

FRIDAY UPDATE: MISAWA FUNERAL; UFC COUNTDOWN AND ACTIVITIES; BEST PRO WRESTLER IN US; JERICHO, ROCK

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We're looking for reports on the WWE Smackdown crew shows last night in Palm Springs and tonight in San Diego (Punk vs. Mystery for the title) and the Raw crew tonight in Auckland, New Zealand (HHH & John Cena vs. Big Show & Randy Orton) at dave@wrestlingobserver.com

Smackdown has a travel day tomorrow for the 4th, runs in Honolulu on Sunday, and then runs Tuesday and Wednesday at Budokan Hall in Tokyo. Advances for the Japanese shows are weak. People are going to get really mad about this one, but what I was told is that aside from wrestling being cold, they are running at the same time that Simon & Garfunkel are in Japan and they are 100 times bigger than WWE in Japan, with multiple Tokyo Dome dates and a Budokan Hall date, as well as a Nagoya Dome date in their coming out of retirement tour.

We're also looking for reports on Saturday night's Raw show in Sydney, Australia, Sunday in Brisbane, Monday in Adelaide, Tuesday in Melbourne and Wednesday in Perth.

Tonight's Smackdown lineup:

- *Fit Finlay vs. Ricky Ortiz
- *R-Truth vs. Dolph Ziggler
- *Rey Mysterio vs. Kane
- *Cryme Tyme vs. David Hart Smith & Tyson Kidd
- *Maria & Melina vs. Michelle McCool & Layla
- *Jeff Hardy & C.M. Punk vs. Edge & Chris Jericho in a non-title match

TNA and ROH are both off this weekend. There are no WWE TV tapings this week because everything is taped a week ahead so the creative team and production team gets to rest while the wrestlers go overseas.

Our lead story in Monday's issue of the Observer looks at the WWE mid-card shakeup, plans for the next WWE PPV, next week's Raw TV show, a look at the newcomers to WWE and how they are being viewed right now, as well as coverage of The Bash, with poll results, match-by-match coverage and star ratings.

We also have a look at changes in UFC policy that has made a lot of people unhappy and looks to cut into the income of fighters as well as the latest shot fired in the video game wars.

We've got a ton of stuff from the Raw tapings, including how the crowd was different, the reactions to different wrestlers, and where the angles are going.

We also have an updated look at Bobby Lashley, his fight with Bob Sapp, as well as the Ultimate Chaos PPV show.

The issue is available today for subscribers to the web site.

The Wrestling Observer ranges from 25,000 to 40,000 words covering pro wrestling and MMA all over the world.

Each issue has coverage and analysis of all the major news, plus every issue breaks major news stories before the Internet sites and has the most complete look at the business as a whole anywhere.

The Observer is now in its 27th year of being the leading insider pro wrestling publication in the world. The biggest and most influential names in the pro wrestling industry as well as the MMA industry, from bookers, to promoters to Hall of Fame wrestlers and fighters to the biggest current names, both on camera, and behind the scenes, along with thousands of readers in all 50 states and 30 countries subscribe. Many have subscribed as long as 20 years or more straight. They get the most detailed and inside coverage of what is going on all over the world and an accuracy from having the most inside sources that can't be found on the web. Everyone from Wall Street to the major offices to the TV networks in U.S. and Japan turn to the Observer for what is going on in the business. If you are a new subscriber ordering 24 or more issues, you can get one free classic issue of your choice sent to you today. With a 40 issue subscription, you can get two free classic issues sent to you today. Just send your Visa or Master Card order with your name, address, phone number, Visa or Master Card number and an expiration date to dave@wrestlingobserver.com or you can order by faxing that information to 408-244-3402. You can also subscribe via paypal at www.paypal.com and using the dave@wrestlingobserver.com address or subscribe via check, cash or money order, as well as credit card, by mail, by sending to Wrestling Observer Newsletter, P.O. Box 1228, Campbell, CA 95009-1228.

We look at the match Lashley had to turn down scheduled for this summer with another former major pro wrestling star,

Lashley's promo ability, Lashley's goals for the next year, as well as Tom Atencio's fighting and talking.

We also have a feature updating Lee Murray, as well as a detailed look at The Ultimate Fighter reality show, who watches the show, and how the audience has changed in every major demo since season one. We look at the TUF season and does that make it easier to sell PPV shows, paradoxes about the rating and who watches, as well as how rival coaches fighting on PPV after the season is helped by the show.

