

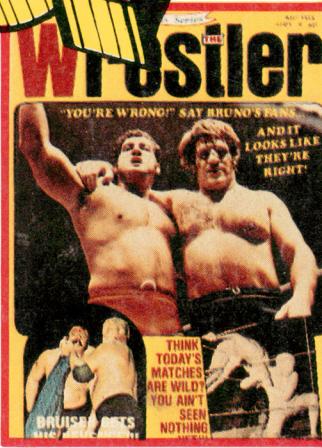
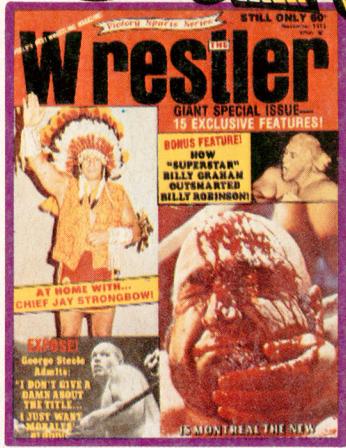
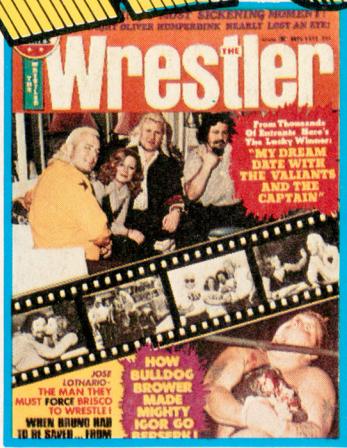
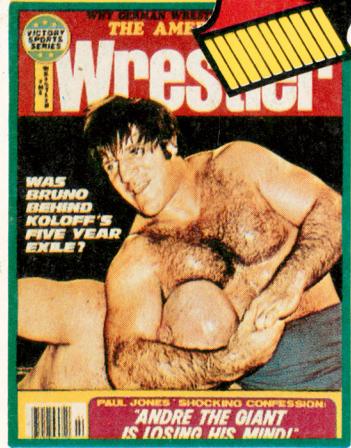
THE BEST OF THE

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SUMMER 1977

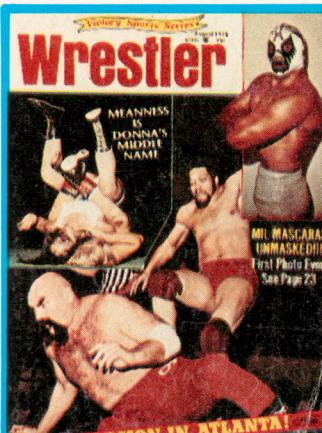
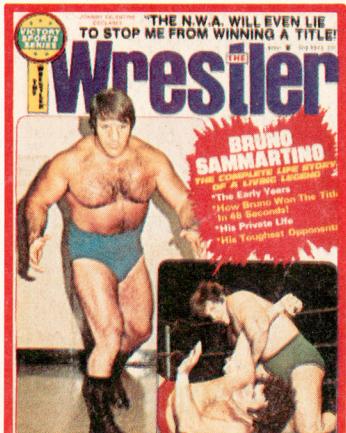
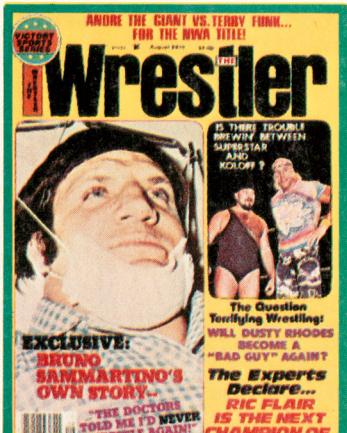
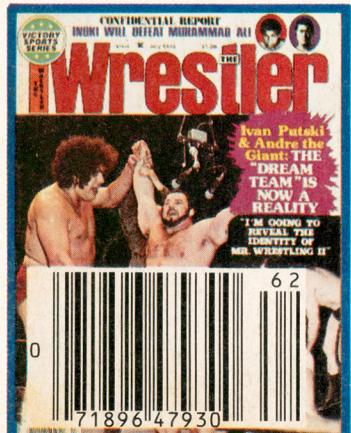
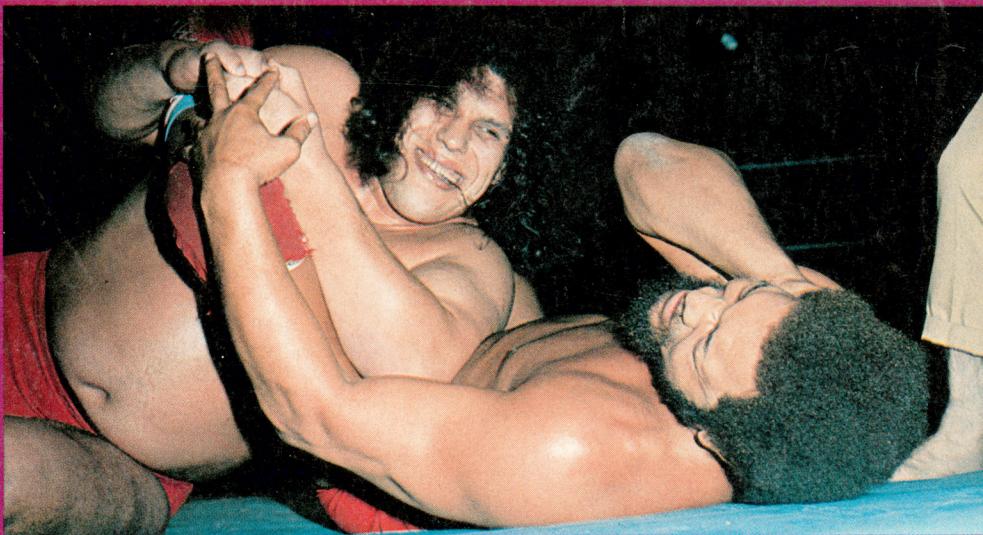
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Wrestler



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A Fantastic Selection Of The Greatest Wrestling Stories Ever Published!



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FAT-BURNING SYSTEM - FOR THE BODY

POSITIVE PROOF THIS SYSTEM REALLY WORKS... AND FAST!!

My name is Brad Mitchell. For many years I have helped thousands of people lose weight. And I believe I can help you!

I realize that today, there are so many weight loss products and programs on the market, that you are probably thoroughly confused as to which one is truly effective.

Everyone, both young and old is striving for that slim, sleek, youthful and energetic figure. The problem is how to achieve such a shape without damage to your health and at the same time keep your energy level high in order to cope with the tensions and rapid pace of today's world.

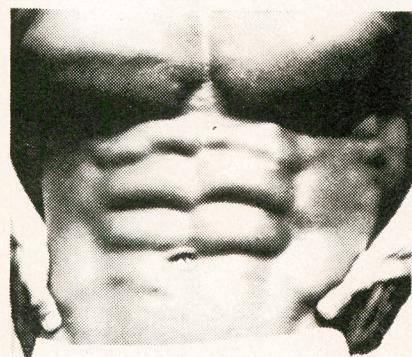
I have developed such a system!

I firmly believe that this Amazing Fat Burning system is the most effective system ever. I should know, just take a look at my before and after pictures. I lost 18 pounds of ugly fat, in only 15 days.

And, believe it or not, I kept my stomach full of food (no hunger pains).

And, my wife lost 40 pounds in only 30 days!

Since then, I have been continuously researching areas of nutrition, bodybuilding, and diet programs, in order to help thousands achieve that slim attractive shape desired by everyone. In fact everyone I put on this Amazing Fat Burning System, reported that they made fantastic weight losses--fast and easily!



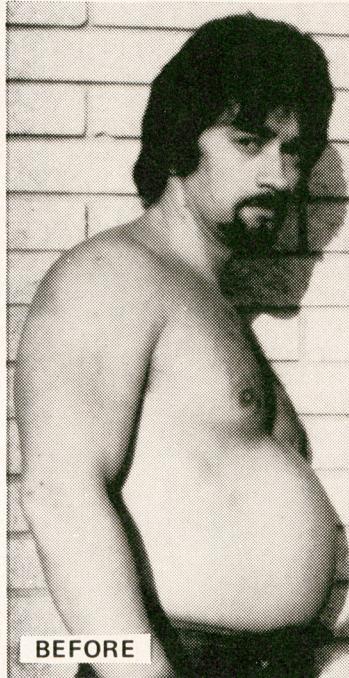
FREE WAIST COURSE!!

Order your Fat-Burning System today and we'll send you FREE our fantastic ABDOMINAL COURSE. This big book will show you how to have a trim, muscular waist in the fastest time possible! Get rid of that pot-belly and have a sexy, trim waist. You'll look and feel like a new man!

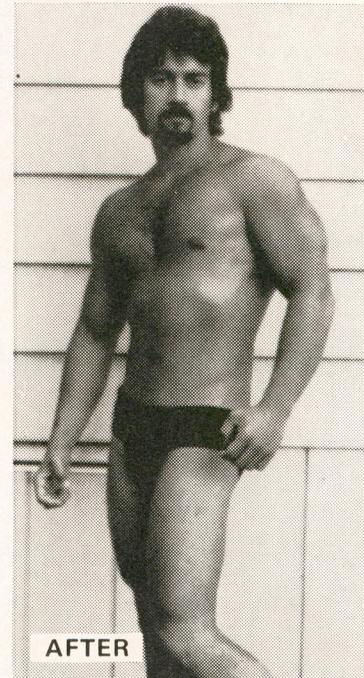
IS IT THE WORLDS FASTEST, MOST EFFECTIVE FAT BURNING SYSTEM EVER?

I sincerely think it is! Why? Because many of the principles and methods used are the same as those used by top physique champions to eliminate all excess fat.

In fact, many physique champions reduce their body fat to the extreme, so that the skin becomes almost paper thin. Certainly you don't want to become extremely thin. But, it's nice to know that the Fat Burning System can accomplish



BEFORE



AFTER

almost any weight reduction you desire. And isn't that what you want?

This system is so unique and effective (because it really works)--so much so, that we have had the system copyrighted with the US Government, so that the secrets cannot be copied and stolen!

MAN OR WOMAN--YOUNG OR NOT SO YOUNG--THIS SYSTEM IS FOR YOU!

Everyone can use this system, regardless whether you're young or not so young. It doesn't matter whether you're 10 or 100 pounds overweight, or how many times you have tried to get into shape. With this new system you'll lose weight faster than ever before. In fact you'll have more energy, strength and endurance so that you will feel younger and enjoy a fuller more active life.

I HAVE A SUPER EXERCISE FOR YOU! MORE EFFECTIVE THAN JOGGING!

To help you loose that fat even faster, I've developed a program for a Fun exercise that is more effective than jogging (in the same amount of time), yet it can be done in the privacy of your own bedroom. It takes only several minutes, three times a week to perform this unique exercise! This exercise is done by top athletes and even astronauts. You won't believe how fast your energy level will rise (and how fast you'll get back into shape).

THIS AMAZING SYSTEM REQUIRES ONLY A MINIMAL AMOUNT OF YOUR TIME!

This system requires a small amount of your time (and some effort), but the results will be nothing short of miraculous! Our program offers you plenty of food to eat, plus supplements that will also help burn off the excess fat.

IF YOU REALLY WANT TO BE TRIM AND SLIM...AND WITHIN DAYS BEGIN TO SEE A REAL DIFFERENCE

IN YOUR APPEARANCE--THEN THIS SYSTEM IS FOR YOU!

Remember, it doesn't matter how many times you have tried to lose weight, your time has finally come, with the Amazing Fat Burning System!

A healthy slim, trim and energetic figure is our goal--make it yours!

SEE DRAMATIC RESULTS IN JUST DAYS...OR RETURN EVERYTHING FOR A FULL REFUND!

You have nothing to loose except fat. Try the Amazing Fat Burning System for a couple of weeks--if you don't feel that the results are fantastic in every way, you can return the system to us, and you'll get a full refund. Just like that! No questions asked.

Give it a try today.

Brad Mitchell
27313 Plymouth Rd., Dept VI-2
Detroit, Michigan 48239

Okay, Brad, I accept your offer! But I've got to feel that the Amazing Fat Burning System is the greatest and that the results will be nothing short of miraculous. Otherwise I'll send everything back for a full refund! I enclose \$9.95. (cash, check or money order)

Please charge Bank Americard
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Credit Card No. _____

Expiration Date _____ Interbank No. _____

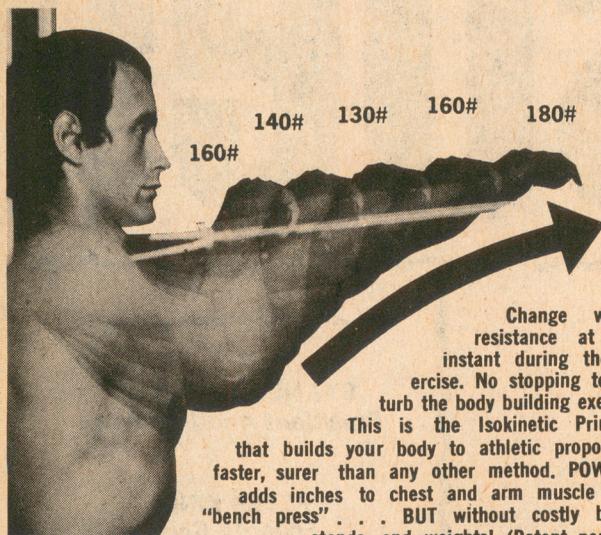
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HERE'S RESULTS FAST — SURE — PROOF

A group of researchers stated that all published research matching isokinetics with weight lifting and isometrics showed that isokinetics is greatly superior for muscle building.

● "After four weeks of using the exerciser, my strength has doubled . . . thanks to you." —J Castillo, AK.

● "I'm beginning to look like I did when I got out of the Marine Corps." —Don C., PA.

● "In just 6 weeks, I put 2" on my arms, 3" on my chest, 2" on my thighs, and gained 22 lbs." —N.D.

● "In complete honesty, I think it is a great exercise program . . . the best one on the market!!!!" —Dave Fuss, IL.

● "You just aren't another rip-off company. You back what you say." —T Roecklein, WI.

● "I've averaged from 2-3" on my legs, arms, and chest — I'm glad that I did invest the money." —Richard Ozer, MT.

● "Enclosed is my money order (for a new Powerex). I know how good it is. I had one and I lost it. I am in several sports and cannot win without Powerex. It is the greatest!" —G Scott, Canada.

● "Arms increased 2½", chest 3", decreased waist 2", and gained 20 lbs. —look and feel a lot better!" —Joseph Moreno, CA.

● "I used to be a singles man — this season I was a home run hitter, and I credit Powerex with this." —T J. AL.

● "The results are just FANTASTIC!" —Richard Lynn, MN.

ILLUSTRATED WALL CHART COURSES

POWEREX is safe, and light — under two pounds. POWEREX is compact, quick and easy to use, anytime, anywhere. At no extra cost, you also get a big 20 x 28-inch wall chart with illustrations and instructions. Several courses are described . . . for increased strength, bigger muscles, or turning fat into muscle. One course takes only 15 minutes a week.

THIS IS OUR UNCONDITIONAL MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

POWEREX must bring you results. Try it for 14 days. If you are not satisfied with your POWEREX for any reason whatsoever just send it back for an immediate full refund of your money. No questions . . . no delays! We want you to be satisfied! AND in addition, we guarantee all parts and workmanship for one full year from date of purchase!

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Scientific Test PROVES Isokinetics

- 166% Better Than Weights
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For Putting Muscle on YOU!

Isokinetics is now proved superior to weight training for building your strength, body and explosive power . . . faster, more effectively than any other method.

A leading medical journal published the scientific experiments of recognized researchers. Average peak strength improvement after only 8 weeks for each type of exercise was:

Isokinetics 47.2%
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Isometrics 12.1%

During each Isokinetic exercise, you continually change the "weight" to the amount that your muscles need for fastest maximum development . . . without stopping. Until recently the only Isokinetic exercisers available were complicated machines costing from \$120 to over \$4000. But NOW, A NEW invention, amazing in its beautiful simplicity, puts Isokinetic muscle building within your reach for only a few dollars.

POWEREX — ISOKINETICS

The invention is POWEREX — an Isokinetic exerciser designed to give you the ultimate benefits of muscle strength, and explosive power faster than ever. And, as you know, with this comes the added benefits of confidence, and the outgoing personality that enables you to get along well with others of both sexes.

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LOW COST — ORDER NOW

The best part is POWEREX costs you only \$ 9.95 For about 1/10th the cost of the next isokinetic exerciser on the market, the benefits of isokinetic muscle building are yours!

So don't wait another moment . . . fill out the coupon, write your check or money order, and get it in the mail now. The sooner you do, the sooner you receive your POWEREX and start the isokinetic way to a muscular body and dynamic power!

ORDER ON 14 DAY TRIAL

POWEREX, R.M. L-37

11180 Roselle St., San Diego, CA 92121

Please Rush me my Powerex isokinetic exerciser and wall chart of exercises. I enclose check or money order for \$ 9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling (total \$10.95 No COD's. (California residents please add 84¢ sales tax.) I understand that, for any reason whatsoever, I may return my Powerex and chart within 14 days of receipt for a full refund of my \$10.95 no questions asked.

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THE BEST OF THE Wrestler

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HAVE YOU SEEN THIS COUPON BEFORE?

It has helped to start many men and women on the road to greater accomplishment. Just looking at it won't get you anything... but mailing it could lead to a more rewarding future.



The LaSalle coupon is one of the most often-seen coupons in America. To many of those who have already mailed it, it has proved a first step to opportunity. Isn't it time that *you* sent it on its way — and learned how one of LaSalle's practical programs could benefit you?

Right now, ambitious men and women in many walks of life are preparing for better futures with the help of LaSalle spare-time training. Whether your goals are increased career opportunities or self-improvement you owe it to yourself to find out what LaSalle home study can do for you.

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INTRODUCTION

ONCE AGAIN, WE dip into the files of wrestling's most widely read magazine, THE WRESTLER. The stories we have chosen are among the most insightful and exciting ever printed. Not coincidentally, they are the stories most requested by the fans, the ones which generated the most interest. We're delighted to give our readers a second chance to enjoy these milestones in wrestling journalism.

We begin this issue with **The Startling Change in Larry Hennig!** What turned Larry from a ruthless rulebreaker to a popular mat star? The answers are found in this remarkable article. The revelations contained in this story are as important today as when this article first appeared in February 1975. The lessons to be learned from it apply to all wrestlers, not only to Larry.

For sheer excitement, it would be hard to beat **\$5,000 On Top of a Pole**. This is one of the wildest battle royals on record. The check was perched upon a pole which the winning wrestler would have to climb to collect his reward. The ending is one of the most surprising and heartwarming we've ever published. Although it first appeared in December 1974, our office still receives letters of praise on it.

The many fans and enemies of Superstar Billy Graham will surely want to read and reflect upon **The Two Faces of Superstar Graham**. Many of our readers continue to say this is the best article ever printed on the grappler. All the

complexities, all the contradictions, come as close to being explained as well as they ever will. Those who didn't get to read it in our September 1974 issue are in for a treat.

One of the strangest stories ever printed has to be **Get Up, Boris, You Won!** As you might expect, it details one of the most ferocious battles in wrestling history. Its ending, though, has to take a back seat to its beginning, which is remarkable in many ways. This is another story whose importance lingers long after most of the events in April 1974 have been forgotten.

No discussion of great matches would be complete without mentioning Ernie Ladd's remarkable brawl against Ox Baker, recalled in the aptly titled, **Explosion in Atlanta!** These two ferocious competitors waged an incredible war and it's all contained in the story. People still shudder recalling it, and the article appeared way back in August 1974.

Guess whose favorite story is **Harley Race Brags "I Ran Gene Kiniski Out of Town!"?** Well, more people than Race have enjoyed this tale, although it makes many others' blood boil. We include it in this issue because we believe it tells a great deal about Race and Kiniski, two of the top men this sport has ever known. Whether or not you read this article when it first appeared in May 1974, we're sure you'll enjoy reading it now.

We'll keep **Mystery of the Loaded Glove** a mystery until you read it. Fans wrote to tell us

this was one of the many pleasures they found in our classic January 1975 issue.

When A Referee Answers Your Questions first appeared in August 1972, the wrestling community read and discussed it avidly. They still occasionally mention it around arenas. Here it is again. Be ready to start arguing.

The Match That Must Never Be Made first appeared in March 1972. It proves the more things change, the more they remain the same.

We're sure you'll never forget **The Ape Man Who Danced in Banana Skins**. It has to be the oddest tale we've ever printed. At least that's the opinion of most of our fans. When we first started printing **BEST OF THE WRESTLER**, we began to get requests for this story that first appeared in February 1969. We're delighted to honor the requests.

Bruno's Counted Out—But He's Still Got the Belt terrified Sammartino's countless fans when it appeared in July 1974. We hope reprinting this important story doesn't make their nightmares return!

Who is **Wrestling's Underrated Strongman?** People who read our magazine in February 1975 were astonished. We think you'll be astonished all over again.

Lastly, **The Fabulous Kangaroos and the Royal Kangaroos Demand A Showdown** is perhaps the most remarkable story we've ever printed on the tag team wrestling scene. Professional wrestlers thought this was the best story to appear in our August 1974 issue.

We're sure you'll enjoy the classic articles contained in this magazine. If we have missed any of your favorites, write to tell us. We're always anxious to hear from fans. □

FUN, LAZY WAYS TO MAKE A LOT OF MONEY

Unless You plan on working the rest of your life - You better get hold of this valuable book!

Want to get out of the rat race? Have some fun and maybe get rich?

It's a fact that there are thousands of 'fat-cats' out there who are raking in the money, while putting in almost no physical labor!

I should know, I'm one of those 'fat-cats'!

But, I used to work hard, you know, the 12 hour day, 6 and 7 days a week. I was too busy working to make any real money! I never made the Big-Money until I started working less, a lot less!!

Today, I work but a few hours a day (if I want to), yet I take in thousands of dollars a day, every day of the year! I am surrounded by beautiful women, clothed and even totally nude (how's that for a fun, lazy way to make money?).

\$100,000.00 A YEAR!!!



Almost \$2,000 a week! Imagine having girls by the hundreds undressing in front of you -- and getting paid big money! Can be started in a one room office, for pennies! It's a legal, respectable money-making-venture. A dream, fun job!

Now, pardon me if I brag, but my words are worthless unless I can prove to you that I know what I am talking about!

I am a Millionaire and I have all the things associated with wealth. I live in a home valued over \$150,000.00 and I have a second vacation home on the lake (with several boats). And I drive the most expensive built car in America!

I own an apartment building, plus two office buildings, real estate, investments and I have a fortune in the bank!

Yet, for many years I was poor -- very poor. I started with less than \$50 -- and working only a few hours a day, I made over a Million dollars!! (and, I was having a 'ball' while making all this money)

Money gives me the freedom and the time to enjoy life! I do exactly what I want to do! I answer to no one. I vacation whenever and wherever I want, whether it be Las Vegas, Hawaii, Acapulco or Florida all First Class!!

Regardless where I am that money keeps rolling in! My glamorous assistants keep taking in the money. Certainly, the people who are making twenty times as much money as you are, aren't putting in twenty times as much work as you are (think about that).

Work doesn't make you Big-Money -- IT'S WHAT YOU DO THAT MAKES YOU BIG MONEY. That's how you get rich, you find 'EASY MONEY PLANS' that make you money!! Money hand-over-fist, until YOU are wealthy!!

I have opened up my files and put together a BIG BOOK, loaded with ingenious, shrewd, dynamite ways to make a lot of money!!



Why did I put together this book? Two reasons - vanity, seeing my name on a big book and something to show my children, someday!

My second reason is that so many people have asked me to put a book together because many have been fascinated, even envious of my life style (and money). Almost everyone I talk to is unhappy with the way they are earning a living! They beg me to give them my secrets on making a lot of money, in a fun, lazy way!

If you really want to be rich...and have that money pouring in (and really enjoy the way you're making the money), knowing that other men envy you, women admire you, and that you've gotten more than your share of life -- this book will show you the way!

\$1,000 A WEEK!!
(yet, I do nothing)



The young lady above is showing you the money she makes for me, every week!! She does all the work - all I do is the banking! I profit up to \$1,000 weekly, year after year!

It took me several years to perfect this Money-Making-Plan - but, you can have the entire set of plans, including my valuable forms! All you have to do is clip them out of the book and take it to your printer -- and you are in business!!

This Money-Plan provides a very necessary service to businesses! You sell nothing!! You use nothing but my special forms, which you are free to duplicate.

You don't have to do any work (unless you want to), you can hire a girl to do the typing and stuffing of envelopes!

Your phone book will give you all the names and addresses you need for this Money-Making-Plan. It can be started in any corner of your home -- and you can start with very little money!!

Why should I give you my valuable secrets and printed forms? Simply because it is impossible for me to cover the entire country -- millions need this valuable service. I can only tap a small part of it -- you're welcome to the rest!!

Most of these 'Easy Money Plans' require little capital (if any), and many can be done almost anywhere.

In fact, I was making over \$1,000 a week operating out of my basement (for several years), before I moved into an office!

Why not get everything you want out of life? You can still do it! If you have a job you hate and you're just getting by in life -- this book can erase your financial burden and put you on easy street for the rest of your life!

Age doesn't matter -- young or not so young, it's still easy to make money in a fun, lazy way! Education means nothing (I had a C average in high school). Background means nothing (believe me, mine was bad). If you're broke, that means nothing (I lived near poverty and started with pocket change).

Try my book out -- take a few days or up to 6 months and if you feel, for any reason that this book isn't worth 100 times what you paid for it, return it for a full fast refund! No questions asked. Just like that!

You can use this book without risking a single penny (I'll let you postdate your check thirty days from now, which will eliminate your risk) -- you would be a fool not to try this book! It's the biggest bargain ever! Why? Because for the small sum of \$10 you're going to get a Big, Fat Valuable Book (large, over 8 x 11), loaded and crammed with photo's, illustrations and Fun, Lazy Ways To Make A Lot Of Money!!

You have nothing to lose and everything to gain! If I am wrong all you have lost is a few minutes, and a postage stamp! But, if I am right -- wow -- your whole life style is going to change!!

Kurt Todd

Kurt Todd
Success International
Box 40614, Dept Y1-2
Detroit, Mich. 48240

Okay, Kurt, I accept your offer! Send me that Big, Fat Book -- 'FUN, LAZY WAYS TO MAKE A LOT OF MONEY!' But, it's got to make me lots of money, or I can return it for a full, fast refund! On that basis, I enclose \$10 (cash, check or money order).

I'm in a big hurry, send it FIRST CLASS (Air Mail)...enclosed find an extra \$2 for postage/handling!

Please charge Bank Americard
 Master Charge

Credit Card No. _____

Expiration Date _____ Interbank No. _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

Larry Hennig obeying the rules? Before you say it's ridiculous — read this!

THE STARTLING CHANGE in Larry Hennig has had many people wondering.

"What happened to him?"

"I actually like him now."

"I liked him better when he was mean."

Fans are wondering out loud about the sudden change in this one-time bad boy of the mat.

The question is inevitable. Why? Why did Larry Hennig turn good? People have speculated about the answer.

"He must have met a good woman," one fan was overheard saying.

"He's just grown up," another offered.

"He fell off a ladder and had a concussion and can't remember who he is," said another fan.

One even offered that Hennig was under psychoanalysis.

The explanations get more complicated with each attempt to understand the man. But actually his reason is quite simple.

"I couldn't stand myself anymore. I'd wake up in the morning and ask myself, 'Why? Why do I even bother?'

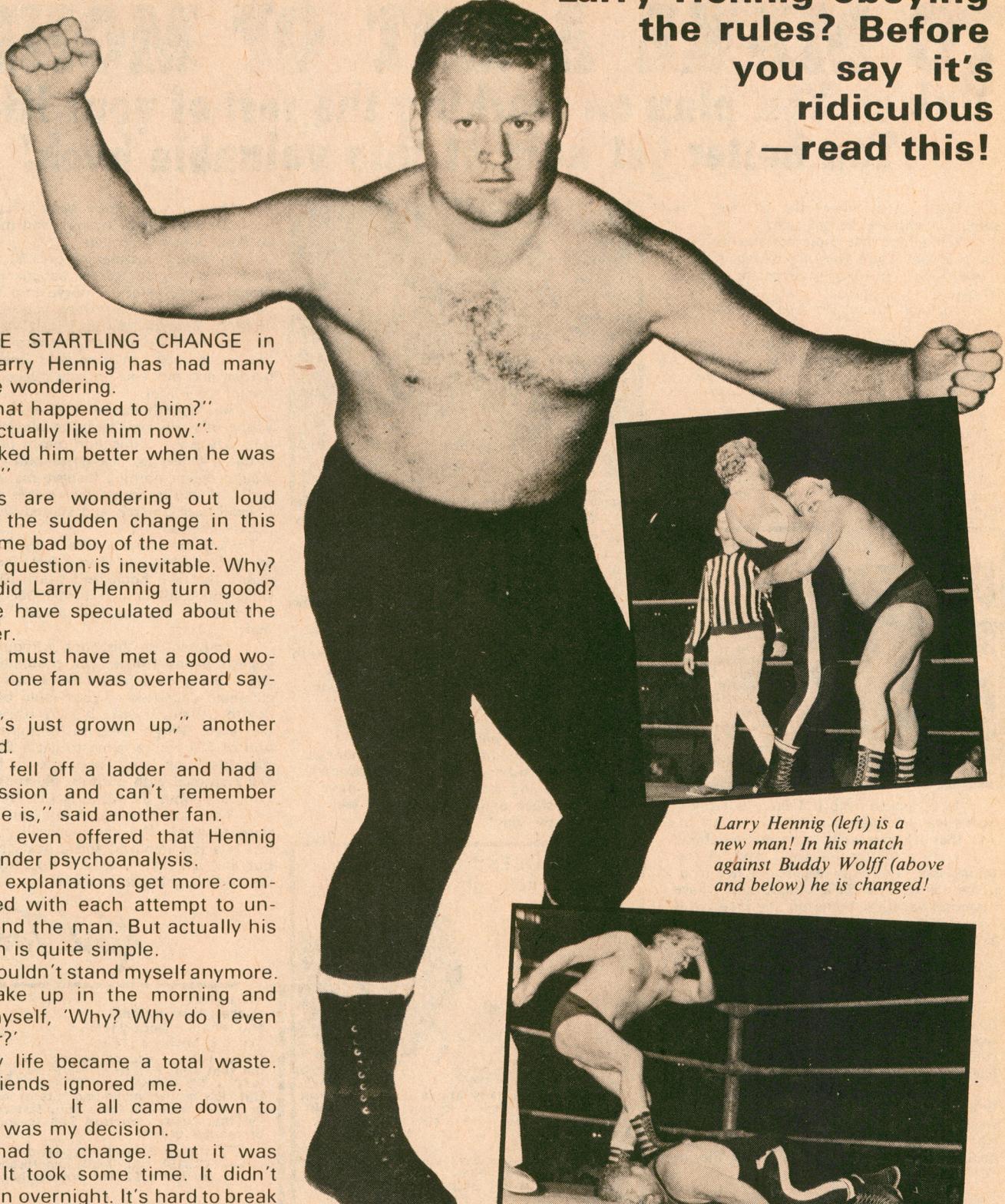
"My life became a total waste. My friends ignored me.

