

HEAT SHEET
2021

FAN FAVE

DEC 2021



FINAL EDITION OF 2021

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WRITERS -

Matt McQueen,
Aisling Taylor,
Lachlan Albert,
Eugenie Singh,

EDITORS -

Aisling Taylor,
Karen Perkins

PHOTOGRAPHERS -

Barb's Photos,
Jason Kryger,
Kate Puleo (Wide Bay)
UPW Photographers

Letter From The Editor

There is a lot of wrestling in Queensland. We are not saying that's a bad thing, but if you are trying to write a wrestling magazine, at the same time as doing Uni, or working or, I don't know, spending time with your family and friends who may not want to watch wrestling every weekend, it can get a little overwhelming.

The sheer amount of wrestling is why we are changing our format. If we can't get to every show, it becomes very difficult to cover every show, and if we can't cover every show it becomes almost impossible to be fair to every promotion and every fanbase. So from 2022 the magazine will come out four times a year. With more time between issues it will of course have to be bigger. We have plans in the works for new features and will continue to bring you our regular Heat Seeker interviews, opinion pieces, columns and all of the colour of South East Queensland wrestling. With that said though, three months is a long time between drinks, and a lot can happen in that time, so the recap will be more about providing a run-down of what has happened within different feds rather than providing a match-by-match analysis of every show.

We will continue to use the website to share content in between issues, and we will be looking to reshape the website over the coming months to better organise and present the stories that we bring you there.

That sheer amount of wrestling has also had an impact on our Fave Fives this year. A recurring theme amongst wrestlers (and teams) that find their way onto the list this year is that many of them have had success or been featured in more than one promotion. But in a number of cases, what saw a wrestler pushed from 'part of the conversation' to one of our Fave Fives was the fact that they had had success in more than one place.

The sheer amount of wrestling is also the reason why we probably got it wrong. Why we didn't include [insert name of your favourite who was robbed]. Or why [insert match that was an absolute banger that we didn't include] didn't get a look-in. We get that. The Fave Fives is just our take on the year, and even while we are assembling it we are conscious of the great matches we didn't get to, or the talented wrestlers we aren't including and the workers (wrestlers, refs, managers, officials) who through their talent have made the ones we do include look so good. So thanks to all of them.

Thanks to you, and Support local wrestling.

Matt McQueen





Impact Pro Wrestling Roundup

It's not unreasonable to say that IPW's year was defined by some big, big matches, and we went sounded out an IPW insider, for his take on some of the biggest.

Let's just say they started with a bang!

1. Bodhi Jackson vs Zeke Andino at IPW Presents: Triumphant

This match was so important to IPW and it set the stage for the title picture for the rest of the year. Bodhi Jackson had just suffered a heartbreaking defeat to his former tag team partner Luxford (The Lone Ranger) and a recently returned Zeke Andino had his eye on hanging up his boots for good after suffering numerous injuries. With the stakes so high for both men, they put on a barn burner of a match. Zeke had apparently personally requested Bodhi as his return opponent, prompting Jackson to put in a mountain of work in the IPW sweatshop in preparation. And it almost got him over the line. This match had wrestlers in the back looking at each other and saying "Who the hell is this Bodhi kid?" Bodhi showed such tenacity, you truly believed he was going home with the win. But once Zeke Andino landed the Dark Horse

Driver, it was all that she wrote. The roar from the crowd was huge and the sheer adulation from the fans showed everyone this was the year of the Dark Horse.

Of course that wasn't the only big match at Triumphant. Bojack and Kiwi Thriller put on



a great match for the Unified title, only for the outcome to be tarnished by the official shenanigans of IPW GM Jace the Ace. In the end, that just delayed the inevitable, as Bojack and Thriller fought again at Shootout and Throwdown with Bojack finally able to wrest the belt off Thriller in a Lumberjack match,

Andino was ventually able to get his hands on

Luxford and walked off with the title, leaving the Lone Ranger no choice but to ride off into the sunset.

The IPW Tag Champions at the start of the year were the team of Chad Atlas and Nick Breeze, and while it had never been smooth sailing, the pair managed to hang onto the titles well into the year. Chad Atlas has always been a pretty intense kind of guy who took himself and his wrestling pretty seriously. Turns out he doesn't like sharing either.

By the Time we got to No Excuses, Atlas was of a mind to trade in his team title for a shot at singles gold, and turned on Breeze with a Low Blow, to give Kiwi Thriller a straight forward win and the UnAustralians another go around with a title they know all too well.

2. Bojack vs Reaper at Ladder Wars

Bojack and Reaper go back a long way. They have tagged together, competed against each other and betrayed each other. They have even gone to battle in a Ladder Match once before with Reaper walking out with the strap. This time was different. The 2021 version of Bojack is a legit Heavyweight due to his hard work and dedication in the gym, and while you might think this extra size would slow him down, you would be wrong. Bojack performed



a jaw dropping 630 splash during this match, which now has more than 10,000 views on YouTube, and which surpassed anything these two had done in the ring together previously. The sheer punishment these professionals put each other through for the coveted Unified Championship was incredible. It wasn't a regular ladder match, it was violent, dangerous and damn entertaining. Bojack walked out on top this time and the two craftsmen hugged it out at the end. That is what IPW is all about.

Jesse Love and CJ are never far from the top of tree at IPW, and Ladder Wars also provided another example of why, as the two faced each other in an entertaining but inconclusive number one contenders match. While Love picked up the win, he did so with a handful of tights, and IPW asked the public whether CJ should, in the circumstances, get a





place in the title match too. The crowd voted yes, and so Andino had to face Love and CJ in a triple threat title match at Santa Rumble.

3. Santa Rumble

Without a doubt the most anticipated match of the year is the Santa Rumble. Nothing says Christmas like seeing 20+ men and women fight each other dressed as Santa. Each year you see some wrestlers return and others debut, which is another treat that this match provides. This year was no different. We saw Wacol's Most Wanted, Sorrow and Jackaroo return; and we got to see Showerman, Biff, Malibu and more make their IPW Debut. The

match saw Showerman drop the soap in front of Wacol's Most Wanted (a definite no no), an elf go flying out of the ring, an Eshay getting the hell beaten out of him, and best of all we saw Rip Rielly win the Santa Rumble for the second time ever. What is so exciting about Rip Rielly winning is the aura of unpredictability that he brings to the table.

The Santa Rumble of course carries with it the chance at a title shot, and Rip Rielly will no doubt be looking at the most prestigious title IPW have got. So not only does Andino have Love and CJ no doubt chasing after redemption, but he also has Rip Rielly in full monster mode ready to cash in at any time, and wrestlers like Chad Atlas intent on taking the next step. It's going to be an interesting 2022 for the Dark Horse, and for IPW.