We've got an update on the condition of Gerald Brisco, more on Lilian Garcia leaving WWE and possible replacements, first word on Wrestlemania tickets and scalping, PPVs being dropped, TV show changes

We've also got a detailed look at the ratings, including segment-by-segment on Impact and Raw and lots more on the biggest Raw number in years. We also look at how USA's quarter was affected by the big Raw number, as well as an updated look at DVR's and their effect on ratings. We also look at how each segment on the commercial-free Raw did, including a few surprises as far as what was the highest rated segment, and what key segment actually lost viewership.

We also have our regular weekly features including results of the major league arena shows held around the world, as well as the major TV show reviews.

Also in this week's issue:

- What WWE wrestler named his son after what MMA champion
- Edge on ladder matches
- Discussion of drug testing, Jeff Hardy and Umaga
- Who HHH pushed as the company's best new stars
- Why Smackdown is so much better than Raw
- WWE vs. UFC on the web, where each one has the advantage over the other
- Several new WWE signings
- New WWE international tours
- New PPV names being discussed
- Best selling MMA and wrestling DVDs
- Developmental notes
- WWE house show note
- Wrestlers brought back to arena they headlined 50 years ago this week
- Former WWE developmental wrestlers heading to Mexico
- AAA video game news
- Update on a major show with both current WWE and TNA stars on the same show, as well as two recently fired WWE stars on the show
- Update on debut of Dragon Gate in Philadelphia
- Hall of Famer says he will retire in a few weeks
- NOAH business post-Misawa
- Hall of Famer with 25th anniversary show coming soon
- TNA stars headline next New Japan show
- Affliction star doing major pro wrestling show a week after the next card

- How networks carrying MMA and pro wrestling are doing
- Famous wrestling arena about to be torn down
- Former Stampede wrestlers pass away
- Former wrestler and MMA fighter sentenced to life in prison
- Update on Brian Lawler
- Former wrestling headliner going on tour with the circus
- Wrestlers invited to the White House
- ECW nostalgia show notes
- 24 man tournament coming
- Father of pop star fights pro wrestler turned gimmick celebrity
- Indie wrestler on VH-1 reality show
- ROH weekend notes
- TNA Victory "Road lineup
- Update on TNA video game license
- Update on Raven and Shane Douglas
- 80s star now on TNA TV
- New TNA signing this past week
- Notes on upcoming TNA TV shows
- UFC 99 early buy rate trending patterns
- Live business for the last UFC show
- UFC stars nominated for major sports awards
- Lineup for next WEC show as well as 8/29 UFC show
- Notes on first issue of UFC magazine
- Update on business of WWE magazine
- Magazine listing of best UFC matches in history
- How UFC's magazine list differs from the list UFC gave Spike and who is obviously excluded
- Top UFC star sued over auto accident
- Update on Indiana regulating MMA
- Guida vs. Sanchez thoughts
- What happened with Limp Bizkit and UFC 100
- New title match signed
- More on rating for Joe Rogan special
- A few UFC cuts including a popular fighter

- Update on Jens Pulver
- Bas Rutten rips on Kimbo
- Lots of new UFC fights signed
- Update on CBS and MMA
- Strikeforce schedule for the rest of the year
- Boxing vs. MMA head-to-head on PPV
- ESPN looking at giving MMA more visibility
- Japanese MMA star sentenced to prison time
- Tito Ortiz talks his future
- College wrestling legend gets outwrestled and loses in UFC fight

New subscribers ordering 24 or 40 issues have to let us know what major story (ies) of the past 11 years you are most interested in and we'll send the issue with the best coverage of that story. We've got coverage of every major PPV event and world wide spectacular, every major star switching promotions, histories of companies like FMW, Rings and New Japan, retirement and obit issues of every major star who fits into those descriptions over the past 11 years, as well as our biggest issue every year, the annual awards issue, and our most controversial issue of every year, the Hall of Fame issue. Our most requested issues in our history are:

