

25th July 2003

LEE WALL SHINES AT THE CUMBERLAND SHOW

LEE Wall shone at the Cumberland Show, winning the 12 stones in such good style that John Richardson awarded him the Guinness Trophy for the best performance. He has not had the easiest of years because of injury in the football season, the serious illness of his father and the job uncertainty caused originally by the cathedral's decision to disband its team of masons. He has obviously made a good recovery from his injury and he put a beaming smile on the face of his father, who was watching from the ringside. In the semi-final with William Prudham, he crossed him high in the air and brought him down on the back of his neck for the most spectacular fall of the night. In the final with Alan Walton, he went down to a cross-click to lose the first fall and very nearly went the same way for the second. There was nothing wobbly about the decider, however. Walton struck with a back-heel, but Wall just leaned back and inside-hipped.

Before the men's wrestling began, some of the wrestlers who had performed so well in the European Championships in Sardinia were presented to the crowd. Two of them contested the 14 stones final. Joseph Robson of Kendal had won a gold medal in Sardinia in the 90kg section, but opponent Alan Jones had no medal. His excellent performance had been as team coach: analysing opponents, working out tactics and generating enthusiasm. Robson looked the likely winner on his performance in the earlier rounds, and after he won the first fall with a cross-buttock, but Jones struck back by trapping his foot for a deceptively simple fall. The decider was more lively with Robson lifting Jones high off the ground. Jones wriggled and thrashed in mid-air, making a horrible noise, slipped through Robson's arms and twisted for a notable victory.

In the all weights, Joe Threlfall started shakily against Alan Walton, but finished strongly against the under-18 years winner, Russell Housby, felling him first with a twist over the knee and then with a big twist.

Russell's aunt, Gill Housby, won the women's open event, felling "Ruth from Alston" in the final.

8th August 2003

ATKINSON LEAVES FOR NEW LIFE IN FRANCE

DAVID Atkinson leaves a for a new life in France tomorrow with the woman he met through Cumberland wrestling.

He is moving to Saint Briec in Brittany to live with his French girlfriend Celine, whom he met in Carlisle three years ago when she and compatriot Sylvain Begoc, a wrestling coach, came to study in the city. David, 22, of Denton Holme, Carlisle, was recently crowned backhold champion at the European Championships of Celtic Wrestling in Sardinia, where he was wrestler of the tournament. He said: I met Celine when she and Sylvain got involved with wrestling in Cumbria. I am looking forward to my new life in France. I will try to get some backhold wrestling going over there and I will also be trying to get a coaching qualification in Breton wrestling.

10th October 2003

ENTRIES STILL LOW FOR AUTUMNAL WRESTLING EVENTS

THE theme of low entries in the Autumnal wrestling continued last week.

Langholm Show with its improved ring and tankards for winners, its fine setting and good weather, went well, but Redesdale Show in Northumberland and Eskdale Show in West Cumbria struggled.

At Langholm four Harringtons were in the prize-money. Alf's boys Joe and Michael made their usual good show in the Under 15 Years. Joes John put in another excellent performance in the Under 18 Years and the 12 stones, and Georges Richard was third in the All Weights. Once more the heart of the wrestling was when Richard Fox met John Harrington. In the 12st semi-final Harrington lifted Fox, carried him around for a

while to pick his moment, then nudged his legs sideways for a neat outside-hipe. There was no real opposition for Joe Threlfall in the All Weights at Langholm, but there was even less at Redesdale Show. Instead of wrestling Joe turned organiser and persuaded 20 locals to take part.

Andrew Carlisle with his international success in Sardinia and his championship and Grasmere wins has been nominated for the Cumbria Sports Awards. The Lakeland Sports Promoters Presentation Luncheon is on November 23. And the Wrestling Association Presentation Dinner will take place at The Auctioneer on Friday November 7 (Tickets from Alf Harrington)

AT Yetholm last Saturday, an afternoon of top-class wrestling was led by Tom Moore in the Under 16s who overpowered Joe Harrington in the final. In the 11 stones Andrew Carlisle again proved to have the measure of John Harrington coping well with the hank. Alan Jones had too much power for the lighter wrestlers in the 13 stones, controlling the bouts throughout. While the local wrestlers did not figure in the prize list, they did acquit themselves well, none more than Tom Fox of Wooler who took a fall off David Atkinson in the All Weights. This weekend sees the Under 15 years Championship, the last one this season, at Alwinton Shepherds meet high up in Northumberland.