Pro Wrestling League Roundup

By Lachlan Albert

Pro Wrestling League is in an interesting spot at the end of 2021. PWL returned for their first show since January 2020, Project Revolution 3, closing out the year by establishing themselves as the heir-apparent to Brisbane's wrestling scene. While this is a huge moment and was a great wrestling event, it was also PWL's only show for the year.

While the catalogue of matches from the year is small, it's impressive. Tommy Knight and Punchdrunk Istria are two of the best in Australia, and their main event matchup established a tone that will be difficult to match at the top of League's card.

Match quality isn't the only strength on display from the re-starting fed. With the evil conglomerate of Sorrow, Kyla Knight and Rip Rielly making trouble for the comic-book heroes Bobby Bishop, Lucille Brawl and Yeet Stevens by stealing a briefcase full of glow, a la Pulp Fiction, and Wacol's Most Wanted appearing despite specifically not being booked and taking over the show against Strong 94, the character work is strong.

This is all without mentioning the way the company is clearly looking to the future – with Jake Nova acting as gatekeeper against Zeke Andino, Jack Tarr showing his strength against Rip Rielly, and the incredible trio of Outback Adam, Saxon Turner and Solomun Blackwell lighting it up in a top-speed triple threat, the relatively fresh roster is prepared to become the new standard of Queensland Wrestling.

If 2022 lives up to the standard set by Project Revolution 3, PWL will be must-see.





Wide Bay Pro Wrestling Roundup

By Lachlan Albert

2021 was the start of a new Wide Bay Pro Wrestling.

Some of the mainstays are still carrying through the history of WBPW, like the ongoing feud between hometown heavyweight hero Gator and unscrupulous underweight company owner Anthony Romano and his La Familia stable. But where this was once the pivot point for an entire event, it has become just one in a cavalcade of stories delivered at every show in Maryborough.



The biggest story in the old-vs-new struggle for the identity of Wide Bay is between former Heavyweight Champ Craven and former Interstate champ Zac Reynolds. The bad blood between these two flowed through

not only Wide Bay's product, but through carparks at Venom and charity events at EWA. When it comes down to it, they do not respect each other.

Craven's year started strong, and when he became the new champion in February, surviving a four-man war early in the night before slaying the beast that is Reverend De'Ath for the title, it seemed that Wide Bay was about to enter the Craven Era. Unfortunately for the leader of the Swanton Squad, the shows where he didn't appear were as impactful to his year as the ones where he did. Border closures meant that a series of shows came and went without the champ, leading to the company's top championship being vacated going into the last show of the year.

On the other hand, Wide Bay's Interstate Championship had a very active year. The same night that Craven won his title, Blair Seeker took the Interstate title from Eric Steele, only to have his tag team partner Zac Reynolds turn on him, taking the belt a show later in the main event. In Craven's absence, Zac decided that he was the de facto main event champion. The cocky technician took the name of his championship to heart,

bickering with the finest in Australia outside of his home state. He talked smack with DMDU's Heavy Cruiserweight, York, and the leader of PWA's established faction SMS, Unsocial Jordan. He survived an intense challenge from Adam Brooks in the main event spot before Todd Eastman did what he does best and low-blowned the Natural One to steal the title for his client Jake Nova. This didn't stop Reynolds from claiming to be the main event, and while Nova wouldn't appear to defend his title, Reynolds put on a huge last man standing match against one of Riot City Wrestling's finest, the Dark King Zak Sabbath.

Now, this isn't to say that nobody else has made 2021 a big year in Wide Bay. Gator ends the year as Brute Force Champion after being injured and screwed out of championships so many times by Romano. Billie Mac is one of the most popular talents in the company, winning the FraserPOP! Championship at the annual pop culture festival. Up-and-coming favourites like Yeet Stevens and Outback Adam established themselves in long feuds and huge matches including a two-out-of-three-falls match.

But 2021 also saw the start of a new era. The era of the monster.



Zeke Andino is one of the best in Queensland. CJ is one of the best in Queensland. Adam Brooks is undoubtedly one of the best in the world. But none of them could stop the monster.

In the last event of 2021, Craven's Heavyweight Championship was officially vacated, and a four-way match for the title saw Rip Rielly emerge as the new champion.

Early 2022 has a lot of questions that Wide Bay will answer. Can Craven reclaim his title from Rielly? Will Reynolds get his shot at Craven? Will Romano continue to bother Gator? And will the incredible new ring announcer continue to be the best in the state? I can't wait to find out.





Venom Pro Wrestling Roundup

By Matt McQueen

It is tempting to think of Venom Pro Wrestling as quietly going about its business, but anyone who has been at the Yatala Showman's Guild for a Venom show knows that there is nothing quiet about it. Which is not to say that Venom rested on their laurels in 2021. Towards the end of 2020, Venom started to look for opportunities to bring their wrestling to new venues and accordingly new fans, a trend that they continued into 2021. Of the twelve shows Venom put on over the course of the year, only seven of those were at the Showman's Guild.

By the end of the year they had put on shows at Chardon's Corner Hotel, Lonestar Tavern, and Parkwood Tavern, as well as their more familiar haunts.

It wasn't just the location of the shows that moved around a bit this year, the VPW title did too. Tim Kade, Craven and Spaceman Dacey (twice) all spent time as the Venom Champion before the belt came to rest around the waist of former QWA champion EC Brownie at Overload, where it has resolutely stayed since then, despite the best

effort of Dacey to remove it.

It's a fitting place for the belt to land at the end of a year which has seen regular Venom appearances by the stalwarts of the QWA roster. To be fair, there has always appeared to be a pretty good working relationship with Venom and our northern neighbours, but this year took it to a new level, with the Venom audience getting regular opportunities to see Australian Wolf, Colt Winchester and Cherry Bombshell, Broday and others.

In addition we have seen wrestlers we have long associated with Venom making their presence felt in other promotions: Dick Riggs, Jason Hyde and Zoltan are all Venom trainees who have surfaced elsewhere in the second half of the year.

Riggs and Tiamet in particular have been big success stories this year. At Ascension 5, we saw a Brass Ring Ladder match which flagged a generational shift, with Riggs, Tequila Young and the fast rising Tiamet going up against the more experienced Jake Nova, Rip Rielly and Mike Bradley. While Tiamet took home the chocolates on that occasion (ably assisted by Todd Eastman), Riggs would not have to wait long for his moment, securing the Origins title by beating B Lars at



aftermath. Since then Riggs has managed to retain the title, but the Origins division is still stacked, and it will be no easy thing to hang onto the belt into 2022.

