

HEAT SHEET



ISSUE #11

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ESW: More of the Same

Foreign Correspondent

(W)retrospective

Inside Voice

Heat Seeker

Training Montage Feature

A Letter from the Editor

Happy Anniversary. If we include our zero issue, Heat Sheet has existed for a whole year. And what a year it has been, if you were to travel back in time to May 2019 and tell me about everything that has happened recently I would have 2 things to say: why did you time travel just to tell me mostly bad news? And also I would be super excited about all the wrestling I will get to watch.

In the midst of this slow motion apocalypse I wanted to take some time to reflect on how important the last 12 months of wrestling has been for me. Aside from my obvious appreciation for watching athletic people throw around other athletic people for my entertainment, wrestling has helped me improve as a writer (and heckler). I am able to be more descriptive and witty in all areas, probably to the annoyance of those around me.

I have also met a bunch of new friends, both wrestlers and fans, and even inducted a couple of my other friends into a love of wrestling. I managed to get one friend to come to a show solely on the promise that if she didn't like it, Charlie and I would stop talking about it. Luckily for me she loved it and now we all talk about wrestling too much.

Wrestling has also allowed me to appreciate my other hobbies like D&D, video games and boardgames because of all the people within the wrestling scene that enjoy them too. Who doesn't love a mid-intermission discussion of wrestler's alignment?

Above all else I am grateful for how nice and respectful and welcoming the majority of the SEQ scene is. In a world full of seemingly only bad news it's nice to know that there are people out there that care about the people around them.

Happy Anniversary, support local wrestling and be kind to each other

Aisling Taylor

Our cover this issue

Jaxon Cross was a dominant figure in wrestling throughout 2019, but for all his success he never quite reached the highest honour. That ends today, as Jackson Cross finally scores his first Heat Sheet cover. *photo by Barb's Photos

ESW: More of the Same

By Matt McQueen

ESW was at Banyo Bowls Club for this month's PPV, somewhat ominously titled 'More of the Same.' Last month's 'Solitary Confinement' had been an OK show with a very disappointing Main Event, and I was genuinely interested in seeing what would happen this time around, because, ironically, ESW may be fake, but it's not pre-determined.

The night kicks off with Gabrielle Crystal taking on Ann Sakamoto, who had made such an impressive debut at the last show. In that match Sakamoto had shown she could take a beating, here she showed she could deliver one. After an even early exchange in which both performers showed their athletic skill, Sakamoto got on top and dominated the match, turning Crystal into her personal punching bag from about two minutes in until she got the pin. Crystal tried to get her heat back with an after-match attack, but even that came up short.

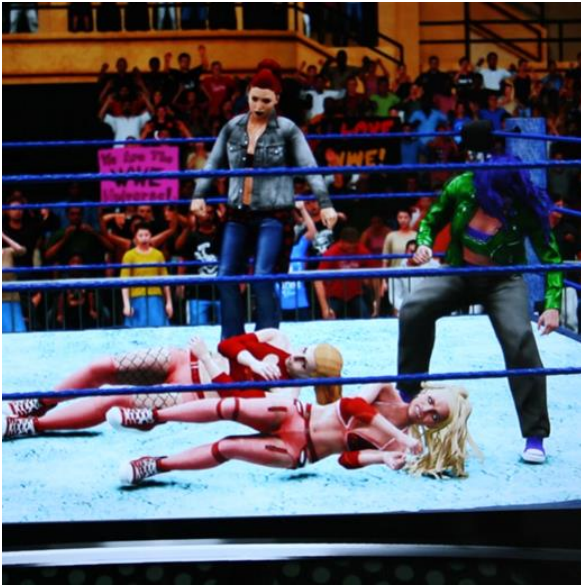


Chaney Rose trying to figure out how to accessorise her new belt

More of the Same has a TLC theme, so after issuing an open challenge to the roster, Amaya Diaz found herself defending the Carnage Championship in a triple threat

