

Local Wrestler Claims:

Contact Fun

By Mike Steadman

There is a loud thunder echoing throughout the large gym. The sound is of such magnitude that one can feel the muscles in the body tighten as each wave of sound reaches the ear.

The air is so thick that it seems that it would take a knife to cut through it. This thickness is lightened by the rays of the central lights of the gym that are beaming down on the ring.

The heat is hardly tolerable for the spectator; the sensations it brings the muscular gladiators who are bouncing each other off of the three-quarter inch plywood floor is not imaginable.

Screams of delight and awe from practice spectators add to the thickness of the atmosphere and an occasional growl from one of the grapplers adds to the excitement.

Charles Fields, Eddie Riddle, and Ronnie "Killer" Hatchell have been practicing for about a month in hope of soon being able to perform before an audience.

"We would like to put on a wrestling bout for a club or organization so that we can help them raise money for a worthy cause and make a little money on the side for ourselves," said Fields.

The men practice in an official size ring valued at \$800 which is 16 square feet and is about eight feet in height (from the floor of the gym to the top rope), and is lined with three ropes extending from large iron poles in each corner. The ropes are 5/16 inch cable covered with black plastic pipe.

"We are serious about this venture. It sometimes reaches 105 degrees in the ring and we average losing about two or three pounds every time we climb into that ring for fifteen minutes of wrestling," said Fields.

He indicated that a session in the ring would equal a three hour workout in a gym.

"We get as much exercise as a person who jogs or lifts weights in a gym for three hours. It doesn't seem like we actually do that much, but the constant movement and body contact can be deceiving," Fields said.

"My father did it for fifteen years and I watched him and I thought I would like to give it a try. My father had two regulation size rings. I love wrestling; it's not like work; it's more fun than anything. I spend six to eight hours a week practicing," said Fields.

Fields said he got started by asking around to see who would be interested in wrestling and at first a lot of people expressed interest, but only a few turned out for practice.

He said that a booster club from another town indicated that they wanted them to put on a match, but at the present they simply need more people to participate.

"I have heard that there are a couple of girls who are interested. I hope they will contact me soon," he said.

"I would like to get a couple of boxers to come also. I think wrestling and boxing together would really be something worth watching," he said.

Fields said that it takes more than just getting into the ring and throwing other people around. He said that it was safe as long as the wrestlers can control their emotions in the ring and not get in there to hurt someone.

"It's more authentic than people think in that it takes an agile athlete who can control his emotions and movement to the point of producing action and excitement with no ill intent," he said.

He later admitted that anyone can get angry from time to time.

For now Fields says that he, Riddle and Hatchell will continue to practice wherever they can find a place to put the ring (which is a problem sometimes), and hope to get more people interested in joining them in the ring, either in a wrestling or boxing capacity. He said that he hopes to eventually get enough people to be able to schedule bouts in many different categories of weight and experience and is extending an open invitation to all who are interested in getting physically fit, no matter what size or shape to join him in good clean fun and exercise for a purpose.



AETNA TEAM- The Hoke county All-Stars were hosts to the Aetna Life and Casualty Softball Team in a three game tournament to benefit the Olympic fund for Kathy McMillan last Thursday night. Members of the championship winning Aetna team are shown (first row) Robbie Carpenter and Kermit Beal, batboys. (Second row) John Roland, Wayne Gibson, Chris Cammack, Don Chilton, Rick Blackwood, Gerald Honeycutt, Carlton Barnes. (Third row) Tom Carpenter, (manager), Joe Brown, Dennis Panel, Bobby Walker, James Wilson, Danny Carver, Mac Richardson, Walt Nichols, (scorer).

Waverly Mills Sweeps Women's Tournament

By Pat Scott

Waverly Mills defeated the Hoke Jaycees Saturday night 5 - 4 in an extra inning ballgame to win the Bicentennial Invitational Women's Tournament here.

Cindy Faulk scored the winning run for Waverly on a sacrifice fly by Betsy Coffield. The leading hitter for the Jaycees was LaDoris McNeill who went three for four at the plate.

Thursday night, the Hoke Jaycees defeated Bell's of Lumberton 22-10 after five innings with K. Jordan, D. Little, and D. McLeod going three for four for the Jaycees. L. Bell of Bell's was two for two.

Hollingsworth Barber Shop defeated Converse of Lumberton 6-0 as Singletary and Odom went two for three.

Waverly Mills had no problem with Lumberton Knitwear scoring nine runs to Knitwear's two.

Lumbee Bank of Pembroke downed Lumbee Marval of Red Springs 18 - 4. The leading hitter was Audrey Locklear of Lumbee Bank getting three hits in three attempts.

Hoke Jaycees had 24 hits to defeat Hollingsworth's 20 - 10 after six innings of play. K. Little was the leading hitter with a four for five performance for the Jaycees.