- *November 17, 1997 (full details of everything leading to the most famous wrestling match finish of modern times at the Survivor Series plus a history of in-ring double-crosses)
- *December 21, 1998 (the complete Vince McMahon-Bret Hart conversation right before the Survivor Series match so you'll know exactly what was said--the conversation played in edited form both on the inaugural broadcast of Confidential as well as in Wrestling with Shadows, but everything that was said between the two about the match that was going to take place that same night)
- *August 1, 1994 (the most detailed coverage anywhere of the Vince McMahon steroid trial, an issue praised in numerous newspaper article and Sex, Lies and Headlocks)
- *March 26, 2001 (death of WCW and history of pro wrestling on the Turner networks)
- *October 22, 2001 (why the adult audience has left pro wrestling in such great numbers and what needed to have been done to save them)
- *July 8, 1991 (Ric Flair leaves WCW as world champion/Zahorian steroid trial)
- *February 8, 1993 (the life and times of Andre the Giant)
- *May 13, 2002 (the life story of the most incredible pro wrestling career ever, a look at Lou Thesz, in one of the largest issues of our history)
- *January 27, 2003 (part one of the two-part series covering the career and life of The Sheik)*February 3, 2003 (Part two on The Sheik including thoughts from people who worked with him and where he stands historically)
- *March 24, 2003 (history of the WWWF title, inside behind the Sammartino, Backlund and Backlund era)
- *April 21, 2003 (history of WWF continues with the expansion nationally, the death of the regional territories and the rise of Hulk Hogan)

- *May 12, 2003 (The life and death of Elizabeth, and the rise of fall of Lex Luger)
- *June 9, 2003 (Part 1 of history of WWF vs. WCW wars and what many say was the greatest year in U.S. wrestling; plus a look at Fred Blassie)
- *June 16, 2003 (Freddie Blassie through the eyes of his biggest rivals and friends)
- *July 28, 2003 (Part 2 of the history of the WWF vs. WCW war and the plans to make new superstars in the early 90s, what happened, and the night where the three biggest wrestling companies in the world combined for a joint show and what happened)
- *August 25, 2003 (2003 Hall of Fame issue with huge profiles on the controversial career of Shawn Michaels, Chris Benoit as well as historical features on Earl Caddock and Francisco Flores)
- *September 22, 2003 (Part 3 of the history of the WWF vs WCW war with the seeds that caused the collapse of the industry in the 90s, Zahorian trial, Gulf War controversy, Flair leaves WCW while holding world title and much more)
- *October 27, 2003 (The fascinating life of Stu Hart plus the story of Road Warrior Hawk)
- *January 19, 2004 (2003 Awards issue)
- *February 2, 2004 (History of Toronto wrestling, Jack Tunney life story, Royal Rumble and Battle Royal history)
- *February 23, 2004 (History of Guerrero family with Eddy's win over Brock Lesnar)
- *March 1, 2004 (History of WWF continues with the period that brought the company down in early 1992, the mistakes, the real stories and how the business changed)
- *March 8, 2004 (History of Wrestlemania, its greatest matches and best and worst shows as voted both by wrestlers and non-wrestlers and Wrestlemania history books)
- *July 5, 2004 (A look behind the scenes and Ric Flair's book and his background with Eric Bischoff and Hulk Hogan)
- *July 12, 2004 (A look at more on Ric Flair's book and his comments on Bruno Sammartino, Bret Hart and Mick Foley)
- *August 16, 2004 (History of the Olympians in pro wrestling)
- *August 23, 2004 (2004 Hall of Fame issue and biggest issue of the year with huge profiles on Kazushi Sakuraba, Undertaker, Bob Backlund, Masahiro Chono, Ultimo Dragon, Kurt Angle and Tarzan Lopez--this counts as one issue if you are asking for a free issue, but ordered separately, due to size, is \$6 in North America and \$7 overseas)
- *October 4, 2004 (the life and times of Big Bossman; as well as details of the life and times of one of the most influential men world wide in pro wrestling history, Jim Barnett)
- *November 15, 2004 (the full story of what happened between Kurt Angle and Daniel Puder, plus coverage of the most important week in the history of TNA)
- *January 24, 2005 (2004 Awards issue, Rock and WWE part company)
- *March 14, 2005 (the 50 biggest money players in the history of WWF and a look at their Hall of Fame)
- *May 9, 2005 (the life and times of Chris Candido)
- *June 20, 2005 (The full story behind Paul Heyman and the death of ECW, as well as coverage of One Night Stand, Hardcore Homecoming and behind the scenes of both shows)
- *July 18, 2005 (death of Shinya Hashimoto and his records with a look at the fall of New Japan, the Matt Hardy angle,

tons of WWE firings,

Cornette firing in detail as well as problems of a WWE developmental territory in our biggest news issue of the year which is a double-sized issue and would be \$6 on its own and \$7 overseas)

*August 24, 2005 (2005 Hall of Fame issue with career profiles of Paul Heyman, HHH and Freebirds plus debut of MMA Hall of Fame)