TLC match, against relative newcomers Chaney Rose and Jean Taylor. There was certainly a table, there was absolutely a ladder, but I failed to notice a chair, in a match that was defined by each performer standing at the top of the ladder failing to figure out how to unhitch a belt. ESW has done a very good job of teaching its performers to climb ladders. There is none of the laboriously slow stagger from rung to rung you might see elsewhere, but when they are at the top, with two hands on the prize, with only a few pop studs between them and ultimate glory? Well that needs some work. This came across as less of a wrestling match and more collective indecisiveness about just how they would accessorise. In the end Chaney Rose got the win, she should be proud.

You may recall that Solitary Confinement had the first round of the Tournament for the new ESW: Tag Belts. Match three on the card, and arguably match of the night, was round two. Passion8, the team of Maggie Wood and Witney Mack, took on Kelli Owens and Sue Sergeant, in a match that Wood and Mack had to win to keep their title aspirations alive. This match was wrestled at the walking pace that seems to be the ESW house style, but delivers some solid tag tactics and a few genuine high spots. Maggie Wood worked over the knee of Kelly Owens, keeping her locked down in her half of the ring for long stretches. When it came, the hot tag saw Sergeant deliver three



Kelly and Sue reminding Witney and Maggie to not slack on the job

superman punches in succession, flattening her opponent and causing her to sell so hard she glitched out. Owens and Sergeant got the win via pinfall, and match three in the tourney will see them take on Akira Buck and Parker in a match that will Crown the first ever ESW Tag Champs.

If the tag match wasn't match of the night, then Chen vs Kaiva A, in a TLC match for an ESW Contract (you know the sort that gives you a guaranteed title shot at a time of your choosing) probably was. I was a little bit worried about the existence of a ladder in the match. It had not gone so well in the Carnage title match and I was concerned the stipulation may actually harm the performance of ESW's most athletic and technical

wrestlers. It didn't: Chen was as formidable as I had expected, establishing who was boss early. It was Chen who set up a table in the centre of the ring, only to decide that she had a better idea, put it down and get a ladder. Kaiva A was the first to fight her way to some separation and get to the top of the ladder. But this was Chen's ladder and she was not going to just lie around on the ground and watch her opponent wrestle with a carabiner for a minute and a half. She was up the ladder herself, raining blows on her opponent and throwing her off. Then it was Kaiva A's turn to throw out the standard ESW script, as she returned to the ladder herself, throwing Chen down to the mat before she had even had a chance to fumble ineffectively with the contract on a chain. Then Chen climbs up and knocks Kaiva off, then Kaiva... OK maybe this wasn't as good as I said. Eventually even the wrestlers got tired of it, and Kaiva let Chen have the 30, 45, 60 seconds she needed to unhook the contract and wave it triumphantly to the crowd.

Main event time, and Amy Quinn, who had so disappointed in a cage match against Jordan Lloyd at Solitary Confinement, gets her rematch. There was a twist though, because in the last month Lloyd has lost two non-title matches to Kory Starr at house shows, so this would be a triple threat match for the title, with mercifully no ladders. Aisling's notes for this match say: 'a triple threat match happens', and there may be little I can add to that. Each wrestler got in some offence; each wrestler had some time on the defensive. It being a triple threat match added some interest, not least that moment when Starr had Lloyd pinned in the centre of



The biggest heel of the night were the impossible pop studs

the ring, right in front of Amy Quinn, and Quinn took until the count of 2 and $\frac{3}{4}$ before breaking it up. It was eerily similar to last month when she had stood by and watched Lloyd climb out of the cage to win the championship. I suspect Amy Quinn has the best ring gear and the worst ring smarts on the ESW roster. This time it was not fatal: she remembered to break up the pin, the match carried on and a few minutes later it was Quinn pinning Jordan Lloyd to regain the belt. Redemption. I guess.

