

Wrestling Observer Newsletter

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McMahon, Titan: Not Guilty

It was almost like watching a play. The participants--the judge, jury, lawyers, defendants, even the audience, and especially the witnesses, seemed more like actors playing a role. It was like something was being performed for the entertainment of spectators. But this was real life. And someone's future was to be determined for ever more.

It was almost like watching a soap opera. The human emotion spilled from testimony from both sides. Witnesses ranged from being scared to death for their reputations, disinterested in the proceedings, outright lying, being turned into pretzels by lawyers, appearing nearly spacing out and being on the verge of breaking down from emotion. So were some of the spectators. But this was real life. And the future of a multi-million dollar company was about to be determined.

When it comes to psychology, it was almost like watching a wrestling show. It was like there was a Misawa-Kawada match headlining. You know, back-and-forth action with incredible intensity and emotion. There were many other similarities to attending a pro wrestling show. Some slow spots. Many spots even unbearably boring. A key no-show or two. You pretty much think you know the finish going in, but there are still those moments when you are shocked into believing that you may have guessed wrong. But even though there were many wrestlers involved, the most famous wrestling promoter in history sitting right there, wrestling fans watching, and at the finish, lawyers doing more than one-hour long promos that put almost any wrestlers' best interviews to shame, this ending wasn't predetermined, and nobody was there to hype a rematch. That was the last thing anyone wanted. After testimony ended on 7/13, the court buffs were predicting conviction. The next day, the case seemed to turn almost completely around.

On 7/18, two of the three charges, those relating to possession with intent to distribute steroids to Terry Bollea, were dropped, due to no evidence tying in the alleged activity to the Eastern District of New York (which consists of Richmond, Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk Counties) not because of any determination as to the merits of the evidence of a crime itself. McMahon's former limo driver, Jim Stuart, who never appeared at the trial, was believed ahead of time to be the one who would tie the Nassau Coliseum into the case. Without any testimony indicating anything happened at Nassau Coliseum, and the outright denying of it by Bollea, the government failed to establish this court as the proper venue for the two charges.

The fact was, no reasonable jury could have found the defendants guilty of the April 13 charge as there was nowhere near enough evidence. Even for the October 24 charge the evidence appeared to be insufficient and definitely was hazy. Technically, the government still has the option of bringing one of the charges, an October 24, 1989 distribution charge (the statute of limitations has run out on bringing back the April 13, 1989 charge), in the correct venue, which would be Connecticut, although despite some talk after the case as it being a possibility, based on evidence here, it would seem unlikely. The testimony of Bollea, the alleged recipient, that he had never received steroids sent by McMahon at the Nassau Coliseum as the government had claimed it would prove, and testimony of Emily Feinberg, who was hazy when it came to specificity on the subject of where the steroids were delivered, caused 83-year-old Judge Jacob Mishler to drop both charges. The fact was, the government never even entered evidence that there were shows with Hogan appearing at the Nassau Coliseum on or shortly after those dates (in October, the only Nassau show took place four days before Feinberg received the package from Zahorian so it would have been impossible for items in that package to go to the Nassau Coliseum, so it was actually very poor detail work in the government even alleging it happened or trying that charge in that court). There was an April 24,

1989 house show at Madison Square Garden, which is not a part of the Eastern District of New York, thus not under the court's jurisdiction, which would have been the first area house show with Hogan appearing after the April 13 date. Technically the law states anyone who has possession of steroids, and gives them to someone else, even if they aren't selling them, is breaking the wording of the law. Bollea's testimony was he bought his own steroids, ordered by Feinberg from Zahorian and they were simply delivered to McMahon's office, and he picked them up with his paycheck. Even with Bollea's testimony, a legal argument could be made by the letter of the law that it was still distribution by the company. Because there would be haziness on dates and remembrances of things that occurred five years ago, even though government investigator Tony Valenti popped big when the judge said dropping the charge because they didn't establish venue would allow it to be re-tried in its correct venue, I'm expecting that won't be the case.

To those watching the case from news snippets at home, it probably appeared the entire case was falling apart when the charges were dropped. But after Government prosecuting attorney Sean O'Shea finished his closing statements on 7/21, those who had been there from the start would have come to anything but that conclusion. At that point people were divided in their opinion of the outcome. The wrestling fans were solid in belief of acquittal. Many of them had been in denial from the start and saw this as no different than the 13-day theatrical miniseries it almost appeared to be, with their favorite wrestling federation in the babyface role and the government as the heels. As when they attend wrestling shows, they expect the babyface to prevail at the end. Court buffs, who knew little or anything about wrestling but get their entertainment watching high-profile trials, their opinions were split with the majority believing they would come back with a guilty verdict, but even their opinions swayed back-and-forth almost on a daily basis in this very confusing case. Most felt the wording of the judges instructions of the law to the jury would probably decide the case. It was that close. Too close for comfort. It may have hinged on a word here and a word there. In my ever-so-biased opinion, it did hinge on a word here and a word there and the lack of a singular substantive action that was PERFORMED.

Had not Titan Sports discovered the government was investigating Zahorian in 1989 and cut ties with him, there was testimony that would make one seriously question whether that act would have been performed. I saw it as close even after O'Shea's incredible last-minute performance, a speech that no human being would ever want said about them in front of their families, which blew away any wrestler's day before a PPV last second sell job for dynamics.

If I'd been in the jury box, I'd still have voted for acquittal based on the evidence, or lack thereof, of the case. I had proof beyond any reasonable doubt that crimes had been committed--by Dr. George Zahorian--both before and after 1988, and for that matter by a few of the wrestlers testifying. But those weren't the crimes being charged. Zahorian was already convicted on violation of the 1988 law, and has spent years in prison for his crimes. I had proof beyond any reasonable doubt that key members of the company were aware of Zahorian's activities, and did nothing to stop them until after they learned the government was investigating Zahorian. Neither did the Pennsylvania State Athletic Commission, who authorized Zahorian to be at the performances. Knowledge of criminal activity and not putting a stop to it is not criminal activity in and of itself. The only charge that went before the jury was a charge of conspiracy, with Zahorian as an unindicted co-conspirator, to distribute steroids to wrestlers in order to improve their physiques and therefore sell more tickets to wrestling matches. The tie-in between the muscular physiques and ticket sales, while a valid argument based on examining the business, was never strongly made by the prosecution with evidence presented. It was just

stated as if saying it was so made it true, and even though it was true, it wasn't established in the case as fact. Steroids were distributed to wrestlers by Zahorian under illegal circumstances, physiques were improved, and it did lead to selling more tickets to wrestling matches but the prosecution really didn't tie those factors together strongly.

The case was close enough that I felt, and without having talked to any jurors, have a strong feeling that the wording of the law would be and was the deciding factor.

So what is the law? According to the judges' instructions, this is the law in regard to conspiracy as it applies to this specific case:

If two or more persons conspire to commit a criminal offense, even if just one criminal act takes place, each is guilty. Because Vince McMahon owned 100 percent of Titan Sports, McMahon and Titan joining together to commit a criminal offense would not be conspiracy. It doesn't matter in this case, where it is alleged the government was being defrauded because prescription drugs, and later controlled substances, were being used allegedly in violation of either FDA or DEA standards, that the government wasn't defrauded of any money. Since distribution of steroids by someone other than a physician and by a physician without a prescription before November 18, 1988 was a misdemeanor crime, a conspiracy to distribute during that time period would be a misdemeanor offense. O'Shea tried to argue differently, claiming the defendants conspired to defraud the FDA (which regulated steroid distribution before November 1988), which would make it a felony, but the judge didn't buy the argument. Distribution by anyone other than a doctor for anything other than the treatment of disease after that point was a felony, so if the conspiracy continued past that point, the crime would have become a felony.

Members of a conspiracy do not have to get together and form a conspiracy. They don't have to have a written or oral agreement. In one recent conspiracy conviction in the same Long Island courthouse, the conspirators didn't even know one another and had never spoken, but had an involvement and both were benefitting from the outcome of illegal activities and the jury believed there was a mutual understanding. That alone was considered enough. But there has to be an understanding and a common desire that the illegal act occur, although each conspirator didn't necessarily need to have the desire for the same end result. Without any getting together and working out a mutual plan to commit a crime, one can still be guilty of conspiracy. Circumstances of what happened and conduct of those involved can be enough. Interestingly, even that broad definition of legal conspiracy was less lenient than other judges in conspiracy cases as noted by court buffs, citing other trials. Titan's attorneys from the start had argued a conspiracy needed to include a "meeting of the minds" between the conspirators, which there was no evidence of took place and almost certainly didn't, but the judge didn't agree with their argument as to the law.

The key is the government needed to prove the defendants, in this case Vince McMahon, who never took the stand in his defense, and Titan Sports, knowingly, willfully and voluntarily joined into a conspiracy with the objective of furthering their business. Having a stake in the outcome of the crime is evidence of a conspiracy, and wrestlers being more muscular and thus being more marketable is a stake. However, it is not a conspiracy when one has knowledge of illegal acts and due to negligence, omission of attempting to stop it, or simply mistakenly allowing it to continue, has it continue unabated. They are under no legal obligation to stop illegal activity and be charged as conspirators just for failure to stop it from happening. One has to willfully and voluntarily enter into the conspiracy. The government's argument that they entered into a conspiracy when Pat Patterson was offered Halcyon by Zahorian in 1985 that he didn't ask for, thus knew he was peddling drugs, didn't hold water. The best argument that could be made and it came up frequently in the trial was that in July 1989, Pennsylvania deregulated wrestling so the commission no longer assigned Zahorian to the matches in Allentown and Hershey. At that time, according to the testimony of Anita Scales, a current Titan employee whose job then as it is now was to work with regulatory boards, was put in charge of hiring a doctor for shows in Hershey since the law was still that a doctor had to appear, but

Titan was in charge instead of the doctor being assigned to them. She chose a three-person medical firm to work Hershey shows, claiming she didn't want to use Zahorian because she knew of his reputation and thought that made him bad news, like a similar steroid-dispensing doctor in New York that she had gotten rid of. At the August show, another doctor was assigned, but Zahorian showed up anyway. Zahorian called Scales numerous times to get the Hershey assignment and said he'd go over her head. Scales was later allegedly told by both Patterson and Chief Jay Strongbow to use Zahorian because the boys love him. More than a month later, she went into Linda McMahon's office complaining about being pressured by Patterson to use Zahorian and Linda told her to do what Pat said. Zahorian was at one point tentatively penciled in as the doctor for the December Hershey card, but that assignment would up being canceled when Linda McMahon learned of the investigation and the company cut ties. And as Titan attorneys Laura Brevetti and Jerry McDevitt noted, at no time after July 1989 was Zahorian ever the assigned physician at a Titan Sports show, although he did appear backstage at a show in August.

That was the missing ingredient the government failed to prove. Entering into. Participation. The tentative penciling in of Zahorian could have been the best excuse for that act, but the fact was Zahorian was never officially hired so even those who took that argument as the needed example of entering into, that act did not actually take place since Zahorian ultimately wasn't hired to work the show. But had they not been leaked that information, would the company, in full knowledge Zahorian was dispensing illegal drugs to wrestlers, still have hired him to work shows? After reading over the testimony in this case and the memo from Linda McMahon to Patterson that the government considered the smoking gun of evidence, you'll have to answer that question yourself. If you answer it in the affirmative, you'll realize that sometimes what is on the surface appearing to be bad luck is actually good luck.

The memo, as previously reported here, on December 1, 1989, stated: "I spoke to Vince about the fact that the State of Pennsylvania is probably going to launch an investigation into the use of all illegal drugs including steroids.

Although you and I discussed before about continuing to have Zahorian at our events as the doctor on call, I think that is now not a good idea. Vince agreed, and would like for you to call Zahorian to tell him not to come to any more of our events and to also clue him in on any action that the Justice Department is thinking of taking. On December 26th, the State Athletic Commission is having a small meet and greet session with some of our talent, and I would definitely not want Zahorian there."

Zahorian started distributing steroids to wrestlers around 1981, before there even was a Titan Sports and when its predecessor, Capital Sports, was owned by Bob Marella (Gorilla Monsoon), Vince McMahon Sr. and Phil Zacko. He continued what he was doing. He wasn't the only doctor doing it. He displayed numerous symptoms of being an obsessed fan in the white coat, who was supplying wrestlers with drugs, no different from the local groupies, so he could be "friends" with television stars. By natural progression, it grew into what it became, but not because of any overt acts by Titan Sports. Titan didn't need to provide Zahorian to distribute steroids to wrestlers because the wrestlers had plenty of other places where they could get steroids. They didn't tell wrestlers, or at least in those words, to use steroids as was brought up numerous times. The government missed making a key point in response to the testimony that nobody in the promotion told them to use steroids (with the exception of Nailz, whose credibility is suspect and Rick Rude, whose stories has been told in wrestling for years but the story wasn't as specific in the courtroom). Every wrestler saying that was already using steroids. Nobody needed to tell wrestlers that were already on steroids to use steroids. Nobody had to tell wrestlers to use steroids when 75 to 90% were on in the first place and most of the rest were either freakish, had a gimmick where physique wasn't required, or weren't in key drawing positions.

Within the basic standards of the profession, what was being done was common practice. The human body isn't made to withstand the kind of punishment wrestlers give it, or the kind of schedule promoters have been known to put wrestlers on. We can all get moralistic, but if you want to see a guy come off the top rope night-after-night for years, don't act shocked if he needs some pretty potent pain killers to get to sleep or to get through life. If you want to see guys who look like they can bench press VWs, don't get moralistic that steroid use is rampant. This isn't meant to condone what happened, because ultimately history will record this period as both a successful financially and ugly time due to what was confirmed by this trial in the business' history. What started off as the role of a doctor who probably simply wanted wrestlers to be his friend and to help them ease their very real aches and pains and simply keep the wrestlers going in a brutal profession, evolved by natural causes into illegal drug dealing. The company knew of the drug dealing. The company's lawyers argued McMahon didn't know it was illegal. The famous memo from Linda McMahon to Patterson in December, 1989, the memo referred to many times by O'Shea as "the smoking gun" in the case, telling Pat to warn Zahorian about the investigation and telling him that they needed to cut ties with Zahorian mentioned steroids in the category of illegal drugs, so that defense is suspicious. Nobody took action to stop Zahorian or other doctors from selling to wrestlers until the heat came down. McMahon knew many of the top wrestlers were on steroids, most particularly Hulk Hogan since some of his packages were sent right to his office. It's hard to swallow that Emily Feinberg did this without McMahon's knowledge, since some of the steroids sent to her went allegedly went to him as well. I don't think anyone reading this is naive to believe McMahon thought Hogan was the only one using steroids. Hogan was telling kids not to do drugs, and he was selling wrestling tickets, merchandise and even vitamins to children based on a physique developed through more than a decade of steroid use. It's old news of course, but still a valid point when the argument is made for three weeks in a courtroom that it was personal use. He wasn't taking steroids for Terry Bollea's personal use. He was taking steroids for Hulk Hogan. That is professional use by a celebrity, who is being marketed as a role model for children and using his physique selling vitamins of all things to children. Well, the vitamin company went broke in 1992, very shortly after the revelations came out and perhaps he wasn't telling the truth on the subject after the Zahorian trial. The company not only knew of his use, but by him picking up steroids right at the office, it looks like they condoned that use. And when Hogan lied, the company's official spokesperson compounded that lie by repeating it and saying people who came forward calling him on that lie were the ones who weren't being honest. That's all water under the bridge. A part of wrestling history. Today is a new day, and hopefully the settling of this case, if it is really settled, marks the end of that story if things don't go back to the way they used to be. The testimony in this trial justified the bad publicity both Titan Sports and Hulk Hogan suffered over the past three years in regard to the subject of steroid use of wrestlers and honesty in regard to addressing of that subject. But the testimony did not prove a guilty verdict on the charge of conspiracy.

As the hours upon hours of deliberation grew longer, the more the butterflies of those with casual interest and fear of those directly involved grew. This was real life. The kind of real life everyone watching and everyone involved will distinctly remember for years. It would not be an overstatement to say the short-term future direction of the business could have been markedly changed by either the testimony or the outcome in this courtroom.

At about 4 p.m. Eastern time on 7/22, the jury came back for the fourth time, this time with a verdict. Earlier in the day they had asked for portions of the testimony of Zahorian, Anita Scales and Emily Feinberg to be read to them--all witnesses whose testimony was somewhat damaging to McMahon. There was no way of knowing which way the jury was turning, but on the surface it seemed like things were not going McMahon's way. Judging from the reaction of those on the defense team, they appeared more scared and shaken each hour the jury didn't come back. My own thoughts going in were that he would be acquitted, but the longer the jury would be out, the more the chances were that anything could happen. As has been

said before numerous times, one can never with 100% accuracy predict what a jury will do. I can tell you my own reaction, after flying home after the case ended but before the jury came back, and going over my notes from the past three weeks. Somewhere between Dallas and San Jose, my own feelings of acquittal were greatly wavering. The same question I asked you, I was asking myself. Based on what I saw, I believed Patterson did know, as did McMahon, that Zahorian was giving wrestlers steroids. McMahon was getting them from him. That point has been conceded from the start. Who was more believable, Patterson or Scales and Sharkey, about Patterson wanting them to hire Zahorian? Why else would Zahorian, who they themselves knew was a sleaze, be hired unless they were pressured from above? He was penciled in. He wasn't hired, so the act of hiring him never took place. But how would the jury look at that question and after nearly three weeks of testimony that proved beyond any reasonable doubt that the WWF during the time period in question was a drug-infested business and it appeared little or nothing was done to stop it?

The only thing known was at 6:30 p.m. the previous night, when the judge was ready to dismiss the jury for the day, they asked to stay a few hours because they felt they were close to an agreement. But at 9:45 p.m., there was no agreement and they went home. At 9 a.m. they returned, and as each hour past, the tension grew thicker.

When the jury came in, they read a verdict of not guilty, in regard to Vince McMahon, and not guilty, in regard to Titan Sports. The courtroom exploded. The judge warning them that this isn't an entertainment spectacle. It only looked like one. But like their favorite entertainment spectacle, there was substantial working, conning, stretching of the truth and misleading on both sides. The only difference was the finish was real--totally, unwaveringly real.

"I didn't have a great deal of faith in the judicial system, but I had an overwhelming faith in humanity," said McMahon in a press conference after the verdict was read. Legal costs reportedly totalled in the \$3 million range, a sizeable fee since case testimony revealed that in its single most profitable year, Titan's before tax profits were \$6 million. "I left my fate in the hands of the jury and they responded nicely through all the insults the government threw at me."

"We thought it was an important case to bring," said O'Shea after the verdict. "The case highlighted a serious problem in this country among athletes and athletic organizations, so in that sense we're happy. Obviously you always want the jury to go your way. We presented substantial evidence, however we accept the jury's verdict."

O'Shea said he couldn't comment about future legal possibilities involving Titan Sports, apparently in reference to trying the distribution case in Connecticut, but according to a New York television news report that evening, a source close to the judge said it was a possibility.

McMahon did an exclusive interview on Ch. 5, the Fox station that carries the WWF syndicated shows in the New York market later that evening.

"It's been an unbelievable ordeal which I wouldn't wish on anyone," he said. "It's been two-and-a-half years that no American should endure. It was endured by us and a jury of my peers found us not guilty."

I was singled out unfairly. I had everything riding on this case. I'd be less than candid to say I wasn't nervous. I was definitely nervous."

When asked about Hulk Hogan's testimony, McMahon had a surprising reaction. "I don't feel bad when anyone tells the truth, however it feels bad when someone you worked with takes the stand and does not tell the whole truth and all of the truth. That hurt me very badly."

McMahon also hinted at possible legal action going in the other direction. "As they say in the WWF, keep tuned. It could very well be the hunters are soon to be the hunted."

"There was a lot of evidence we had to consider and we came up with a verdict based on the evidence," said one juror as he was leaving the courthouse. Another said, "there wasn't enough evidence."

What was that evidence or lack thereof? Let's look at highlights of the testimony of the various witnesses starting on 7/11.