One team that have had no problem holding onto their championship is El Cartel, who by the end of 2021 had held the Venom Tag Titles for more than 700 days. At the risk of angering Flashman, Diablo and Bruiser, I think it is reasonable to put some asterisks around their very lengthy reign. I'm not suggesting they have dodged challengers, but they have not seemed anywhere near as keen as Riggs to put the title on the line, and have used every trick in the book (as you would expect from these wrestlers) to hang on to the straps. It's fair to say that they have benefitted from a season of transition in the VPW tag division also.

With Ryan Thorne nowhere to be seen, the Night Terrors reverted to their previous

incarnation of Kobra and Damien Thorne, and Kobra appeared to have real difficulty keeping the big man focussed on the team goals. Broday made a big splash on the occasions they attended, and Wacol's Most Wanted caused havoc, but with few other pairings able to settle into a regular team, there was little sustained competition for the champions. With Lynx Lewis Jr bringing the curtain down on his career, and leaving his Strong 94 partner Renegade to fly solo again, it's not immediately apparent where the challenge to El Cartel will come from. The Redcastle Republic anyone?

After a big year for Venom it makes sense for them to have gone big in their last show of the year, big in this case meaning Unleashed and the cast of NBC's Young Rock. Ex WWE superstar and Hollywood's favourite wrestling coordinator Chavo Guerrero was there, making sure that Mitch Ryder and Spaceman Dacey could not cheat their way to a title win, and ensuring that EC Brownie will start 2022 as Venom Champion.





Eastern Wrestling Alliance Roundup

By Matt McQueen

We can't really do an end of year recap for EWA. The promotion was originally established at the start of 2020, and with a planned-for show for May of that year, they changed management and found a gap in the COVID rules just wide enough to put on their first show. Presented in conjunction with the Helensvale Hawks Cricket Club, Fighting for Xavier was a pretty successful launch event, notwithstanding some obvious teething, timing and technical problems.

up for in enthusiasm, notably getting behind Renegade, and hating on Zoltan, and Mitch Ryder and Zach Reynolds. They remained rowdy throughout, and while there was one early attempt by a well lubricated cricketer to insert themselves into proceedings, they soon settled and let the wrestlers do their thing.

It will be interesting to see who EWA has on their card moving forward, with the Battle Royale at Fight for Xavier including UPW's Ivan Black and Gator from Wide Bay Pro Wrestling, as well as faces more familiar to a Brisbane audience.

By the end of the night, a new promotion had been well and truly launched, and EWA had crowned a Women's champion (Kyla Knight over Billie Mac) and had a Legacy Champion in Mike Bradley after he and RIP Rielly had spent 10 or so casual minutes destroying each other with chairs, ladders, rubbish bins and baking trays. It was a well-received way to end the proceedings.



I am notoriously bad at estimating numbers but to my eye there were 200+ at the event, split maybe 40/60 between wrestling fans and curious cricket club members. What the latter lacked in understanding, they made

I understand EWA are looking to return in April for their next show, before running a show once every two months.



Nightfall Wrestling Roundup

By Matt McQueen

Nightfall Wrestling

Alliance were all set to come 'Back to Life' in August, but ran head first into a South East Queensland COVID Lockdown that saw them push their Narangba debut back to Unlimited in October. At that event, JL Gold beat Spaceman Dacey to become the Nightfall Champion, a title he successfully defended against B Lars at November's 'Reality Check.' Gold had been less visible around Queensland Wrestling since the breakup of Headstrong, and his moving on

from Todd Eastman's NextGen stable. So to see him return at the top of his game to lead the developing promotion in its early attempts to find its niche is welcome, and encouraging for him and NWA.

Mind you, any locker room that can call on the experience of guys like Flashman, Kyote and Australian Wolf is not going to be lacking in the leadership department.

The promotion has proved a great testing ground for younger wrestlers too, drawing on trainees and wrestlers from QWA, Venom and 3 Count, and giving them the opportunity to get in the ring with established talent.

Another potential twist in the Nightfall tale is the presence of Viktor Redcastle, who was throwing his money around at Reality Check. Redcastle has also been at recent Venom and EWA shows, and appears to be looking to build a faction that will make its presence felt across the whole of the South East.

I'm told that Nightfall will be looking to hit us with their next show in February. In the meantime, keep an eye on their socials.





United Pro Wrestling Roundup

By Matt McQueen

2021 opened with Jack Tucker as United Pro Wrestling Champion, the odd couple of Jesse Love and Matthew Gabriel as Tag Team Champs, and Kanji holding the newly minted Featherweight title. It ended with Kanji as Featherweight champion too, but a whole lot happened in between.

Tucker had won the Heavyweight title from 13 at Undisputed Glory in November 2020, and in so doing sent the Circus of Tragedy leader on an indefinite hiatus. Thirteen would not return to in-ring action for months, and with Chasm also leaving, it left Pogo and Jynx to carry the Circus banner in the early part of the year.

The Gospel and Jesse Love had never been particularly sympatico as a tag team. Neither are known for an ability to play well with others, and their hold on the tag team titles always looked shaky as a result. It all imploded at Love and War with them losing their title to their old foes the Cluck and Duck Connection.

There was a certain inevitability about the rise of Moko Kai in UPW. The man who

had eliminated the Stockman from the OTT Rumble in 2020, and then ended his career at Undisputed glory later that same year, was clearly on a collision course with the main event title. It wasn't always clear sailing though. Early in the year, after a cowardly attack from the Circus of Tragedy, the Samoan warrior left Aussie world in an ambulance, and there were serious questions about his future.

He soon returned though, heavily strapped, and continued his trajectory, culminating in a surprise, but thoroughly deserved win over Jack Tucker at Gold Rush in March.

With Thirteen nowhere to be seen in the early part of the year, there was something of a power vacuum at the top of UPW. Fresh from ruining the streak and the career of the Stockman, Vegas Starr sought to fill it.



His efforts in that regard were ably assisted by what can only be described as the rot at the core of UPW. First commentator Thomas Winslow launched an unprovoked post-match attack on Malibu to announce himself as Tommy 'The Gun' Winslow, and then match official Andy Carroll revealed himself to be 'The Iron Eagle' Draven, in an unmasking so distracting it saw Kanji lose the Featherweight title. Big Business, as they then styled themselves, went on a tear, getting and exploiting opportunities that were only explained when it was revealed that UPW GM Marcus Crane was also in Starr's pocket. By mid-year, Big Business held the Featherweight titles (Draven), the Tag Team titles (Starr and Winslow), and Starr had managed to shoehorn himself into a shot at the UPW Championship.