But getting to the top just puts a target on your back. As Amy takes the mike to thank the Banyo crowd, she is interrupted by Cali Antoine, and the two engage in a volley of insults to end the show.



Selling so hard you glitch out a little

(W)retrospective: Jake Nova -Part 1

It turns out you can't do a Jake Nova retrospective in just three matches.

Sure you can dig back through the archives and grab one or two of the early matches, but that may mean you have to skip either his Ospreay match or one of his matches against Robbie Eagles. You could focus on his one-on-one matches but that would leave out some of the tag matches or the multi-wrestler violence fests in which he excels. You could drill down into just the last three years, but then you miss the fun of watching Baby Jake, clean shaven and keen, learning his craft. So I've done the only thing I could in the circumstances: I've broken my own rules. Jake Nova's HeatSheet (w)retrospective will be in two parts.

PWAQ Forbidden Rules (April, 2013)- Jake Nova (c) v D Volt

It's 2013, and already I feel at home because our ring announcer for this match is Wayne Mulley, and honestly he hasn't changed a bit in seven years. Jake Nova has changed though. The Champion comes to the ring and he is clean shaven with a short back and sides. I get flashes of early TNA AJ Styles. There is a cockiness about the young Nova, but it is engaging. He is king of the kids here, and in a crowd that seems pretty heavily made up of loud 9 year olds, that gives him a clear edge.



Just in case there was any doubt as to who we were meant to be cheering though, DVolt makes it clear early that he is the bad guy, insulting the crowd, insulting his opponent, and threatening to use a chair in a match in which we are told Nova will lose the belt even if DQ'd. This match has something I've never really seen before, with Nova fighting from beneath for most of the 20+ minutes. DVolt repeatedly goes after his leg, through strikes and stomps and submissions holds, and it is all Nova can do to hang on. What offence he does get is cut off quickly or significantly hampered by the damage he has suffered, and I find myself on my feet, pacing nervously as I'm watching a match that took place seven years ago for a title that no longer exists.

Three times DVolt locks in a submission hold on Jake's injured leg, and three times Nova drags or carries himself and his opponent to the ropes to get the break. And the kids are with him through every excruciating minute. Nova returns with a spine buster, but can't get the pin. He goes for a superkick, but his opponent has it scouted and locks in another submission, and again Nova gets to the ropes.

I don't know if this is a Jake Nova classic, but twenty minutes in when the ref is distracted and DVolt throws a chair to Nova and throws himself on the ground while clutching his head, suckering the ref into ringing the bell, I almost lose it. I am genuinely upset.

But hang on, this is a false finish, and the PWAQ commissioner comes out to restart the match and Nova hits a superkick for the clean win.

<https://vimeo.com/385453488/9081e8aa08>

UPW: Pathway to Glory (October 2015) – Jake Nova v Blair Seeker

This match is a very different beast to the previous one. Now he is 'Showtime' Jake Nova, and is announced as such. His cockiness has morphed into a genuine arrogance, and while he is still clean shaven this is clearly a recent return to that state, as the crowd chant 'grow it back' through most of his entrance.

He is still the face in this match-up, largely because Blair Seeker is too much the sneaky, cheating heel to have it any other way. And Blair Seeker is great in this match: he is slick and clean, transitioning between technical moves quickly and smoothly (there is a great sequence that ends in Seeker hitting an Orton-style draped DDT) while taking every opportunity to cut corners, take the cheap shot and make it very clear that anything other than a Nova win will be an injustice.



What Seeker and Nova put on is a tight little 10 minute three act play: Seeker's cheating sees him get the upper hand early, Nova makes a comeback, and while a low blow from Seeker has him momentarily regain the upper hand, a spine buster from Nova results in a popular win.

