

Today in Wrestling History for June 16

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A sampling of what has taken place on this day in WWE and WCW history.

1964: World Champion Bruno Sammartino beat Lou Albano in Bridgeport, CT.

1966: Sammartino fought Baron Mikel Scicluna to a draw during a TV taping at Washington DC's National Arena.

1971: World Champion Pedro Morales beat the Black Demon in Cranston, RI.

1972: Chief Jay Strongbow & Arnold Skaaland defeated Prof. Toru Tanaka & Jimmy Valiant in a Best 2 out of 3 falls match in Harrisburg, PA. Gorilla Monsoon was to have been Strongbow's partner but his car broke down on his way to the show. The same day in North Attleboro, MA, World Champion Morales beat Scicluna.

1975: World Champion Sammartino pinned Waldo Von Erich at Madison Square Garden.

1977: World Champion Superstar Billy Graham beat Bob (Sgt.) Slaughter in Kansas City.

1978: Graham beat World Champion Bob Backlund via referee's decision in Pittsburgh when Backlund was deemed too bloody to continue after his head was rammed into the ringpost.

1979: North American Champion Ted Dibiase fought Johnny Valiant to a draw at the Nassau Coliseum while Sammartino beat Jerry Valiant. The same day in White Plains, NY, World Champion Backlund beat Greg Valentine.

1980: Larry Zbyszko beat World Champion Backlund at Madison Square Garden when the match was stopped due to blood.

1984: World Champion Hulk Hogan beat Big John Studd via count-out in Hollywood, FL. The same day, Sgt. Slaughter beat the Iron Sheik in a bootcamp match at Madison Square Garden

1987: Randy Savage pinned Ricky Steamboat in Albuquerque, NM. Also on the card, Bruno Sammartino stood in for Jake Roberts, but had Roberts in his corner, against IC Champion the Honkytonk Man. Honky eventually walked out of the match after Roberts took out Damien.

1988: In the NWA, the Road Warriors beat TV Champion Mike Rotundo & Rick Steiner in Harrisonburg, VA.

1989: In the NWA, Rick Steiner pinned Kevin Sullivan in a taped fist match in Johnstown, PA while US Champion Lex Luger pinned Ricky Steamboat in Cleveland, OH. In the WWF, Hillbilly Jim & King Jim Duggan beat Andre the Giant & Haku in Springfield, MA, the Ultimate Warrior beat IC Champion Rick Rude via count-out in Lafayette, LA, and World Champion Hulk Hogan beat Randy Savage in Los Angeles.

1990: In the NWA, US Champion Lex Luger & the Junkyard Dog beat World Champion Ric Flair & Barry Windham in Augusta, GA. In the WWF, Dusty Rhodes & Sapphire (w/ Miss Elizabeth) beat Randy Savage & Sensational Sherri (w/ Brother Love) in Moncton, New Brunswick and World Champion the Ultimate Warrior beat Rude in Richfield, OH.

1991: Earthquake defeated Jake Roberts via DQ in Oakland while World Champion Hulk Hogan beat Sgt. Slaughter in a Desert Storm match in Los Angeles.

1992: WCW ran its only pre-taped Clash of the Champions, from Charleston, SC. The show was built around the NWA Tag Team Championship Tournament, with debut appearances from Chris Benoit and Dean Malenko, and featured Steve Williams & Terry Gordy upsetting WCW Tag Team Champions Rick & Scott Steiner in the quarter-finals.

1993: Ted Dibiase & IRS regained the tag team titles from the Steiners in Rockford, IL. In Canton, OH, Lex Luger beat Bret Hart.

1995: The Undertaker beat Kama in Berlin, Germany while Bam Bam Bigelow beat Psycho Sid in a steel cage match in Sacramento, CA.

1996: The Great American Bash was held in Baltimore, MD. Highlights saw the WCW debut of Rey Mysterio Jr., Chris Benoit and Kevin Sullivan's falls count anywhere match, Scott Hall and Kevin Nash attacking Eric Bischoff, Steve McMichael joining the Horsemen, and World Champion the Giant beating TV Champion Lex Luger. In the WWF, World Champion Shawn Michaels beat IC Champion Goldust in St. Louis.

1998: A Raw taping in Austin, TX saw Ken Shamrock, Jeff Jarrett, Dan Savern, and IC Champion the Rock advance to the semi-finals of the King of the Ring tournament by defeating Mark Henry, Marc Mero, Owen Hart, and European Champion Triple H, respectively.

2000: Tag Team Champions Too Cool beat Edge & Christian during a joint WWF / IWA card in Puerto Rico.

2001: World Champion Steve Austin pinned Tag Team Champion Chris Jericho in a steel cage match at Toronto's Skydome after William Regal interfered and slammed the cage door into Jericho's head.

2002: Triple H pinned Jericho in a steel cage match in Anaheim, CA, despite interference from Tag Team Champions Billy Gunn & Chuck Palumbo, while World Champion the Undertaker defeated IC Champion Rob Van Dam in Bakersfield, CA.

2003: In one of his first matches back after neck surgery, Kurt Angle teamed with World Champion Brock Lesnar and the Undertaker to beat FBI members Nunzio, Johnny Stamboli, & Chuck Palumbo in Corpus Christi, TX. On Raw the same day in Dallas, Bill Goldberg & Booker T beat Chris Jericho & IC Champion Christian.

2005: Former AWA and WWF commentator Rod Trongard passed away at the age of 71. In Glasgow, World Champion John Cena beat Kurt Angle and John Bradshaw Layfield by pinning JBL.

2006: Triple H & Shawn Michaels, as a reunited DX, beat the Spirit Squad in Hartford, CT.

2007: World Champion John Cena beat Randy Orton in Knoxville, TN while Batista beat World Heavyweight Champion Edge via DQ in Dothan, AL.

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