a loan for combined home purchase and improvement in a Pittsburgh urban renewal area has been issued by the Pittsburgh Insuring Office of the Federal Housing Administration.

Sidney W. Rosenblum, director of the FHA agency, said the agreement is for a private residence at 216 S. Clair St., East Liberty. Purchase and remodeling will be financed by the East Liberty branch of Mellon National Bank & Trust Co., which is extending a 30-year mortgage in the amount of \$28,000 at an annual interest rate of 5 1/2 per cent plus one-half of one per cent insurance premium.

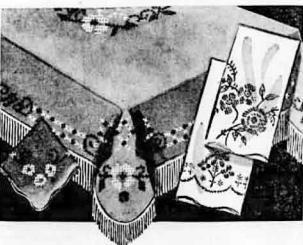
The loan and FHA insurance commitment were issued to Robert S. Landman and Arthur Staff, who have formed LandArt Co. to acquire and modernize older houses.

For complete coverage of all the news—first thing in the morning—it's the Post-Gazette. To order doorstep delivery call 263-1311.

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