<https://vimeo.com/385905335/86101a4586>

AWA: Homecoming (2017) – Jake Nova and Zero v Headstrong

By 2017, the character of 'Showtime' Jake Nova is fully formed. The beard, the long hair, the ring gear that proclaims him both Nova and GOD. Two years earlier, Jake had come to the ring, announced himself as Showtime and self-consciously slapped his chest, in an almost apologetic rush. Here he takes his time, he milks the moment and yells 'Showtime' to the rafters with an animalistic howl.

He has a partner in Zero who, while not as vocal, exudes the same menace and sense of danger as he does, and opponents in Headstrong who provide an effective foil to their malevolence.

This is meant to be a tag match, but the first few minutes are a free for all, with all four wrestlers in the ring and both teams hitting their opponents with double team offence. Zero and Nova get the better of the early exchange, and as the match settles into a rhythm, it is Xander Sullivan who is trapped in the ring as his opponents go to work on him.

Nova and Zero show their ring craft, distracting the ref and working over the face, not because they necessarily need to get the win, more because actually winning clean would maybe take too much effort.



Sullivan is a great 'babyface in peril,' and the cruelty of Nova and Zero clearly establish them as the bad guys. The crowd are clearly with Headstrong, but then the crowd are also buying for blood and while their preference might be to see Gold and Sullivan get the win, they are happy to enjoy seeing Xander get beaten up for a while too. When he finally gets the tag and Gold enters to clean house, the crowd are right behind them, and it looks like the good guys are on their way to a victory.

It all comes crashing down. The comeback is cut off, and a run-in from an uncredited Ricky Rembrandt distracts Gold long enough for Nova to get the pin on Sullivan.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQ_rjrWH9qY

And that brings us to an end to part one, in which Jake Nova grew a beard, apparently shaved it off, grew it back, grew his hair and learned how to slap his chest, all while putting on consistently high quality wrestling performances.

But there is still so much to see: we have yet to see Nova in a ring with Mr Queensland Wrestling RIP Rielly, we have Nova v Ospreay to look forward to, and there have been three occasions where Showtime has found himself facing off against the sniper of the skies 'Robbie Eagles', so we will have to check one of those out. All of that will be coming up next month, in part 2.

*Photographs are screenshots from the video of the individual matches courtesy of the promotions.

Inside Voice

Where we ask those behind the curtain for their take on the Graps.

This month we asked two stalwarts of the Queensland scene, Venom Pro Wrestling's ring announcer Wayne Mulley, and IPW Commissioner and Co-Announcer Jace the Ace, to nominate their favourite matches.

It probably won't surprise anyone to find out that Jace had a bit to say on the topic. (PG: contains adult themes)



"As co-announcer and Commissioner of Impact Pro Wrestling, I have seen countless great matches. I guess my all-time favourite would be when I won the Hardcore Championship in a 15-man Junkyard Bash match in 2005. However, the match that sticks out in recent memory for me is "Young Blood" Jesse Love defending the IPW Unified Championship against CJ in a Street Fight (IPW Resolution 2019).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9GvHG74h1zY>

These two had faced off a year earlier and CJ, who had the crowd behind him, looked like a man on a mission. The chance to regain the IPW Unified title was well within his reach.

But Jesse Love is always locked, cocked and ready to rumble. With no rules to worry about, Jesse could use anything as a weapon, including the one he was born with.

I'm no fan of CJ, and as it turned out, neither was Order 66.

I personally don't feel that Jesse Love needed any help. He's more man than CJ could handle and definitely more than enough for all the ladies flocking around him, like seagulls on a chip, at a certain nightclub in Broadbeach later that night.

Let's just say, everyone: CJ, Jesse Love, and several women all woke up the next morning with a sore back."

Wayne, as you might expect, was all business, offering up two recent gems for our consideration.

"I have two matches picked. May 11th Aftermath 4, when Spaceman lost the Stolen title to Timmy (Kade)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6W9addV7TM>

September 28th 2019, Survival 4 when the Night Terrors won the title from Gen Next".



