

WCW Power Hour – January 5, 1990 – Pillman vs. Jack

WCW Power Hour

Date: January 5, 1990

Location: Peoria Civic Center, Peoria, Illinois

Commentator: Jim Ross

This is yet another show that I have. It's Power Hour, which I believe was the Sunday night NWA/WCW show. This wasn't one of the bigger ones but for awhile it had Jim Cornette on commentary, meaning by definition it can't be horrible. I really don't know what to expect here, other than Sting and Flair being friends at this point, which will end soon. Let's get to it.

Corny intros us.

After the intro, Cornette says he's not going to do the commentary because he hates Peoria.

Galaxian #2 vs. Z-Man

Apparently this is on a Friday, making this January 5, so maybe my video is labeled wrong or maybe it aired somewhere else in a different city/country? Galaxian is a masked guy in a red suit. Z-Man is pretty awesome at this point and hits a spinning cross body off the middle rope for two. Sid Vicious is hurt so we'll have new Skyscrapers debuting tonight. Z-Man throws Galaxian around and stands tall. I mean that literally as Galaxian is about 5'7.

Z-Man reluctantly shakes his hand and the match gets going again. This match is going pretty slowly for the most part. They shake hands again but Galaxian pulls Zenk into a headlock. There are rumors of Zenk starting a team with Flyin Brian. Galaxian sends Z-Man into the corner and out to the

floor.

Galaxian takes over as JR tells us to eat a lot of soup because it's cold and flu season. Who else is going to give you health advice while calling a match? Chop gets two for Z-Man. Now Z-Man wants to work on the leg. JR says the masked man had a quickness advantage. Against the Z-Man? A middle rope dropkick ends this with Zenk winning.

Rating: D. This is one of those matches that could have been cut down to about 1/3 of what it was and you would get the same thing out of it. This match ran eleven minutes with about seven of that being standing around and doing absolutely nothing of note. I hope this isn't the running theme of these matches.

We go to the Wrestling News Network with Gordon Solie, which is basically a control center. He thinks the world title and tag titles will change at least once this year. Bold pick man.

Cornette says his American Express has been revoked, which was his way out of Peoria. He also thinks he might want to look into managing Cactus Jack.

Brian Pillman vs. Cactus Jack

This is from Worldwide and Terry Funk is on commentary with someone I can't place. It might be Chris Cruise. Jack is still known as Manson sometimes. Pillman hits a dropkick but they go to the floor. Jack sends him into the barricade but Pillman comes back with a cross body. After a quick armbar Jack comes back with the Cactus Clothesline and Pillman is in trouble.

Neckbreaker gets two for Cactus. Jack is still pretty young here but he's got the vicious aspect of his style down. Russian legsweep gets two. Out to the floor again and Brian hits a belly to back suplex, dropping Cactus on his head. Back in Pillman hits a jumping back elbow and takes over. This is in Raleigh if you care about things like that. Out of nowhere

Pillman grabs a crucifix for the pin.

Rating: B-. As is the norm, two talented people have a good match. Pillman was on fire at this point and Jack was still new but was learning fast. Not a great match but for a six minute TV match, there's not much more you can ask for. This will probably be the shortest match of the night as well.

Off to Funk's Grill, which is Terry's talk show segment. Norman is doing a painting when Woman comes in as the guest. Terry remembers that Woman likes cowboys so he suggests dressing Norman up as a cowboy but she doesn't think she'd like it. The idea is that Norman (the lovable semi-mentally handicapped character) likes Woman a lot and is trying to impress her. She asks if she can see the painting and he says if she'll give him a kiss. Woman freaks and says Norman's mama called him fat. Funk asks Woman if she'd like to be the first girl he's ever hit. Norman says don't even think about it so Terry throws her out instead.

Anderson Brothers vs. New Zealand Militia

It's Rip Morgan and Jack Victory and they're managed by a midget named Lord Littlebrook. Victory and Ole start things off. Off to Arn and say it with me, the Horsemen work on the arm. Morgan comes in and has a little bit better luck. Anderson goes right after his arm too. See Arn doesn't care if you really are from New Zealand or if you're from Texas like Victory is.

Ole back in and Morgan does a little better against him. JR makes short people jokes about Littlebrook. Arn now works on the arm of Victory until Victory stomps him down. That's been the story of this match for the first few minutes. Morgan works over Arn but Arn gets in some punches to the ribs to break the momentum. Anderson comes back with a sunset flip for two.

Back to Ole who runs to the outside for a bit. Arn comes in

and takes a thumb to the eye. This is a really slow paced match but not exactly in a good way. Ole comes in again and the New Zealand guys pound him down even more. Morgan misses a seated senton off the middle rope. Arn comes in (man they're tagging fast) and hammers everyone down. JR: "Watch that hand. It's like a hand at the end of that arm." Littlebrook throws in his cane but Arn intercepts it and blasts Victory with it for the pin.

Rating: D+. Technically it was fine I guess but that doesn't mean it was an interesting match to watch. Ole was a shell of his former self at this point and it was very clear that he wasn't going to be around much longer. I forgot that Arn and Ole were the faces in this match which can't be a good sign.

Z-Man is named wrestler of the week.

Cornette runs down Peoria and that's about it.

Overall Rating: D+. The Pillman/Jack match was good but for the most part this show wasn't interesting. I don't think I'll be watching that many more of them unless the others are a lot better. I'll watch the next one but if it's not a lot better, I'll be dropping it from my list. Not horrible but it felt like a preview show for others, which isn't really worth watching.

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