It all came down to me. It was my decision.

"I had to change. But it was hard. It took some time. It didn't happen overnight. It's hard to break old habits, you know."

(Continued on page 60)

THE STARTLING CHANGE IN LARRY HENNIG!



Larry Hennig (left) is a new man! In his match against Buddy Wolff (above and below) he is changed!

There's a world of music between having a guitar... *and knowing how to play it!*

Discover the secret of teaching yourself
to play the guitar, piano, or spinet organ
—the "right" way. Send for free booklet.

Any one can own a guitar. Playing it well, however, is a different tune.

Why not give yourself a chance to play as well as you really could? You could be playing all your favorite songs. Folk or rock. Classical or pop. Hymns or spirituals. Jazz or ballads.

You can teach yourself to play the "right" way — at home — in much less time than you might imagine.

PLAY "RIGHT" FROM THE START

Thousands of people just like you have gained new pleasures by learning to play with the enjoyable self-teaching lessons we give by mail. You can too.

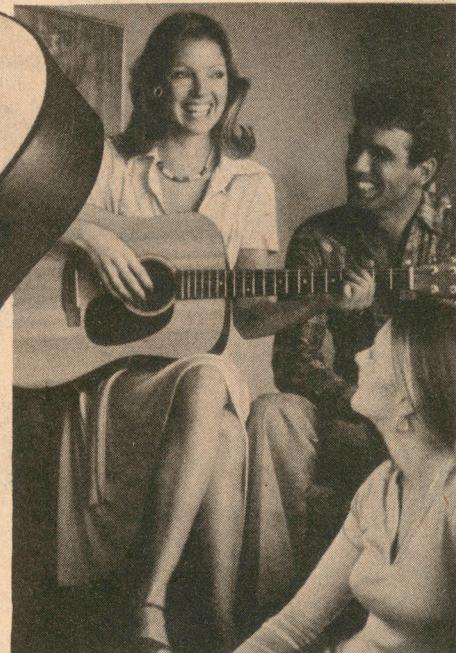
The secret lies in our clear, step-by-step, word-and-picture instruction method. It teaches you to play the *right* way. Without gimmicks. You learn to read and play notes . . . so you'll be able to play practically any song, merely by looking at its sheet music.

YOU SET YOUR OWN PACE

You learn in spare time, in the privacy and comfort of your own home. There's no one standing over you to make you nervous. There's no clock-watching private teacher at \$4 to \$10 per hour to worry about. You take as much time mastering any lesson as you wish.

SEND FOR FREE BOOKLET

If you've ever dreamed of being able to play the piano, guitar or spinet organ, why not learn more about our convenient, low-cost method? Mail coupon for free booklet today. There's no obligation. U.S. School of Music, A Home Study School Since 1898.



The Guitar is just one of several popular instruments taught by the U.S. School of Music. If you prefer, learn the piano or spinet organ — all for far less than you'd pay a private teacher. Our courses teach you to play the right way, not just chords and bass notes in combination.

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MAIL THIS COUPON FOR FREE BOOKLET

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Studio 16-610

417 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60605

I'm interested in learning the secret of teaching myself to play the instrument checked below. Please send me, FREE, illustrated booklet. (Free "Note-Finder" included with Piano or Guitar booklet.) I am under no obligation.

Check one only:

Guitar (pick style) Piano Spinet Organ (2 keyboards)

Mr.

Mrs.

Miss

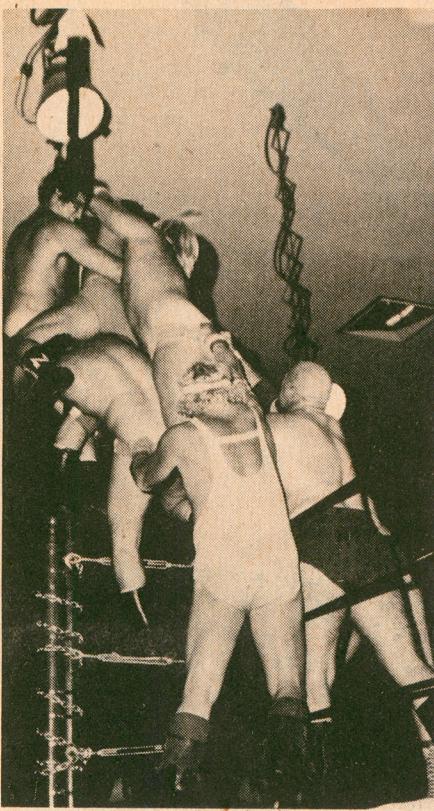
Age

(please print)

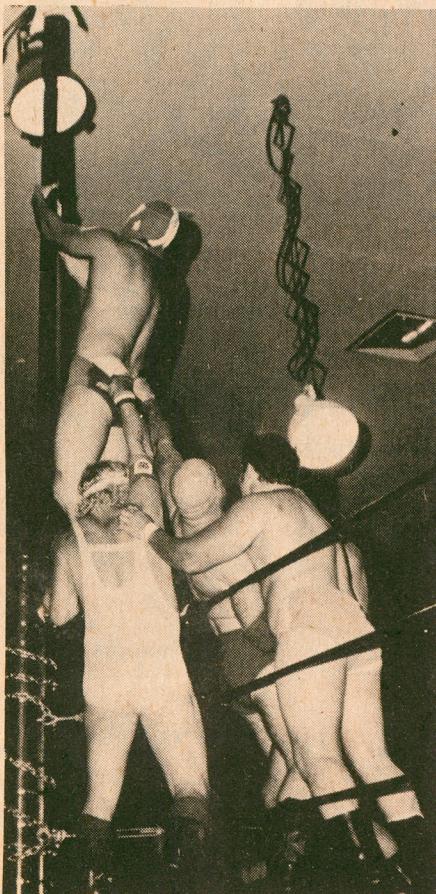
Address

City State Zip

America's Oldest Home Study Music School



In their determination to stop the others from getting to the check, wrestlers grab anything handy to pull their opponents down (above and below). It was a very funny, revealing match.



ALL EYES WERE gazing intently at the \$5,000 check which rested atop the 15-foot pole. Gazing most intently at the check were 24 eyes belonging to 12 wrestlers who were going to try and climb the pole to retrieve the check.

Among those staring at the prize were Andre the Giant, Nick Kozak, Lord Al Hays, Terry Funk, and Stan Hanson. They were all mentally estimating what fraction of a second it would take them to shinny up the pole and grab the check.

The buzzer sounded and the match began. Each man stood poised but still, waiting for the first person to break for the pole. The tension could be cut with a knife.

Finally, Terry Funk broke for the

"This is worth the price of admission alone," one fan exclaimed. "just to see Lord Al Hays blush!"

Hays wasn't the only one blushing. Terry Funk felt his trunks slip and his temper explode. Ignoring the check, he chased the grabber, Stan Hanson. Stan was running because he didn't feel like battling Terry while laughing. And the enraged, embarrassed Funk was flushed a deep red.

Terry stopped his rampage when he realized the entire arena was joining Stan in the laughter. Blushing even deeper, he returned to the business at hand. He never missed a chance, though, to give Stan a few good shots when Hanson wandered into range.

However, when \$5,000 is at stake,

\$5,000 ON TOP OF A POLE!

Put \$5,000 on top of a pole, send a bunch of wrestlers after it in a battle royal, and sit back and watch the fun

pole. With a graceful leap he flew halfway up the pole. The instant his fingers gripped the pole, he was already climbing.

If Terry was moving like lightning, 11 other wrestlers were moving faster than lightning. Hands swarmed over Terry's legs like bees swarming over a hive. Instead of biting, however, they pulled. Terry came crashing down to the canvas, unhurt but disappointed.

Soon other wrestlers tried and others failed. Many were not pulled down by their legs but by their trunks. And many times the trunks came down faster than the wrestler.

there is little time for feuding. The men tore at each other as each maneuvered his way to the pole only to be pulled down by the others. Soon they were pulled down and toppled out of the ring. One by one the field narrowed down.

The man who did most to narrow the field was Nick Kozak. The fans began to root for Nick. He was a whirlwind of action, hurling wrestlers out one by one. He gave the fans an exhibition of wrestling skill and cunning they will never forget. The excitement mounted as there were only three men left—Andre, Kozak, and

(Continued on page 12)

THE MACHINE THAT PRINTS MONEY.

One of the first things I learned as a boy was, "You don't get something for nothing."

Today I know that is simply not true!

I make that statement because I have in my hand *the system of the century* — a device that virtually prints money!

Now I'm not talking about a party gag, magic show or variety-store item. This method is not a gimmick that will "amaze your friends" until the trick is discovered. What I'm talking about is a fantastic new technique to *invest* — and *re-invest* — your money until the small sum you started with is multiplied into *many thousands of dollars*.

Do I have your attention so far?

Good. Because my method has to do with something that many people find distasteful . . . yes, even *laugh at!* The subject brings out strong opinions in almost everyone — pro or con — and may get a pretty strong reaction from you, too.

The subject is horse racing.

Whoa. Stop right there. I know . . . I've heard everything there is to say about the ponies. "You can't beat the horses." "A fool and his money are soon parted." "Gamble with fate, and you pay the price." "I had an uncle who lost everything . . ."

I don't argue with anybody. If a person is bent on self-destruction, he's simply going to find a way. Booze. Women. Debts. Gambling. Maybe even drugs. Nothing you can do or say is going to change the outcome, and the method that the troubled person takes to beat himself is not the issue.

Over the years horse racing has come in for a big share of the knocks. Everybody knows somebody who has gambled away a living, maybe a fortune, on the sport of kings. Recently I talked to a very solid citizen who told me, "If racing's the sport of kings, I never saw any kings out there!"

Again, I don't argue the point. Because I know what I know. I know that a prudent person who has a few dollars to spend can make a very handsome living at the track — with my secret, strictly — and I'll argue that point with anybody!

My secret is simple. So simple, in fact, that I am sure some of the so-called racing "experts" will sneer at my method without even investigating it. After all, that's human nature. But really, I don't feel bad . . . why should I? I have what they don't have . . . what no one has. The secret to a machine that virtually prints money!

I call my secret "The System of the Century." If you've never played the horses before (in fact, if you've never even been to a race track!), you'll be astounded at the simplicity of this logical, common-sense way to pick winners that return \$10, \$20, and even \$50 bills for a mere \$2 wager.

The system consists of four simple rules . . . four rules you can read and memorize in just one hour at home. One of these rules — Rule No. 4 — is so elementary that you can go to any race track with an infield turf (grass) course and start writing your own checks tomorrow as though you'd been a track pro for twenty years!

Of course, if you're a regular horseplayer, "The System of the Century" will have even greater appeal. How many times have you spent hours pouring over a single race, doping out every detail, figuring every angle . . . only to find that the horse you picked to begin with — and decided against for some reason even you can't remember — romped home an easy winner? (And paid a whopping \$60!) Or how about the time your brother-in-law talked you off that horse you knew would win — and did!

But I'm not here to change anybody's mind or re-open old wounds. What I'm here to do is to tell you about a method, a *technique* that is so *ridiculously easy to understand* . . . a system that will put so much money in your pocket . . . you'll wonder where it's been all these years.

Where has "The System of the Century" been all this time? The answer: In my head. I've been in racing all my life, and in that time I've had good years and lean years. Over the years I have become progressively better at what I do: *win money at the races.* (Last year it made over \$500,000 for me — yes, over a half-a-million bucks — and I'm only 33 years old!)

One night, when I was bored watching TV, I sat and wrote down on a piece of paper the things that I consider to be *critically important* during the running of a horse race. Would you believe it? I came up with only *four* things — and all so simple a twelve-year-old can master them in under sixty minutes!

That's how "The System of the Century" was born. And I decided right then and there to make the system available to anyone with a "will to win" — with an *honest interest* in getting ahead.

All you need is a grubstake — as little as \$20 — and a little patience. "The System of the Century" does the rest. Just follow these four little rules (strictly!) and start cashing those big parimutuel tickets most folks just dream about.

WHO IS MIKE WARREN?

America's premier handicapper. Mike Warren is well on his way to becoming a self-made millionaire at 33 . . . because he picks 'em with *uncanny* consistency. Read what his fans have to say . . .

"You are FANTASTIC!!! Absolutely THE GREATEST!!! All four of the horses you gave me at Aqueduct Saturday won and paid real good. Thank you very much . . ."

N.P., Los Angeles, Calif.

"I must tell you . . . it's just fantastic. Both horses (clicked). The first paid \$35.40 . . . the second \$10.20 — made a nice bundle."

E.A.S., Chicago, Illinois



Why, just the other day a fellow approached me at Belmont and asked me what I liked. I normally don't hand out advice at the track, but this player looked as though he needed a break.

So I told him I like a horse named Black Springs, an eleven-to-one shot. The guy pondered that for a moment, then said, "No way. I give the favorite, Counter Gambit, a big edge . . . I guess I'll go bet it. Thanks anyway."

To make a long story short, Black Springs is six lengths in front at the head of the stretch and wins easily, with Counter Gambit running second at less-than-even money. Black Springs pays \$24.40 straight, and my player friend comes running up to tell me he'll never doubt me again. He hasn't, either. Armed with "The System of the Century," he'll never need advice or money again.

I recognize that the world is full of skeptics, so I make this proposition to you. Send me \$9.95 as payment in full for the "System of the Century." Use this method at your local race track for fifteen days, making sure to follow my rules as outlined therein. Bet all you want — and keep what you take in with my blessings!

And here's the best part. If my method fails to work for you in exactly the manner I've described, *you have risked nothing* . . . because I'll send your original check back to you — uncashed! (Just date your check one month ahead. That way nobody can touch your ten bucks while you prove to yourself that "The System of the Century" is everything I say it is.)

Could anything be fairer?

You owe it to yourself to find out about "the machine that prints money." I'm Mike Warren . . . I'm well-known in racing circles . . . and I say it's so.

Act now. Today. *Can you afford to guess that I'm wrong?*

Sworn statement...

This is to certify that all statements made in this ad are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. MIKE WARREN is a professional handicapper of Thoroughbred horses, and his gross income for the last twelve months was in excess of \$500,000.00.

Q. Belous

CLIP & MAIL TODAY FREE EXAMINATION OFFER

Mike Warren
The Baltimore Bulletin, Inc.

VSG-45

380 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Mike:

O.K., I'll try anything once. Please send me "The System of the Century" by return mail. I understand that if your method doesn't make big money for me as you have outlined, all I have to do is return it within a month and my uncashed check will be returned to me.

On that basis, here is my check for \$9.95 dated one month from now. (If you're enclosing a money order that can't be dated ahead, you have the same money-back guarantee.)

For immediate first class shipment, add 50¢. (in coins or stamps, please).

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Please make check payable to "The Baltimore Bulletin"

\$5,000 ON POLE (Continued from Page 10)



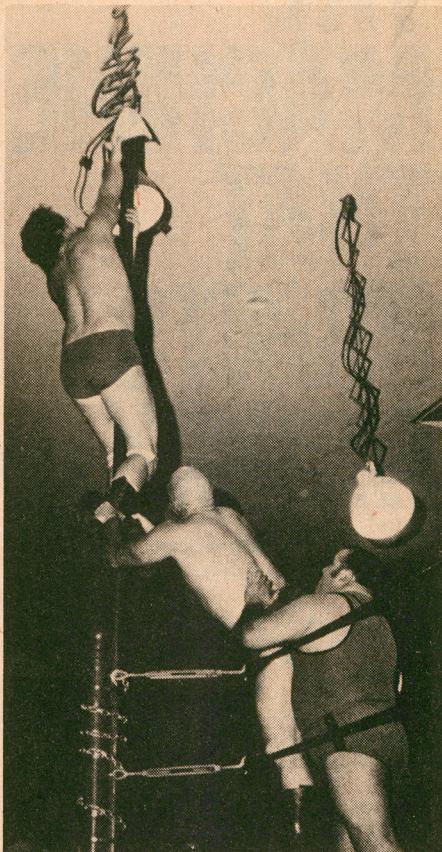
Andre the Giant stops two wrestlers by easily grabbing on to one as he prevents them both from getting the check. In a match such as this, Andre's height proved an even greater advantage than usual. Andre was the last man in the battle royal but graciously split the prize money with Nick Kozak, which brought the crowd to its feet.

Lord Al Hays.

Hays made a break for the pole. His leap brought him a foot from the check. One good hoist and the check

was his.

Kozak went after him. He jumped and grabbed Hays by the shoulders. Twisting his body in mid-air, Kozak



Many wrestlers almost got the check, but there was always somebody ready to drag them back into the furious fray.

tore Hays off the pole. However, wrenching Hays loose caused both wrestlers to fall out of the ring.

Hays angrily ran off to the dressing room. Kozak was too disappointed to run. He shook his head and began to slowly walk back to the dressing room. The standing ovation the crowd gave him made him feel good inside. However, \$5,000 would have made him feel even better.

Standing alone in the ring was Andre the Giant. All that remained for him to do was climb the pole and get the check. Instead, he shocked the crowd and called Nick back into the ring.

Nick was stunned but re-entered the ring. Wordlessly, Andre hoisted him up. The crowd was stomping, yelling, screaming, as Kozak grabbed the check.

"We split the money, Andre," Nick said, "or I tear up the check right now."

"Don't tear up the check!" Andre shouted over the crowd's din.

The two men proudly walked out of the arena, each man \$2,500 richer.

When Your WORST NIGHTMARE Becomes REAL
And Suddenly You Are Face-To-Face With A MUGGER...

YOU DON'T NEED A GUN!

NO SELF-DEFENSE DEVICE THAT
YOU CAN GET WITHOUT A LICENSE CAN
MAKE YOU FEEL SAFER AND
GIVE YOU MORE PROTECTION!

STRIKE DOWN ANY
ATTACKER REGARDLESS
OF SIZE OR STRENGTH

With "KIYOGA"—
The Steel Cobra™

When MUGGERS ATTACK, you're SAFE—behind A FIGHTING "WALL" of SOLID STEEL! The most DRAMATIC BREAKTHROUGH in TRUE EFFECTIVE SELF-DEFENSE in 100 YEARS! NOTHING is like it for SURE PROTECTION against MUGGERS, RAPISTS and MANIACS! "KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra™" is INVISIBLE—until you DESPERATELY NEED IT! Then, QUICKER than the eye can follow, it TRANSFORMS into an IMPENETRABLE SHIELD of SOLID STEEL! If they come at you with a KNIFE, a LEAD PIPE or other DEADLY WEAPON, instead of being a HELPLESS VICTIM, you send off your attacker HOWLING with UNBEARABLE PAIN, or KNOCK HIM SENSELESS—AT WILL! Yet for all of its IN-CREDIBLE POWER, "KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra™" is NON-LETHAL and absolutely FOOLPROOF!

SO EFFECTIVE—
IT'S ALMOST TOO GOOD
TO BE TRUE!

Do not confuse "KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra™" with any self-protection device or weapon you have ever seen, read or heard about BECAUSE IT'S A NEW INVENTION! In action, "KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra™" is SO EFFECTIVE

IT has been granted United States PATENT No. 3,554,546, one of the MOST VALUABLE PATENTS of its kind EVER Officially Issued by the GOVERNMENT Of The UNITED STATES!



AMAZING
NO-RISK
90-DAY
FREE
TRIAL!

Be one of the FIRST to get the FULL-TIME PROTECTION of "KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra™" without risking one red cent! Send only \$19.95 for each "KIYOGA" ordered (we'll pay the postage.) When you receive it, try it out on the trunk of a tree (the bark will splinter and fly with such FORCE it can be dangerous, so wear goggles to protect your eyes). If you live in the city, test it on a phone book and count the number of pages DENTED right THROUGH the cover (you will penetrate 60 pages!) And don't worry about damaging it! "KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra™" is precision-machined like a fine gun, and so WELL MADE it will last a LIFETIME! Best of all, it is entirely self-contained and uses NO explosives, gas or electricity so you will NEVER buy batteries, cartridges, re-loads or anything else—EVER! When you curl your fingers around "KIYOGA'S" sure-grip crackle finish and test the "heft" and blazing action at your fingertips, you'll KNOW that here AT LAST is the PROTECTOR that you have always prayed for—for yourself and your loved ones! UNCONDITIONAL GUARANTEED to live up to EVERY CLAIM in this ad, you MUST be completely satisfied or send it back within 90-days for a FULL REFUND—no questions asked!

A THUNDERBOLT
OF POWER—
AT YOUR COMMAND!

"KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra™" is a MAGNETICALLY-TRIGGERED STEEL-COIL WHIP—armed with a heavy caliber STRIKING TIP! This means that you push NO BUTTONS, NO SWITCHES and NO RELEASES to INSTANTLY SAVE YOURSELF in a sudden emergency! Coiled inside the GUN-LIKE barrel of the hand-grip, "KIYOGA—The Steel Cobra™" waits! Designed to GO OFF by HUMAN REFLEX ACTION, when needed, IT ALWAYS WORKS! Completely hidden by your hand, no one can know that you are SECRETLY ARMED TO THE TEETH! If suddenly you are UNDER ATTACK, the defending STEEL COILS LASH OUT in a SURPRISE COUNTER-ATTACK! 17" of TEMPERED STEEL strike under your FULL DIRECTIONAL CONTROL

with the force of A DEADLY COBRA! Mere FLESH and BLOOD cannot STAND-UP to the EXCRUTIATING PAIN that follows NO MATTER WHERE the steel coils make contact—even through heavy LEATHER clothing! A blow directed at the head or jaw of your assailant can actually KNOCK HIM OUT! Best of all, KIYOGA is so easy to handle, it can be used SAFELY by MEN or WOMEN!

FREE TRIAL COUPON

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200 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10010

Since there is NO CHANCE that I can lose money if not satisfied, I accept your 90-Day FREE TRIAL Offer. Rush "KIYOGA(s)—The Steel Cobra™" at \$19.95 each including postage and handling.

I enclose \$ Total Payment for KIYOGA(s).

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 C.O.D. (Enclose \$5.00 good will deposit for C.O.D.)

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If you join "The Wonderful World of Pen Pals," you can make new friends throughout the world. And all of your new pen pals will be wrestling fans too! We will print your picture right here in this magazine, and also a little bit of information about who you are. That way, your new pen pals will know something about you even before they start to send you their letters! Just think—you can have the chance to receive mail from all over the world! All you have to do is fill out the coupon below and mail it to us, along with a recent picture. We'll take it from there.

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Rockville Centre, NY 11571

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Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Hobbies, other interests _____

Favorite Wrestler _____

I like Good Guys Bad Guys

I'd Like As My Pen Pal:

Boys Girls Anyone

You Have My Permission To Print My
Picture.

Age _____

Please Sign Your Name _____



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Enjoys sports. Tim Woods his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Girls for pen pals.



JEFF THOMAS (14)
Route 1 Box 262-A
Arden, NC 28704
Collects stamps. Wahoo McDaniel his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Anyone for PP's.



THERESA KEPLINGER (13)
256 Hunting Creek Lane
Watkinsville, GA 30677
Likes sports. Johnny Valentine her favorite.
Likes good and bad guys.
Girls for PP's.



TOMMY ADAMS (11)
289 Seneca Street
Turtle Creek, PA 15145
Likes football. Bruno Sammartino his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Boys for PP's.



VICKI SABINE (13)
Route 1
Dudley, GA 31022
Likes sports. Mark Lewin her favorite.
Likes good guys.
Anyone for PP's.



RICKY HICKS (8)
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Elfers, FL 33531
Likes sports. Rocky Johnson his favorite.
Likes good and bad guys.
Anyone for PP's.



ERIC SANDERSON (12)
Rt. 6 Box 134
Mt. Olive, NC 28365
Likes model building.
Mighty Igor his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Anyone for PP's.



PAM DOUCET (17)
1553 Pendley Drive
Austell, GA 30001
Enjoys music. Bob Orton Jr. her favorite.
Likes bad guys.
Boys for pen pals.



LOIS DRINNON (12)
Rt. 2 Box 216
Rutledge, TN 37861
Likes swimming. Robert Fuller her favorite.
Likes good guys.
Boys for pen pals.



EDDIE SANDERS (22)
28 River Street
Hudson, MA 01749
Writes poetry. Ivan Putski his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Anyone for PP's.



BOB LUEDTKE (27)
300 W. Vernon Ave.
Linwood, NJ 08221
Enjoys sports. Ivan Putski his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Girls for PP's.



PHIL MITCHELLTREE (15)
309 Baillies Run Road
Creighton, PA 15030
Likes baseball. Bruno Sammartino his favorite.
Likes good and bad guys.
Anyone for PP's.

N PALS



CHRYSTAL JUNKIN (16)
4713 Alline
Tampa, FL 33611
Likes soccer. Dusty Rhodes her favorite.
Likes good guys.
Boys for PP's.



JOSEPH PAUL (16)
5318 Fillmore Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11234
Rides horses. Mighty Igor his favorite.
Likes good and bad guys. Girls for PP's.



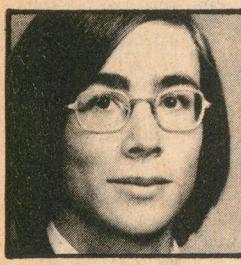
KEN SWODY (15)
330 Kearny Avenue
Kearny, NJ 07032
Enjoys karate. Mil Mascaras his favorite.
Likes good and bad guys. Girls for PP's.



LEONARD ZDRILL (9)
414 Sinclair Avenue
Selkirk, Man., Canada
Enjoys hockey. Pampero Firpo his favorite.
Likes good and bad guys. Anyone for PP's.



THERESA IGLEHART (16)
Rt. 1 Box 236-A
Durham, NC 27705
Enjoys softball. Dusty Rhodes her favorite.
Likes good guys.
Boys for PP's.



JOHN MILLER (21)
2475 Harcourt Drive
San Diego, CA 92123
Plays horseshoes. Bruno Sammartino his favorite.
Likes bad guys. Girls for pen pals.



BOB HARPINE (36)
138 E. South Street
Frederick, MD 21701
Likes baseball. Verne Gagne his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Girls for PP's.



GEORGE STARCHER (17)
3215 6th Street
Riverside, CA 92507
Enjoys boxing. John Tolos his favorite.
Likes bad guys.
Girls for PP's.



ALAN PETTIPAS (11)
5 Novawood Drive
Dartmouth, NS Canada
Likes baseball. Mil Mascaras his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Anyone for PP's.



JOHNNY HODGES (15)
Rt. 1 Box 77-B
Smoaks, SC 29481
Likes basketball. Jack Brisco his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Girls for PP's.



OSCAR GONZALEZ (13)
709 SW 12 Ave. Apt. 4
Miami, FL 33130
Likes basketball. Mil Mascaras his favorite.
Likes good guys. Girls for pen pals.



ROCKY GALLARDO (14)
618 Overhill Drive
San Antonio, TX 78228
Collects magazines. Mil Mascaras his favorite.
Likes good guys. Girls for pen pals.



CHER FOX (12)
8419 Liberty Avenue
N. Bergen, NJ 07047
Likes baseball. Jay Strongbow her favorite.
Likes good and bad guys. Boys for PP's.



LISA BOYER (15)
3089 Stuart Drive
Macon, GA 31204
Likes sports. Bob Armstrong her favorite.
Likes good guys.
Girls for PP's.



CRAIG SOKOL (10)
48 Hillsborough Dr. N.
Greenville, SC 29607
Enjoys basketball. Dusty Rhodes his favorite.
Likes good and bad guys. Anyone for PP's.



KNOX KINLAW (15)
3221 Circle Oaks
Atlanta, GA 30339
Hang glides. Billy Graham his favorite.
Likes good and bad guys. Anyone for PP's.



PATRICIA HILL (15)
700 W. 7 Street
New Albany, IN 47150
Rides horses. Wahoo McDaniel her favorite.
Likes good guys.
Anyone for PP's.



RANDY SMITH (11)
Rt. 7 Box 228-B
Reidsville, NC 27320
Enjoys sports. Dusty Rhodes his favorite.
Likes good and bad guys. Girls for PP's.



JOHN MACHADO (14)
70-53 Park Dr. E.
Flushing, NY 11367
Likes baseball. Mil Mascaras his favorite.
Likes good guys.
Girls for PP's.



GAYNE BALDWIN (14)
Elm Creek
Manitoba, Canada
Builds models. Blackjack Mulligan his favorite.
Likes bad guys.
Anyone for pen pals.

