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Hall of Fame



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Join Date: Jul 2005 Location: Brisbane, Australia

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"Montreal Aftermath" Version 2.1 Start Date: December 1, 1997



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- * A number of contracts were deleted from WWF & WCW. The reason was either the worker wasn't working consistently enough to warrant an add or weren't important enough overall in consideration of the roster positions. Most contracts were taken from WCW guys, the roster at the time was overloaded with talent. I wanted to ensure when you start the game rosters would be as accurate to the time as possible. With the changes for example, in WCW Scott Steiner is an UM instead of ME and in WWF The Rock is UM instead of ME. Both guys were right on the brink of stepping up to the main event but I wanted the player as a booker to make that happen.
- * For players who want to add those guys contracts anyway the list is as follows... (Please note doing this will throw the starting roster positions a little out of whack)

WCW contracts deleted: Super Calo, Silver King, El Dandy, Yuji Nagata (Signed back to NJPW), Norman Smiley, High Voltage (NJPW).

WWF Contracts deleted: Jose Estrada Jr. Jesus Castillo.

* The second day releases of some managers are unavoidable. I left them on the rosters so if you decide to play as either of those promotions you will have them on your starting roster.

The Story So Far.....

North America

In late 1993, former commentator of the AWA and long time WCW employee, Eric Bischoff was appointed as Executive Vice President of WCW. Bischoff was desperate to give the promotion a new direction and impressed Ted Turner with his tactics and business savvy. Things in professional wrestling were about to change forever.

When Bischoff entered his position in WCW, he was given full access to Ted Turner's check book to try and defeat the WWF by any means necessary. With that in mind, Bischoff made his first move and signed Hulk Hogan from the WWF in early 1994. The WWF, without their biggest draw of the last 10 years on the roster, began to suffer immediately and started building new stars out of the likes of Bret Hart, Shawn Michaels, Lex Luger, Razor Ramon and Diesel. Despite putting on a spectacular wrestling performance at WrestleMania X, the WWF still could not draw the desired fans. On June 11, Hogan officially signed with WCW and made an immediate impact by facing Ric Flair at the July pay-per-view Bash at the Beach. Despite being a critical and financial success, the glory would not last long as the Hogan/Flair feud was only a one-off match. Five months later and after a decade with the WWF, Randy Savage was lured with a big money contract to WCW as well.

Away from the war between the WWF and WCW, a new breed of professional wrestling was beginning. NWA Eastern Championship Wrestling renamed itself "Extreme Championship Wrestling" when Shane Douglas won the NWA World Heavyweight Championship tournament in Philadelphia. He threw down the NWA World Title, picked up the ECW Heavyweight championship and proclaimed himself ECW World Heavyweight Champion. WCW also began to sign talented wrestlers based in ECW. Chris Benoit, Dean Malenko, Rey Misterio, Jr. and Juventud Guerrera were just a few of the names to be recruited from the much smaller, lower budget ECW to the growing promotion known as WCW.

Most of the talents signed had been scouted by ECW, more directly Paul Heyman.

The war between WCW and WWF really picked up on May 27, 1996 when Scott Hall (who had previously been Razor Ramon in the WWF) interrupted a match and said he was taking over the show. When confronted by Sting by the end of the show, Hall promised a big surprise. The following week, Kevin Nash (who had been Diesel in the WWF) also showed up. They claimed they had a third man with them, but the man didn't show up for several weeks. Finally at Bash at the Beach on July 7, the third man was revealed to be Hulk Hogan, who turned heel and declared in his postmatch speech that he, Hall and Nash were "the new world order of professional wrestling." WCW proved to be the figurehead of professional wrestling by this stage and the WWF were no longer the most popular wrestling product in North America for the first time in over 15 years.

The New World Order (shortened to nWo) has run amuck in WCW and destroyed McMahon's product as WCW has

came up with more legitimate, edgy storylines and characters over the WWF's cartoon style of character. With Hogan winning the WCW World Heavyweight Championship from The Giant at Hog Wild with help from Nash and Hall. The Giant joined the group weeks later and the nWo proved to be the most powerful faction in professional wrestling.

