# Ivory Announced For WWE Hall of Fame

It's that time of year again. <u>https://wrestlingrumors.net/ivory-inducted-wwe-hall-fame/</u>

Ivory? Really? Are they that hard up for female inductees anymore? Aside from the RTC era, what stands out about Ivory? She could do the moves well enough and have a watchable match but she didn't really have a character or anything memorable as far as matches or stories. This feels like "well we need a woman inducted" and this was the first name someone said.

# Survivor Series Count-Up – 1999: Austin Fell Down

#### Survivor Series 1999

Date: November 14, 1999 Location: Joe Louis Arena, Detroit, Michigan Attendance: 18,735 Commentators: Jim Ross, Jerry Lawler

The WWF is comfortably in control of the wrestling world but it's not stopping them from putting their foot on WCW's throat. They're on fire at this point and they know it, which is a very dangerous thing. It will get even better for them in the future as more and more talent will start leaving WCW for the WWF but that won't be as apparent until next year. Let's get to it. We open with a video about the world title match tonight which they promoted knowing that it wasn't going to happen. How classy of them.

Team Godfather/D'Lo Brown vs. Team Dudley Boys

Godfather, D'Lo Brown, Headbangers

Dudley Boys, Acolytes

The Dudleys (Bubba Ray and D-Von in case you somehow don't know that) are brand new, having been around maybe a month or two. The Acolytes are Faarooq and Bradshaw and they just like to fight. This is the debut of Brown as Godfather's partner in pimping. The Headbangers are dressed as pimps as well in a funny sight. Bubba still has a bad stutter here which was his whole gimmick for a few months. Godfather makes fun of him to tick the Dudleys off even further.

Bubba vs. Mosh (in afro) start things off. Bubba steals said afro but things speed up and the Dudleys are in trouble. A HARD clothesline takes Mosh down and it's off to D-Von. The Dudleys were awesome at this point and were like nothing anyone had seen in years. Even their look was totally different and it worked very well. Off to Thrasher who has an afro held on with a chinstrap.

Bradshaw comes in and pounds away on Thrasher a bit before pounding him upside the head. Thrasher misses a corner charge and Bradshaw's running clothesline eliminates him quickly. Off to Mosh vs. Faarooq with the latter missing a charge in the corner to little effect. Back to D-Von as Jerry talks about wanting ho's for Christmas. Mosh hits the running crotch attack to D-Von but it's off to Bubba via a blind tag and the 3D puts out Mosh, making it 4-2.

Brown comes in with a forearm to Bubba's head and drops a leg for two. For absolutely no apparent reason, Bradshaw blasts Brown with the chair for a DQ, and does the same to Bubba as well, knocking him out cold. D-Von and Faarooq both want the pin and get in a fight over it, resulting in a double countout for a double elimination despite neither of them being legal. That would be the Dudleys' first real feud. Back in the ring Bubba gets two on Brown as it's apparently 2-1 now. A suplex gets two for Bubba and it's time for the bouncing punches from Ray. Brown comes back with a Sky High for two and loads up a top rope hurricanrana, only to get caught in an awesome middle rope sitout powerbomb for two. A double clothesline puts both guys down and it's hot tag to Godfather. The Ho Train sets up the Low Down for the final elimination.

**Rating:** C. I remember reading someone say that Godfather was the perfect opening act because you were guaranteed a good pop whenever he was out there. The more I see of him in matches like this, the more I agree with that statement. The guy wasn't great or anything but the fans loved him and he was always a fun character that you didn't have to take too seriously. That kind of fun character is a great choice for an opener and this was a fine opener here too.

Remember that one of the best of all time debuting tonight? We get a video telling us how awesome his name is and how awesome his life has been so far. His name is Kurt Angle.

#### Kurt Angle vs. Shawn Stasiak

Stasiak is most famous for being an idiot in the a few years' time and being the son of the most forgotten world champion ever in Stan Stasiak. Never heard of him? I think that proves my point. Angle immediately hits a fireman's carry takeover and the boring chants start about fifteen seconds in.

They head to the mat with Angle hooking a hammerlock. The fans chant for the Redwings because someone actually wrestling in a wrestling match is an evil idea to fans in 1999. Stasiak comes back with a clothesline and a vertical suplex for two. Off to a chinlock which Kurt escapes pretty quickly. Angle comes back with a clothesline and goes to get the mic. He demands not to be booed because he's the best in the world.

Back in and Kurt hits something like a dropkick but is put right back into the chinlock. The hold is broken again and Angle comes back with a powerslam for two. Stasiak hits a lay out F5 but misses a top rope cross body. The Olympic Slam gets the pin and starts one of the hottest rookie years ever in wrestling.

**Rating:** D+. For a debut, this wasn't great. However, this would be the start of one of one of the best careers of all time. Angle being serious wasn't the right choice for him and it wasn't until he became a total goof that took himself WAY too seriously while being stupid at the same time that he became the awesome Kurt that we know and love. It helped that he could go with anyone in the ring too.

We get a clip from earlier on Heat where HHH called Austin and Rock to the ring in an attempted ambush but the combined forces of Road Dogg and X-Pac didn't stop two of the biggest stars ever. He wasn't quite the Cerebral Assassin yet.

#### Team Val Venis vs. Team British Bulldog

Val Venis, Mark Henry, Gangrel, Steve Blackman

British Bulldog, Mean Street Posse

Venis is an adult film star and Gangrel is a vampire. Even JR says that Val's team has nothing in common. The Posse is a group of three guys from Greenwich, Connecticut who wear sweater vests and never won a match that wasn't a hardcore match that they won by mistake. I have no idea why this match exists but my guess is "we have no idea what else to do with these fifteen minutes." Bulldog is European Champion here which is likely a title Val wants.

The captains start things off and after some quick offense from both, it's off to Pete Gas (the Posse was Rodney, Pete Gas and Joey Abs). Pete is scared to death of having to actually wrestle so it's back to Bulldog. Once Venis is down it's off to Pete who hits a slingshot to send Val chest first into the buckle. A belly to back suplex gets two for Pete as Jerry asks where JR would get nice clothes in Oklahoma. JR: "Arkansas." Off to Blackman for the only thing he could do: martial arts. A bicycle kick eliminates Pete in a hurry.

