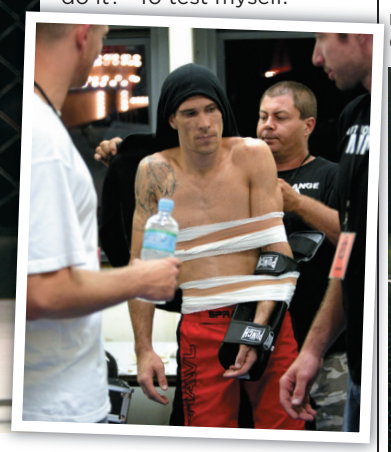
« THE AGONY Pudney reels away from opponent Alex Shevtsov, his left elbow fractured and dislocated as he tries to wrench free from an "armbar" move. "Initially there was no pain," he says. "I only realised when I couldn't bend the arm." So fit that he isn't allowed morphine, Pudney spends a sleepless night in hospital before a general anaesthetic and "the three biggest blokes" in the place manage to put the elbow back in. He estimates it'll be six months from the time of the injury before he can fight again. Why does he do it? "To test myself."



» THERE WILL BE BLOOD Ear swollen and eyebrow gushing, Brad Thompson after his loss to Shane Nix, four brutal minutes into the first round. The referee can step in to stop too much punishment – but will also instruct exhausted combatants to "keep working".

« RAGE BEFORE BEAUTY Cage fighting shares many similarities with boxing, including round-card girls, who also escort fighters to the cage and stand smiling amid the blood-spattered mess at the end.

» THIS MAN HAS JUST RECEIVED A KNEE TO THE FACE Anthony Perosh, after his abrupt loss to Moise Rimbon of France. Perosh's attempted wrestling lunge to Rimbon's waist was countered by a raised knee and a sickening thud.

« NO KILLING It may not seem like it, but there are rules for what fighters can and can't dish out, and when. The referee lets French fighters Moise Rimbon and Francis Carmont know all about it.

« THE HITTING ZONE Fighters wear light, padded, fingerless gloves that let them box as well as wrestle. Many fights start with the former, as above, then become a long grapple for supremacy – with the odd punch thrown in.

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