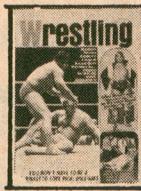
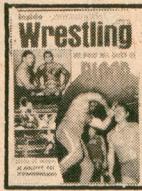
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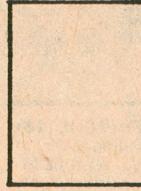
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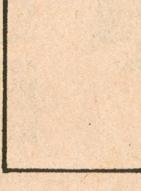
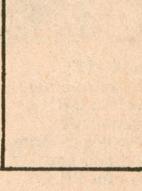
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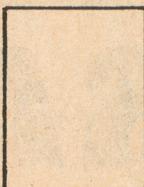
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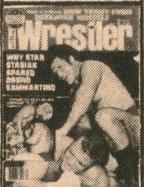
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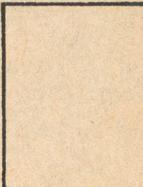
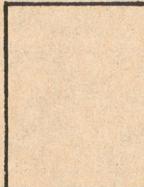
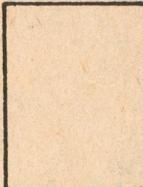
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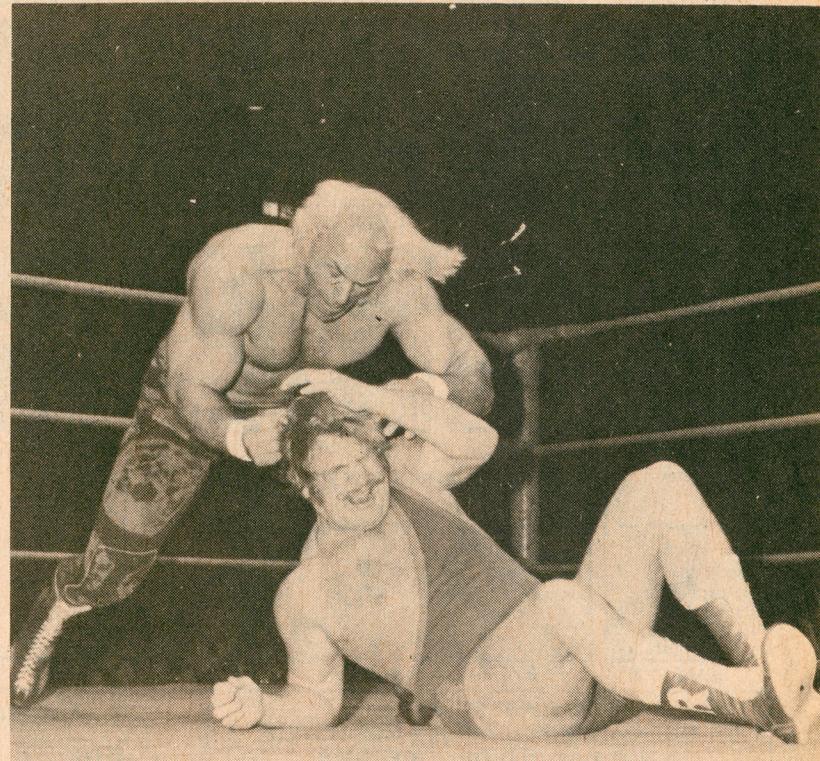
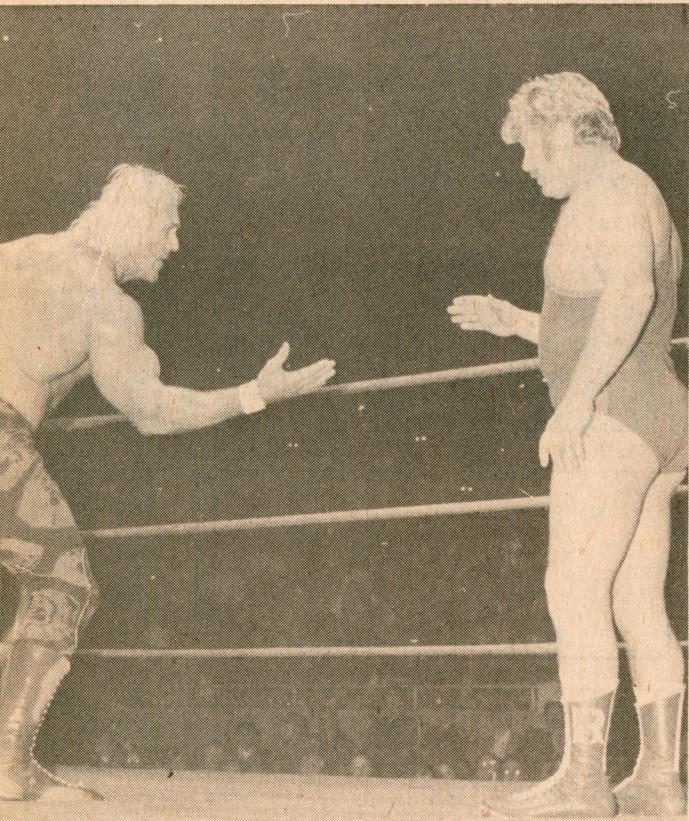
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THE TWO FACES OF "SUPERSTAR" BILLY GRAHAM



Red Bastien learned—the hard way—that you can't show a guy like Billy Graham any mercy. Ever!

PHOTOS BY TERRENCE MACHALEK

RED BASTIEN STARED angrily in the mirror, then snarled, "I'm looking at the dumbest guy ever! I shouldn't be let into an arena without a ticket!"

Turning away from the mirror with a growl, Bastien began a series of kicks and punches at various inanimate objects. The onslaught lasted a good 15 minutes.

"I'm a veteran!" Red moaned when

he finished the rampage. "How could I trust Billy Graham, a guy who would beat up his own grandmother? You'd think I'd know better, wouldn't you? I do know better. At least I know better now!"

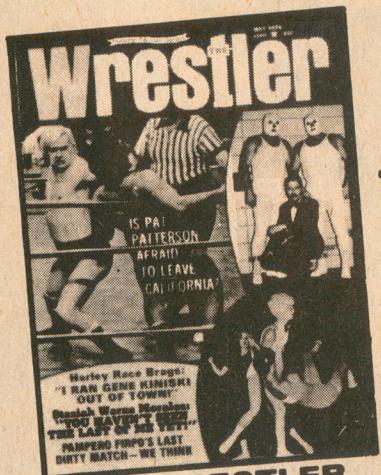
"I was going so well tonight, you know. There wasn't anything I couldn't do. Did you see Graham when he tried to wrestle me? He

(Continued on page 50)

"Come on, let's be friends,"
Graham pleads to Red Bastien
(left). Red gives in and
Graham attacks him (above).

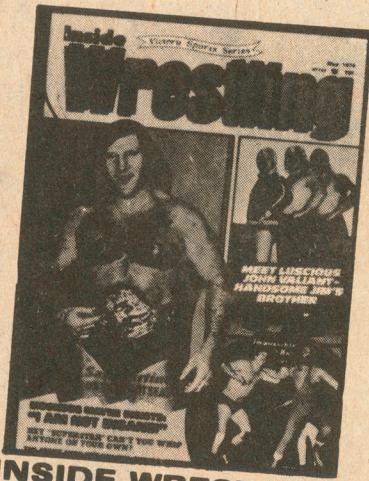
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"GET UP, BORIS! YOU WON!"



YOU'D THINK THAT a slashing chain tearing flesh from skulls would be able to settle any feud. But to Boris Malenko and Dusty Rhodes, it was just another bloody chapter in one of the longest feuds in wrestling history.

Neither man is reluctant to talk about the cause. The only thing they can't do is agree on what started it.

According to Dusty, "That I haven't gone after Malenko with a hatchet shows what a good human being I am. That mad Russian is the worst

Benedict Arnold in wrestling today. It all happened in Florida many years ago.

"I was wrestling some deranged clown and had finally gotten control of a very rough match. Just before the guy was about to be pinned, this uninvited Russian blob bounces into the ring and kicks me square in the head. In the head! There isn't much you can do to defend yourself when your head feels ready to split in two and blood is pouring into your eyes. Those two maniacs came close to killing me.

"That Russian blob," Dusty concludes angrily, "was Boris Malenko."

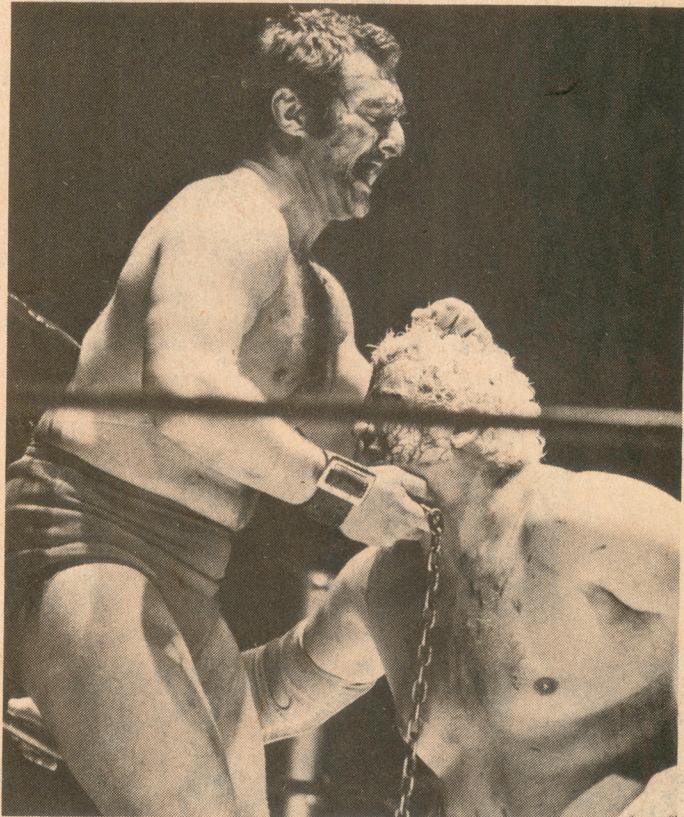
Boris remembers a different story, a more bitter and complex explanation for the hatred between the two men.

"It was in an arena in Florida, all right, but not in a ring. We were waiting outside when a gang of punks attacked this young guy. I rushed in to stop them figuring Dusty was right behind me. Well, he didn't want to get involved. So there I was against five toughs trying to protect this young kid.

"When the police came, the kid and I

Boris Malenko had an old score to settle with Dusty Rhodes. He settled it but he couldn't tell you how. You see, he was unconscious when it ended

A brutal grudge match usually ends up with one or both men with blood soaking their faces and bodies. And when it is a brutal, cruel chain match, you can count on the ring being soaked scarlet. Right and below: Boris grabs the chain that they used to bind the two together and smashes it into Dusty's already bloody, battered face.

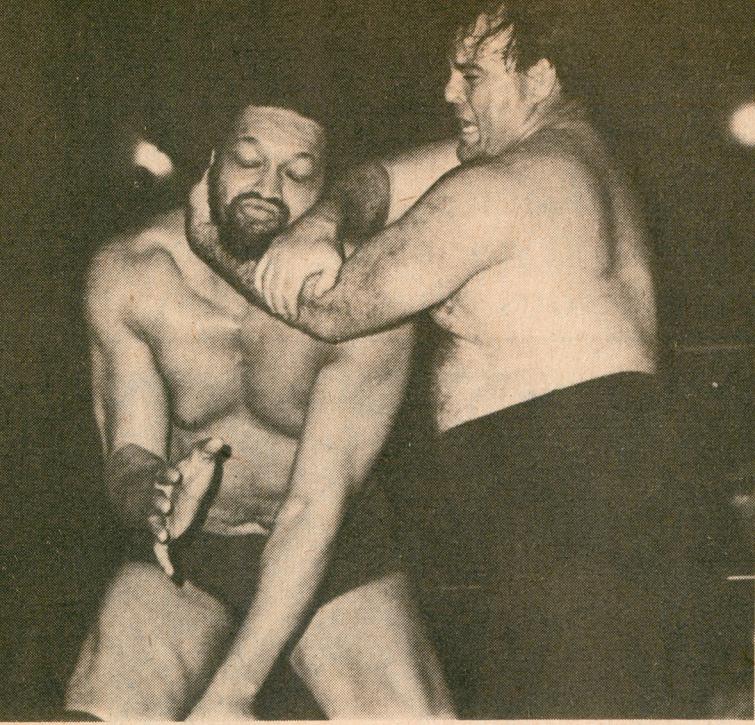


were taken to the hospital. I recovered okay but the kid wasn't so lucky. He hasn't been able to get out of a wheelchair since that evening.

"Every time I get to wrestle Rhodes," Boris declares, "I try to get some small revenge for that poor kid who may never walk again."

It came as no surprise to anyone that Boris would challenge Dusty to a Russian chain match. And it came as no surprise that Dusty anxiously accepted. The Russian chain match

(Continued on page 52)



Left: Missouri Mauler gets Ernie Ladd in a sleeper. He had snuck up on Ladd, who was more interested in getting at Ox Baker, a man Ernie has hated for many years. Mauler takes full advantage of Ladd's distraction, making it very rough for Ernie.

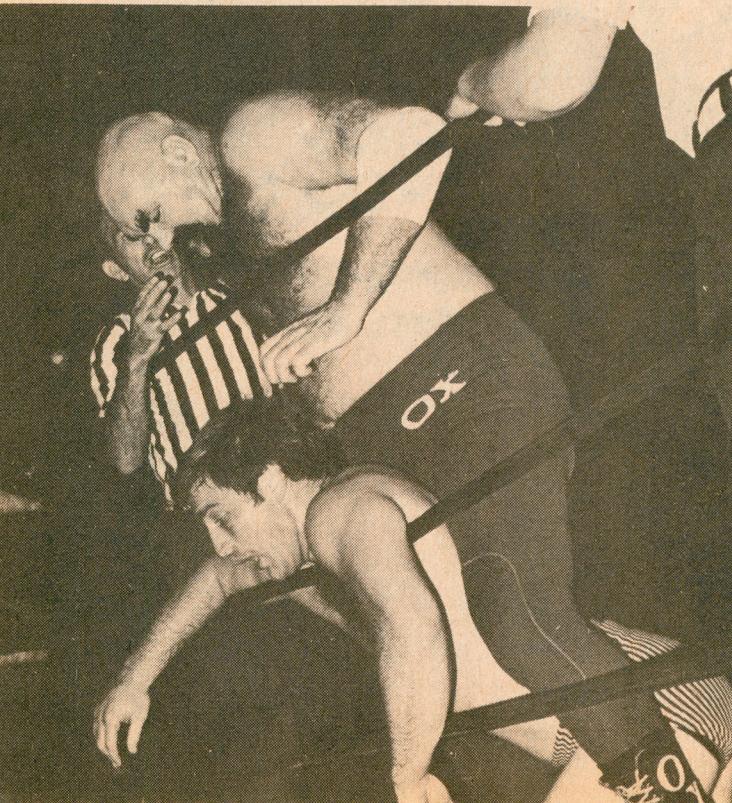
FANS IN ATLANTA still aren't sure that what they witnessed wasn't a battle to the death between Roman gladiators. That all four men left the tag team match alive is one of the many remarkable things that happened that evening.

The groundwork was laid for the savage mayhem years ago. That's when Ernie Ladd was a professional football great and Ox Baker was an upcoming wrestler. Baker had tried to be a professional football player but was cut from four teams.

"You can't follow orders," the coaches told him. "You're not a team player. You go your own way and think to hell with everyone else. You're the most undisciplined person I've ever met. Forget a career in any team sport."

EXPLOSION IN ATLANTA!

Exclusive Photos By Bob Verlin



Ox Baker uses the ropes to torture Ron Pritchard. It is a technique that Baker has perfected and the rookie has now learned to avoid it. It is the first major tag team match for Ron, who is also a professional football star.

So the bitter Ox Baker became a wrestler. It didn't take him too long to learn he could take his bitterness out on his opponents. The fans booed him but his disdain for others is what made him so bitter in the first place.

When Ernie Ladd hung up his football spikes for wrestling boots, Ox Baker moved hell and high water to get a chance to wrestle him. If he couldn't get his dream of being a football player, he could destroy that dream in the form of Ernie Ladd. All the anguish he had suffered traveling from tryout camp to tryout camp could be revenged when they carried the former football star out on a stretcher.

Baker didn't cripple the rookie Ernie Ladd — but he came close enough to earn Ladd's undying hatred. Ox became the first man Ernie Ladd learned to hate as a professional wrestler. It was hatred that

was constantly rekindled over the years.

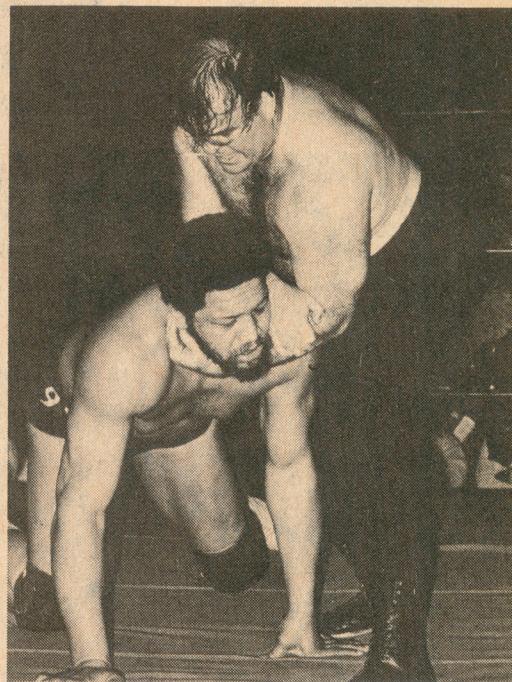
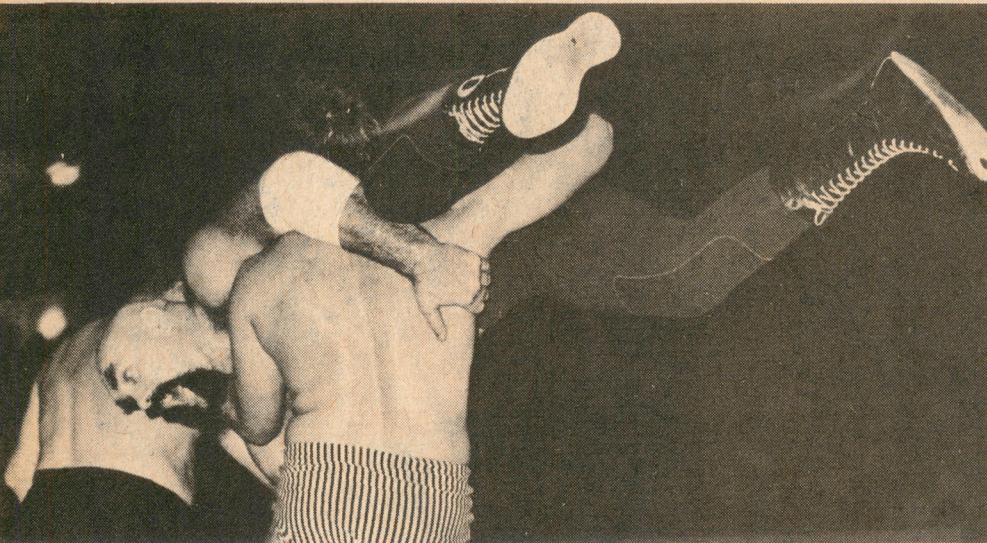
"I know why Baker hates me," Ladd told reporters, "because I'm an athlete and he's a phony. He couldn't hack it as a football player and he can't hack it as a wrestler. He steals, steals the holds of others and then has the gall to say he invented the holds. He was born nothing and he's living up to his potential. If he wasn't so vicious he'd be pitiful."

When Baker heard Ladd's accusations they had the effect of throwing a pinch of salt into the sea. Ox hates Ernie so much nothing could make it any worse. If Ox could have seen past his anger, however, he would have realized Ladd's hatred now matched his own.

The hatred continued to fester. In-



The match is an explosion as the four men tear into each other with a vengeance rarely seen. It is wrestling at its most exciting and dangerous.



sults were exchanged with the frequency of heartbeats. When the two met it was a brutal brawl with no quarter expected or given.

Years later, Ron Pritchard had begun a successful football career and combined it with a wrestling career. He started wrestling the toughest men and began in Texas. One of the first men he confronted was the Missouri Mauler.

"There are those who help a rookie," Pritchard says, "and there are those cheap sadists who enjoy taking advantage of his inexperience. After 30 seconds with the Missouri Mauler I knew which category he fell into. I was stiff and bruised for weeks after that match."

"But I learned," Ron remembers. "He didn't intend it, but Mauler gave me an education that hurt too much to forget. I'll go anywhere to show that snake how much he taught me!"

The burning hatred between the two teams was at a boiling point. Each team vowed to end the other's career for forever — one way or another!

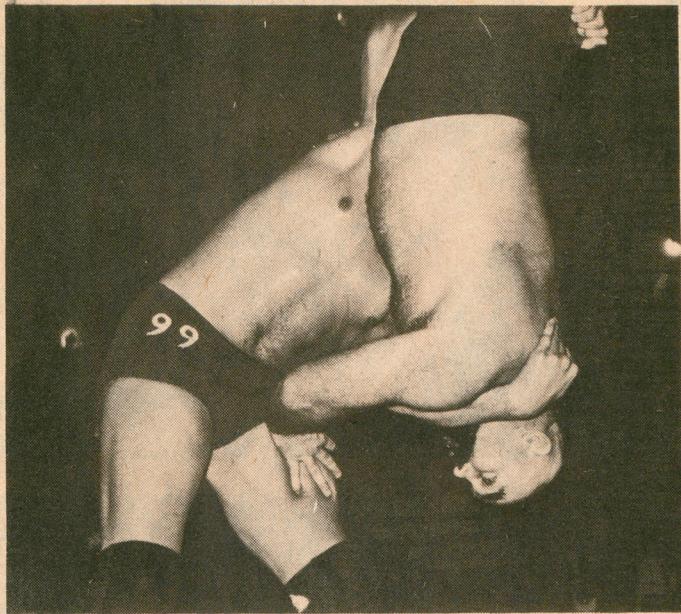
As for the Missouri Mauler, when questioned about Pritchard, he asks, "Ron who? I can't keep track of all the young punks I might batter into the mat. If he wants to get at me he knows where I am. Tell this Don whatever-his-name-is that if he enjoys getting kicked around I'll be glad to oblige."

However, those close to the Mauler say he knows very well who "Don whatever-his-name-is" is and he respects him greatly. They point out that a wrestler gives it to a rookie

only because he wants to scare him quickly. You worry about scaring only those you feel will cause you trouble.

It was natural Pritchard would go to Ladd for advice, former gridiron star to gridiron star. Ladd would be in perfect position to tell Ron what to remember — and what to forget. There are moves a professional football player does almost by instinct that would mean disaster in wrestling. Who would know these pitfalls better than Ladd?

At the same time, Baker and the



Left: Ernie gets at Baker with a brutal flip that sends Ox hard to the canvas. Below: Badly battered Ron and Missouri Mauler stagger from exhaustion during the big and furious battle. Both got their second wind shortly.



Ladd grabs Ox Baker by the moustache, preparing to slam him into the turnbuckle. The match was scheduled so that the feud between Baker and Ladd could find a way to resolve itself in the ring.



Missouri Mauler announced they had become a tag team and were ready to take on anyone. Pritchard had told Ladd how much he hated the Mauler, so it was three seconds between the time Ladd heard about the new tag team and the time he got Pritchard on the phone.

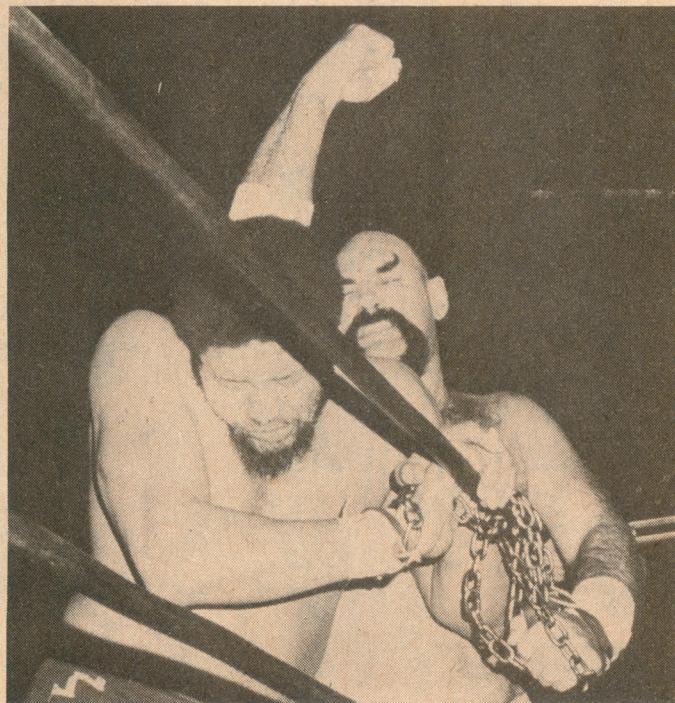
"When do we get together to train?" was the first question Ron asked. The issue was settled.

The match was scheduled for Atlanta three weeks from the phone call. That gave Ernie Ladd three weeks to train Pritchard into becoming his tag team partner. It was a time for total concentration for Ron and his football discipline came in very handy. He worked and learned day and night without rest.

"It was the most intensive train-

ing of my life," Pritchard declared afterward. "Ernie drew as many parallels between what we had to do and football plays as possible. He's incredibly imaginative. He also picked up mistakes I was making and corrected them. Luckily, both of us had been on teams since we were in junior high school so teamwork is second nature to us. That was about the only advantage we had over those two. They had the experience and the desire to cripple. That's very different from wanting to win."

In an interview before the match, Ox Baker stated, "I'm going to shut Ernie Ladd up once and for all. I'm going to separate his jaw from the rest of his head and hang it over my mantelpiece like a small-game trophy."



Other times Ladd and Baker have wrestled against each other include one of the most savage chain matches in the history of the sport (above and left). It ended with both men bleeding but wanting to get at the other another time.

When Ladd heard the threat he asked, "Who did he steal the line from?" It was going to be that kind of evening.

Two seething giants, Ox Baker and Ernie Ladd, were the first to wrestle. Baker wanted to kill, as did Ladd. But Ladd was determined to be cunning. So as Baker charged, Ladd sidestepped. Ladd's arms slashed through the air and Ox Baker was sent crashing to the canvas.

Baker wasn't hurt but the crash cooled his blood. He would have to win by using his brains as well as his brawn.

Baker, still stretched out on the mat, saw Ladd's knees coming down quickly on his chest. As Ladd sailed through the air Ox quickly twisted away. Ernie's knee smashed into the mat.

Pain shot through Ladd's leg. He hobbled over and tagged Pritchard.

Ron went into action. It was the moment he had been trained for.

Baker laughed when he saw what happened. He quickly tagged the Missouri Mauler.

"I'm saving myself for you!" he shouted to Ladd, who was feverishly rubbing his knee.

Ron went out to meet the man who had tortured him in Texas. The Mauler snarled and rushed in. Ron waited tensely. He didn't expect what came next. A vicious kick by the Mauler shot into Ron's stomach. The young wrestler doubled over in agony.

Then Baker asked to finish him off and the Mauler "graciously" complied. But when Baker went out, he found Ron was far from ready to be "finished off". Before he knew what happened, Ox Baker found himself sailing through the air from Ron Pritchard's flip.

At this point the Mauler was outraged and he came storming into the ring. That was all Ladd needed. It was now a free-for-all.

It was a brawl unequalled in the history of Atlanta wrestling. The four men tore at each other throwing punches, kicks, and holds that are meant to end a career. After 10 minutes of murderous mayhem, the Missouri Mauler snuck up on Ladd (who was pulverizing Baker) and trapped Ernie in a choke hold.

With Ladd out of the way, Baker went after Pritchard. He faked a move and before Ron realized it he was sent sailing.

Once along the ropes, Baker straddled Ron's back and began to rub his neck along the ropes. The flesh along his neck began to burn intolerably and Ron could hardly breathe.

The referee was trying to break both illegal holds but neither Baker nor Mauler would listen. He then disqualified the two but that did no good either. Finally, the special police were called in and had to wrench everybody free.

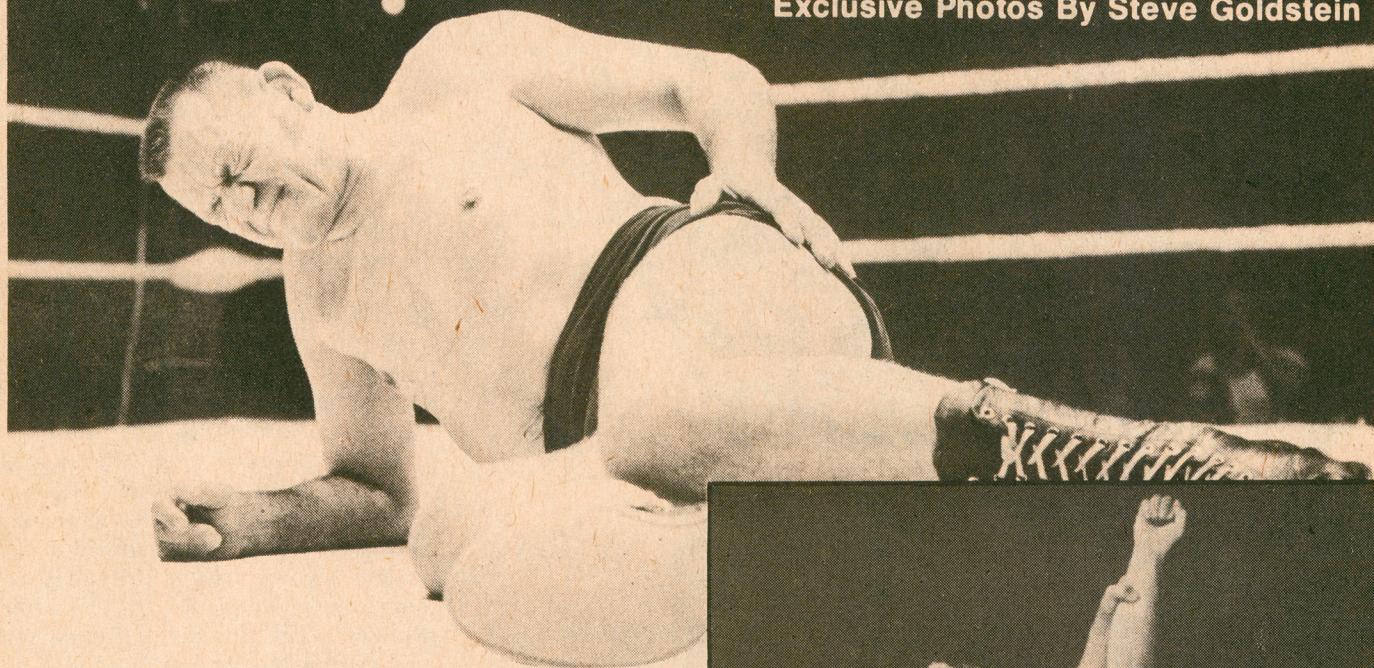
"We were green," Ladd said after the match. "We were disorganized as a team. That's to be expected for a first time. Considering this was the first match, we did damn well. We had them until they started to choke the hell out of us. But we'll be ready for them next time. If there is a next time."

"There'll be a next time," Ron Pritchard said with conviction.

Ernie smiled and the two men shook on it. □

Harley Race Brags: "I RAN GENE KINISKI OUT OF TOWN!"

Exclusive Photos By Steve Goldstein



**Did Harley Race run
Gene Kiniski out of
St. Louis and out of
the United States too?
Not according to
Gene's version**

"GENE KINISKI IS a chicken!"