*September 12, 2005 (History of Mid South Wrestling)

*October 10, 2005 (Life and Times of the Ultimate Warrior)

*November 21, 2005 (Life and Times of Eddy Guerrero and Crusher, double issue \$6 on its own and \$7 overseas)

*December 5, 2005 (The Eddy Guerrero special issue, double issue \$6 on its own, \$7 overseas)

*January 9, 2006 (The life and times of Superstar Billy Graham, plus New Year's Eve 2005 coverage)

*January 16, 2006 (2005 Awards double issue, \$6 or \$7 overseas)

*April 3, 2006 (Story of Ann Calvello and the history of Roller Derby--many called this the best issue of the Observer ever)

*April 10, 2006 (Behind the scenes at the 2006 Wrestlemania/Hall of Fame week)

*July 24, 2006 (The History of the Von Erichs and World Class Championship Wrestling--the most unreal story ever in wrestling)

*September 4, 2006 (The Rise and Fall of Kurt Angle; 2006 Hall of Fame inductions of Eddie Guerrero, Paul Bowser, Masakatsu Funaki, Aja Kong and Hiroshi Hase including tons of wrestling history around the world from the 20s through the 60s, the evolution of working to not working in Japan, and a look at Guerrero in hindsight, double issue \$6 or \$7 overseas)

*October 9, 2006 (A look back nine years later at the life and legacy of Brian Pillman with tons of inside information about what made him tick as his real objectives)

*November 15, 2006 (History of WCW part one, Eric Bischoff's book and how the industry was changed forever)

*November 20, 2006 (History of WCW part two, Why Jim Ross left WCW, How Bischoff changed the company, signing of Hulk Hogan, Beginning of Nitro, Jesse Ventura, Brian Pillman, Chris Jericho and signing Wrestlemania planned celebrity away)

*November 27, 2006 (History of WCW part three, When Bischoff challenged McMahon to fight; Truth and fiction around Bret Hart signing with WCW and why it didn't click)

*December 6, 2006 (details behind Pride's offers to sell promotion and Part four of History of WCW part four, Hogan-Goldberg match and why there was no rematch, WCW loses NBC network deal in 1999 and the real reasons the company fell apart)

*January 22, 2007 (2006 Awards issue, double issue \$7 on its own, \$8 overseas)

*February 14, 2007 (Life and Times of Bam Bam Bigelow)

*March 5, 2007 (WWE begins plans that will change the business)

*March 12, 2007 (Life and Times of Mike Awesome)

*March 19, 2007 (Life and Times of Ernie Ladd)

*April 4, 2007 (Life and Times of Badnews Allen Coage--which many are calling one of the best issues in history)

*July 2, 2007 (Part one of the Benoit double murder-suicide)

*July 5, 2007 (Part two of the Benoit double murder-suicide)

- *July 10, 2007 (Part three of the Benoit double murder-suicide)
- *July 19, 2007 (Part four of the Benoit double murder-suicide)
- *July 23, 2007 (Part five of Benoit double murder-suicide)
- *July 25, 2007 (Part six of Benoit double murder-suicide)
- *August 15, 2007 (The legend of the God of Japanese wrestling and his influence on MMA, Karl Gotch)
- *October 15 (2007 Hall of Fame double issue, \$7 on its own, \$8 overseas including inductions of The Rock, Tom Packs and the original Strangler Lewis)
- *November 12, 2007 (Life and times of Fabulous Moolah and history of U.S. women's wrestling) .
- *December 31, 2007 (History of Ric Flair and the heyday of wrestling at the Greensboro Coliseum)
- *January 21, 2008 (2007 Awards issue, double issue \$7 on its own, \$8 overseas)
- *March 17, 2008 (Life and times of Johnny Weaver)
- *March 24, 2008 (Life and times of Gary Hart)
- *April 10, 2008 (Farewell to Ric Flair; My thoughts, Shawn Michaels talks of Flair's meaning to him; Hall of Fame; Wrestlemania double issue, \$7 on its own, \$8 overseas)
- *August 11, 2008 (Ric Flair leaves WWE; Updated history of pro wrestlers and MMA fighters who went to the Olympics)
- *September 8, 2008 (2008 Hall of Fame double issue, \$7 on its own, \$8 overseas; part one of Killer Kowalski bio)
- *September 15, 2008 (Life and Times of Evan Tanner)
- *September 22, 2008 (The amazing career of Killer Kowalski, one of our most in-depth bios)

You can also order any of these issues on their own for \$4 in North America or \$5 overseas.