Off to Rodney who has even less luck against Blackman, immediately getting taken down. Gangrel comes in and gets caught in a crucifix for

two before realizing he's fighting Rodney. He pounds on the Posse dude, shrugs off a cheap shot from Joey, and plants Rodney with the implant DDT for the elimination. Joey, by far the best of the three Posse members, comes in and gets to face Mark Henry. Joey actually hits a hot shot but crotches himself on the middle rope. Mark does about what you would expect him to and splashes him for the pin.

So it's 4-1 now and Bulldog comes in to fight Henry. Mark runs Bulldog over with ease and it's off to Gangrel. Gangrel goes up top and is immediately crotched and superplexed down to make it 3-1. Blackman is in next but he misses a middle rope headbutt. He argues with the referee and gets caught in a fisherman's suplex to make it Henry/Val vs. Bulldog. Val gets to start but it's quickly a double team. Jerry: "Hey what's this?" JR: "Well it looks like Mark Henry and Val Venis double teaming the Bulldog King." Val gets sent to the floor but Henry splashes Bulldog, allowing Val to come in off the top with the Money Shot for the pin.

**Rating:** D-. This was as worthless as it was advertised. The Posse is one of those groups that is funny in retrospect but at the time they were wasting PPV time when there had to have been better options for this spot. Venis would have been a bigger deal a year ago so I'm not quite sure why he was in this spot either. Little trivia note: this is the shortest four on four Survivor Series match ever, breaking the record set about 20 minutes ago.

Michael Cole walks in on the Divas locker room and has to rub oil on Ivory's stomach.

### <u>Fabulous Moolah/Mae Young/Tori/Debra vs. Ivory/Luna Vachon/Terri</u> <u>Runnels/Jacqueline</u>

Thank goodness this isn't an elimination match. For some reason Moolah and Mae were wrestling in 99 with Moolah even winning the Women's Title at one point. Keep in mind that they both retired about ten years earlier. Tori is a psycho fan turned wrestler, Ivory is a former valet turned wrestler, Luna Vachon is a veteran and rather strange looking, and Terri is eye candy. Jerry's face when Debra comes out is hilarious. Ivory is Women's Champion at this point. Moolah jumps the champion in the aisle to start but gets shoved down for her efforts. We officially start with Tori vs. Jackie but Luna comes in for some double teaming.

Keep in mind that Tori is a wrestler in name only, Mae and Moolah combined to be over 150 years old, and Terri and Debra are there as eye candy. After less than two minutes, a double clothesline from the old chicks gives Moolah the pin on Ivory. This may have been the worst idea this side of the birth of a hand. If you don't get that reference, consider yourself lucky.

Moolah and Ivory "brawl" post match.

X-Pac lists off everything wrong with Kane and says he'll win tonight. Short and simple here.

#### X-Pac vs. Kane

X-Pac turned on Kane when they were partners, starting a feud that went on for MONTHS. X-Pac eventually stole Kane's girlfriend Tori as well, turning her into a smoking hot woman instead of a smoking hot bad wrestler. Earlier today, Tori and Kane said they don't take what X-Pac has done personally. Kane has the awesome inverted tights colors tonight which he didn't wear often enough. X-Pac jumps Kane during the entrance and we start fast.

Kane no sells all of the shots to his head. I've always wondered if the mask is supposed to absorb the offense from the other guy. Kane chokes away and uppercuts X-Pac down for no cover. Kane goes up but gets dropkicked in the head on the way up in a nice counter. We head to the floor for a bit where X-Pac sends him into the post to take over. Kane comes back with an uppercut but gets kicked in the head to take him back down.

More kicking slows Kane down but the Bronco Buster is countered by a hand around the throat. Tilt-a-whirl backbreaker puts X-Pac down and there's the top rope clothesline. Kane loads up the chokeslam but Road Dogg comes in to break up the pin. Kane stalks the Dogg to the floor but walks into the X-Factor for two. The tombstone is loaded up but HHH comes in with the title belt shot to the head to draw the DQ. **Rating:** C+. I liked this a lot more than most matches that X-Pac had going on at this time. The problem was that X-Pac would win all of his matches against monsters and it would get more and more unrealistic every time. Here though Kane took a lot of offense from X-Pac but it didn't really hurt him, which is what made this much better. The feud would go on WAY too long though and it dragged things down

Post match Kane gets beaten down until Tori comes out. X-Pac kicks Tori in the face and Kane snaps, sending DX "scattering like quail" according to JR.

The Rock says nothing because HHH shows up and they brawl.

#### Big Show vs. Mideon/Viscera/Big Boss Man/Prince Albert

Mideon (Phineas Godwin) and Viscera (formerly known as Mabel) are former members of the evil Corporate Ministry stable. Albert is a huge man with a big bald head. This was supposed to be Big Show and Kaientai (Japanese comedy team) and Blue Meanie (....I'm not sure how to describe Meanie) but Show beat them up so he could do this himself.

This is during the Boss Man vs. Big Show feud, which is based around Boss Man making fun of Show for having his dad die (kayfabe). It led to a bad moment at a "funeral" where Boss Man stole the coffin and dragged Show along the ground on top of the coffin with a car. Show chokes Albert to the floor and chokeslams Mideon for the pin in less than 20 seconds. Albert is gone 10 seconds later to a chokeslam, as is Viscera. Boss Man is like screw this and walks out. Show wins in less than 90 seconds.

Austin is in the back but HHH comes up to attack him too. HHH runs away with Austin chasing after him. Austin winds up in a parking garage and is run over by a car which speeds away. This was the way that Austin was written off TV for the better part of a year to have major neck surgery. He had needed it forever but it wasn't until now when the company could afford to let him off for that long.

The question would eventually be who ran him over, and it would eventually be revealed as Rikishi (yet to debut on Raw) in one of the biggest WHAT WERE THEY THINKING moments ever. Test (young Canadian wrestler), Stephanie (Vince's daughter, dating Test at this point) Vince and eventually HHH show up to look at Austin with most of them being concerned. JR goes to see him as well. Vince accuses HHH and DX but they deny any involvement.

#### Intercontinental Title: Chyna vs. Chris Jericho

Jericho has only been around a few months and is challenging here. Chyna (HHH's former bodyguard and a woman capable of fighting men) has Miss Kitty here who isn't even hiding that she's eye candy, coming out in a bikini and boots. It's a brawl to start and Kitty is shoved down because Jericho is a jerk. They head to the floor with Jericho's knees going into the steps, but Chyna misses a dive off said steps to give the Canadian control.