The official UPW records will read that Draven held the Featherweight title until Kanji reclaimed it. Those of us who were at the show however, know that Jynx pinned Draven after answering an ill-conceived open challenge, claiming the belt, only to have it stripped from her and handed back to Draven by GM Crane. In the face of such corruption, Heat Sheet will continue to recognise Jynx as a former UPW Featherweight Champion.



In the end it was left to the inaugural Featherweight champion to officially dethrone Draven, with Kanji regaining the belt at Brisbane IV and successfully defending it in a cracker against Zeke Andino at Jingle Jam. Kanji will start 2022 the same way he started 2021, with a belt around his waist and a target on his back.

The tag titles ended the year in the hands of Draven and Winslow, the self-styled 'Hired Guns,' who, having disposed of the body of Vegas Starr late in the year, have done everything they could think of to stay at the top. It will be interesting to see how long that plays out, given the return to full strength of the Circus of Tragedy, and the emergence and re-emergence of teams like Kai and Tahi, and Malibu and Andino.

Once the dust had settled on the end of his tag team title run, Jesse Love set off in search





of the main prize, going through his old partner Matthew Gabriel and multiple guitars to get there. By the time he found himself up against Moko Kai for the championship, he had earned the respect, if not necessarily the love, of the UPW audience. He was finally able to take the title at his third attempt, winning by pinfall at Brisbane 4, in what is one of our matches of the year.

UPW have been the most active promotion in South East Queensland over the course of the last two years. Their UPWHQ facility at Caboolture allowed them to continue doing house shows when most other promotions were in lockdown, and to run two shows a month once things started to open up again. They have also been active in looking for other opportunities.

A spot show at Mansfield Tavern on June 5th has turned into a regular Brisbane presence, with five shows at that venue now on the books, and serious consideration needing to be given to coming up with better names. A move away from their long-established home at Aussie World has seen them

exploring other venues on the Sunshine Coast, and recent shows at Morayfield Sports and Entertainment Centre have expanded their capacity to put on shows for their Morayfield/North Brisbane core audience, without the low-fi limitations of UPWHQ.

They are also pushing the boundaries of their product, letting their wrestlers off the leash with their first 18+ show, and shining a light on their academy talent with their Next Gen Show in November 2021.

United Pro Wrestling are unashamedly a promotion in the WWE sports entertainment mould. With good guys fighting bad guys, and a bit of silliness for the kids, that didn't change in 2021 and is not likely to change in 2022, wherever they may be doing it.





2021 Wrestling Highlights



Q: All time favourite Wrestler

Worldwide its Aj Styles but in Australia the greatest talent is Tommy "The Gun" Winslow!

Q: All time favourite match (to watch)

Enzo and Cass vs The Revival at NXT London

Q: Favourite Move to perform?

Kata Ha Jime

Q: Where, when and with whom did you start Training?

United Pro Wrestling, November 2019

Q: Where, when and against whom did you make your debut?

January 2021 at UPW Awakening part 1 against some part timer, Kanji.

Q: Your Favourite match you've been in?

As a singles competitor Last Man Standing against Moko Kai (<https://youtu.be/tf7kZSJsXJI>)

As the greatest tag team Hired Guns vs Circus of Tragedy in Brisbane 4 (available on UPW Vimeo on Demand).

Q: What titles have you held?

I am the Longest reigning UPW Featherweight Championship, I am a current UPW Tag Team champion alongside the greatest to ever lace up the gauntlets, Tommy 'the Gun' Winslow

Q: Who designs/ makes your ring gear?

My designs and ideas, put into practice by a lovely lady on the coast named Margaret, funded by being the undefeated and by far greatest UPW Tag Team Champions of all time.

Q: who has been the biggest influence on your career?

The Iron Eagle, he's a huge inspiration

Q: Favourite part of HeatSheet Magazine?

That it only comes out every few months

Q: What is your 'Message to the HeatSheet Audience'?

Buy a shirt.

Q: Least favourite opponent?

Kanji, he's Rubbish.

Q: Favourite opponent?

Moko Kai

Q: Favourite match you've not yet had?

Manu Tahi or Outback Adam



Q: All time favourite Wrestler

All time is a really hard pick, lot of options. Do I pick one of the great featherweights such as Draven or do I choose a tag team Champion such as Draven. Another option is a great technician and high flyer. Someone like Draven really comes to mind for that one.

Q: All time favourite match (to watch)

The iron eagle vs Kanji kid really springs to mind. A great achievement for my good friend Draven earning his place as the greatest featherweight champion

Q: Where, when and with whom did you start Training?

I started training in Oct of 2019 at the UPW training academy.

Q: Where, when and against whom did you make your debut?

My debut was against well known filthy hippie Malibu. I took great joy in knocking him out in case you were wondering

Q: Your Favourite match you've been in?

My favourite match would have to be HIRED GUNS vs circus of tragedy at UPW Brisbane 4. I believe that was a turning point for myself and Draven and it felt great to take some hatred I've always had for clowns out on pogo and most especially 13

Q: Favourite match you've not yet had?

I can't wait to get in the ring with either CP McQueen or Johnny rocko, Just cause I believe beating up those commentary fools in front of a paying audience would give me great joy.

Q: Favourite Move to perform?

Shotgun elbow usually means that the match is over and I have won so that. Headlocks are also really enjoyable. Squashing fools with my biceps is quite fun

Q: What titles have you held?

The only one that matters. UPW TAG TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

Q: Favourite opponent?

I don't have favourite opponents. But getting the opportunity to beat up that hippie Malibu is always a pleasure



Bro Day and Bro Night

By Matt McQueen

One of the best things about writing about wrestling is you get the opportunity to meet and talk to wrestlers and wrestling people. Inside every wrestler is a wrestling fan, and inside every wrestling fan is an evangelist, wanting to tell the world about this thing they love and just why it revs them up. So I was excited to sit down with Gabriel Zaya and Trent O'Day (Broday) before their match at Venom Back Room Brawl 2, to talk about what makes them tick, and just how far into the multiverse they were hoping to ride this wrestling train.

Q: You guys are based at QWA in Townsville. Did you wrestle before joining QWA?

Trent: No, we started training there. I

am from Townsville originally but was overseas for a couple of years and then came back. We both saw a QWA show at the Old Greek Community centre and then we just started training there.

Q: Gabe, you said you were from Melbourne originally?

Gabe: Yeah, I came up north for Uni and kind of stuck around there. As Trent said we found out there was wrestling and thought well let's go to a show and then we saw an ad for tryouts and thought, 'hey they're doing tryouts, do you wanna go?' and I was like, 'I'll go because my mate's going, I won't leave him on his own.' And here we are.