Waverly Mills upset Lumbee Bank 6 - 4 in a fine defensive game as Nevels and Coffield went two for four for Waverly and Collins and Locklear were two for four for Lumbee Bank. Bell's then outscored Converse 17 - 11 to eliminate Converse from the tournament. In the final game of the night, Lumberton Knitwear eliminated Lumbee Marval 16 - 5.

Friday's action started with the elimination of Bell's of Lumberton by Pembroke's Lumbee Bank team 14-4 after six innings of play. Hollingsworth's forfeited to Knitwear 7 - 0 because they did not have enough players present. In a fine defensive game, Lumbee Bank defeated Knitwear 6 - 5.

Saturday nights championship

Juvenile Court

Custody Cases Heard

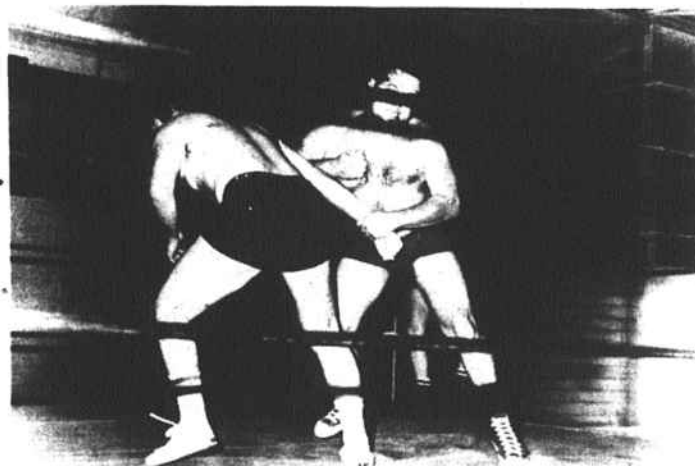
A six year old boy was placed a ward of the court Friday by Juvenile Court Judge Joseph Dupree. The parents were ordered to undergo psychiatric evaluation at the Sandhill Mental Health Center and to follow the instructions that are rendered to them. The boy was ordered placed in the custody of the Department of Social Services, a foster home, or one of the parents following their evaluation.

In other cases, evidence was not sufficient involving a five year old who allegedly broke a windshield.

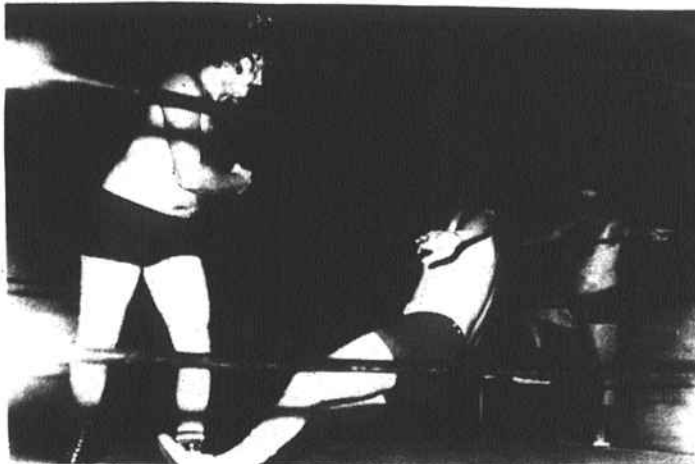
Three children, ages nine, eight and five, were ordered placed in the custody of their mother again after she had finished serving a prison term.

Custody was given to an aunt of an eleven year old boy, who the court found to be in definite need of psychiatric evaluation. The boy was made a ward of the court and will be given evaluation.

A fourteen year old boy's case was continued indefinitely after he admitted to larceny.



"SAY UNCLE" - Ronnie Hatchell has the advantage over Eddie Riddle as he is twisting his arm and preparing to run him into the ropes at a recent practice session for the wrestlers.



"TAKE THAT" - Charles Fields gives Eddie Riddle a smashing forearm during a recent practice session. Ronnie Hatchell seems to be enjoying the action.

Service Personnel

Army Staff Sergeant Benjamin F. McRae, son of Mr. and Mrs. Coston McRae, Rt. 1, Lumber Bridge, participated in a field training exercise at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

The training consisted of day and night team patrolling as well as simulated warfare.

Sgt. McRae is a radar section chief in the 25th Infantry Division.

Marine Lance Corporal John C. Stocks, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Stocks, Rt. 3, Raeford, has departed the Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C., on a six - month deployment to the Mediterranean.

As a member of the 32d Marine Amphibious Unit, he will participate in training exercises with units of the U.S. Sixth Fleet, and visit several European countries.

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Sheriff Adds One Deputy

Sheriff D.M. Barrington announced the hiring of a deputy to fill one of two vacancies within the department.

Charles L. Sewell, 35, of Laurinburg, will begin duties Sept. 1, Barrington said.

A veteran of ten years of police experience, Sewell formerly served on the Laurinburg Police Department and the Scotland County Sheriff's Department.

Starting salary for the deputy is \$7,000.



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