Back in and Jericho gets hot shotted onto the ropes and put in the Tree of Woe. Chyna tries a German but Jericho kicks her low....with no effect because Chyna is Chyna. A standing hurricanrana takes Jericho down but he pops back up and clotheslines her to the floor. The springboard dive takes Chyna out again as JR talks about not being into the match due to what happened to Austin. For once this is an acceptable statement.

Jericho throws Chyna over the announce table and pours water over her head because, again, he's a jerk. Back in and a missile dropkick gets two for Jericho and Chyna gets the same off a small package. Chyna tries to make a comeback but Jericho bulldogs him down for two and a BIG face pop. A spinwheel kick puts Chyna down and Jericho is swaggering. A clothesline puts Chyna on the floor and Kitty gets kissed. By Jericho that is.

Chyna comes back with a spear and posts Jericho as the crowd noticeably gets quieter. Back in and Jericho hits a layout powerbomb for two and frustration is setting in. The Lionsault misses and Chyna hits the springboard elbow and a DDT for two. With about two minutes left, Lawler mentions a stipulation that Jericho will get a sex change if he loses. That's kind of a big deal Jerry.

With the referee down, a belt shot to the head gets two for Chris but Chyna comes back with a Pedigree for two of her own. Jericho puts her in the Walls but Chyna finally makes the rope. The place boos the escape to show where their allegiances lie. Jericho loads up a superplex but a Kitty distraction lets Chyna hit him low and a Pedigree (kind of) off the top gets the pin to retain the title.

**Rating:** B. This took a bit to get going but they hit a groove in that ending sequence. The most important thing here though was Jericho wrestled her like any other opponent rather than making a spectacle out of her being a woman. These two would stay at it for a while until Chyna went nuts and eventually started wrestling women, which was the downfall of her career. Well that and being nuts and HHH breaking up with her, but that's another story.

HHH comes in to see Shane, Stephanie and Test. He still denies having anything to do with it but wants to know if the match is now one on one. Shane says he'll think of something. Note that Test is there with Shane.

#### Team Too Cool vs. Team Edge/Christian

Too Cool, Hollys

Edge/Christian, Hardy Boys

This is just after the Hardys (another team you should know) and the Edge/Christian (same) had the first tag team ladder match which would launch them into stardom soon after. Too Cool (Grandmaster Sexay and Scotty Too Hotty, a pair of dancing nitwits) are still stupid here, as opposed to later on when they would be stupid and WAY over. The Hollys (Hardcore and Crash) are cousins that like to fight a lot. The Hardys have Terri in their corner. Edge and Scotty get things started as Jerry talks about Scotty's pants. They chop it out in the corner before things speed up a bit and Edge spinwheel kicks him down.

Off to Crash vs. Matt with Matt getting two off a suplex. Crash gets crotched on the top and punched to the floor. Grandmaster sneaks up on Matt for a sunset bomb to the floor. We unleash the dives as everyone small enough to try a big dive busts one out with Jeff capping it off. Back in and Christian powerslams Crash for two. The Hollys hit a Hart Attack on Christian for two of their own and Hardcore is in. We're promised an update on Austin at the end of this match because THIS MATCH of all things is more important than a guy being hit by a car. Off to Grandmaster whose bulldog is countered and he goes flying so far that he kicks the camera, giving us a cool visual. Off to Hardcore vs. Edge, who starts spearing a lot of people. Grandmaster stops to dance and is immediately speared down. In the big melee, Hardcore rolls up Edge for the pin. Fifteen seconds later, Scotty hits a top rope DDT to eliminate Matt, making it 4-2.

Jeff and Scotty do a fast pinfall reversal sequence before Scotty hits the not yet popular Worm. A sitout powerbomb by Scotty with Grandmaster assisting gets two as does a middle rope missile dropkick from Sexay. Too Cool hits the second Hart Attack of the match for two on Jeff. Everything breaks down but the Hollys get in an argument. Terri gets on the apron for a distraction which lets Christian hit both of Too Cool low. Jeff hits a 450 on Scotty for the elimination.

So it's Crash/Grandmaster/Hardcore Holly vs. Jeff and Christian. JR goes on a rant about Austin as Christian and Jeff try some Poetry in Motion, but Hardcore comes off the top with a missile dropkick in a SWEET looking counter. Grandmaster adds a guillotine legdrop for the elimination. Christian immediately hits a reverse DDT on Grandmaster to get us down to Christian vs. the Hollys.

JR continues to brood and want an update about Austin. Jerry needling him makes me chuckle as he's awesome at being a jerk. Crash beats on Christian for a bit before it's off to Hardcore again. Back to Crash who gets caught in the Killswitch for the pin. Christian tries a victory roll on Hardcore but he falls on top to get the pin on Christian for the win.

**Rating:** C+. The problem here was that the pairing that this should have been based around, Edge and Christian and the Hardys, were on the same team rather than getting to tear the house down against each other. The other two teams didn't mean anything and the ending of this sucked. Once the Dudleys got involved with the brotherly pairs, it was all gravy for almost two years.

Shane says that Vince is at the emergency room with Austin. Austin never

lost consciousness but is still undergoing tests. Shane says there will be a triple threat tonight, but Austin won't be in it. Test is there once again.

#### Tag Titles: New Age Outlaws vs. Mankind/Al Snow

The Outlaws are defending. Ross accuses Billy of being the driver but Lawler doesn't care at all. Mankind says Austin will get through this. Gunn and Mankind get things going with Billy getting two off a neckbreaker. We hit a sleeper like a minute in and then we look at the Head. JR and Jerry are arguing again as the guys in the ring go to the floor, making them guys no longer in the ring.

Dogg accidentally hits Billy in the face and it's off to Snow. JR talks about Snow having his action figure pulled off the shelves at Wal-Mart because some stupid professor said that having a severed head included in a toy would send the wrong message to her kids about violence to women. This is going to be a quick sidebar.

First and foremost, it's not a severed head. It's a mannequin head and simply LOOKING AT THE THING would tell you that. Second, if you're concerned about what kind of impression a toy would give to your kids, either A, don't buy it for them, or B, tell them why you don't like it. Heaven forbid you have to tell your kid he can't have something he wants because you deem it inappropriate. Third, and this is the part that I like best, Snow mentioned in a promo that clearly the stores care about their customers because they pulled the figure from the shelves, but the guns, bullets and knives are still on the shelves.