HS: I think there is that process that people go through in getting involved in wrestling. First it's 'Oh my God there's local wrestling' and then 'Oh my God they're doing tryouts' and then all of a sudden you find yourself evangelising, telling people 'you might think that wrestling stopped happening when you were 16 and you stopped watching WWE, but it's still happening and it's nearby.' Is that how it was for you?



Gabe: Yeah, every time we've plugged the show up there, every single person that's come up to us has said thanks and every person without fail after a show was like 'that was actually good' like they're surprised 'that was actually really good, it was really fun.' I've never had anyone say they didn't enjoy it, they've always been 'that was different' or 'that was really cool, we really enjoyed it, all the kids loved it.'

HS: I remember the first time we went to



a show, I brought my whole family, and even my wife (who is not hugely into it) still talks about and still remembers Combat Wombat.

Trent: Yeah that's great it's things like that. That's what I try and do in every

match. Make memories, make moments, because that's what stays with people. Personally, like every wrestling fan, I've got a lot of wrestling memories – Daniel Brian winning at Mania – like those big moments. That was so cool and you want create those memories. As a fan it's very rare that you remember a full match, but you always remember those moments, like when Adam Cole debuted at AEW, Bryan Danielson joining AEW, that was amazing, you feel euphoric.

HS: so you guys were mates before starting training and started training together. So when you started training, did you plan on being a tag team, or was that just a happy coincidence?

Gabe: Not initially. We started feuding against each other, we were training together and developing together, so QWA put us against each other and then we moved on from that, wrestling other people, doing other stuff. We were having fun and then the idea came up to tag together.

Trent: And we thought 'sweet!' We had gone three to four months without seeing each other in the ring and





we had enjoyed working together, so we thought 'yeah, let's form a tag team.' We went on like a year's run or thereabouts as a tag team

Gabe: We had a blast and then we got split up – I think prematurely – and we both went on to do singles things. As it stands now in Townsville, we are mainly singles wrestlers, so the way things have panned out in Townsville is completely different to what we're doing outside of Townsville. The whole reason we're doing it outside of Townsville is cause we are sick of not wrestling together.

HS: obviously there are differences in being a team as opposed to as a singles wrestler. What is it that you like about tag team wrestling?

Gabe: It takes half the energy and delivers twice the excitement because there's

always someone that's fresh. It's high excitement, high octane, and it's hard to work at that level for a whole match as a singles wrestler.

Trent: It is extra levels of drama, so even though it's fun and everything, you can use the stipulation to tell different stories. You've got two extra people essentially. You want two extra characters in? Add two extra levels to go for that excitement, building tension and building drama. In a singles match you put near falls and ropes breaks and stuff, but at the end it is one guy trying to beat one guy. In a tag match we've got two guys trying to pin two guys. You've got kick outs, near falls, breakups, throw outs – so there's a little bit of extra stuff that you can play with. As a team we found that when you can bounce ideas off another person, especially when it's your best mate, it takes it to another level.

HS: You have said that you like wrestling against each other, but now that you've reconnected as a tag team, who are your favourite teams to wrestle against?

Gabe: We've only had a couple matches back as a team, but I don't think there's anyone we haven't enjoyed wrestling. Tonight we are up against Wacol's (Most

Wanted) – they’re so much fun, super charismatic dudes. We’ve never wrestled Strong 94, but have heard good things about them.

Trent: In our first run through when we were in QWA, we had a match with Tommy Asgard and Marcus Adonis which was really fun, really, really fun – just like a little hidden gem for us. Also anything that we did when we were in Destiny against MDC, so Broday as a tag team joined the Destiny Faction which was feuding against MDC, that was super fun.

HS: I want to talk about story telling. Most promotions, and I think this is true for QWA, run a show a month. What’s the challenge with telling stories when you’re only seeing your audience once a month?

Gabe: Speaking for me personally, in QWA we have our big three shows of the year and the story arcs tend to fit into that. Essentially you want to go like from Dominance to Halloween or like Halloween all the way back around to Dominance, you want those as your book-end story points and you use those as your markers. This is my start, this is where I’m going to finish. Because our Dominance

show in June or July is our Mania, that’s our end of the season supposedly, so that’s where you can start anew.

Trent: It also helps to be putting on a reliable show for a loyal audience. When people come to a QWA show they know that they’re going to get the same characters, they know they’re going to get storylines



they get invested in, and they don’t have people jumping in and out every month they can’t invest with. If they’ve come to see Trent O’Day, they are going to see Trent O’Day so they can get invested in what I’m doing in the storyline, and then there’s the payoff. There’s a reward – you invested all this time in this wrestler to try and



climb the mountain, and to try and finally get there and win the title. Hopefully fans are saying to themselves 'if I keep coming it's gonna happen at this show cause it's here and that's where it's gonna happen.' And eventually you have to give them that pay off and everyone is happy.

Gabe: We are QWA fans, we were fans before we started wrestling, so there's also that sense of mutual loyalty. We keep wrestling for them then they keep turning up for us. That energy is reciprocated yeah.

HS: You Mention some of those guys, and what's become really obvious to me is that the top tier in Australia is able to hold its own internationally. Dunkzilla, Bronson Reed, what the PWA guys have done at Chikara, Robbie Eagles in Japan, Jessica Troy - a lot of wrestlers getting wider recognition. It has got me thinking, is there now an Australian style of wrestling?

Gabe: The Australian style is definitely developing I think. It's taking so much influence from everything around it. It's beginning to take a form, but realistically if you're looking at how long it's been since we've started to take a stand, it's

still a baby. I think because it's bits and pieces of all of them, it almost represents Australia as a culture because Australia is so multicultural - it's bits and pieces of everyone.

Trent: What I'm really proud of is that as a country with our talent we've shown that we can go with anything, do anything, anywhere across the world. Shoot, Technico and big man stuff all in one match and it's just an Australian. That's just what we do so if you're talking about that Australian culture, I mean you could say that we definitely have one, but it's wrestling. In an Australian wrestling ring you don't know, you literally don't know what you're going to get - you could get anything yeah.

So what does the wrestling future hold for you guys, either as individuals or as a tag team?

Trent: Wherever the multiverse takes us?

Gabe: yeah that's sort of it really, to try and travel across different universes and different companies. We have to try and wrestle anywhere and everywhere we can in front of different crowds of different people. We've seen so much talent across

the country and it's been tantalising.

Trent: yeah I wanna wrestle them all, so our whole thing is like we don't have a Plan B right, that's what we keep preaching. There's like a whole thing and we want to establish ourselves as one of the best tag teams in the country. The only way we can do that basically is to wrestle the teams that are part of that conversation.

