

# WWE vs. ECW – Head to Head: It's Good, But Why Does This Show Exist?

## WWE vs. ECW: Head to Head

Date: June 7, 2006

Location: Nutter Center, Dayton, Ohio

Attendance: 4,700

Commentators: Jim Ross, Jerry Lawler, Joey Styles, Tazz

Since I'm in ECW mode at the time, I thought I'd take this one out as well. This is the one off special from just before One Night Stand as well as before the relaunch of ECW as a weekly show. I don't really know if there was a point to this but it aired on a Wednesday night which is pretty much the only night of the week without wrestling of some kind. Let's get to it.

This is less than a week before One Night Stand.

Foley gives the WWE guys a pep talk. They're all in Raw or Smackdown shirts looking like matching softball teams.

Heyman does the same for the ECW boys.

There's a 20 man battle royal tonight, plus Cena faces Sabu.

Jerry and Tazz almost get into it before the show.

## Rey Mysterio vs. Rob Van Dam

Rey is Smackdown world champion. The ECW guys come from the hole in the brick wall set off to the side of the main set. They're both good guys here so they shake hands after speeding to a standoff. Van Dam hits a gorilla press slam and standing moonsault as Joey bashes WWE announcers for not calling the names of moves. Rey comes back and tries the 619 but RVD gets to the floor. Rey dropkicks him to the floor but his baseball

slide is countered.

Van Dam rams him into the barricade but misses a standing legdrop to send him disappearing behind the barricade in a great looking spot. Rey hits a HUGE springboard plancha into the crowd to take out Van Dam as we take a break. Back with Rey pounding away but Rob crotches him on top and dropkicks him to the floor.

Back in the slingshot guillotine legdrop gets two. Rob gets a chair because this is No DQ all of a sudden. He hits the chair skateboard in the corner for two. That chair isn't good enough I guess so here's a second chair but Rey blocks it and hits a middle rope bulldog onto the chair for two. Rey tries to Drop the Dime but RVD moves and Rey crashes. Five Star ends this kind of clean.

**Rating:** B-. This would be the running issue for Rey's title run: he kept losing almost every match he was in, most of the time without cheating. Rob was a big star and would win the world title on Sunday but that doesn't mean that this was a good choice. Why did it need to be Rey and not another big name that wasn't world champion?

We recap Orton hitting an RKO on Angle on Raw.

Here's Angle who is now part of ECW. Heyman got two draft picks to bring over to his brand and picked Angle along with RVD. Angle snapped Orton's ankle a few months back so there's your story. Orton has accepted Angle's open challenge and will be the first person to face ECW's Kurt Angle. Here's Orton for a rebuttal. He talks about Angle going from the main event of Wrestlemania down to ECW being like going from a summer blockbuster to hardcore adult films.

Orton is a big star on Raw and Kurt should be afraid. Kurt says this is the new ECW and Angle is part of it. Angle doesn't have to worry about offending Vince anymore so on Sunday he'll break Orton's ankle, arms, legs and neck. Orton

yells about how Angle broke his ankle already and that Angle got drafted for a reason: it's destiny. Orton says he'll win on Sunday and bring ECW to its knees and kill its legend.

### Mickie James vs. Jazz

Mickie is Women's Champion but this is non-title. Jazz works on the arm to start but gets kicked to the floor where Mickie hits the Thesz Press off the apron. Back in Jazz hits her X-Factor (Jazz Stinger) for two but Mickie hits an Impaler for the pin. This was nothing.

We get a clip from Raw and the RVD/Cena contract signing. ECW guys came out and left him laying. Cena talks about how this Sunday the WWE Championship could go to ECW. This title has been held by men like Sammartino, Hogan and Austin but if Cena loses, it becomes the ECW Championship. If Cena loses, he'll be the biggest goat in wrestler. There won't be a single WWE fan in the Hammerstein Ballroom and if Cena wins, he'll be in the middle of the biggest riot in wrestling history. What he's going to do though is put his head down and start swinging. Tonight he makes his statement against Sabu. GREAT promo here.

Here's Heyman to talk about the PPV and the debut of the new ECW TV show. This is the ECW version of looking at the graphics of the matches that you always see for a PPV build. We get a quick video on One Night Stand last year which was awesome.

Angle gives the ECW guys a pep talk before the battle royal.

Big Show does the same.

### Battle Royal

We've got ten from each here, with WWE being Edge, Big Show, Carlito, Shelton, Finlay, Lashley, Matt Hardy, Orton, and two other guys I can't see. The ECW guys are more or less their whole roster minus RVD. You win by team, not individually. The

other two WWE guys are Tatanka and Mark Henry. For the life of me I don't get why Tatanka was rehired. Shelton and Lashley are the midcard champions. The WWE guys (at least six of which wound up on ECW and four of which won the ECW Title) get individual entrances to kill some time. The ECW guys come out as a unit.

Dreamer goes after Edge on the floor and we're ready to go. Henry is out almost immediately. There goes Matt as well as Guido. It's your usual battle royal: they fight a lot and there's no way to tell what's going on. Tatanka is out as is Carlito. Edge hasn't been in yet but throws out Tony Mamaluke. Orton dumps Dreamer and we take a break. Back with I'm assuming the same amount of people.

Edge is still on the floor and pulls Finlay out. There goes Credible and Snow follows him out. Richards is out and ECW is in trouble. Balls Mahoney is out thanks to Lashley but Angle throws out Lashley. So for ECW it's Angle and Sandman and about five guys left for WWE. Big Show, Rated RKO, Finlay and Benjamin. We take the second break of the match to come back to Sandman being tossed.

Edge is chilling on the announcers' desk. Angle dumps Benjamin but it's still him vs. Finlay, Show, Orton and Edge. Angle suplexes the smaller guys and Angle Slams Big Show. Finlay goes after Angle but gets tossed to get it down to 3-1. Edge comes in but his spear is countered into a belly to belly to get rid of him. Orton throws Angle out to win.

**Rating:** D. As usual with battle royals other than the Rumble, this was boring. The problem at the end of the day with ECW is that most of their guys didn't mean anything so they had an army of jobbers and a mercenary in Angle to lead them. That's what caught up to them in the Invasion and it's not helping anything here.

Oh never mind as Big Show reveals an ECW shirt and throws out

Angle to win. Remember what I was saying about mercenaries? That counts apparently because all you need to do is put on a shirt to change your contract.

The ECW guys celebrate in the back.