The day opened with George Zahorian still being cross-examined by Titan attorneys Laura Brevetti and Jerry McDevitt. He said that he would be the only person who would know the contents of the federal express packages besides the recipient. He said that he never told McMahon he was selling steroids to the wrestlers and took no notes for McMahon on who was buying steroids. He said at one point Hulk Hogan asked him to send testosterone to Atlanta for himself and Zeus (actor Tom "Tiny" Lister, who wrestled a handful of matches after appearing as Hogan's heel adversary in "No Holds Barred"). Zahorian didn't know if Zeus was a wrestler or not. Hogan told him to address to package to Vince McMahon in Atlanta, where the three were together filming the movie in the summer of 1988. He said he was fairly certain Hogan told him the check for the steroids was coming from Titan Sports. He said that when he sent steroids to Hogan, that Hogan paid him by personal check. During that 1988-89 period, he said he sold decadurabolin (the steroid he was best-known for distributing) for \$10 to \$15 a vial (the same drug he paid \$2.14 per vial to the Rugby-Darby pharmaceutical company in Rockville Centre, NY). It was brought up that during that period, when strength coach/strongman Bill Dunn was secretly recording him as a government informant to catch him, he told Dunn he was selling him the deca for \$15 a vial and said it was a lower price than he was selling it to the wrestlers but Zahorian admitting he was lying to Dunn when he told him that. He said there was no plan between he and McMahon to send untraceable money. He said some of the fed-ex packages sent to Titan Sports did not contain steroids, and mentioned one contained Rogaine for Gene Okerlund. He said that he found out the wrestlers were sharing needles when shooting steroids and said he did everything he could to make sure they wouldn't, so he was sending needles with his steroid shipments. He claimed that aside from his conversation with McMahon testified to days earlier (in the 7/18 Observer), he also talked to McMahon once when he asked him for steroids and he sent them fed-ex to the office. When asked if Feinburg ever placed an order for McMahon, he said he wasn't sure, that it was possible but he would say she didn't. He said when he spoke to Feinberg it was more often that not for steroids for Hogan to be delivered either to Stamford or Tampa. He also sent packages to Dan Brower, a high school friend of Hogan's, who Hogan had told him was accepting packages for him when he family wasn't in Tampa. From April through June of 1989 he sent steroids to Brower in Florida on behalf of Hogan. Hogan placed the orders himself and paid for them. McMahon never called him to place an order for steroids for Hogan, however, there were steroid orders for McMahon placed by Hogan. He said he didn't know that Hogan was getting steroids from any other sources, and said that at one point he was sending Hogan HCG to increase his sperm count. He had sent a package on 4/12/89 and 6/25/89 to Dan Brower in Tampa. The 4/12 date is important because it is just one day before the alleged 4/13 distribution date from McMahon to Hogan. He said in the two packages to Brower were steroids and HCG to the best of his recollection. He also sent syringes with the steroids, and never charged McMahon for syringes. He said if any package was sent to McMahon through Feinburg, that the package would have contained steroids. Zahorian said he never spoke to McMahon after 6/89 and that the last time he saw him in Hershey, all they did was say hell in the hallway. He said he had no recollection of ever receiving a letter in late 1989 from Marge Sharkey, which was a key point that was made clear the next day. He said he talked with Feinburg once when he called Titan to see if he was welcomed back to work the shows after the commission regulation ended.

O'Shea then established that Zahorian being in solitary confinement in prison (which the defense tried to claim was almost a torture in order to get him to say what they wanted to hear about McMahon) was for his own protection as he was in a rough prison with some nasty prisoners. He established Zahorian was treated the same after testifying as before, and that no promises were made that his prison situation would improve based on his testimony. He also said that he had never had any discussion with McMahon about his awards and medical background, since the defense implied that McMahon would have taken his word as an award-winning doctor. He said he didn't know if McMahon used or distributed the drugs he sent him, but he said the shipments made to Feinburg he could recall were steroids.

Rick Rood (Ravishing Rick Rude) was the next witness, acting very distant and disinterested, making it clear he didn't want to be there. Since he is no longer employed with WCW, it's pretty evident that the last thing he would want to do was to testify against Titan Sports. Within wrestling there was a very strong sense of not wanting anything to happen in this trial because a guilty verdict would hurt the business at a time the business couldn't afford it, and if anything were to happen with Titan, WCW wrestlers believed, and correctly so, that their own bargaining power in getting good financial deals would be hampered without the negotiating leverage of having another job option. This doesn't even consider Rood, after leaving WCW on semi-bad terms, probably foresees potential eventual employment with Titan.

Rude said he wasn't employed at the present time, he had used steroids before working for the WWF, in the WWF and after leaving the WWF. When asked how prevalent use was in the WWF, he said he imagined that a lot of people were on them. He said he'd hear guys now and then talk about steroids. He said he couldn't recall seeing anyone inject steroids and couldn't recall ever seeing needles around. He said he heard of wrestlers using decadurabolin, testosterone and winstrol (a veterinary steroid made for livestock). He said he never got steroids from Zahorian. He said that on September 22, 1988 he was married and wanted to start a family. He said steroids cut down his testosterone levels so he got off steroids. He said he had a conversation with McMahon who said he felt he didn't look so good. He claimed McMahon said he was happy with his wrestling and interviews but disappointed in the way he looked. Rood said he told McMahon he hadn't been partying, but the schedule was demanding. He said that he and his wife wanted to have kids so he wasn't on anything. When O'Shea asked if McMahon told him to get on steroids, Rood said, "Not in those words." When O'Shea asked what he did say, Rood said McMahon told him that when you're down and sore is when you need to push yourself. He may have said gas or juice. I took it to mean I wasn't taking anything.

On cross-examination from McDevitt, Rood said that McMahon never used the word steroids in that conversation and McMahon was concerned that he was partying too much. McDevitt asked if he was concerned about Rood's smoking and Rood said that he didn't consider himself a smoker although he has smoked. McDevitt brought out that McMahon never directed Rude to Zahorian and that McMahon wanted him to be in good condition. Rood said that he never injected steroids in front of McMahon because he wouldn't put his job on the line and it's something he wouldn't do in front of his boss. When McDevitt said, regarding the conversation, if he was sure what he meant in the conversation, Rude said no. Brevetti then established that Rude was still doing steroids in WCW, and not for medical purposes. He said he got his steroids from a doctor in England who prescribed them for joint pain, he filled the prescription in London and brought them to the United States. Rood seemed really unhappy when Brevetti asked that even though wrestling is play-acting, do the guys sometimes get hurt?

Next came the single most controversial witness of all, Kevin "Nailz" Wacholz. The one thing I feared most, because Wacholz, by saying McMahon told him to get on steroids, got a lot of local newspaper and television headlines, was that his testimony might somehow be taken by the jury as believable and in a close case could result in a guilty verdict, which if his testimony was used to be a part of, would have been an unfair verdict.

Wacholz said that he was with Rood on June 6, 1989, in Madison, WI at a WWF television taping when Rood's conversation with McMahon took place. He said that Rood and he were together. His version of the conversation was that McMahon introduced himself and asked Rood if he was working out regularly and if his workouts were going good. He asked Rood if he was going to put some size on. Rood said he was working out as hard as he could. He told Rood that in the position he was in, he needed to be bigger. Rood said he was working out as hard as he could but the travel and work was hard. According to Wacholz, McMahon said, "I suggest you go on the gas." Rood said he wasn't interested in going on steroids at that point. When asked why, Wacholz said he couldn't recall. When O'Shea brought up wanting to have kids, he said, "Oh, Rude said he was trying to have a child and didn't want to take steroids."

Wacholz then said in January 1992 in Florida, he went to a television taping to meet with McMahon to discuss the Nailz gimmick. He said he and McMahon were the only ones in the conversation, that Patterson and J.J. Dillon were outside the door. He said McMahon told him he was going to promote him as a convict and that no one could promote a convict like the WWF. Then Wacholz said McMahon asked him if he worked out and if he was on the gas. When Wacholz said he wasn't, McMahon chuckled and allegedly said you should be. You need to be as big as you can be. Wacholz said that he was 300 pounds and wouldn't go on steroids to get a job. He allegedly responded by saying sometime life isn't fair. The ball is in your court. Do what you have to do. (Remember this was January 1992 when all the steroid heat was at its peak and testing had just begun, so the idea McMahon would have at that point directly told anyone to use steroids is exceedingly hard to believe)

McDevitt brought up that Wacholz was suing McMahon. He then said that he wasn't even in the WWF in 1989 because he had no WWF contract until March 1992, but Wacholz said he worked the tapings in 1989 on a verbal agreement. McDevitt brought up Wacholz did a deposition as part of the back-and-forth lawsuits involving McMahon and himself and when he talked about the conversation at that point about promoting the convict character, in the deposition he never talked about steroids. The deposition said that conversation was about what the character's outfit would look like and McMahon told him he could be a main event character if he did a good job and talked with him about how wrestlers are portrayed as showmen, not as wrestlers. McDevitt brought up not once in his Grand Jury testimony did he bring up that story and said that the Nailz outfit didn't even show his musculature, although Wacholz said it did. Wacholz said he never used steroids in the WWF.

Brevetti then asked him if he had any animosity toward McMahon, and he said, "No" (later in the case, Brevetti joked the reason he gave that answer was because he didn't know what the word animosity meant). When asked if he hated McMahon, he said, "Yeah."

The next witness was Patterson, who said he had been employed continuously with the WWF since 1979, which, if that statement wasn't simply an honest memory lapse, means that period where he had supposedly quit the company in 1992 would have been yet another work. He said he started as a wrestler, became a road agent in 1983 or 1984, moved into the office in 1985 and was made Vice President in 1986, a position which currently pays him \$3,500 per week.

Patterson was carved up on the witness stand by O'Shea like a Thanksgiving turkey. While he tried like crazy to give positive testimony for both McMahons, he was made to look so foolish he ended up not achieving those objectives.

He was asked if he was a road agent when he learned Zahorian was selling steroids to wrestlers, and said he heard rumors about it. When asked if he knew, he said, I heard rumors, yes. When asked when he knew Zahorian distributed steroids to wrestlers, he said he didn't know until the last few years, in the late 80s. O'Shea said that "You saw wrestlers line up to get steroids," and Patterson said No, they lined up to get their blood pressure taken. Patterson admitted they

came out of the room with bags and they did talk in the locker room about gas or juice. Patterson said he never used steroids himself. He admitted never complaining to McMahon about Zahorian's behavior. He said he and McMahon never discussed steroids. He never called the athletic commission to complain about Zahorian's behavior, and in fact never complained to anyone. When O'Shea said, "You knew what he was doing was wrong?" Patterson said, "No." Patterson admitted that at one time Zahorian offered him halcyon that he didn't ask for and then said, "You knew he was doing the same thing to the wrestlers?" "Yes, I heard he was giving pills to wrestlers." "And you did nothing?" "No." "You told Zahorian you didn't like what he was giving to wrestlers?" "He said I'm helping the wrestlers. I didn't know what halcyon was." "You knew steroids were bad?" "Sometimes I heard they were bad. Other times I heard they were okay if used right." When asked if he ever talked with Zahorian about steroids being bad for wrestlers, he said he only talked about pills. "You mean pills including steroids?" "No." "You never heard about steroids?" "Never talked about it."

At this point O'Shea brought up the memo, the so-called smoking gun of the entire case. At this point the testimony got comical. "Is this memo addressed to you?" "Yes." "Was it confidential?" "No." "What's the first word on the top of the document?" "Confidential." "Vince asked you to warn Zahorian?" "I never saw that memo before." "The memo says he talked with Linda," "That's what is says." "You knew Zahorian was distributing steroids." Long pause. "Prior to 1986 you knew he was distributing steroids." "Yes." "You knew he was giving steroids to wrestlers." "Yes, I heard." O'Shea brought up the July 1989 law change in Pennsylvania so the company didn't have to use Zahorian. "You could have used another doctor," Not sure. "Did you have a conversation with Anita Scales about this?" "Yes." "You told her you wanted Zahorian." "No." "You never had the conversation?" "No." "Isn't it true that Anita Scales wanted to get rid of Zahorian?" "No." "She wanted a different doctor." "One time she wanted a doctor for a show in Maryland." "Did you have a conversation with Zahorian in which he told you he wanted the job in Hershey?" "No." O'Shea when asking Patterson if Scales talked to him about he wanting Zahorian he said "No."

Testimony with a very nervous Patterson continued the next morning, when O'Shea brought back the memo. Patterson admitted the memo was addressed to him, and that his position was Senior Vice President of Titan Sports. "Were you the No. 3 person in the company?" "No." "Were you a high up executive in the company?": "I don't know. It's just a title." O'Shea noted the first four words in the document written by Linda McMahon were "I spoke to Vince." O'Shea noted the memo mentions "the relationship between WWF and Zahorian," and Patterson admitted that's what the memo said. "So Dr. Zahorian had a relationship with the WWF?" "According to the memo, yes." "After the law changed in July, did you talk to Anita Scales about Zahorian," "I had a conversation, don't know what time, date and year." "Did Anita Scales tell you she wanted to get rid of Zahorian?" "I had a conversation with Anita Scales, that at one time she needed a doctor in a town." "Do you recall Scales telling you she wanted to get rid of Zahorian?" "No, sir." "Didn't you tell her the boys wanted Zahorian?" "No." "Isn't it true you and Zahorian talked about Zahorian continuing?" "No." "Did you know Zahorian told Scales about your conversations?" "No." At this point, O'Shea glared like he was really pissed at Patterson.

O'Shea then showed Patterson an October 1989 memo regarding Zahorian calling about wanting the job in Hershey. In the memo, Zahorian called and said Patterson wanted him to work the show in Hershey and Patterson said, "Absolutely not." "Between July 1989 and December 1989 you spoke to Linda McMahon about continuing to use Zahorian as a doctor?" "No sir, absolutely not." "Look again at the other memo, go to the second paragraph and read." "Although you and I talked about continuing to use Zahorian." "According to the memo, you and Linda McMahon talked about it." "I don't recall doing that with Linda McMahon." O'Shea said that's what the memo said but Patterson said he had no recollection. O'Shea then said that after you got this memo, you let Zahorian know he was being investigated. "Sir, I never saw that memo." In more questions, Patterson continued to deny ever seeing the memo but admitted he knew of the

investigation. "Did Vince tell you to call Dr. Zahorian." "No, sir." "The memo says Vince wanted you to call Zahorian and warn him of the investigation. According to the memo, you spoke with Vince about Zahorian." "Yes." Patterson maintained he never spoke with Vince. Then, "Did you ever speak with Vince on this subject?" "I told Vince I heard Dr. Zahorian was being investigated." He said he suggested to Vince to call Zahorian and let him know about the investigation and Vince said, "If you want to, call him." "According to this memo, it was his doing." "It was my idea." "How did you learn of the investigation?" "I heard from Linda McMahon." "Not from the memo." "No." "But you actually warned Zahorian like the memo said." "Yes." "That was after the conversation with Linda McMahon." "Yes." "After the conversation with Vince McMahon." "Yes."

Patterson said he called Zahorian at his office and told him to call him back at a pay phone because he didn't want to be recorded. When asked "Were you concerned about being recorded by law enforcement officials," he said, "I don't know" O'Shea then brought up Patterson's grand jury testimony where he was asked the same question and then he responded to the same question, "Definitely, yes." "You told Zahorian he couldn't come to the event in Hershey and told him to get rid of records?" "I don't recall."

Patterson said after warning Zahorian, he warned the wrestlers to stay away from Zahorian and told agents to pass the word that Zahorian was being investigated.

Jerry McDevitt took over cross-examination, basically going through Patterson's wrestling career history, trying to imply that Patterson was a guy who knew nothing but wrestling. He tried to establish Patterson never saw either memo, that he'd been in wrestling for 37 years since starting at the age of 17 in Montreal, came to the United States without being able to speak English and wrestled seven nights a week for \$70 a week. He tried to establish that Patterson would have no knowledge about what a doctor should or shouldn't be doing. Patterson talked about the territorial system, his beginnings with Capital Sports, when Vince bought the company from the previous owners, how hard and how long Vince worked at a TV taping, how many meals he ate per day (five or six) and Patterson then said he hadn't even heard of steroids until the late 80s, which contradicted his testimony about learning Zahorian was giving wrestlers steroids when he was a road agent, a job he left around 1985 or 1986. It is understandable to anyone who has dealt with Patterson that he simply could have honestly gotten dates screwed up, but hard to believe anyone who was a main eventer in numerous different territories in the 60s and 70s and tag team partner with Billy Graham would have never heard of steroids until the late 80s. Actually, impossible to believe for me. I first learned about steroids hanging around in the back at the San Jose Civic Auditorium in 1971 after Wednesday night wrestling shows from hangers-on who freely talked about wrestlers Billy Graham (Patterson's tag team partner as NWA world tag team champions at that time) and Paul DeMarco using steroids and that's why both were losing their hair, and how this one wannabe wrestler (who did work some professionally) who was a local fan was using a steroid called d-bol (short for dianabol) to make his arms bigger but that it can give you high blood pressure and acne, and you could lose your hair or get cancer from it. If I, as an 11-year-old, could hear that in the back of an auditorium as talk from guys who simply hung out with the wrestlers, it is inconceivable that Graham's tag team partner and the top wrestler in the territory wasn't aware of steroids at the time. That also may explain why I was less than impressed by McDevitt and Brevetti's attempts to defend use in the time frame 1985-91 by saying that the wrestlers or McMahon weren't aware of side effects at that time as we all would be today. He said he was Graham's tag partner in 1967 (it was really 1971, but that's an understandable mistake since we are going back 23+ years). He talked about Graham's physique, having muscles everywhere and said Graham's body was his gimmick and that he had charisma and a gift of gab. He said Randy Savage was "very good" but Kevin Wacholz was "not really good" at talking. When asked to compare Savage with Wacholz he said, "Some have talent, some don't." He said he first heard of steroids as something you use to put weight on, and that using steroids when Graham was champion didn't have the stigma it does today. He said the wrestlers

never talked about steroids then and he didn't know if using steroids violated the law. He said when one person has a gimmick that is successful that others copy it, with McDevitt trying to lead Patterson to imply all the steroid use was because of the success of Graham (since use exploded in 1985 and Graham's WWWF championship reign was 77-78, that's a pretty weak scapegoat--the three people whose success ushered in the steroid era were Hogan and the Road Warriors and it would have occurred without them as well if the guys on top were being pushed with physique as a major part of their gimmick). When asked about McMahon's admitting wrestling was fake, he said, "Ever since I was in wrestling, people would say it's fake. Us wrestlers would get really mad. What Vince did was tell the public the truth, that it was sports entertainment. It made a lot of wrestlers unhappy." He then talked about gimmicks that guys used based on their past experience such as Big Bossman having been a prison guard before being a wrestler and Paul Bearer having been a mortician before getting into the WWF. He said he and Vince write scripts mostly at his house and it usually takes seven days to put together a week's worth of television scripts. They then brought up Terry Bollea and Patterson said he shared the same characteristics as Graham, that Vince created the current Hulk Hogan character (not true, the current character evolved in Minneapolis and Japan between Hogan's first and second WWF run). Patterson admitted that even though wrestlers don't try to hurt each other, it is physically demanding. He said Linda McMahon works 18 hours a day, then talked about the first and third Wrestlemania and how they had started planning Wrestlemania III six months in advance of the show. He said Hogan and Andre had never wrestled before that match and only wrestled each other once or twice after (so much for his memory). He said he never took Zahorian to see McMahon for the conversation Zahorian talked about.

Patterson again said he never ordered Scales to hire Zahorian, nor did McMahon ever tell him in Hershey to bring Zahorian to him, nor was he even in such a conversation with McMahon and Zahorian about dispensing steroids. He said when he heard Zahorian was being investigated, he didn't know it was by the Justice Department and said he was concerned with the reputation of wrestling at the time because he thought maybe some wrestlers were dealing with him.

Brevetti took over and Patterson said when he discussed with Vince the investigation, it was in Vince's office and nobody else was present. He said whenever he talked to McMahon in Vince's office, the door was always closed because he doesn't like to hear any noise at all. He again said he never read the memo. He said he never used the word steroids when talking with Zahorian to warn him of the investigation. He said McMahon would have never attended a regular house show in Hershey. He said that he was not involved in the development of the Nailz character and Brevetti showed a photo of Nailz to show the costume didn't reveal his physique.

