

# Wrestling Challenge – October 18, 1986: Music To My Ears

## Wrestling Challenge

Date: October 18, 1986

Location: War Memorial, Rochester, New York

Commentators: Gorilla Monsoon, Bobby Heenan

We're back to this after nearly two years away and while that should usually make for some slight confusion, it isn't like there is much to remember around here. We are on the way to pretty much nothing right now, but there are enough feuds to keep things interesting. I've always liked this show so odds are I'll have a good time with it again. Let's get to it.

[Here are last week's results if you need a recap.](#)

Opening sequence.

Here's who to expect on the show.

## Koko B. Ware vs. Steve Lombardi

During his entrance, Ware talks about the importance of Frankie, who Heenan wants in a back of Shane N Bake. Lombardi tries a quick takedown and gets blocked, sending Monsoon and Heenan into a funny argument over Ware's intelligence or lack thereof. Ware claps a lot and sends Lombardi shoulder first into the post. An elbow to the face sets up the Ghostbuster (brainbuster) to give Ware the pin at 2:38. The smash cut to a closeup of Frankie the bird's face is quite jarring.

We go to Wrestlers' Rebuttal, with Roddy Piper comparing Don Muraco and Bob Orton to various pests, such as flies and roaches. Muraco would need a surfboard the size of the Bismark to get him into the water and just hurting Piper's knee isn't going to get rid of him. Not much time here but Piper got in

some good lines as usual.

We go to a spa where Paul Orndorff gets his hair and nails done, along with a shoe shine because he demands perfection. As you might guess, he isn't overly polite, even as he's having his sneakers shined. The ranting and raving goes on for quite awhile.

### Paul Orndorff vs. Tony Parks

Bobby Heenan is with Orndorff, who has the stolen real American theme in one of my favorite angles that needs to be brought back. Johnny V joins in on commentary and likes Orndorff having the song because it's just such a perfect fit. Orndorff starts fast with a suplex and stomps away. The beating goes to the floor before a clothesline drops Parks back inside. The piledriver finishes (with a hand to the ear on the cover) for Orndorff at 1:25.

Tito Santana wants to see Roddy Piper against either Don Muraco or Bob Orton. After speaking some Spanish to his fans, Santana promises to keep coming after Randy Savage and the Intercontinental Title.

### Dick Slater vs. Bob Bradley

Yeah it's the Rebel Dick Slater, which went as well as you would expect. Especially in a northern state like New York. Slater takes him into the corner to start but possibly crooked referee Danny Davis breaks it up. We get an inset interview from Davis (as luck would have it), where he says he doesn't care about all the letters fans are sending in to criticize his abilities. What do they know about refereeing? A small package gives Slater two and Bradley tries a crossbody, with Slater ducking to send Bradley flying over the top in a great visual. Slater suplexes him down and hits a top rope elbow to the head for the pin at 3:02.

**Rating:** C-. Slater just had nothing to make him stand out in

this role. He's usually good when he's more of a crazy evil southern/country boy but here he's just a generic good guy with a rebel flag jacket. It's not interesting and there's no way around it, which was on display here. It's a bad sign when the most memorable moment is a jobber missing a crossbody and crashing to the floor, but it's more interesting than anything Slater was doing.

The Rougeau Brothers are still undefeated and want the Tag Team Titles. Jacques throws in some French for some flavor. Apparently he said he's glad to meet French speaking fans on the road because that's their native language.

### Dream Team vs. Rick Hunter/Jerry Allen

Johnny V is here with the Dream Team as Valentine slams Allen down to start. We get an insert interview from V about being friends with Bobby Heenan, just in case you needed his evilness confirmed. Beefcake comes in to shrug off Hunter's forearms and hit a powerslam. An elbow sets up the Figure Four to finish Hunter at 2:39.

And now, the Snake Pit. Jake Roberts says this is his place at his time so welcome to the theater of the cruel but fair. The guest is Junkyard Dog, who isn't interested in being around snakes. Roberts accuses him of being superstitious and they argue about a potential match. Dog says the only thing anyone is going to make him do is stay Black and die. He's still done with the snake and we're done after a kind of weird argument.

### Sika vs. Jose Luis Rivera

Sika has the Wizard with him and jumps Rivera to start fast. Some forearms to the back set up a chinlock as Wizard gets an insert promo about...a shark's tooth? The chinlock goes on again but Rivera fights up. A dropkick has no effect though and a running headbutt gives Sika the win at 2:07.

We meet the British Bulldogs' new mascot Matilda, with Bobby

Heenan coming up to insult her. The Bulldogs threaten Heenan with the removal of his leg and he's gone.

### British Bulldogs vs. Rudy Diamond/Steve Regal

Non-title and as always, no not that Regal. I'm not sure why Diamond doesn't get a name graphic. Some headbutts rock Regal to start and a snap suplex takes him down again. Diamond comes in and gets taken down just as fast, with Kid dropping a knee. The running powerslam connects but Regal makes the save. That earns him a fireman's carry and Kid comes in with a headbutt off Regal's back for the pin at 2:16. Total squash.

Slick talks about his newest signee, Butch Reed, who will be a great addition to his team. Nikolai Volkoff and the Iron Sheik come in to pose as well. They want the Tag Team Titles and more posing ensues.

Here's what's coming next week.

The usual highlight package wraps us up.

**Overall Rating:** C-. Not one of their more thrilling shows this week, as the people featured were only so interesting. Granted it helps when the card is full of squashes as it allows more wrestlers to get on the show, but 45 minutes of such matches are only going to get you so far. The Orndorff and Piper stuff was good, but that shouldn't be a surprise in the slightest. Still though, this stuff is such a breeze compared to everything else as it's such a different style than modern wrestling, which makes it a great change of pace.

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