### Edge vs. Tommy Dreamer

This is under extreme rules. Dreamer comes at him with a barbed wire 2x4 but Edge ducks and they head to the floor. Foley and Funk are at ringside. Back inside Edge takes over as the announcers bicker. Tazz defends ECW and Lawler says choking people out is ECW. The announcers ignore the match WCW style as Edge kills Dreamer with a trashcan lid. Dreamer takes the Raven drop toehold into the chair.

Edge hits the Impaler into a trashcan as JR tries to call the match. That only gets two as Lawler and Tazz are ripping into each other. At least it led to a match on Sunday. Dreamer kicks Edge low and puts Edge in the Tree of Woe. Dreamer and Funk get a table as Hornswoggle is brought into the argument. Dreamer loads up a superplex through the table but Lita makes the save.

Funk goes after Lita but Foley chokes him out with barbed wire. Edge loads up a powerbomb through the table but Dreamer counters with a backdrop. He totally misjudges where the table is and Edge lands mostly on his head. Death Valley Driver gets two but Lita comes in with the cane which doesn't work. Dreamer loads up a powerbomb and gets speared for the pin.

**Rating:** C. The interesting thing here was the commentary rather than the match. The match was an above average hardcore match and I can't complain much about it. Other than that though, the commentary was very different than usual as the entire match was spent arguing instead of talking about the match, which is what Styles ranted about weeks before.

Here's Foley in the ring and he's mad about the fans saying he

sold out. He loved ECW but it didn't love him. ECW asked too much of him and eventually he left to find fame and fortune in WWE. The difference between him and Dreamer: Foley will do anything for money but Dreamer wouldn't sell out. Seven years ago he pulled a sock out of his pants and Vince laughed, making Foley a star. Dreamer only has his pride and ECW. Maybe the Foley vs. Edge match from Wrestlemania wasn't as good as they thought. Maybe they'll have to be even tougher in the Hammerstein Ballroom.

Terry Funk is still the toughest man in wrestling and can do things that no one else ever has. Funk is in pain every day that he wakes up but he wants to have one more moment. Foley blew him up in Japan and Terry hugged him. He set Funk on fire in Philadelphia and Funk put his arm around him. That's not what Mick wants anymore. ECW is the w\*\*\*\* and there's nothing that he won't do to get back at ECW after what it did to him. Awesome stuff again here. Foley was full on heel here and he could bring it in that role.

Jerry and Tazz almost get into it again. Actually this time they do and it's a decent brawl.

We recap Cena getting jumped two night ago to set up the main event.

### John Cena vs. Sabu

This is also Extreme Rules. They start quickly and Cena drops an elbow for two. Release fisherman's suplex gets two. Sabu sends him to the floor and dives on Cena before pelting the chair at Cena's head. The Triple Jump Moonsault gets two. All Sabu here so far. Air Sabu gets the same. Arabian Facebuster sends Cena to the floor. Over to the table and Sabu drops a leg on Cena on the table. Sabu tries a dive in the corner but gets caught in the FU. STFU looks to finish but here's Big Show for the DQ. In an ECW Extreme Rules match. This thing was dead on arrival.

**Rating:** C+. Fun match here as Cena was selling and Sabu wasn't screwing up everything. Amazing what happens when you put someone competent in there with him and give him about six minutes. The FU to almost end it looked good too, making this a fun match ruined by a very bad ending.

The locker room empties out and a big brawl ends the show.

**Overall Rating:** B-. This was a good show but I have no idea what the point of it was. I mean, other than Big Show defecting, what was gained here? That could have been done on any show but they did it here. It's not a bad thing but I don't really get why it needed to exist. Still though, good show as fast paced as it was.

Here's One Night Stand if you're interested:

[One Night Stand 2006: This Makes The MITB 2011 Crowd Look Nice](#)

Remember to like me on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall>

---

**Superstars – March 15, 2012:  
The Divas Main Event The  
Show. That's All You Need To**

# Know.

## Superstars

Date: March 15, 2012

Location: Quicken Loans Arena, Cleveland, Ohio/Nationwide Arena, Columbus, Ohio

Commentators: Josh Matthews, Matt Striker, Scott Stanford

This was a request that I got yesterday and I had nothing else to do so here it is. Superstars is a show I often get requests for and for some reason I don't ever do it. It's the D show for WWE and is more or less there for the sake of giving the somewhat big name that they don't have time to get on Raw and/or Smackdown. Let's get to it.

I don't think I've watched this show in like three years.

### Justin Gabriel vs. Hunico

Hunico keeps up the tradition of saying something in Spanish and then saying it again in English. Hunico uses a nice wristlock to start and flips around a bit. They fight for control over the arm and Gabriel gets a backslide for two. Hunico bails to the floor and things slow down a bit. Back in and things speed up again which Striker says favors Gabriel. I'm not sure about that but Gabriel hits a monkey flip and sends Hunico back to the floor.

In a cool move, Gabriel does something like a 619 as he swings his legs into the ring and then back out to kick Hunico in the chest. Hunico rams Justin's back into the apron and we take a break. Back with Hunico holding a chinlock which is quickly broken. Justin tries a sunset flip but Hunico rolls through and hits a Tajiri style kick to the head. Out to the floor and Camacho gets in a shot to keep Justin down.

Back to the chinlock and then Hunico goes up. Striker makes a Super Calo reference for some reason as Hunico jumps into a



dropkick. Gabriel slugs away and hits another dropkick to knock Hunico to the floor. Justin hits a springboard plancha to take out both guys in a cool spot. Springboard missile dropkick to the back gets two.

Hunico comes back with a Saito Suplex for two. Gabriel comes back but his tornado DDT is countered into a northern lights suplex for two. A second attempt at the DDT works and both guys are down. Gabriel sets for the 450 but has to get rid of Camacho first so Hunico crotches him. A Death Valley Driver off the middle rope gets the pin for Hunico at 11:58.

**Rating:** B-. This was entertaining and longer than most matches you'll see anymore. Gabriel is a guy that they have something solid (not great but solid) with but if he's never going to get out of Superstars and NXT, that doesn't mean anything. Hunico is better than I expected him to be as well but he needs to get out of the generic Mexican dude gimmick. This was a good back and forth match but it never quite got to a great level.

### Kofi Kingston/R-Truth vs. Curt Hawkins/Tyler Reks

Man I thought I was free of these guys off NXT. We actually hear about the Regal feud on NXT. I can't escape that show. Kofi vs. Hawkins to start things off. Apparently Little Jimmy has named the team the Hip Hop Express. Off to Truth as the NXT guys are in trouble. A spinning legdrop gets two for Truth but it's off to Reks. Back to Kofi who hits a middle rope forearm for two.