O'Shea took over. "Did you say it was the late 1980s when you found out Zahorian was dispensing steroids to wrestlers?" "Yes." "But in the mid-80s when you were a road agent you knew?" "I heard it but I didn't know." "When did you first find out he was dispensing steroids?" "When I was a road agent." "Before going into the office around 1985 or 1986?" "Yes." "So it was the mid-80s?" "Yes."

Next up was Anita Scales, the Director of Compliance and Regulations for Titan Sports for the past eight years. She reviews arena contracts, insurance terms, argues indemnity and liability clauses in contracts among her other duties, and reports to Linda McMahon. Her job pays her approximately \$53,000 per year. Scales was a very unique individual. She appeared almost to be seated on the stand and spent a long time thinking before she would answer questions and was careful in her answers, particularly when dealing with McDevitt as if she was thinking constantly about trying to avoid being tricked into slipping up as if she knew the game ahead of time.

She said that she had specific instructions when it came to Terry Bollea in that if she needed to contact him, she had to do it through Vince's office. It was stated never to call him directly. She then talked about the law change in Pennsylvania. She said she didn't even

consider keeping Zahorian as a doctor because she had heard rumors about him dating back to when they worked in Greenwich, CT. After she made the decision she started hearing from Zahorian in early August. He made a number of calls and she became very irritated. She made a memo of an 8/7/89 call where she told him she had assigned other doctors to Hershey and he insisted it was his town, she responded she didn't believe it belonged to anyone, that Leis & Battista (a three-person medical firm) had been assigned it for the Hershey shows for the rest of the year. He said he would go over my head and I said to go ahead.

She said she talked with Patterson sometime between the end of August and October. Patterson said he wanted Zahorian to work Hershey and she said No, the assignments were already done. He said the boys wanted him. She also got a call from Jay Strongbow very shortly after. He said he was calling because he wanted Zahorian to work Hershey. "By this time I was getting very annoyed because I had numerous calls from Zahorian's office. I said 'No.' He said 'the boys need their candies' (virtually all references in wrestling I've heard to the term candy refers to barbiturates and not to steroids). I said 'they could get their damn candies somewhere else.'"

She said after talking with Scarpa (Strongbow), she talked with Mel Phillips who sometimes got assignments from her. She said she asked Phillips what was going on and asked him what the deal was on Dr. Zahorian in Hershey. Phillips said he heard a lot of things. He made things available to the boys, he didn't mention any particular drug and said he was sleazy.

In the meantime Scales found out Zahorian appeared at the next show in Hershey anyway. "I learned he appeared after I had made two other calls. I talked to Bob Marella (Gorilla Monsoon). I called him and told him I was being pressured to hire Zahorian. He told me Zahorian was sleazy and there was no room in the wrestling business for him and said 'you're between a rock and a hard place.' I called Tony Garea. He seemed like a sensible person. It was similar to the call to Marella. He said he was sleazy and opened up shop. I'd heard the term before. He'd come with a huge bag on wheels. I was left with the distinct impression Zahorian dealt in volume."

She learned Zahorian had still appeared at the Hershey show when he was called by Rene Goulet who asked her why there were two doctors at the show. She said she only assigned one. Goulet told her Zahorian was there. After that happened she said she went to Linda McMahon.

"I explained to her that I was receiving pressure to assign Zahorian to Hershey and I had believed it was my responsibility to make the choice but I was being asked to assign Zahorian.

Pat wants me to assign him. I've heard bad things and I don't want him there, and she said do what Pat wants."

Scales said she returned to her office and talked to her assistant, Marge Sharkey, and told her that "I refuse to write the sleazebag a letter." But she felt pressured to assign Zahorian to appear at the December 26 show in Hershey. She had a letter sent to Zahorian and a letter sent to Vincent Gest of the commission which said Zahorian would be the doctor at the show. Later she got a call from Elizabeth DeFabbio, Linda McMahon's assistant, who asked if Zahorian was working the Hershey show. I said why? She said he can't. I said I'll come upstairs. She said she talked to DeFabbio and asked why he can't be there and she said we got a call, political in nature, from a lobbyist or a member of a law firm. She said someone wanted to take their kids backstage and Zahorian just couldn't be there. I said, 'you wanted him there,' and she said he can't be there. She said she then went to Patterson and asked if he'd heard about Zahorian and told him, 'You wanted him there. You get rid of him.' She showed another letter to Vincent Gest on December 4, 1989, telling him they changed physicians for Hershey writing that Zahorian was unavailable. Unavailable was her own word for making him unavailable.

McDevitt asked her if she sent the letter to Zahorian (about being physician on the 12/26 show) and she said yes (this point is

important). McDevitt said in his most demeaning voice to her, "Your view of Zahorian was based on scuttlebutt" and she said, "That's true." "That scuttlebutt never included specifically steroids." "No." McDevitt tried to imply Scales didn't get along with anyone who worked with the Pennsylvania state commission (at this point he was defending Zahorian, as Titan's attorneys regularly flip-flopped on viewpoints of Zahorian depending on which suited their purpose at the moment, but then again, so did the government's attorneys), implying it was her fault and that she didn't get along with anyone. She denied it, admitting only to not liking Jimmy "J.J." Bins of the commission individually. He asked if in 1987 Linda McMahon ever expressed a desire to her to keep Zahorian, which she didn't. She said that prior to June 30, 1989, she didn't think she had ever talked to Linda or Vince about Zahorian. She said that nobody told her after the law changed to hire Zahorian. He brought up that in 1988 she herself hired Zahorian which she said was because she needed a physical on wrestler Allan Coage (Badnews Brown) done in a hurry to get him licensed elsewhere and Patterson said to call Zahorian. She said by the time she learned of the law change which would put her, and not the commission, in charge of deciding which doctor to use, that nobody had told her to hire Zahorian.

At this point, the judge called Afa Anoa (manager of Head Shrinkers) to his desk because somebody told the judge that Afa had been among the spectators mouthing the words "not guilty" directed at the jury.

Back to action, McDevitt tried to establish Scales as hating all physicians and not just Zahorian in particular. He noted that when she hired Dr. Leis for Hershey, nobody at Titan told her to hire Zahorian. McDevitt said in the agent report for the first card after deregulation in Hershey where Goulet was the agent, in the agents report there was no mention of Zahorian being there or being paid to be there. She said that Zahorian never told her that he talked with Patterson. She said he said he was going over her head, but didn't mention a specific name. After that point Patterson talked to her but she wasn't sure of the month the conversation took place in, and the conversation with Strongbow she believes took place later in the same month. McDevitt is his demeaning voice said, "The only thing Patterson told you is Zahorian requested to work Hershey." "He said more than that." "Did Pat order you to hire Zahorian?" "Order is a strong word." "Direct you." "He requested." "But did he direct you!" (at the point it appeared he was trying to bully Scales down and it wasn't working). In September, she still wasn't under orders to hire Zahorian because on 9/29 she called Dr. Leis to work the November card. On 10/2 there was another memo saying that Zahorian had called asking if they've assigned a doctor for the Hershey show. He asked how we choose and we said we work with the building. She said the reason she called Monsoon and Garea to get info on Zahorian is she wanted people's opinions that she respected. She said she didn't tell Monsoon she didn't want Zahorian because of steroids. McDevitt asked if Strongbow has used the word steroids and she said the word was candies. When McDevitt said she didn't know steroids to mean candies, she shot back, "I knew they weren't Hershey's Kisses." "You told Linda McMahon you were getting pressure from Pat Patterson?" "Yes." The defense produced an 11/3 document regarding the 12/26 show which had Zahorian's name crossed off as the doctor, indicating the decision to not use him was made before that date or before Titan was aware he was being investigated. Scales responded saying they crossed the name off after 11/3. McDevitt tried to make the point that Zahorian never actually worked a Titan show after deregulation. He also strongly implied that the letter introduced as evidence, written to Zahorian asking him to work the 12/26 show was a fraud since it was unsigned, and since Zahorian in his testimony never recalled getting the letter and there was no record of any response to the letter which he thought was strange from someone who had made so many calls begging to get the assignment. In May 1992, when the government investigation of Titan began, she was ordered to give all her files to the company lawyers and the letter wasn't in the files. In later testimony she claimed she only gave 80% of her files to the lawyers and sometime later found a copy of the letter from a different correspondence file.

Brevetti brought up Scales had never had a written or verbal communication from Vince on the subject. She said that if Vince had wanted Zahorian there, he'd have told her and Zahorian would be there. "If he had done that, you'd have hired him!" "I'd have objections." Brevetti pointed out that the situation (hiring Zahorian to work Hershey) was no big deal in the grand scheme of things to Scales and therefore, as busy as Linda McMahon was, it wouldn't be to her either. Scales admitted Linda McMahon didn't seem to show any major awareness of Zahorian. When Brevetti claimed that Linda McMahon's response to do what Pat said was more a remark without thinking rather than a major order, Scales shot back, "You're making it sound flippancy and it wasn't."

"In April (1994), you knew there would be a trial?" "I assumed there would be when there was an indictment. "You've been prepped by the government!" "My version of talking and prepping are different." "In April, did you take documents out of your office without knowledge of Titan executives and send them to government personnel." "Not in April." It came out that happened last September or October. "You took them out of the office, sent them to the government and never told anyone!" "Yes. It was my insurance."

O'Shea came back and asked when she first heard scuttlebutt regarding Zahorian's dealing and she said when she was still in Greenwich prior to September 1986. "Did it come from other members of the corporation?" "Someone in the ring crew." O'Shea then brought up McDevitt's point about Zahorian never being hired by Titan after deregulation and O'Shea pointed out that he physically appeared at the August show.

Jim "Ultimate Warrior" Hellwig was next. Hellwig came off as honest as any wrestler testifying, but while well-spoken, came off as a guy whose brain, or at least memory had been destroyed since he could never remember specifics about anything and joked that he couldn't even remember where he was or what he did one week ago, let alone a few years ago. He said he used testosterone and decadurabolin both before and during his wrestling career. He said he talked about steroids with wrestlers regularly in casual conversation. He said 85 to 90% of the WWF wrestlers at the time were on steroids. When asked if Hershey, PA was known for any one specific person, he said, "Dr. Zahorian." He said Zahorian made available pain medication and steroids to wrestlers, but he said he never got steroids from Zahorian, but that he had anything you needed. He learned Zahorian had steroids, sleeping pills and pain medications that only a doctor could get. He said he saw nothing peculiar about what Zahorian was doing, and that he would see wrestlers carry out white boxes after visiting him. He said that in 1989 Vince McMahon asked him whether he could get him HGH (Human Growth Hormone). They then brought up that in February 1991, after a match at the Capital Centre, at the local Marriott he left his steroids behind in the hotel room. After going home to Dallas, he got a phone call from an upset Vince McMahon and said he was caught off guard by the call. At first he didn't admit or didn't know they were his steroids and said possibly someone had come to his room and taken a shot but that he later learned they were his steroids. They talked at the next TV taping and Vince told him things had heated up (this was right about the time Zahorian was indicted). Hellwig said he didn't understand why it was a big deal because he thought steroids were legal. Hellwig said McMahon never told him at that point not to use steroids.

McDevitt questioned him and made the point again Hellwig didn't think what he was doing was illegal. He said he started using steroids in 1984 before the Mr. Georgia contest. He said he started using them for the same reason everyone else uses them, "for that edge." He said you don't just take steroids and get a physique. McDevitt tried to shift the physique focus from the steroids to the training (when, to look like Hellwig, you need both, plus diet, plus favorable genetics and favorable steroid receptor sites in the muscles) pointing out he sometimes trained at 2 a.m. and watched his diet and that he didn't think steroids were bad for him. "I didn't drink or smoke. I'd make the sacrifices to achieve goals in bodybuilding." He maintained he had no problems getting steroids before being in the WWF or during, either from black market dealers in gyms or from doctors. He wouldn't know where they came from and wouldn't know if the

steroids he used were real. "No, it was just presumption." He said steroids were used by the wrestlers in Tennessee when he was breaking in in late 1985. He's gotten steroids from more than five to ten physicians but never from Zahorian. He said he was getting steroids from a doctor in Fort Worth that worked for the commission and also for the World Class promotion. "Did he give you a physical?" "No. I wanted steroids. He'd write a prescription. I'd go to a drug store." He also got steroids from a gym owner in Louisville. Vince McMahon never told him to take steroids and he believed that he was in the inner circle so if McMahon were to tell anyone to take steroids, he'd have told him (actually that makes little sense because if anyone were to tell anyone to take steroids, the last person they'd need to tell would have been Jim Hellwig). He didn't know in 1991 that the law was going to change and that use had already been regulated. He noted Vince was upset at him after the incident in Baltimore in 1991. McDevitt noted Vince was a bodybuilder and people within that cult are always talking about new substances in reference to the HGH conversation. Hellwig admitted he also didn't know what the laws were regarding HGH.

Brevetti brought up that Hellwig made several million dollars during his five years in the WWF, that his uses was a personal choice and that the only person who put pressure on him to take steroids was himself. She brought up that on January 25, 1991, McMahon sent a memo to the wrestlers bringing up the impending law change regarding steroid possession, and that he was never charged or prosecuted by law enforcement regarding the incident in Baltimore. He had no idea if he had ever seen the memo or not. I think it was at this point when he was pressed on remembering the memo and the time frame of the ordeal in Baltimore when he said that he couldn't even remember where he had been or what he had done a week ago.

O'Shea then said that in Baltimore, was McMahon mad about you using steroids or getting caught? He said getting caught. "He wasn't mad about you using steroids." "No." "Mr. McMahon knew you were using steroids." "Yes."

After leaving the courtroom, Hellwig was besieged by the television media for their 6 and 11 p.m. newscasts. When asked if wrestlers were told to use steroids, he said that was bunk. He then went to an attractive female reporter with an analogy--if you were on a job interview and the boss told you to take off all your clothes right there and have wild sex, it's your decision. You could say no.

Next up was Margaret "Marge" Sharkey, who started working for Titan in 1985 from a temp agency and now handles domestic event contracts. Sharkey came off as totally credible on the stand, having no motive to say anything critical of Titan Sports and seemed to be there to be back-up witness when the Titan lawyers attempted to discredit Scales' testimony.

She was asked if she had gotten a call from Zahorian and said that once when Zahorian called Anita, she picked up the phone and talked to him but that only happened once, and overheard the conversation. She said she knew they (being her and Scales) didn't want him working events because the word was out he was selling pills to wrestlers. She said Patterson called and said that we were going to use Zahorian because the boys love him. Sharkey said she talked with Patterson while Scales said it was she that talked with Patterson, although it is conceivable that Patterson at some point could have talked with both. O'Shea asked if she talked to any agents about Zahorian and she said Anita dealt with the agents. She said in November Anita told her we were going to use Zahorian and she was very upset about it. She went to see Linda McMahon and came down and was quite upset because we didn't want to use this man. She said she then sent a letter to Gest at the commission saying Zahorian would work the next Hershey show. She said Scales told her that Linda McMahon said she had no problems with Dr. Zahorian. Sharkey said she wrote a letter to Zahorian (the letter without a signature which because of a lack of signature, the Titan lawyers tried to claim was never sent to Zahorian although due to Sharkey's credibility on the subject it made it seem to be the lawyers were grasping at straws to hurt her credibility) and said she sent it to

Zahorian. She said it was her practice to xerox letters, often before she signed them and put them into the files, which were personal files for both her and Scales. She wrote another letter on 12/4, when she heard a bunch of VIPs were coming to Hershey on the 12/26 show and they wouldn't want Zahorian there. "You knew people were going backstage during the show and they didn't want Zahorian there?" "Yes."

McDevitt brought up that Sharkey and Scales were best friends and rode to the courthouse together. He asked if they had talked about the trial and she said they haven't discussed anything else for the past year. "The prosecution told you not to talk to her?" "Yes." But she admitted they talked while Hellwig was on the stand, which is supposed to be a no-no while a case is ongoing. She said she talked to Zahorian once when he called asking to work Hershey and when she said others had been assigned, Zahorian told her he'd go over her head. That was eerily similar to the conversation Scales had with Zahorian, so either one of them was remembering one of the other's conversations as their own (similar to the Patterson story) or Zahorian also said the same thing to both of them, which is a possibility since he apparently called on a regular basis, so often that Scales considered them a nuisance and wrote personal memos logging how often he called. On the 10/2 memo, she said if Anita said she had written it, she would have been incorrect, because Sharkey thought she had written it. She said the 11/2 letter to Zahorian asking him to work the 12/26 show was written at the request of Pat or somebody upstairs. McDevitt again brought up the point that Zahorian never responded as trying to say the letter was really never sent. Since she wasn't in the conversation with Scales and Linda McMahon, McDevitt brought up to Sharkey that Scales could have embellished the conversation. "I never knew Anita to lie or make up stories." "Does she embellish." "No." "But was she ranting and raving (after the conversation with Linda McMahon)?" "We were both very angry." "But was she ranting and raving?" "No. We were angry."

Wednesday opened with Doug Sages, the Chief Financial Officer of Titan Sports since October, 1985 on the stand. Unlike most of the wrestlers, Sages came off as professional and believable, but he did appear to be squirming at points.

He testified that Titan Sports is a Delaware corporation (because Delaware has favorable tax laws many corporations are registered there) and is owned 100 percent by Vince McMahon. It's an S corporation which means any income or profits go directly to the owner. He testified that Terry Bollea was a big star and an important money maker, but then hedged when asked if he was the company's top attraction and said, "One of the top." He was then asked about a May 1988 conversation he had with McMahon about steroids. "He wanted to obtain cash to do a transaction in quiet fashion." O'Shea noted in grand jury testimony, Sages used the word "untraceable" as to the transaction, but Sages said that was his words and not necessarily a word used by McMahon. Sages said he told him to do it and also explained to him how to use cash or to use cash or a company check to buy bank checks because your name doesn't appear on the bank check, the name of the bank does. When asked if in the conversation McMahon told him he wanted steroids for himself and Hulk Hogan, Sages said, "Yes." "Was it between \$1,000 and \$2,000." "Yes." Sages said he got the \$1,000 to \$2,000 from petty cash. Sages also recalled that at later periods he had conversations with Emily Feinberg and said she needed a bank check although he said he doesn't distinctly recall the conversations with Feinburg. O'Shea then brought up Sages' grand jury testimony where he recalled the conversation better, saying that she wanted to get a bank check for \$650 to pay Zahorian and Sages said after the discussion a company check was written to the bank, which then wrote their own check for \$650 to Zahorian. "Was the check for steroids?" "I don't know. I assumed." The company check was payable to Union Trust. O'Shea then produced a photocopy of a company check for \$650 to Union Trust, which was listed on the book as for medical expenses, and a \$650 check from Union Trust to Zahorian was produced, with the same dates on each--June 21, 1988. When asked about the checks in the Grand Jury, Sages said they couldn't find them on the company's microfilm, but said it wasn't destroyed on purpose, it just came at a time the company was switching its records to microfilm.

Sages admitted he didn't have a copy of the check on file and that he or someone in his office searched for it. He said that Mr. Morales (Benny Morales), one of his assistants, went to Union Trust to purchase the check. It was brought up that Sages appeared twice before the Grand Jury and the first time was asked about any checks for the purchase of steroids and said that he didn't recall. He said he searched for documentation before appearing before the Grand Jury and didn't know if he had found them, but in testimony said he didn't find them and they pointed to this minor contradiction between his two testimonies. "Did Emily come back again and ask for a second check?" "Based on documents, we must have had a conversation." He said the second set of checks, a Titan check to Union Trust and a Union Trust check to Zahorian, again listed for medical expenses, for \$530 was written on October 18, 1989, signed by Benny Morales. "Were those checks considered a cost of doing business?" "Yes." Sages said they did these bank check transactions often for a number of reason, but O'Shea brought up that in Grand Jury testimony, Sages was asked if those kind of transactions were unusual and he said "Yes" and admitted it was an usual way of doing business.

When O'Shea asked if Titan Sports was a profitable company, Sages responded, "Generally speaking, yes," and admitted the company has made millions of dollars, as has McMahon. Sages said that in its best year, which wasn't specified other than it was between 1985 and 1989, the company made \$6 million profit.