Montreal Screwjob

After months of WCW gaining plentiful power over the WWF thanks to its highly successful New World Order storyline, it became evident that after years of service to the WWF, Bret Hart was leaving for WCW. There was only one thing standing between Hart and his new found home; the WWF Championship. Hart, along with Shawn Michaels and The Undertaker had been the stronghold of the WWF throughout the nWo storyline and Hart had the title for a solid period of time. Amidst all the drama, McMahon requested that Hart drop the title at Survivor Series against Shawn Michaels.

Hart said he'd drop the title to anyone but Shawn Michaels; otherwise he would vacate the title the next night on RAW. McMahon accepted his decision and allowed Hart to continue on his way to Survivor Series. What was brewing in professional wrestling was something nobody except McMahon and a few associates knew.

The match went ahead as planned and showed yet another display of technical brilliance from both competitors. However, as Michaels locked in the Sharpshooter to finish the match, McMahon told referee Earl Hebner (who was supposedly in on the act) to "ring the damn bell!" Hebner then signaled to the timekeeper as if Hart had submitted to the hold, and Michaels was quickly awarded the match and the title as his theme music began to play. Hebner then bolted backstage from the ring, allegedly to a waiting car.

Astounded by the unexpected turn of events, Hart was immediately outraged. As Hart stood dazed in the ring, Triple H and Gerald Brisco came out to escort Michaels back stage as the fans threw garbage at him and rained boos. Michaels himself was told to act even more outraged than Hart because if he didn't, they feared, due to his bad temper, that Hart would attack and pummel him for real (as he had tried to do, but was unsuccessful at several months earlier backstage at a RAW taping). As ringside commentators Jim Ross and Jerry Lawler quickly departed their announce position, Hart looked down at McMahon from the ring, spit right in his eye, and shortly after destroyed several TV monitors at ringside before climbing the turnbuckles and signing the letters "WCW" to the rabid crowd.

With Bret Hart's move to WCW, it appears WCW is prime to push the WWF right off the map.



In North Korea, approximately 150,000 attend a New Japan Pro Wrestling event, setting an attendance record for one day as nearly 190,000 fans attend the second day of wrestling at the Korean cultural festival on April 28 and 29, 1995. New Japan has taken the lead over old rival promotion AJPW with the defection of top stars like Riki Choshu and a handful of crossover MMA stars. While the wrestling in the Orient has been first class the area has suffered of late due to a financial collapse in the region. With new promotions looking to start up and bring diversity to the stiff style in Japan the future looks exciting for the home of puro.

<u>Mexico</u>

The late 90's have witnessed Mexico robbed of it's greatest lucha's to the lure of North American money. As WCW and WWF sign hot prospect after prospect, Mexico's two biggest mainstay promotion's CMLL and AAA watch as their rosters are stripped almost bare. The departure of the countries biggest stars to the US has seen a big downturn in the industry and has the top two promotions searching for the next generation of stars.



The United Kingdom continues to serve as a huge fan base for professional wrestling but local promotions still struggle with stability. With the introduction of the Monday night wars to UK fans TV screens the industry continues to be hugely popular. Fans of the early 80's product are also coming of age and a few even stepping into the ring themselves creating a new crop of UK workers that many are calling the greatest generation out of the UK for decades.



Professional wrestling has always had a solid vocal fan base in Europe although it remains a fairly small one. Recent changes in Eastern Europe and an ever growing strong economy has seen the sport gain momentum. The Catch Wrestling Association, based in Germany and established by Otto Wanz continues to draw decent crowds using former US stars and local talent although with the rapid change pro wrestling is undertaking in the US product wise, it's uncertain how long the CWA will remain relevant.

<u>Australia</u>

It's glory years long gone Australian wrestling has returned with a massive bang in the late 90's. Coinciding with the introduction of cable TV in the country the Monday Night Wars have drawn Aussie wrestling fans back to the sport in droves.

With WWF's RAW and WCW Nitro already two of the highest rated shows on cable many local promoters and businessmen are looking to capitilise on it's success.

Feedback is welcome but please remember stats are subjective. If you have a suggestion for a stat change please provide some specifics and examples. Enjoy \bigcirc

Last edited by Genadi: 10-11-2013 at 01:40 AM.



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