Wasdale Head has a full programme with a broad range of age groups for boys, as well as the usual mens classes. By now thoughts are turning to the Academy winter programmes. Last week at the Carlisle Club AGM the committee agreed to try out a request from the senior wrestlers to have a second nights wrestling each week. The club expects to start their programme on October 24.

November 7 is the annual Dinner and Presentation Night. Tickets can be ordered from any Governing Board member.

Langholm Show

Under 12 Years: 1, R Hislop; 2, L Miller; 3, J Threlfall.

Under 15: 1, Joe Harrington; 2, S Tweddle; 3, J Howieson.

Under 18: 1, R Fox; 2, J Harrington; 3, M Harrington.

12st: 1, John Harrington; 2, Joe Harrington; 3, R Fox.

AW: 1, Joe Threlfall; 2, John Harrington; 3, R Harrington.

Eskdale Show

Under 15: 1, J Longworth; 2, M Dickinson; 3, O Jeffrey.

Under 18 Years: 1, J Longworth; 2, A Hodgson.

10st: 1, J Longworth; 2, A Hodgson.

12st: 1, S Garnett; 2, R Dennison; 3, J Helmy.

AW: 1, S Garnett; 2, J Helmy; 3, R Lowery.

Yetholm

U10: 1, D Sheron; 2, G Cummings.

U13: 1, R Clarke, 2, M Harrington; 3, A Cameron.

U16: 1, T Moore; 2, Joe Harrington; 3, D Heatley.

11 st: 1, A Carlyle; 2, John Harrington; 3, J White.

13st: 1, A Jones; 2, John Harrington; 3, A Carlyle.

AW: 1, D Whitfield; 2, J Davidson; 3, D Atkinson.

Dates

Saturday, October 11: Alwinton Show U11/U14/U15 Championship U21/111/2/14/AW;

Wasdale Head Show (4pm) U11, U12, U13, U15, U18, 10, 12, AW.

19th December 2003

WABERTHWAITE WINS THE WRESTLING ACADEMY SHIELD AGAIN

THE ACADEMY Shield is back in the bar of the Brown Cow Inn, Waberthwaite. The Waberthwaite Academy was the clear winner of the Shield Match at Kendal Rugby Club with the best prepared team and some excellent individual performances.

Kendal, the hosts, began well with the sparky Ben Brocklebank, but their effort ran into the sands when they were able to field only two senior wrestlers in the second part of the programme. Conversely, Carlisle Wrestling Club only registered their first falls in the 9 stones section when Callum Lowry did well to fell Graham Brocklebank of Kendal and a good young Waberthwaite prospect, Ashley Killip. The Carlisle club was well served by John Harrington and Andrew Carlile who scored heavily in the middleweights despite taking on heavier opposition. The fall of the evening was John Harrington's defeat of Stephen Garnett in the 13st section and he was duly awarded the Best Performance Trophy. But, good efforts by Kendal and Carlisle individuals could do nothing to stem the Waberthwaite tide. The Waberthwaite organiser, Tom Porter, has overseen a revival of the academy at the youngest end and that was evident at Kendal when the four youngest and inexperienced wrestlers gave a good account of themselves to provide the foundations for a good team score. The Knowles brothers, Michael and Richard, consolidated that position by winning five of their six falls. Stephen Garnett then kept the score ticking over without being at his best, until Michael Preston took over at the heavy end of the event and won all his falls. The Waberthwaite team's wide margin of victory was thoroughly deserved.

Results:

Academy Shield; 1, Waberthwaite 16pts; 2, Carlisle 10pts; 3, Kendal 7pts.

Open Competitions

Girls: 1, T Hodgson; 2, H Hodgson; 3, E Longworth

Under 12 Years: 1, J Longworth; 2, A Killip; 3, B Brocklebank

Under 15 Years: 1, D Parsons; 2, G Brocklebank; 3, C Lowry

Under 18 Years: 1, John Harrington; 2, G Brocklebank; 3, N Bentham

13st: 1, John Harrington; 2, N Bentham; 3, S Wilkinson

All Weights: 1, T Hodgson; 2, John Harrington; 3, J Longworth

Dates:

Kendal Academy round of their 2003 wrestling, tonight, with Junior Weights and Senior Points.

Milnthorpe Academy resumes action on January 8th

Carlisle Wrestling Club is closed until Wednesday January 7 when there will be a meeting at Currock House to re-organise the training sessions for 2004.