Reks gets a boot up in the corner as Striker calls him Rex-y. Tyler pounds him down but Truth knocks him to the floor with a leg lariat. Back to Kofi who uses Truth as a stepping stone for a somersault plancha to the outside. We take a break and come back with Kofi working on Reks. Tyler gets in a shot but charges into the pendulum kick and a top rope cross body for two.

Kofi goes after Hawkins for some reason and is sent to the floor on a low bridge. Back to Reks who gets two on Kofi. He hooks a front facelock and a modified Eye of the Hurricane for two. Hawkins puts Kofi in the Tree of Woe and fires off some kicks for two. He draws Truth in so the heels can go High Low on Kofi for two. Back to Reks who stalls a lot. Something that looked like it was going to be Snake Eyes is countered into a spinning kind of mat slam to put both guys down. Hot tag brings in Truth and he cleans house. Everything breaks down and Trouble in Paradise into the Little Jimmy gets the pin at 10:10.

**Rating:** C+. This was standard tag team formula stuff and that's usually the best idea you can have. That being said, I don't like the Kofi/Truth team as there's so much Kofi could do but instead the answer seems to be just throw him into a tag team because that's all he's good for I guess. I'll never get that mindset but WWE seems stuck on it.

Raw ReBounce recap the rap vs. rock thing.

### Kelly Kelly vs. Beth Phoenix

Apparently Natalya has said she can beat Beth. Kelly stomps away in the corner and uses her typical stuff: handspring elbow, Stinkface, headscissor choke over the rope etc. Theesz Press puts Beth down and a rana gets two. Beth comes back and drops an elbow to the back for two.

Off to a surfboard hold and then a modified full seated full nelson. Beth beats on her but misses a charge in the corner. Kelly's momentum lasts all of two seconds as Beth kills her with a clothesline for two. Dragon sleeper to Kelly but she makes her comeback and hits that headscissor spin of hers. Glam Slam is countered into a rollup for two. The second attempt works and gets the pin at 6:36.

**Rating:** D. I've said many times that I don't like the Divas and that's true for a variety of reasons. Number one of all

though is probably that most of them just aren't that good. Kelly looked like she could barely run the ropes properly and because she can do a few moves ok at best, she's one of the top Divas in the WWE. This was the usual boring stuff from them but with more time.

**Overall Rating:** B-. I enjoyed it well enough for 45 minutes but it's not something I'd watch every week I don't think. First of all, any show that gives a Divas match six and a half minutes needs to have a curse of festering boils put on it. The problem I'd have with this show is that while the matches are ok, a lot of these guys don't get on regular TV for a reason: they're not that interesting. The show was decent though which is all that matters I guess, especially given that it's basically a collection of the week's dark matches.

### Results

Hunico b. Justin Gabriel – Death Valley Driver from the second rope

R-Truth/Kofi Kingston b. Curt Hawkins/Tyler Reks – Little Jimmy to Hawkins

Beth Phoenix b. Kelly Kelly – Glam Slam

Remember to like me on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall>

---

## **WWF Philadelphia House Show – May 22, 1982: Backlund Was**

# Pretty Awesome In His Day

## WWF House Show

Date: February 22, 1982

Location: Philadelphia Spectrum, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Attendance: 11,513

Commentators: Dick Graham, Kal Rudman

Here's a show from an era that you don't often hear from. This is during the Backlund is champion era and is one of the many house show cities that had its own TV show. In other words, this show was filmed and aired on TV in the Philadelphia market. Snuka is making his Philly debut tonight and Backlund is facing Bob Orton, presumably for the title. Let's get to it.

The announcers talk about the show for awhile. They sound nothing like what most wrestling announcers do and I'm not sure if I like that or not. There's talk of some new hold called the Crossface Chickenwing.

We get a clip from last month of Tony Atlas vs. Jesse Ventura. Jesse is controlling with a full nelson but misses an elbow drop. Atlas comes back to dropkick him to the floor and Atlas goes after him. Jesse rams Tony into the table and busts him open then slides in to win by countout. Atlas wants to keep up the fight but Jesse runs. The full match ran 15 minutes apparently but we only got about three here. There's a cage match later between these two.

Gary Michael Capetta is the ring announcer. For some reason he gets booed.

## Charlie Fulton vs. Larry Sharpe

Sharpe is far more famous as the trainer of Bam Bam Bigelow, Raven and Big Show among a lot more. He's a pretty boy in white. Sharpe jumps Fulton to start and knocks him to the

floor and it takes awhile for Charlie to get back in. Sharpe throws him back out to the floor again as Fulton is looking pretty awful here. Fulton comes back in with right hands and grabs the arm.

Sharpe headbutts him in the ribs and takes over again. Fulton is a guy that never really went anywhere so I'm curious as to whether he's a jobber here or not. Fulton comes back with nothing but punches and is kicked in the face on a backdrop attempt. Sharpe goes up but gets slammed down. Since Fulton can't manage to make a sandwich without getting beaten up, Sharpe throws him into the ropes to take over (as in Sharpe whipped him in and Fulton hit them chest first and fell down) and hits a piledriver to end this.

**Rating:** F+. What was that? Fulton was TERRIBLE out there and looked like a jobber that didn't realize he was a jobber. Sharpe didn't do much better but he looked like he was far better out there and the bigger deal. Also that wasn't a bad piledriver. This was a very strange match though as it was like a squash that went awkwardly.

Sharpe says his conditioning is bad so that's why it took so long. That's not something you often hear.

### Baron Mikel Scicluna vs. Pete Sanchez

The Baron is in the WWE Hall of Fame for some reason, despite most people having no idea who he is. He's a heel here and the announcer says he'll probably use a foreign object. He's from Malta so if it's a Maltese object is that really foreign? We start with a bearhug on Sanchez which isn't a normal starting move. Sanchez grabs a headlock and Baron looks bored. Baron hides in the corner and might have pulled out an object.

The referee stops to check him for weapons but doesn't find one. Baron goes to the corner with his back to the ring again and again the referee checks him. Where would he have gotten an object in between there? Pete grabs a wristlock and the

referee kicks Baron's arm off the ropes. He then makes the FASTEST COUNT EVER but Baron gets his shoulder up. That would be a heel turn move today.