Anyway, now that the people who can't think before they run their mouths and have to decide how people should live their lives because apparently people aren't smart enough to make decisions for themselves are out of the way, let's get back to this dull match. Mankind pounds on Roadie in the corner and hits a running knee to the head. Snow pokes Road Dogg with a chair in the ribs which isn't a DQ for some reason. Neither is the shot to Dogg's back from Mankind.

Back inside, Mankind hooks a reverse chinlock followed by a lot of stomping in the corner from Al. Mankind gets two off a knee lift as things continue to go slowly. Snow hits his headbutts but Road Dogg fires off some lefts and a big right to take Snow down. Everything breaks down and the crowd is DEAD for this. They head to the floor with the Outlaws taking over.

Snow gets beaten on for awhile before clotheslining Dogg down and it's not hot tag to Mankind. Mankind pounds away for a bit but gets caught by the Fameasser for two. Snow hits the Snow Plow on Road Dogg and here's Socko. Both Outlaws get Clawed but they both hit Mankind low to escape. Snow hits Billy with Head to give Mankind a two count, followed quickly by the Outlaws hitting a spike piledriver on Mankind to retain.

**Rating:** D. This got better at the end but the twelve minutes before that were way too dull to be considered good. Mankind and Snow were there to fill in spots and while that's ok, it doesn't make for an interesting match. It didn't help that the crowd was deader than Billy Gunn's career for most of the match. Nothing to see here.

Since Vince is at the hospital, he won't be refereeing the main event tonight.

We see Austin get run down again.

#### WWF World Title: The Rock vs. HHH vs. ???

HHH is defending and this is one fall to a finish. The third man is....shockingly not Test but rather the Big Show. I mentioned Test over and over again tonight because every sign on the planet pointed to him being the guy but they went with Show instead. That's not to say this is a horrible idea or that it doesn't make sense because there were no clues or anything beforehand, but it was certainly a surprising pick.

Rock and HHH attack Show to start but to no avail. Show shoulder blocks them down but Rock breaks up a chokeslam on the champ. Rock and HHH team up to clothesline Show to the floor but Rock is quickly pulled outside. All three guys wind up on the floor with HHH getting dropped on the barricade. Back in and Show misses a splash in the corner and gets caught in a Russian legsweep for no cover. The People's Elbow gets one on Show as HHH saves. HHH chokes Rock in the corner but Show gets back up and side slams Rock for two. Show kicks HHH to the floor and knocks the champ up the aisle. The fans don't seem to be sure what to think of Show in this spot but they're not bored. Rock charges up the aisle to clothesline Show down before going after HHH again.

HHH gets knocked through a production table and Rock is in control. Scratch that theory as Show comes in and beats the tar out of HHH, only to have Rock hit Show with a fire extinguisher. Rock and HHH start heading back to the ring but HHH suplexes him in the aisle. Show is back because the guy can't be kept down. Show drops HHH on the announce table but Rock drills Show in the head with the bell. Rock and HHH hit a double suplex on Show through the table for the WHOA spot of the match.

Rock and HHH head into the crowd to brawl as this has been a wild fight for the majority of the match so far. Back to the ring and the referee gets clotheslined down by Rock by mistake. The Rock Bottom and Pedigree are both countered, the latter being countered into a catapult into the buckle. There's the Rock Bottom but there's no referee. Shane runs out in a referee's shirt to count two.

Another Rock Bottom hits but Show pulls Shane out of the ring. Rock goes after Show on the floor which goes quite well for the giant. Show puts him on the table and goes back into the ring to knock HHH down before going back to beat on Rock some more. Rock gets thrown into the steps and HHH has the belt, only for Shane to take it away. HHH Pedigrees Shane and they're all back inside again. Here's DX to go after Big Show and Rock but here's Vince as well. He knocks HHH out with the belt and a chokeslam makes Show champion.

**Rating:** C-. This didn't work that well for me at all. Show has no connection to the feud at all which hurts things a bit, but at the end of the day there was no real flow to the match at all. Show winning is a good pick as it gives some closure to the week for him where his dad died and all that, but his title reign wouldn't work all that well due to him mainly feuding with Big Boss Man. Still though, decent moment but a bad match.

Show celebrates to end the show.

**Overall Rating:** D+. This is a very back and forth show as the stuff that was interesting was interesting (although not necessarily good) and the stuff that was bad and dull was VERY bad and dull. This show is much more about setting things up for the future, which is ok, but it doesn't really do much for those of us watching this. Not really recommended, but there are some far worse shows out there.

#### Ratings Comparison

Team Godfather/D'Lo Brown vs. Team Dudley Boys Original: B-Redo: C Kurt Angle vs. Shawn Stasiak Original: C+ Redo: D+ Team Val Venis vs. Team British Bulldog Original: D+ Redo: D-Team Mae Young vs. Team Ivory Original: N/A Redo: N/A Kane vs. X-Pac Original: C+ Redo: C+ Big Show vs. Team Big Boss Man

Original: N/A Redo: N/A Chyna vs. Chris Jericho Original: B Redo: B Team Too Cool vs. Team Edge/Christian Original: B Redo: C+ New Age Outlaws vs. Al Snow/Mankind Original: D+ Redo: D Big Show vs. HHH vs. The Rock Original: C+ Redo: C-**Overall Rating** Original: B Redo: D+ I liked most of the matches better the first time and the overall rating was higher. Simple and easy, as usual. Here's the original review if you're interested: http://kbwrestlingreviews.com/2011/11/08/history-of-survivor-s eries-count-up-1999-a-lot-happens-here/

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# Wrestler of the Day December 19: Luna Vachon

Today we're looking at a non-traditional Diva: Luna Vachon.

Vachon, daughter of the legendary Butcher Vachon and niece of Mad Dog Vachon, got started in 1985, meaning we'll pick things up in 1986 at AWA Wrestlerock.

#### Women's Battle Royal

There are ten girls in this and only three mean anything: Sherri Martel, Luna Vachon (didn't mean anything yet) and Candi Divine, who was awful but was popular in the AWA. She's also Women's Champion here. I have no idea who most of these women are. They're blondes in spandex. Someone is thrown out and I can't hear Capetta, nor do I particularly care to know.