Gabe: Aussie Open, if they would ever come back, would be a dream match. I would love to wrestle the Velocities.

Trent: I want to wrestle any and everyone. I want to step in the ring with Gavin McGavin and Slater, really test ourselves. We just love doing this stuff. We love wrestling obviously. We'd like to thank Venom for bringing us down, without them we wouldn't be down here at all at the end of the day. If we don't have Venom, there's no Broday essentially

Gabe: We're singles guys up north and that's all we are at their shows. The multiverse gimmick was to get us to travel and then

allow us to do that, so I'd like to thank Venom.

Since this interview took place, Broday have appeared at Nightfall Wrestling Alliance, and recorded what they have described as their final No Plan B podcast, Trent O'Day has had one of his wishes granted, taking on (and beating) Gavin McGavin at QWA's Centenary Christmas Classic, and Gabriel Zaya has been named QWA wrestler of the year. Whether that means we have seen the last of them as a team down here, I don't know, but you can still follow their singles endeavours on Twitter via [@TheRealGabeBro](#) and [@ODayQWA](#).



2021 Fave Fives

Before we celebrate our favourite moments of 2021, we should first acknowledge those that are retiring from wrestling this year.

After 13 years Lynx Lewis Jr announced his retirement to a shocked audience at Venom: Unleashed in November. In his final promo Lynxy thanked his many mentors and peers and most importantly his Tag Team Partner of 10 years Renegade, with whom he has held 7 Tag Titles. Lynxy has wrestled all over Australia and even in Japan, and every time I have seen him wrestle he is beloved by the audience immediately.

LFB also retired this year after losing a mask versus hair match against Tim Hayden, revealing himself to be Lukas

Barber IPW's former commentator. Having had a storied career at IPW and holding a number of titles LFB is one of the most well known masked wrestlers in South East Queensland.

This year we also lost Luke Chinn who wrestled as 'The Weird One' he was an institution of South East Queensland wrestling, with Venom, IPW and EWA all dedicating a match in his honour, he will be missed.

Fave Five Wrestlers

Moko Kai

The Samoan Warrior spent most of 2021 as the heavyweight champion of the most active fed in South East Queensland, so he was always going to be in the running for consideration as one of our wrestlers of the year. What cemented his place was the manner in which he carried the belt. While it was obvious from his debut (a decisive win over the Gospel at Halloween Bash 2019) that UPW liked what Moko Kai was bringing, I'm not sure even they could have foreseen how well it would play out with their audience. They lapped up his destruction of Vegas Starr, his continued domination of Matthew



Gabriel, and even his end of year program against a reformed Jesse Love which saw the title change hands. In a year in which United Pro Wrestling were exploring new markets and looking for opportunities away from their long term base at Aussie World, Moko Kai was the undisputed face of the company, and provided a focus for that push. For a wrestler who doesn't spend a great deal of time with a mike in his hands, Moko Kai certainly made a statement in 2021.

Zeke Andino

This is the Fave Fives, where through a process of discussion, debate and voting, the Heatsheet team come to a consensus on who we think were the most notable wrestlers in South East Queensland in the past year. It is all very civilised, polite and democratic. So with that out of the way, let me be absolutely clear: Zeke Andino was my favourite wrestler of 2021. He returned to IPW (and Queensland) at IPW presents Triumphant and set the place on fire. He travelled north to Aussie World and the three way program between himself, Sebastian Matters and featherweight champion Kanji, went a long way to cementing that title as a prize worth fighting for. He rekindled his old grudge against Jesse Love, coming perilously

close to ruining it for everyone else, and then he casually captured the IPW Heavyweight title from Luxford and held it to the end of the year. He is someone who I could never imagine getting tired of watching. In the



interest of journalistic balance however, I will admit to one reservation – how does a wrestler as accomplished as Andino get away with calling himself the 'Dark Horse'?

Craven

The first half of 2021 seemed to be all about Craven in South East Queensland. In Wide Bay Pro Wrestling, he rose to the very pinnacle, and was not only carrying the title but was crucial in attracting the



biggest names in Queensland wrestling to make the drive north to take him on. In Venom Pro Wrestling he challenged for and won the championship, vying with Tim Kade and a very focussed Spaceman Dacey for bragging rights. The first time we did our Fave Fives, we had a category for best interstater, but even if we still had that category, Craven has so established himself as part of the South East Queensland scene that he probably wouldn't have qualified. It's kind of ironic then that it was COVID and travel restrictions which ultimately slowed him down. Craven didn't wrestle at EWA's Fighting for Xavier, but he was present, and we are looking forward to his presence at a lot more Queensland events moving forward.

Jesse Love

What Jesse Love achieved in United Pro Wrestling this year probably would have been enough to have him in our Fave Fives.

He started the year holding the tag title (with the Gospel), ended the year as UPW Champion, and in between put on at least three matches that could reasonably have been considered in our Match of the Year discussion. But Jesse Love didn't confine his talents to UPW in 2021. At Impact Pro Wrestling, he took the opportunity of Zeke

Andino's return to put on a match at Shootout that nearly stole the show. Whilst he may not have captured title gold after he and Tim Hayden surrendered the tag belts to Atlas and Breeze at Triumphant, he continued to be a key part of the IPW Puzzle, appearing in a triple threat title match at Santa Rumble. If all that wasn't enough, he also appeared on the cover of Heat Sheet for the first time.



Yeet Stevens

Wrestling doesn't need to be complicated. Sometimes all you need to do is give the audience something they want. Especially if what they want is a big guy with a catchy gimmick, and his name written across his butt. Yeet Stevens could have probably made it into any of the Fave Five categories this year, but given his dominance, and the

way the crowd have responded to him in any promotion he has wrestled in, it was only right to recognise him as one of the top wrestlers of 2021. Let's remember, while Yeet had been in training for a while, it was only in 2020 that he debuted at UPW OTT Rumble and made an appearance at 3 Counts Showcase show. Since then he has been a genuine force in South East Queensland Wrestling, and while he is the only one of our Fave Five best wrestlers not to carry a title over the course of 2021, we are backing that to change in 2022.

Fave Five Breakout Wrestlers

Draven

One of my favourite articles that I've written for Heat Sheet is my Darkmatch Try Out article, from that time in Feb 2020 when I went along to and bravely/foolishly took part in a UPW Training Academy tryout. Check it out, it's still up on the web site, and it's good. And when you get to the bit where I mention the '17 year old who looked like he just stepped out of a Nike commercial,' take a moment to reflect that that is the first Heat Sheet reference to the person who would become Draven.

