

# MMA Spotlight



By Master John Burdyck

## “Who always tells it like it is”

First and foremost I would like to thank Grandmaster Alan Goldberg for his faith in me in reporting around the globe on mixed martial arts “MMA” Currently there are 3 major “MMA organizations.”

- 1) UFC
- 2) EliteXC
- 3) Affliction

Here's is what's happening in those leagues

### UFC 91 on November 15, 2008

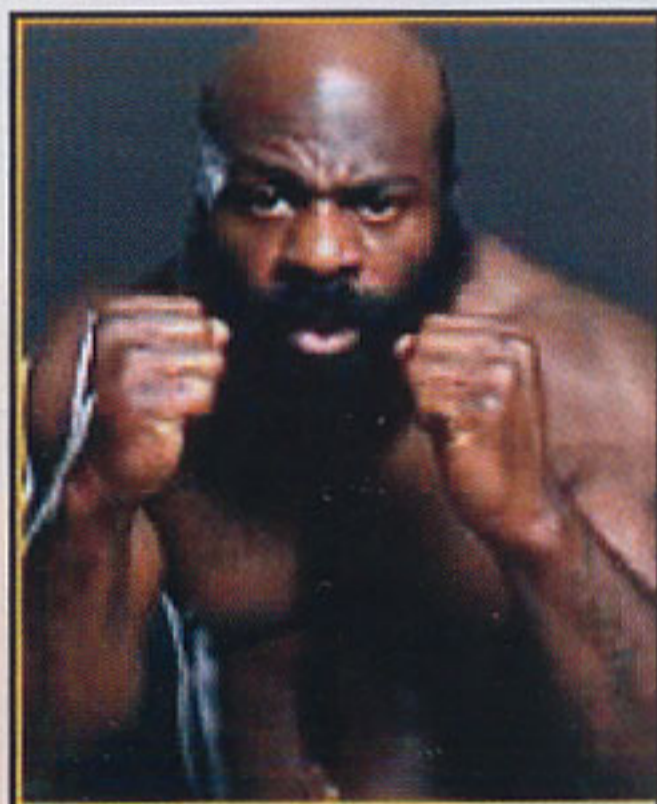
In the much anticipated match between Brock Lesnar & Randy Couture. Brock Lesnar stopped heavy weight champion Randy Couture in 2<sup>nd</sup> round with a glancing blow behind the ear followed us with many hammer fists. Lesnar said “I can't believe it.” “I just believe in hard work at it pays off.” In the co. main event Kenny Florian forced Joe Stevenson to submit. Also on the card Dustin Hazelett defeated Tamdas McCrory. Gabriel Gonzaga TKO over Josh Hendricks. Preliminary Bouts Aaron Riley Beat. Jorge Gargel in an unanimous decision. Jeremy Stephens knockout Rafael Dos Anjos and Mark Bocek got Alvin Robinson to submit in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round and finally Matt Brown forced Ryam Thomas to tap out in 2<sup>nd</sup> round.

### Kimbo Slice Falls in Florida

SUNRISE, FL—On October 4, 2008, EliteXC and CBS presented Heat from the Bank Atlantic Center, their third live, televised fight card and arguably the finest to date in terms of action and excitement, at least for those who watched the free broadcast at home.

Improving on its production formula, CBS was able to maintain a level of energy and interest in its latest offering. The network and the promoter sidestepped a major blow by replacing an injured Ken Shamrock, who was scheduled to fight Kevin “Kimbo Slice” Ferguson, with The Ultimate Fighter Season 2 cast member Seth Petruzelli, who was scheduled to compete on the undercard. The change-up created a virtual street fight, a battle of guts and wits to see who would prevail without extensive preparation.

Petruszelli, 29, a credible fighter with a mixed-martial arts record of 9-4 before this event, was on no one's radar. Ferguson, on the other hand, had a reputation to uphold, one that CBS and EliteXC have raised dangerously high. Ever since he made the transition from underground Internet sensation to real-time athlete, he's been a controversial figure among serious MMA fans. Recognizing his responsibility to provide much more than an image, Ferguson began training with former middleweight Pancrase star Bas Rutten. It was a smart move but, in terms of results, a purely long-term strategy. Anyone who understands athletics knows that technique isn't internalized



overnight, and when you face someone who has it, however average he may be, the difference will show.

The disparity in skill sets became immediately clear when Ferguson charged Petruzelli and was rebuffed by a front kick and a defensive hook. Whatever the reason—loss of balance or lucky shot placement—Ferguson fell forward and was followed by Petruzelli and a barrage of hard shots to the head. What was most notable was Ferguson's lack of a ground game, particularly his complete inactivity from the waist down, as if his legs played no part in his defense. By the time most pros would have mounted a response, Ferguson had showed nothing, and the fight was halted after a mere 14 seconds.

### EliteXC Mixed Martial Arts Folds

The mixed martial arts organization that put former street brawler Kimbo Slice and female fighter Gina Carano on national television is going out of business. EliteXC canceled a show scheduled for November 8, in Reno with an e-mail Tuesday to Keith Kizer, executive director of the Nevada Athletic Commission. J.T. Steele, EliteXC's manager of fight operations, also informed Kizer that the organization was ceasing operations.

### Affliction's Next Event

Donald J. Trump in Association with Affliction Entertainment presents Affliction Day of Reckoning in association with M-1 Global. Fedor vs Arlovski on January 24. Matyushenko, Hieron, Nogueira, Babalu, Barnett, Horodecki, Lindland, Belfort. Live on Pay-Per-View. To order contact your cable or satellite company Honda Center, Anaheim, CA. Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 9 pm ET/ 6 pm PT. [www.afflictionclothing.com](http://www.afflictionclothing.com).

In other “MMA” news the Maryland legislature and The Athletic Commission headed by Pat Panella have approved mixed martial events in Baltimore. With the 1st event slated for February of 2009. So now the Million Dollar question the Baltimore Martial Arts Community is asking is will I ever promote and “MMA” event in Baltimore. Well since I and Dr. Anduhar and Howard Petschler proposed the idea of MMA in Baltimore. 13 years ago with the league being called “Extreme Combat” and were turned down then. I certainly have waited along time for this day and I truly believe not only will I do and “MMA” event in Baltimore. The event will eventually be as prestigious as the “Battle of Baltimore” in sport karate.

If you have any news or notes about “MMA” in the future please contact me Phone: 443-299-2047 Fax: 352-433-0675 Email: [johnburdyck@comcast.net](mailto:johnburdyck@comcast.net)  
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