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1sKWcQz-Q9s>



It's hard to argue with his reasoning too much either. *"Spaceman - I appreciate his athleticism. Timmy I have watched grow from a little masked "Mystery" to one of Queensland's best."*

There is a personal dimension to Wayne's second choice. *"Night Terrors winning the tag titles was special because I was the announcer for Damien Thorne's first match, which was a Battle Royal type match in which he entered the ring some way down the list. He was a tall skinny guy who had put in the work and become an imposing presence in the ring."*

So there you have it, personal recommendations from a couple of guys who have seen their fair share of matches. Check them out on the links provided. Leave a comment and let them and the performers know if you agree with their choices.

Inside Voice will be a semi-regular feature of Heat Sheet in the future, so leave us a message, and let us know who's back stage perspective you would like to get.

*photos by Jason Kryger (IPW) and Barb's Photos (VPW)

Foreign Correspondent: PWA Colosseum: 2019

By Lachlan Albert

PWA Colosseum in Sydney is angling to position itself as the Australian Wrestlemania.

An 8-man tournament where the prize is an actual freaking sword punctuates the two-night event between title matches and showcases of the best talent from across Australia. I was there last year to see the fight for the second Colosseum sword, Green Thunder (did I mention they give the freaking sword a cool name), and with Colosseum: Thunderdome coming up in October, and as we continue to push for QLD representative Mitch McCarthy to be announced for the tournament #mitch2020, I took the opportunity to re-watch the back-to-back shows on the OVOPlay streaming service.



PWA is one of the few wrestling brands that could also be a comic book sound affect

Having made the pilgrimage to Max Watts, next to the Sydney Cricket Ground and international music venue the Horden Pavilion, I can confirm the atmosphere reflects the Aussie 'mania concept. The Colosseum 2019 Tournament featured international talent contracted to both AEW and WWE, a huge title match, and matches featuring Chikara trios and PWG fan favourites. I was looking forward to revisiting it.

The tournament opens with a bang, as Davis Storm comes to the ring and is met with an extravagant entrance by local hero (and subsequent Chikara young Lions Cup winner) Ricky South, surrounded by Vegas-style showgirls, his theme song "I Will Survive" being sung live by a drag queen. The standard for the tournament is set. Not only does the rest of the two nights live up to this extravagance, it leads to every performer having to show their absolute best work lest they be shown up by the in-ring masterpiece that starts off the wrestling action. Storm and South are both technically great, combining smart wrestling with hard impact and a focus on storytelling.

After South gets the win, he cradles the arm that Storm focused on during the match to offer a handshake. Storm shakes hands but doesn't let go, locking in a disgusting-looking armbar and beating on the shoulder in a post-match show of fury.



One has to wonder: which came first the gimmick or the haircut?

South isn't the only Sydney local to proceed to the second round of the tournament, as Matty Wahlberg takes down South Australia's Chris Basso in another great match. Matty won't let Ricky South be the only man with the fancy entrance though, and comes to the ring with a boxer's entourage, wearing a robe with the American flag, to the tune of Here Comes The Hotstepper before his regular entrance music kicks in. There's a definite sense that South vs Wahlberg is the final the fans are ready to see.

Night one of the event also has plenty of matches that are not part of The Fight for Green Thunder. Aussie favourite Shazza McKenzie, with AEW appearances under her belt, wins a fatal-four-way match to become the number-one-contender for the PWA Heavyweight Championship held by

Caveman Ugg. Treehugger Luchi puts on an incredible technical showcase. A six-man-tag shows the trios team of The Nations (Mick Moretti, Adam Hoffman and Jack Bonza) using their experience from the King of Trios tournament in the US to defeat PWA Tag Team Champions The VeloCities and the PWA Heavyweight Champion Ugg. This serves as a taste of the hard-hitting title match set between Bonza and Ugg for night two.

