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ISSUE #20

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THE PITTSBURGH AREA WRESTLING SCENE

JOHN H. LANIGAN

#### 2/10/88 WHEELING CIVIC CENTER, WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA

The attendance was 7,000

FOOD REPORT: On the trip to Wheeling, Steve Schonberger and myself decided to use our Entertainment '89 discount books and stopped at the Century Plaza resturant in Washington, PA. We both had the fried shrimp entree with salad bar. I wouldn't go here for the full price but for 1/2 off it was quite acceptable. The shrimp were too crispy fried but the effect on the french fries was the desired one. We got an extra coupon so we'll probably return and use it on another Wheeling trip. As we approached The Civic Center, Virgil got out of a Lincoln Town Car he was driving to remove the rubber cones at the parking entrance so that he and his "master" Ted DiBiase could proceed. Ted had a bored expression on his face, like we do sitting on a bus going to work. At the souvenier stand, the new red Powers of Pain T-shirts were for sale for just \$13 and I plunked down \$4 to buy 4 WWF bumper stickers I'm sending Betsey Anderson the "If you look like Ultimate Warrior, I'm available! " one and "Caution! This car stops at all WWF events" to Bruce Grummert. Hey Bruce, make a safe recovery, we WWFers need you to keep us honest. Rene Goulet was the agent here again. Now, promoted by The World Wrestling Federation, onto the matches:

(1) "MR PERFECT" CURT HENNIG pinned BLUE BLAZER at 8:15 using a cradle suplex. \* (B) \* Best match of the night. Shucks, no Mel Phillips here to announce again, I plucked out a feather of Blue Blazer's cape for a teenage girl behind me. Blue Blazer got the crowd going early with his early dominance of Hennig. The West Virginia crowd was its usual loud and boisterous self which makes for a enjoyable evening of wrestling. Both exchanged a lot (Continued)

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- of wrestling holds smoothly and quickly. Blazer struggled out of a Boston crab at 8:51 and went to the attack until Curt gave him a hot shot off the ropes followed by the cradle suplex for the pin. This match shouldn't have been the opener.
- (2) ROCKIN' ROBIN pinned SENSATIONAL SHERRI to retain The WWF Women's Title at 10:04. \* (B) \* The Irresistible One yelled at Robin: "I don't know who I hate the worst, you or your slimy brother Jake!" Robin smiled and Sherri cracked up and acknowledged the heel group several times during the match. Fast opening action with Robin nailing Sherri with a clothesline that sent her flying across the ring. When ref Dave Hebner declined to touch and break up girls for using the ropes The Irresistible One said: "Hey Dave! Who do you like? Pat Patterson?" Both girls took very good falls out of the ring around the 7:00 mark. Robin took a hard shot into the stomach from the turnbuckles and The One got on Robin with "Looks like no kis for you Robin!". As Sherri was throwing her shoulder into Robin at the corner, ref Hebner backed her up to enable Robin to execute a sunset flip off the second rope for the pin.
  - (3) RICK RUDE pinned TITO SANTANA using the ropes at 13:15. \* (C) \* Rude called the guys "fat Wheeling wimps". Tito got a lot of cheers here. There was more acting then wrestling with too many long holds and they seemed to telegraph every knee shot to change the flow of the match. Tito put Rude in a figure four but Rude grabbed the ropes at 13:14. Rude held onto ropes and sat on Tito after Tito did a sunset flip to get the pin.
  - (4) HERCULES beat MILLION DOLLAR MAN in a stupid reversed decision at 8:05.

    \* (C-) \* Virgil was banned from ringide. DiBiase grabbed the mike and said to the fans that "Hercules is simply out-classed like West Virginia was agains Notre Dame". The action was fine with Hercules giving Ted some good forearms. Hercules got a knee on a charge to enable DiBiase to pin him with his feet on the ropes. Then Virgil appeared after the match, to gang up on Hercules, who quickly gathered his strength to chase both villians out the ring. Commissioner Rene Goulet came running down and awarded the decision to Hercules for outside interference.
  - (5) <u>DEMOLITION</u> beat POWERS OF PAIN with MR FUJI by DQ to retain their WWF Tag Title at 7:54 \* (C\*) \* These four guys are massive. The One yelled at both Ax and Smash: "You need Fuji!" and we all squeezed our thumbs into our temples and yelled in unison "Mind Control!". Lots of slams, slugging and clotheslines Fuji was good here using his cane but he was caught using the cane on Smash to thwart a pin to get the DQ.
  - (6) GREG VALENTINE pinned JIM "ANVIL" NEIDHART in a nothing match at 7:54.

    \* (D) \* Fans can't relate to Neidhart being a good guy. Anival tried as he bit Valentine on the forehead at 1:13. Anvil bled from the mouth midway through the match. Anvil later took off Valentine's shin guard but Valentine was able to roll him up from behind while Neidhart was arguing with Dave Hebner for taking the shin guard off for the pin.
  - (7) SAM HOUSTON pinned BARRY HOROWITZ with a real good bulldog at 10:22.

    \* (B-) \* The One Yelled: "Hey Sam, Where's Baby Doll? and Sam smiled and answered: "She's home cooking my dinner!" Both had a great flurry with arm drag takedown around the 2:00 mark. Horowitz got a lot of heat and worked the crowd well. Horowitz was on with solid wrestling such as a fine suplex at 8:05. The end came when Houston outslugged Horowitz at 10:00 and finished him off with the bulldog.