Trongard and Capetta keep calling Luna Leona by mistake. Or by lack of intelligence, I'm not sure which. Two more go out but they're not important enough to announce. Somehow we got down to six. Luna (NOT LEONA) is gone. I think a Greek chick powerbombs Divine but it's not important enough to talk about. The Greek chick is out and we're down to Martel, Debbie Combs, Candi Divine and some chick that Trongard doesn't

bother naming. Divine misses a charge and we're down to three. Her name is Joyce Grable. Ok then. Martel is knocked under the ropes, Combs throws out Grable and Martel sneaks in to steal the win.

**Rating**: F. I didn't know half of the names in this. That should tell you everything you need to know.

And another one at SuperClash III.

#### Lingerie Battle Royal

Pali the Syrian Terrorist, Luna Vachon, Nina, Pocahontas, Malibu, Brandi Mae, Laurie Lynn, Peggy Lee Leather, Bambi

This is a Beverly Hills Street Fight Battle Royal. You can win by over the top rope or ripping clothes off so it's more like a bra and panties battle royal. Other than Nina (Ivory) and Luna, none of these girls ever meant anything. This is a POWW match and David McLane is on commentary here and sounds so horny he makes Lawler sound like a nun. The winner gets ten grand as well. The girls start in regular clothes and are as gimmicked as you could imagine. In short, the girl named Leather wears leather etc.

What exactly do you want me to say here? It's a lingerie battle royal with a total of 2/9 girls being known names. Nina vs. the Terrorist is the main rivalry here. Lynn is out. Various amounts of clothes are torn off and this is really boring. Apparently this started with a pair of jeans being torn up. Pocahontas is gone.

Nina is also and we're down to five. This is awful by the way. A loud TAKE IT OFF chant starts up. Peggy and Bambi are out, leaving us with Brandi, Luna and the Terrorist. Luna takes a bump from the top (called the third rope by McLane) and we're down to the two that started this. After far too long, the Terrorist wins.

Rating: F. Just horrible here on all levels and an

embarrassment to say the least. McLane is considered scum in wrestling and I can't say I really disagree based on what I've seen from them. This was totally horrible and makes the Divas today look like Thesz vs. Gagne or something like that. Think about that for a minute.

After several years in the indies, various women's promotions and as a manager, Luna would appear in the WWF as Bam Bam Bigelow's girlfriend and sometimes tag partner, including here at Wrestlemania X.

#### Bam Bam Bigelow/Luna Vachon vs. Doink the Clown/Dink

Bigelow runs over Doink to start with a clothesline and a dropkick to silence the crowd. A headbutt misses though and the Clown pounds away a bit. Bigelow misses an elbow drop and it's off to Dink, meaning Luna has to come in as well. This is your usual "comedy" but Luna does hit a running hip attack in 619 position but Dink starts running around in circles. The small clown goes up top but misses a dive.

Vachon goes up but misses a BIG splash, allowing the big boys to come back in. Doink pounds away but is clotheslined to the floor with one shot. Dink annoys both heels but Doink comes back in, only to be sat on in a sunset flip attempt. A charges misses the big clown though and a jumping DDT puts Bigelow down. The Whoopee Cushion (top rope seated senton) completely misses and Dink is knocked to the floor. Doink tries a suplex but Bigelow falls on him for two. The top rope headbutt is enough to finish off the clowns.

**Rating:** D. This was bad but not completely terrible. Doink wasn't doing his stupid comedy and thankfully Bigelow didn't have to look all that stupid, which is the worst thing they could have done. The match wasn't much but to be fair they needed something to give the crowd a breather after the awesome opener. This wasn't horrible.

Luna wound up in WCW in 1997, setting up this match at Slamboree 1997.

#### Madusa vs. Luna Vachon

This is the fallout from last month. Luna is billed from the Other Side

of Darkness. Lee Marshall is brought in as a women's wrestling expert here. Luna takes her down to start and chokes a lot. Madusa tries to throw punches but gets beaten down again. Marshall talks about Martina Navartilova as Madusa kicks Luna's head off with a SWEET spin kick. Luna comes back with a stomach claw which that schnook Marshall calls scandalous. Madusa hits something like a Stinger Splash and screams a lot. Clothesline gets two. Luna manages a thumb in the eye, misses a top rope splash, and gets German suplexed for the pin.

**Rating:** D-. Nothing at all to see here as neither girl cared and none of the fans cared either. Bad match and there was nothing going on. The division didn't exist but we got this stuff every now and then so that WCW could claim they had women's wrestlers. Bad match but Madusa is kind of cute at times.

It was back to the WWF for Luna's longest in ring run, starting at Wrestlemania XIV.

#### The Artist Formerly Known As Goldust/Luna Vachon vs. Marc Mero/Sable

The guys start things off with Mero hitting a fast headscissors and a clothesline. Off to the women folk but Luna wants to fight Mero. She gets Sable instead and Luna runs away instead of fighting. We get a lap around the ring and the men come back in before we get any contact. Goldie gets backdropped by Mero and kicked in the ribs by Sable for good measure. Luna won't tag in so it's back to Mero so that the genitals match.

Mero pounds away on Goldust in the corner but gets clotheslined down to change control. A quick cross body gets two for Marc but Goldust hits an uppercut to put him right back down. The fans chant for Sable as the men collide. A double tag brings in the girls and Sable spears Luna down. She pounds away and kicks Luna in the corner before bealing her across the ring.

Sable pounds on Goldust as well but it's back to Mero who doesn't fare as well. With Sable trying to get back in, Mero hits Goldust low but can't hit the TKO. Instead Goldust counters into a DDT for two but he can't hook the Curtain Call. Mero hits a running knee lift and a moonsault press for two. Goldust goes up but gets crotched, setting up a top rope rana by Mero for two.

Marc threatens to hit Luna and ducks just in time to make the heels collide. The TKO on Goldust gets two more as Luna makes the save. Sable tags herself in and covers Goldust but has to avoid a splash from Luna. A Sable Bomb gets two on Luna and she's back up in seconds. Not that it matters as the TKO (it's a cutter out of a fireman's carry) from Sable ends Luna a few seconds later.

