

286.

Jerked 303. A gal in the 148 cleaned and jerked 268. Karen Tartar, the heavyweight made only her first clean of 286 but SNATCHED 245. Most of the classes were won by the Chinese gals.

In the Mens World Cup, held in Australia, the heavy classes were won by the Bulgars and Russians. No clean and jerk over 550 though. Strangest of all, in the 165 pound class an Egyptian won. No raving mad lifts but if they had been done twenty years ago they would have been sensatinal.

David Rigert, the Russian who held orlnds records and titles from the 181 class to the 220, got himself elected to the Chairmanship of the Russian ARMWRESTLING ASSOCIATION.

Vlasov, the former Russian heavy, got himself elected to the Russian parliament or whatever, then criticised Glasnost or Peristroika or whatever and got himself heaved out of the Russian Coaching position. His place as taken by Alexiev.

There is a rumor going around that at Dear Old Joe of The Hills Where They are Wooded had to have a prostate operation last year. He is said to own large chunks of real estate around and in the A area, including his main office in you know where, his home Hancock Park, a large condo complex, a large apartment complex and ALL IN HIS WIFE'S NAME. Crafty Old Joe, methinks. Avoids losing it all if he is harassed. Tax stuff too.

Joe Ssirati celebrated his 85th May 21st and I called him to wish him etc etc and he sounds chipper.

Nice to hear from you again at long last.

best to you and yours,

Since I got out of the hospital December 10th, I have had a visiting nurse come around every day... apart from the March period when I was in hospital again. I have spent most time on a hospital floor than a bloody bed pan. It seems I am now on the mend. At first they were talking about chemo and radiation therapy, but decided this wasn't necessary. This, to me, means either I am cured or else they can do no more for me.

The operations have left me very very weak, dispirited and almost unable to eat.

I did tell someone, but asked him not to say anything to you since I thought it might worry you unduly. But it would appear that in no time flat, the entire bloody world knew about it. Cray Hankook called me and wanted to know the insides and outs of a case record but I told him nothing was wrong. I hate nosy people and that is what he was being. But everybody knew. I am sure the bloke I told my troubles to but say any thing, but there we are. Word got out somehow or the other.

There has been some news. Tarasenko, the Russian who got busted at Montreal Airport for trying to smuggle in steroids cleaned 294 but failed to jerk it--what do you want? Egg in your beer?

Nambour is dead. He hoped it would be around three months ago. This news via Gerasov who told me he got the info from some Russian man he knew.

The Women's world had some sensational lifting. A 165 pounder---GAL---cleaned and