(Continued)

(8) ANDRE THE GIANT pinned JAKE "THE SNAKE" ROBERTS in a rather suprisingly long 12:19 \* (C-) \* Andre looked like he just woke up when he entered the ring. Roberts got the loudest cheers of the evening. At the bell Andre got tied up in the ropes but ref Hebner wouldn't let Jake get the snake which was parked underneath one of the ring corners. Andre had Jake in a nerve hold for a long time but with ref Hebner involved, the match wasn't that bad. Andre even stood on Jake's stomach at 7:48. Jake came off the ropes with a forearm to knock Andre down but The Giant quickly recovered to continually choke Jake until he was able to plop his huge mass on Roberts for the pin.

WWF - WHEELING CIVIC CENTER - WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA - THURSDAY 3/16/89 - Savage vs. Warrior, Brawler vs. Rooster, Rude vs. Beefcake, Martel vs. Haku

## 2/14/89 THE WAR MEMORIAL ARENA, JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA The attendance was 3,515. The gate was \$40,780.

FOOD REPORT: Since I was working this show as Deputy Commissioner, my boss wanted to stop at a local Johnstown resturant, Gallo's, for our pre-match meal, instead of my customary hot dogs at The War Memorial. I had my first plate of that Latin American favorite, rice and chilli, since my trip to Mexico City in 1984. It was hot and very good but I can wait another five years until I have it again. After you're finished, it seems like you haven't had that much to eat. At the souvenir stand, for all you folks who need some interior decorating hints, The Ultimate Warrior wall decorators were on sale. Sorry, I don't have the price, figuring if I had to ask, I couln't afford it.

COMMISSION REPORT: Contrary to published reports, The Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission is alive. How well, will be determined in the next several months. The TITAN People gave the Commission people here no problems, and in fact, the Commission allowed two of The WWF referees to officiate, including Louie Fortuna's favorite, Freddie Sparta. The PA refs each worked several matches too. I took care of getting the medical forms ready for the doctor and "keeping score" of the matches at ringside. inside the dressing room Arnie Skoaland was playing cribbage with Andre. Tito Santana replaced Arnie as he was the money agent here, disbursing to the wrestlers their advances and plane expenses. Rene Goulet was in charge of the booking and having the proceedings run smoothly. Andre drank a bottle of Beaujolais wine playing cribbage. He was the only one who was cranky and gave the doctor a difficult time in examing him. The WWF paid the Commission the 5% fee, along with its seperate payments to the referee, announcer, timekeeper and doctor without incident. There were no managers here tonight. Cheryl Roberts was sitting in the foyer and looked to be no more than 18 years old without any of her makeup on. Now, promoted by THE WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION, onto the matches:

- (1) <u>SAM HOUSTON</u> pinned <u>BARRY HOROWITZ</u> at 13:41 with a bulldog from behind. \* (C+) \* Houston has gained some weight. A good opener with both guys doing a nice arm drag takedown flurry around 3:26
- (2) AKEEM went DCOR with BIG JOHN STUDD at 7:44 \*(F) \* If I feel I can wrestle a better match with Tom Burke, than the above two participants, then the matches gets an F. The highlight was that John Studd now has his own entrance music. Mostly grunts and groans. They looked like two bull elephants locking up.
- (3) RON BASS pinned KOKO B. WARE at 16:37 \*(C-) \* Lots of "Baldy" shouts directed by the fans at Bass. Koko did a nice flying body press at 3:00, got a two count, and gave Bass a dutch rub before scampering out of the ring. Kok (3) (Continued)

looked good but Bass was rather slow on charges and takedowns. Bass hit Koko with the base of his whip to get the pin.

- (4) THE BRAINBUSTERS beat THE ROCKERS at 16:26 TULLY BLANCHARD pinned SEAN MICHAELS \* (A-) \* Best match of the night. Just another typical great match between these two teams. Jannetty was in most of the match and got double-teamed by Arn & Tully most of the way. Arn threw Jannetty over the ropes at 13:15 and a 60 year old fan slugged Tully for hitting Jannetty outside the ring. The security guards were stunned for a moment but they escorted the guy out of the arena. This was the first time I ever saw trouble here in Johnstown. Arn Anderson tripped up Michaels to enable Tully to get the pin.
- (5) RICK RUDE pinned TITO SANTANA at 14:46 with the exact same ending in Wheeling on 2/10/89 \* (C=) \* Gosh! You would have thought that Tito would be on the lookout for Rude to sit on him holding onto the ropes for the pin. It was a fair match and Tito yanked down Rude's trunks at 14:10 for a moon shot. Sorry ladies, I Didn't get a picture.
- (6) RON GARVIN pinned BORIS ZUHKOV at 12:32 with a flying body press \* (C-) \* Garvin won the beginning slapfest at 4:25. Both guys worked hard with very few restholds. Garvin was his usual sadistic self in this tolerable matchup.
- (7) JAKE "THE SNAKE" ROBERTS beat ANDRE THE GIANT by DQ. at 12:41 with BIG JOHN STUDD as guest referee. \*(D-) \* I Hope this isn't going to be a WRESTLE-MANIA V match. The ring announcer exclaimed that non of the refs wanted to officiate this match because of the snake, so John Studd volunteered to be the "guest" referee. Studd told Andre: "Hey! Don't you worry about the snake" and threatened Andre with a \$5,000 fine if he didn't enter the ring. Studd & An argued a lot about Andre's chokeholds and it look to me that Studd was trying very hard not to laugh at Andre. Andre kept choking down Roberts, letting go when Studd reached the number four count. Referee Studd couldn't take it anymore and slugged out Andre at 12:00. However, Andre quickly got the advantage and hit Studd for the DQ. Jake got Andre out of the ring real fast when he brought the snake out of the bag. Match improves a quantum leap when Dave Hebner is the referee.