**Rating:** C. This was WAY better than I was expecting it to be. The saddest part of this match though was what happened after: in the back Sable had praise heaped onto her while Luna was basically ignored. Sable could barely do anything in the ring while Luna was a seasoned veteran who received no credit for her work with Sable. Only Owen Hart congratulated her on her success. That's rather sad when you think about it.

From eight days later on Raw, April 6, 1998.

#### Luna vs. Matt Knowles

Knowles is semi-famous for his time as HC Loc from the very old days of ROH. Goldust beats the tiny man up and Luna gets a top rope headbutt for the pin in like 30 seconds.

This set up the showdown with Sable at In Your House XXI.

#### Sable vs. Luna Vachon

This is the first evening gown match, meaning they start in gowns and the first to be stripped to their underwear loses. They walk around very slowly with both girls losing a sleeve each. Luna, an actual wrestler, drives in some shoulders in the corner before ripping off Sable's skirt. Lawler is thrilled and Sable charges at Luna to take over. Mero comes out to yell at Sable, allowing Luna to strip the rest of Sable's dress off for the win. There wasn't enough to rate here but this wasn't wrestling anyway.

Luna stuck around for once, including this match on Raw, August 10, 1998.

Luna vs. Jacqueline

Luna slams Jackie into the mat to start and Sable takes Mero down on the floor. Kurrgan glares Mero down when he comes after Sable and the match grinds to a halt. Jackie goes up top but gets crotched. A neckbreaker puts Jackie down and Luna goes up for a splash. Her hip kind of almost hits Jackie's face but it gets the pin anyway. What a mess.

Another Raw on January 11, 1999.

#### Gillberg vs. Luna Vachon

Gillberg misses a spear, gets his eyes raked across the top rope, has his Jackhammer countered into a cross body, and is pinned by Luna in about thirty seconds.

Here's another showdown with Sable at Royal Rumble 1999.

#### Women's Title: Luna Vachon vs. Sable

Scratch that ring announcer line as apparently he's here to accept Sable's forfeiture of the title. This was supposed to be a strap match which had a total of 18 seconds of build on Raw. That's not an exaggeration either. They came out during another match and that was the only mention. Luna attacked Sable on Heat before the show tonight and injured the champ's back, but Sable wants to fight anyway.

This is the four corners variety so Sable can look TOUGH here. Sable shoves her into the corner and whips Luna to the floor. She keeps whipping Luna and gets three corners but Luna makes the stop. We get more choking and whipping before Luna drags Sable around with both of them getting the buckles at the same time. You know, like in every other strap match EVER. Shane gets up on the apron before Sable gets the buckle, but Sable's psycho fan Tori uses the distraction to deck Luna, giving sable the win.

**Rating:** D. Sable was insanely over back in 98, but at this point it was starting to wear thin. I always felt sorry for Luna who never got to win the Women's Title. She really would have been a good choice for an evil chick for some blonde heroine to beat, but instead we got worthless lumps like Jackie. Nothing to see here but it could have been worse. We'll jump ahead to Unforgiven 1999.

#### Women's Title: Ivory vs. Luna Vachon

Ok then. They're in an office and fighting with a copier and phone. Ivory is champion here in case you were wondering. It's your standard match in this genre and is just various weapons shots and throwing people into things. Odd to see women doing it though. A splash onto some cardboard boxes as Luna channels her inner Foley. This is about as pointless as you could ask for. And here's Tori to save Luna for no apparent reason. Ivory hits Luna with a wooden pole for the pin. That was as pointless as I could have imagined.

Rating: N/A. Way too short here. This was like 3 minutes long and random as all goodness. That's a shame too as Luna could have had a decent match with someone like Ivory, who actually had some decent training and could work a match. That's one of Luna's biggest issues: she keeps getting stuck with these opponents that can't actually do anything but brawl, when Luna needed a regular worker.

Luna's next title shot was at Rebellion 1999.

#### Women's Title: Tori vs. Jacqueline vs. Luna Vachon vs. Ivory

Tori is the former lesbian stalker that is now just sexy as all goodness. Jackie is just annoying and no one cares about her. Ross is freaking over the Bulldog thing to further emphasize that he is a HEEL. Luna is a face. That's just odd. Wow this division is dying to have Trish and Lita show up, if nothing else for their looks. No tagging here. Please make it quick. Various people do various teams and no one cares.

The division was a bigger joke than it is today if you can believe that. Crowd is more or less dead here but not quite. The ECW Triple Sleeper is added to as it's a quadruple sleeper. This is just a series of really stupid looking spots in a row. And Ivory hits Jackie with a belt and wins it. Wow I really could not have cared less there. Ross says he didn't care because of Stephanie. Nice cover up there Jimbo.

**Rating**: F. These matches had a tendency to be awful. Awful sounds like a nice thing here as this was just annoying to have to sit through. Terrible match to say the least.

Time to continue the stupid at Survivor Series 1999.

### <u>Fabulous Moolah/Mae Young/Tori/Debra vs. Ivory/Luna Vachon/Terri</u> <u>Runnels/Jacqueline</u>

Thank goodness this isn't an elimination match. For some reason Moolah and Mae were wrestling in 99 with Moolah even winning the Women's Title at one point. Jerry's face when Debra comes out is hilarious. Ivory is Women's Champion at this point. Moolah jumps the champion in the aisle to start but gets shoved down for her efforts. We officially start with Tori vs. Jackie but Luna comes in for some double teaming.

Keep in mind that Tori is a wrestler in name only, Mae and Moolah combined to be over 150 years old, and Terri and Debra are there as eye candy. After less than two minutes, a double clothesline from the old chicks gives Moolah the pin on Ivory. This may have been the worst idea this side of the birth of a hand. This is what Raw is for people.

We'll wrap it up with an indy appearance at WWA Inception in 2001.

#### Luna Vachon vs. Vampire Warrior

This is a Black Wedding Match, which I think means hardcore but I have no idea for sure. Luna slaps him and Gangrel won't fight back because it's his wife. Gangrel finally kind of slams her down and we head outside. There's wedding themed stuff on the floor and Gangrel takes a cake to the face. Luna gets tongs and grabs Gangrel's balls with them. We get a pumpkin shot in and you can connect the dots on this one yourself I think. Luna throws down her wedding ring and spits at him, earning her an inverted DDT for the pin. Nothing here at all but ANOTHER comedy match.