McDevitt cross-examined Sages and pointed to the two checks and said that he didn't know if steroids were purchased with the two checks and don't know if the steroids purchased were for his personal use or for both he and Hogan and Sages responded, "No I don't." Sages said that he had spent eight to ten weeks looking for records of checks to Zahorian and could come up with only two purchases recorded totalling \$1,180. McDevitt established that by the type of corporation Titan is, the owner has rights to get any of the income at any time for any purpose because the company's assets are also his personal assets. He noted that the IRS audited Titan Sports every year from 1986 to 1991 and looked into the independent contractor status of the wrestlers and hasn't made any challenges to that status (which probably explains why Titan wrestlers are now allowed to work indie dates on their days off). McDevitt pointed out that McMahon didn't come to Sages and tell him what he wanted the money for in the two check transactions. When asked why the checks were labeled for medical expenses, Sages said that because the checks were going to wind up with Dr. Zahorian, that a clerk logging them simply saw Dr. before Zahorian's name and assumed, and said that nobody from above directed them to be logged as medical expenses. Sages said that the 5/88 cash transaction was the only time McMahon told him specifically any money was being used to purchase steroids for himself and Hogan and that Emily Feinberg wasn't present for that conversation. "Vince wanted cash for a quiet transaction. Untraceable is my word. I left the room and obtained the cash. I asked him what it was for. He said steroids." Sages said the checks were fully traceable, said that nobody from the FDA ever investigated with Titan Sports any steroid purchases from Zahorian and when asked if anyone ever told him to destroy any records regarding Zahorian he said, "Absolutely not."

Brevetti then questioned Sages and he said that Feinberg never mentioned that the \$650 check was for steroids, and that he had never had any conversations with Feinberg about steroids, and that McMahon never ordered it recorded in the books as medical expenses.

O'Shea came back with a quick line of questions. "Did he say it (the steroids purchased from the cash transaction) were for personal use?" "Yes." "Didn't he say himself and Terry Bollea?" "Yes." "Mr. Bollea is a different person, that's not personal use." "Yes." O'Shea also pointed out there were no company records at all tracing the first \$1,000 to \$2,000 and that if the government was investigating Zahorian, because of the bank checks, they wouldn't find any checks from Titan Sports. But McDevitt countered establishing if you start with Zahorian, then trace it through Union Trust, you'd eventually

establish that it was a Titan check, so the transactions weren't untraceable.

Emily Feinberg, the prosecutions' star witness, was next. Feinberg, currently a homemaker, worked for Titan Sports from July 1987 through September 1991. During the first year she was the secretary for Dick Glover, but after one year was given a promotion to Executive Assistant to McMahon. Her duties were secretarial and scheduling, without a lot of paper work. She had both a business relationship with McMahon and later they became friends. Feinberg, a one-time Playboy Playmate (which wasn't brought up in the trial), is a very attractive woman who "dressed down" in order to downplay her looks. While she was on the stand, it was like an eerie soap opera, because it was evident there was far more to the story than ever came out. Titan's attorneys dropped hints, but never really established anything other than beginning statements that looked to lead somewhere but never went anywhere. It was almost like a schoolyard argument between two people, neither of whom starts the actual fist-fight because both are afraid of the other. Feinberg had more evidence than any other witness, but was caught on any points in cross-examination because she denied things outright that either she simply didn't remember or was lying, which were later established as fact, and there were contradictions, both major and minor, in her testimony as compared with other witnesses talking about the same things and even with her grand jury statement. Some of the discrepancies were believable, since the events were five years old, that she didn't remember certain things, but the vociferousness of her denials of certain things that wound up being true ended up hurting her credibility.

Feinberg brought her steno notebook pads with her from her days working for McMahon as evidence. She was responsible for the drug testing program (this was the pre-steroid drug testing where they were only testing for cocaine). Feinberg said that McMahon only cared about cocaine positives, but that numerous positives were coming up for drugs like opiates and barbiturates and she said she brought it to his attention but he wasn't concerned about anything but cocaine. According to Feinberg, McMahon told her that the life of a wrestler is very grueling. They needed drugs to get up, drugs to sleep and drugs to control their roid rages. Feinberg said that roid rages were personality flare-ups and that wrestlers would get very angry and were prone to fighting and being antagonistic while on steroids. She said people in the office would talk about roid rages when the word would get out that wrestlers while in Europe had torn up hotel rooms. She said she talked with Patterson and remembered once when Patterson, after a European tour when some of the wrestlers were very destructive that he was concerned it was either from cocaine or roid rages.

Feinberg testified that Hogan was the No. 1 star and most important person in the company and got complete star treatment. Office workers would get in trouble if they called him at home. Sometimes the company would pay for him to be limo'd around towns or charter flights for him to get home after shows.

She said she first heard about steroids at the end of the first summer she worked for McMahon. She said gas and juice with other terms for steroids and used the term "rigs" for needles. She said she heard the terms mostly from Vince and sometimes from Pat. "Everyone talked about it." She said that during this time period, her and her husband and her children were great friends with Patterson who was like an uncle to her kids. She said that Patterson talked with her about 20 times about steroids.

She said in June 1988, Vince called her into his office to send a check to Dr. Zahorian, who would be sending a package. He wanted her to call Zahorian and to get the address from Anita Scales. He said he wanted an untraceable check and she went to Benny Morales in the financial office. When the subject of her steno pads were brought up, the Titan attorneys got hot and the judge excused the jury while Brevetti questioned her about the steno pads.

Brevetti made the point that Feinberg had the steno pads in her possession from early 1992 when she got them from the Titan offices

after she had left the company, until late in the year when she turned them over to the government, strongly implying they could be doctored. Brevetti noted that several of the 80-page notebooks had less than 80 pages, trying to indicate she had doctored the books before turning them over. The judge, apparently realizing that crumbling up and throwing away pages in a steno pad as part of regular work activity is quite common, threw Brevetti's challenge to the steno pads as evidence out.

O'Shea then brought up the June 1988 transaction and asked if she was told not to use a corporate check. "He wanted something that couldn't be traced." They then noted a listing in her steno pad on June 20, 1988--"Dr. George Zahorian, Anita, \$680, send a MO, Doug, not a corporate check." Regarding that order, Feinberg said she didn't call Zahorian to make the order but did call him to find out how much money she needed to have sent. "In this case the order had been placed?" "Yes."

Feinberg said at one point McMahon told her he needed a refrigerator in the office for cold sodas but she didn't do it right away. Eventually she did. One day while she was filling it with sodas, she saw a vial of medicine, which he later confided in her was a steroid that needed to be refrigerated.

"Were you asked to purchase steroids for Hulk Hogan?" "Yes." She recalled one of the shipments from Zahorian, when McMahon got in, he separated some of the steroids and gave them to his driver to give to Hogan, either at the Meadowlands, Nassau Coliseum or Madison Square Garden. She said this happened more than once. She said Hogan got the steroids either from the driver or by her sending the packages fed-ex to his home (and the defense pointed out repeatedly, the prosecution entered no evidence of fed-ex packages sent from Feinberg to Hogan's home, nor was Stuart in the trial to confirm her story). She said this happened six or seven times. She said this wasn't a secret because McMahon wasn't secretive about steroids. She said she never sent steroids to Hogan on her own. She said Vince would divide up what came in his office and ask her to get them to Hulk. She said McMahon started using steroids with Hulk when they were doing the movie "No Holds Barred" in the summer of 1988.

Other note pad items entered into evidence were December 7, 1988--"Needles and stuff" (she said stuff was one of her code words for steroids and said the entry meant Vince needed needles and steroids); December 20, 1988--"B-12 and rigs" (she said that meant he needed injectable Vitamin B-12 [which bodybuilders, football linemen and others wanting to gain weight sometimes use, often in conjunction with a steroid cycle to increase their appetite, thus allowing them to eat more food and thus convert more of it to muscular bodyweight while on a steroid cycle], steroids and more needles as her usage of rigs she claimed meant both needles and steroids); December 29, 1988--"B-12 and rigs" (same); December 30, 1988--"Rigs at TV? B-12 and rigs again" (It meant to find out whether Vince wanted her to pack steroids and needles, he was on a cycle of one day getting a shot, two days off, the notation meant to ask if he needed them while he was out of the office for a few days for TV tapings); March 20, 1989--"Give Hulk stuff" (that meant get him steroids); April 10, 1989--"Rigs" (a notation Vince needed more steroids and needles); April 11, 1989--"Call Hulk rigs" (a note to call Hogan to see if he needed more steroids and needles); October 11, 1989--"Zahorian 1 1/2 rigs, batch of deca, 4 bottles of HCG personal \$530" (Vince wanted a certain gauge of needles, more steroids and four bottles of HCG which he took while on steroids at the end of a cycle); October 16, 1989--"Zahorian" (It would have meant call Zahorian to get the order); October 18, 1989--"Zahorian deca Zahorian" (That meant to order deca from Zahorian). Feinberg testified she received steroids from Zahorian and sent some of them to Hogan. She said that Vince first alerted her to the investigation saying he and Linda had heard about an investigation when an attorney friend of theirs had tipped them off and said he'd gotten word to the boys not to use Zahorian anymore.

There were no notations about steroids in 1990. She said in January 1991 the investigation on Zahorian was heating up and Vince wanted

anything in the file relating to Zahorian to be gotten rid of. On January 25, 1991, McMahon told her he wanted to check the fed-ex roster and see if there were records of steroid packages from Zahorian. That same day she and Vince put together a memo, sent to all wrestlers, which basically stated what the laws were regarding steroids and telling the wrestlers if they are using steroids for treatment of injuries, to always carry a prescription with them. O'Shea noted that letter was put together the same day she was told to destroy records relating to Zahorian. An entry on January 28, 1991 said "check roids correspondence" which Feinberg said was an indication he didn't want anything in the office traceable to Zahorian or steroids. She said Vince at that time was angry that some of the wrestlers weren't listening and were still using Zahorian as a source. She claimed that at around this time, things were really heating up and he had quite a few steroids left from his last cycle and asked her to take them home until things calmed down. Eventually she thought she threw all the steroids away. She later found one vial, which was tested to contain decadurabolin on March 29, 1994. As things later unfolded, it was found the serial number on the vial was identical to the serial number on a vial of decadurabolin bought by William Dunn from Zahorian on October 18, 1989 when Dunn was working as a police informant, indicating the vial appeared to come from Zahorian and was probably sent right around the same time.

McDevitt went after her hard, because this was by far the most damaging testimony of the trial. She admitted to having five visits with the government and about 15 phone calls from government investigators after she got in contact with the government in late 1992. When asked who initiated the contact, her or the government, she said, "My attorney said we should seek them out." She wasn't subpoenaed (later, while on a major role in closing, responding to charges that Feinberg went to the government right after her last Titan paycheck, O'Shea stormed back that they were blaming Feinberg for answering a government subpoena as any private citizen would, so in that instance O'Shea was mistaken or dishonest, although he hardly had a lock in this trial on either of those categories). She admitted talking to the government for 40 minutes the previous day and they talked about steroid shipments and distribution to Hogan, but said they didn't go over questions she was going to be asked. She said she kept no log of her phone calls. She testified that Stuart was asked to deliver steroids to Hogan. She said that McMahon contracted hepatitis in early 1990 and got off steroids at that point. She said she found the vial of deca under some ski clothes. McDevitt acted suspicious of that. Feinberg said she found the deca after dealing with the government, and it came as a surprise when she found it. She said she didn't turn it over immediately to the government but didn't know how long it was before she did. She said she turned it over when she realized it could be a piece of the puzzle. McDevitt continued questioning her on how it got there. McDevitt established that Feinberg kept McMahon's steroids when he was on a cycle, and established that her belief was McMahon's final steroid cycle was from October 18, 1989 through December 19, 1989. She had nothing in her notes in December 1989 about being told about Zahorian being investigated and said she thought she heard about the investigation in the fall of 1990. She said McMahon never told her to destroy any records in December 1989. She said she didn't remove his steroids from the office and take a batch home, which included the aforementioned vial, before his bout with hepatitis. "Did you say six or seven times steroids were distributed to Hogan by Vince?" "Yes." McDevitt tried to insinuate some of the notes in her steno pad regarding Vince and steroids were simply notes to remember to pack his steroids when he was going out of town and he'd be out of town on the day he needed a shot, but Feinberg denied it. He then went through packages sent from Zahorian to Feinberg and asked individually if she knew the package contained steroids, if she had ordered the shipment, had she talked to Zahorian about the shipment, if she had seen Vince give steroids from that shipment to Hogan, etc., and she couldn't specify any clear recollection of any of that for the June 18, 1988 package, the July 21, 1988 package (both of which were sent by Zahorian to McMahon in Atlanta during filming of the movie; Feinberg wasn't in Atlanta during that time). She also had no knowledge of the December 21, 1988 package.

On the April 13, 1989 package, which was one of the ones charged, she said she didn't know for sure if she ordered that package from Zahorian or recall specifically discussing the package with Zahorian, nor that she looked and saw what was in the package ("Vince always opened packages"). "Did Vince McMahon open that package in your presence?" "I don't know." "Any of the contents from that package delivered to Hogan?" "I can't say for sure from that shipment. I'd have to know how big it was." McDevitt asked her if she ever used the term stuff to describe merchandise, and she denied it, which turned into an interesting set-up later. "Do you know if Jim Stuart delivered anything in that package to Hogan?" "I don't know if that was one of the times." "Did you fed-ex it?" "I don't recall if that was one of the times." It was then brought out that when interviewed by the Grand Jury, Feinberg said she had ordered steroids for Hogan three times, as opposed to six or seven in the trial testimony. In the grand jury Feinberg testified that one time she saw McMahon physically separate the bottles for himself and Hogan and one time she saw him open up a package and take some of the contents out and give to Stuart to deliver to Hogan. In the grand jury McDevitt pointed out that Feinberg only mentioned deliveries by Stuart and never mentioned fed-ex deliveries as she did in her trial testimony. "Do you have any knowledge if Jim Stuart delivered that package?" "No."

She didn't recall anything about the May 11 and May 16 packages from Zahorian.

As for the October 24 package, she remembered talking to Zahorian about it asking for decadurabolin and HCG. She said she placed the call and ordered needles, a batch ("a lot of bottles") of deca and four bottles of HCG. She told Zahorian she was Emily from Vince's office. "Did you mention Hogan's name?" "No, I wouldn't have." She said some of those steroids went to Hogan, but she couldn't recall if they were sent to a local arena. She said if a fed-ex went to Hogan, she'd have packaged the box herself and had her assistant, Kim Degan, send the package out, but Degan wouldn't have known that it was steroids in the package. She said she remembered paying for the package by calling finance. She didn't know if it was steroids from that shipment she took home, but remembered taking about 15 vials home. "Who decided how much of the shipment went to Hogan?" "Vince did." "Was that shipment delivered to Hogan?" "Yes." But she couldn't remember if it was fed-exed or delivered by Stuart, but she said it would have been delivered one way or another within a week. She said she can recall seeing the packages divided up more than one time.

McDevitt brought up in the Grand Jury Feinberg said she saw McMahon physically separate bottles and said she remembered getting some of them and being told to give them to Stuart for delivery to Hogan. McDevitt then pointed out the October Nassau Coliseum show was on 10/20 so that package couldn't have been sent to that show. She couldn't remember if she had talked to Hogan about that specific package. However, in her December 1992 grand jury appearance, she said the steroids were ordered by Hogan and that aside from October 24, 1989, she never ordered steroids from Zahorian. She said she destroyed the cover letter from the first time she wrote to Zahorian when ordered to shred documents but that was the only document she actually destroyed, and the company still was able to produce a copy of the document she shredded from the accounting department. She did say that sometime before March 1991 she destroyed drug testing records because things were getting hot, but McDevitt pointed out that there had been no government subpoena on those records.

Brevetti took another approach, trying to portray her as an actress playing a role and seemingly wanting to go into her personal character, but then backed off. Feinberg denied being an actress, only a model. She admitted being in a promotional video but said there was no script and it was impromptu and she didn't consider it acting, although the show has aired on cable. Then Brevetti made a snide remark at her "dress-down" outfit and said that wasn't the way she dressed when she was working at Titan, and she said actually it was, that she had worn that same outfit to work many times because she had bought it many years ago. Feinberg said McMahon told her that Hogan taught him about how to use steroids when they were on

the set in Atlanta. She said McMahon never asked her to order steroids for anyone except Hogan and that she never heard McMahon encourage any wrestlers to use steroids. She said the phrase "bigger than life" as it regarded WWF talent wasn't a code phrase for steroid use. Brevetti said that in her steno pad it says check roids correspondence and the actual word "destroy" doesn't appear, but Feinberg insisted McMahon wanted her to get rid of all records regarding Zahorian. Brevetti then tried to lead Feinberg into admitting that because the publicity regarding the investigation had gotten intense, that bad publicity, not obstruction of justice, was the primary reason for that (while probably true, if you recall, in January, 1991 there was no publicity at all regarding steroids in wrestling in the media--the publicity explosion wasn't until July 1991 after the Zahorian trial). She talked about the January 25, 1991 memo to the wrestlers and said the memo was sent to warn the wrestlers about the change in the law making possession a felony. Feinberg said she thought she had accompanied McMahon to the Nassau Coliseum, which contradicted Patterson's earlier testimony when he claimed McMahon never went to any regular house shows except Madison Square Garden. She said she couldn't remember if she ever saw McMahon in possession of steroids in Nassau county after April 13, 1989. She said she never opened and divided a package of steroids upon its arrival and never opened a package first, saying McMahon always did that. She then brought up a reference to "stuff" in Emily's steno pad where it did refer to Hogan merchandise which she had denied she would have done. While this was all going down, Vince McMahon was stoic with his head down, while Linda McMahon during Feinberg's testimony was fighting back tears. Feinberg then denied Vince & Linda McMahon were in Europe together on a vacation on April 13, 1989, when it was later established that they were from 4/12 to 4/17. She also didn't think she was in Los Angeles with Vince McMahon about a week later when it was established that was when she filmed the video in Los Angeles. They tried to establish that whatever April 11 reference in her steno pad regarding Hogan was because she wrote and sent a letter to Hogan because there was a disagreement over whether Hogan or the company would pick up the tab for charter flights home from two shows earlier in the month, and not having anything to do with steroids. They had a copy of a letter sent to Hogan saying the company was going to deduct nearly \$5,000 from his next check for the flights. Feinberg's employment was terminated in September 1991, but she earned her \$63,000 salary for a full year after termination. Her husband, who worked for Titan until August, 1992, left at that time a \$130,000 per year deal writing scripts. The two were negotiating for continued payment after that point. When Brevetti claimed their lawyer asked for payment after 1992, Feinberg said "We were offered that." When Brevetti ever asked if they demanded further payment, she said she couldn't recall a demand. A document sent by Feinberg's attorney to Titan, in extent a demand, was entered into evidence but Feinberg tried to pass it off as part of an ongoing negotiation process. An interesting sequence went like this: "Do you have any intention of writing a book?" (the old discredit them by saying they're writing a book) and she said "No." Brevetti, who appeared borderline furious by the response (although her lawyer demeanor in trial was to be in the borderline furious phase almost all the time) asked if her husband was going to write a book and Emily said that she wasn't going to write a book. Brevetti even missed the opening. Brevetti then pointed out that the District Attorney gave her immunity from prosecution for her testimony. Brevetti also pointed out in one of her grand jury appearances Feinberg said that no package containing steroids was ever fed-exed to Bollea. Feinberg said she didn't write down every steroid distribution in her notes. O'Shea then brought up McMahon's memo to the boys talking about using steroids for an injury and said, "Did Vince McMahon ever wrestle?" trying to say he wasn't using steroids for a ring injury.

The first witness on 7/14 was Detective Gregory Taylor, a police officer with the Lower Paxton Police Department in Harrisburg, PA. His only purpose was to bring a vial of decadurabolin then they obtained when Bill Dunn bought it from Zahorian on October 18, 1989 that matched the serial lot number of the steroid Feinberg had.