NOTES & STUFF: Word has it that the Mach 3 Pittsburgh Civic Arena AWA show will be a TV taping "spectacular". Had I better borrow a sleeping bag for this one. The only good news is that I may be sharing my thermos of coffee with Anastasia Pantsios of Cleveland and Betsy Anderson of Boston who are coming to visit Pittsburgh for that weekend. The Johnstown crowd was the largest I have ever seen here.

My upcoming schedule of shows are:

AWA - PITTSBURGH CIVIC ARENA - FRI 3/3/89 - Richter vs Dazzler, Iron Sheik vs Sgt. Slaughter, Zbyszko vs Ken Patera, Greg Gagne vs Tommy Rich

IND - DAVIS & ELKINS COLLEGE - ELKINS, WV - SAT 3/4/89 - (if Betsey & Anastasi are willing) - Al Perez vs Wendell Cooley, & Lord Zoltan featured

WWF - WHEELING CIVIC CENTER - WHEELING WV - THU 3/16/89 - Savage vs Warrior. Brawler vs Rooster, Rude vs Beefcake, Martel vs Haku

# CONRAN HALL — ST. TERESA'S Y.A.A. FUND RAISER

THE INDEPENDENT CHAMPIONSHIP

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 1989-6:30 P.M.

#### X3 SUPE IER MAIN BOUTSX

The Unpredictable **JOHNMY RODZ** 

N.C.W. Champ



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THERICON

250lbs. Russia

### \*A SUPER POWER 6 MAN TAG EVENT\*

signed by Frankie Longo & Mike Flawler

THE TWIN TOWER

600lbs. comb. wt. Bklyn. N.Y. —and—

**BIALO THE GIANT** 450lbs. 6ft.6in. mgr. Frankie Longo





THE RHING POWER

800lbs. comb. wt. --and---

400lbs. Silver Lake, N.J. mor. The Captain

#### \*A SUPER POWER 4 MAN TAG EVENT\* signed by The Captain

MONDO KLEEN

300lbs. Calif

Former Westcoast Champ MCNDO KLEE -and--



240lbs: Florida

-and--

**BIG SWEET WILLIAM** 300lbs. N. Carolina mgr. Hubie Mark



RIAN DRESCHER

The Classic Athlete Pan. AM Champ

### \*ACLASSEVENTA

The Heart Throb

TOW NORTON mgr. Sheik Abdulah

\_VS\_

TOW GUCO "T Barbados Island

### \*A SPECIAL EVENT\*

THE BEAST Georgia

-VS- LITTLE WHITE WOLFRed Indian: N. Mexico

### \*PLUS 4 BONUS EVENTS\*

THE SHADOW WARRIOR

-VS-

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MIGHTY MARK ADAM Long Island —VS—

THE GUBAN ASSASSIN Cuba

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GINO CARUSSO Brooklyn, N.Y.

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#### 3/5/89 CONRAN HALL - ST. TERESA'S, STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK

Mr. Nice W. The Oriental Kid -- Black Gorman W. The Rebel -- The Mighty Mark Adam W. The Cuban Assassin -DQ. -- The Shadow W. Gino Carusso -- Little White Wolf W. The Beast -- Tony Norton W. Tony Coco "T" -- Larry Brisco & Brian (Drescher W. Mando Kleen & Big Sweet William (Rev. Dec.) -- The Twin Towers & Bialo The Giant W. The Rhino Powers & Diesel Don -- C.O.R. -- Johnny Rodz W. The Russian Challenger

#### MATCH ONE

Mr. Nice W. The Oriental Kid (Mr. Nice executed a head lock and raked the eyes of The Kid. The Kid flung Nice through the ring and gave him a Karate chop to the chest/stomach area. Nice kneed The Kid in the tigh. Mr. Nice finally won by pin with a rollup and holding the trunks. This match gets a 6.)

#### MATCH TWO

Black Gorman W. The Rebel (The Rebel executed a back body drop, elbow smash to the head and a good leg drop. Gorman executed a bulldog. The Rebel slammed Gorman into the ring post. Gorman, finally, won by pin, after using a foreign object. This match gets a 6.)

#### MATCH THREE

The Mighty Mark Adam: W. The Cuban Assassin -DQ. (The Assassin used his foot t Adam's stomach. Adam: started to use his elbow on The Assassin's back and rammed his face into the ring post. The Assassin tried to pin Mark, but no luck. Mark rammed The Assassin's face into the ropes. Mark, finally, won on a disqualification, because The Assassin hit the referee. This match gets a 7.)

#### MATCH FOUR

The Shadow W. Gino Carusso (Carusso executed a good leg drop and charged at The Shadow. The Shadow moved out of the way and Caruso went flying out of the ring. The Shadow finally, pinned Carusso with a small Package. This match gets a 6.)

MATCH FIVE

Little White Wolf W. The Beast (White Wolf executed a good leg drop. The Beast started to punch Wolf in the face. The Beast used a reverse pile driver. Wolf, finally, won by executing a rollup. This match gets a 6.)

#### MATCH SIX

Tony Norton W. Tony Coco "T" (Norton started to chok Tony and stomped on his face and chest. Coco tried to pin Norton, but no luck. Norton flipped Coco to the mat floor. Norton, then, pinned Coco, while his foot was on the ropes. Thi match gets a 6.)

#### MATCH SEVEN

Larry Brisco & Brian Drescher W. Mando Kleen & Big Sweet William (Rev. Dec.) (Mando & Larry started things off with everything they could think of William clotheslined Brian and Mando body slam him. Larry tried to pin William, but no luck. Sweet executed a figure four on Brian. Mando body slammed Brian and rake Brisco's eyes. Larry executed a dropkick and his foot landed on Sweet's stomac Mando pinned Brian, but the referee then, reversed the decision, because Mando used a foreign object. This match gets a 9.)