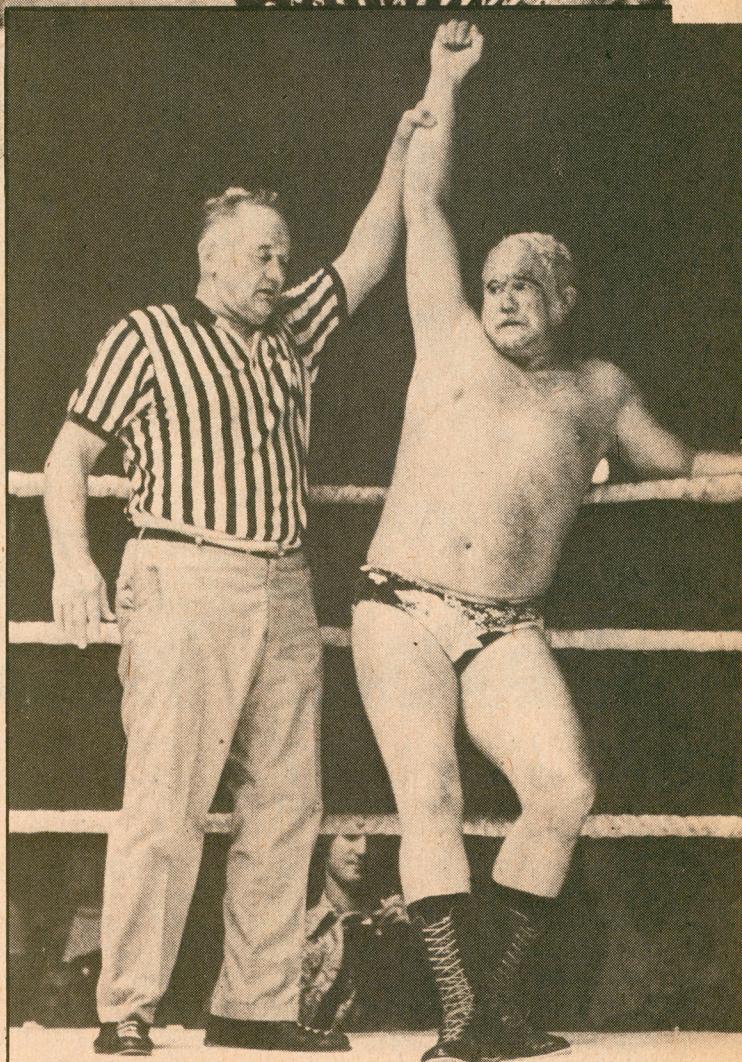
"Gene Kiniski is a lily-livered, yellow-bellied chicken!"

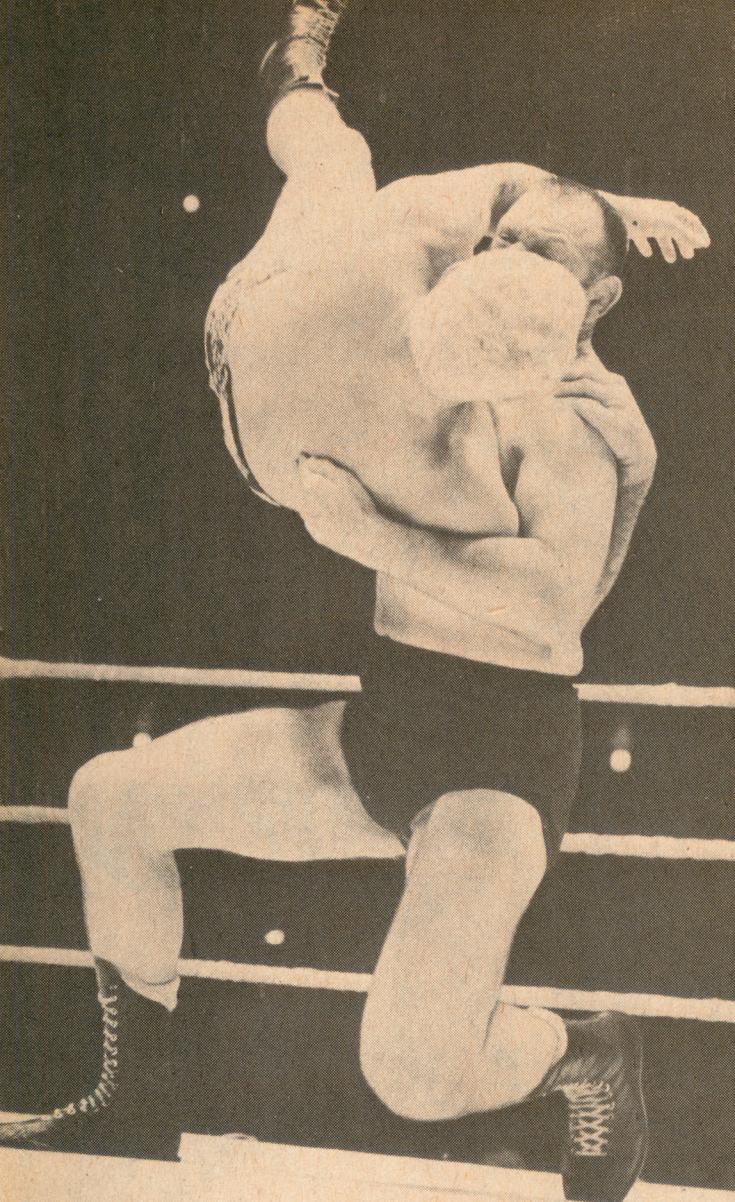
"Gene Kiniski is afraid of me! I ran Gene Kiniski out of town! In fact, from what I've heard, it looks like I ran him clean out of the country!"

The above words were spoken—or make that screamed—by Harley Race, about a week after he regained the Missouri state title from Gene Kiniski.

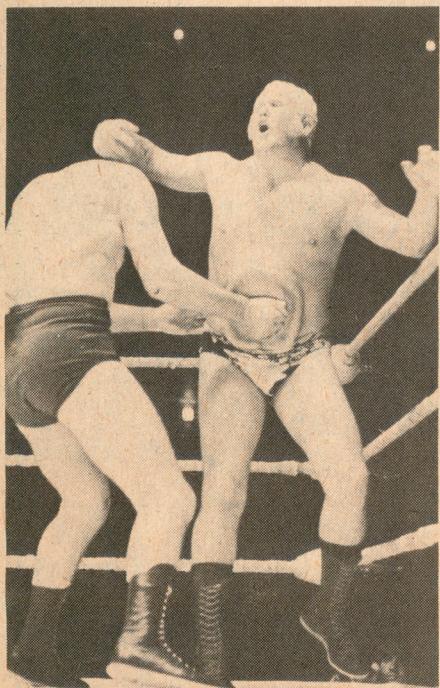
The title was not all Race received. He wound up with all the bumps, lumps and bruises plus a bloody nose. But somehow he came out the winner. Most spectators attribute the vic-

A bloody Harley Race (right) seems amazed at the fact he just won the Missouri State title from Gene Kiniski. "I knew I could do it all the time," he claimed.

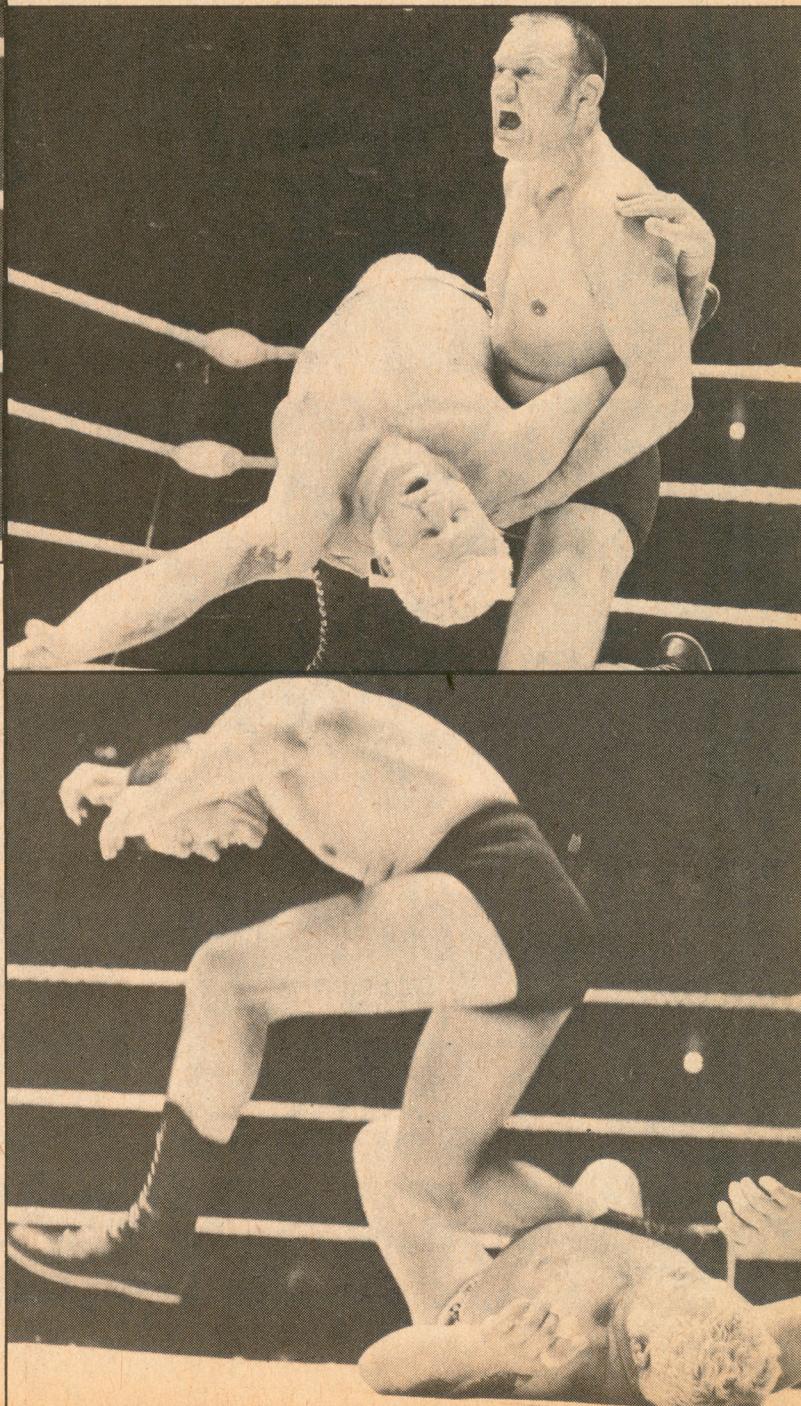




With the ease of lifting a baby, Kiniski gets ready to crunch Race's back on his knee (left). Crack! Race is blacking out as Kiniski cracks Harley's back. (below) "I took a beating," Harley said. "But it was only to wear Kiniski out. I took it easy and then beat him."



Wham! Race gets a belly full of Kiniski's fist (left) and Harley's ready to double up. His stomach takes more abuse (right) as Gene stomps on Race's midsection. "Look," Race said. "It only looks like I lost. As you know, I didn't and I ran him out of the country."



tory to sheer luck considering the punishment Race absorbed. But Harley tells it differently.

"Oh I murdered him!" he roared. "I killed him. I never thought he would get up off the canvas. When I walked out of that ring I left Gene Kiniski for dead.

"And guess what? I got a phone call from a friend of mine this morning. He told me Kiniski hightailed it to Canada right after I whipped him. He was so scared he left the country!"

What Race said was true. Kiniski was in Canada after being defeated by Harley. But according to Gene, it had nothing to do with Race.

"Run me out of town?" Kiniski asked. "That's a laugh. He couldn't

run me out of the men's room. If he's carrying on about me 'running' to Canada he may be forgetting that I'm a Canadian. I'm up here on combination business-pleasure trip. I'm wrestling in a few matches, visiting relatives and taking it easy. This trip was scheduled long before that match in St. Louis."

Kiniski did admit that he lost the

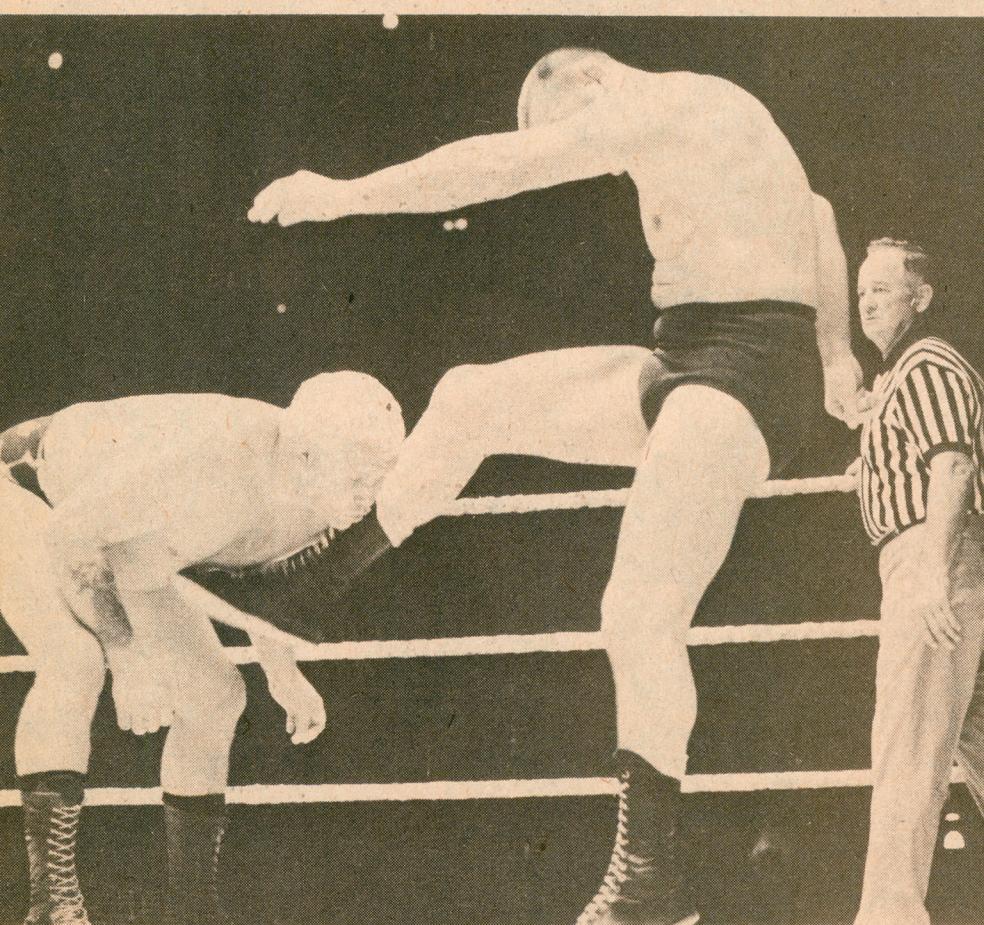
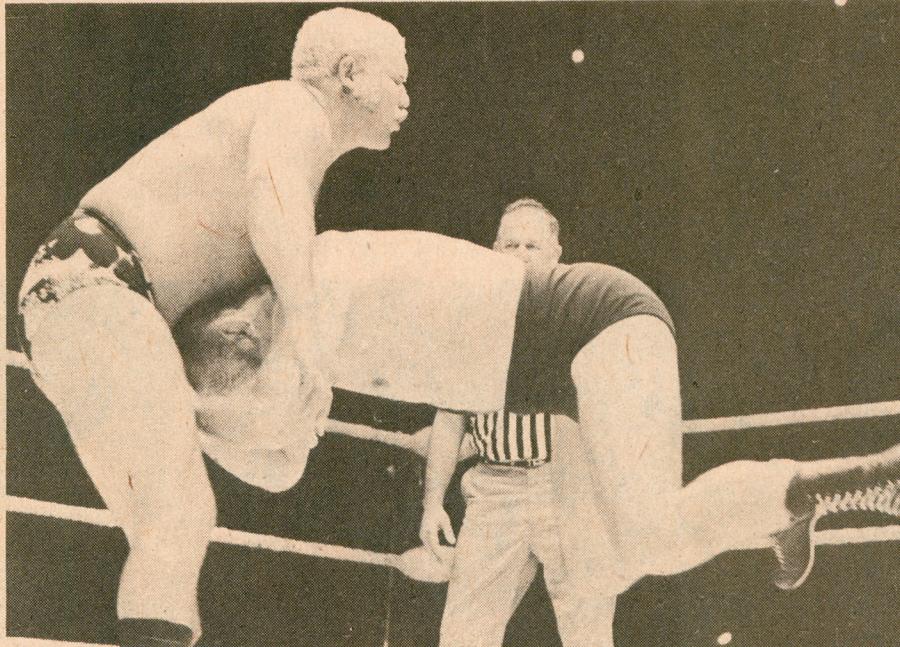
Missouri belt to Race but doesn't seem too concerned about it. "I made a stupid mistake and he caught me," Gene said. "But it doesn't matter. I'll get it back the next time we wrestle. He's no trouble."

"Hell, did you see the match? I had him cryin' and bleedin' during the entire thing. He took all the punishment. He just got lucky at the

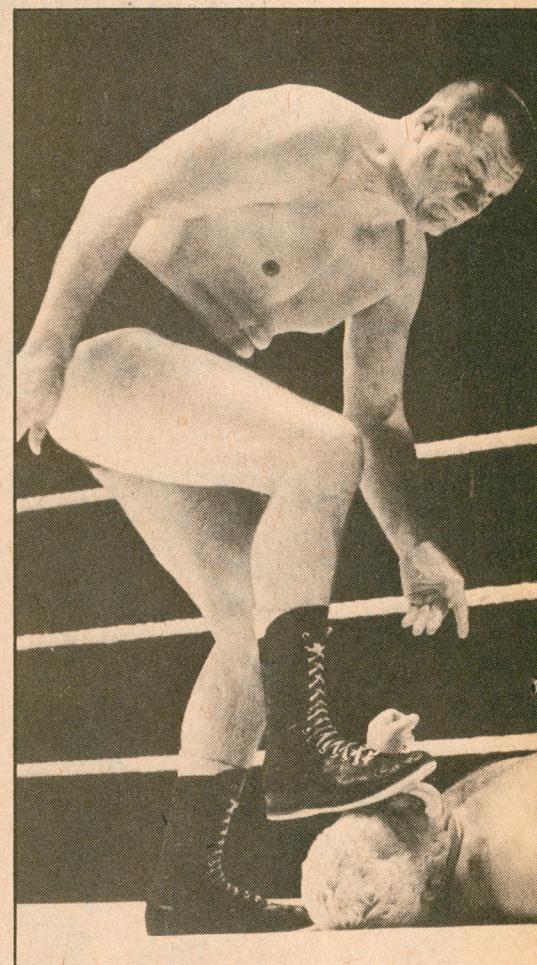
end."

Pictures of the match tend to bear out what Kiniski says. Throughout the bout Gene had the upper hand and a number of times Race got down on his knees and begged Gene for mercy. How he had enough strength left to put the suplex on Kiniski is anybody's guess.

"Punishment?" Race asked in-



A forward dive by Kiniski makes its mark (left) as again he smashes Harley's stomach. Race takes more punishment as Gene kicks him to his heart's delight. Race is going to have a bad headache in the morning due to Gene's tactics (below). "Look," Harley points out. "If Kiniski gave me such a beating, how come I won the belt? Think what you want, but I've got the title."

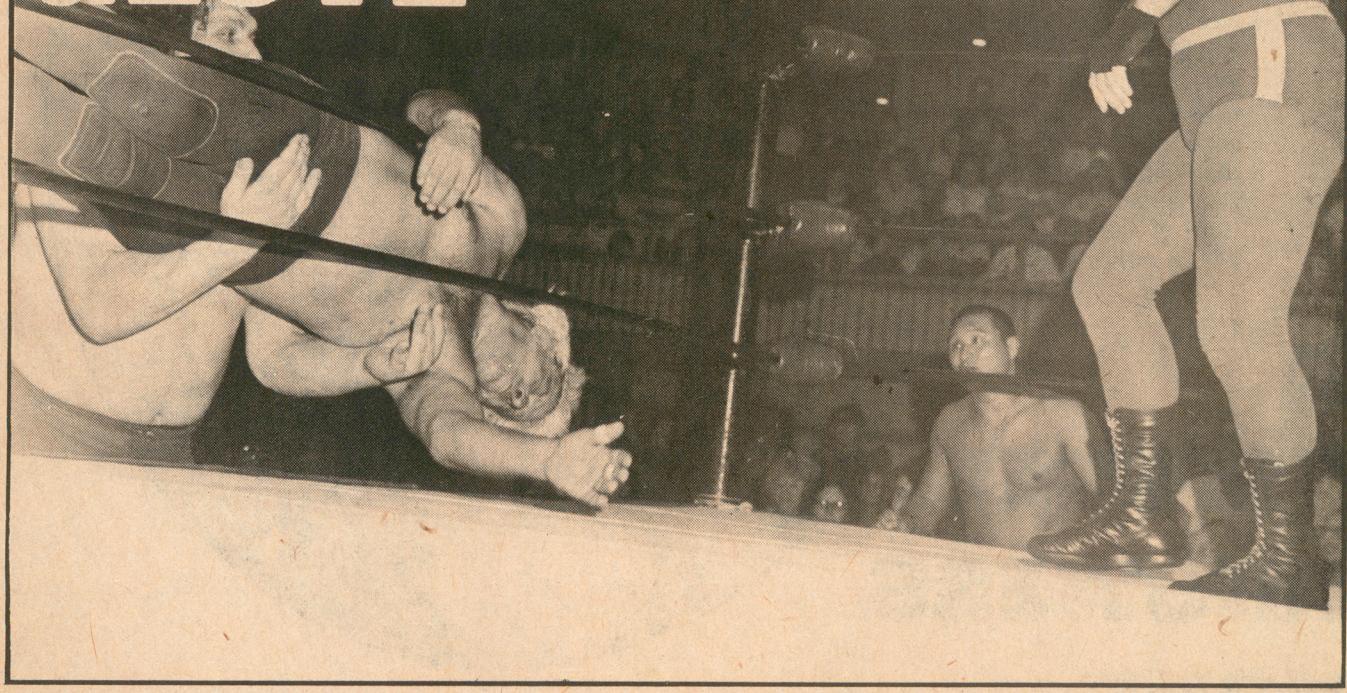


credulously. "Hah! That, my good man, is what is known as strategy. I outsmarted Kiniski."

"There's two ways to wear an opponent down. You can do it physically of course, but it's much more ef-

(Continued on page 56)

MYSTERY OF THE LOADED GLOVE



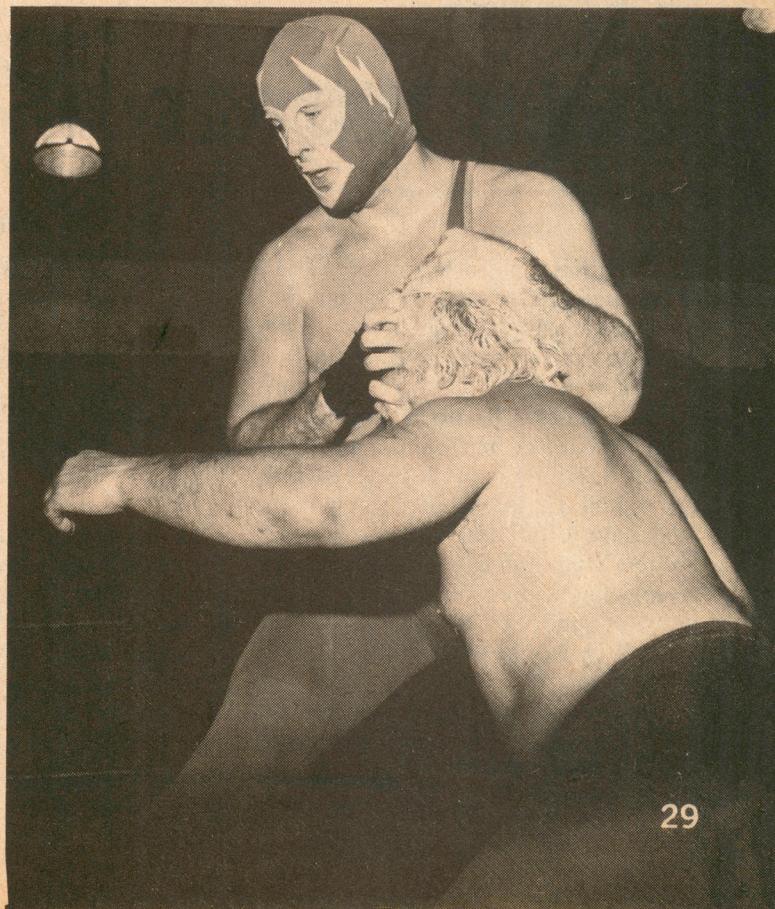
Andre the Giant catches the lifeless form of Swede Hansen (above), a victim of Super Destroyer's clawhold (right). Hansen contends Super Destroyer has a weapon hidden in his gloved, clawhold hand.

Swede Hansen claims to know the secret behind Super Destroyer's clawhold, a discovery which almost cost Swede his life!

SWEDE HANSEN SLOWLY regained consciousness on the training table. First, he made out the face of the arena's doctor, then the worried countenance of Andre the Giant, the man who had carried him back to the dressing room.

"He's got something in the glove," were the first words out of Swede's mouth. "He's got something in the

(Continued on page 64)





"Being a professional wrestling referee is one of the hardest jobs in the world," says Dick Kroll, who is considered one of the best. "However," Dick adds, "I can't think of any other job I'd rather have."

A REFEREE ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS

REFEREES ARE ABUSED, maligned, cursed, often injured and seldom ever loved. The pay often doesn't compensate for the treatment they receive. Yet without referees there'd be no wrestling.

Dick Kroll is one of the most respected names in international refereeing. He is one of the few men who have officiated throughout the United States and in Canada. He is young, has a nice personality, is intelligent and seems to be totally sane. Why would a man like that become a referee?

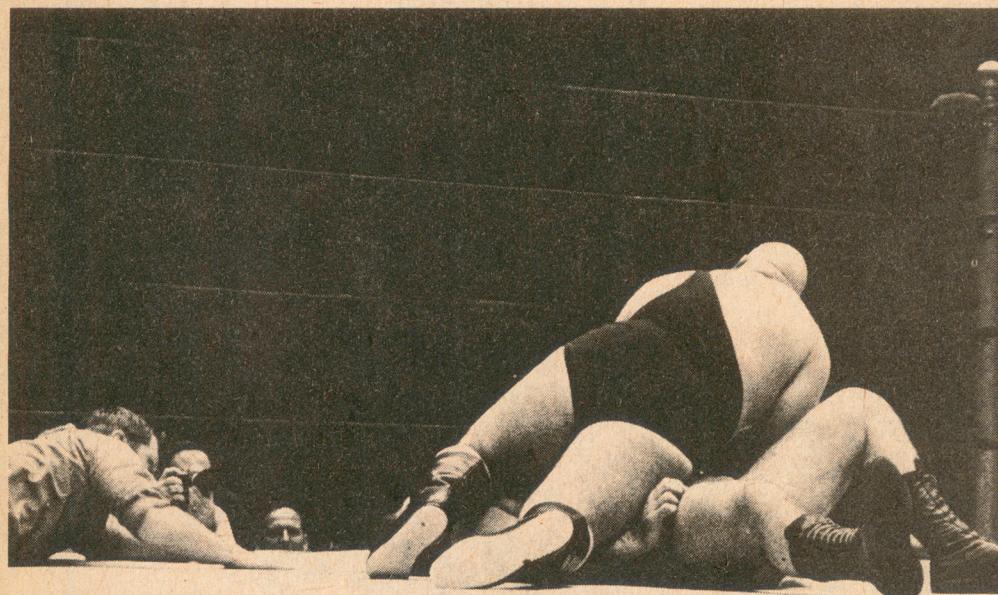
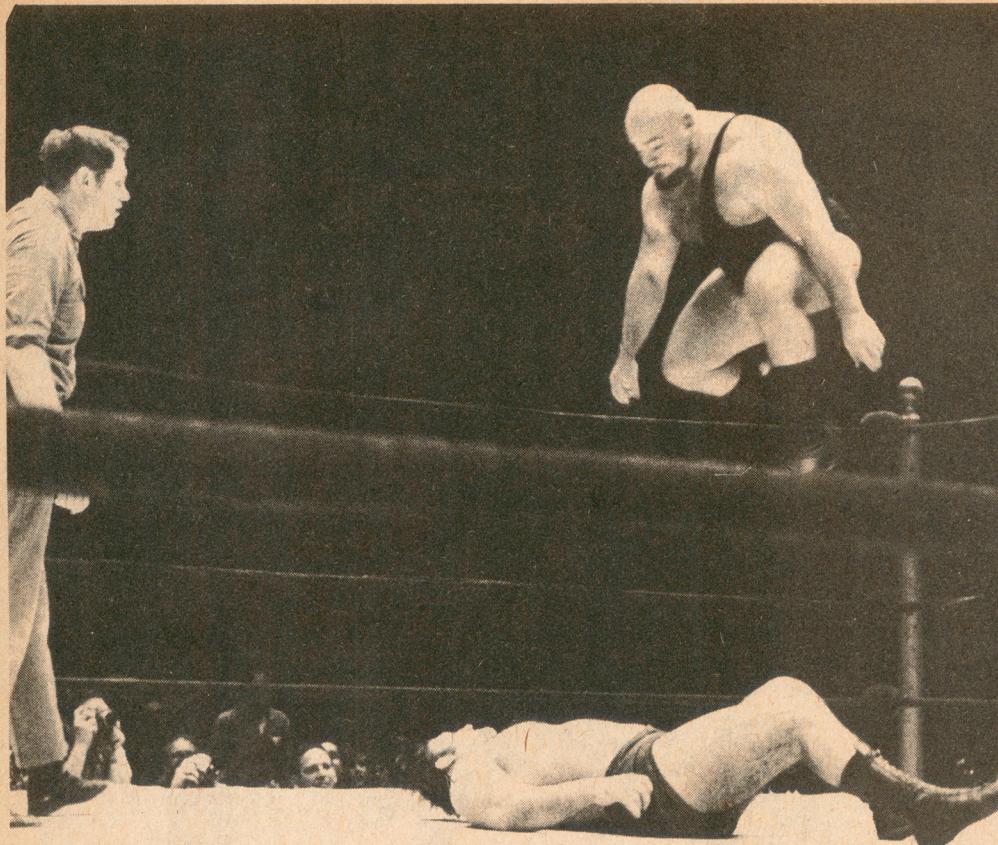
"I can't exactly put my finger on it," Dick laughed during an interview in New York's Madison Square Garden. "It's something that just

We're always getting letters from fans complaining about referees—what they did do or what they didn't do. Dick Kroll is a rare breed of referee. He officiates throughout the United States, in N.W.A., and A.W.A. and W.W.W.F. territories. And in this exclusive interview, Dick answers some of the questions which have been plaguing fans for years.

kind of happened to me.

"I used to wrestle when I was younger but I wasn't experienced enough to ever hope to make it in the big time. But I loved the sport so much I knew I wanted to remain in it in some capacity. One day I was watching the matches in a small arena I won't name. The referee was injured and there wasn't a backup

since the arena was so small. I saw what happened and I ran to the promoter and volunteered my services. I told him I refereed high school and amateur matches. Of course, I never had, but I'd seen enough on TV and in person to believe I could do it. I look back on that incident now and I realize I was terrible, probably because I



Dick counts as Koloff has Sammartino pinned to the canvas. "I expected Bruno to get up at the count of two as he always did," Dick remembers, "and I was the most surprised man in the house when I counted to three."

was so scared. I bluffed my way through the whole thing. Evidently I was good enough so that the promoter asked me to serve as backup. It meant not having to pay for a ticket so I agreed. Meanwhile, I watched referees every chance I could. I asked hundreds of questions and picked up pointers at every match. When the referee at that

small arena retired, I took over.

"Eventually I came to New York, took the licensing test and passed. I was a fully-certified referee for the World Wide Wrestling Federation. But I never stopped reading or asking questions or watching other referees. You never stop learning in this business."

