

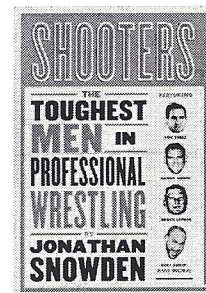
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media contact: Simon Ware, ECW Press

Tel: (416) 694-3348 ext. 151

E-mail: simon@ecwpress.com

****digital cover image available****



Tales of tough men: bestselling author Jonathan Snowden reveals the men behind the myths

Jonathan Snowden, bestselling author of two recent books on mixed martial arts, reveals the secret history of professional wrestling's biggest and baddest men in his new book, *Shooters: The Toughest Men in Professional Wrestling* (June 2012, ECW Press). Separating fact from fiction, Snowden tackles the mythology of the greatest fighters ever to step into the squared circle.

Spanning more than 130 years of wrestling history, beginning in the 1880s with New York's legendary "Solid Man" (William Muldoon), *Shooters* takes readers around the world from Billy Riley's infamous Wigan Snake Pit in Lancashire, England, to the legendary UWF Dojo in Tokyo, Japan. From catch wrestling masters Evan "Strangler" Lewis and Billy Robinson to pro-wrestling icons like Frank Gotch and Lou Thesz, from Olympic heroes Danny Hodge and Kurt Angle to the Japanese wrestler who trained the famous Gracie family and gave birth to the global phenomenon of MMA, Snowden traces the real stories of more than twenty-five wrestlers. *Shooters* provides both historical context and paints a detailed portrait of the men behind the myths—in some cases revealing legitimate tough men with fearsome reputations earned both on and off the mat and in others stripping away the larger-than-life mythology to expose reputations based more on style than substance.

USA Today praised Snowden's *The MMA Encyclopedia* as "an exhaustive look at the arts, athletes, promotions and techniques that make up mixed martial arts." With the publication of *Shooters*, his meticulous research and entertaining style once again delivers a fascinating read, one that sheds new light on the giants of professional wrestling's past.

Jonathan Snowden is the author of the bestselling *Total MMA* (2008) and co-author of *The MMA Encyclopedia* (2010). He is a national lead writer of BleacherReport and is a former radio DJ and television producer. He currently works for the United States Department of Defense.

####

Title: *Shooters: The Toughest Men in Professional Wrestling*
Author: Jonathan Snowden
Publisher: ECW Press
Distributor: Independent Publishers Group (IPG)
Publication: June 2012
Price: \$19.95 U.S./CDN
ISBN-13: 978-1-77041-040-4
Available at: Bookstores and online booksellers

We would appreciate receiving a copy or tear sheet of any review or mention that you may publish.