#### MATCH EIGHT

The Twin Towers and Bialo The Giant W. The Rhino Powers & Diesel Don -C.O. (This match had alot of action from start to finish. For the size of these wrestlers, they were very agile. Most of the wrestlers in this match were over 350 pounds. Diesel really went at it with Bialo. Finally Rhino Power and Diese Don left the ring for the dressing room and then were counted out, outside the ring. This match gets a 8.) (Continued)

#### MATCH NINE

Johnny Rodz W. The Russian Challenger (Rodz threw The Russian out of the ring. The Russian tried to pin him, but no luck. The Russian started to punch Rodz. Rodz flipped his opponent across the ring and executed a good dive off the top rope. Rhodz pinned The Russian, by hooking his legs. This match gets a 9. This card gets a 7. Not to bad for an independent card. This card was being filmed for local Cable in Staten Island.)

A.F. & K.L.

#### THE WORCESTER WRESTLING SCENE BY

MARIA D. NASO

### 2/20/89 THE WORCESTER CENTRUM, WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS (PARTIAL)

Jose Estrada vs. Paul Roma - Paul Roma wins with a flying drop kick off the top rope. Pins Jose.

Comments: I was sitting there wondering when the match was going to get started. The fans kept heckling Jose throughout the entire match. Jose turned around and was heckling the photographer, who was afraid of him. Match took about 7 minutes to start and there were alot of rest holds I gave this match \*.

The Honkey Tonk Man vs. Brett "The Hitman" Hart - Brett wins by DQ. Brett was on his way to victory and Jimmy Hart stepped in. Brett threw him on top of The Honkey Tonk Man and then went after Jimmy Hart. Honkey Tonk Man banged Brett on his back with the megaphone.

Comments: I love it!! I have to laugh, Kenny. Jimmy Hart got on the microphon and says to the crowd, "If you people do not shut up, The Honkey Tonk Man will positively not sing for you after the match tonight." That got the crowd going. It was a pretty decent match. I gave it \*\*\*.

Leaping Lanny Poffo vs. conquistador #1 - Conquistador wins.

Comments: I left during this match because it was so boring. Can you believe that Lanny Poffo lost to The Conquistador? come on, give me a break. I gave this match \* and it dosen't even deserve that.

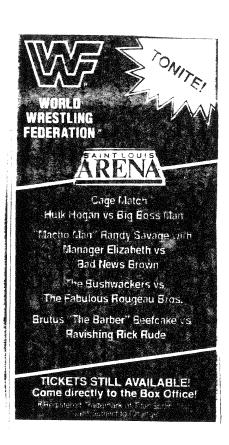
The Rockers vs. The Brain Busters - Brain Busters win.

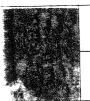
Comments: I was busy taking pictures. I've seen them all wrestle better, Both teams looked tired and they weren't giving it their "all". They did have good moves and the fans were really cheering The Rockers on. I gave it \*\*\*.

## THE VICKSBURG WRESTLING SCENE

SHARON GUILLORY

Brickhouse Brown won over Kendo Nagasaki No rules match. Embry pinned Akbar. No Heat. Akbar of course can't wrestle. Jimmy Jack Funk pinned The Super Black Ninja with a roll up. Kerry & Kevin Von Erich W. Beauty & The Beast with freebird Buddy Roberts. Kerry pinned Beauty after a DDT.





#### KEVIN HORRIGAN

SPORTS EDITOR

## Just Think, Rasslin' Made History Here

Eight-fifteen Friday night and I am sitting in my car, trying to get into The Arena parking lot, thinking that the solution to St. Louis's arena problem should begin with a small tactical nuclear device.

ave never seen traffic like this at 1 St. Louis sporting event. I sit in my car, creeping forward, and I am proud. Just when you thought St. Louis was sliding into the backwaters of American sports cities, along comes an event like the one at The Arena Friday night to restore hope to the

We may not have pro football any more. We may not have pro basketball any more: We may not even have indoor soccer any more. But, by golly, when the World Wrestling Federation needed a place to continue the epic confrontation between Hulk Hogan and Randy "Macho Man" Savage, the WWF knew where to turn. Kind of brings a lump to your throat.

Many thoughts come to your mind when you are stuck in traffic outside. The Arena with three boys in the back seat. How much is tuition at those military schools? Why did writing a rassling column seem like a good idea? Why is the city so eager to turn The Arena site into a "mini-Clayton?" Isn't the real Clayton enough?

I am thinking, six years ago I met Vince McMahon when he was just getting the World Wrestling Federation into the big time. I should have quit my job and signed up, because Vince McMahon is a genius. He turned pro wrestling from a series of local jokes into a major national joke. He got it onto prime-time television and cable TV pay-per-view. He licensed toys and games and pre-ripped Hulk Hogan T-shirts. Vince McMahon is the Pete Rozeile of the '80s.

Finally, at 8:45, we get into the building for the 8 o'clock card for which I left my home, 10 minutes from The Arena, at 7:30. Going in, we pass dozen of disappointed fans, turned way from the soid-out building. I have never seen such a crowd here, not for Missouri-Illinois, not for the Final Four, not for the Stanley Cup playoffs. But then this is not your

This was Hulk Hogan, the symbol of rasslin's new era, the former title holder, former ceiluloid sparring partner of Rocky Balboa, star of hage, screen and little plastic action figures littering the nation's family rooms, in the same building with Randy Savage, his good friend an heir apparent, the only man the hister had deemed worthy to hold the Championship Belt when he was sheated out of it by the perfidy of andre the Giant and Ted DiBiase.