Dick is unique in that he works all

Dick watches intently as Ivan Koloff hurtles down on Bruno Sammartino in their famous match where Koloff won the W.W.W.F. title. Dick considers it the greatest match he ever refereed. He's called on to referee title matches in all territories—the only referee so honored!

territories in the United States—another facet of his career which came about rather by accident.

"I happened to be in Florida on vacation," he recalled, "and I went to see the wrestling matches. One of the referees didn't show up and since a few of the wrestlers knew me from W.W.W.F. territory they suggested I step in. I agreed. Then I found out the match I'd be handling. Johnny Valentine vs. Eddie Graham. What a war that was! But I managed to get out of it alive and so did Valentine and Graham, so I guess word got around that I could work outside of New York where there aren't as many restrictions as there are here. Since then, whenever I travel somewhere, if I let a promoter know I'll be there he'll usually take advantage of the fact that a Madison Square Garden referee is available and use me. It's a status thing for some of them to get a referee from the Garden. In the past year I've worked New York, Boston and Washington for the W.W.W.F., Florida and California for the N.W.A. and Wisconsin and Minneapolis for the A.W.A."

New York fans complain that cage matches, brass knuckles matches, girls' matches, battle royals and such aren't allowed in that state. As a referee who has worked all territories, you have handled those kinds of matches. Do you think it's about time New York had them too?

"That's hard to say," he noted, "because so far those kind of matches haven't resulted in the kind of incidents that the Commission in New York fears. The Commission is worried about the possibility of a wrestler getting killed. They want to protect the wrestlers just as they want to protect the boxers. You remember Boxing's tragic Benny 'Kid' Paret incident. They want to make

(Continued on page 53)

THE MATCH THAT MUST NEVER BE MADE!



Chief Jay Strongbow demonstrates his famous Sleeper hold on Al Coco. This is the hold Jay taught Jim Valiant.

Once the best of friends, Chief Jay Strongbow and Jim Valiant are out to rip each other apart. But no promoter dares put them into the ring together. Here's why . . .

NOT TOO LONG ago, Jim Valiant and Chief Jay Strongbow were the closest of friends. They dined together, traveled together and even spent Thanksgiving and Christmas together.

They also clicked as a tag team. From the first day they teamed, the Chief and Valiant won 25 of their first 26 matches. The 26th is the one Strongbow would like to forget. That was the match that

broke the Chief's heart. Because that was the match when he began to realize his best friend—Jim Valiant—had turned on him.

"It's a damn shame what happened," a saddened Jay Strongbow recalled. "Here was a kid who could have had everything. But he fell in with bad company and now... well... who knows? But I'm getting ahead of myself. Let me start at the beginning."

"When I first met Jim I thought he was just another guy looking to make a quick buck as a villain. He had the typical 'look'—the long, bleached-blond-looking hair, the flashy, sequin-covered jackets, everything a young wrestler wanting to be a villain thinks he should have. But the first time I saw him wrestle I realized I was wrong—or so I figured.

"His opponent was Tony Marino, a clean, scientific wrestler. Valiant and Toney went at it for 20 minutes and it was clean all the way. I didn't see as much as a closed fist. The time limit elapsed and the bout was declared a draw. Valiant and Marino clasped hands enthusiastically and walked back to the dressing room together. That was where I joined them. Both Tony and I complimented Jimmy for staying within the rules and putting up such a good showing in his first match. I told him how nice it was to see an up-and-coming young wrestler who didn't kick and bite and gouge. He thanked us."

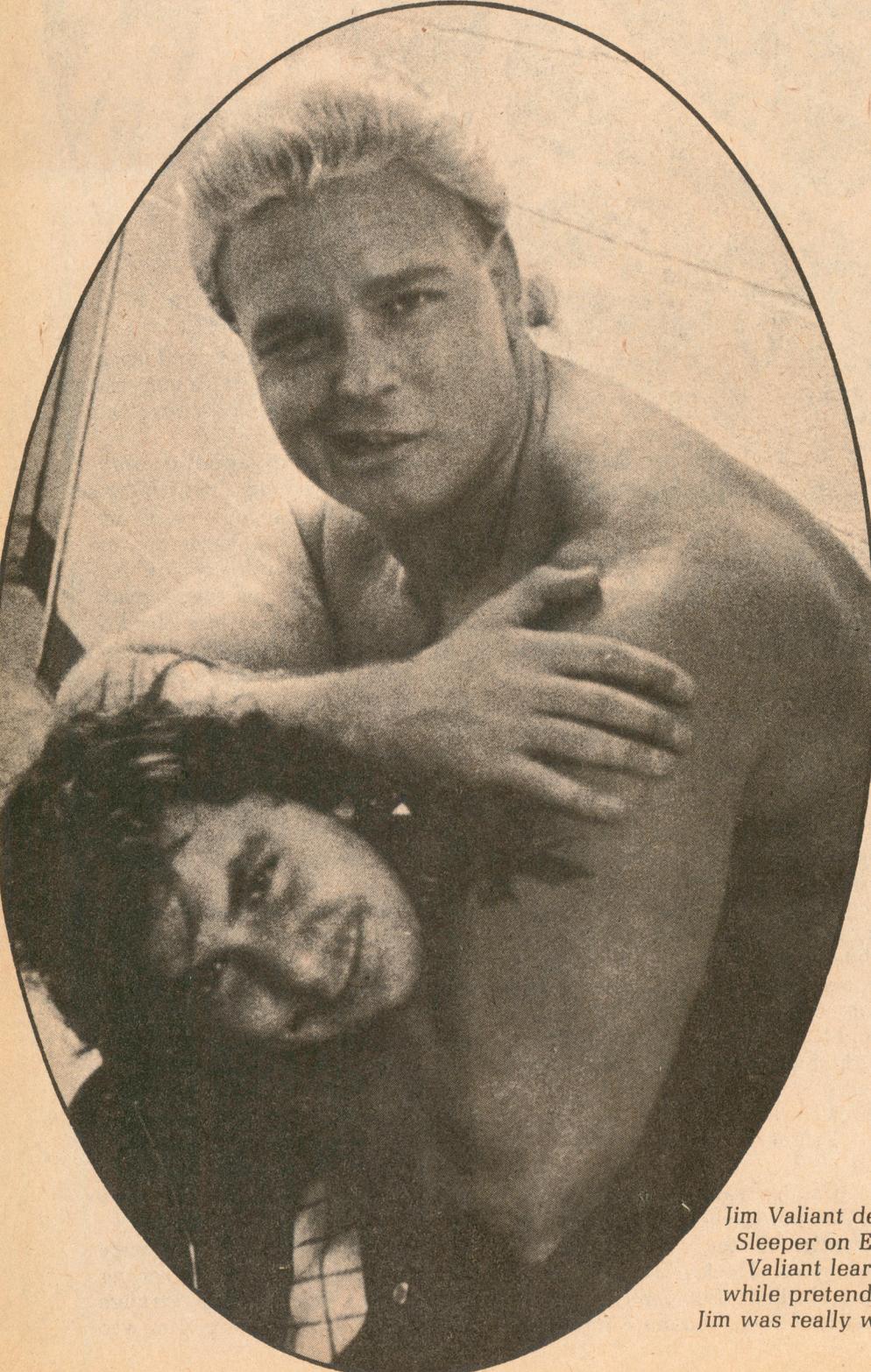
"I always wrestled by the rule book, gentlemen," Valiant told Strongbow. "I'm a wrestler—not a back alley gutter-fighter."

"In the weeks following," the Chief continued, "I kinda took an interest in this young man. He was winning all his matches scientifically and skillfully. I thought he had a hell of a future in this sport. The combination of his good looks and a sort of magnetism he had with fans was making him a particularly big attraction, especially among the women."

"After the matches one night Jim asked me to join him for dinner. I agreed, and during the meal he asked if I'd be willing to help him with his career. He said he still had a lot he wanted to learn and plenty of wrinkles to iron out."

"To tell the truth, I was flattered he asked me. I readily agreed, but I told him it would be on one condition. If I taught him all I knew, he'd have to team with me so we could get a shot at the two guys I hate most in this world—Tarzan

Jim Valiant demonstrates his version of the Sleeper on Elliot Maren, one of Jim's fans. Valiant learned all of Strongbow's tactics while pretending to befriend the Chief. But Jim was really working for the Grand Wizard.



**"To think I even invited him home
for Thanksgiving Dinner"**



Chief Jay Strongbow has Stan Stasiak reaching for the ropes as he clamps the Sleeper on him. Stasiak is another of the Grand Wizard's wrestlers. Strongbow thought Jim Valiant would be the partner who'd help him win the World Wide Wrestling Federation's tag team title.

Tyler and Luke Graham—the W.W.W.F. tag-team champions.

"You've got a deal," Valiant told me. We shook hands on it to seal the bargain and I told Jim to meet me in the gym at noon. There I'd begin my program of teaching him all the holds I'm an expert at, including the one he seemed particularly interested in—the Sleeper.

"Jim arrived at 12 on the button. We warmed up for awhile and then went over to the mats for a sparring session. This was the first time I'd ever really seen him 'close up,' as we say, and I was more impressed than ever. We exchanged holds for about 10 minutes and then took a breather. After five more minutes of instruction, he became kind of restless.

"When are you going to teach me the Sleeper?" he asked. I should have realized it then, but he seemed especially concerned with learning that hold. Since I felt he was ready for it, I told him I'd teach it to him right then and there. I had him sit down on the mat and showed him the correct position—left elbow slightly under the opponent's chin, right hand pressing on the correct nerve. I repeated the instructions three times.

"I think I've got it now," he told me.

"Good," I said. "Try it on me."

"Jim put the hold on perfectly. As a matter of fact, I almost blacked out twice. He learned fast and I was thrilled. I'd finally found a partner I liked, and more important-



ly, one in whom I had confidence. My dream of taking Graham and Tyler's title was coming closer and closer.

"Jim was no disappointment. Every match wound up with him putting the Sleeper on one of our opponents. He was becoming an expert at it. But he was so anxious, like a kid with a new toy, I made sure to impress upon him the importance of never letting an opponent fall into a deep sleep under any circumstances. 'No matter how much you may detest an opponent regardless of what he might have done to you,' I told him, 'never keep the hold on too long. It can result in brain damage or possibly death!' He assured me he'd remember it.

"Things kept going along fine. I invited him to spend Thanksgiving with me at the reservation and we showed him a real Indian Thanksgiving celebration. Since we were on the road, we even spent Christmas together. I remember he bought a little tree—it must have been about two feet high—and put it in my locker. We exchanged gifts and ate our Christmas turkey in a restaurant. It was really nice since we were both away from home.

"The next few weeks we were booked in separate arenas wrestling as singles. That's when strange things started happening. Jim was

seen keeping company with undesirables, people like Stan Stasiak, Beautiful Bobby and the Grand Wizard. There were rumors he was dining out with the Grand Wizard and going out on the town with him and Stasiak. I tried to call him to find out about it but my calls were never returned.

"Finally, three weeks later, we were booked in Philadelphia as a team. When Jim walked into the dressing room I went over to greet him.

"Hey buddy," I said, "how've you been?"

"Okay, I guess," he said almost mechanically. There was no enthusiasm.

"Then, instead of putting his gear next to mine as he usually did, he put it down next to a locker marked 'The Grand Wizard & Co.' And that company included Stasiak, Beautiful Bobby, and I think Black-jack Mulligan. The Wizard whispered something in his ear and Valiant came back to where I was sitting.

"Sorry," he said. "I had some personal business to attend to."

"That's all right," I assured him. "You all ready for our match?"

"All set," he replied. "I've got the Sleeper ready for someone tonight."

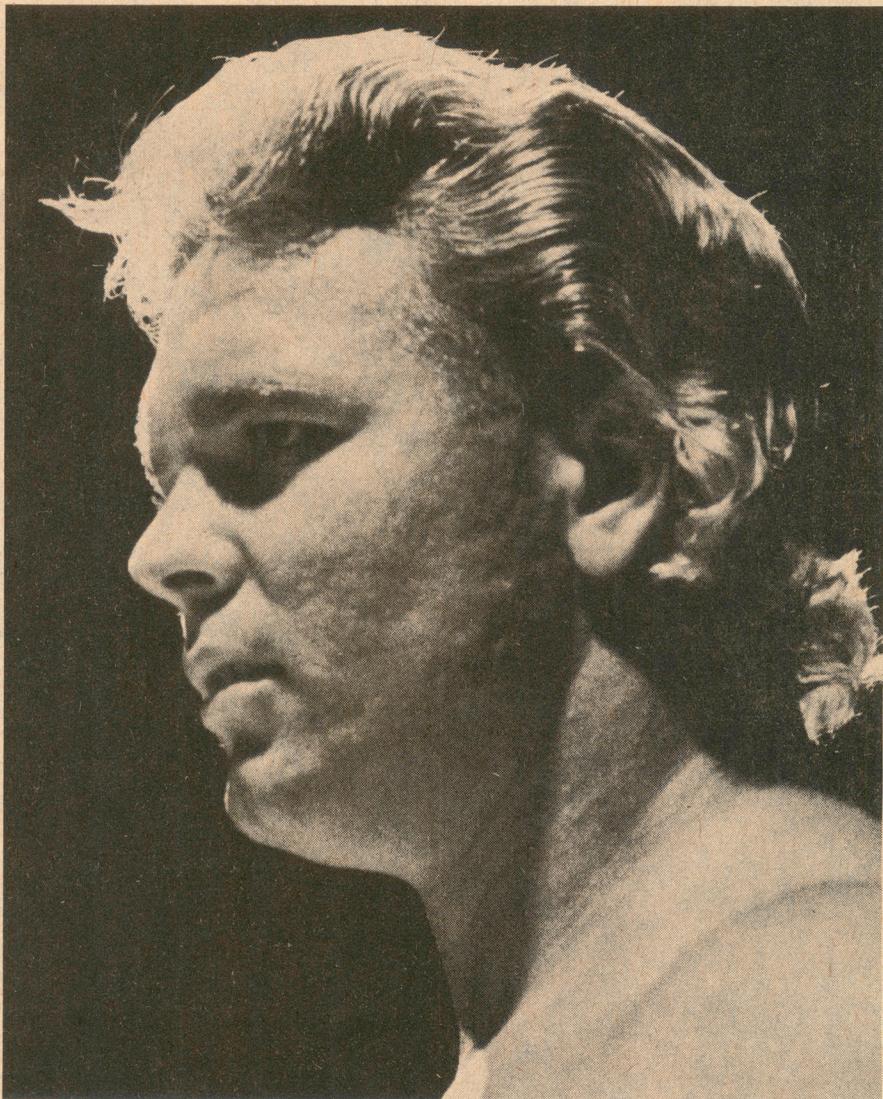
"We walked down the aisle and climbed through the ropes to face the Black Demon and Beautiful Bobby. Jim asked me to start the match. I left my corner and Beautiful Bobby came out of his. He grabbed my arm and dragged me to his corner. Then, together with the Demon, they double-teamed me.

"I yelled at the top of my lungs for Jim to come and help me. But he was nowhere in sight. I assumed the referee held him back. I finally worked myself loose and ran over to tag him. But instead of tagging me—Jim folded his arms and turned his back!

"Bobby and the Black Demon sneaked up from behind me and knocked me to the mat. I felt someone kicking me in my head. Once more I called for Jim to help me. But when I looked up I got the shock of my life. Jim was in the ring, standing over me, stomping my head! Then he dropped to the mat and got me in position for the deadly hold I taught him—the Sleeper!"

"Luckily, Pedro Morales was watching this whole thing from the

"The Wizard ordered me to find out the secret of your Sleeper hold"



alleyway leading back to the dressing room. He stormed into the ring and sent the Demon and Beautiful Bobby fleeing. But Valiant wouldn't budge. He was increasing the pressure on the Sleeper. I blacked out. He had tried to kill me.

"I don't know what happened next. The referee told me Pedro finally pulled Valiant off me and Valiant, the Demon, Bobby and The Grand Wizard all went back to the dressing room together. I just couldn't believe he'd do something like that!"

"But I got my answer on television a few days later. The Wizard made a formal statement that he was now managing Jim Valiant. Then Valiant got on.

"'Strongbow,' Valiant announced,

'I've got news for you. I was *always* in The Grand Wizard's company! Only you didn't know it! And neither did any of your friends, Morales, Marino or Monsoon. The Wizard ordered me to infiltrate and learn the secret of your deadly Sleeper hold. I did. And now that I know your ways—I'm going to destroy you! I'm going to put you to sleep forever! Remember what you told me about what can happen if I don't release the Sleeper quick enough? Well Morales saved your hide last time. Next time he won't. I'm going to put you to sleep forever!'

"And that's the whole story," Chief Strongbow concluded. "Now you know why I've been going

(Continued on page 48)



TARZAN TYLER, almost unrecognizable in a conservative cafe-au-lait suit, sipped slowly at his drink and blinked at the psychedelic lights that flashed over the dance floor in a Palm Beach, Fla., discotheque.

With him were two wrestler friends who seemed to be enjoying themselves immensely as they gazed at wildly-gyrating couples doing the Frug, the Swim, the Monkey and

whatever other convulsions they could improvise.

Tyler stared unbelievingly at a Twiggy-like blonde who, with her eyes closed and a look of pure rapture on her face, jerked, snapped and twitched through her solo contortions.

Turning to his friends, the notorious Ape Man of Matdom growled: "How the hell did we wind up in a joint like this, anyway? C'mon, finish your drinks and let's blow."

"Blow?" one of his friends said. "Why, hell, man, these crazy kids are turnin' me on. Let's stick around for a while, huh? I might feel like grabbing one of those chicks sitting against the wall and doin' a little fancy steppin' myself."

Tyler turned to his other friend. "How about you?" he said. "Are you comin' or stayin'?"

"I think I'll hang around for a while and see what hap-



Tarzan Tyler is a surly, antisocial bruiser who jeers at Terpsichorean pursuits. But on this night against Abe Jacobs, he turned into...

THE APE MAN WHO DANCED IN BANANA SKINS

pens. Why don't you stop fighting yourself and relax, Tarzan? You gotta relate to these kids. Don't forget, a lot of them pay to see you wrestle."

"Relate, hell," Tyler said, throwing down a ten-dollar bill. "Let 'em relate to something else. Why should I waste my time and money lookin' at *them*? Let 'em come to look at *me*! I'll give 'em a better show

(Continued)



than this!"

Getting up, he waved an arm in disgust at the flailing couples and stalked off.

Tyler didn't know it but two nights later, in Tampa, Fla., he would be doing some dancing of his own—in banana skins.

The blond Ape Man went to Tampa to wrestle the popular New Zealander, Abe Jacobs, a lean, muscular man with the reflexes of a cobra and the strength of a tiger.

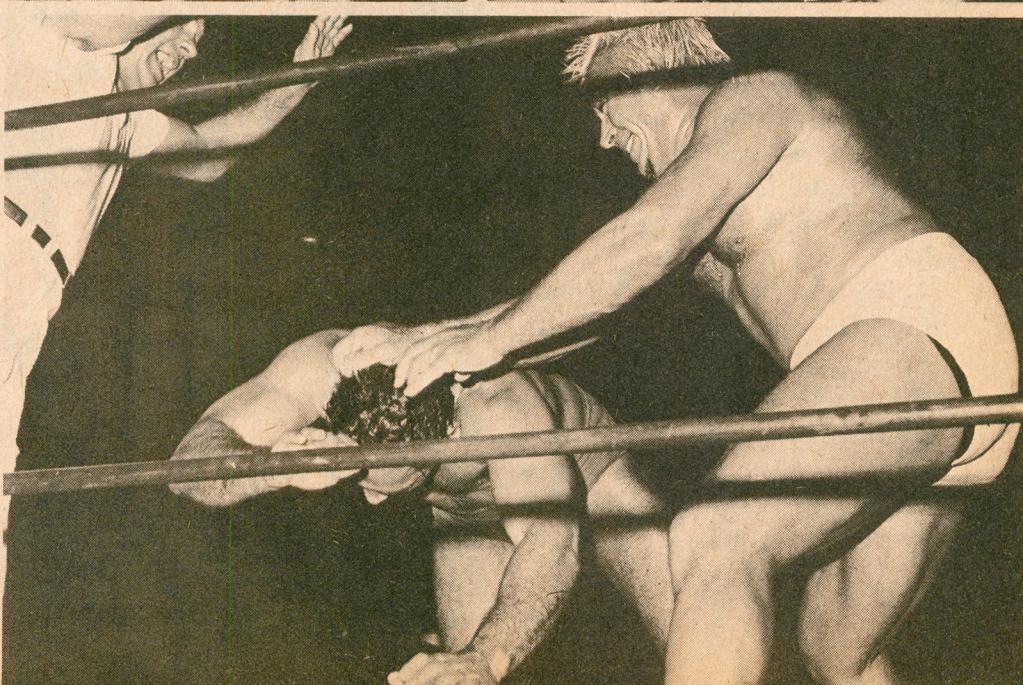
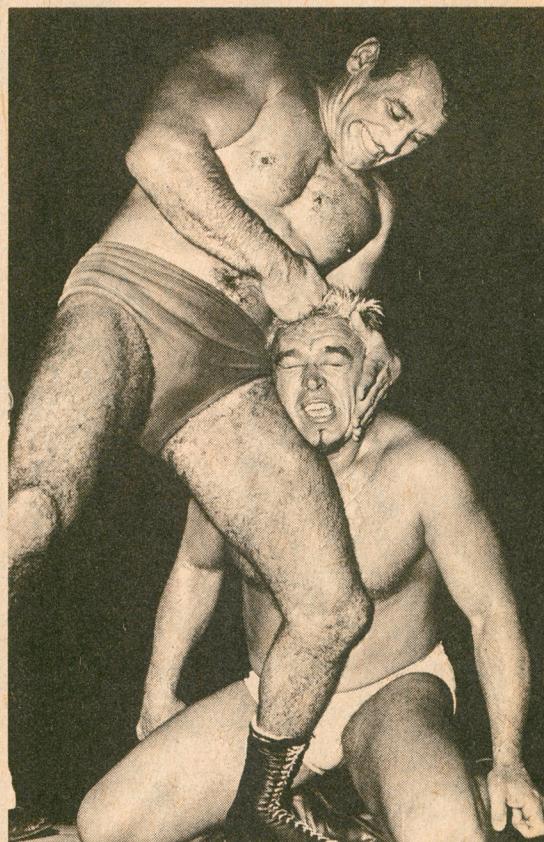
Tarzan was already in the ring when Jacobs started threading his way through the admiring crowd, acknowledging the lusty cheers with a broad smile and a thumbs-up gesture of victory.

Pacing impatiently around the ring in his colorful, puffy-sleeved jacket, the Ape Man glared at the shrieking fans, at his smiling opponent and at the nervous referee, Charley Laye, who quickly brought the combatants together for instructions.

Referee Laye never finished them. With a blood-curdling scream, Tarzan leaped at Jacobs, whose back was turned, and flung him headlong into the ropes. Luckily, Jacobs grabbed the top strand or he would have sailed right out of the ring.

Recovering quickly, Abe

Surging back after sneak attack, Abe blasted Tyler to the mat (above) and later "knuckled" him (right). But Tarzan got up (bottom photo) after slugging Abe in the gut (below), and flung him headlong to the canvas.



Stung by insults from the fans, Tarzan left Jacobs writhing on the mat and shouted obscenities at his tormentors (right). Below: When Abe sailed through ropes after missing a dropkick, Tyler tried to prevent him from returning to the ring.

surprised Tyler by racing across the ring, bouncing off the ropes and nailing Tarzan with a dropkick. Had it landed on target — Tyler's jaw — the dropkick would have finished the Ape Man. It was just a bit off. But it still packed enough power to stagger Tyler.

While the Ape Man struggled to clear his befogged senses, Jacobs repeated his maneuver. Again, he was slightly off target. But his third dropkick was perfectly timed and Tarzan collapsed in a heap.

"Kill him, Abe! Kill him!" the fans shrieked.

Moving in swiftly, Jacobs jolted the Jungle Man with a knee-drop. Tarzan flopped on his face and Abe pounced on him.

"Give him the Kiwi-Roll!" the crowd shouted, referring to Abe's famous rolling leg-lock.

Grabbing Tyler's left leg, Jacobs Kiwi-Rolled him three times around the ring to the delirious cries of the crowd and then clamped a figure four leglock on Tarzan's punished knee joint.

Unable to bear the pain, the Ape Man conceded the first fall with a scream that could be heard outside the armory.

Abe had won the first fall in just 35 seconds. Now, with Tarzan still tottering from the effects of the blitz, Jacobs moved in for an even quicker kill.

Faking a leg dive, Abe hurled Tyler to the mat with a rolling armlock. Then he



trapped the Jungle Man in an arm bar and finally a full wristlock.

Tarzan grunted and sweated as he strained to break the hold. The sweat seeped into Abe's hands and weakened his iron grip. With a mighty heave, Tyler yanked loose.

Now the enraged Jungle Man went on the offensive—kneeing, kicking and elbowing Abe from post to post and finally flooring him with a tremendous body slam.

As Abe writhed on the mat, the fans screamed unprintable epithets at Tarzan. At first, he ignored their torrential abuse. Then, unable to control himself, he stormed toward the ropes and yelled obscenities at them.

The fans retaliated with an even more raucous demonstration and drowned out the ranting Ape Man. Realizing the hopelessness of his position, Tyler turned to finish Jacobs off.

As he reached down to grab Abe by the hair, Jacobs suddenly doubled him over with an explosive right to the gut. Howling with pain, Tarzan clutched his belly and staggered in circles.

But he wouldn't go down!

It was incredible that he could take so much punishment. As much as he despised the Ape Man, Jacobs couldn't help but feel a grudging admiration for his staying power.

Abe's own strength was starting to ebb. He had to move fast. Another flying dropkick ought to do the job, he thought.

He sprinted toward the



After getting kicked in the head twice, Jacobs grabbed Tyler's leg, yanked Tarzan out of the ring and upended him for tremendous body slam.

ropes. But instead of bouncing off them, he miscalculated and kept right on going—into the laps of startled ringsiders who failed to scatter in time.

Angered by his clumsiness, Abe picked himself up and tried to climb into the ring. Tyler nailed him with a kick to the head. Staggering back, Jacobs tried again. Tarzan aimed another kick at him but Abe grabbed his leg this time and yanked him to the floor of the arena.

BAM!

A body slam flattened the Ape Man.

Abe looked down at him and was about to attack again but thought better of it and climbed back into the ring.

Tarzan followed him, bellowing with rage. Abe didn't try to keep him out and the crowd applauded this gesture of sportsmanship. But it proved to be a fatal mistake.

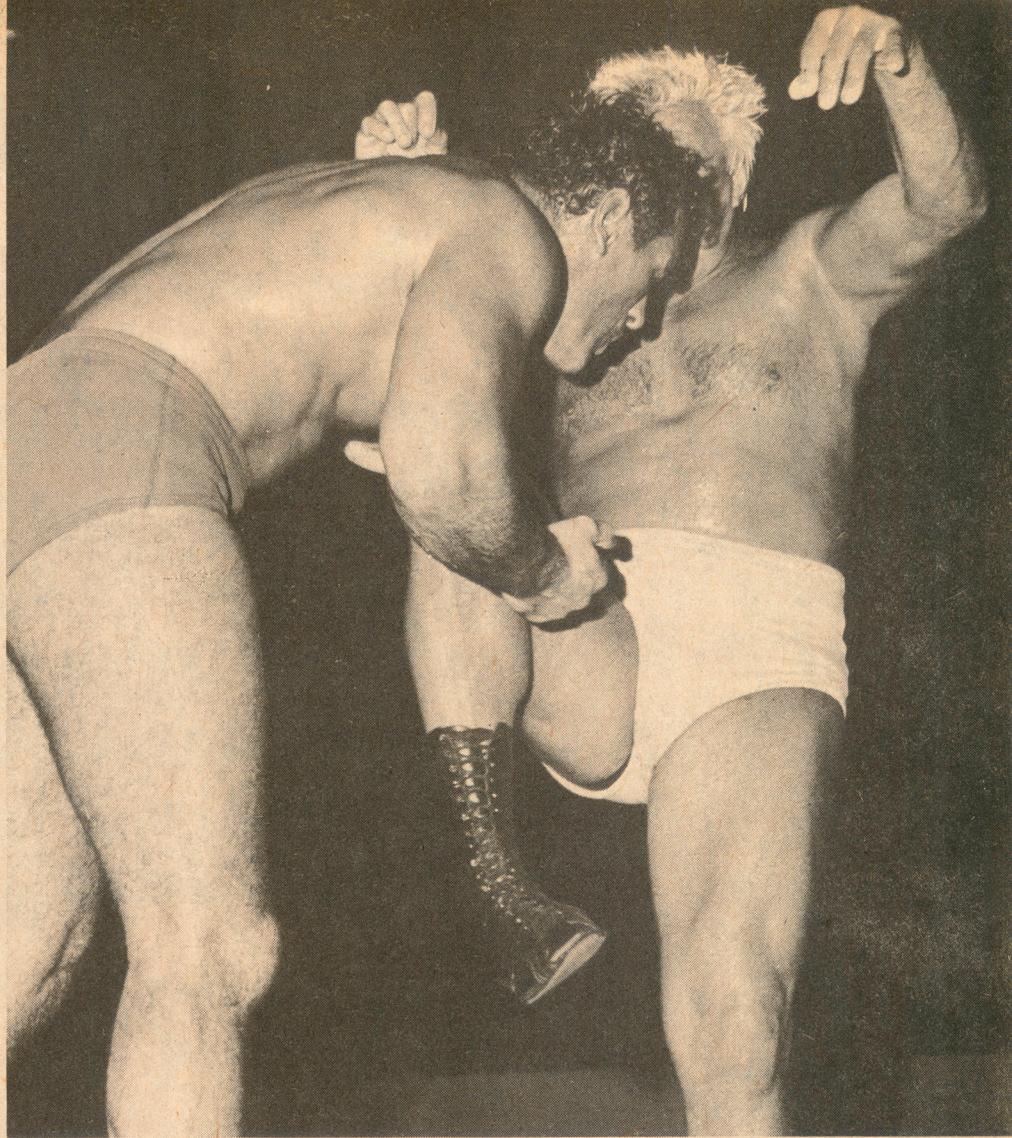
Driving Tyler to his knees with a shoulder smash, Abe tried for another bounce but lunged straight into Tarzan's upraised knee and dropped like a sack, leaving his head wide open for the Jungle Man's deadly Forehead Stomp.

A look of sadistic pleasure twisting his face, Tarzan drove his heel again and again into Jacobs' head. Every time he landed, Abe's body shook with convulsions.

"Stop it! Stop it!" the fans screamed.

Referee Laye stopped it. And when Abe failed to come out for the third fall, he raised Tyler's arm in victory.

