

OVER 100 YEARS OF WRESTLING TRADITION



OCTOBER 2023 ISSUE 7

WINNIPEG PRO

Wrestling

MAGAZINE **VPW**



READY TO RUMBLE

IT'S TIME FOR THE MAIN EVENT

A THREAT TO JODY

ARE WE LOOKING AT A NEW CHAMP?

OVER THE TOP ROPE

15 MEN ENTER, ONLY ONE CAN WIN!



VPW
EXCLUSIVE
WRESTLER
SPOTLIGHT:
AVA LAWLESS

READY TO RUMBLE

THE BIGGEST MATCH IN WPW HISTORY

Written by Sid Carreiro - Photos by Dwayne Larson and Matt Friesen

At the conclusion of TRUE VIOLENCE WPW Champion Bobby Schink was on top of the wrestling world. He had just vanquished long time rival Tommy Lee Curtis and had proven to fans that he was here to stay. That's until the lights turned out and he was blindsided by the 'Canadian Hercules' Tyler Colton. Schink was laid out with a vicious lariat and barely conscious when Tyler Colton snatched up the WPW Championship and walked out of the West End Cultural Centre with it. That was just the beginning of a long summer for Sweet Bobby.

After that assault Schink knew what he had to do to gain his honor back, challenge Tyler Colton to a fight at WPW's biggest event ever, RUMBLE IN THE BURT. At BLUE CRUSHED both men signed a contract for the main event, which led to Tyler Colton hitting a cheap shot headbutt onto Schink and driving him through a table. A special attraction match was signed for LEGENDS OF THE PINFALL, WPW Champion Bobby Schink teaming up with WPW Women's Champion Jody Threat for the first time, to take on Colton and the legendary LuFisto.

Unfortunately for Schink and Threat, LuFisto and Colton gained the upperhand and walked out with the victory, and Colton even managed to escape with Schink's WPW Championship again. This was the same week that Bobby Schink was invited to throw out the first pitch at a Winnipeg Goldeyes game, a massive honor, but he wasn't able to represent with his Championship. This has only driven Schink more to get back what's his, the WPW Championship.

Tyler Colton was crowned "Manitoba's Strongest Man" this summer and his grip on the title might be even tighter than any weight he's lifted. He feels he is already the WPW Champion, and he feels no one can take it from him.

The Burton Cummings Theatre has stood for over a hundred years and it has never seen a feud like this.

Who will walk out of the Burt the WPW Champion?



JODY'S BIGGEST THREAT YET

WILL WE SEE A NEW WPW WOMEN'S CHAMPION AT RUMBLE IN THE BURT?

Written by Elizabeth Mancini - Photos by Matt Friesen

Jody Threat had been undefeated since winning the WPW Women's Championship in September 2022, nearly a full year of victories over the likes of Laynie Luck, Seleyiza Sparx and Masha Slamovich. The Wild Child was riding high into the RUMBLE IN THE BURT until she found herself squaring up with the legendary LuFisto in a tag team match. After a wild back and forth that saw Jody Threat lifting Tyler Colton and LuFisto slapping the syrup taste out of Sweet Bobby's mouth, LuFisto surprised WPW fans by pinning Threat and handing her her first loss in WPW in almost a year.



Jody Threat wasn't about to take this loss lightly, she immediately grabbed the microphone from announcer Wilfred Langside and laid out the challenge: she wanted LuFisto at WPW's biggest event ever; RUMBLE IN THE BURT, and she wanted to defend her WPW Women's Championship and her honour. LuFisto accepted and now the battle lines are drawn, the legendary LuFisto takes on the Wild Child Jody Threat for the WPW Women's Championship October 7th at the Burton Cummings Theatre!



WRESTLER SPOTLIGHT

AVA LAWLESS

Written by Sid Carreiro - Photos by Dwayne Larson

Undefeated since debuting in WPW at ONCE UPON A TIME, the 'Hellion' has won over WPW fans with her heavy metal style and heavy metal attitude. Ava Lawless has made a name for herself in a short time, taking on some of the top names in independent wrestling and winning Championships all over Alberta. Her WPW debut came with a victory over Blair Onyx, who had already asserted herself as a top contender for the Women's Championship. That win shot Lawless up the standings and showed WPW fans that The Hellion is in line for a future WPW Women's Championship match. Her next match only solidified that further when she picked up a victory against Taryn From Accounting in front of 550 fans at FIGHT AT THE MUSEUM. Two big wins over women that have challenged for Jody Threat's Championship in the past.