The Hulk and Macho Man wouldn't exactly be wrestling each other, but they would be breathing the same foul Arena air for one of the first times (they've staged this act in other towns) since their tragic falling out on NBC Prime Time two weeks ago in Milwaukee. Surely, you've heard the sad details.

Hulk and Macho, wrestling as the lag-team "The Mega-Powers," were pitted against the Twin Towers, Akeem and Big Boss Man. The Lovely Elizabeth, Macho's constant companon and manager, was felled outside the ring by a falling body. The Hulk mished to her rescue, carrying her in its arms to a first-aid room, leaving facho to be pummeled mercilessiy.

man who just happened to be in the night place to capture every step of Hulk's frantic rush to the first-aid room. We viewers at home got live pictures of the sweating Hulkster nolding Elizabeth's hand, saying, "Ohgodohgodohgodohgod" for approximately 15 minutes.

When Macho finally appeared, was not very happy. Hey, you wouldn't be happy either if you'd been left alone with the Twin Towers. Amazingly, he didn't have a single bruise. But Macho's real concern was that the Hulk had tried to steal his woman. They don't call him Macho for nothing.

Well, ever since then the bad blood has been bubbling. Elizabeth — miraculously, she survived her wounds — was at ringside Friday night when Macho clobbered Bad News Brown with a charto successfully defend his championship. And because she's Hulk's manager, too — her management style seems to consist of wearing a revealing dress — she was there when Hulk climbed into a steel cage with Big Boss Man in the main event.

But lo, just as Hulk was about to climb out of the cage and win the event, who should appear to claim his woman but the Macho Man. Hulk, perplexed by his old pal's jealous rage, climbed down from the cage and immediately was clobbered by Big Boss Man.

Hulk recovered, handcuffed Big. Boss Man to the ring ropes, and won the bout. But his heart was broken. It's become obvious to even the the est wrestling fan that he and Mach. Man are going to have to duke it out. Nobody knows exactly when, though April 2 on national pay-cable for "Wrestlemania V" might be a good guess.

Just a guess. And, just think, St. Louis was part of it. My eyes are getting misty.

Result on next page. (8)

#### LATE RESULTS

#### 1/13/89 GLOBE, ARIZONA

Lou Fabiano W. Louie Spicolli -- Bob Bradley W. Stephen De Leon -- The Beast defeated The Bulldozer -- The Mercenaries W. Bob Bradley & The Bulldozer Steven Gatorwolf W. Big Jake Murdoch

#### 1/4/89 SHO LOW, ARIZONA

Lou Fabiano W. The Bulldozer -- Louie Spicolli W. Stephen De Leon -- The Beas defeated Bob Bradley -- The Mercernaries W. Bob Bradley & The Bulldozer Steve Gatorwolf W. Jack Murdoch

#### 1/20/89 CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA

Goldie Rogers W. Kim Schav -- The Power Twins W. The Cuban Commandos -DQ. Larry Cameron D.C.O.R. Ron Richie -- The Great Gama W. Chris Benoit -- Makhan Singh & Gary Albright W. Steve Blackman & Steve DiSalvo

#### 1/20/89 ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Koko B. Ware W. Barry Horowitz -- John Studd W. Akeem -- Ron Garvin W. Nicoli Volkoff -- Greg Valentine W. Jim Neidhart -- Jim Duggan W. Dino Bravo Randy Savage W. Bad News Brown -- The Demolition W. The Powers Of Pain -DQ.

#### 1/20/89 ROSEMONT, ILLINOIS

Tim Horner W. Danny Davis -- Ron Bass W. Sam Houston -- Curt Hennig DREW Tito Santana -- The Brain Buster W. The Rockers -- Hercules Hernandez W. Virg The Ultimate Warrior W. King Haku -- The Big Bossman W. Hulk Hogan -DQ.

#### 1/23/89 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Ron Garvin W. Barry Horowitz -- Big John Studd W. Akeem -C.O.R. -- The Blue Blazer W. Boris Zhukov -- Randy Savage W. Bad News Brown -- The Bushwakers W. The Rougeau Brothers -- The Ultimate Warrior W. King Haku

#### 1/26/89 FLINT, MICHIGAN

Lombardi W. Lanny Poffo -- Ron Bass W. Tim Horner -- The Blue Blazer W. Danny Davis -- The Brain Busters W. The Rockers -- Ric Rude W. Brutus Beefcake Andre W. Jake Roberts -DQ. The Warrior W. Haku

#### 1/27/89 GLEN FALLS, NEW YORK

Ron Bass W. Tim Horner -- The Warrior W. Haku -- Lanny Poffo W. Conquistador #1 -- The Blazer W. Danny Davis -- The Brain Busters W. The Rockers -- Andre defeated Jake Roberts -- Ric Rude W. Brutis Beefcake (Forfeit)

1/28/89 SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS/ The Blazer W. Danny Davis -- Paul Roma W Ric Rude -DQ. -- Lanny Poffo W. Conquistador #1 -- Ron Bass W. Tim Horner Andre W. Jake Roberts -DQ. -- The Brain Busters W. The Rockers -- The Warrior defeated King Haku 1/28/89 LOWEL, MASSACHUSETTS/ The Blazer W. Bass Warrior W. Rude -- Tim Horner W. Danny Davis -- Paul Roma W. Haku -DQ. Rockers W. Busters -- Poffo W. Conquistador #1

1/28/89 PORTLAND, OREGON/ Karl Styles W. Abudda Dein -- Col DeBeers & Buddy Rose W. Scott Peterson & Steve Doll -- The Grappler W. Top Gun -- Mike Golden DREW Joey Jackson -- Johnny Boyd W. Rex King -- Art Bar W. Al Madril -DQ.