As is often the case, looking back at Luna's career makes me feel sorry for her. She was a very talented worker but she kept getting stuck putting over the latest blonde of the month. Luna would have thrived in a modern promotion like TNA where they would let her brawl no matter how she looked. Imagine her against the Beautiful People and just destroying them one by one. Think that might work? Vachon was very talented but unfortunately no one took advantage of it.

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# Wrestler of the Day November 6: Ivory

Today is a woman who doesn't fit the traditional Diva mold: Ivory.

Ivory got started in the totally campy GLOW promotion in the mid 80s and was one of the few women to stay in the business after it closed. Here she is at AWA SuperClash III.

#### Lingerie Battle Royal

Pali the Syrian Terrorist, Luna Vachon, Nina, Pocahontas, Malibu, Brandi Mae, Laurie Lynn, Peggy Lee Leather, Bambi This is a Beverly Hills Street Fight Battle Royal. You can win by over the top rope or ripping clothes off so it's more like a bra and panties battle royal. Other than Nina (Ivory) and Luna, none of these girls ever meant anything. This is a POWW match and David McLane is on commentary here and sounds so horny he makes Lawler sound like a nun. The winner gets ten grand also. The girls start in regular clothes and are as gimmicked as you could imagine. In short, the girl named Leather wears leather etc.

What exactly do you want me to say here? It's a lingerie battle royal with a total of 2/9 girls being known names. Nina vs. the Terrorist is the main rivalry here. Lynn is out. Various amounts of clothes are torn off and this is really boring. Apparently this started with a pair of jeans being torn up. Pocahontas is gone.

Nina is also and we're down to five. This is awful by the way. A loud TAKE IT OFF chant starts up. Peggy and Bambi are out, leaving us with Brandi, Luna and the Terrorist. Luna takes a bump from the top (called the third rope by McLane) and we're down to the two that started this. After far too long, the Terrorist wins.

**Rating**: F. Just horrible here on all levels and an embarrassment to say the least. McLane is considered scum in wrestling and I can't say I really disagree based on what I've seen from them. This was totally horrible and makes the Divas today look like Thesz vs. Gagne or something like that. Think about that for a minute.

We'll jump WAY ahead now as there isn't much to see until 1994 when Ivory took a few years off from wrestling. Here's one of her first matches back, from Raw on March 22, 1999.

#### Sable vs. Ivory

Non-title. Ivory's friend D'Lo Brown jumps in on commentary. Sable wants to stretch before we get going and we hear about Hardcore Holly vs. Al

Snow vs. Billy Gunn at Mania. Cue PMS as Sable hits a horrible kick to Ivory's ribs. Terri and Jackie yell at D'Lo and Ivory gets a pair of near falls. Jackie trips Ivory and Sable wins with the powerbomb. This was nothing, again.

Ivory would become the focus of the division by winning the title later in the year. Here she is defending it at Summerslam 1999.

#### Women's Title: Ivory vs. Tori

Ivory is defending and Tori is just horrible for the most part. Ivory painted the word sl\*\* on Tori a few weeks ago to set this up. Tori charges in and hits a powerslam for two and it's time for a breather. The crowd is already dead for this and a back elbow gets two for the champion. Tori hits a pair of suplexes and some lame kicks for two. Ivory is loudly calling spots to keep Tori from screwing everything up. The fans chant TAKE IT OFF as Ivory hooks a big swing. Tori comes back with a horrible spear and a middle rope cross body for two. They horribly botch a sunset flip so they do it again with Ivory sitting on Tori for the pin.

**Rating:** F+. Tori looked good in a bra and tight pants and that's about it. Seriously, she was TERRIBLE and makes the modern Divas look like ring generals. Ivory was trying out there but she was hardly a miracle worker. Trish would debut soon but wouldn't get good for about four more years.

Ok so maybe the good is still coming. Here's another defense at Unforgiven 1999.

#### Women's Title: Ivory vs. Luna Vachon

Ok then. They're in an office and fighting with a copier and phone. Ivory is champion here in case you were wondering. It's your standard match in this genre and is just various weapons shots and throwing people into things. Odd to see women doing it though. A splash onto some cardboard boxes as Luna channels her inner Foley. This is about as pointless as you could ask for. And here's Tori to save Luna for no apparent reason. Ivory hits Luna with a wooden pole for the pin. That was as pointless as I could have imagined. **Rating:** N/A. Way too short here. This was like 3 minutes long and random as all goodness. Yeah that's all I've got.

Another defense at Rebellion 1999.

Women's Title: Tori vs. Jacqueline vs. Luna Vachon vs. Ivory

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**Rating:** F. These matches had a tendency to be awful. Awful sounds like a nice thing here as this was just annoying to have to sit through. Terrible match to say the least as the division just doesn't have enough talent to work well yet. Trish and Lita will show up to save things eventually but until then we're stuck with this.

Then this happened at No Mercy 1999.

#### Women's Title: Fabulous Moolah vs. Ivory

Mae is with her of course. This was when the women's division was about as boring as you could possibly imaging so this very well may have been the best they could think of. Ivory has a nice figure if nothing else. Dang that's something I didn't notice before. Ok I have a reason to pay attention now. Seriously though, this is ok? No one sees anything wrong with this at all?

Having a woman who was in her 20s in World War II being in a wrestling match in 1999 is fine now? Mae breaks up a pin and Moolah gets thrown to the floor. Ok this is officially stupid. Mae gets knocked to the floor. I don't care if they say they can do this. It's not something you should allow them to do. If you're Vince you say no to them.

That's all there is to it. I mean Moolah is taking bumps out there. This is ridiculous. And now Mae takes a belt shot to the head and falls from the apron to the floor. Moolah wins the title on a horrible looking rollup. This is idiotic and thankfully it's over. She would lose the title 8 days later to Ivory, making this totally pointless.

**Rating**: F. No. This is not acceptable. This is nothing but irresponsible. I don't care if they're ok with it or anything like that. Vince, you should never have let them in the ring no matter what. This is ridiculous and not right on any level. I hate stuff like this as it's dangerous and not needed. Don't have a title match or whatever, but do not do this ever.

From Raw on December 27, 1999.

