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Developments To Watch

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A DEVICE THAT GIVES ARM-WRESTLERS A FAIR SHAKE

In the new movie *Over the Top*, Sylvester Stallone plays a truck driver who wins extra cash by arm-wrestling. Stallone muscles his way into the championship the old-fashioned way: hand to hand. But if the movie has a sequel, it might include a newfangled device that could put an end to arm-wrestling as a contact sport.

World Class Events Corp., of Ames, Iowa, which organizes arm-wrestling tournaments worldwide, has developed a machine that should end arguments over controversial hand grips and uneven arm lengths. Instead of grasping the opponent's hand, wrestlers grab levers on either side of the machine. The levers, which are joined by a steel bar down the center, can be adjusted to any arm height, and each wrestler can choose a favorite grip without causing trouble. Using the machine, right-handed wrestlers can challenge southpaws to an even match. Since there are four levers, two sets of partners can engage in team wrestling. "It is not man against machine—it is still man against man," insists World Class Events President Jack Barringer, who is providing the device to tournament franchisees. "The machine is just an equalizer."



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