While it's been a fast rise for Draven, it hasn't been a straightforward one. He started the year as UPW match official Andy Carroll, briefly pulled double duty as masked bad guy the Iron Eagle, and shocked the UPW audience and the champion Kanji to unmask and claim the featherweight title. He joined Tommy Winslow and Vegas Starr in forming Big Business under the patronage of UPW GM Marcus Crane, and managed to turn that partnership into a share of the UPW Tag Titles. His reign has continued even after the apparent dissolution of the faction, and the rebranding of Winslow and himself as 'the Hired Guns.' It's been a busy year for Draven, a breakout year.

Dick Riggs

In previous years, this category was our Rookie of the Year category, and it was



confined to wrestlers who had made their South East Queensland debut in the year in question.

Dick Riggs didn't 'debut' in 2021. It probably can't even be said that he started getting noticed in 2021 – when I interviewed VPW GM Anthony for a Venom feature all the way back in issue 5 (November 2019), he was already talking up the potential of then-trainee Riggs. But 2021 was very much the year in which Riggs arrived.

At the start of the year he was one of a fairly crowded field of would-be challengers for the Origins Title that included B Lars, Jason Hyde, Tiamet and of course the title holder Tequila Young. By the end of the year he had established himself as the undisputed champion of that division (having won the belt of B Lars at Aftermath 5), and as a fighting champion to boot, having successfully defended the title at every VPW show since. He has started to spread his wings too, appearing at Nightfall Wrestling Alliance and at the recently rebooted EWA. Who can say what 2022 will hold for Riggs.

Broday

We have a full interview with Broday in this very issue, so trying to sum them up in a

paragraph is maybe kind of pointless, but we'll try.

This year we were very excited to see an influx of wrestlers from Townsville's QWA making the journey south to take on the

south east. Australian Wolf, Colt Winchester and Cherry Bombshell have appeared multiple times in Venom and other promotions, and big Man EC Brownie finished the year as VPW champion. But the real revelation for Heat Sheet has been Broday. At a time when Gabriel Zaya and Trent O'Day are stretching their wings as single performers in their home promotion, South East Queensland got the chance to see them revive their partnership for our viewing enjoyment. Fast, athletic, with a chemistry that can only come from actually enjoying what they are doing and who they are doing it with, they established themselves as a team worth going out of your way to see. It seems likely that much of what we see from these guys moving forward will be singles based, and that will be cool, but 2021 was the year they crossed our radar as a tag team, and as one of the best tag teams in the country.





Solomun Blackwell

Is it wild to put someone who's had two matches as a breakout star of the year?

It would be if those matches weren't the quality outings that

Solomun Blackwell put on in the last couple of months.

Honestly, most people would probably just assume that Blackwell has been performing at a high level outside of Brisbane for a long time. That's kind of true – the Perth import trained at the notorious EPW Academy before making his way to Brisbane. Most of that illusion, though, is testament to his dedication and skill. The highly produced entrance video, the cool demeanor, the sleek ring gear and smoother-than-butter wrestling style – those are all Solomun.

It's tempting to call Solomun the potential future of Queensland wrestling, but that comes with the opposite risk normally associated with that claim. If the match quality he showed against Saxon Turner and Outback Adam this year can be matched with the rest of the SEQ roster, and if he can

quickly lock in an emotional connection with the fans, he won't be the future for long – he'll be the present.

Billie Mac

It has been a big year for Billie Mac, and she looked handsome while doing it all! Holding the Fraser Pop (Fesrival) Championship at Wide Bay Pro, having a chance to be the inaugural EWA Women's championship against Kyla Knight, and continuing to school all of us on our sub-par fashion sense, Mac has quickly become one of the most recognised women in Queensland wrestling. Gracing us with her presence at many brands across Queensland and NSW, Mac participated in tag team matches, including one of the few intergender tag matches to happen this year at UPW. She also held her own in plenty of singles matches, becoming a fighting champion and an icon of fashion daring to argue that mesh, frills and tassels do all belong on the same set of wrestling gear.



Fave Five Characters

Tommy 'the Gun' Winslow

Thomas Winslow could have had great career as a commentator. His quick wit and natural understanding of the ebb and flow of a wrestling match could have seen him become one of the very best behind the table, even if he never learned Spanish. But calling the in-ring action sometimes isn't enough for those putting in hours of work in the ring and the gym to live their wrestling dreams. In January, Tommy Winslow cracked, making an unprovoked post match attack on former UPW Champion Malibu. More was to follow as Malibu and then others found themselves in Winslow's cross hairs. He joined Vegas Starr in Big Business and together they captured the tag team titles, and while that faction is no more, the Gun continues as a title holder, now teamed up with old stablemate Draven. Winslow has taken the short cut to success, and in the process revealed himself to be one of the most arrogant, entitled, obnoxious and loathed members of the UPW roster. Congratulations Tommy Winslow, I hope it was worth it.

Colt Winchester

Taking his name from two famous firearm

brands, Winchester and Colt, Colt Winchester brings the cowboy aesthetic to SEQ wrestling. First gaining recognition at Venom, a brand full of standout characters like a moustached detective, a British biker and seemingly endless collection guys in fun patterned wrestling gear, Colt Winchester successfully balances the two hardest elements of wrestling: engaging with the crowd and actually wrestling well. Sporting blue hair and a cowboy hat does the work of distracting the audience from the fact the Winchester doesn't seem to have any guns, but in the quickdraw world of wrestling, it is much safer to head into a duel armed with wit and a suplex rather than a firearm. It also has to be said that due to the nature of Colt Winchester's name, at Heat Sheet Headquarters he is referred to as 'Gun Gun.'



Gator

Nobody knows their crowd like Gator.

The heavyweight makes his home in Wide Bay Pro Wrestling and has been a focal point of stories and crowd adoration for a long time. This year showed the extent to which Gator knows what strange and brutal acts will excite the Wide Bay faithful. From back-and-forth scraps using rolls of toilet paper as weapons in February, to asking Santa for a custom title belt to close the year, Gator's goofiness was punctuated with sincerity and violence. His surprise return from injury to the tune of Johnny Cash's cover of *Hurt* brought the fans to their feet. His friendship with Wide Bay's most special fan, Harrison, warmed hearts, and his penchant for absolutely drilling his boss with every weapon at his disposal made the crowd roar with approval.

Every time classic-bad-boss Anthony Romano tried to keep Gator down this year by throwing lackies at him, Gator got back up. He finally put away long-time rival Reverend De'Ath with a massive twisting Gator Bomb and planted Eric Steele with his new Boss Man Slam-style finisher into a garbage bin, and the crowd loved every second. Gator really is a man of the people.