Then came the media circus when Terry Bollea testified. Bollea, who appeared to be scared out of his mind at the beginning of his

testimony, but got more calm as things went on and he saw nothing was going to be brought up to kill his career. Bollea was the only witness who took over the court room with his star presence. It was established immediately he was granted immunity on anything he were to testify about except immunity from perjury. When asked his job, he said he was self-employed as an entertainer. He talked about his tenures with the WWF. He said he started using steroids in mid-1976. All the media reports that and the next day reported him admitting to 13 years of steroid use, although his testimony actually didn't make that clear. When Brevetti tried to establish 1989 as the last time he used steroids, which would have been 13 1/2 years, Hogan danced around the year saying it was shortly after that. He said he used oral and injectable steroids including dianabol, anavar, winstrol, testosterone and decadurabolin, using the latter the most. He said by 1983-84 when he started his second tenure with the WWF, steroid use was fairly common in wrestling. "Was it everywhere?" "That's fair to say." He said 75 to 80%, maybe more of the wrestlers were on steroids. He saw steroid use in the locker rooms. He said Zahorian was known for supplying different substances to the wrestlers, including steroids, sleeping pills, diet pills, Tylenol III & IV and Valium. Bollea said Zahorian never took medical histories or blood tests of him, but would give him whatever he wanted. When asked if it was he or Zahorian who would decide what drug and in what quantity, he said that he decided. Hogan testified cash advances were available every night, it wasn't something given only when Zahorian was there. When asked if McMahon was ever in the area when Zahorian was doing this, he said yes. He said he had discussed with Vince ordering steroids from Zahorian while they were doing the movie in Atlanta. He said at the time McMahon knew the subject matter. He said that he had discussed steroids with Jay Strongbow when Jay wanted to get them for his son. He said he got his steroids during the time period in question when he'd call Emily from the road and tell her to call Zahorian and make an order. He said his did it ten times or less. He'd get the steroids by going to the office and picking them up with his paycheck. He said most of the time he either wrote a check or paid cash for his steroids. There were times he wouldn't pay for the steroids because he was being repaid for steroids he had given McMahon earlier. When O'Shea asked if his buying steroids was just like him writing a check for car insurance, he replied, buying steroids was more frequent. He said Patterson had told him about the investigation of Zahorian. He told him not to use him anymore. "Did he tell you to get off steroids?" "No." He said Vince also told him not to use Zahorian.

At this point, Hogan looked very sad and scared, actually holding back tears. He admitted to carrying steroids with him on the road. He said he used steroids to heal injuries, to keep going on a tough schedule and for bodybuilding. He started using them because he wanted to get big. At this point O'Shea started asking about the Howard Finkel HIV blood test, but after Titan's lawyers objected, the judge wouldn't allow him to ask questions on that matter. "You made many statements in the press after the Zahorian trial?" "Yes." "Were those statements true?" "No."

Brevetti tried to establish that during 1989, the WWF wasn't running the Meadowlands (they were doing the power play trying to keep WCW out, which didn't work, so they pulled out of the building until WCW killed itself in the market) although Hogan couldn't recall that. "You stopped using steroids in 1989." "Around that time. A little after." In 1989 he and his wife decided he would wind down his steroid use because they wanted to have a second child. Brevetti pointed out that nine months before his son Nicholas was born, thus when he was conceived, would have been before October 1989, trying to indicate he wouldn't have even been on steroids anymore when the October 24 package arrived, but Hogan said that wasn't the case. Hogan said his wife got pregnant while he was on steroids and it was one of the biggest arguments he and his wife ever had when she found out he had gotten her pregnant while he was still on steroids. Brevetti thought she caught him in a contradiction or lie and brought up his Grand Jury testimony talking about he and his wife discussing he'd get off steroids before they had their second child. She asked if he was truthful to the Grand Jury and he said he was, that they had DISCUSSED not having any steroids in his system when getting her

pregnant. Hogan admitted he would have his steroids sent to other people, in specific high school pal Dan Brower. When asked if he had ever discussed with Titan who would pay for his charter flights, he said "No" and Brevetti pulled out the letter from April 11, 1989 that Feinberg typed. He said he didn't recall it. He said he didn't have a specific recollection of picking up steroids in April 1989 at the Titan offices. He had no recollection of Jim Stuart delivering steroids to him at an arena. He said any orders placed with Zahorian would have been for his personal use and that he didn't distribute steroids. He said he thought use was legal with a prescription. He admitted getting steroids from a Dr. Lebowitz in New York and a Dr. War in Canada as well as Zahorian. They also brought up Dr. (Bob) Paunovich in Denver, a close personal friend, and Hogan claimed he didn't remember getting steroids from him, but then recollected getting deca with a prescription. He tried to use steroids in a legal means but also bought steroids in gyms in the 70s and early 80s. He started using doctors when he worked for the AWA and New Japan because it was better from doctors because you'd avoid black market fakes (actually Brevetti said all this, Hogan just responded "That's fair" to all her comments). She then said that he knew more about steroids in 1994 than he did in the 80s and that the medical community knows more in 1994 than they did in the 80s and he said "Yes, there's more information," trying once again to make the dishonest defense that back during this time frame we didn't know the dangers. When asked if he knew then what he knows now might he never have used steroids, he said "That might be the case." Hogan denied it when she categorized him as a private person. She brought out a color photo that made numerous newspapers throughout the years of McMahon, Hogan and Zahorian and said it wasn't taken when the three were in a discussion about steroids. "Were you ever in a room with Vince McMahon, yourself and Zahorian talking about steroids?" "No, not in a room." (O'Shea never picked up the opening here). He said McMahon never ordered him to use steroids and that it was his decision. When asked if other wrestlers that used steroids were also making personal decisions, he said, "From my knowledge, yes." He was never personally aware of McMahon telling or implying any wrestlers should use steroids. He never heard any agent say, the doctor is here, do you need an advance. He said rigs were a term for needles, not for steroids and needles (although Feinberg own code words needn't be the same as Hogan's). He said he's heard the term roid rage, but in all the years he used steroids, never experienced it, nor did he ever know of McMahon experiencing roid rage.

She tried to make the point that wrestlers are naturally aggressive, boisterous, but Hogan wouldn't concede the point, but finally admitted some might be at some times, but said he never made a connection between that and steroids. He said the term larger-than-life referred to the character and not physical size. He said Titan never paid for steroids for wrestlers nor did he ever see a road agent or employee distribute steroids. Between 1985-91, he said if needed, you could find other sources of steroids than Zahorian and when she said Titan had nothing to do with providing you the services of Zahorian, he said, "That would be very fair." He didn't recall having steroids delivered to Brower's house but if they were, they would have been his steroids. He said he introduced Brower, who also used steroids, to Zahorian, but admitted they'd loan each other steroids and repay each other later with steroids, but that he didn't consider this distribution. However, in the Grand Jury, he testified Zahorian sent packages to Brower for him. He said during this time period he thought doctors had the legal right to dispense steroids and that he didn't have any knowledge what Zahorian was doing was criminal and he believed those at Titan thought the same thing. He agreed dealing in Hershey was a private transaction between a wrestler and a doctor, and admitted discussing medical problems of himself and his wife's with Zahorian that were apart from his steroid use and used his medical advice on that subject (nature of which was never established). He said McMahon never sent him steroids by fed-ex that McMahon had gotten from Zahorian, and that the packages he picked up in the office were packages he ordered himself by calling Emily, and said McMahon didn't direct Feinberg to do this for him but that he called Emily himself. He said he picked the steroids up from Emily personally, he never remembered McMahon handing him steroids and he didn't recall Stuart ever delivering him a package of steroids. If he got steroids from other wrestlers, he'd eventually repay

them with steroids. He said Vince was his close friend and that in 1988 in Atlanta, McMahon used Hogan's deca and anavar and Hogan discussed cycling with him, how often to use, etc. "At some point during that period bottles may have been given to you in exchange (by McMahon)?" "Possible." He said he talked with Zahorian about the safety of various steroids and that Zahorian told him decadurabolin and anavar were the safest and that deca was as safe as sugar going through your system and he relied on that opinion. He believed steroids helped speed healing of injuries. He was surprised when Zahorian was investigated and was told not to talk with him but he still tried to talk with him. In 1991, he claimed he felt singled out because the public didn't know anything about steroids and out of thousands of users, he felt it was unfair. He admitted since that time that steroids have been brought up in 85% of his press interviews. He admitted during that period saying things that weren't true regarding his steroid use, including on the Arsenio Hall show. He said before doing the Hall show, McMahon told him he didn't think it was a good idea to go on the show. He said he didn't not tell the truth to defraud a government agency or to obstruct justice. He personally didn't feel he committed any crimes. He said he came back to the WWF in 1993 for money and for personal exposure to help him in his acting career and said he and McMahon were still friends, although during the entire time in the court room, the two never made eye contact.

O'Shea came back, trying to salvage something and definitely unhappy with the way things went, asking, "Was Emily Feinberg or Vince McMahon a doctor?" "No." "But you got steroids from both?" "Yes." O'Shea established it was a big part of his appeal was his size and muscularity, and when asking if that size came from steroids Hogan said, "In the past." "Like your 22-inch arms?" "Yes, thereabouts." "You got to be Hulk Hogan in part because of steroids?" "In part." Hogan testified that Zahorian actually gave him an entire white prescription pad with every page filled with writing decadurabolin for Terry Bollea for bodybuilding purposes to cover himself if they found steroids on him. Judge Mishler seemed aghast at this breach of medical ethics. Zahorian never limited Hogan as to quantity. O'Shea brought up he couldn't do that with his family doctor. "When you gave steroids to McMahon, were you a doctor?" "No." He never told Zahorian to destroy records of his dealings with him.

Brevetti finished up saying that even off steroids, Hogan still talks about "22-inch" pythons in his interviews.

There was tons of media there for Hogan, with every area newspaper running critical stories of him and a negative AP story ran in numerous papers around the country. Virtually all media reported this as the first time Hogan had admitted steroid use for anything other than injuries, which is patently false because Hogan has admitted it while beating around the bush on the subject for the past 18 months every time the subject came up in the media. It wouldn't be so bad, since the Arsenio piece is more well-known than any of the pieces he's been, well, less deceitful, except that it was brought up afterwards to many that he's been admitting use from the late 70s and throughout the 80s for more than one year, but that fact was largely ignored everywhere because it would hurt the selling point of the story. One reporter pulled out a roll of paper towels that measured 22 inches in circumference since that's the arm size of Hogan that came up in court. The circumference of the towels looked to be tons larger than Hogan's arm, which the reporter noted was obvious his arms were nowhere near that size, even when covered up in a suit. From most reports, to the media, it was Hogan, and not McMahon, who was the one on trial, although I'd say in much of the New York media, that perception wasn't the case. Two stations ran Hogan's testimony as the top story on their late-night news, and all featured it prominently despite it being a huge news day both locally and nationally. CNN Headline News and ESPN covered it nationally, but it didn't make the network newscasts and probably only received minimal coverage on the local newscasts outside the New York market.

Robert Gorse, an office manager for Rugby-Darby Pharmaceuticals in Rockville Centre, NY was next. He testified Zahorian ordered \$2,403 of steroids in 1988 and \$10,132 in 1989 (which he then re-

sold for about six times what he paid for them). They established the decadurabolin which the police confiscated from Dunn and which Feinberg had in her possession was sent to Zahorian from Rockville Centre on August 30, 1989. McDevitt tried to blame Rugby-Darby for not doing its jobs in monitoring that Zahorian's steroid purchases increases more than four-fold the year after distribution for anything but treatment of disease became a felony.

John Minton (Big John Studd) was next. There was a lot of discussion about this for days. Minton said that because of his recent chemotherapy treatments for Hodgkin's Disease and his suffering a staph infection in his chest from it that required surgery, that his doctor told him he couldn't travel, so they were going to do his testimony by telephone. Titan's attorneys and McMahon were furious, seemingly believing it was a work. McMahon himself, who was quiet virtually the entire trial, said he wanted to know the doctors' name and wanted the doctor called to verify. The judge couldn't understand why McMahon was acting like this, obviously not understanding the nature of wrestlers. After much defense protesting, Minton was allowed to testify, although after insistence from the Titan side, nobody would be allowed to discuss why he was testifying by telephone rather than in person as since Minton was going to admit to buying steroids from Zahorian. If he said with the jury present that he had Hodgkin's Disease, based on side effects they expected would come out later in the trial, combined with his admission of using steroids, they were afraid the jury may make a connection to his steroid use with his disease which would prejudice the case against McMahon.

Minton admitted buying steroids from Zahorian and mentioned the same conversation Zahorian testified to having, saying Zahorian had told him about it. Studd testified it was in Allentown when they were doing television there (which would mean 1984ish rather than 1988 has Zahorian gave the time frame for the conversation). Basically his recollection is Zahorian told McMahon that if they didn't buy steroids from him, they'd be going to the black market and they're better off getting it from him. "Did you discuss whether Vince McMahon approved of what he was doing?" "I don't remember." "Did he distribute steroids after the conversation?" "I believe so." Minton said he never talked about steroids with McMahon, and in fact he never discussed anything but his own wrestling business with McMahon. He said he didn't regard what Zahorian was doing as a crime. He admitted filing a lawsuit on June 27, 1994 against Titan. "Did you know it was wrong?" "It wasn't a crime to me. In those days if you got them from a doctor it was okay." He said he believed Zahorian was doing both himself and the wrestlers a great service. "During that period of time, steroids were a very important part of our regiment. It was a service. I've never seen steroids forced on anyone. It was of my own free will. I thought it helped me to maintain my performance level."

The final witness in the case was Dr. Gary Wadler. His testimony centered around the potential dangers of steroids and that prescription use of steroids pre-1988 he felt meant more than just writing a piece of paper, it meant doing tests, follow-up work, lab work, etc. on a patient and strongly said what Zahorian was doing even though he was a doctor was not within the framework of a doctor/patient relationship. Wadler, who wrote the book "Drugs in Athletics," had a list of credentials including 8 years as Chairman of the Medical Records committee at Cornell, a member of the board of the Journal of Strength and Conditioning, a representative of the World Health Organization on the subject of drugs in sports and was awarded in 1993 a citation from the International Olympic Committee for his work on drug abuse in sports.

McDevitt brought up a whole rolling cabinet file labeled "Wadler Cross-Ex" and a war ensued. Almost none of this had any relevance to wrestling and really almost none had any relevance to this case either. McDevitt, who showed major league disdain for Wadler, was just wanting to cross him up by taking points in his book out of context, taking that 1% of documentation regarding steroid use in the medical journals talking about usage not being so dangerous and bringing up even more irrelevant points. If any of this had a stake in the outcome of the case, it would be just as sad as if the testimony of

Wacholz did. Wadler, for his part, had grown almost as disdainful of McDevitt watching the case and was reluctant to concede points to McDevitt even when he was obviously correct.

But while Wadler was an expert on steroids, he was not an expert witness, and there is a difference. McDevitt did get him on points that were irrelevant and Wadler at times was shaken. Main points were McDevitt tried to say that the side effects Wadler testified to from steroid wasn't done on studies of healthy athletes. Wadler pointed out in clinical doses, which are much smaller doses than athletes take, steroids have been known to cause serious side effects. No studies have been done using doses athletes use because any university doing so would be considered unethical due to the risks involved of the patients. McDevitt took that as absence of evidence of side effects on healthy athletes. Wadler pointed out there was plenty of anecdotal evidence of that even though there have been no experiments on the subject but McDevitt tried to say anecdotal evidence doesn't mean anything and Wadler strongly disagreed.

Wadler testified that steroids were considered too dangerous for athletic enhancement by the medical community dating back to the late 60s (throwing out the "we didn't know the dangers at that time" argument out the window) and said there is almost unanimity in the belief in medical circles. He pointed out that when used in therapeutic doses, or those much smaller than used by athletes, it has led to numerous adverse effects including liver abnormalities, development of cysts that can rupture, benign and cancerous liver tumors, prostate changes, malignant kidney tumors, raises cholesterol, heightens risk of vascular disease, increases risk of tendon injuries, blood clots, testicular shrinkage which can be of a profound nature, diminished sperm production, swollen nipples and there is evidence of dependency and addiction. He said anabolic steroids are not proper to prescribe for injuries because they don't have anti-inflammatory properties and they increase the risk of tendon injuries. "In my opinion, Dr. Zahorian was not functioning as a doctor. There is no evidence he was dispensing steroids for treatment of disease." He said his practice of sending steroids fed-ex is contrary to the practice of medicine. Since after 1988, distribution for other than the treatment of disease was illegal, O'Shea made the big point--"Dr. Wadler, is bodybuilding (the "disease" listed on the Bollea prescription pad for his deca) a disease?" "No." Wadler said side effects of steroids were well-known well before 1985.

McDevitt then went into a history of the steroid dianabol, which was fun for me to listen to since I've read the same books, but had no relevance to the case since Zahorian didn't distribute dianabol to wrestlers after 1985 (the drug was taken off the market in 1984). Dianabol was in fact made to increase strength. Dr. John Ziegler, a doctor for the U.S. Olympic weightlifting team found out when the Russians kicked our asses in the 1956 Olympics that they were giving their lifters testosterone as a training aid. While this hadn't been done in the U.S., evidence suggests this was developed in the late 30s in Nazi Germany, given to soldiers to make them more aggressive. Ziegler felt testosterone had too many side effects so tried to develop a drug which would increase power while minimizing side effects, but wasn't successful in that goal, but wound up creating the steroid dianabol with Ciba Laboratories, which was used by athletes in numerous sports by the early and mid-60s. McDevitt and Brevetti, using that, stated over and over how steroids were originally created to increase size and strength, not for treatment of disease, but that only applied to dianabol and not the others and dianabol has nothing to do with steroid distribution after 1984. Wadler apparently wasn't aware dianabol was originally marketed in the early 60s for safe weight gain, and McDevitt spent an eternity emphasizing that point, which really isn't relevant because Wadler never claimed to be a steroid historian, just a physician. The flaw in the ointment is that by 1970 due to side effects dianabol was made a prescription drug and in 1984 production of it was stopped completely.

Another of McDevitt's points was that labs were producing and selling far more steroids, even as late as 1989, then could ever be used for its limited specified medical uses. His point, and a valid one, was that the drug companies, the FDA, etc. were all knowingly producing drugs in quantities that they realized they were being used by

athletes for performance enhancement. He produced an American Medical Association journal article that said how steroids could be provided legally for athletic performance enhancement, although overstated the article trying to intimate it was an AMA viewpoint rather than simply a statement made by an author of an article. He established a physician has the right to prescribe drugs for purposes other than its specified indications, trying to defend what Zahorian was doing in dispensing steroids. Wadler was hesitant but finally agreed, but still said you needed a doctor/patient relationship and monitoring of the patient, things Zahorian didn't do in virtually all cases. He also found a 1982 FDA drug bulletin talking about use of prescription drugs for their not-indicated uses and how it was lawful, but again even that bulletin indicated needing a doctor/patient relationship. McDevitt did make a point in establishing that there are physicians who believe anabolic steroids helps in healing injuries. He brought up the credibility gap because the package insert in steroids states these drugs do not enhance athletic performance, when it is acknowledged they do, trying to use the athletes argument that since that was a lie, perhaps the side effects are also. Wadler was very slow in conceding with this basic point that steroids can increase muscular size and strength, going only so far as to say studies have shown that in conjunction with a high protein diet and weight training they may enhance strength and muscle size. McDevitt brought up there have been more reports of adverse side effects since 1989, indicating this information the drugs could be dangerous is a recent discovery, but Wadler made a strong comeback saying by the mid-80s this was all well-known. McDevitt pointed out in Wadler's own book published in 1989, he didn't even list the 1988 law change, but that was a bogus point since the book went to press in 1988 before that law was on the books. McDevitt then blamed Wadler and his publishers for having a book on the market (since his book is still on the market and hasn't been updated) with dated and inaccurate information. McDevitt brought up that in Wadler's own book he mentioned a study saying that steroids in conjunction with a high protein diet and weight training may bring faster gains and took that statement out of context and tried to say Wadler's book itself advocated steroid use. McDevitt established Wadler earned \$8,700 as the government's express witness in the Zahorian case, \$38,450 in the Walter Jekot case (a very prominent Los Angeles doctor who prescribed steroids to track stars, actors, bodybuilders, football players and other Olympic athletes who is now serving a five-year prison term after his conviction) and would earn about \$10,500 for his work in this, the government's third high profile steroid case. McDevitt tried to establish a conflict of interest and motives because Wadler was asked to be an expert witness in Billy Graham's lawsuit against Titan, but that point was unfair since Wadler had not even agreed to do so, he had only been asked. McDevitt pointed out the American College of Sports Medicine, which Wadler cited as a group against using steroids for athletic performance because of side effects, that their position papers are not regarded as legally binding, they are just position papers, when Wadler pointed out back in 1984 they put out their first position paper saying the side effects are too great for these drugs to be used for athletic performance. McDevitt tried to push that the reason these drugs have been banned in many sports is because they give a competitive advantage and not because of side effects, but that argument is flawed because if they just were competitively advantageous without side effects, it would be just like weight training and no sport has a moral or ethical problem with athletes weight training. He again tried to imply that McMahon was simply relying on Zahorian's opinion and as a layperson he wouldn't have known better and would have trusted the doctor.