2/6/89 GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN/ John Studd W. Brown -DQ. -- Demolition W. The Powers Of Pain -- Tito Santana W. Nicolia Volkoff -- Savage W. Akeem -- Haku defeated Hercules -- Rooster W. The Brwler -- Tim Horner W. Jose Estrada

#### 2/17/89 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Ronnie Garvin W. Borus Zhukov -- Honkey Tonk Man DREW Brett Hart -- Beefcake defeated Rude -- Curt Hennig DREW Hernandez -- Randy Savage W. Brown The Conquistador #1 W. Scott Casey -- The Bushwakers W. The Rougeau Brothers Hulk Hogan W. The Big Bossman (Steel Cage Match)

#### 3/4/89 PROVIDENCE, RHODE, ISLAND

King Haku W. Tito Santana -- The Red Rooster W. The Brooklyn Brawler Honkey Tonk Man D.D.Q. Brett Hart -- The Bushwackers W. The Rougeau Brothers Hercules Hernandez DREW Curt Hennig -- Koko B. Ware W. Nicolia Volkoff Jake Roberts & The Ultimate Warrior W. Andre The Giant & Rick Rude

#### 3/5/89 SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Koko B. Ware W. Nicolia Volkoff -- The Red Rooster W. The Brooklyn Brawler Curt Hennig DREW Hercules Hernandez -- The Rockers W. The Brain Busters -DQ. Rockin' Robin W. Sherri Martel -- Paul Roma W. Mike Sharpe -- Jake Roberts & The Ultimate Warrior W. Andre The Giant & Rick Rude

MORE OF THE PITTSBURGH WRESTLING SCENE

BY

JOHN H. LANIGAN

#### 3/3/89 THE PITTSBURGH CIVIC ARENA, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

FOOD REPORT: This was the start of a mini-getogether of several of us fans, Anastasia Pantsios of Cleveland and Betsey Anderson of Boston came to Pittsbur to keep me and The Savko Twins company for the weekend. Dave Savko was gallant enough to pick up Betsy from her afternoon flight to enable me to stay at work I got to the hotel to greet Betsey and we waited for Anastasia to drive into town. Anastasia, Betsey and I then proceeded to Mt. Washington to view the bes landmark of Pittsburgh, the city's skyline encompassing the downtown and the confluence of the three rivers. It's really an impressive sight and pretty hard to beat, comparing American cities. After the gals took their photos, which I hope they'll both send me a print or two, we decided to use my resturant coupon book and head to a spanish reataurant in Squirrel Hill, a largely Jewish Pittsburgh neighboorhood. However, the place was closed so we opted for Gulliffty's. This was a great choice as Sharon Guillory would be proud of us, as we all ordered non-fattening stir fry dishes. I got the shrim stirfry, Betsey the chicken stirfry and Anastasia the veggie stirfry. The interesting aspect was that Gullifty's considered broccoli a stirfry item and it was a nice touch. The soy Sauce was a bit sweet to our taste. This place is famous for their outrageous desserts and I passed but the gals had a marble cheesecake and a huge brownie covered with chocolate icing. I gained two pounds watching them devour these caloric enhancements. It's not fair. These two eating like pigs with their svelte figures. At the souvenir stand, there were no souvenirs but AWA programs for \$1.50. It looked like a Kietzer so I declined a purchase. Now, promoted by The Civic Arena Corp and The American Wrestling Association, onto the matches.

- (1) SHANE DOUGLAS pinned R.C. ANDERSON at 14:43 with a belly-to-belly \*\* JL/(C) \* AP/(C+) \* BA/(C) \*\* Shane has put on some weight, probably due to his lack of wrestling activity. Shane laid a great dropkick at 2:44 and did the Tim Horner flip off the opponent's back routine followed by another dropkick at 4:43. Anderson did several soft heel slaps on Shane when he got the advantage midway through the match. That's something I Missed seeing is those deprecating slaps by the heels. Shane started to come on a bit as he got aclimated in the ring.
- (2) LUSCIOUS JOHNNY VALIANT pinned DANTE DENUCCI at 9:12 \*\* JL/(C-) \* AP/( \* BA/(C-) \*\* Both traded bodyslams at the opener and Johnny worked the crowd well taking a good back body drop and getting hoisted-over the top ropes onto the floor. Valiant gave DeNucci a boot on a charge and pinned him with his feet on the ropes.