Her next test will come at RUMBLE IN THE BURT when she squares off with Seleyiza Sparx. Sparx is also angling for another shot at the WPW Women's Championship and has shown that she'll do anything to back into the #1 Contenders spot. Can the Hellion bang her head to victory at the Burton Cummings Theatre?



FROM THE WALKER TO THE BURT

The Burton Cummings Theatre Has Been a Hotspot For Wrestling For Over 100 Years

Written by Bruno Schofield

WALKER
CANADA'S FINEST THEATRE
TONIGHT at 8.30
World's Welterweight Wrestling Championship
EUGENE TREMBLAY
Versus
MILLER
WALTER
Catch-as-Catch-Can, Best Two in Three Falls,
High Class Boxing and Wrestling Free Handicaps.
Prices: \$2.50, \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.00 and 50c.

Professional Wrestling has a rich history in Manitoba, with some events dating back to the birth of the province in 1870. One of the original venues for these events was the Walker Theatre, now named the Burton Cummings Theatre. Opening in late 1906, the Burton Cummings Theatre is a National Historic Site and considered the premiere entertainment venue in the Province.

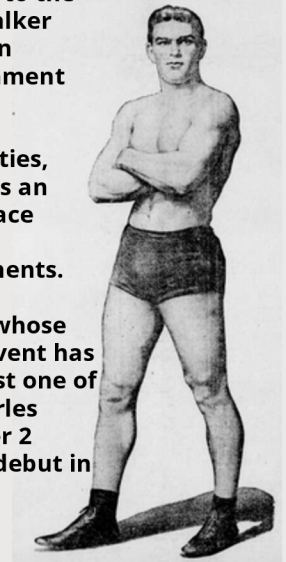
Winnipeg was a boom town in the early 1900's and attracted some of the top celebrities, musical acts and athletes; and the world of wrestling was no different. Wrestling was an important cultural institution for Winnipeg's booming immigrant communities; a place where Polish, Icelandic, Turkish, Scottish and many other newcomers could find commonality and entertainment, cheering for their heroes and heckling their opponents.

In 1914 over 1600 fans packed the Walker to see Charles Cutler take on Jack Taylor, whose moniker at the time was that of the "World's Most Perfectly Developed Man". This event has gone down as one of the largest crowds for a wrestling event in the 1910's. This is just one of the massive events that drew hundreds of Winnipeggers to the theatre. In 1911 Charles Gustafson squared off with Otto Suter and was eventually ended by the referee after 2 hours, the second match in the evening ended at 3am. When Frank Gotch made his debut in 1911 he was the most expensive athlete ever brought to the city.



The namesake of the Walker Theatre, C.P. Walker, was even a wrestling promoter in his day, bringing in the top stars from all over the world. Before opening the theatre in 1907 he had already promoted several wrestling events at the Winnipeg Theatre. Wrestling had been part of the lifeblood of Winnipeg since the city was incorporated, and the Burton Cummings Theatre plays an important part in its history.

Even in the early 1900's wrestlers used their larger-than-life charisma and physiques to impress massive crowds. Wrestling often saw more attendees than any other event and was held in several large scale venues all over the city.



The Walker CANADA'S FINEST THEATRE
Thursday, March 9
AT 8.30 P.M.
Frank Gotch
Wrestling Champion of the World, and
George Eberg
Champion of Austria, Switzerland and France.
Attractive Boxing and Wrestling Preliminary Bout.
Finish Match, Catch-as-Catch-Can, Best Two Falls in Three
Next ready Monday at 10 a.m. at Walker Theatre. Orchestra \$2.00
and \$1.50; Balcony Circle, \$1.00; Balcony, \$1.00; Gallery, 75c; Stage
Seats, 50c.

The Walker CANADA'S FINEST THEATRE
Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 8-9
CHAMPIONSHIP
WRESTLING
TUESDAY NIGHT
ARTIE EDMUNDS
Of Toronto, "The Pocket Hercules,"
Champion Featherweight of America,
and
ERNIE SUNDBERG
Of Winnipeg, Featherweight Cham-
pion of Western Canada.
FOR AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP
WEDNESDAY NIGHT
DICK SHEPPERD
Of Minnesota, Claimant of Welter-
weight Title, and
CHAS. GUSTAFSON
Of Winnipeg, Middleweight Cham-
pion of Canada.
Several Preliminary Boxing and
Wrestling Bouts will be staged.
Reserved seats \$1.00 and 75c; Gal-
lery 50c; Stage Seats \$1.50.
Seats now selling for both evenings.