Rates are:

For the United States, it is \$12 for 4 issues, \$29 for 12, \$55 for 24, \$91 for 40 and \$118 for 52. In Canada and Mexico, rates are \$13.50 for 4, \$33 for 12, \$61 for 24, \$101 for 40 and \$131 for 52. In Europe, you can get the fastest delivery and best rates by sending to moonsault@mediaplusint.com. For the rest of the world, rates are \$15.50 for 4, \$41 for 12, \$78 for 24, \$126 for 40 issues and \$163 for 52 .

If you order by mail with a check, cash or money order (P.O. Box 1228, Campbell, CA 95009-1228), you can get \$1 off in every price range.

We now have available personally autographed copies of Tributes II, our latest book, as well as a DVD that comes with it talking more about the subjects in the book. The book covers the life stories of Lou Thesz, Wahoo McDaniel, Elizabeth, Fred Blassie, Road Warrior Hawk, Andre the Giant, Curt Hennig, Johnny Valentine, Davey Boy Smith, Terry Gordy, Owen Hart, Stu Hart, Gorilla Monsoon, The Sheik and Tim Woods. To get all of those biographies as back issues of the Observer would be a \$60 value today. This is a collection of some of the best Observer articles of the past several years in a hardcover, full-color format that is 239 pages. There is also a foreword by Bret Hart. The book price is \$12.95 plus \$3.50 for shipping costs in the U.S., \$10 for shipping costs to Canada and \$12 for shipping costs outside North America. You can order the book the same way you order the newsletter.

--The Mitsuharu Misawa public funeral will take place tomorrow at Tokyo's Differ Ariake, the home arena of Pro Wrestling NOAH. The expectation is about 10,000 people will be coming. Everyone from New Japan, including the front office, is expected to be there as well as everyone from NOAH. All Japan has a house show in Mie so its wrestlers won't be able to appear, but there will be an office representative there.

--I just saw the Countdown to UFC 100, which airs on Tuesday night in the usual ECW time slot (on Spike, ECW on Sci-Fi is on Thursday this coming week). Georges St. Pierre vs. Thiago Alves comes off as a distant third due to the work of Michael Bisping, Dan Henderson and Krzysztof Soszynski in building up Henderson vs. Bisping. They tell Soszynski everything Bisping says and he just laughs at everything. Frank Mir does an awesome job of building up Lesnar vs. Mir. So awesome that by the end he almost turned himself heel. There is a great scene when Lesnar decides the interview is over because he's sick of watching himself tap and wants to kill Steve Mazzagatti, walks down the hall, punches the wall, and the next door falls off the hinges into the hallway.

--I've got a Bisping article at <http://www.yahoo.com> in the MMA section up today. Also, a Jon Fitch article this week. And there are Dana White and Dan Henderson articles up today.

--UFC 100 "best matches in history" Countdown starts Sunday at 9 p.m. I am told the five-part show, which concludes an hour before UFC 100, is very good. As for the list, let's just say it's so petty that they didn't even allow fans to vote for the fight that was No. 2 (Frank Shamrock vs. Ortiz) in this web site's poll and even No. 7 in their own magazine. Basically, everyone on the outs (Ortiz, Frank Shamrock, Maurice Smith) were not allowed to be voted onto the top 100 by fans unless it's a match they lost, and since Shamrock never lost in UFC, he doesn't appear at all. Ortiz's losses will likely all crack the top 100 but none of his wins were allowed to be voted on.

--Announcement of the new members to the UFC Hall of Fame will be at 6:30 p.m. on 7/10 at the Fan Expo on the Expo stage

--UFC and Maxim are going to announce the new octagon girl on the afternoon of UFC 100 at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center on the main stage of Bayside Hall B. The winner of the contest will get a UFC contract and be promoted by Maxim magazine.

--Televisa in Mexico will be airing UFC 100 live. That is huge, equivalent of it airing on CBS in the U.S. One of the reasons Televisa is putting it on in prime time is because of its success with pro wrestling shows, particularly WWE, which does monster ratings on the network. As of a month ago, Raw was doing a 14 rating on Sunday late afternoons.