We play hide the object again and apparently there is one in existence but the referee can't find it. Typical. Baron almost shoves the referee but that isn't a DQ. Baron chops him down and I kid you not, he looks like he's in slow motion. Pete takes over and kicks him very low but it's also not a DQ. Baron pulls out the object, holds it in the air like he found it in a Hylian dungeon and hits Pete in the throat with it for the pin.

**Rating:** D-. This show is three and a half hours long. Oh what have I gotten myself into? The wrestling in the early 80s was...how do I put this nicely.....REALLY BAD. It's mostly punches and kicks here and the whole foreign object bit. We get the idea but that was the whole match. To be fair though, it's 1982 and this is the second match on a card and it runs 8 minutes. I'm probably overreacting here, but it's still pretty boring.

Pete finds the object post match and drills Baron with it.

One of the announcers says hi to a fan that Backlund has talked to who is too sick to be able to come to a show. Cool.

### Swede Hanson vs. Laurent Soucie

Now there's a new announcer who must be in his mid 70s. Swede tries to control with a top wristlock to start and takes it to the mat controlling the arm. And never mind as they break it up quickly. Here's the basic story of the match: Swede tries to put a hold on him, Laurent runs away. Laurent hits him with a forearm and Swede looks annoyed. Apparently Swede has a habit of slapping people in the face. Well that's just rude of him. In a really sudden and different ending, Swede grabs a backbreaker and bends Laurent over his knee, which gets a submission.

**Rating:** D. Well they're getting better. Not a good match or anything but it's a step up over the other two dismal performances we saw earlier tonight. This show is somehow almost forty minutes in now and it's been dreadful. Swede was another generic bad guy which is getting a little tiresome.

#### Mr. Saito vs. Johnny Rodz

Saito is a Japanese guy and Rodz is supposed to be nuts. He trained a ton of ECW guys, namely Dreamer, Taz and the Dudleys. Saito jumps him to start and I think Rodz is the heel here. Rodz is in trouble but does the equivalent of HULKING UP and shrugs Saito off. He grabs a headlock and cranks on that sucker. A middle rope elbow to the head is followed by a second one and Saito is in trouble.

Back to the headlock and Saito tries to crawl over the ropes to escape. That's quite a headlock. Saito comes back with a superkick and a middle rope chop to the shoulder. Here's a nerve hold and Rodz's arms start shaking. Saito strikes away in the corner but misses a charge to allow Rodz to hammer away. Rodz tries an O'Connor roll out of the corner but Saito ducks, sending Rodz's head into the corner which gets the pin. Well you can't say they're overused finishes.

**Rating:** C-. It might be because of how weak the first three matches were but I was getting into Rodz' energy out there. He wasn't doing much else besides punching but sometimes that's all you need to do. Not a good match or anything and we had another unusual ending but it's by far the most entertaining match of the night so far.

#### Intercontinental Title: Pedro Morales vs. Jimmy Snuka

Snuka has only been around for a few months at this point but the fans are loving him, despite him being a heel. The announcers aren't sure what to do with him because they know he's popular but he's supposed to be the evil savage. He has a thing for flowers apparently. Snuka wrestles barefoot which is

another thing that made him different. The fans here are split which is a weird sight.

They fight over a top wristlock to start and Snuka complains of a hair pull. Snuka takes it to the mat with arm control and Dick Worthle is the referee. He died a few days ago so that's kind of sad to see. Now Snuka pulls the hair to keep the advantage. See how easy a heel move that is? Such little things like that one are just lost in modern wrestling.

Snuka runs him over and headbutts Pedro down as the fans applaud. Now keep in mind: Pedro is a very popular guy. He held the IC Title forever and was a former world champion. However, Snuka was a totally different kind of guy and the fans, especially the Philly crazy people, took notice and loved him. Pedro is in trouble and gets knocked to the floor by a forearm. All Snuka so far.

Out to the floor and Pedro goes into the apron. Back in and Pedro is almost knocked right back out. Off to a chinlock for a few moments and Pedro FINALLY gets up. He hits his first decent offense of the match in the form of a backdrop but Snuka takes him right back down again. A middle rope headbutt half kills Pedro and you would think that Snuka was the top guy in the company based on the fans' reactions.

That only gets two though and Snuka has a headache from the headbutt. Pedro grabs the face and works it over (that's not something I'm used to typing) and starts his comeback. He hits his big left and Jimmy looks like he's dancing. Out to the floor and Snuka tastes the steel. A BIG left hand sends Snuka flying into the ropes. Snuka rakes the eyes which doesn't really do much good. Pedro hits a knee to the chin and then shoves the referee because of that firey Latin temper of him. Now Pedro throws him to the floor and it's a LAME DQ.

**Rating:** C+. Well it wasn't a classic or anything as Pedro was way too fond of just throwing the left hand but the crowd was



very energetic for this as they were both very popular guys. Notice that the match is very similar to the rest of them but the names are bigger. There wasn't much variety in this era and it shows badly at times.

Pedro throws the referee down again and again. Snuka nails Worhle and the brawl continues. Out to the floor and Snuka goes into the post. They KEEP FIGHTING and Snuka headbutts both Morales and the referee at the same time. Snuka finally leaves and the fans aren't pleased with Pedro. Cool brawl though. Morales is mad about the brawl and says bring Jimmy on again anytime.

### Steve Travis vs. Blackjack Mulligan

Mulligan is Barry Windham's dad and Husky Harris' grandfather. He's also about the size of the Undertaker so this is a painful match for Travis. Travis is thrown to the floor and goes into the post quickly. Back in Travis charges into a knee in the corner and Mulligan hooks the Claw around the throat. Travis manages to get in some offense to send Mulligan to the outside where he takes a quick walk. Back in Mulligan hooks the Claw in a nerve hold and Travis is in trouble again. Steve elbows his way out of it but walks into a back elbow as he runs the ropes which gets Blackjack the pin.

**Rating:** D-. Just an observation here, but you don't see a lot of near falls at all. The fans spent most of the match chanting for Andre because of a battle of the giants thing going on but he never showed up. The Blackjacks were old school heels in the black hat wearing cowboy attire but they were pretty effective back then.

Mulligan berates the commentators post match because no one knows what he'll do next so there's no point in talking about him. Can I introduce you to a Mr. Michael Cole? Oh and he's the real giant because he's AMERICAN. He'll just take all of Andre's deals and contracts while he's at it.

## WWF World Title: Bob Backlund vs. Bob Orton Jr.

This is Orton's return it seems. This is called the main event despite three more matches after this. Backlund outmoves him to start and trips Orton easily. Orton, a very good scientific wrestler in his own right, can't keep up with Backlund at all and almost gets sent to the floor because he can't even stand up when Backlund goes after him. There's an abdominal stretch by the champ but Orton escapes.