Wacol's Most Wanted

Let's not beat around the bush. Wrestling is an entertainment medium, and Wacol's Most Wanted are simply one of the most entertaining things that happened in South East Queensland wrestling this year.

At no time during the last 12 months did they really come close to claiming a championship. I'm not even sure they picked up many wins, but they still stand out as one of the genuine special attractions on the scene. The sort of team who when you see them announced on the card, makes you smile and think that yes, maybe you will grab a ticket to that show. In less committed hands the goofy, hapless convict gimmick could get repetitive really quickly, but Skinny D and Cockroach are always on the lookout for a new manner of mayhem. In the ring and on the



interwebs, it will be along time before we are tired of seeing Wacol's Most Wanted.

R.I.P.

One of the mainstays of IPW's atmosphere is how well it connects with and entertains the children in its audience. This is exemplified by R.I.P. who is probably best described as the B.F.G. (Big Friendly Giant). Able to get a laugh out of any crowd while simultaneously warming their hearts, R.I.P. might not be 100% sure of what is going on, but he will definitely tell you if there is a problem with the bull-rope. Being able to hold his own in the ring doesn't hurt either, putting maximum effort into whatever he has currently remembered to be doing. In many ways IPW would be lost without him, and he would be lost without them giving his life direction.

Fave Five Matches

Broday v Strong 94 v Wacol's Most Wanted - Venom Backroom Brawl 2

I will admit, I watched this match kind of dreading that it would find its way into our Fave Fives. There was no title on the line, there were no title holders in the match. While every wrestler in the match was quality, and every team accomplished, there were no stakes to

speak of. It was a triple threat Tag Match, so it was chaotic, with many many moving parts. It was also a Wacol's Most Wanted match, so it was always going to be crazy and at times silly. But gee it was fun, and fast, and frenetic, and it was a highlight of the show.

As we drove home from Annerley, I mentioned to Ais that it may not be the best match of the year, but it might be the most enjoyable. She pointed out that if wrestling is meant to be enjoyable, then the most enjoyable match of the year must be worthy of consideration as one of the best. So here it is.

Bojack v Kiwi Thriller 1 - IPW Triumphant

Kiwi Thriller is easy to hate. I get it - we are meant to. It is part of the beauty of the character. He comes to the ring with his mate Sweet Ass, wearing an ugly shirt, and with a toothless grin, and all the arrogance of a wrestler who knows that even if he stuffs up, his other mate Jace will make it all ok. Like I said, easy to hate. So easy in fact that sometimes you forget that when he needs to, Kiwi Thriller can go.

Against Bojack at IPW Presents Triumphant, Thriller needed to go. In a match wrestled at a pace that was a credit to both men, in reality it was too good a match to have its finish



tainted by shenanigans. But of course that just meant they did it all again at Shootout, before Bojack finally overcame the odds in a lumberjack match at Throwdown. IPW fans might prefer the third match in the series, where Bojack was finally able to prise the belt away from Thriller, but this was the match of the three that really captured my attention. On a card that included Zeke Andino returning against Bodhi Jackson (see our IPW write up), this was my match of the night, and easily one of my Fave Fives.

Craven v Tim Kade v Spaceman Dacey - VPW Ascension

Some matches just elevate a show.

You know how it is: you are there watching a wrestling show, enjoying your chips and gravy, and thinking that these people

should do a bit less talking and a bit more fighting. And then a match comes along that rips the roof off. Craven v Kade v Dacey for the VPW Championship at Ascension was that kind of match, with every wrestler delivering on the night. Tim Kade, the chippy little man, all piss and vinegar, a classic anti-hero, buzzed around the ring like a particularly dangerous mosquito. Or dare I say it, a wolverine. Dacey, the power Heel, was capable of ending the match in short order and more than willing to end his opponents into the bargain. The champion Craven was the good guy looking to hang on to his title and having to match the power of the big guy and the pace of the smaller man.

I've gone back over my notes for Ascension, and I'll admit that there were more spectacular spots and arguably a bigger payoff in the Brass Ring Ladder match. But for top guys, having a top guy match, and giving every indication that it mattered, this was my match of the night, and a worthy entrant in our Fave Fives.

Jake Nova V Zac Reynolds - Wide Bay Pro Wrestling

There's two types of great matches.



There's technical matches that nail high-impact moves and smooth transitions, and there's poignant matches that make an audience feel something through long-term storytelling coalescing into a transcendent moment. Jake Nova and Zac Reynolds had a match this year that was both.

Nova is the gatekeeper of Queensland Wrestling. He's the grumpy old man who has kept a youthful cheeky streak that he uses to make his moves as entertaining for a crowd as they are painful for his opponent, and manager Todd Eastman is world class at adding insult to injury (and vice-versa).

Reynolds is a cocky upstart who cheated his former friend out of a title, snuck away with that title after being challenged by Adam Brooks, and boasted about being the main event when the Heavyweight Champ couldn't make shows.

The match was a perfect storm. Every move flowed and snapped. Nova's top-rope Spanish Fly hovered in mid-air for an upside-down eternity. Reynolds drove Nova into the mat with massive knees and slick kicks. Of course Eastman made the difference, low-blowing Zac and throwing

the woozy referee into the ring for a three count that sucked the oxygen from the building before igniting it completely. The right match. The right moment. Nothing beats it.

Moko Kai vs Jesse Love - United Pro Wrestling Brisbane IV

Both men in this match are also in our fave five wrestlers and you can see why in this match. Even the commentary team is split on who will win this match. By Brisbane IV, Moko Kai had been the UPW champion for months. He had successfully defended his title against a variety of opponents, including against Love on multiple occasions. Love's chase



for this title comes to a head in this match though, and each man works hard to make every blow count and take every advantage they can. Moko Kai goes for the spear immediately after the lock up, indicating just how hard he is going to fight to defend his title. Love replies by targeting the back of his opponent, quick to taunt the audience about his minor victory. The match shows both men performing at their peak, Jesse trying

to keep Moko on the ground as long as possible but consistently only getting two counts on the pin. Throwing each other around the ring, working to tire out the other as the match draws on. This match serves as a testament to both men's endurance, strength and determination. The end comes almost as a surprise, with Kai hitting the spear and Love fleeing to the outside but returning to the ring to lay the Samoan Warrior out and get the win.

Our Cover this issue is by Ricky Davy and features all of our fave five wrestlers of 2021. Our Back Cover is by Barb's Photos and features Wacol's Most Wanted, looking distraught, we assume at the loss of their christmas cheer.





HEAT SHEET