Brevetti continued the same argument saying that doctors may learn things from published papers but a layperson like McMahon wouldn't know them, that we know more now than five years ago and again tried to bring home the point on that there was a lack of knowledge steroids could be harmful during the years this was going on. This could have been a risky approach because if only one juror was a major sports fan, they'd have known problems associated with use were widely talked about by the late 70s and certainly by 1982 during the Pan Am games crisis which was a huge sports story at the time, and that this was an intellectually dishonest argument. Brevetti tried to make an analogy with breast implants, but the judge stopped her,

and then brought up it was a great problem with athletes taking fake steroids.

O'Shea then countered with an FDA paper from 1987 which noted adverse effects were common with those who used steroids and talked of increased aggression anti-social behavior by those on significant doses.

McDevitt and Wadler got into an argument with Wadler saying that the patient doesn't go to the doctor and tell him what drugs he needs and in what quantity, that is drug dealing and not acting as a doctor. McDevitt then brought up one can buy over-the-counter drugs in as large a quantity as one wanted, and Wadler was reluctant to even concede that most basic point. McDevitt pointed out nowhere is there literature that a layperson would know that would state the correct course of action in monitoring patients while on steroid cycles, arguing that how would a layperson know what to look for to know a doctor isn't acting in a legal manner when dispensing steroids. McDevitt pointed out that when anavar was on the market, one of its medical uses was for weight gain in patients after weight loss from extensive surgery, trying to use that to say that made it okay for athletes to use it to gain weight if they'd give it to surgery patients. They spent seemingly forever going back-and-forth about when anavar was removed from the market with McDevitt implying a notice several doctors made in March 1988 recalled anavar although the notice was actually a position paper to recall the drug and the drug wasn't recalled until more than a year later, however Wadler himself also believed the drug was recalled in 1988.

At this point the jury was excused and the defense argued to drop the charges before going to the jury. Although O'Shea put up a valiant front, he was getting killed in the arguments on the distribution counts and the judge admonished him saying he was supposed to tie the case into the Eastern District which he failed to do, coming up only with the venue by saying the decadurabolin Zahorian had sent to Titan was shipped originally from Rockville Centre. McDevitt argued it was shipped months earlier so it wasn't like when Titan called Zahorian, he then called Rugby-Darby, but that he simply got his supply from Rugby-Darby and dispensed what he had on hand to Titan, and also noted the weakness of the testimony. O'Shea relied on Feinberg's notebook to prove the distributions, but it was clear he was losing this argument. The tables turned when they started arguing conspiracy, as O'Shea easily got the better of the Titan lawyers which actually made it seem he had a decent chance in winning the case. The judge denied Titan's motion to throw out the conspiracy charge and the judge said there was enough evidence presented to support a guilty verdict, and said he'd take under advisement throwing out the distribution charges, which he did on 7/18.

The case may have hinged on the judges interpretation of the law to the jury, and both sides argued vehemently on 7/19 for wording in their favor. O'Shea noted a 1994 case where the court held the prosecution need not show the defendants knew all about the conspiracy as long as they knew the general nature and extent and a conviction must be upheld if the defendants knowingly participated. The Judge said the government must prove a conspiracy was FORMED to distribute steroids without a prescription and the defendants willingly and knowingly understood dealing in steroids without a prescription was unlawful. If an illegal act furthers the economic purpose of the defendant, that by itself does not make a defendant guilty of conspiracy. The defendant must participate with knowledge and with the intention of aiding the accomplice. The Titan lawyers ultimately won the case based on the wording of the charge, since the government needed the judge to give the jury a broad definition of conspiracy.

Closing arguments came on 7/20 and O'Shea nearly pulled out the case, using a lot of powerful rhetoric to make up for the somewhat weak case. He called the WWF a business with a dark, corrupt underbelly that used dangerous drugs to pump up profits, that they provided drugs to their biggest superstar and were hiding behind the white coat of Zahorian. He said now they blame Anita Scales, who was just trying to stop Zahorian; and Emily Feinberg, who was just

following orders. He said they played a game of see-no-evil, hear-no-evil when it came to Zahorian's activities and blame everyone and everything except themselves. "We're not talking about the paltry profit Zahorian made, we're talking about the millions of profits they made. Don't let them say they got no money from Zahorian's drug sales." He said McMahon instructed Emily to give the drugs to Terry Bollea, his top star but the law says the drugs can only be distributed in a doctor/patient relationship for treatment of a disease and Vince McMahon isn't a doctor and Terry Bollea didn't have a disease. He called McMahon a corporate drug pusher while admitting some of the recipients may have wanted the drugs themselves and said every drug user has an excuse for using drugs but that doesn't mean it's right to distribute the drugs to them. The personal choice argument doesn't hold water because the wrestlers did it because they wanted more money and a job. Patterson knew about it in 1985, agents Skaaland and Strongbow knew about because they purchased these drugs for their sons. He said Jack Lanza told Tom Zenk, "Do you need cash. The doctors here. The doctor has anything you want." Anita Scales heard Zahorian was bad news. People told Anita Scales that Zahorian was opening up shop. Jay Strongbow told her the boys need their candies. When was the last time your doctor sent you pounds of drugs? He said Pat was squirming on the stand, pointing out he said he never used terms like gas and juice while Feinberg testified he used those terms to her about 20 times. He said Zahorian saying if it's not from me, the boys will go to the black market is no defense. He should have told Zahorian to stop. Get out of here and don't come back. They know it's no excuse. They kept him on the stand for three days and claimed the government put him up to it. You saw Zahorian was credible. Dr. Wadler told you Zahorian was a drug dealer in a white coat. Like any other drug, an addict doesn't get better. An addict keeps using. Even Zahorian admits he did wrong. He was a fan. They knew it. They facilitated it. The wrestlers decided how much they would get. He was at 50 events giving drugs to wrestlers and sending them in fed-ex packages. O'Shea zinged Titan's defense team for on one hand portraying Zahorian as a doctor and on another blaming him as a drug dealer. He said when Pat called Zahorian and told him to call back on a pay phone, that's what drug dealers do when they're trying to avoid being caught by the police. He said the memo, which he built the case around, shows that the three top people in the company, Vince, Linda and Patterson are all in it up to their necks and said the memo says Vince ordered the cover up and said Vince told Pat through his wife to warn Zahorian about the investigation. When Patterson said it was his idea, it was a lie. The memo said Pat & Linda had talked about keeping Zahorian before they knew of the investigation. The memo showed they knew it was illegal as their was a passage that read "illegal drugs including steroids." Six weeks before sending that memo they tried to get untraceable laundered checks to get these drugs to their biggest star.

They want you to believe Emily Feinberg is the drug dealer.

The memo shows knowledge of guilt.

The reason government investigations are kept quiet is to prevent obstruction.

He portrayed Scales and Sharkey as concerned regular employees who somehow got in the way of a conspiracy and how the Titan lawyers tried to imply they were lying.

Blaming the commission doesn't work because they still tried to use him after the commission closed down.

Emily Feinberg told you about 6-7 direct distributions to Hulk Hogan. Terry Bollea said it could be as many as 10 times.

It was business as usual.

And on and on it went. "It's a corporation as drug pushers trying to blame the little guys.

This hugely successful money machine mixed up chemical cocktails to get wrestlers pumped up and keep them going. It's shameful and it's illegal."

Brevetti, whose looks and delivery are reminiscent of former Roller Games manager Georgia Hase, was next. Brevetti was clearly a superstar attorney throughout the case, although in her closing she seemed a little down, as almost if the wear-and-tear and three intense weeks in court was starting to take its toll. She said it was a dead case and they used Hulk Hogan to breath life into their dead case. She blamed the media, saying they singled out Hulk Hogan for using steroids (actually he was singled out only after he publicly lied). She presented no strong arguments early, but had tremendous histrionics and was a tremendous demonstrative performer. She said the government is asking you to deduce too much from what they've presented. They claimed the government is looking for a scapegoat, that there is a problem and now they're trying to get this guy because nobody respects wrestling and nobody respects wrestlers. Few people will admit they even watch it even though they peek a look. They said it was an investigation to find out what happened four to ten years ago and called it "sizzle, but no steak." You'd expect more specific dates, conversations and clearer credible recollections. Did they bring anyone to tell us something we didn't know? She again implied blame on WCW. Zahorian is a man who lied under oath. Is that evidence you want to rely on to send a man to jail? Did Emily Feinberg have a motive to switch from Hulk ordering to Vince's involvement. She ripped Randy Culley (Moondog Rex), Zenk, Warlord, Tully Blanchard, Rude, Wacholz and Hellwig, saying they all used steroids before and after (actually Wacholz never said that at all, and Hellwig never said he used them after). Culley was the only one who admitted buying from Zahorian. They all had other sources, doctors, people in gyms. In their investigation, they didn't care about where these people got their steroids from or about the ones who are using them now. She said it's hypocritical that Zenk and Rude walked out of the court room as free men while admitting under oath they recently used steroids while McMahon was on trial. Rude admitted he was on steroids when he testified before the Grand Jury but they weren't interested in his sources. Only is cross-examination did we find that he's been on-and-off steroids for three years for bodybuilding and to help his joints. When he went to the Grand Jury, he was using steroids. He told the government that fact. If they believe Dr. Wadler, Dr. Wadler told them it isn't standard practice to use steroids for injuries because they aren't anti-inflammatory. He got them from England. The government tells you they can't be used in this way, but Rude walked out of the court room a free man. She then ripped Zenk. "Tom Zenk is the type of individual that would take steroids out of a garbage can and use them." Zenk never bought steroids from Zahorian and he even called Mrs. McMahon up at 2:30 a.m. He walked out on his contract and was in litigation. Vince never told him to use steroids. Zenk told us about current steroid use in WCW and nobody cares. Zenk admits using steroids three weeks ago, getting the drugs from a gym and he's allowed to walk out of the court room a free man and wrestle in Japan for \$10,000 while we have to decide Vince McMahon's fate. She brought up Culley has a lawsuit. Szopinski was convicted on a steroid charge and as part of probation is supposed to be drug tested but after one year hasn't even taken one test. He was never asked by the government who his source of steroids was and they never asked him how long it had been since he'd been tested. She called Blanchard's testimony "a complete zero." She showed Wacholz' jumpsuit covered his muscles. About Wacholz she said: "What do you say about a man who will come to a courtroom and lie." She brought up that he have a suit and countersuit out. She noted he said in 1992 Vince told him to get on the gas, like McMahon would do that right in the middle of all the bad publicity, and when he was deposed as part of his lawsuit, he never mentioned Vince told him to use steroids. She pointed out neither Hellwig or Hogan said Vince told them to use steroids and neither testified Vince and Zahorian conspired. She pointed out steroids were readily available in gyms and there was steroid use in other promotions. Brevetti tried to give too much credibility to Hellwig, because even though he came off as truthful, he admitted to having virtually no memory. She said Hogan was the WWF's biggest star, presented as a government witness to prove their case and he proved there was no basis for the case. "No witness could breathe life into this dead case." She tried to say since Hogan didn't use rigs as a code word for steroids, just needles, that Feinberg wouldn't either which doesn't hold water. She practically read Hogan's

testimony word-for-word, noting he used Zahorian as a doctor, and that Hogan tried to call Zahorian himself and it wasn't to impede an investigation.

Feinberg was said to have gone to the government right after getting her last paycheck. "She's well practiced in the art of deception." Brevetti implied Feinberg was an actress and what she did on the stand was an act, but if appearing in one video as a model makes her an actress, then what does what all the wrestlers did for decades for a living make them? She left the impression Vince had her order steroids for Hogan. She testified against the man because she couldn't get another paycheck from him. She said she had knowledge of steroids being sent via Jim Stuart. She made it appear Vince asked her to send steroids to Hulk Hogan. Brevetti pointed out Feinberg said she did it three times in the Grand Jury but 6-7 in the trial and said that as far as method of shipment, that Hogan denied it the next day. She said in the Grand Jury she said they sent the drugs with Jim Stuart to a local arena, but when she learned there were no local arena shows close to the dates, she brought up fed-exing the packages in the trial. "She makes it up out of whole cloth and is presented as a government witness and they hope you don't notice." "Hulk Hogan put the lies at the feet of Emily Feinberg." There were no fed-ex receipts and no Jim Stuart--"It's a figment of an actresses' imagination." She said Zahorian told a member of the Pennsylvania commission he was giving steroids to wrestlers and he remained a state-appointed physician at the matches. No commissioner ever reported his activities. She then noted in the first grand jury, Zahorian couldn't remember a conversation with Vince, but that when John Minton did, they planted the story in Zahorian's head and brought up three different versions of the conversation in three different testimonies (although the wording wasn't the same and the third version of the conversation had some of the health concerns taken out, it was basically the same conversation he was describing). She said Minton was another wrestler with a lawsuit. Actually Brevetti presented a powerful argument about Zahorian's statement changing after Minton had testified.

McDevitt then closed. McDevitt's performance ranged in this case. He was easily the most well-researched person, probably in the world, on the nature of this case. He did a great job in presenting his arguments, but many of those arguments held little or no water under examination. However, his closing was his finest hour in the trial as he gave a stirring speech.

He said the hypocrisy of the case was violating the law before 1988 because all the agencies that were supposed to regulate steroid distribution weren't doing their job (that argument is akin to saying it should be okay for someone from Mexico to bring drugs into the United States and sell them if the border control officers don't catch them). He tried to imply Wadler didn't know anything about steroids. He argued the FDA didn't do anything to regulate steroid use so how could they be defrauded. "The FDA ran from this courtroom like Dracula from a cross." He said steroids were made to make athletes bigger and stronger. On O'Shea's statements he said, "When you have no evidence, you use empty rhetoric." "Everything you've learned in this trial about FDA regulatory aspects of steroids is because we tried to tell you the truth." He said the government's allegations of a cover-up was to cover-up that they have no case. He said the government couldn't prove a starting point of the conspiracy in 1985. When talking about Vince's personal dealings with Zahorian as far as steroids he called it one little conversation, maybe it occurred and maybe it didn't. He did a transparently fake sympathizing statement about Anita Scales saying, "We know Anita as a part of corporate life. We understand Anita. The facts are nobody told her to hire George Zahorian." All she said was Pat came to see her once in August. There was no testimony of another conversation. She admits to receiving no order. He said Anita lied about talking to Zahorian because Sharkey said she had the conversation (when testimony showed Zahorian made numerous calls to Scales' office). As for the conversation with Linda McMahon he said, "You saw her (Scales), you can draw your own conclusions if you can be confused talking to Anita." He basically portrayed Scales as a dingbat, but our dingbat that we understand. He said the end result is that Zahorian was never hired by Titan after the law

changed. McDevitt blamed Sharkey's testimony on Scales telling her everything while Hellwig was on the stand (Sharkey actually said they talked about some things). He said the so-called untraceable checks were fully traceable as they appearing as evidence showed. He said the method of payment doesn't change the legality because McMahon wanted things discreet. He said that while Zahorian said Pat told him to destroy records, Pat denied it and the memo said nothing about destroying records. The fact was Zahorian destroyed no records (although he did hide them out and they weren't there when the government raided his office months later) and after being warned of the investigation, Zahorian still sold steroids to wrestlers and friends he had met through wrestlers. He said Emily's order to destroy records, if there was one, involved her shredding just one cover letter. "As a cover up, this was a lousy cover up. Emily Feinberg destroyed nothing. Every single piece of evidence is sitting there." He ripped on Zahorian's treatment before going to the Grand Jury saying he'd say anything to get out of that treatment and said Zahorian's presence at the matches was required by the state. He said it killed the idea of conspiracy when he was asked if he was dispensing steroids without the involvement of the WWF and he said yes and that nobody from the WWF ever encouraged him to give steroids to wrestlers to make them bigger. He said Skaaland and Strongbow bought steroids for their sons who weren't wrestlers (which is misleading because both sons were trying to make it as wrestlers at the time). He said nobody ever told Zahorian to sell steroids and said Zahorian talked with Feinberg about payment and Hogan placed the orders and said Zahorian didn't know anything about McMahon giving steroids to Hogan. "This conspiracy idea is trying to create a crime when there wasn't one." He then blamed Wadler with trying to create hysteria by bring up the side effects from steroids saying they had nothing to do with this case. "They have the burden of proof. They didn't prove it. They didn't come close."

O'Shea got last licks and topped the other two, although the speech was such a vicious attack that it left Linda McMahon fighting back tears. "These points demand an answer. Some are an outrage. Some of what they've said about the government are an outrage!" "You're talking about corporate drug dealing." He said the memo is all that is needed for the conviction and they're continuing to blame other people for what they did. They blamed us for bringing Terry Bollea into this courtroom and packing it. "We didn't sell Terry Bollea, eat your vitamins kids, when they were pumping him full of steroids." "He told Emily Feinberg to distribute drugs to Hulk Hogan."

He ordered Doug Sages to get him cash for drugs. He laundered checks. He told Emily Feinberg to destroy steroid correspondences." O'Shea blamed McDevitt for bringing in irrelevant documents. "McDevitt tried to throw smoke up in the air to divert you from the evidence." The (1988) law said steroids could only be dispensed for the treatment of disease. He played a game with Wadler for two days taking things out of context. O'Shea said the defense is now claiming every witness has a grudge. "They (Titan) sue someone and then they say that person has a grudge." "They say it (the investigation) took too long and it's old. It talks a long time to uncover these things." "What is Anita Scales' grudge? What is Emily Feinberg's? Anita and Marge Sharkey are two regular folks. McDevitt tried to tell you they're liars." "Ignorance of the law is no excuse." "How do we know there aren't more documents?" He noted Hogan said there were up to ten distributions to him, Feinberg said six or seven, and they could only find records of two. "They talk about bias of witnesses. What about Terry Bollea. He said McMahon was one of his best friends. He said they gave him steroids up to ten times." O'Shea said steroid use is still going on in the WWF because Szopinski told them in 8/93 he knew there was still use in the WWF. "Because other are violating law, if you're violating law, that doesn't make you innocent." "Rick Rude is a user, not a pusher. Vince McMahon is the pusher." Now they say why don't you prosecute WCW. "If we get any evidence of WCW supplying its wrestlers with steroids we'll be on them like white on rice!" "They don't like it because we got them and the evidence has them." "Now they want us to go after users. Anyone but them." If Randy Culley had such a grudge against them, why didn't he say Vince McMahon told him to go on steroids. If Tom Zenk had so much hatred, why didn't he say that. Then, in a speech reminiscent of Al Pacino in the closing scene of the movie "And Justice for All,"

O'Shea, when bringing up Brevetti's statement that this happened because nobody has any respect for wrestling, screamed, You know who doesn't have any respect for wrestling. It's the defendant, Vincent McMahon. He treated the wrestlers like (not sure of word he used but akin to cattle, ie having them on steroids and not caring although not sure of exact phraseology). He said they only contacted Jim Hellwig about steroids when he got caught. "He was happy his champion Jim Hellwig was using steroids. Only mad because he got caught." "They said Hogan was our star witness. We had to immunize him to get the truth from him." We never tried to create hysteria. They (steroids) were illegal then. They're illegal now. They say roid rage doesn't exist (and points to an article in a medical journal on the condition). What's Emily Feinberg's grudge? They say she's an actress. She left the company. Now you can't leave the company. What's Anita Scales and Marge Sharkey's grudge. Where's their lawsuit. What's Doug Sages' grudge when he squirmed around before admitting he got a bucket full of cash for McMahon and Hogan. "What boggles the mind is they say everyone is out to get them." Emily Feinberg came here from a government subpoena. She did as she was told. She didn't distribute on her own. But they tried to put it on her. McMahon gave her the drugs that Bollea picked up. Why is she corroborated up and down by Sages? How is Sages telling the truth and Emily Feinberg lying when they said the same thing? "They didn't just agree to break the law. They broke the law.