--Chris Jericho talks about the show on Sunday in Honolulu at http://www.starbulletin.com/features/20090703_the_bad_guy_and_loving_it.html He's scheduled to face Ricky Steamboat and said that at 55, Steamboat is better than 80% of the wrestlers on the roster today. He's pushing it as a big deal since Steamboat was always billed from Honolulu. Actually, Steamboat was never from Honolulu and isn't Hawaiian, but when he got his first break, he was billed as the son of Sammy Steamboat Mokuahi, one of Hawaii's all-time most popular pro wrestlers. He compares wrestling Steamboat to getting to play hockey against Wayne Gretzky.

--Jim Cornette talks his theories of wrestling at <http://www.jimcornette.com/Commentary.html>

--Who was the greatest champion in UFC history?

Randy Couture 34.5%
 Chuck Liddell 14.5%
 Matt Hughes 10.9%
 Anderson Silva 10.6%
 Royce Gracie 10.6%
 Georges St. Pierre 7.3%
 Ken Shamrock 3.9%
 Tito Ortiz 3.6%
 Frank Shamrock 2.6%
 Pat Miletich 0.8%
 B.J. Penn 0.5%
 Andrei Arlovski 0.3%

Who do you expect to win this match?

Dan Henderson 61.8%
 Michael Bisping 38.2%

--Who is the best active wrestler in the U.S?

Chris Jericho 28.4%
 Bryan Danielson 18.3%

Shawn Michaels 15.6%
Edge 8.6%
Kurt Angle 7.0%
KENTA 6.4%
A.J. Styles 4.4%
Rey Mysterio 3.3%
Christian 2.6%
Randy Orton 2.4%
Undertaker 2.2%
HHH 0.9%

--Affliction officially announced Gilbert Yvel vs. Paul Buentello for the 8/1 PPV show from the Honda Center in Anaheim headlined by Fedor Emelianenko vs. Josh Barnett

--Alex Marvez talks to TNA's Jesse Neal at <http://www.scrippsnews.com/node/44326>

--BANG on 7/12 in Ocala, FL features Johnny Magnum vs. Chaos and Dory Funk vs. Blain Rage

--WBO jr. featherweight champion Juan Manuel Lopez has established himself as at least a regional draw as there were 20,000 buys for his PPV on Saturday from Puerto Rico alone, as well as 100 commercial establishments buying closed circuit rights.

--TNA announced a house show on 8/28 in San Angelo, TX at the Coliseum headlined by Kurt Angle and Mick Foley. Tickets go on sale 7/17 (thanks to Devin Cutting)

--Mikey Whipwreck has asked if any wrestlers can donate autographed 8x10s for a young five-year-old girl in St. Louis named Kylie that he knows that is in bad shape from cancer and loves pro wrestling. The doctors are only giving her a few months and she's having a hard time with chemotherapy and has lost all her hair. Anyone who is interested can e-mail him at mikeywhipwreck@gmail.com and he'll give them the address to send it to.

--There is an article on old Rock catch phrases at <http://tv.ign.com/articles/100/1000668p1.html>

--Jim Neidhart & Greg Valentine defend their PWO tag team titles on 8/9 in Cleveland at Nautica Hall for a 3 p.m. show.

--M-1 is doing a TV taping on Saturday in Seoul, South Korea. It will air on an Internet PPV at <http://www.M-1Global.com>. The show features USA West vs Russia Imperial team, Finland vs. Bulgaria and South Korea vs. Brazil Naja. The USA West team consists of Dave Jansen, Fabio Negao, Giva Santana, Tony Lopez and Shane Del Rosario.

--wXw on 7/4 in Oberhausen, Germany has Absolute Andy vs. Colt Cabana for the wXw title, plus a three-way for the lightweight title with Tommy End vs. Mark Haskins vs. El Generico, and Doug Williams & Martin Stone defend the tag titles against Sha Samuels & Terry Frazier. Erick Stevens will be coming in September for a show in Troisdorf, Germany (thanks to Timo Knopf)

--Joel Hunt at jhunt66157@aol.com is looking to sell his autobiography books of Missy Hyatt, Mick Foley, Jack Brisco and Harley Race, as well as 80s wrestling magazines

--Shark Fight Promotions is doing a three show on 7/18 in Amarillo at the Gamboa's Outdoor Event Center. Main event will be former UFC fighter Doug Evans facing Douglas Frey to crown a featherweight champion. Because it's free, fans are encouraged to get tickets in advance at Westgate Mall in Amarillo starting Monday

--Scoot Andrews vs. Billy Fives, a big indie feud of the late 90s, is revived on 8/1 in Temple Terrace, FL for Pro Wrestling Fusion, on a show that also includes Prince Laukea and The Shane Twins