Backlund hooks a top wristlock so Orton braces against the referee to backflip out of it. The champ trips him immediately but it was a cool visual. We get a test of strength and Backlund monkey flips him over but maintains the grip. Off to a bodyscissors as this is all Backlund so far but he's not doing much damage. Instead he's getting in Orton's head which is a lot more interesting.

Backlund fakes him out on two monkey flips so Orton tries an elbow. Backlund avoids THAT and Orton is ticked off so he heads to the outside to cool off a bit. Backlund looks awesome so far. Orton tries an armdrag and is IMMEDIATELY taken into a headscissors. Backlund is so fast. I just realized they're both named Bob so I had to go back and edit that name out. Pinfall reversal sequence results in a backslide for two for Backlund.

Orton wants a handshake and actually doesn't sucker Backlund in. They go to the ropes and Backlund gives him a clean break but the Cowboy doesn't, smashing Backlund with an elbow. Out to the floor and Backlund goes into the steel as Orton takes over. Backlund gets whipped over the railing and may have hurt his back. Somehow he's not counted out so Orton stomps on him some more.

Here comes the superplex which is Orton's finisher. Why can't more people use basic moves like that and have them be built up as finishers? Anyway Backlund breaks that up and hits a

middle rope forearm to knock Orton into the corner. Backlund hooks a suplex and pounds on Orton. Orton is in big trouble and rolls to the floor. Back inside and Backlund hits a not that great piledriver for two.

Orton comes back with a belly to back suplex and both guys are down. They slug it out from their knees and Orton gets his knee up in the corner to take Backlund down. Orton goes lucha and tries a Vader Bomb but it gets knees. Backlund knocks him to the floor which doesn't last long as Backlund knees him in the head and dropkicks him right back to the floor. Now Orton is running which is where we get to the interesting part of Backlund which I'll get to later. Out to the floor and Orton finds a rope from somewhere to choke Backlund with and the champ misses the count, giving Orton the win.

**Rating:** B. This was a very fun match as Backlund was the guy who was rather uninteresting until he was pushed to the edge when he would blow everyone away like he did here with Orton. He's a fun guy to watch and would be even better in stuff like Texas Death Matches where his back was to the wall and he had to fight for everything he had, which he could do quite well. Fun match and by far the best of the night so far.

They put the cage up for Ventura vs. Atlas.

The announcers say Orton should go back to the NWA because he's not ready for the WWF. Now there's a line you might never hear again.

We get a sitdown interview with Jesse Ventura who talks about how awesome the East-West Connection (Ventura/Adrian Adonis) are. They're in People Magazine according to Jesse. There's no place to hide in a cage and after Ventura has beaten Atlas in everything else, a cage is the last place for them.

Tony Atlas says he's not going to let Ventura up, which goes against what his daddy taught him but it's ok here. He's not worried about the blood either. This interviewer is really

bad. They also talk about Rocky 3 and Hulk Hogan (I didn't think he'd be mentioned at this point) and then they talk about Mr. T. being a wrestler. Nah that would never work.

Now the announcers talk about whatever they can to fill in time while the cage is finished. They talk about Backlund vs. Orton for a long time and show some clips of it to show how awesome Backlund is.

### Jesse Ventura vs. Tony Atlas

In a cage in case you're really dense. Ventura wants a referee in there with him. Yeah see back in the 80s, you didn't win by some lame pin. You had to get out and leave your opponent in there to win. Jesse stalls forever and tries to escape almost immediately. Atlas gets his hands on him and chops him down before ramming Jesse into the cage. A headbutt puts Jesse down and this is one sided so far.

Ventura gets in a shot but Atlas blocks the shot into the cage. The second attempt works though and Tony is down. Things slow way down as Tony is busted open. Jesse goes up but comes back inside instead of leaving. I've heard a lot about how Jesse isn't the best in ring worker ever but he was a human heat machine and could get a crowd worked up as well as any heel on the roster. That seems to be the case here as the action is awful but Jesse plays to the crowd like a master.

After a very slow beating Jesse goes up but Atlas makes the save. Jesse gets pulled down off the top and might be bleeding a bit as well. He tastes the steel and sells like a master. Then he does it again. And again. Man that's a serious cut on Jesse. He gets in a shot and Atlas is down again. Jesse goes up and poses but Atlas climbs the cage in what must be record time to climb out and win.

**Rating:** C-. The selling was good, but the cage felt more like it was hurting them, as they had to find a way to incorporate it. The high amount of punches and forearms got old too which

made the match dull. The ton of blood helps though, although the ending sucked with Atlas just leaving instead of beating Jesse down and then leaving.

Jesse calls conspiracy.

Here are the Official Wrestling Ratings.

10. Jay Strongbow
9. Ivan Putski
8. Tony Atlas
7. Bob Orton
6. Adrian Adonis
5. Greg Valentine
4. Pedro Morales
3. Jesse Ventura
2. Black Jack Mulligan
1. Jimmy Snuka

Jimmy Snuka, sounding much more coherent than usual, says he's from the Fiji Islands and raised in Hawaii. The interviewer compares him to Antonino Rocca (Look him up) and we see some clips of Snuka. Apparently cliff diving prepared Snuka for what he does now. Jimmy talks about working in a gym in Hawaii and getting involved in wrestling. This is a lot more like a real interview rather than a promo. The WWF is tough but he wants to be champion. He's not coming off as heelish here at all.

Here's a video package on various wrestlers set to way too happy music.

### Mr. Fuji vs. Rick McGraw

Fuji is a tag champion. Feeling out process to start and Fuji grabs the evil nerve hold. That eats up like two minutes until McGraw throws him into the corner and punches away. And never mind as he misses a dive and Fuji ties him up in the ropes. He chokes away and that's a DQ win for McGraw.

**Rating:** F. This is one of the final matches on the show and it's kind of like the last half hour of Saturday Night Live: they have the time to fill but they've used up all their good stuff so here's something boring that still qualifies as professional wrestling so you can't sue us for false advertising.

We hear about an upcoming battle royal. Some of the entrants are listed and I've reviewed that match before for Best of the WWF Volume 4. Also Backlund vs. Orton in a lumberjack match.