- (3) WENDI RICHTER defended her AWA Women's crown by pinning OLYMPIA HARTAUER at 10:40 \*\* JL/(D) \* AP/(D) \* BA/(D) \*\* Is great to see wendi again. I can't help it, she's my favorite lady wrestler. Betsey and Anastasia commented that the match was "Two much powder-puff". A nice move for the pin as Wendi flippe over Olympia and pinned her with her legs. Dante DeNucci and Olympia are rumored to be engaged.
- (4) BAD COMPANY with manager DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE beat KEN PATERA & TERRY GIBBS at 14:29 to defend their AWA Tag titles PAUL DIAMOND pinned GIBBS \*\* JL/(B-) \* AP/(B-) \* BA/(B-) \*\* Best match of the night. Terry Gibbs now works in the Pittsburgh area for US Air. Gibbs replaced Tom Zenk who no-showed. A fan yelled at Pat Tanaka "Hey police! Somebody stole his shoes!" Not a bad match as Tanaka and Diamond did a terrific job. Diamond did the Flair flip into the turnbuckles nicely. DD Page used his cane on Patera to give Badd Company the advantage at 9:00. Patera clotheslined Tanaka at 13:48 and Tanaka did a 360° rotation sideways! Tanaka gave Gibbs a savate kick to the face and Diamond covered Gibbs for the pin while ref Bucky Palermo was restraing Patera
- (5) GREG GAGNE pinned WILDFIRE TOMMY RICH at 14:42 to defend his AWA TV title \*\* JL/(C-) \* AP/(C) \* BA/(D) \*\* "Boring!" chants here as they trade arm locks Greg looks a lot better in person than he dose on TV. Both had a nice brawl out of the ring at 12:00 and Greg took charge. Rich gave Gagne a back suplex but Gagne got his shoulder up but Rich didn't for the pin. An angry Rich then gave Gagne a piledriver before leaving the ring. No blood at all.
- (6) WAHOO McDANIELS beat MANNY "RAGIN BULL" FERNANDEZ by COR at 7:41 \*\* JL/C\*\*AP/C- \* BA/C- \*\* I like watching matches involving longtime running feuds sucl as this one. It was nicely done as the Black Bart vs Wild Bill Irwin matches. Wahoo got decent cheers and one fan yelled at Wahoo after being announced from the University Of Oklahoma: "Hey Wahoo! Did you ever get your degree?" Wahoo nailed Manny off the middle ropes. Both brawled outside the ring as Wahoo got into the ring before the 10 count to win the match.
- (7) SGT. SLAUGHTER beat AWA World Champ LARRY ZBYSZKO by DQ at 15:33 to keep his belt. \*\* JL/C \* AP/C \* BA/C \*\* The loudest cheers of the night came when Bruno Sammartino was introduced to the crowd before the match. Zbyszko refused to shake Bruno's hand as Bruno went back to the dressing room. Larry did his antics for the first 5 minutes. This was the best match I've seen the Sarge in for a long time. Sarge went over the top-ropes from an Irish whip, and he did a fine suplex and neckbreaker combination at 13:40. Sarge put Zbyszko in two cobra clutches but Larry was able to get to the ropes on both occasion. Both were brawling outside the ring when Zbyszko hit Slaughter with his belt as he got back into the ring to get disqualified.

NOTES & STUFF: The AWA and The Civic Arena were quite pleased with the amazing walkup crowd and have decided to come back for another show in early may. There is a good possibilty that this upcoming card will be a TV taping. The PA State Athletic Commission appears to be in existence until June 30th. If the PA Senate votes to retain the commission, it will be around for another 10 years. My feeling is that it will remain. The gals, Steve Savko, the evil twin, and myself went out for a few drinks at the wrestlers bar and saw Diamond Dallas Page, Tommy Rich and a suprisingly affable Manny Fernandez after the show.

## 3/4/89 THE DAVIS & ELKINS COLLEGE GYM, ELKINS, WEST VIRGINIA

FOOD REPORT: Anastasia couldn't make this show as she had to shoot photos of Metallica, who were appearing at the Civic Arena. So, Betsey, Dave Savko and myself travelled 3 hours into the deep confines of West Virginia to watch Lord Zoltan. The three of us stopped at the 1863 Resturant for a pre-match dinner.

Davey got a gourmet hamberger which looked really good but the accompanying french fries were dry and burnt. Dave said he should have got some fries at Long John Silver's and put them on his plate as a replacement. Betsey and I went for a bowl of French onion soup and the spinach salad. The soup was all right but they seasoned it with too many cloves. The cloves were a nice touch, but they overdid it. The spinach salad was presented nicely but the dressing was too sour and not warm, which we are both accustomed to in our respective locales. However, the dinning room was old-fashioned which made for a pleasant mood. At the gym, Betsey said "that the popcorn was very fresh, and as arena popcorn goes, very good". The Cokes were excellent. They came out of a CO2 dispencer with just the right amount of ice added. Maybe it was the mountain fresh stream water that the local bottler uses. At the souvenir stand we felt sorry for Anastasia, and bought her an 8 by 10 photo of her favorite soulmates Dusty Rhodes and Manny Fernandez wearing the NWA Tag belts in years gone by. She was estatic when we gave it to her upon our return. Now, onto the matches:

- (1) KRUSHER KLEBANSKI went DCOR with JOHN "HERCULES" GAVIN at 11:59. Betsey and I decided to do a combine rating. \* (C-) Krusher got on Gavin saying he was nothing but a steroid user. Gavin did a monkeyflip and slam on the 3001b+ Crusher at 1:46. Hercules also slammed Krusher after holding him up a while peppered with a nice little fancy twril. Both brawled out of the ring several times using chairs on each other. After both got counted out, Krusher threatened to go after the fans. It reminded me of the Japanese fans scurrying away from Brody or Abdullah. That's the fun of those West Virginia shows. The West Virginia fans are the greatest, as they rarley get out of hand and are always very vocal and enthusiastic. Barricades are not used at these independent shows and you're so close to the action, that the atmosphere can't be beat
- (2) CANDI DIVINE pinned SASSY CHERYL CRAWFORD in a suprisingly good match and 9:07 \*(C) \* Cheryl is Krusher's girl friend. Cheryl is attractive and has a nice figure but displays a great hard facial expression that gets the fans riled up. Candy bodyslammed Cheryl outside the ring on the floor at 4:02. At 4:42 Cheryl did a nice suplex on Candi but Candi was able to reverse the flow quickly with a side leg scissors. Candi pinned Cheryl with a cross body block. Fast action throughout the match. Candi had to get back to Pittsburgh for a flight to Nashville the following morning and then drive 300 miles to Kentucky for a match that evening. What a trooper she is.
- (3) THE U.S. EXPRESS, SY YOUNGBLOOD & SONNY PRIDE went to a 30 MINUTE TIME LIMIT DRAW with the TIME MACHINE, LORD ZOLTAN & JESSE "MADMAN" SALICA with manager MARK CURTIS. \* (B) \* Best match of the night. Salica looks like a pudgy David Lee Roth with long blond teased locks. The Time Machine pear-harbored the Express but Sonny Pride recovered quickly to give Zoltan a tremendous back body drop. Zoltan went as high as Pat Tanaka dose. I just can't figure it out. Pride and Zoltan's wives are close friends and the couple have spent weekend vacations together. But they are longtime bitter adversarie in the Pittsburgh Tri-State area. They just can't get rid of all that bad blood between them. Most of the match was spent by the heel's doubleteaming of Youngblood. The match would of been better if it was a 20 minute time limit as the grapplers began to lose some of their intensity. Zoltan took a hard chair bump on the head he missed smacking sy on the head and hit the ropes by mistake to have the chair ricochet onto his noggin.
- (4) T.C. REYNOLDS pinned "MASTER OF DISASTER" MARK CURTIS at 7:32 \* (C-) \* The 1201b Curtis mad the best of a bad situation as he was subbing for Vladim: Markoff. I yelled at ref Mario Marella (no relation to Joey) that he should disqualify Curtis for being on steroids. Mark did a lot of fancy Dan moving about to keep away from Reynolds. The line of the night was by Curtis as he ran around ringside to stay away from T.C. and beckoned to me: "What should