Tarzan went into a wild dance. And that's when the

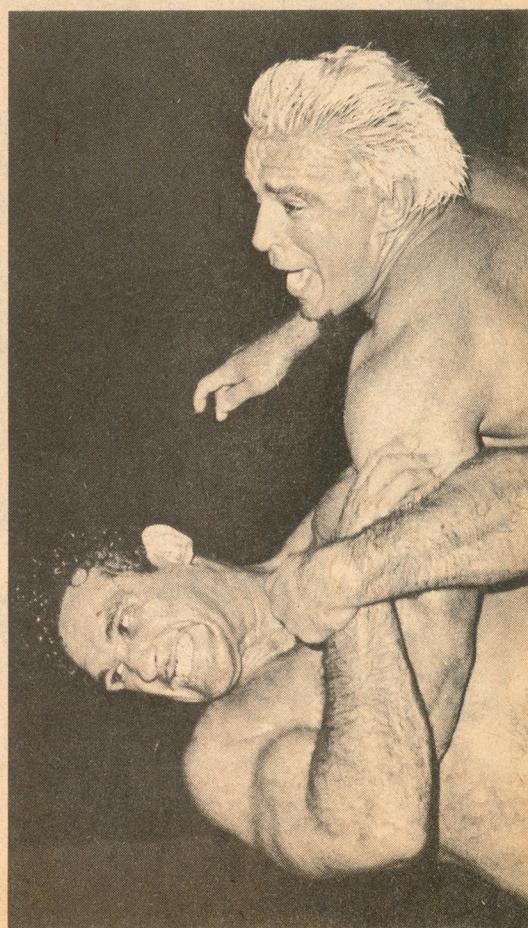


Back in the ring, Abe continued battering Tyler (right) but, in rushing to finish him off, ran into smashing kneelift (above).

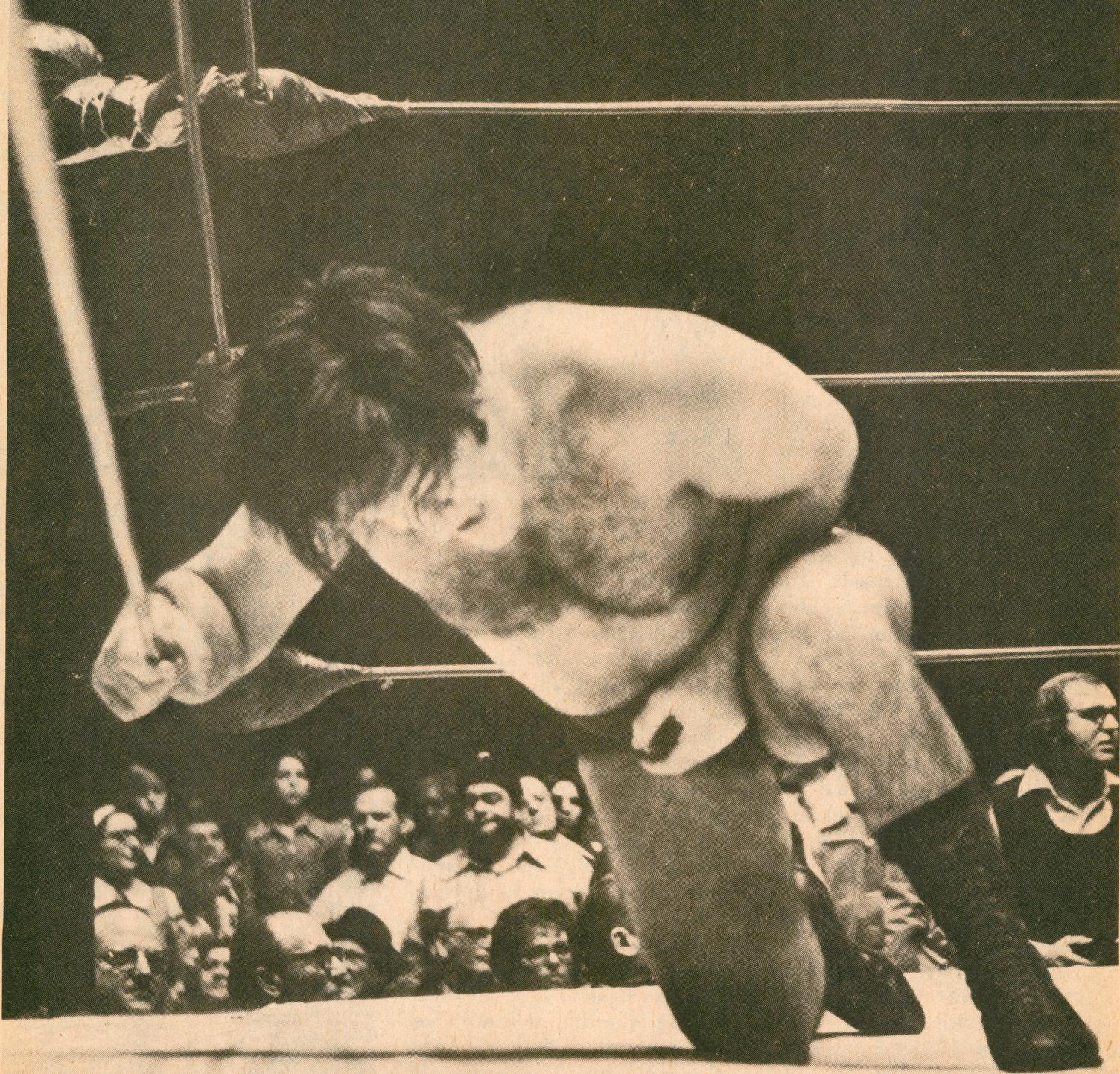
banana skins came hurtling through the air. They landed on his head and arms and shoulders and the Ape Man looked so funny dancing in banana skins that the fans started to laugh.

Tarzan stopped dancing, picked off the banana skins and flung them, one by one, into the crowd. Then, escorted by four policemen, he hurried to his dressing room.

He hurried out of Tampa, too—as fast as he could. He couldn't bear to hear all those people laughing at him. They weren't calling him the Ape Man any more. They were calling him the Banana Man. □

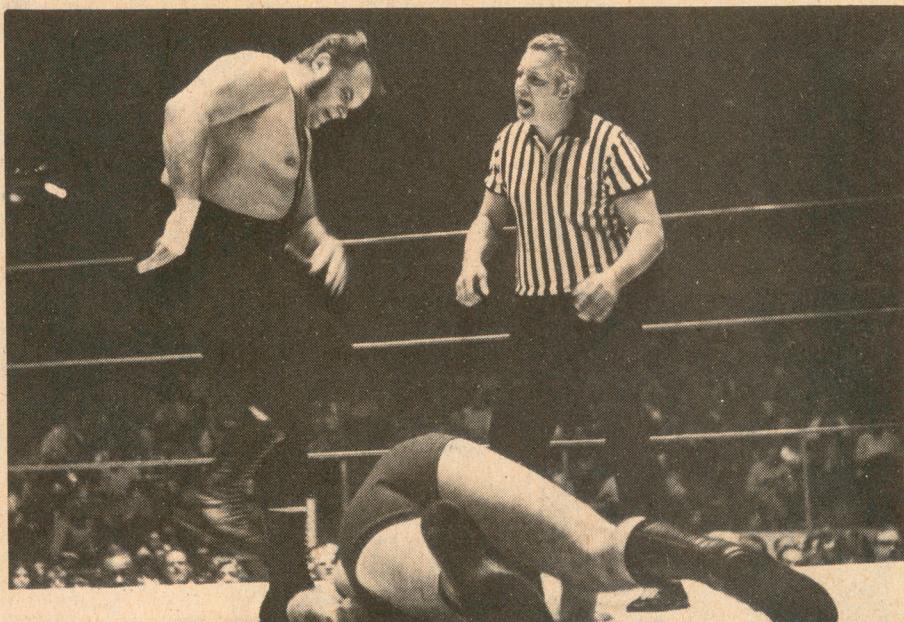
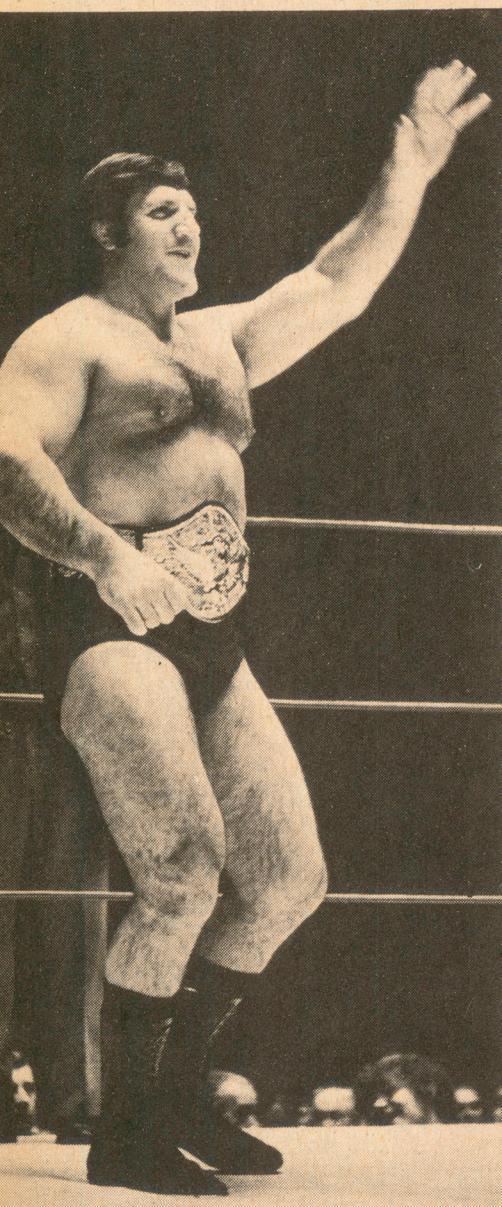


BRUNO'S COUNTED OUT



Bruno Sammartino gave Stan Stasiak every opportunity to win the W.W.W.F. championship back. But after what Stasiak did, it'll be understandable if Bruno tries to tear him in half if they meet again

BUT HE'S STILL GOT THE BELT



Stasiak kicks Bruno's elbow repeatedly as the referee orders him to back off and let Bruno get up since Stasiak floored him with an illegal tactic. Stan was determined to win any way he could.

STAN STASIAC WAS going to prove a point. Even if he had to do it using every illegal tactic he could think of, he was determined that nothing would stop him from winning the World Wide Wrestling Federation title back from Bruno Sammartino.

Stasiak lost the belt just nine days after winning it from Pedro Morales.

"It was a fluke," the heart punch expert claimed after the Sammartino match. "Sammartino was granted a lousy New York decision. Everyone in New York City backs Sammartino. That includes the judges, the referees and the officials.

"I thought when Morales lost the title there would be no more of that garbage. But Sammartino's just as protected as Morales was. Remember, I beat Morales outside of New York City, in Pennsylvania, where he

couldn't be protected."

World got around to Bruno and he replied.

"Stan Stasiak is a very capable opponent," he said. "If the World Wide Wrestling Federation deems him the top contender I'll gladly wrestle him."

Stasiak stayed in the number one spot for quite awhile. He was granted a title shot.

"I want it outside of New York," Stasiak demanded. The officials okayed his request. And to go one better, the match was signed in Pennsylvania, the state of Stasiak's greatest achievement, the victory over Morales.

"Lady Luck will be with me," Stasiak guaranteed. "There is no way in hell Sammartino is going to beat me. I'm undefeated in Pennsylvania. Man, Sammartino's in trouble. If he's smart he'll leave town now and just

Sammartino is in terrible pain (opposite page) after Stasiak hit him in the groin. Bruno (above) waves to his throng of fans before the match begins.

Photos by Dennis Natale

drop the belt off at my office. That way he won't have to shame himself when he loses to me."

But talk never scares Bruno Sammartino off. Bruno talks with skill. And this time it wasn't going to be any different.

When they were finally face-to-face, Stasiak continued his psychological assault.

"This is the end of the line for you!" he exclaimed moments before the bell. "Sammartino, the belt is as good as mine."

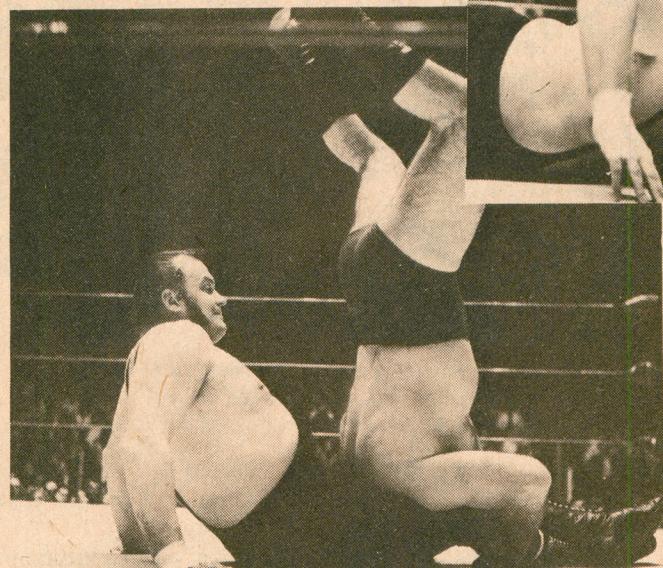
You could read the serious expres-

sion on Bruno's face and see how eager his body was to jump into action. Was he afraid? Did Stasiak really psych him out?

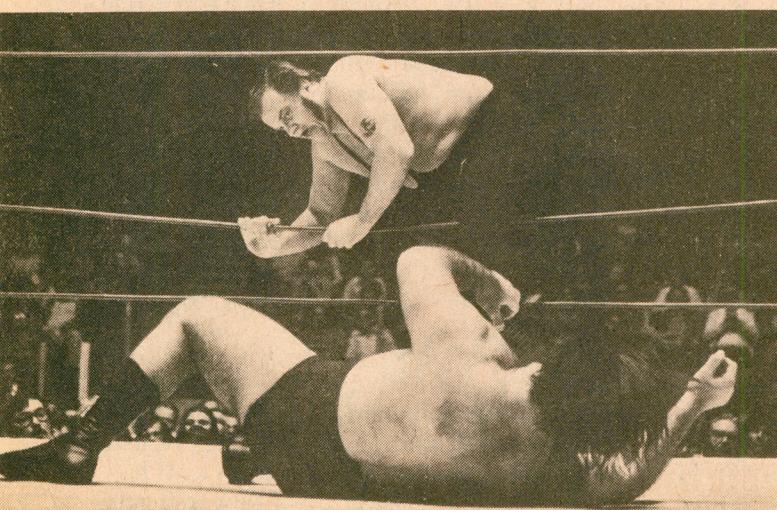
It didn't appear that way. Bruno offset Stasiak with a series of sensational takedowns and other lightning-fast tactics. Several times Stasiak tried his feared heart punch but each time Bruno managed to find a way to avoid it. The match looked like it was all Bruno's. No doubt about it.

Stasiak surprised Bruno later in the match by executing some legal holds. But each one failed as the champion

Bruno has a hammerlock on Stan (right) and he continues to apply pressure as the fans chant for him to do it over and over again. Several times Stasiak tried to hit Bruno with the heart punch but each time failed.



Stasiak locked Bruno in a head vise, figuring that he couldn't get out. But the sly Bruno does a head stand (left) and pops right out! After being dumped out of the ring, Stan comes back in (bottom left). Bruno was floored when Stan met him at the ropes with a football block.



slyly worked his way out and got Stasiak in a counter hold. Again Bruno was in charge.

Stan was frustrated. He blew his top and began resorting to the foul tactics for which he's known so well. He raked Bruno's eyes repeatedly. Bruno retaliated by punching Stasiak hard after Stasiak had punched him several times. The impact of Bruno's blows began to take effect. Stasiak was weakening.

Bruno's punches turned to legal forearm smashes after awhile. Stasiak looked like he'd had it. The enormous strength of Bruno was taking its toll on the former champion.

The champ whipped Stasiak into the ropes and met him with a knee to the mid-section on the rebound. Stasiak recovered momentarily and began running off the ropes, rebounding in every direction. It looked like he was trying to confuse Bruno. So what'd Bruno do? He joined him by rebounding too. It looked like there could be a head-on collision any second.

As the two of them were running, Bruno accidentally collided with referee Emil Britco. Bruno stopped, turned his back on Stasiak, and helped the referee to his feet. In one moment, Stasiak ran over and hit Bruno in the groin! The referee didn't see it. Bruno doubled over in pain. He fell through the ropes and onto the arena floor in agony.

The confused referee began counting Bruno out. Finally the match was stopped. Bruno couldn't get back in time. Stasiak was the winner!

"Ha! I did it you stiff!" Stasiak yelled to Bruno who was still outside the ring. "I'm the champion! I regained the title!"

Amid faces of disbelief, Stasiak left the ring. But to his shock, it was announced that Sammartino did not lose the belt. You cannot lose a title on a count-out or disqualification. Those are the rules.

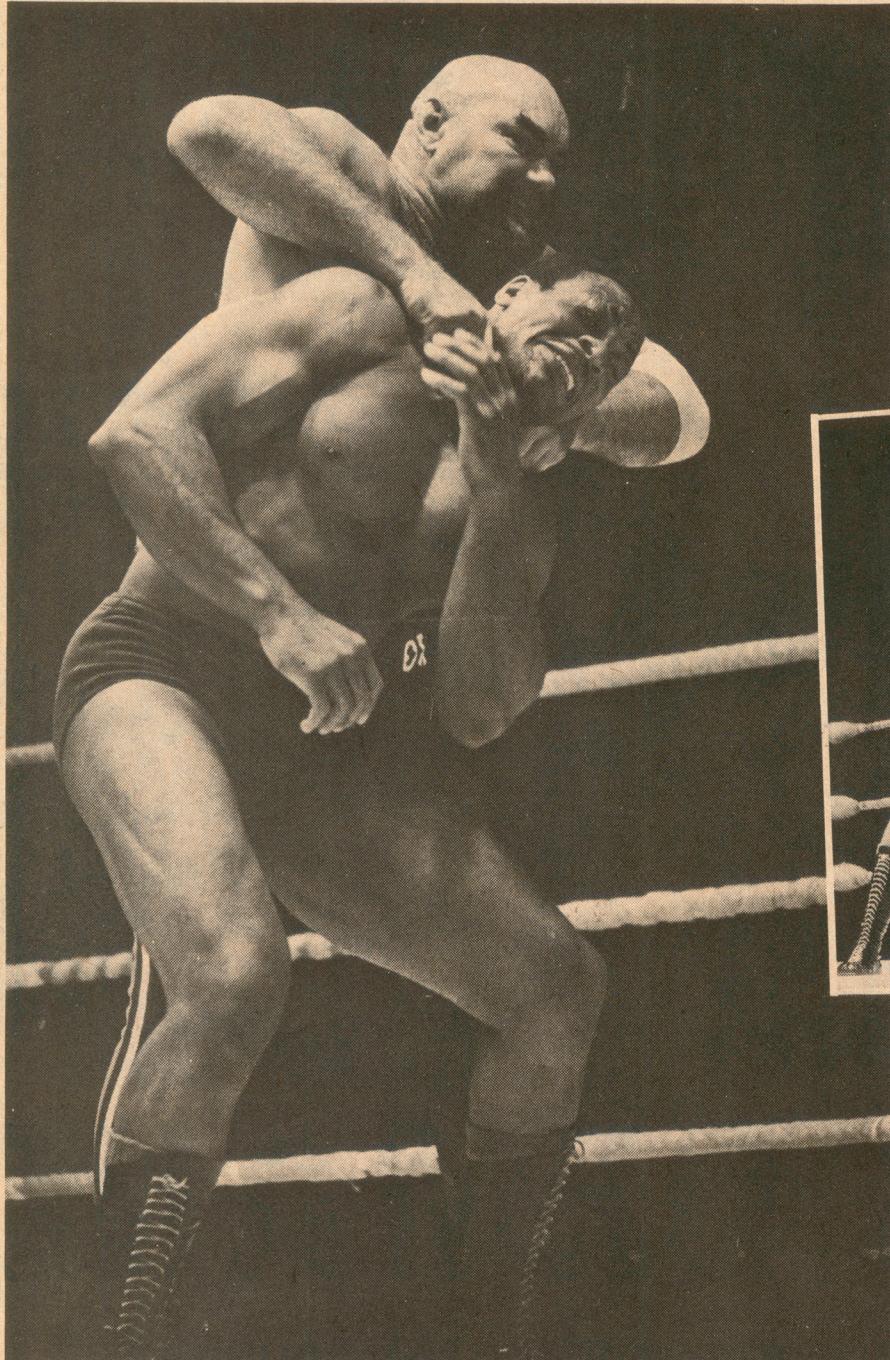
"DAMMIT!" Stasiak screamed. You could hear him a mile away. The next few words out of his mouth are not printable. Let's just say he was badly ticked off.

As far as Stasiak is concerned, he won. He's calling himself "champion" whether the W.W.W.F. likes it or not.

One guy who doesn't like it is Bruno. And Bruno intends to hush Stasiak's claim. You can rest assured that he won't rest until he does. □

WRESTLING'S UNDERRATED STRONGMAN

PHOTOS BY STEVE GOLDSTEIN



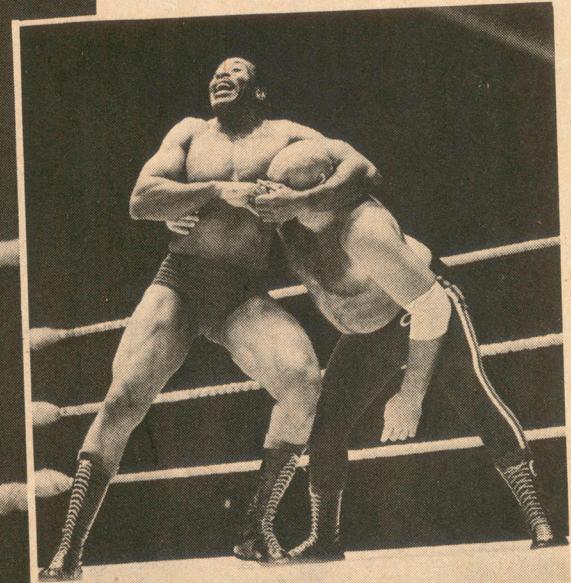
Strength isn't everything. But if you're as strong as Sailor Art Thomas it's just about all you need

WHEN WRESTLERS DISCUSS raw strength, Sailor Art Thomas' name figures prominently in every conversation.

His perfectly proportioned physique houses enormous power. His developed, taut muscles can respond satisfactorily to any task. He takes excellent care of his body, which in turn takes excellent care of him.

Others wrestlers are in plentiful attendance when Art wrestles. Some watch Art with fear, some with loathing, some with unconcealed admiration. If one has to contemplate grappling against Art's enormous power, watching him can be a very unpleasant experience.

"Watch how the other wrestler tries to cope with Art," his friend, Bobo Brazil, instructed during Thomas' match against Ox Baker. "That's how you can tell a wrestler's worth. If he's a good oppo-



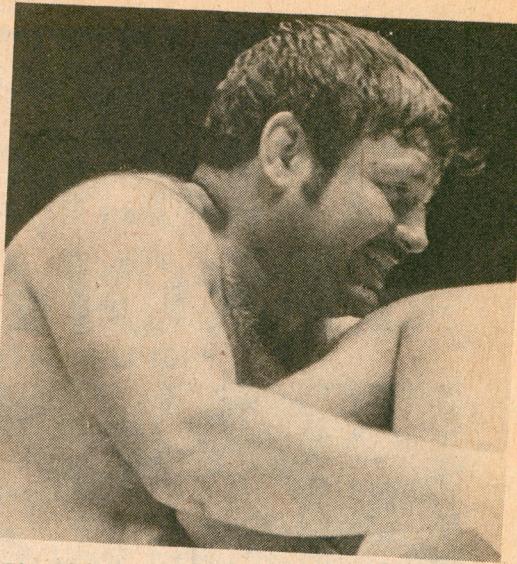
Left: The powerfully developed neck muscles of Thomas frustrate Baker's chokehold. Above: Art almost crushes Baker's skull in an awesomely powerful headlock.

nent, he'll do certain proven countermeasures. When the obvious ones don't work, and the opponent is reduced to risky maneuvers, then you know he's having trouble coping. When men wrestle Art, they have to do a lot of risky things. Other wrestlers see this and it makes them worry. We all know how badly the struggling guy feels.

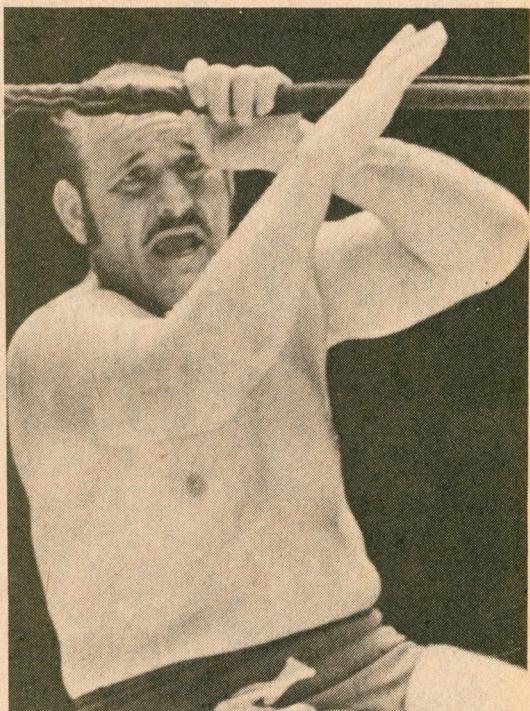
"I've seen guys panic just looking

(Continued on page 62)

THE FABULOUS KANGAROOS



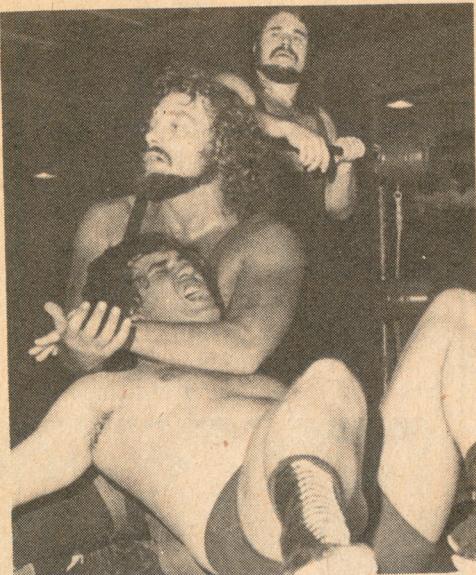
The Fabulous Kangaroos (left) are proud Australians and fierce competitors. Don Kent (above) and Al Costello (below) claim they are the one and only Kangaroos, the first and much the best by a far cry.



FANS DEMAND

Both The Royal Kangaroos and the Fabulous Kangaroos hate to be compared. And slowly but surely, the jealousy between these teams is turning into bitter hatred.

THE ROYAL KANGAROOS



Right: The Royal Kangaroos are also from Australia. Above: Norman Fredrick Charles traps Jerry Brisco. Below: Charles comforts Lord Jonathan Boyd.



A SHOWDOWN!

IF YOU WANT to get your head bashed in just follow these simple instructions.

When you see one of The Fabulous Kangaroos, go over to him and ask, "Hey, Royal Kangaroo, can I have an autograph?"

Or, number two, go over to one of the Royal Kangaroos and ask, "Ain't you one of the Fabulous Kangaroos?"

You see, these teams have never met each other, in a match or socially. And you can bet they'll never

get together socially. But on the canvas, well, that's almost a sure bet.

"The Fabulous Kangaroos are the original Kangaroos," Al Costello stressed. "This other team, the Royal Kangaroos, resembles us in no way,

(Continued on page 58)

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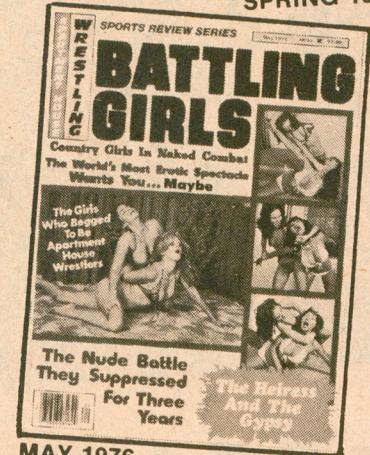
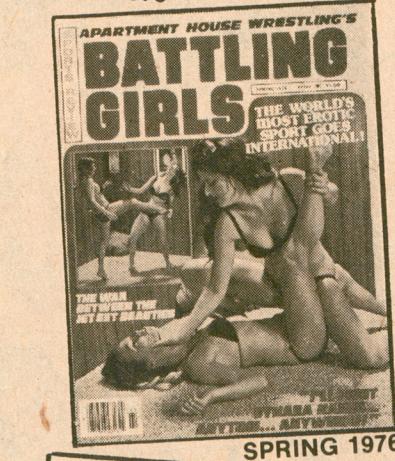
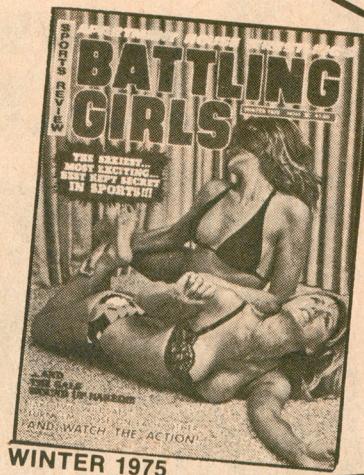
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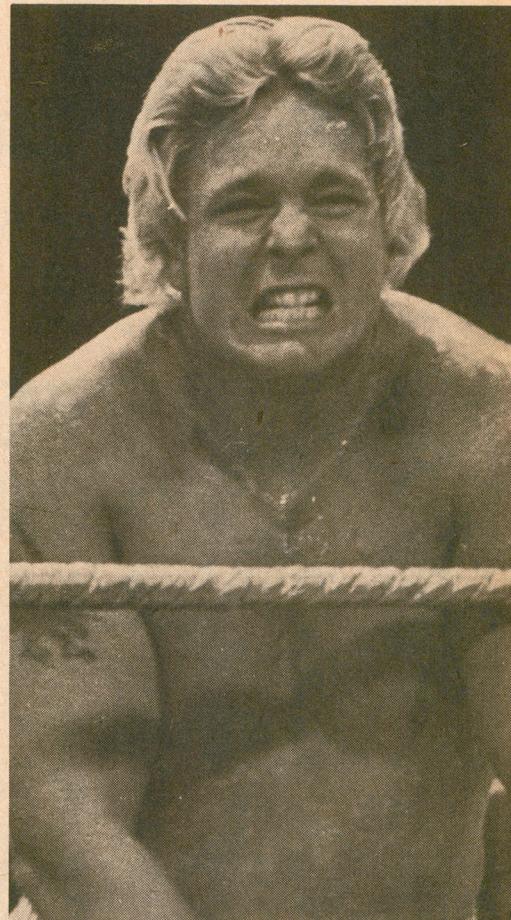


(Continued from Page 35)

around to every promoter begging for a match against Valiant. But the promoters refuse to make it. They say they don't want to be responsible for what may happen while I'm in such a state of mind."