### Ivan Putski vs. Adrian Adonis

LONG stall before the match start as Adrian wants to stay in the corner a bit. With his jacket still on he jumps Putski and ties Ivan up with the jacket. There's an atomic drop and a knee drop off the middle rope. Putski is holding his groin due to the atomic drop from earlier. Back in the ring and Adonis hooks a sleeper. That gets two arm drops but Putski stands up and rams Adonis' face into the corner. Adrian goes up but gets crotched. Putski goes off on him but Adonis goes to the eyes to escape. He tries a sunset flip but Putski sits on the chest for the pin.

Rating: D. Another bad match here but I think this is the last one on the card. This was just like the previous match but with bigger names in it. Adonis would be a somewhat big time heel for awhile before becoming too fat to tie his own shoes. Putski got old in a hurry and didn't really do much other than be an ethnic face.

The announcers talk for about seven minutes to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** D. This is a hard one to grade. Some of the good matches are ok with the world title match being quite good, but three and a half hours is WAY too much for this, especially with how weak some of these matches were. It's amazing how much different the Hogan era is as he blew up the whole idea of what pro wrestling was before he arrived and it

changed things. Whether that's for the better I'll leave it up to you.

Remember to like me on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall>

---

# Superstars of Wrestling – January 23, 1988: Hogan vs. Andre II Is Coming

## Superstars of Wrestling

Date: January 23, 1988

Location: Von Braun Civic Center, Huntsville, Alabama

Commentators: Vince McMahon, Jesse Ventura, Bruno Sammartino

Smackdown is still loading and probably will be for awhile so let's take a look at the show the day before the inaugural Royal Rumble. I'd be shocked if that show is actually discussed though, as this show was likely taped weeks in advance. Also we're getting closer and closer to the Hogan title loss which should be interesting. Let's get to it.

Usual intro.

## Randy Savage vs. Barry Horowitz

Vince goes into his usual I LOVE LIZ stuff. Given his well known female exploits, thank goodness this is when Vince was just a commentator. Savage hits the ax from the top both inside the ring and out to the floor. Peggy Sue (Sherri as Honky's girl) says stay away from her man. Knee drop gets two.

The big elbow ends this.

Update on Matilda who is back. The Islanders are reinstated but everyone hates them now. We get some clips of the announcement that Matilda is back. The Islanders and Heenan aren't worried about Matilda's condition. The Bulldogs say Matilda is in bad shape and won't eat, meaning she's lost a lot of weight.

#### Ricky Hunter/W.D. Wellington vs. Butch Reed/One Man Gang

Vince talks about an address that you can send get well cards to Matilda at. Vince: "I'm sure the British Bulldogs read the cards to Matilda." Jesse: "I'd bet she has to read them to the Bulldogs." Muraco wants the Gang and Reed. Reed runs over Hunter to start and it's off to Gang for some pounding. An elbow nearly kills Hunter so it's off to Wellington. Back to Reed who uses Nikolai's gorilla press into a backbreaker. Gang hits a gordbuster for the pin. Total domination.

We talk about a New Haven show with a cage match. It'll be a six man tag in there. We hear about the rest of the card and Jimmy Hart comes in to talk about the six man tag (Savage/Strike Force vs. Honky/Harts).

#### Joe Mirto/Iron Mike Sharpe vs. Ken Patrea/Billy Jack Haynes

Haynes and Sharpe start us off and Sharpe gets in some offense. Off to Patera vs. Mirto and we hear from Demolition, who is having a small feud with Haynes and Patera. Jesse talks about Hogan vs. Andre II on February 5. Kind of strange that we hear about that but not the Rumble. A quick full nelson to Mirto gets the submission for Haynes.

More house show stuff, this time with Bravo and Frenchy Martin saying they're ready for Hillbilly Jim. Rude comes in and says he's beat Koko B. Ware.

#### Hart Foundation/Danny Davis vs. Rex King/Van Van Horne/Sam



## Houston

Houston and Davis start us off and Davis is in trouble early. Off to Horne and then King, who is taken down by Davis. What does it mean when Danny Davis is beating you up? Anvil comes in and the power moves begin. Bret does a few things and it's back to Davis. Houston makes a small comeback but Bret trips him up. The Hart Attack kills Houston and Davis gets the easy pin. This was nothing, although Jesse called referee Joey Marella she for some reason.

We get a clip of Greg Valentine attacking Koko after beating him until Beefcake made the save. Jimmy got a haircut with the big hedge clippers.

Andre and DiBiase are in the arena to talk about February 5. DiBiase says he warned everyone that he would find a way to buy the world title and Andre is that way. Andre says he'll break Hogan apart and choke him down. DiBiase says the fans won't mean anything to Hulk then. Maniacal laugh, maniacal laugh, maniacal laugh.

## Jim Duggan vs. Steve Lombardi

Duggan pounds on him and Lombardi's shots to the head do nothing. Duggan has a hard head and is stupid you see. A kneedrop and slam set up the three point clothesline for the pin.

Bad News Brown says he's the only news.

## Harley Race/Hercules/Rick Rude vs. Jerry Allen/Lanny Poffo/Scott Casey

Poffo does a quick poem about the Slammys. Casey and Herc start but it's quickly off to Rude. Ok make that Race. Everyone on the jobber team gets beaten up by all of the Heenan team. Hercules racks Allen for the tap out. Total squash.

Savage and Strike Force say they're ready for the cage match.

Vince previews next week's show to end this.

**Overall Rating:** D+. Pretty boring show this week but again they're like 40 minutes long so they're easy to do. We're on the verge of hitting it huge with these angles too so it's worth sitting through this part to get to the big stuff. Ton of squashes here as you would expect, but the talk of Hogan vs. Andre makes me drool.

Remember to like me on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall>

---

## Rock Or Cena

Which side are you on? I'm still with Cena. Rock was far funnier tonight when he was on location, which makes me think that he's lost the ability in front of a live crowd. He's gotten used to a script and being on film which is a very different style. I'm curious to see Cena's reaction if he loses though.

Thoughts?

---

# Thought Of The Day – PPV Buys

This is another thing that crops up a lot that people don't seem to get the common sense aspect of. People want less PPVs and to go to eight PPVs a year or something like that. People like these make me laugh. Here's why.

The lowest amount of PPV buys in modern WWE history is December to Dismember with 90,000. At \$40 a buy, that's \$360,000. Let's go WAY low and say WWE gets 25% of that. That's \$90,000 for three hours. That's not including ticket sales, merchandise sales for that night, any cut WWE might get of concessions and/or parking from the arena. Keeping in mind that's by far the lowest amount of buys in WWE history, here's my question.