A highlight of night one comes with a tag-team gauntlet. Five teams are eliminated one after the other by The Prefects, a team of schoolboys who show fake IDs to get into the venue, use their backpacks full of heavy textbooks as brutal weapons, and wield one of the most devastating and protected finishing moves in the world – the schoolboy roll-up. The seventh and last team seems to be led by Queensland's own Zac Reynolds, but his partner, the behemoth Massive Q, pushes Reynolds off the stage and wins the gauntlet by himself. The Prefects challenge Q to "pick on someone their own size" on night two, and the crowd goes ballistic.

Unfortunately for the Sydney fans, two hometown heroes get eliminated from the tournament in round one. The first comes when smarmy rich heel Sam Osbourne (who was escorted to the ring by a number of scantily clad dancers) gets drilled by WWE UK's Kiwi Buzzsaw, Travis Banks. The home crowd clearly isn't sure whether they should be happy the heel got beaten and a great international star is set to progress, or sad that the up-and-coming hometown boy got taken down by an import.

There's much less confusion in the main event. Even though the crowd love the low-energy style of AEW comedy sensation Freshly Squeezed Orange Cassidy, the favourite is clearly Jessica Troy. The crowd loves when she enters and balloons fall from the rafters. They cheer Jess on as she tries to remove Cassidy's hands from his pockets to lock in her signature armbar. They go silent when Cassidy, after putting aside his lazy gimmick for some genuinely impressive offense, pulls out the win. There's a few boos. Cassidy has made an enemy of the Sydney crowd.

Night two sees redemption. The show opens with Wahlberg, once again dressed to the nines in boxing gear, facing off against Cassidy in a showdown of the popular pretty blondes. Wahlberg has to level up some of his signature moves to take down Cassidy – his "Kobe" jump from the second rope goes to the top turnbuckle, and his running senton into a seated opponent happens over the top of a seated fan, randomly pulled from the crowd, in audience chairs on the outside of the ring. Seeing these moves hit harder and more impressively than on night one is great storytelling that makes the crowd wonder what Wahlberg has left in the tank.

The second match is set to look a lot like the first – the hometown hero Ricky South faces down the foreign invader Travis Banks. This time, though, the support of the crowd isn't enough. South's arm, still injured from Storm's post-match beatdown on night one, gives out to a submission and the Kiwi Buzzsaw moves on to the main event.

There's no shortage of action between round two of the tournament and the final. Python Powerhouse Steph DeLander wins a four-way to become the number one contender to Jess Troy's Pro Wrestling Women's Australian Championship. Shazza McKenzie appears in a tag team match to defeat Moretti and Hoffman of The Nations. An eight-man tag match has Speed Force (The VeloCities, fellow high-flier Matt Diamond, and powerhouse Mat Rogers) overcome those defeated in the first round of the tournament when, sick of the three male heels hogging the spotlight and talking down to her, Jessica Troy turns on her team and puts Storm, Osborne, and Basso all in an armbar together.

The title match that follows is insanely rough. Caveman Ugg and Bonza throw everything at each other, with some of the loudest chops in human history backed up by massive slams, dropkicks, and



Getting chopped regularly is the best way to develop core strength

even more enormous chops. When Ugg finally pulls out the win, it's a relief neither man is seriously hurt.



James Adult-man after doing a classic business

Massive Q comes out to a chorus of boos, and it's finally revealed who could possibly stand up to the giant when James Adultman comes through the curtain. Mr Adultman is notable for doing business in the central business district, and is definitely NOT the two Prefects, one on the other's shoulders, in a trenchcoat wearing glasses and a fake moustache. That would be silly. This is a businessman. Incredibly, Adultman gets the win with his signature move – the SchoolMan rollup. The crowd love it, and it's a great way to have some fun before the intense main event.

When Wahlberg enters, money rains from the ceiling. Green hundred dollar bills have one side emblazoned with Matty and the phrase "IN WAHLBERG WE TRUST" while the other proudly

reminds everyone of the prize – Green Thunder. Banks has black gear and is all business going in to the tournament final. The crowd is unglued before the match even begins.