### <u>Ivory/Prince Albert vs. The Kat/Val Venis vs. Gangrel/Luna vs.</u> <u>Jacqueline/Viscera</u>

Kat is Women's Champion. Why this match exists is beyond me. Val and Albert start this off. Val gets caught in a chokebomb and a slam. He tags in....Luna? Albert runs over her so she hits him low and brings in Val to face Viscera. Gangrel comes in illegally and takes a spinebuster. There's the Money Shot but Teddy Long (referee) says that's not the right referee. Bicycle kick from Albert pins Val quickly. What a mess.

We'll jump ahead to Survivor Series 2000 as the division is actually getting better. Ivory is now part of the Right to Censor, a censorship group, meaning she actually has a character.

#### Women's Title: Ivory vs. Lita

Ivory is in the RTC and is defending here. Lita goes straight at her and the fight is on fast. A quick hiptoss puts Ivory down as does an enziguri. Ivory comes back with a clothesline as Jerry panics over seeing Lita's thong. Ivory hits a right hand and HOLY SWEET GOODNESS is Lita bleeding from it! I mean she is GUSHING. During the replay of it, Lita botches a rana and drives Ivory's head into the mat. I'm not sure which of those hurt worse.

Steven Richards comes out so Lita throws Ivory to the floor and hits a big dive to take both of them out. A cross body gets two for Lita but the moonsault misses thanks to Steven. Ivory misses a belt shot and gets suplexed down. Lita takes her own top off but the moonsault hits knees. Apparently Ivory pulled the belt up and knocked Lita out with it to retain.

**Rating:** D. This was like any Raw match you would have ever seen. That's the theme for this show so far: most of the matches are nothing special and could have been on most TV shows. Lita looked out of it in there, which says a lot for her as she got WAY better in a few years, as did Trish. Nothing to see here. Ivory would start feuding with Chyna very soon.

Here's the first major match with Chyna at Royal Rumble 2001.

#### Women's Title: Chyna vs. Ivory

Ivory is defending here. Chyna immediately runs her over with a pair of clotheslines and a toss around by the hair. Stomping ensues and Chyna knocks her out to the floor. They head into the crowd so Chyna gorilla presses her right back to ringside. Back in and Steven Richards gets beaten up as well. In an ending to set up Wrestlemania, Chyna tries the Muta Handspring Elbow but hurts her neck (on the softest bump in the corner you'll see in years) and Ivory gets the pin to retain.

**Rating:** D. Ivory was squashed until the end when she won off an injury. What are you expecting from a match like this? This was designed to get more attention on Chyna because no female could conceivably beat her, so making her Women's Champion for her Playboy hype wouldn't do much good. Nothing to see here at all unless you're a fan of Chyna in leather.

And the blowoff at Wrestlemania X7.

#### Women's Title: Chyna vs. Ivory

For one of the only times ever, Chyna looks great here. Ivory holds the belt to her face before the bell, but the referee is shoved away to let Ivory hit Chyna in the back with said title. Ivory gets in a few more shots but Chyna catches a boot in the corner. The destruction begins and Ivory is beaten down in the corner. A powerbomb kills Ivory dead but Chyna pulls her up at two. Instead it's a gorilla press slam for the pin and the title. Chyna would bail on the company about a month later without ever losing the title.

We'll jump ahead to Raw on September 3, 2001 for a mixed tag.

#### Matt Hardy/Lita vs. Ivory/Hurricane

The guys start things off and Matt is so fired up that he gets put in position for a superplex. The fans chant for Hurricane as Ivory raises the roof. Men vs. women is cool here. Off to Lita who hits her headscissors but walks into a facejam for two. Off to the men and Matt can't fire the crowd up at all. Ivory gets speared down but Saturn comes down to break up the middle rope legdrop. Eye of the Hurricane gets the quick pin. This was worthless.

To Survivor Series 2001 to deal with Chyna bailing on the company.

## <u>Women's Title: Trish Stratus vs. Ivory vs. Lita vs. Mighty Molly vs.</u> <u>Jacqueline vs. Jazz</u>

Chyna relinquished the title earlier in the year without being pinned and then disappeared so this is the best we've got to pick from for the new champion. This is Jazz's debut and NO ONE CARES. Why does no one care? Because Jazz meant nothing in ECW and was a face there but is a heel here. Jazz and Lita start things off with Jazz pounding away. Off to Jackie vs. Molly off some blind tags and somehow even fewer people care about Jackie. Jackie dropkicks Molly down and it's off to Ivory who gets caught in a sunset flip for two. This is one fall to a finish. Ivory slingshots Jackie into the ropes and it's off to Trish who is looking very good in those little pink shorts of hers. Lita gets knocked to the floor and the three Alliance chicks (Ivory, Jazz, Molly) triple team Trish for a bit. Jackie double crosses Lita on Poetry in Motion and everyone hits their finishers on everyone else. The Litasault gets two on Ivory as Jazz saves. Lita gets backdropped to the floor and it's Ivory vs. Trish left. Stratusfaction gives Trish I believe her first title.

**Rating:** D. It was short, the match wasn't any good, Trish looked great in the skin tight barely there pink shorts, Lita looked good as usual, and that's all I've got here. As usual with situations like this, when the previous champion doesn't lose the title, the new champion comes in at a big disadvantage.

Ivory's appearances would become far less frequent so we'll jump ahead to one of her last matches at Armageddon 2003.

#### Raw Women's Title: Molly Holly vs. Ivory

This is a bonus match. Molly is champion and there's no story to this whatsoever. The thing with Molly at this point is she's a virgin and she's frustrated all the time. From what I remember she was a virgin until she was married in real life. That's rather cool. Molly is sent to the floor as no one cares about this at all. Ivory hits a flip off the apron to take Molly down again.

Back inside as there's nothing going on here at all. You can tell this is the food break match before the main event and that's fine. You have to have one of those I guess. Armbar goes on by Molly as we talk about anything but this match. JR apologizes for having nothing to say because he doesn't have any notes for it. Molly hits a Muta elbow for two. Ivory gets a rollup which is reversed into one by Molly for the pin.

**Rating**: D+. Just a match really here. Was there going to be anything of note here at all expected? It's just a bonus match

so it's not like you can really complain here. Neither of these chicks would wind up doing anything else in the division for more or less the rest of time, so there you are.

Ivory was talented but spent most of her run in a dead period for women's wrestling. At the end of the day, there's only so much you can do with the girls that she had to work with but Ivory gave it a solid effort. She would have fit in just fine in the upcoming glory days of the division a few years later but she just came along at the wrong time.

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