Why in the world would WWE want to cut out HUGE paydays like that? What are they going to do to replace that money? PPV is the biggest money maker they've got, especially when you throw in any sponsorships they get to bring in even more money. How often do you hear of someone wanting to sponsor a Sunday night house show? Now how many times do you hear of someone sponsoring say Summerslam?

Getting rid of PPVs might help the product somewhat, but there is simply no way that cutting out multiple PPVs is going to make the company more money, period.

---

## Superstars of Wrestling –

# January 19, 1991 – The Rumble Is Tonight

## Superstars of Wrestling

Date: January 19, 1991

Location: SunDome, Tampa, Florida

Commentators: Vince McMahon, Roddy Piper, Honky Tonk Man

No Mercy 04 is downloading so I have a random Superstars to do. Most of the other ones I have are from 1988 but this is a stand alone one from 1991. We're getting close to the 91 Rumble so that'll be the focus here. Actually this is from Rumble Saturday so expect a lot of it to be about that show. I have no idea what to expect here but let's get to it.

Apparently this is Honky's last TV appearance in his initial WWF run. The three commentators make Disney jokes to start.

## Jake Roberts vs. Bob Bradley

Jake was blinded by Martel recently but he's mostly ok here. He hits the knee lift and grabs the wrist for some cranking. Jake's inset interview says he'll be ready for Martel. Clothesline and DDT end this quick. Bradley gets the snake treatment post match.

UPDATE! With Gene Okerlund. He talks about the Rhodeses vs. DiBiase/Virgil and we get some quick comments from all of them. This was more or less the end of Dusty and Dustin in the WWF for years.

## Earthquake vs. Randy Hunter

Earthquake hits some kicks to the ribs and Bravo says he'll win the Rumble, even if it means going through Earthquake. The Earthquake ends Hunter quick.

Post match Hunter takes another one and is taken out on a

stretcher.

### Hart Foundation vs. Black Bart/WT Jones

The Harts are tag champions but this is non-title. Neidhart and Jim start things off. The Harts say they're ready for the Rumble. I miss little things about the Rumble like that one. Off to Jones who takes a beating as well. Hart Attack ends Jones.

Off to the Event Center for promos about the Rumble. I won't bother going into specifics for each because they all say the same thing. We hear from Warlord, Valentine, Shane Douglas (who wasn't in it), Hawk and Power and Glory.

### Mr. Perfect vs. Kevin Reno

Reno is a very small man in pink trunks. Perfect easily takes him to the mat and hits the Robinsdale Crush. He says that he'll win the Rumble because he's perfect. Perfectplex for the pin.

More promos about non-Rumble matches. Bossman is going to take out Barbarian to get to Heenan. The Orient Express wants the Rockers handed to him. The Rockers are ready for them. One thing that I really miss about these days: everyone has a personalized graphic behind them. It's a small thing but it's very cool.

### Bushwackers vs. Dennis Allen/The Gladiator

The Bushwackers say what you would expect them to say on the day of the Rumble. Butch starts with Gladiator but it's off to Luke quickly. Battering Ram takes down Allen and their double gutbuster gets the pin.

Off to the Brother Love Show with guests Sgt. Slaughter and General Adnan. Sarge gets the shot at Warrior tonight. He takes a few minutes to say that he'll win the title and then take the title to Baghdad for a parade. He'll take it to the

United Nations also.

Another Rumble Report has Warrior rambling a lot regarding lost soldiers. He'll be a general and champion after tonight.

Gene runs down some names in the Rumble and we hear from Martel, Duggan, Savage and Hogan. Gene runs down the rest of the card and Heenan says Barbarian is ready for Bossman.

The announcers wrap it up.

**Overall Rating:** C+. Yeah the wrestling was bad but the idea here was to push the Rumble and they certainly did that. This was such a great way of showcasing everyone in the match with at least letting us see their face. Today everyone knows that there are about 4 people who could win, but it's a fun thought that everyone at least has a miracle chance. Today though you don't even hear the names of the people before they go into it. I liked this but I like this era and it hyped up the PPV very well. Good show.

Remember to like me on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall>

---

## **WWE.com Announcement – Raw and Smackdown Swap GMs**

Teddy is running Raw and Ace is running Smackdown. I'm not entirely sure what this solves but it mixes things up a bit.

Edit: Apparently this is just for a week. So much for it meaning anything.

Thoughts on this?

---

# All-American Wrestling – March 31, 1985 – It's Wrestlemania Sunday

## All-American Wrestling

Date: March 31, 1985

Host: Gene Okerlund

Commentators: Jack Reynolds, Jesse Ventura, Vince McMahon,  
Bruno Sammartino

No Mercy 03 is downloading so here's a show you don't often see: it's from Wrestlemania Sunday. Who knows when this was taped but it's literally airing hours before the biggest show ever. This should be interesting as far as seeing what they say about the upcoming show. Other than that I don't know what to expect but the matches are taped so it's not like we'll be missing much. Let's get to it.

The theme song is very patriotic.

The featured match is the Bulldogs vs. Goulet/Barry O. I'm riveted to see that. Yep Gene is talking about Mania which is today at 1pm. He runs down the card for today and plugs Wrestlemania whenever he can.

## British Bulldogs vs. Barry O/Rene Goulet

The announcer messes up Barry's name by calling him Bobby. Dynamite and Barry start us off and Dynamite uses the speed to escape whatever is thrown at him. Off to Davey and this must be near their debut. Jesse says he's never seen the Bulldogs

before so you know it's early in their run. Back to Davey who hooks a crucifix for two. Off to Goulet and both guys get missile dropkicks from Dynamite. Goulet hits a clothesline to bring in Barry. Davey cleans house and the Bulldogs use their stepping stone headbutt spot to pin Barry. BIG pop for the Bulldogs.

**Rating:** C+. Just a squash, but man the Bulldogs were great when they started out. They were pulling off stuff that had never been seen in America so everyone reacted to them very strongly. Dynamite was so far ahead of his time it's unreal. Can you imagine him against Jericho or Mysterio in 1996? It would have been incredible.

UPDATE! With Lord Alfred Hayes. It's about JYD who likes to dance with kids. Ok then.

#### Big John Studd vs. Jim Young

Studd has \$15,000 cash and Andre the Giant's hair. Young fails at a slam and the pain begins. Andre comes out and beats Studd up for the quick DQ.

Gene sums up the big matches for Mania.

Cyndi Lauper says her girl Wendi Richter will win the title back on Sunday.

Gene is on the phone with Liberace who wants to know where Orndorff gets his robes. He has to drop the call though to talk to the camera.