- I do John?" I was speechless and all I could do was motion to him to run to the dressing room. T.C. superplexed Curtis off the top turnbuckle for the pir
- (5) KURT KAUFMAN pinned KRUSHER KLEBANSKI at 5:59 \*(D\*) Kaufman has made the greatest improvement of any local Tri-State wrestler in the past year. Klebanski had to do double duty as Gary "King" Lawler, the counerfeit one, no-show dor this event. Thats the peril of indies, no-shows. Kaufman had a nice opening flurry of a monkeyflip and dropkick on Krusher. Krusher came back with a very good body press and slam at 3:55. End came when Krusher hit himself with a chair a la Zoltan in the third match to enable Kaufman to get the winning pin.
- (6) "THE LATIN HEARTTHROB" AL PEREZ pinned SEXY RON SEXTON at 9:32. \* (C-) \* Sexton replaced Wendell Cooley who also no-showed. The first "Boring" chants started here as the fans began to get tuckered out. Perez looks fantastic as usual and did his best. Both did a double clothesline on each other at 8:17. Perez pinned Sexton with his feet on the ropes. Not much heat in this match probably because Perez is so good-looking that the lady fans just couldn't boo him.
- (7) SEXY RON SEXTON won the \$10,000 Battle Royal in 3:09 \*(C) \* All these indy shows in West Virginia and Ohio end with a battle royal with everyone participating. Order of elimination were as follows: Zoltan, T.C. Reynolds, Pride, Krusher, Kaufman, Salica by a clothesline by Youngblood, and then Youngblood, Sexton then double clothesline both Hercules Gavin and Al Perez in a very good ending to win the big bucks.

NOTES & STUFF: It was fun being with the twins and Betsey and Anastasia. The ladies and I are going to Denver July 12th-17th. Are You? We're working on the twins now to join us all. Next show - Thur March 16 - WWF - Wheeling, WV-Savage vs Warrior, Brawler vs Rooster

#### THE WORLD OF NOSTALGIA

#### THIRTY ONE YEARS AGO, 6/28/58 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Roy Shire & Danny McShain DREW Manuel Cortez & Sam Berg -- Lou Plummer DREW Moquin -- Don Leo Jonathan W. Tiger Tasker -- Dick Afflis W. Olivia Assaelin

#### THIRTY ONE YEARS AGO, 7/2/58 HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS

Danny McShain & Roy Shire W. Alex Sorley & Jack Barry -- Don Evans W. Frank Shields -- Lou Plummer W. Tiger Tasker -- DQ.

#### TWENTY FOUR YEARS AGO, 5/3/65 BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND

Ernie Riley W. Hans Streiger -DQ. -- Prince Kumali W. Turi Borienko -- Jim Hart W. Barry Cannon -- Mike & Seamus Donlevy W. Alf & Ken Cadman

#### TEN YEARS AGO, 5/12/79, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

The Super Destroyer Mark II W. Dick Reynolds -- Bobby Duncum W. ? Rodriquez Paul Ellering & Doug Gilbert W. Jessie Ventura & Doug Sommers -- Billy Robinson W. Lord Alfred Hayes -- Greg Gagne W. Pat Patterson -- The Crusher W Nick Bockwinkel -DQ.

#### SEVEN YEARS AGO, 12/5/82 MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Jesse Barr W. Masked Maruder -- Adrian Street W. Masked Maurder #2 -- Bobby Eaton & Koko Ware W. Dutch Mantell & Bobby Fulton -- Jerry Roberts deafeated Apocalypse -- Steve Keirn & Stan Lane W. The Sheepherders -- Troy Graham & Rick McGraw W. Jerry Lawler & Bill Dundee -DQ. -- Terry Taylor W. Sabu The Wildman -DQ. -- Jerry Lawler won a 22 man 2 ring triple chance battle royal.

The IWA Invitational will be held at the Writers' Manor in Denver, Colorado from July 12th - 16th. The following brochure has the telephone number of the hotel. If you are planning to attend call the hotel for reservations and fill out the following form. More information will follow in upcoming issue

## Return Reservation Form Writers' Manor

1730 South Colorado Blvd., Denver, Colorado 80222 For Reservations Dial Toll Free: 1-800-525-8072 In Colorado Call Collect: 1-756-8877 IWA Invitational
Grp# IWA/G1706
July 12-16, 1989
Reg. Fast Bldg. Rooms

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We extend our thanks to the following contributers in this issue; Maria D. Naso, Ron Lemieux, Tom Burke, Fred Hornby & John H. Lanigan

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