Once again, this match clearly ramps up from round two. Matty's Kobe leap now happens from the middle of the top rope all the way across the ring, and his leaping senton now clears TWO seated audience members. The two men brutalise each other, screaming at the crowd to clear away before throwing each other into rows of chairs, hitting each other with as much impact as they can muster. When Wahlberg finally secures the win, there's elation throughout the venue. Wahlberg is presented with his sword as the locker room gathers around to applaud him.

For \$5.99 for a week, \$9.99 a month, or \$79.99 a year, OVOPlay features PWA Black Label and Newcastle Pro Wrestling, along with their respective training school's shows under the brands PWA Green Label and House of Free Fighting. All the shows stream live as well as featuring on-demand viewing.

*official PWA photos courtesy of New Photography Studios

Heat Seeker:

We are excited to bring you this very special edition of Heat Seeker featuring UPW Tag Team Champions, Cluck and Showerman "The Cluck and Duck Connection". We are delighted that they have both been so generous with their time in answering our questions and so forthcoming with their answers. Like any good team they have worked together and so we figured it made sense to present them together. Showerman has been kind enough to translate his partner's answers from the original Rooster for us, but due to a mix up (for which we at Heatsheet take full responsibility) he has translated them into French.

As for his own answers? Well, apparently Showerman has taken the opportunity away from the ring to learn Japanese, and who are we to criticise someone for self-improvement? So here they are, in their own words...

The Cluck & Duck Connection

Who are you Favourite wrestlers?

Cluck: Bawk bawk bakk

Translation: Cluck aime Gobbledy Gooker.

Showerman: Watashi wa Showerman, watashi wa Toru Yano san

When and Where did You Start Training?

Cluck: Bawk bakkaw buk

Translation: Gloussément Avril 2018 UPW Beerwah.

Showerman: 2018-nen tsuki Kunda Park

What are your all-time Favourite Matches?

Cluck: Bawkaaaaawk kaw bukk bukk jaw

Translation: Shawn Michaels vs Undertaker le Mania 25.

Showerman: Zack Sabre Jr to Minoru Suzuki versus Toru Yano to Tomohiro Ishii dominion 2018 ichiban!

When did you make your wrestling debut?

Cluck: Bawk baaawk

Translation: j'ai fait mes débuts contre Kanji Kid and Mojo Powers à UPW Gympie.

Showerman: 2019 Shawādebyū November 2017. Minna de tatakau.

Favourite Match you have had?

Cluck: Bawk

Showerman: Cluck and Duck x Jesse Love and Sirius Lee Clean. Shori climax, yatta!



Favourite move to Perform?

Cluck: bukk kaw kawkk

Translation: J'aime le gloussement cutter.

Showerman: Watashi wa Blue Thunder Bomb ga daisuki desu



Who are your Favourite and Least Favourite opponents?

Cluck: bakkaw bawk bawk be

Translation: J'adore 13, je déteste Pogo Clown

Showerman: Ryōhō no tame no Jesse Love. Watashi wa itsumo katsu

Who designed your Ring Gear?

Ring gear designed and made by Cluck

What is your message to the Heat Sheet audience?

Cluck: Bawk

Showerman: Dono yō ni shite bakku suraido kara nukedashimasu ka? *

*we ran Showerman's heartfelt message through Google Translate. It had no idea what he was saying. Luckily we have a Japanese linguist on hand who was able to tell us exactly what Showerman was telling us.

"In what way do you do you get out of your Backslide?"

We don't know what he means either, but let's all assume it is something uplifting and inspirational and leave it at that.

What is your Favourite thing about Heat Sheet Magazine?

Cluck: The Eggsclusives Bawk Baaawk

What Titles have you held?

Cluck: Bawk! Bawkok jaw

Showerman: taguchimu senshuken, Cluck featherweight cup, sugoi!

What are three words to describe you?