Throughout the years the Walker was home to wrestling pioneers like Stanislaus and Wladek Zbyszko, Dr. Roller, Pat Connelly and Frank Gotch.

At WPW RUMBLE IN THE BURT fans will see new legends step into the ring and onto the stage just like these pioneers did over a hundred years ago!

For more about the history of wrestling in Winnipeg, check out "Thrashing Seasons" by C. Nathan Hatton. We thank him for his research for this article on the history of wrestling at the Burt.



THE STUDENT TURNS ON THE TEACHER

Chad Daniels' Ego Has Gotten Out Of Control, Can AJ Sanchez Bring Him Down To Size?

AJ Sanchez has been a stand out in Canadian professional wrestling for 20 years, racking up championships in several promotions and defeating some of the best in the sport. When he became the first WPW Champion he was dead set on doing whatever it would take to hold onto that title. With that title came the desire to hold onto it by any means, including Chizzled Chad Daniels. Chad Daniels is young, brash, but deadly talented, and Sanchez knew he could take him to new heights, and would also benefit from having someone in his corner against the long list of challengers.

Things were going well in the beginning, AJ was racking up title defenses and Chad was gaining more and more experience in the squared circle. That's until Bobby Schink stepped up and defeated Chad Daniels to earn himself a shot at the WPW Championship. Since PAIN ACTUALLY 2 it seemed like these two just weren't on the same page. Schink won the WPW Championship and the team of Sanchez and Daniels found themselves taking on the unlikely duo of James Korba and Tyler Colton. Sanchez was profoundly embarrassed when he was pinned by Korba and Colton at FIGHT AT THE MUSEUM and fans believe we saw a change in the attitude of the Big Punisher, and perhaps some dissention between the mentor and protege.



Over the next few months AJ would find himself on a losing streak while Chad Daniels would go onto defeat the likes of Storm Grayson, WARHORSE and Mo Jabari. Chad's ego grew and his disrespect of Sanchez was palpable, and undeserved. Sanchez was still doing his best to support Daniels, but Daniels was treating Sanchez horribly. The tandem found themselves challenging for the WPW Tag Team Championship at LEGENDS OF THE PINFALL, Sanchez was on the second rope when Daniels attempted a Tope and hit his foot, causing Sanchez to fall and get pinned by Red Hot Summer. Chad would blame the loss on Sanchez, berating and insulting him, but every one who saw it knew it wasn't AJ's fault. We have to believe it was therapeutic for Sanchez to finally say "F*ck you Chad!". At RUMBLE IN THE BURT these two will square off for the first time, who will come out on top?



SPONSORS & PARTNERS



1835 MAIN STREET



Cushnie Tattoos
www.cushnietattoos.com



INTERESTED IN SPONSORING?
WINNIPEGPROWRESTLING@GMAIL.COM

THE RUMBLE IN THE BURT GET TO KNOW THE ENTRANTS!

Written by Sid Carreiro - Photos by Matt Friesen

15 men will take part in THE RUMBLE IN THE BURT October 7th at the Burton Cummings Theatre, an over-the-top-rope elimination match. Every 90 seconds another competitor will enter until there is only one man left standing. That man will get a WPW Championship opportunity at December's PAIN ACTUALLY 3.



Let's take a look at some of the Rumble competitors!



Zicky Dice is an odds on favourite to win. A regular on IMPACT and NWA, The Outlandish One has made a name for himself as one to watch in the wrestling world. Could we have a new Outlandish WPW Champ?



Mo Jabari has had a shot at the WPW Championship before and came so close to becoming Champion. He'd love to get another chance the title. Michael Allen Richard Clark has the longest name in pro wrestling and is looking to last the longest in the Rumble and go onto become WPW Champion at PAIN ACTUALLY 3. Eli Surge believes Birds Aren't Real and also believes that if he wins the Rumble we're looking at the first WPW Champion that's a close friend of Bigfoot. Cheeks hasn't had much success in WPW thus far, but a win on the biggest stage in WPW history will propel him to new heights. Devon Monroe has impressed fans and has made his intentions known, he is coming for gold. Even The legendary PJ Fresh Phil from YTV's The Zone is making WPW debut!

Plus a dozen other competitors including the brutish O'Doyle, Stratos Fear, Fil Deadly, Levi Night and Australian Take Over members Kaz Jordan. With a match like THE RUMBLE IN THE BURT we're sure to see some surprises too!



FOLLOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA!
WPW



WINNIPEGPROWRESTLING
FULL MATCHES, PROMOS AND MORE!



@WPWPRO



/WINNIPEGPROWRESTLING



@WPGPRO