All their tricks didn't help them." They beat up Emily Feinberg but she was corroborated by Sages on one side and corroborated by Bollea. She's got a grudge but was corroborated on both ends." When they distributed drugs they broke the law. "We're picking on them but you heard of other doctors that have went to jail." "If we set them up, did we also write the memo? Why didn't we frame them tighter?" "If you've found out the doctor is giving out drugs, you say get out and don't come back. Vince McMahon said come back. They said come back." When people called Zahorian sleazy and used terms like setting up shop, you don't need to be a doctor to say something wrong was going on. "There's a disease that can't be cured. All the wrestlers suffer from it. And nobody ever gets better." "This case isn't about the FDA.

That's another smoke screen to create confusion." They say Anita is a liar. No motive, she's just a liar. Another excuse--they (drug companies) made too many drugs. "It doesn't matter if others are guilty, it matters if they are guilty." They blame the FDA. They say the system was at fault. Listen to the law. They say, please don't look at what we did or you'll convict us. We all know in our daily life that you can't distribute drugs. When they say there's no proof, that's a laugh.

Which side took sentences out of context to confuse the issue? Dr. Zahorian was never hired, but he was authorized back then to distribute drugs. "You can't hide behind a doctor's white coat. You can't obstruct or impede an investigation. If you violate the law, you're guilty. I ask based on the evidence to find the defendants guilty."

It didn't happen. My opinion on this case in hindsight is when O'Shea said McMahon and/or Titan distributed to wrestlers, he used a plural when the only possible evidence of distribution was to a singular, Hulk Hogan, and by not tying any evidence into a distribution at the Nassau Coliseum, the case on distribution had no business being tried on Long Island because the excuse Rugby-Darby Pharmaceuticals was located in Rockville Centre was just too weak. It was a two-plus year investigation and a high-profile case that came up empty-handed, although it was not a one-sided clear-cut victory that many who weren't in the court room paying attention seem to believe. But it was a weak case, needing a broad definition for conspiracy to even have a chance of conviction. All the attorneys performed well at times, but O'Shea failed to capitalize at points on key openings and his lack of familiarity to the machinations of the wrestling business hurt in court. It's hard to read if McDevitt's tactics of confusing the issue ultimately helped or hindered the case.

Everyone is speculating on what will happen next when it comes to steroids, wrestlers, bad publicity and fallout based on this verdict. We'll have to sit back and watch. I have no assumptions on what Titan or other companies will do regarding steroids based on this

verdict other than I find it difficult to believe they'll go back to pushing steroid monsters as others have speculated. Steroid use is very minimal within the WWF today although I don't think anyone could say with certainty that it doesn't exist completely, although it is almost certainly at a far lower level than either WCW or any other major promotion in the world today. Use exists everywhere else as well, although nowhere at the levels it did before the Zahorian trial. During the same period, the business in this country took one of its biggest economic hits in history. Was the bad publicity and the marked drop-off in popularity just a coincidence of time or were they related to one another? In the long run, was all this good for the wrestling industry? And if it wasn't, should that be a concern if the news created the negative publicity that came out as all is said and done and testified to largely turned out to be factual? In the long run, was it good for the health and well being of the wrestlers? You be the judge.

BASH AT THE BEACH FINAL POLL RESULTS

Thumbs up 147 (46.7%)
Thumbs down 91 (28.9%)
In the middle 77 (24.4%)

BEST MATCH POLL

Ric Flair vs. Hulk Hogan 107
Rick Steamboat vs. Steve Austin 102
Steve Regal vs. Johnny B. Badd 9

WORST MATCH POLL

Cactus Jack & Kevin Sullivan vs. Paul Roma & Paul Orndorff 121
Steve Regal vs. Johnny B. Badd 46
Vader vs. Guardian Angel 37
Ric Flair vs. Hulk Hogan 25

Based on phone calls, letters and fax messages to the Observer as of Tuesday, 7/26. Statistical margin of error: +-100%.

Make no mistake about it. Bash at the Beach was a huge success. I don't think it was close to the best PPV show WCW has put on of late, but it accomplished what it needed to and at least as far as the first show went, the Hogan signing was a success. The Bash drew an estimated 1.02 percent buy rate, the biggest WCW buy rate since 1991, or slightly more than double that of Slamboree. That would mean it was ordered in about 230,000 homes with a WCW PPV gross of \$2.58 million. Hogan's approximate cut between the PPV and the live gate would be \$680,000, which isn't bad for one night's work, especially when his opponent did most of the work in the ring. Hogan deserves credit for doing a great job going coast-to-coast, getting on network talk shows, and calling in his markers for the celebrity tie-in for last-minute hype. As far as actual profit goes, if we go under the assumption that a typical PPV needs \$800,000 as a break even mark, the last WCW PPV show did about a \$400,000 profit. Starrcade with Flair-Vader probably did about a \$700,000 profit (that's on the show, WCW and THE split the money and who knows what actually comes down as company profit other than it isn't nearly enough to wipe out the millions in losses). Throwing in Hogan's share, the extra money spent in advertising and expenses of the like, this show probably did about \$550,000 in profit, or more than a typical show but even with the larger audience and the company's largest PPV gross ever, the profit probably wasn't as much as two of the shows in the last seven months. If Hogan can maintain it at this level for the next two shows, his signing is a success. Last year when he came back with Titan, the audience was cut almost in half on his second PPV (which was a Wrestlemania vs. a King of the Ring so there are other major factors involved) and if anything drops them below 0.85s the next two shows, this still won't be short-term successful. Long-term the idea is Hogan will expose the product to new fans with the bigger audience resulting in a bigger base, but those things sound good on paper and in practice almost never materialize. It was the first time in history that a WCW PPV show outdrew a WWF one during the same period, and we're talking by 30% The show also drew about 14,000 fans to the Orlando Arena, of which 9,111 were paid with a gate in the neighborhood of \$140,000, which would be the largest crowd and gate for a WCW card since 1989 during the Ric Flair-Terry Funk feud. The reason was clear, it was the appearance and promotional work during the last week of Hogan, because the card did not have a

strong undercard. The problem live was that the crowd was there to see Hogan, and to a lesser extent Flair, and the heat underneath was subpar, even when the work itself was strong, particularly in the Rick Steamboat-Steve Austin match.

A. Brian & Brad Armstrong beat Steve Keirn & Bobby Eaton in the dark match opener, said to be *1/4.

1. Steve Regal retained the TV title pinning Johnny B. Badd in 10:40. Regal did a sunset flip holding the ropes, the ref kicked Regal's hand off and Badd reversed into his own pin, but Regal reversed that and held the tights for the pin. Sting was pulled for the show for a worked injury (which was announced on television the weekend before the show) because they wanted to give Regal a clean win at a show when Antonio Inoki was there as a favor to Inoki. The match was a good opener. **1/2

After the match they presented Inoki with a plaque. They put him over strong although most of the fans seemed to not know him. Gene Okerlund told everyone to give him a standing ovation, but the best he could get was polite applause. Regal came in and said that he knew Inoki had defeated Muhammad Ali (actually he laid on his back for 15 rounds against Ali in a shoot) and Andre the Giant but when he was in Japan, Inoki was nowhere to be found. Inoki took off his suit jacket and Bill Dundee pulled Regal out of the ring. The Inoki deal is a favor to Hogan, since Inoki gave Hogan his first superstar break back in 1980, before Hogan reached that level in the United States.

2. Vader beat Guardian Angel via DQ in 7:58. It wasn't up to Vader's usual standards, but the work was pretty stiff. Vader did a moonsault but after landing, sold the move himself instead of pinning Angel. Harley Race got to the top rope and Angel threw him off and then threw him out of the ring. Angel suplexed Vader in. A ref bump and Race gave Vader a night stick, but Angel got the stick. Before he could use it, the ref saw him and called for the DQ. Terrible finish. They didn't want to pin Angel because it was his first major match with the new gimmick and obviously after all the job's Vader has done, they didn't want to beat him again, but it makes Vader who is a top attraction look weak when he can't even win in the second match on the card, and it made no sense since he was scheduled to work on top in a triangular match at the next PPV. **1/2

3. Terry Funk & Bunkhouse Buck beat Dustin Rhodes & Arn Anderson in 11:15. Rhodes worked all but the first 30 seconds of the match, doing a good job in getting heat and fighting his way out of trouble. Finally he made the tag to Anderson and (with the cameras somewhere else), Anderson immediately DDT'd him and put Funk on top for the pin. They did a three-on-one teasing they broke Rhodes' arm until Doug Dillenger and Greg Gagne (boy did he get old or what?) made the save. ***

4. Steve Austin pinned Rick Steamboat in 20:10 to retain the U.S. title. This started slow but turned into a super match. Steamboat was the best performer on the card. The crowd got into it in spots but it didn't get the heat it should have because so much of the crowd was either papered and there to cheer for Hogan or paid just to see Hogan. Either way, they weren't going to get into anything underneath. Highlight was a triple reversal in a tombstone piledriver set-up before Steamboat did the move. At one point the ref was about to DQ Austin when Steamboat asked for it to continue. Finally Steamboat did a cross bodyblock but Austin reversed the move and held the trunks for the pin. ***3/4

Next came a lengthy interview in the dressing room with the Stud Stable, including Arn Anderson, who somehow cryptically talked about his deal with Sid Vicious in England last year.

5. Pretty Wonderful (Paul Roma & Paul Orndorff) won the WCW tag titles from Cactus Jack & Kevin Sullivan in 20:11. Although Paul Orndorff is great at working the crowd, these guys are flat when it comes to being tag champs. The match wasn't good, and unless you knew what was going on coming in (with the violence ban meaning those matches Cactus Jack had on the previous PPVs are now never going to happen until things change), you'd have come out

of it terribly disappointed. It wasn't until the last minute that it was even clear Cactus would work, as he was still in rough shape from a back injury suffered in the match against Sabu. WCW officials were also exceedingly upset about Cactus spitting on the belt and throwing it on the ground doing an ECW interview. Brian Pillman was flown in to sub for him, but instead just made a cameo appearance at the Hogan victory party along with Brutus Beefcake, Jim Duggan and Brian Blair. Match was dull. The crowd was doing the wave and paying no attention to the match. It went on forever. Finish saw Jack do the double-arm DDT on Orndorff, but Roma tripped him from outside and with Jack's legs way out of the ring and the ref right there seeing Roma hold them, still counted as Orndorff did the pin. 1/2*

6. Hulk Hogan pinned Ric Flair to win the WCW title in 21:50. It was the first clean pinfall ever in a singles match between the two of them (in 1992, Hogan pinned Flair with a legdrop in several tag team matches, but all the singles matches were either DQ or COR endings). Hogan got an ever bigger pop than Shaquille. Three bad points. No George Foreman. Mr. T was there. So was Michael Buffer. The announcers tried to get over an insulting storyline to any fan that has even the semblance of a memory that this was Hogan's first match in three years and it was the first time Flair and Hogan had ever wrestled. Flair was psyched up for the match, even though from a storyline standpoint it was no different than every other Hogan SNME match except it was longer. Hogan overpowers heel. Manager distracts Hogan. Heel gets advantage. Instead of it happening twice, it happened four times. But the people were there to see the Hogan show and Flair gave it to them. Hogan missed a legdrop the first time, but didn't sell a suplex. After a foot-to-face, Sherri posted ref Randy Anderson (no dq called?). Sherri KO'd Jimmy Hart and Flair clipped Hogan. Sherri splashed Hogan off the top. Nick Patrick ran in as the second ref as Flair got the figure four on but Hogan made the ropes. Sherri started choking Hogan with her nylons and raked his eyes. Somebody ought to give that woman a medal for how hard she works at ringside. Sherri missed a second splash off the top rope, Hogan made the superman comeback, Flair took a bump off the top. Hogan put on the figure four. Mr. T carried Sherri to the back. Flair hit Hogan with Knux but Hogan kicked out at two. Another superman comeback. Legdrop. 1-2-3. ***1/4

WCW's next major show will be the Clash of Champions on 8/24 from Cedar Rapids, IA. The company wanted this Clash and the October PPV show (Joe Louis Arena in Detroit) both as far out of the Southeast as possible due to the reaction Hogan received in Charleston, SC. The Clash was originally scheduled for St. Paul, the first city in the United States where Hogan established himself as a super draw back in 1981, but since it would go head-up with the first day of the state fair, it was moved. As to why Cedar Rapids, that I can't answer. For TV ratings purposes, it looks like a strong show with the Hogan vs. Flair title match headlining, plus Dusty & Dustin Rhodes vs. Bunkhouse Bunk & Terry Funk, Pretty Wonderful defending the tag team titles against Nasty Boys (so the turn should take place in the next few weeks), Steve Austin defending the U.S. title against Rick Steamboat and Steve Regal vs. Antonio Inoki. One thing positive that has to be said about Flair's reign as booker is that unlike his predecessors, he doesn't overbook the major shows so everything gets rushed. With five matches, everything should have at least a decent amount of time to get it done correctly and on paper it's a strong Clash and you'd think Hogan-Flair on television for free should draw a huge rating. The 9/18 Wrestle War PPV from Roanoke, VA will be headlined by a War Games with Dusty & Dustin teaming with Nasty Boys vs. Funk & Buck & Meng & Arn Anderson, and it appears they'll go with a triangular match with Flair, Sting and Vader as the co-feature. 10/23 will be Halloween Havoc headlined by Hogan vs. Flair in a cage match for the title with Mr. T as referee and Muhammad Ali appearing on some capacity with Hogan. There has been publicity released that Flair would retire if he doesn't regain the title in this match, although my gut feeling is that Flair will win the title with tons of outside interference at the Clash, which sets up the cage, where Hogan will once again reign supreme, but this is all speculation. Friends of Flair have said Flair may retire as a wrestler at the end of this year and concentrate on booking and his gym business interests. There is also serious speculation that when Sting's contract expires around January, that he'll try to pursue acting

work and unless the money is right, may not be around to be the heir apparent Hogan passes the torch to which appears to be the current plan.

AAA wrestling promoted by the IWC returned to the United States this past weekend for debut shows at the Rosemont Horizon in Chicago and the Paramount in New York. While the weekend wasn't profitable due to the high cost of putting together shows of this type, they once again shocked the wrestling world drawing houses just under \$100,000 each night and based on what we hear, the shows had hot action and even hotter crowds.

The Chicago card on 7/23 drew 5,200 (4,425 paid) and \$97,000, with the crowd being hotter for the show than any show in the city in recent memory. The gate was slightly less than WWF did for the Wrestlemania Revenge tour (\$103,000) and WCW did for Spring Stampede (\$107,000) in the same building. The show was pretty much a break-even proposition and Ron Skoler, who heads the promotion of these shows was overall happy enough to want to return in the near future, but probably at the UIC Pavilion or the Ampitheatre because of easier access to the Mexican community in town. The main storyline item of the show was Love Machine & Eddy Guerrero capturing the AAA tag titles in their first night back from Japan from Octagon & El Hijo del Santo. Main event saw Konnan El Barbaro & Perro Aguayo & Cien Caras beat Jake Roberts & La Parka & Psicosis. Actually the Chicago figures if anything were a slight disappointment since the prediction a day ahead of time was a \$140,000 house, but it does blow to bits the argument that AAA would be unable to draw outside of Southern California (actually that argument never held water since they drew big houses twice in San Jose, but those making that argument seemed have never looked at a map thinking San Jose was in Southern California). The only negative is the crowd was so hot it got violent and three police officers were injured in trying to calm things down.

New York, however, was a surprise. The Paramount show drew 3,300 fans (2,800 paid) and \$99,000 (tickets were priced from \$25 to \$50--you'll hear much higher figures for the crowd elsewhere because by the end of the show so many more fans had arrived and the place looked almost sold out, but those were the box office figures), the best gate for a non-WWF show in years in the market and a bigger house than the past two WWF shows in the market. Still, the show wasn't profitable, although with something like \$16,000 in just a few days before the show, the promoters had to be thrilled to come out with only slight losses. New York was suspect because it has a much smaller Mexican population than Chicago and Galavision is only available in about 250,000 of the metro area's 5.5 million households, so based on exposure it would be equivalent to a WWF or WCW show, available on television in all households, drawing 60,000 fans. This group running infrequently in selective markets and eventual PPV shows is a potential goldmine, but not relying on Galavision nationally as it's carried by enough cable systems. They need local syndication in markets that have spanish language television, like they have in San Jose and Los Angeles and like the old Los Angeles promotion had on SIN in the 70s, to be able to turn over the big profit. Didn't hear much about the show other than most felt Chicago was the stronger card, but New York was a good show with strong heat and work rate. Jake Roberts looked even worse than before on top, but with tag partners like Machine & Guerrero and Parka & Psicosis, they had a great match with Konnan & Aguayo & Caras. Told Konnan and Heavy Metal drew the biggest crowd reactions in New York, but it was the minis that stole the show. Tito Santana also received a big reaction although Too Cold Scorpio was really an unknown to the audience but worked well. Pedro Morales was honored before the main event, however it appeared only 10 to 15% of the audience had any idea who he was, but they were polite in reaction to him. I'm not certain whether or not either show was taped for television.

There was a lot of talk of putting on a show in Denver before the end of the year. While it isn't official, the plan right now is for a PPV show in November from San Jose (there definitely won't be a San Jose show in early August) with WCW sharing in the promotion of the show and the tentative plans are for some AAA matches to appear on

the WCW cable shows leading up to the event. Gary Juster of WCW was at the New York show, as was former wrestling promoter and current baseball owner Eddie Einhorn while AAA promoter Antonio Pena was in Orlando for the WCW PPV show, so you can expect some sort of tie-in to be more obvious over the next few months.

Something funny happened at the end of the barbed wire match on 7/16 at the ECW Arena. After a bloodbath with the Funk Brothers vs. Public Enemy which ended with approximately 80 chairs in the ring, Terry Funk wrapped up in barbed wire with a garbage can stuck to his chest, and a brawl which went out of the building into the parking lot while dozens of the elderly were arriving at the building for their weekly Saturday midnight bingo (the ECW Arena doubles as a bingo hall), the fans gave both wrestlers and the show a standing ovation, and then chanted "ECW, ECW."

The folks who bring you it's not for everyone wrestling, Eastern Championship Wrestling in Philadelphia, ran their monthly card at the ECW Arena before about 850 of the hardest-core fans in the country. The converted bingo hall is even smaller and more dingy in person than it appears on television, and I don't see how you could put more than 1,000 in the building. But the ECW Arena is the closest thing crowd-wise to Korakuen Hall in Tokyo. Its fans don't care about faces or heels. They cheer and boo who they won't, not who they're told to. And they are more knowledgeable about wrestling than any other crowd in the country. Like only the top Japan groups and AAA, the promotion itself is over to its audience to the point where even the referees are over.

ECW isn't the wrestling of the past. It may not be the wrestling of the future. But it is right now the most innovative English language wrestling in the country, headlined by night-in and night-out the best performer in the country today, and that sure ain't Bret Hart. Or even Ric Flair. It's Sabu.