Cluck: Cocky caring clucky

Showerman: Oki, Furansugo, sugoi



Training Montage

Charlie Anderson

I have to physically stop myself from starting every piece of writing I do with ‘it’s a complicated time’ at the moment. But it’s true! Things are strange right now. Everything’s been disrupted, paused, put on hold, the like; and that’s for the better, mind you. Wrestling training is no exception to this. On the bright side, this means there’s time for some reflection, so I asked a close friend who had recently started training to provide me those reflections. Here, I present to you the results.

(As of right now, they do not have a ring name and are not comfortable with sharing their actual identity.)

Editor’s Note: That’s ok, Charlie, we will illustrate the piece with generic photographs we get off the net.

Q. How did you discover wrestling?

“My close friends were avidly into it, having watch parties for NJPW and WWE pay-per-views and constantly talking about it during conversation. I never took any notice until I was dragged to see a live match at a pop culture convention. The match was short as was expected from a free convention set-up and featured none other than Jesse Daniels himself. It wasn’t a fantastic match from memory, not that it was awful, but the energy of the crowd was infectious. It was less about what was happening in the ring and more about the effect it had on those outside of the ring. It was amazing watching Jesse incite waves of boos simply from looking at the crowd before being laid out by a lariat and having cheers erupt from the kids watching. I had no idea who the people wrestling were at that time, and neither did 90% of the crowd, but it stuck with me, how these unknown characters were able to get such a response from the general public.”



A generic photo of the sort of heel who the crowd may enjoy seeing get beaten up

Q. What prompted you to start training?

“I had been watching for a few years and had just started going to live AWA shows. It was such a dramatic shift in atmosphere going from WWE live shows to the much smaller local shows. For all the grandeur it had, the WWE Super Showdown in Melbourne couldn’t compare to the feeling of an AWA show in a small Fortitude Valley bar. It was fun, and more importantly the shows felt personal. I wanted to see what happened backstage, how you became one of the wrestlers in the ring. The local wrestling of Queensland had sunk its hook into me and I just wanted to be a part of it.”

Q. How did you find out about training?

“Just through Facebook. A ‘Training Camp event’ was posted in one of the many AWA fan pages. I was very indecisive because I never saw myself as trying to wrestle, I wanted to get into local

wrestling and support it any way I could. I eventually just bit the bullet; if the training wasn't for me at least I'd have a greater respect for those that do enter the ring."

Q. How long have you been training?

"Since January, this year. I'm still extremely green but every day is another step towards improvement.

Q. How have you been keeping up with your training in the midst of everything?

It has certainly been difficult given the nature of the current pandemic, but it hasn't stopped training. Spare time at home is spent practising basics, running drills, exercising and of course watching some good old wrestling online.

I've been taking some one-on-one training sessions over the past couple of weeks which have been extremely helpful."

Q. Do you have any advice for those who are thinking of taking up training?

"In all honesty go for it. The support from the trainers and other wrestlers has been more than tremendous. You'll make plenty of mistakes and it's awkward as you get used to moving in ways you haven't before but it's fun, it's challenging, and you will not be disappointed."

Q. What do you hope to achieve in the coming years?



A generic photo of wrestling trainees being all learning to wrestle and stuff



A sort of generic Facebook ad for wrestle training. Including generic photo of wrestler who may also be supportive wrestling trainer

"I never thought I'd really take this first step and I haven't thought too much past it. Right now I want to train and reach a level that I'm happy with. Of course I'm most looking forward to stepping into the ring with the amazing talent that Queensland has to offer and entertaining everyone in the crowd. It's been a mass of stepping stones to currently reach where I am in the wrestling world and it'll certainly be many more in the future, one of those stepping stones might be a championship title, it might not. You'll just have to stay tuned!"

*photographs courtesy Australian Wrestling Academy

Our poster this issue:

Is JL Gold to celebrate his Heat Seeker: Online over on the Dark Match. *Photo by Callum Rule Media



HEAT SHEET