We talked to six different promoters along the eastern seaboard and all were adamant in their refusal to make such a match.

"It's suicide," one promoter insisted. "Valiant has been hypnotized or something by The Grand Wizard. He's like a trained robot. All he



Valiant screams defiance at Strongbow during TV interview in which he revealed he was "using" the Chief all the time.

wants to do is kill Strongbow. The Chief is so angry at the double cross he might just put the Sleeper on Valiant and never let up until he kills him. I like a grudge match as well as the next guy. But I'm not going to promote a murder!"

The other promoters agree. This is one match that must never be made. But they fear that someone, somewhere, will agree to put the match on. And if someone does, either Jim Valiant or Chief Jay Strongbow may never wake up again! □

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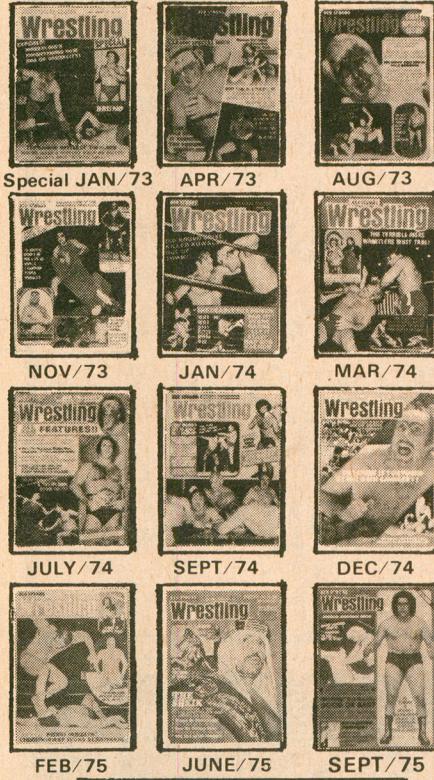
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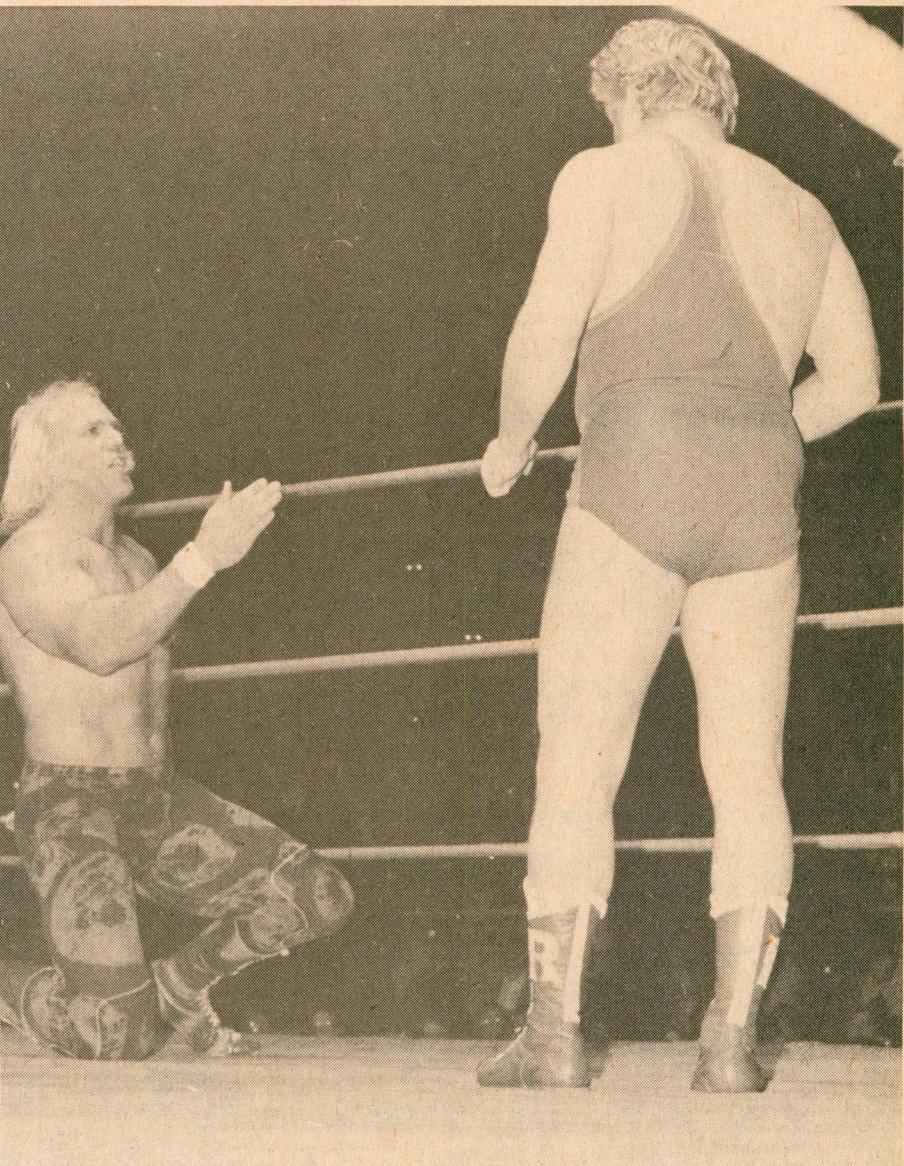
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BILLY GRAHAM

(Continued from Page 18)



Bastien's trying to decide whether or not to trust Graham (above). A disgusted Bastien (right) curses himself for falling for one of wrestling's—and Graham's—oldest tricks.

was hapless, helpless, and hopeless. He knew he was done for. And he should have been done for, except for the fact that I, Red Bastien, made the dumbest, stupidest, most ignorant move ever!

"I had Graham coming and going. There were times during the match when he was completely at my mercy. Why didn't I finish him off? Oh, why didn't I finish him off?

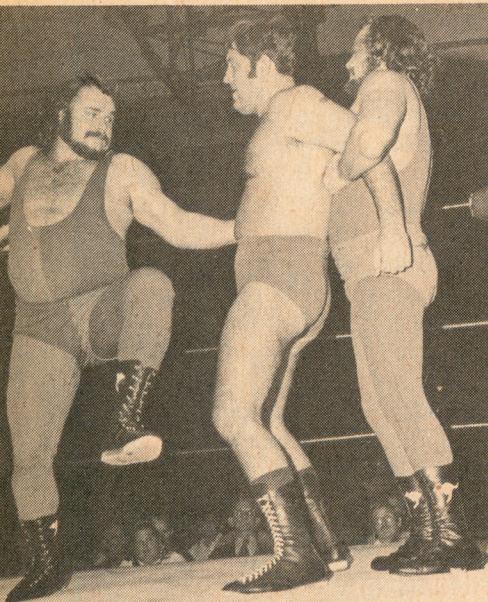
"But you can't take anything away from Graham—he's the most sincere beggar I've ever seen. When he was down on his knees, pleading with me to let up, he had me believing him. Him! Billy Graham, the most miser-

able cur that ever lived!

"So I let him get up. Any normal thinking person would have kicked him in his pearly white teeth, shoving them down his lying throat. Or else kicking them up into his devious brain!

"But I let him get to his feet. And with the sincerity of a snake, he comes over to me with his hand outstretched, as if to thank me for my compassion. Instead, he was congratulating me on my stupidity!

"It must be my ego. I really believed Graham would respect my skill and cunning. After all, it had put him in the ground.



The Royal Kangaroos gang up on Johnny Weaver (above). It is a typical tactic for them.

That's why we carry boomerangs and wear the hats."

In terms of tactics, which team has the better wrestling skills?

"I'd say we have the most devastating tactics," Costello said. "I won't take anything away from them. I hear they're quite rough when they have brass knuckles or boomerangs in their hands. We don't need that sort of thing. No, we rely on our boomerang hold, our 'Koala Clutch', our scientific holds, and most of all our brains. We think our matches through."

The Royal Kangaroos claim they never use foreign objects.

"The only time we use brass knuckles," Boyd said, "is when we're allowed to. That time comes in a brass knuckles tag battle where both teams may use them. As for holds, we are the most scientific tag team on the face of the Earth today. No team can match our teamwork or skill. We are truly unique."

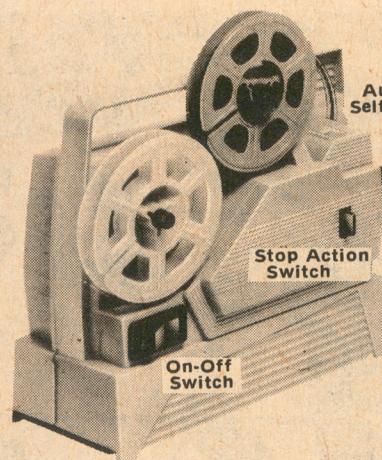
A wrestler, who didn't want to be revealed by name, had this to say:

"I've wrestled against both teams. They're both very good. But if I'd have to pick a winner in a match with them squaring off, well, I'd pick the Fabulous Kangaroos because they have more experience. However, there is always a chance the match could go the other way. You never know."

And no one will ever know unless they do wrestle. Then, just one team will be the "master" Kangaroos team.

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GET UP, BORIS

(Continued from Page 21)



Dusty Rhodes never has a chance as Boris smashes the chain into his bloody, red face and skull.

is as dangerous as all chain matches with one grotesque difference—to win, a wrestler must drag his bleeding, unconscious opponent completely around the ring. Often, the gushing blood forms a scarlet circle marking the journey.

Watching Boris train for a chain match is a terrifying experience. He practices slashing the chain with control. The chain is a deadly weapon that requires skill and training to use. Boris wanted to have the chain leap to his command like a vicious watchdog.

Another necessary training ritual is spending hours a day soaking your face in brine. This toughens the skin so that it is more difficult to cut. It is a dull, uncomfortable process. But having your face become slashed into ribbons of flesh is a more uncomfortable process.

Rhodes was going through the same process. Each man knew what he wanted to do and what the consequences might be. You can't take a chain match lightly.

The night of the match arrived and the two wrestlers entered the ring ready for anything. They were connected around their right wrists to a length of thick chain 15 feet long. The two men didn't wait for the bell. All they wanted to hear were the two clicks that assured them they were fastened together.

Then they attacked.

Malenko ran at Rhodes but Dusty was ready. Like a child flicking a garden hose, he made the chain snake along its deadly path until it whipped into Boris' forehead. There was a sickening crack as bone met chain and blood spattered over the ring. Malenko sank to his knees.

Dusty sprang to the side of his fallen opponent. He stood in back and wrapped the chain around his hand.

"It all over now, Boris boob!" Rhodes yelled and began to rake the chain across Malenko's face. Blood began to pour out of the Russian's mouth, nose, and forehead.

The chain slashed back and forth with cruel regularity. But Malenko refused to give Rhodes the satisfaction of hearing an agonized scream.

The torture continued for over a minute when Rhodes decided to end the match. He raised the chain high above his head in an attempt to crash it down on Malenko's already blood-soaked skull. He jumped and came crashing down—on the mat.

Malenko had rolled to one side, more from pain than any skill. But seeing Rhodes lying on the mat temporarily stunned was all he needed to regain his strength.

He wrapped the chain around his fist and smashed the steel knuckles into Rhodes' face. He followed the first punch with another, then another, and then another. Soon, Dusty's entire face was obscured by blood.

When he tired of punching, Malenko scraped the chain across Dusty's face. Rhodes fell to the canvas, unconscious.

Boris started to drag Rhodes around the ring, but soon discovered how difficult it is to carry a huge, unconscious man around an entire wrestling ring when you are bleeding and weak. But Boris was determined.

He pulled, strained, and could barely move Rhodes. But the victory was to be his. Slowly, Rhodes began to move. The red stained mat told of his progress. The last quarter of the way Malenko did on his knees, but he did it. The circle of blood was completed.

The referee raised Boris' arm in victory only to have Malenko collapse. The match over, the ring doctor rushed into care for the two men.

While he dressed Malenko's wounds, the doctor told the unconscious winner, "Wake up, Boris, wake up! You won!"

A REFEREE ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS

(Continued from Page 31)

sure nothing like that happens in wrestling."

One of the most frequently-asked questions we receive is who the referees consider the greatest wrestlers and which matches were the greatest matches they ever handled. We put these to Dick.

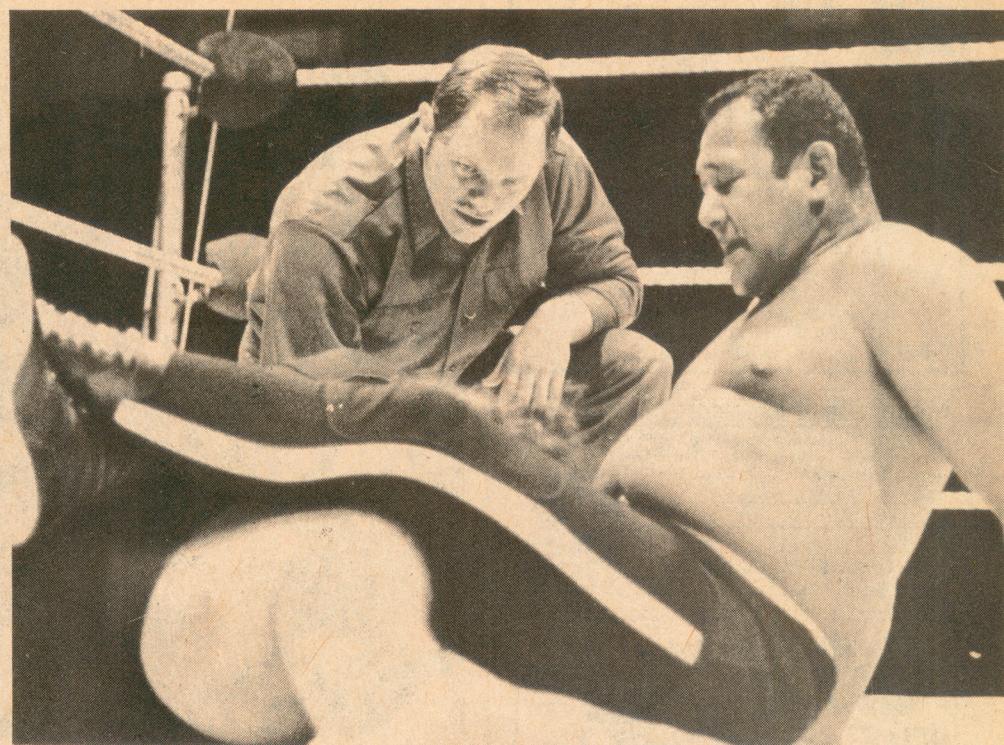
"There are three men whom I consider the greatest wrestlers in the world," he replied, "and I can't separate the three. Verne Gagne, Lou Thesz and Bruno Sammartino are the greatest I ever saw. I refereed in Bruno's matches a number of times and I've handled some of Gagne's matches, although I never refereed a match in which Thesz wrestled.

"Gagne probably impresses me as much as any man in wrestling. The things he does are amazing. Remember, he had a tremendous amateur background and has been a pro for 20 years. His speed, his knowledge of holds and escapes, and his conditioning are unbelievable.

"Sammartino is a different type of wrestler. I think he's the strongest man there is. He doesn't have the quickness or knowledge of holds Gagne does. But Bruno has the biggest heart and greatest amount of courage I've ever seen. Plus his strength is overpowering.

"Thesz combines the best of the other two—strength, speed, conditioning, knowledge of holds and escapes and just plain experience. Remember, he's been going for more than 30 years. That's something.

"But the greatest match I've ever seen was one I had the pleasure of refereeing—the title match between Bruno Sammartino and Ivan Koloff. It was the most surprising match I ever saw. I think I was more stunned than the fans. Just three weeks before, I refereed a six-man tag team match in Washington between Bruno, Bobo Brazil and Gorilla Monsoon against Koloff and the Mongols. Koloff looked absolutely great that night. But when he next faced Bruno three weeks later, there seemed to be no indication that he'd be any tougher than the two other times he wrestled him or the time three weeks prior. I remember Koloff coming off the ropes and pinning Bruno. I began counting. I must have counted to two over Bruno a thousand times, and always the man pinning him



Dick bends over to ask Juan Caruso if he wants to give up as Tomas Marin keeps Juan in a head scissors. "The secret to being a good referee," notes Dick, "is always being in position where you can see what's going on. After a while you develop an instinct for it."

came flying off. That's what I expected this time as well. When I said three I just didn't believe it. I was the most surprised man in the Garden."

The Koloff pin after diving off the top rope was a subject of controversy for quite awhile. Many people contend diving off the top rope is illegal and some promoters have gone so far as to ban it. Are dives off the top rope in the rule book or not?

"The rule says a man cannot use the ropes to pin his opponent," Kroll explained. "As soon as a man begins to climb the ropes I begin a count on him. But as soon as he jumps off the ropes that count ends."

Fans constantly complain that referees seem to penalize the scientific wrestlers in tag team matches while letting the dirty wrestlers get away with murder. The illustration is usually given of a referee holding back a wrestler who's trying to come to the rescue of his partner who's getting belted by two villains. Is that the case?

"Sometimes it is," Kroll admitted, "but never purposely. A referee can stop only what he sees. If he sees a man trying to climb into the ring to help his partner, his obligation is to get that man back out of the ring.

What's happening in the corner comes second—because in most instances one of the men in the corner is on the apron where he should be. Usually, it depends which violation a referee sees first. Positioning is very important. Sometimes, because of positioning, a referee might miss a choke or trunks being pulled that fans on that particular side of the ring can see. Remember. A referee sees only one of four possible angles. He can make judgements only on what he sees."

Do certain wrestlers give referees more trouble than others?

"Most definitely. Guys like Killer Kowalski and Baron Von Raschke are very hard to handle because, they'd just as soon push you away or throw you out of the ring to get at their opponent. When someone like that is wrestling I prepare myself for a rough match, although I try to remain totally objective at all times. I know there are some wrestlers who have reputations for bending the rules a bit more than others. But when I'm in there each match is a new match and I try to stay totally objective."

Are referees friends with any wrestlers?

(Continued on page 54)

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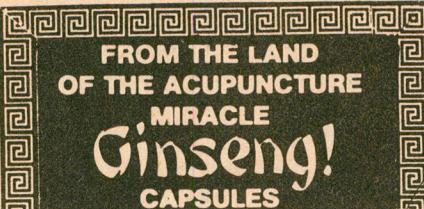
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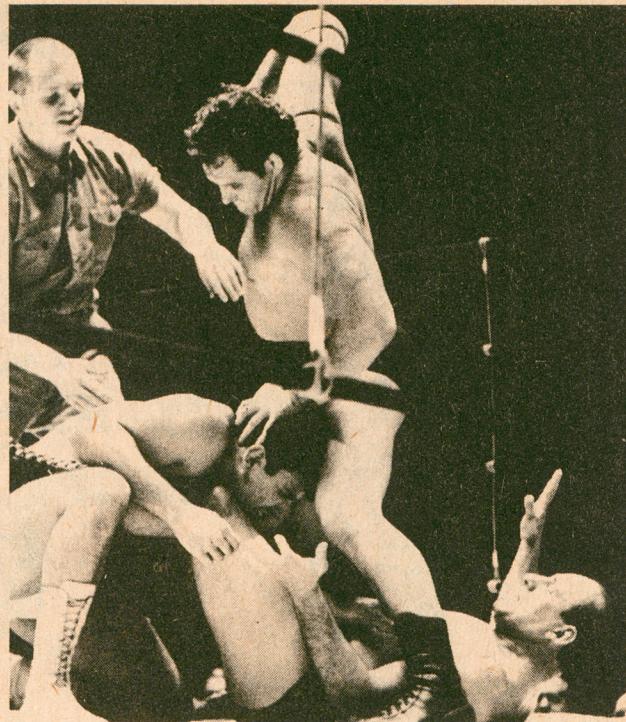
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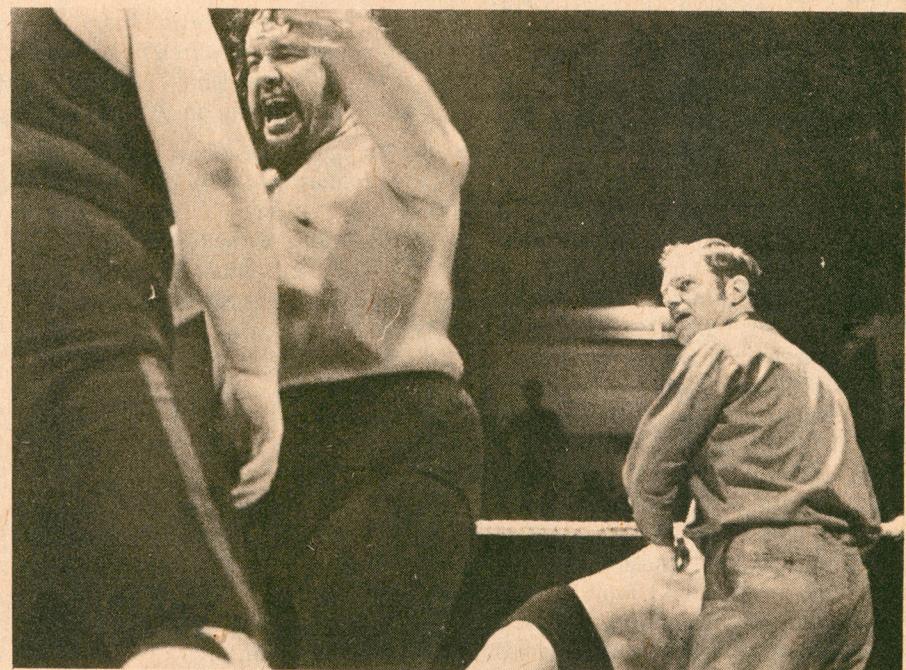
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In one of his first matches (note Dick's crewcut) he tries to prevent Roy Heffernan from pummeling Pete Sanchez. "This is no good," Dick pointed out. "I should have been in between them. That's what you learn with experience."



King Curtis is ripping mad because Dick has just told him he's been disqualified. He is known as a tough man on those who try to use illegal tactics.

"No. Under no circumstances. We'll talk to them if we meet on the street or see them in the locker room before a match. But we never travel together, go to parties together or socialize together. It wouldn't be fair for me to make friends with some wrestlers. What would happen if I refereed their matches? I'd be accused of showing favoritism. That's

one thing a referee fears most. That's why a referee leads a very lonely existence."

Who among the younger wrestlers do you think will be a superstar?

"One man who impressed me immensely is that English kid Billy Robinson. In fact, I'd say that right now he's better than Verne Gagne! I think if they wrestled each other Robinson would lick him. Of course Robinson is just starting to reach his peak while Verne has been on top for years. A few years ago Gagne

(Continued from Page 53)

would have beaten him. But today I think Robinson would win."

What does a referee do when he's not refereeing?

"Believe it or not—I like to go to wrestling matches. When I referee a match it's work. I can't sit back and enjoy it. I'm too busy. So I enjoy going to matches as a spectator. But to tell you the truth, I spend as much time watching the referee as I do watching the wrestlers. I remember one time there was an obvious choke, but the referee didn't see it because he was positioned on the opposite side of the ring. The fans on my side saw it and started yelling and screaming. By the time the referee came around to my side the wrestler had let go of the choke and turned it into a chinlock. When the referee went back to the other side—wham—the choke again. The fans began screaming again. I knew exactly what that poor referee was going through. I've been through it myself."

What moment does the referee fear the most?

"There are two things a referee fears. The first is not seeing an obvious infraction of the rules that could seriously injure a wrestler. The second is when a wrestler brings a weapon or some kind of foreign object into the ring. We search them as best we can but some still get through. I think any wrestler caught bringing a foreign object into the ring should be suspended for 30 days the first time it happens and for a year the second time."

Is there anything you'd like to tell the fans before we end the interview?

"Yes. I'd just like to remind them that referees always do the best they can, but no man is capable of seeing everything going on in the ring. Also, referees do not play favorites or bend over backwards before disqualifying a villain as some fans claim. Fans scream when a villain does something the referee misses. But have you ever heard one scream when a popular wrestler hauls off and belts his opponent? No. They're happy when that happens. I'd just like to remind the fans that their favorites would be in a lot more trouble if there weren't referees around to keep things as clean as possible."

Especially nationally-respected referees like Dick Kroll! □

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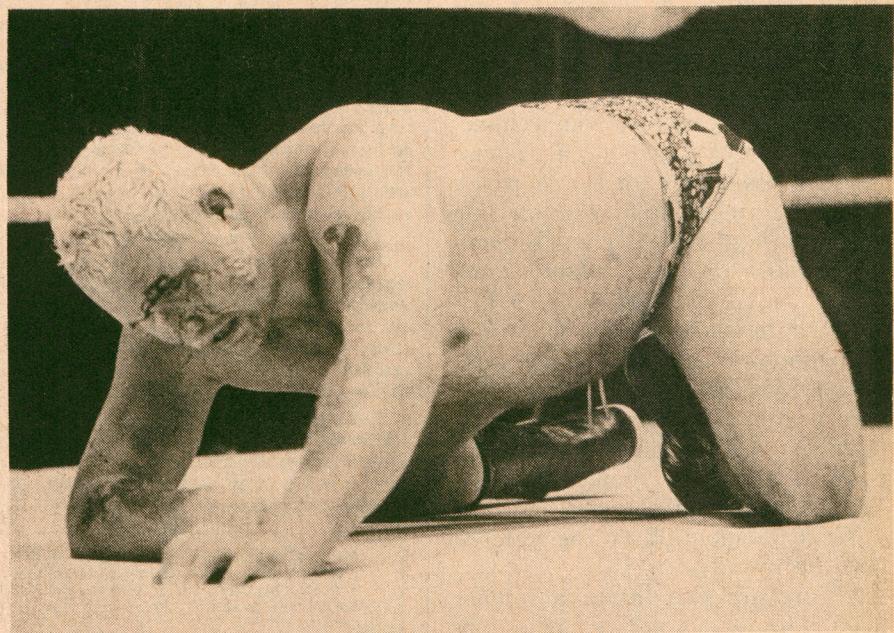
(Continued from Page 28)

fective when you do it mentally.

"I let Kiniski believe he was whipping me. I wanted him to think he had me on the run. But all the while I was searching and probing for openings. I knew that as he got more

confident he'd become less cautious. Sooner or later he had to make a mistake. When he thought he really had me — that's when I knew I had him. I had outwitted him mentally."

Race believes he is now ready to regain "his" title from Jack Brisco and he's demanding a title shot from N.W.A. president Sam Muchnick.



Although bloodied and looking like a loser, Race (above) is the champion. Kiniski (below) claims he was the victim of a very low blow.

"Only three guys ever whipped me," Race continued, "and I've evened the score with two of them — Funk, when I took his title, and Kiniski, when I took his. Brisco — you're next!"

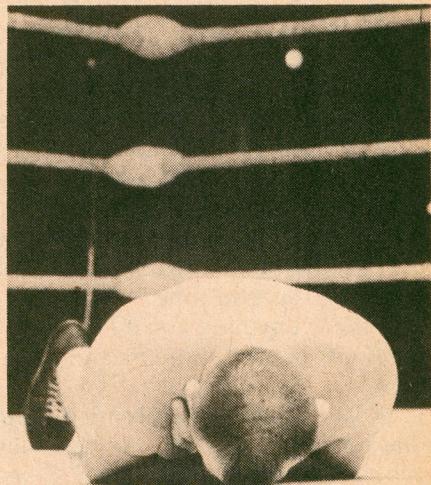
As much as Race dislikes Kiniski, his hatred for Brisco is even deeper.

"Kiniski's a yellow-bellied punk," Race stated, "but he's not as yellow as Brisco. At least Kiniski put his Missouri state title on the line against me, even if he did run like a scared rabbit after I murdered him."

"But Brisco doesn't even have the guts to face me now that I'm back in top form. He's running away BEFORE the match. At least Kiniski had the guts to run away afterwards."

"But I guess I don't blame Brisco. He's afraid. He knows he's living on borrowed time. He knows the belt belongs to him on a temporary basis. If I was Jack Brisco I might run too if I knew I had to defend my title against Harley Race."

"But Brisco can't run forever. I



am the number one challenger. How long do you think the people will allow him to avoid the number one challenger?

"And let me tell you this. You think I ran Kiniski out of town? That's nothing. By the time I'm finished with Brisco he'll be hiding out somewhere in the Amazon jungle!"

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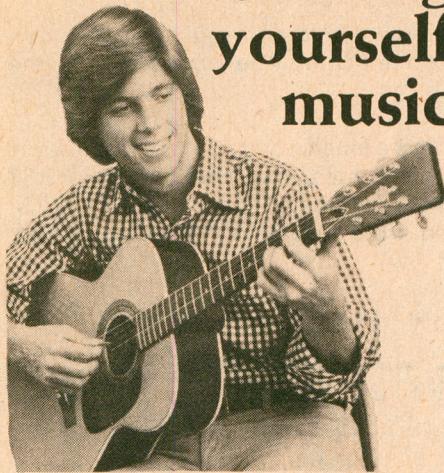
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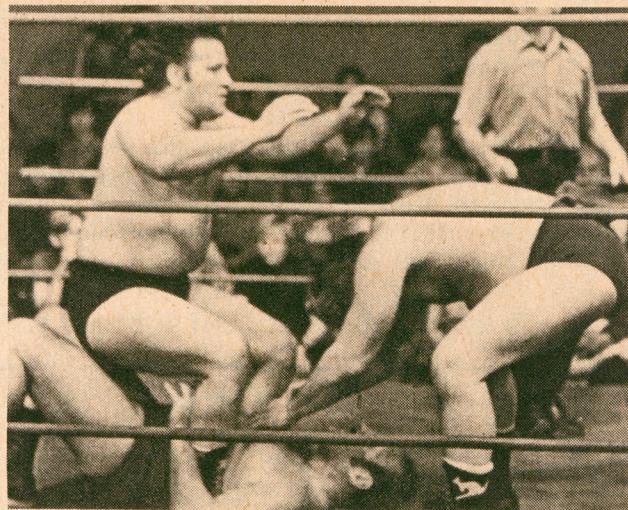
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KANGAROOS

(Continued from Page 47)



Left: Don Kent tries to save partner Al Costello from a Tom Koch body drop. The Fabulous Kangaroos are reknown for their teamwork. Below: Norman Charles has a brutal headlock on T-Bolt Patterson. The Royal Kangaroos are always savages.

shape or form. Keep repeating our names. Al Costello and Don Kent, the original Fabulous Kangaroos.