#### Mad Maxine vs. Susan Starr

Maxine is a freak with a green mowhawk and allegedly 6'4 but that looks like a stretch. Starr runs away a lot but they spend most of the time circling each other. Starr even gets a leg lock on her. Maxine shrugs it all off and hits a suplex for the pin. This was really bad.



Gene reminds us that you have to see Mania on closed circuit.

Off to Piper's Pit with Orndorff and Orton. They make fun of the Mania poster. Mr. T. is called a souped up spider monkey and has a banana smeared over his face. Hogan gets an egg. Orton's arm is still hurt. It's a very slow healing injury you see.

Mr. T. and Hogan are in New York to train. They're on a building somewhere but Mr. T. wants to go to Central Park and beat up muggers. And that's just what they do. Well they go to Central Park and T gives him training in "street fighting", which means running in place. They go to the gym to train to Eye of the Tiger and hit each other in the head while sitting on the floor with their legs interlocked. Then they get on a train while people cheer. Now they're in MSG with a piece of wood on the floor. They fire each other up, and that's it. This was out there man.

Gene talks about Mania some more.

### Greg Valentine vs. Pete Pompeii

Bruno is alone on commentary and this is joined in progress. Oh thank goodness Vince jumps in. Valentine is IC Champion here but it's non-title of course. This is a squash and Valentine pounds him down before hooking a chinlock. He hooks a quick half crab, drops a middle rope elbow, and finishes with the Figure Four.

**Rating:** D. Just a squash but a long one. That being said, we needed something longer than usual to fill in the time. Vince can't pronounce the jobber's name, calling him Pompell which is funny to me for some reason. Other than that, not much to see here but it's a squash so what are you looking for?

Gene runs down the card again and brings in the US Express. Albano is here too and is clean shaven. He says they'll win and keep the titles. The champs say the same.

Gene talks about Wrestlemania a lot to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** C-. You can't complain much about the show because the majority of this was to talk about Wrestlemania. It's a big commercial and to their credit, they hyped the show up pretty well. It's still boring but they were trying at least which is really all you can ask for. Plus if its the day of the show and you have to go somewhere to see it, you'll already know if you're going or not by this point.

Remember to like me on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall>

---

## **WWF Championship Wrestling – September 24, 1983 – Eddie Gilbert Can't Catch A Break**

### **WWF Championship Wrestling**

Date: September 24, 1983

Location: Agricultural Hall, Allentown, Pennsylvania

Commentators: Vince McMahon, Pat Patterson

Another random show for me to do while I wait on a Raw to download. This is from before Hogan debuted again but he was coming quickly. Other than that there isn't much to say here. My best guess would be a lot of squashes with maybe a slightly more competitive feature match. Let's get to it.

I'm finding two dates on this. The video I have is labeled August 27, 1983 but every other date I can find says September 24, 1983. We'll go with the second.

We open with a list of everyone on the athletic commission for tonight's show.

### Butcher Vachon vs. Jimmy Snuka

Butcher is a big name but he's well past his prime at this point. Snuka slams him down and the Splash ends this in about 45 seconds.

### Tito Santana vs. John Callahan

Santana dominates to start as Vince says there's no challenge here. He takes John to the mat with a long headlock but Callahan rams him into the buckle a few times. Middle rope forearm ends this. I wouldn't expect a lot of ratings on this show.

### Tiger Chung Lee/Mr. Fuji vs. Tony Garea/Bob Clement

Garea and Lee start things off as Garea controls with a dropkick and armdrag. Sunset flip gets one. Fuji gets in a shot to the back of Garea so the evil foreigners can take over on the nicer foreigners. Back to Lee to face the tagged in Clement. Both are tall and in white so this isn't easy to differentiate. Fuji and his red come in to chop Clement down and it's back to Lee. Lee hits an enziguri for the pin. Basically a squash.

**Rating:** D+. Not much to see here as most of the match was spent talking about how the Japanese team would be trouble for the Wild Samoans, the reigning tag champions. I don't know if they ever had a long feud or anything but the Soul Patrol (Atlas and Johnson) would win the titles in November.

Sgt. Slaughter says he's ready for Mil Mascaras in Los Angeles. Mascaras tries to put his head in the jar to eat pickles and wears a mask because he stabs himself in the head when trying to use a fork.

Tito says he's ready for Muraco, who attacked him when he was

a guest referee. He says a lot in Spanish and I think he says he's ready for him and he'll win in Los Angeles.

Mike Sharpe says that Tony Atlas is skinny.

Muraco, the IC Champion (and about a month from having Snuka dive off a cage onto him) talks about how Tito wanted to become a Mexican hero right when Muraco had Snuka where he wanted him.

### Masked Superstar vs. Eddie Gilbert

Masked Superstar is a new top heel and is Ax under a mask. Eddie gets in some offense to start but walks into a HHH knee to the face to take him down. Gilbert is a very small guy but he hammers away, only to walk into the kind of clothesline that Bret would use in the Hart Attack. A swinging neckbreaker puts Gilbert down and a second one gets the pin quick.

Post match he takes Gilbert to the floor and gives him another neckbreaker on the concrete. Dr. George Zahorian (now look HIM up if you want to see a name erased from WWF history) comes out to check on him.

Time for Buddy Rogers' Corner, which is an interview segment. The guest is Sgt. Slaughter who isn't worried about Eddie Gilbert at all. He'd love to see Bob Backlund in the same position.

### Sgt. Slaughter vs. Dick Tessier

Gilbert is still being attended to. Cobra Clutch and we're done in about a minute.

Post match Slaughter looks at Gilbert as he's being taken away. Apparently Gilbert credits Backlund with his comeback. Backlund is out here too. He's taken out on a stretcher into an ambulance. This takes about ten minutes to get through. The fans boo because this takes so long.

## Don Kernodle/Bob Bradley vs. Tony Atlas/Rocky Johnson

Apparently the Soul Patrol is a new team here. Johnson starts with Bradley and throws him around with ease. A sunset flip ends this quickly again.

**Overall Rating:** C-. The injury angle was at least big and it furthered Slaughter vs. Backlund but it took a lot of the steam out of the show. The matches were all squashes and that's ok, but it does kind of slow things right to a halt. They had one match during the time when Gilbert was carried out, so why not have more? Eh it's 1983 so TV wasn't exactly down to a science yet. Not terrible but fairly dull.

Remember to like me on Facebook at:

[www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall](http://www.facebook.com/pages/kbwrestlingreviewscom/117930294974885?sk=wall)