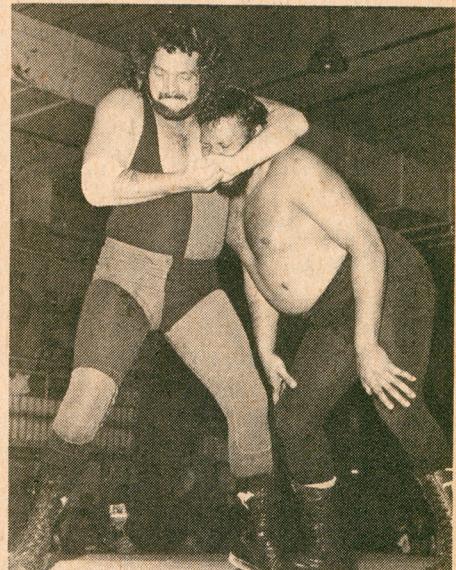
"That other team really burns us up calling themselves Kangaroos. Maybe, though, I shouldn't take it that way," Al continued. "Maybe I should be flattered. It could be that they're imitating The Fabulous Kangaroos because we're so superior, marvelous, unbeatable, superb, full of agility, ability, fantastic maneuvers and chock full of great wrestling talent far above any other wrestlers."

Norman Fredrick Charles and Lord Jonathan Boyd are The Royal Kangaroos. They see the situation in an entirely different light.

"You see," Boyd pointed out, "there are two Kangaroo teams. They are 'Fabulous,' we'll not disagree with that, but we're 'Royal.' My partner and I have royal blood in our veins. Why did we tag 'Kangaroo' onto our name? Because we tend to move like kangaroos, hopping all over our opponents. It's as simple as that. We're not trying to steal their names and we don't want people to mistake us for them. We are great wrestlers in our own right."

What about a showdown between the two teams?

"Fine with us," Don Kent of the Fabulous Kangaroos said. "I propose we have this match as soon as possible. Then, when we whip them," he concluded, "they will see what *real* Kangaroos wrestle like. They'll have to get down on their knees and beg for mercy and we'll let up only when they believe there is only one—repeat—only one *real* Kangaroo team. Us. The Fabulous Kangaroos."



"Look," Charles, a Royal Kangaroo said. "I'd look forward to that match. I'm fed up to here," he exclaimed, pointing to the top of his head. "Everywhere we go people are always mixin' us up with them. It's enough to drive me crazy. We'll flatten them!"

Even though both teams claim no resemblance, both teams do indeed wear Australian bush hats and carry boomerangs.

"Proof of imitation!" Costello accused. "If you recall, when I first came to the United States from Australia, and the Fabulous Kangaroos were organized with Wild Red Berry and Roy Heffernan, we started carrying the boomerangs. We also wore the hats...the same hats that Don Kent and I wear today."

"It's just coincidence," Boyd noted. "I mean no harm is meant. We're just proud to display some of the marvelous customs of Australia."

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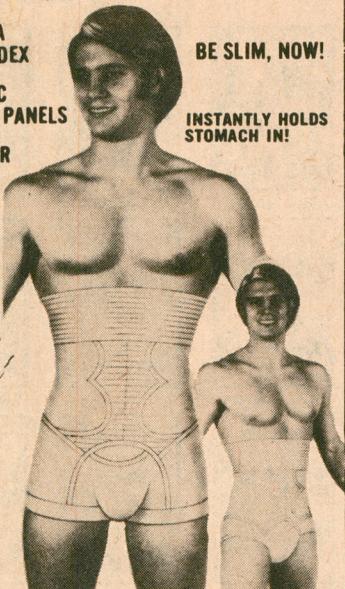
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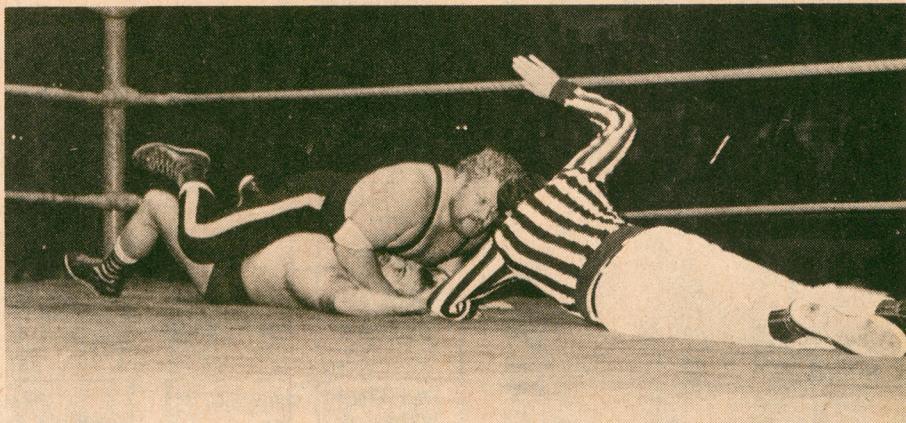
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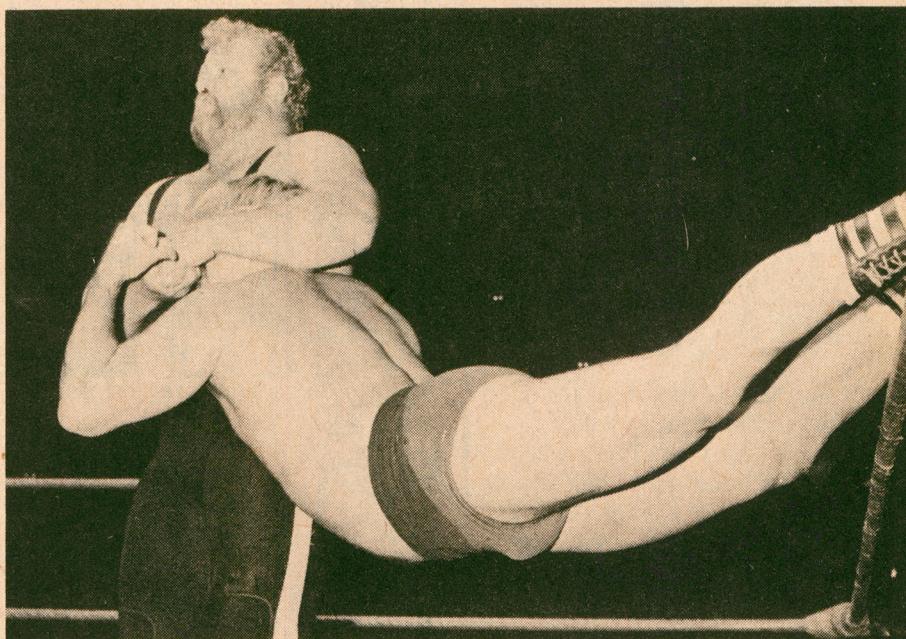
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LARRY HENNIG

(Continued from Page 8)



Larry shows Buddy Wolff and the fans that his change of tactics does not mean he's any easier to beat (above and below). In fact, since starting to wrestle scientifically, many experts are saying Larry is more effective as a wrestler and may now make it to a championship!



"I owe my life to my friend Bob Baxter. He came to my aid when I really needed someone. We had a long talk and he convinced me to change my ways. That was the turning point."

"He really was in trouble," said Baxter. "Larry reached the point of no return. I just tried to explain to him that he really was a good person and that life was better than he thought. He thought he was the meanest person alive because he was mean in the ring. But I know he's thinking differently now."

His opponents have been taken by surprise by the sudden turnaround. In a recent match, his opponent, Buddy Wolff, said, "I

thought the wrong wrestler climbed into the ring. That wasn't 'Bad' Larry Hennig, was it? I had to change my entire strategy."

Many opponents have taken the same viewpoint. They come into the ring expecting Hennig's "dirty tricks" and leave actually liking this "new" man. One wrestler even went as far to say, "The man is incredible. Two months ago we went at it and he was the dirtiest wrestler I had ever gone against. Now he's like a saint. I'll even go as far to say that I like him."

Hennig sums up his change from dirty to scientific wrestler with these words:

"It was tough but I did it. And I'm proud." □

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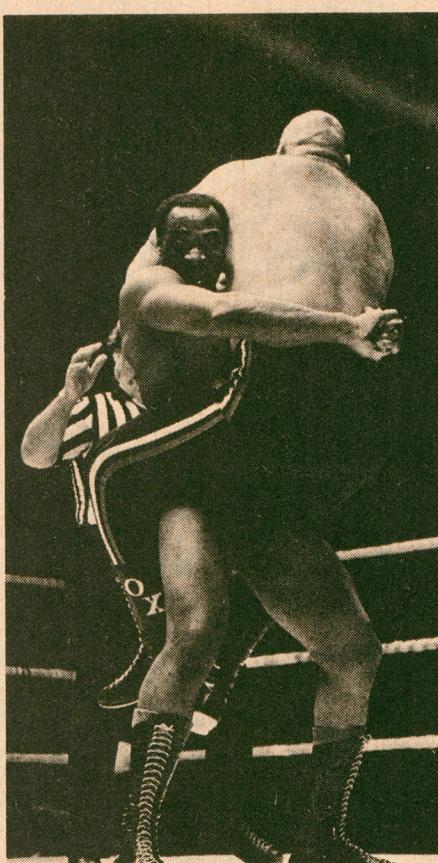
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STRONGMAN

(Continued from Page 45)



Art crushes Baker in his famous bearhug. Thomas' huge muscles make this hold one of the most agonizing in all professional wrestling. Just ask Ox Baker!

at Art in the opposite corner," Bobo continues. "He's an awesome sight with those rippling muscles. I'm just glad I'm his friend and don't have to mix it with him. His power is astonishing. Watch other wrestlers watching Art wrestle. Their discomfort shows how respected Art's strength really is."

Other great wrestlers echo Bobo's sentiments. Bruiser remembers battling Sailor Art Thomas years ago. It's not one of Bruiser's most pleasant memories.

"One of the times I'm most relieved about changing tactics and opponents," Bruiser said before Art's match began, "is when I see Art wrestle. A lot of people say he has remained scientific over the years because he has a very easy-going personality."

"Don't believe it."

"He's so strong he's never tempted to try other ways of wrestling!"

Wrestling Art is like trying to battle a bulldozer. I've never been as sore the day after a match as I was after pitting my strength against Art's. That's when you know a guy's strong, when you're sore the morning after."

Awed and admiring testaments to Thomas' strength come from many wrestlers some who wish to remain anonymous because they have no desire to let a future opponent know how much he is feared. Yet the list of those present when Art confronted Ox Baker reads like a "Who's Who" in wrestling.

No one was disappointed. Ox used every trick in his varied bag of dirty tricks. Baker knew no limits with his illegal tactics. Yet it was Sailor Art Thomas' fabled strength which told the tale.

"Look at him panic!" Bobo screamed as Baker tried a desperate, illegal maneuver which failed. "I told you so! Guys like Baker want no part of a scientific match with Art. So they do the dirty tricks which usually put them way on top. But with Art's strength, it doesn't work. This is sending Baker into a frenzy of fear!"

There was no doubt Baker's terror at being unable to cripple Thomas led to the dirty wrestler's downfall. While Art remained calm and confident, Baker couldn't understand why his vicious moves produced no results. Thomas could break free and turn the move around to where Baker was in trouble. When Baker eventually had to submit, he seemed more relieved than disappointed.

After the match, Thomas responded openly but modestly to questions about his strength. Listening to the man talk, one could understand why he's such a great athlete and beloved man.

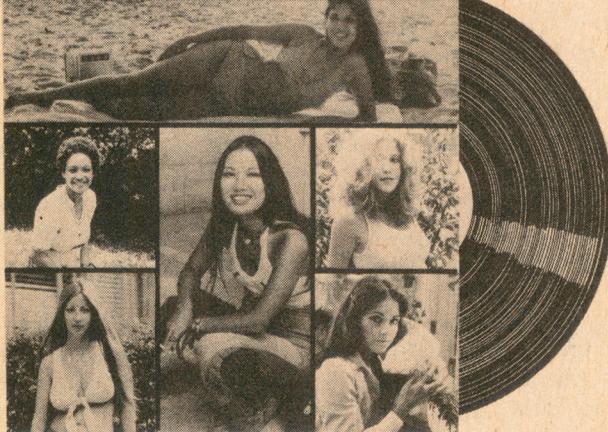
"Of course I work at keeping in shape," Art says, "but I was gifted with a fine body to begin with. It's not my fault, it just happened that way. I could have easily been born small and weak. I'm fortunate and do the best with my good luck. I'm just smart enough not to abuse my gifts."

Ox Baker, and many others, wish Art would abuse his gifts just a little. They'd feel a lot better after a match and save money on liniment. □

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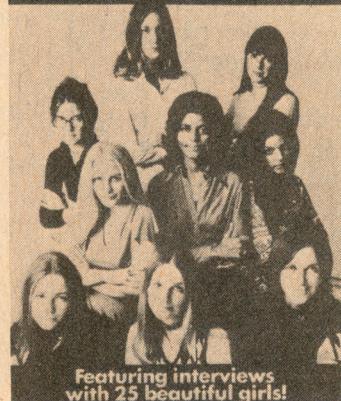
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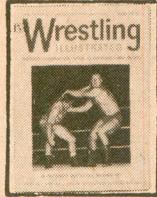
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THE LOADED GLOVE

(Continued from Page 29)

glove. I felt its pressure. It wasn't the clawhold which got me. I know it wasn't."

Andre and the other wrestlers were about to agree with him when Swede again slipped into unconsciousness. The doctor ushered them away from Hansen, allowing the patient to sleep quietly until morning.

Meanwhile, in the other dressing room, Super Destroyer chortled over his victory. His friends, fresh with the memory of Swede being carried from the ring, congratulated the masked wrestler on his successful application of the clawhold. However, Super Destroyer never took his glove off while the other wrestlers were present.

These events followed a brutal lumberjack match which was the result of a Hansen challenge to Super Destroyer. Swede had claimed whenever the two wrestled each other, the masked wrestler would flee the arena. A lumberjack match, in which wrestlers surround the ring to make sure both stay within the ropes, would force Super Destroyer to stay and wrestle.

"I'll let him choose half the wrestlers," Hansen promised, "and I'll choose the other half. This way no man can say he had an advantage. And Super Destroyer will have no place to run!"

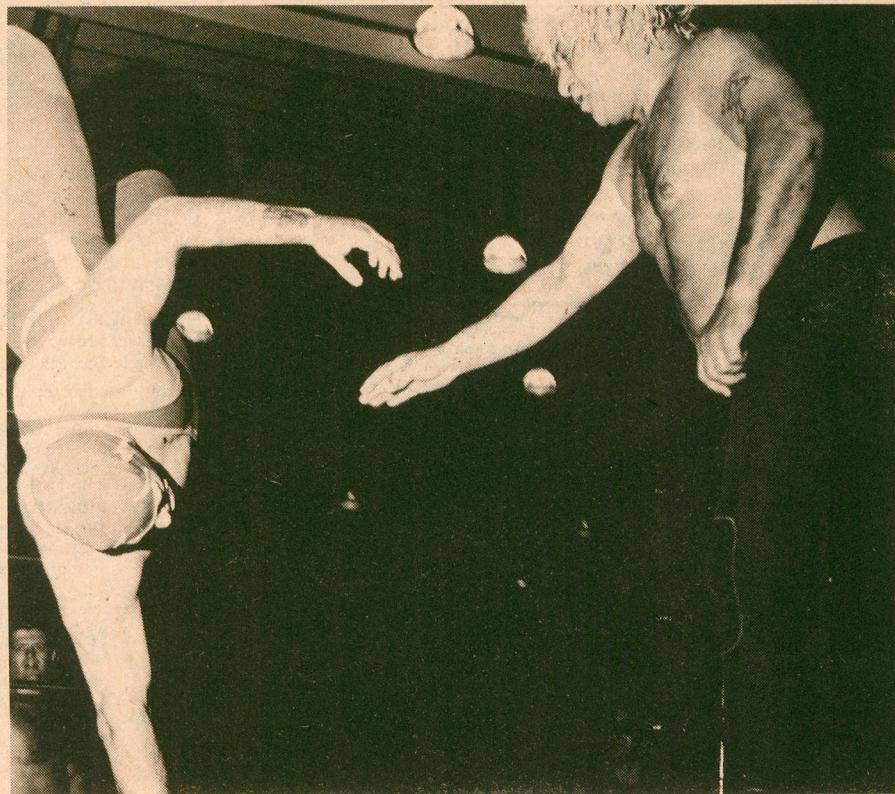
Super Destroyer quickly accepted the challenge, declaring, "I never have nor will I ever run from the ignorant stiff named Swede Hansen. This will prove once and for all what a gross insult Hansen is to wrestling. I only hope he has six guys there so no one in the crowd has to be a pall-bearer!"

The two men chose their "lumberjacks" with care. Each man knew his career might depend on the choices he made.

Minutes before the match, Hansen told his men, "No matter what happens, I don't want anyone to interfere. This is mine to win. No help no matter what happens!"

What Super Destroyer said to his men will remain a mystery.

Both men entered the arena slowly, discovering who his opponent had chosen. Neither man was happy



Destroyer is hurled into the air as Hansen flips the masked wrestler hard to the canvas. Hansen was well on his way to gaining the revenge he so desperately seeks against the masked wrestler when Destroyer almost killed Swede with a clawhold which knocked him out.

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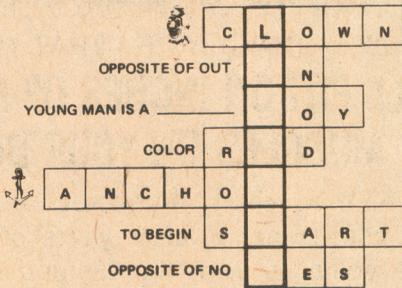


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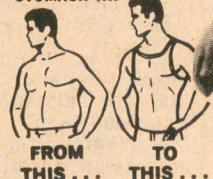
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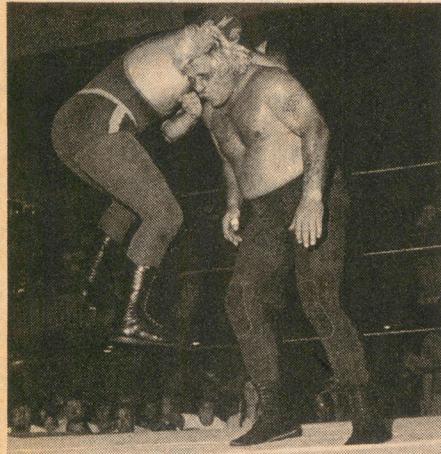
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with the choices.

The match began. Both men started cautiously, knowing any early mistake could prove fatal. They circled each other warily, looking for the opening to strike.

Then, Super Destroyer attacked with the sudden fury of a poisonous snake. He hurled himself at Hansen. Swede, ready for the charge, used his masked opponent's own momentum to hurl him high in the air. The crash made by Super Destroyer's body slamming into the canvas reverberated around the arena.

The match then shifted into high gear, with both men ignoring the rules in their determination to tear their opponent apart. The arena rocked with cheers and boos as Hansen and Super Destroyer tried to destroy each other.



Destroyer leaps off the ropes and elbow slams Hansen, making Swede crumble to the canvas.

Then Super Destroyer elbow-slammed Swede in the back. Hansen fell to his knees and the masked wrestler immediately applied the claw-hold.

Hansen squirmed helplessly, trying vainly to escape. His shouts for the referee to inspect Super Destroyer's glove were smothered by the hold. Slowly but surely, Hansen slipped into unconsciousness.

As Swede lay limp in his grip, Super Destroyer lifted the lifeless form high over his head and hurled him over the ropes. He was caught by Andre the Giant, who mercifully retreated with the victim to the dressing room.

"Of course I want a rematch," Swede said the next day. "Only this time, Super Destroyer can't use his glove. Or else, I'll wear a glove, also!"

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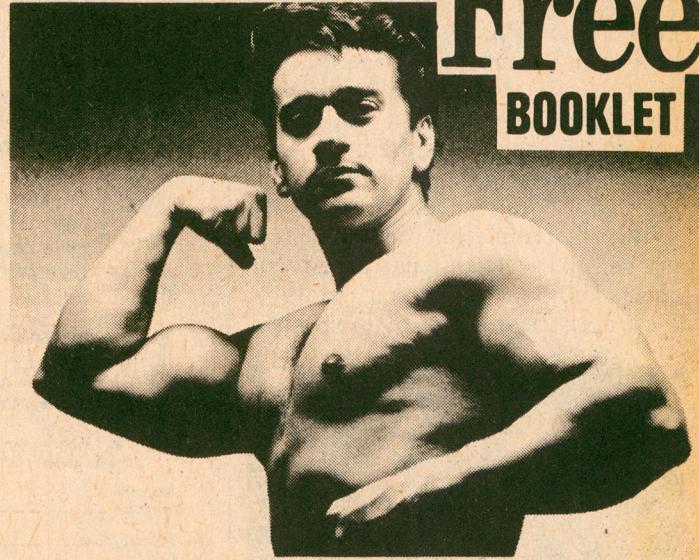
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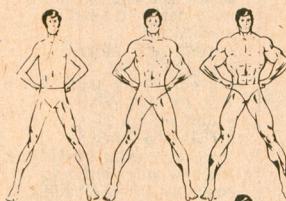
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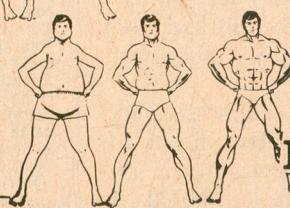
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Your gross profit on three servicemen is \$21 per hour. Duraclean dealers find it easy to gross \$7 per hour on EACH serviceman plus \$12 an hour on any service they themselves render. The 24 page illustrated booklet we'll mail you (with no obligation) explains how most of your gross profit becomes **clear net profit**. Your income is limited only by the number of servicemen you employ.

You can operate from a shop, office, or your home. Equipment is light and portable.

At the start, you may want to render service yourself . . . or you can start with full or part time servicemen. This business is easy to learn . . . easy to start . . . so easy to service that women dealers do it. We prefer you have no experience . . . not have to "unlearn" old ways.

We are NOW enlarging this worldwide system of individually-owned service businesses. If you are reliable, honest and willing to work to become financially independent, we invite you to mail the coupon.

When you receive our illustrated booklet, you will see the way we show you **step by step** how to quickly get customers . . . and still more customers from their recommendations.

You have 7 superior services that are rendered "on location" in homes, offices, hotels, theaters, clubs, motels and institutions.

These are not ordinary services. You have

the prestige and endorsement of leading furniture makers and carpet mills, of Parents' Magazine and McCall's, of Research and Testing Laboratories.

National magazine advertising explains superior merits of **your** services, builds **your** customer confidence and brings job leads to **you**.

We and a Duraclean dealer will train you and assist you. He'll reveal his successful, proven methods. You have pre-tested newspaper and yellow-page ads, commercials, and a full mailing program.

Stores, upholsterers, insurance adjustors, and decorators refer jobs to our dealers. These year 'round services are in constant demand.

Start Small, Grow Big in this Booming Business

Many men have said to us, "I can't afford to give up my job till I know I have a sure thing . . . a sound business that will provide both security and a better living for my family."

That made sense to us so we worked out such a plan . . . and those same men are now enjoying a Duraclean dealership in many communities. You don't experiment. You use **tested, proven methods**. You have **our backing** and "know how."

Does this appeal to you? Don't decide now. Mail the coupon so you'll have the facts to decide wisely. There is no obligation. You'll then know whether this is what you want.

You can start small and grow big. A third century ago Duraclean was an idea . . . but it caught fire and spread to a world wide service. Why did it spread? (1) **superior processes**, (2) **proven customer-getting methods** (3) **Day to day guidance from Headquarters**.

Our first service, the care of upholstery and carpets not only cleans, it enlivens the fibers . . . revives dull colors. Pile rises with **new life**. There's no harsh machine scrubbing. No soaking. Mild aerated foam lightly applied lifts out dirt, grease, many unsightly spots like magic. Furnishings are used again in a few hours.

Government figures show service businesses are **growing faster** than industries and stores . . . \$750 million yearly potential just in rug and furniture cleaning. Your **6 other services** are explained in the free booklet we'll mail you.

Less than \$1500 establishes **YOUR OWN** business. A day's profit more than pays the monthly payments we finance for you.

Men frequently take in partners.

We furnish electric equipment and, with first shipment, enough materials to **return your TOTAL investment**. If you have good habits and know the importance of customer satisfaction, you can likely qualify for a Duraclean dealership.

TODAY is the time to reserve a Duraclean dealership, **before** someone takes your location.

It's been said, "Opportunity knocks but once at every man's door." This could be that one rare opportunity in **your life**.

It is surprisingly easy to learn this business. You can decide from the information we will send you whether to apply for a dealership. So, with **no obligation whatever**, mail the coupon **TODAY**. Cut it out **NOW** so you won't forget to mail it.

Mail this coupon TODAY
It may put you in business

Duraclean International

7-794 Duraclean Bldg., Deerfield, Ill. 60015

With no obligation, mail 24 page illustrated booklet telling how and why I can quickly increase my income and family security while still employed, how you'll help finance me. No salesman will call.

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City _____

State & Zip _____

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my method of DYNAMIC-TENSION starts giving you results you can feel and your friends will notice. Big, useful muscles. Gain pounds in weight where needed.

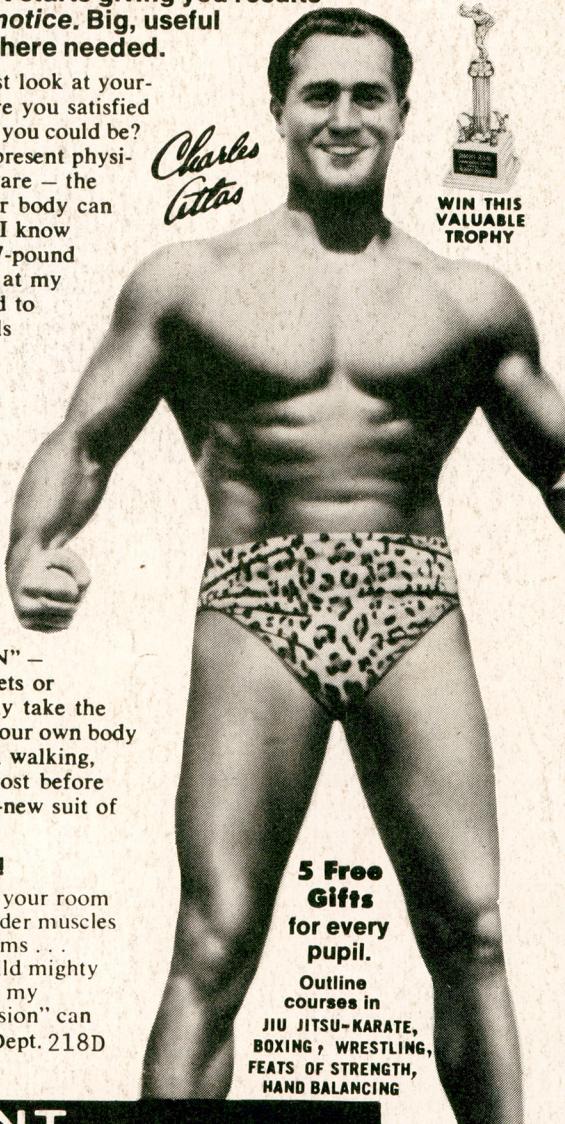
Lose "pot belly." Take a good honest look at yourself! Are you proud of your body — or are you satisfied to go through life being just "half the man" you could be? No matter how ashamed you are of your present physical condition — or how old or young you are — the "sleeping" muscles already present in your body can turn you into a REAL man! Believe me, I know — because I was once a skinny, scrawny 97-pound half-alive weakling! People used to laugh at my build and make fun of me. I was ashamed to strip for sports or the beach . . . shy of girls . . . afraid of healthy competition.

HOW I CHANGED FROM A "MOUSE" TO A MAN!

One day, I discovered a secret that changed me from a timid, frightened scarecrow into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man" — a "magic formula" that can help turn you, too, into a marvellous physical specimen . . . a REAL man from head to toe . . . a man who STANDS OUT in any crowd! What's my secret? "DYNAMIC-TENSION" — the natural method! No theory. No gadgets or contraptions. You just do as I did. Simply take the "sleeping" muscles already present inside your own body — build them up — use them every day in walking, bending over, reaching, even sitting! Almost before you know it, you're covered with a brand-new suit of beautiful, rock-hard SOLID MUSCLE!

MY SECRET BUILDS MUSCLES FAST!

Just 15 minutes each day in the privacy of your room is all it takes to make your chest and shoulder muscles swell so big they almost split your coat seams . . . turn your fists into sledge-hammers . . . build mighty legs that never tire! Mail coupon today for my famous book showing how "Dynamic-Tension" can give you a Body by Atlas. Charles Atlas, Dept. 218D 49 W. 23rd St., New York, N.Y. 10010



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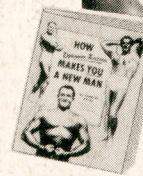
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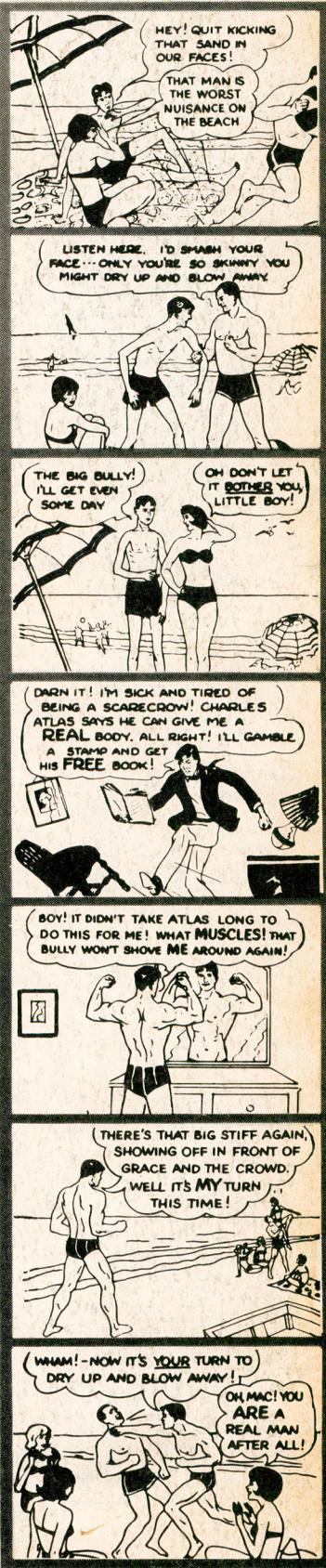
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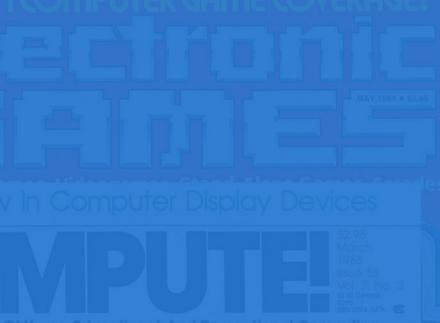
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