Sabu, who did a plancha into a Frankensteiner while doing a run-in earlier in the show, did his first stretcher job ever in Philadelphia against ECW champ Shane Douglas in the semifinal match. Sabu sat Douglas down in a chair outside the ring, then got in the ring and gave Douglas and the chair a tope. Douglas wound up still in one piece when it was over. The chair wasn't as lucky. There were the requisite broken tables from suplexes. There were old-style moves and new-style moves. Brutal chair shots. A cannonball dive by Sabu off the apron. It blew anything on the next night's PPV show away, as did the show as a whole when compared with the WCW show in Orlando. And then, as they were going to the finish, all the power went off in the building. This was no angle. About a minute later, the power came on, and it didn't take the two long to regain the killed momentum. Sabu set up a table vertically and put Douglas standing by it. He then did an Asai-moonsault, but Douglas moved and Sabu crashed into the table almost like moonsaulting into a wall. He was taken away on a stretcher after losing via count out, but not before local favorite 911 managed by choke slam Douglas, Mr. Hughes and valet Angel (who must have jumped six feet in the air before taking the bump) to the biggest pops on the show.

After taking literally forever to take the ropes down and do an FMW style barbed wire match, it was up to the Funks and Public Enemy to follow. Barbed wire matches are traditionally awful. What can you do but bleed? Somehow this didn't fit the bill. All four bled like crazy, but it would have been every bit as great without it. After brawling in the crowd, using wire cutters to take one side of the wire down and wrapping Terry up in it, and brawling outside the building, came Terry grabbing the house mic and asking for a chair. It was raining chairs within seconds, much as the raining pillows after the Muto-Vader match at the 1991 G-1 Climax tournament match. This was a little too dangerous, however. The wrestlers were being blindsided with chairs left and right as fans were throwing every chair they could find into the ring. All it would take is one bad throw and someone in the audience getting hit the wrong way, and the promotion would be having too many problems. For all its positives, we're not for everyone could have been we're not for anyone with one fan who couldn't aim a chair hitting the wrong target. Somewhere amidst all this, Terry did a clean job, after which Dory destroyed the Public

Enemy with one chair shot after another. Terry once again asked the fans to throw him a chair, and it was raining chairs again with chair shots galore. Finally, wrapped up in barbed wire, Terry left the ring with Dory while the Public Enemy was buried under a sea of furniture. When they finally got up, the fans, realizing the show was over, gave them, although it was really the show itself, a standing ovation. No, it's not for everyone. But for those who it is for, they give them a great show.

This double issue is both the second and third issue of the current set. This means if you've got a (1) on your address label that your Observer subscription expires with next week's issue. Renewal rates for the United States, Canada and Mexico remain \$8 for four issues, \$15 for eight, \$22 for 12, \$28 for 16, \$42 for 24, \$56 for 32 and \$70 for 40. Rates for the rest of the world for weekly airmail delivery are \$11 for four, \$21 for eight, \$30 for 12, \$50 for 20, \$70 for 28, up through \$100 for 40 issues. All subscription renewals along with reports from live shows, news items and any other correspondence pertaining to this newsletter should be sent to the Wrestling Observer Newsletter, P.O. Box 1228, Campbell, CA 95009-1228.

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RESULTS

7/1 Xalapa, Veracruz (AAA - 6,000): Giro & Colorado b My Flowers & Pimpinela Escarlata, Ninja Turtles I & II & III b Marabunta & Elvis & Reptil **, Lola Gonzales & Vicky Carranza & Pantera Surena b Mujer Salvaje & Martha Villalobos, Shitara *1/2, Lizmark & Lizmark Jr. & Latin Lover b Los Payasos-DQ ***, Konnan El Barbaro & El Hijo del Santo & Mascara Sagrada b Cien Caras & Mascara Ano 2000 & Universo 2000-DQ *3/4

7/1 Arena Mexico in Mexico City (EMLL): Ultimatium & Platino b Astro Jr. & Nuevo Lynx, Felino & Javier Cruz & Popitekus b Super Astro & Blue Demon Jr. & Americo Rocca, Dr. Wagner Jr. & Gran Markus Jr. & El Hijo del Gladiador d Dandy & Silver King & El Texano, Black Magic & Negro Casas & Mano Negra b Vampiro Canadiense & Ultimo Dragon & La Fiera, Atlantis & Rayo de Jalisco Jr. b Miguel Perez & Ricky Santana-DQ

7/4 Bricktown, OK (Power Zone Wrestling - 1,000/free show as part of downtown July 4th festival): Casey Cannon b T.C. Gold, Eric Awesome b Panther, Chains & Chopper b Lawton Mauler & New York Express, Wild Maverick & Panther b Chains & Chopper, Treach Phillips Jr. b Psycho I, Tom Jones & Billy Phoenix b TNT & Rick Valentine, Kevin Von Erich & Rick Garrett b Randy Rhodes & Shawn Summers

7/5 Arena Coliseo in Mexico City (EMLL): Pegaso & Angel de Plata b Tigre de Oro & Astro Jr., Lady Apache & Cynthia Moreno & Guerrero Purpura b Practicane & La Diabolica & Maria del Angel, Mascara Magica & La Sombra & Chicago Express b Titan & Popitekus & Halcon Negro Jr., Hayabusa & Ringo Mendoza & El Hijo del Solitario b Mogur & Jaque Mate & Tornado Negro, Mocho Cota & Bestia Salvaje & Emilio Charles Jr. b Los Brazos

7/7 Mexico City Pista Arena Revolucion (EMLL): Kid Guerrero b Turako, Olimpus & Olimpico b Sanson & Cerebro, Felino & Atila Jr. & Corazan Salvaje b Aguilas Solitaria & Atlantico & Pantera II, El Brazo & Brazo de Oro & Rayo de Jalisco Jr. b El Egipcio & Emilio Charles Jr. & Sultan Gargola

7/8 Wels, Austria (WWF - 750): Sparky Plugg b Adam Bomb, Jeff Jarrett b Doink the Clown (Ray Apollo), Mabel b Bam Bam Bigelow, Lex Luger b Crush, IC title: Razor Ramon b Diesel-DQ, Smoking Gunns b Rock & Roll Express

7/8 Netzahualcoyotl (UWA): Condor Man & Relicario b Rey Richard & Veneno, Los Machos I & II & III b Takeda & Gran Apaches I & II, Black Jack & Spartaco & Scorpio Sr. b Canadian Tiger (Mike Lozansky) & El Hijo de Anibal & Gamma, El Signo & Negro Navarro

& Rocky Santana b The King & Transformer & Black Power II, Mr. Atlas & Dos Caras & Canek b Los Villanos III & IV & V-DQ

7/11 Memphis (USWA): Jeff Gaylord b Leon Downs, Reggie B. Fine b Tony Williams, Bart Sawyer b Tony Falk, Doug Basham b Spellbinder (Spellbinder failed to pin him twice in 10:00 thus forfeited the match), USWA tag title: PG-13 b Eliminators-DQ, USWA title: Brian Christopher b Dream Machine to win title, Non-title barbed wire match: Tommy Rich b Jerry Lawler, Machine & Rich & Doug Gilbert b Moondogs & Christopher

7/11 Nagoya (All Japan women): Chapparita Asari b Rie Tamada, Kaoru Ito b Infernal Kaoru, Etsuko Mita b Tomoko Watanabe, Toshiyo Yamada & Mima Shimoda b Bull Nakano & Takako Inoue, Manami Toyota b Sakie Hasegawa, Kyoko Inoue & Yumiko Hotta b Suzuka Minami & Aja Kong

7/12 Essen, Germany (WWF - 6,000 sellout): Adam Bomb b Sparky Plugg **, WWF womens title: Alundra Blayze b Luna Vachon **1/4, Bam Bam Bigelow b Mabel *1/2, Lex Luger b Crush *, Smoking Gunns b Rock & Roll Express *3/4, Doink the Clown b Jeff Jarrett *3/4, IC title: Razor Ramon b Diesel-DQ **3/4

7/12 Kagoshima (All Japan - 3,500 sellout): Masao Inoue b Kentaro Shiga, The Eagle b Satoru Asako, Johnny Smith b Richard Slinger, Giant Baba & Rusher Kimura & Mitsuo Momota b Ryakaku Izumida & Mighty Inoue & Haruka Eigen, Abdullah the Butcher & Giant Kimala II b Kurt Beyer & Johnny Ace, PWF jr. title: Dan Kroffat b Masa Fuchi to win title, Toshiaki Kawada & Akira Taue & Yoshinari Ogawa b Tamon Honda & Jun Akiyama & Takao Omori 23:38, Mitsuharu Misawa & Kenta Kobashi & Tsuyoshi Kikuchi b Stan Hansen & Doug Furnas & Tom Zenk

7/12 Heckinan (All Japan women - 1,880): Prelim results unavailable, Suzuka Minami b Toshiyo Yamada, Aja Kong & Kyoko Inoue & Takako Inoue b Sakie Hasegawa & Etsuko Mita & Manami Toyota

7/13 Kiel, Germany (WWF): Sparky Plugg b Adam Bomb, WWF womens title: Alundra Blayze b Luna Vachon, Mabel b Bam Bam Bigelow, Lex Luger b Crush, Smoking Gunns b Rock & Roll Express, Jeff Jarrett b Doink the Clown, IC title: Razor Ramon b Diesel-DQ

7/13 Miyazaki (All Japan - 3,050 sellout): Satoru Asako b Kentaro Shiga, Masao Inoue & Yoshinari Ogawa b Kurt Beyer & Ryakaku Izumida, Johnny Smith b Tsuyoshi Kikuchi, Haruka Eigen & Mighty Inoue b Rusher Kimura & Mitsuo Momota, Abdullah the Butcher & Giant Kimala II b Richard Slinger & The Eagle, Dan Kroffat & Doug Furnas b Tom Zenk & Johnny Ace, Mitsuharu Misawa & Kenta Kobashi b Tamon Honda & Jun Akiyama, Stan Hansen & Giant Baba & Takao Omori b Masa Fuchi & Akira Taue & Toshiaki Kawada

7/13 Cortland, OH (IWA - 3,200 free fair grandstand show): T.C. Reynolds b Psycho Mike, Doink the Clown (Matt Osborne) b Ron Cumberland, Haiti Kid b Little Ninja, Preston Steele b Greg Valentine-DQ, Jim Duggan b Scott Summers, Jim Neidhart b Brutus Beefcake-COR

7/14 Tokyo Coliseum (LLPW joint show - 8,300): Michiko Omukai (LLPW) b Chapparita Asari (AJW), Mizuki Endo & Mikiko Futagami (LLPW) b Tomoko Watanabe & Rie Tamada (AJW), Rumi Kazama & Carol Midori & Michiko Nagashima (LLPW) b Miwa Sato & Yukie Nabeno & Nurse Nakamura (FMW), UWA tag title: Etsuko Mita & Mima Shimoda (AJW) b Miki Handa & Jen Yukari (LLPW) 23:00, Megumi Kudo (FMW) b Yasha Kurenai (LLPW), Harley Saito & Noriyo Tateno (LLPW) b Kyoko Inoue & Takako Inoue (AJW), Combat Toyoda (FMW) b Eagle Sawai (LLPW), Chain death match: Bull Nakano (AJW) b Shinobu Kandori 22:36

7/14 Manila, Philippines (WWF): 1-2-3 Kid b Kwang, Luke Williams & Koko Ware b Reno Riggins & Barry Horowitz, Rick Martel b Jim Powers, Undertaker b Yokozuna-DQ, Tatanka b The Barbarian, WWF tag title: Head Shrinkers b Well Dunn, WWF title: Bret Hart b Owen Hart

7/14 Niage (All Japan - 2,400 sellout): Tsuyoshi Kikuchi b Kentaro Shiga, Richard Slinger b Ryakaku Izumida, Tamon Honda & Yoshinari Ogawa b Tom Zenk & The Eagle, Giant Baba & Rusher Kimura & Mitsuo Momota b Mighty Inoue & Haruka Eigen & Masa Fuchi, Abdullah the Butcher & Giant Kimala II b Kurt Beyer & Johnny Smith, Stan Hansen & Takao Omori b Dan Kroffat & Doug Furnas, Kenta Kobashi d Johnny Ace 30:00, Mitsuharu Misawa & Jun Akiyama & Satoru Asako b Toshiaki Kawada & Akira Taue & Masao Inoue 22:00

7/14 Toyoura (New Japan - 1,800 sellout): Tadao Yasuda & Yuji Nagata b Manabu Nakanishi & Tokimitsu Ishizawa, Akitoshi Saito b Shinichi Nakano, Tatsutoshi Goto b Takayuki Iizuka, Yoshiaki Yatsu b Michiyoshi Ohara, Kengo Kimura b Akira Nogami, Jushin Liger & El Samurai & Shinjiro Ohtani b Black Cat & American Love Machine & Black Tiger, Power Warrior & Hiroshi Hase & Shinya Hashimoto b Nasty Boys & Too Cold Scorpio, Keiji Muto & Masa Chono b Hiro Saito & Norio Honaga, Kuniaki Kobayashi & Shiro Koshinaka & Great Kabuki b Osamu Kido & Riki Choshu & Tatsumi Fujinami

7/14 Lenoir, NC (SMW - 250): Lance Storm b Chris Hamrick, SMW tag title: Scott & Steve Armstrong b Brian Lee & Chris Candido-DQ, No DQ match for SMW title: Dirty White Boy b Kendo the Samurai (Brian Keyes), Street fight: Bruiser Bedlam b Steve Armstrong

7/14 Osaka Furitsu Gym (RINGS - 6,539 sellout): Georgi Kandelaki b Rene Rose, Masayoshi Naruse b Yuri Beckashev, Mitsuya Nagai b Stepepanov Petrov, Andrei Kopilov b Yoshihisa Yamamoto, Volk Han b Hans Nyman, Akira Maeda b Dirk Leon-Vrij

7/14 Tokyo Korakuen Hall (IWA - 2,105 sellout): Matsuyama b Hiroshi Ono, Takashi Okano b Oriental, Dick Slater b Johnny Gomez, Head Hunters b Shoji Nakamaki & Canek, Miguel Perez b Leatherface, Coffin match: New Jason the Terrible (Tracy Smothers) b Original Jason the Terrible (Roberto Rodriguez), Nobutaka Araya b Yukihiko Kanemura

7/15 Albuquerque, NM (WCW - 1,200): Brian Pillman b Diamond Dallas Page **, Guardian Angel b Ron Simmons ***, Marcus Bagwell & The Patriot b Paul Roma & Paul Orndorff **1/2, Non-title: Johnny B. Badd b Steven Regal ***, Dustin Rhodes & Arn Anderson b Bunkhouse Buck & Amarillo Slim (Erik Watts) ***1/2, Non-title: Sting b Steve Austin ***

7/15 Juan de la Barrera Gym in Mexico City (AAA - 10,600 sellout): Prelim results unavailable, Jerrito Estrada & Espectrito & Fuercita Guerrera b Mascarita Sagrada & Octagoncito & Micro Konnan, Rey Misterio Jr. & Octagon & El Hijo del Santo b Fuerza Guerrera & Blue Panther & Psicosis, Cien Caras & Mascara Ano 2000 & Universo 2000 & La Parka b Konnan El Barbaro & Mascara Sagrada & Perro Aguayo & Lizmark

7/15 Philadelphia (ECW TV taping - 147): Ian Rotten b Hack Myers, Ray Odyssey b Steve Richards, Chad Austin b Damien Stone, ECW TV title: Mikey Whippreck b Sandman-DQ, Terry Funk b Keith Scherer, ECW title: Shane Douglas b Tommy Dreamer, Tazmaniac b Myers, Dory & Terry Funk & Dreamer b Pit Bulls & Jimmy Snuka, Austin b Richards, Sabu b Odyssey, Pit Bulls DDQ Snuka & Tazmaniac, Public Enemy b Richards & Stone, Jason b Scherer, Rottens b Joel Hartgood & Dave Sendoff

7/15 Arena Mexico in Mexico City (EMLL): Prelim results unavailable, El Hijo del Solitario & Hayabusa & Blue Demon Jr. b Cachorro Mendoza & Mocho Cota & Jaque Mate, Rayo de Jalisco Jr. & Atlantis & Pegasus Kid b Emilio Charles Jr. & Bestia Salvaje & Pierroth Jr., CMLL trios titles: Dr. Wagner Jr. & Gran Markus Jr. & El Hijo del Gladiador b Silver King & El Texano & Dandy

7/15 Kumaya (IWA): Takashi Okano b Matsuyama, Leatherface b Oriental, Dick Slater b Tracy Smothers, Head Hunters & Johnny Gomez b Nobutaka Araya & Hiroshi Ono & Miguel Perez, UWA hwt title: Canek b Original Jason the Terrible, Barbed wire barricade match: Yukihiko Kanemura b Shoji Nakamaki

7/16 Nagasaki (All Japan - 3,500): Satoru Asako b Kentaro Shiga, Tsuyoshi Kikuchi b Ryakaku Izumida, Terry Gordy & Richard Slinger b Masao Inoue & Kurt Beyer, Jumbo Tsuruta & Rusher Kimura & Mitsuo Momota b Mighty Inoue & Haruka Eigen & Masa Fuchi, Abdullah the Butcher & Giant Kimala II b Johnny Smith & The Eagle, Stan Hansen & Tom Zenk b Dan Kroffat & Doug Furnas, Steve Williams & Johnny Ace b Kenta Kobashi & Jun Akiyama, Toshiaki Kawada & Akira Taue & Takao Omori b Giant Baba & Mitsuharu Misawa & Tamon Honda 24:08

7/16 Philadelphia (ECW - 850): Axl & Ian Rotten b Rockin Rebel & Hack Myers *, ECW TV title: Mikey Whippreck b Chad Austin-DQ ***, Tommy Dreamer b Steve Richards *1/2, Mr. Hughes b Dreamer *1/4, Tazmaniac & Sabu b Pit Bulls ***, Double cane match: The Sandman b Tommy Cairo ***, ECW title: Shane Douglas b Sabu-COR ****1/4, No rope barbed wire match: Public Enemy b Dory & Terry Funk ****

7/16 Morristown, TN (SMW - 500): Steve Skyfire b James Atkins, Lance Storm b Kendo the Samurai, SMW tag title: Steve & Scott Armstrong b Brian Lee & Chris Candido-DQ, Street fight: Bruiser Bedlam b Steve Armstrong, SMW title: Dirty White Boy b Lee

7/16 Trujillo Alto, PR (WWC): Mohammad Hussein b Gator McAlliser, Tahitian Warrior b Pulgarcito, Isaac Rosario b El Exotic, WWC TV title: Carlitos Colon b Fidel Sierra (Cuban Assassin), WWC tag title: Rey Gonzalez & El Bronco b Bruise Brothers-DQ, Universal title: Dutch Mantel NC Invader #1, Lights out match: Eddie Gilbert DDQ Gonzalez

7/16 London, England (World Martial Arts Wrestling Federation): The Butcher b Paul Singh, The Warrior (Chris Walker) d Iron Sheik, Demolition Ax (Bill Eadie) & Blast (Richard Charland) b Big Bully Busich & Warrior, Tiger Jeet Singh Jr. b Hercules Hernandez, Tiger Jeet Singh Sr. b Russian Iron Horse

7/17 Tokyo Sumo Hall (WAR - 11,050 sellout): Masanobu Kurisu b Yuji Yasuraoka, One-night six-man tournament: Ashura Hara & Earthquake John Tenta & Ginsei Shinzaki b Gedo & Jado & Hiromichi Fuyuki, Koki Kitahara & Takashi Ishikawa & Koji Ishinriki b Koji Kitao & Akio Kobayashi & Nariaki Mochizuki, Kendo Nagasaki & Masashi Aoyagi & Arashi b Animal Hamaguchi & Shoichi Funaki & Nobukazu Hirai, Genichiro Tenryu & Atsushi Onita & Bam Bam Bigelow b Vampiro Canadiense & Warlord & Lion Heart (Chris Jericho), Hara & Tenta & Shinzaki b Ishikawa & Ishinriki & Kitahara, Bigelow & Tenryu & Onita b Nagasaki & Aoyagi & Arashi, UWA middleweight title: Ultimo Dragon b Great Sasuke 22:23, Tenryu & Onita & Bigelow b Hara & Tenta & Shinzaki to win tournament

7/17 Himeji (New Japan - 2,500): Tatsuhiro Takaiwa & Yuji Nagata b Tokimitsu Ishizawa & El Samurai, Tatsutoshi Goto b Hiro Saito, Jushin Liger & Shinjiro Ohtani b Black Tiger & Norio Honaga, Manabu Nakanishi & Hiroshi Hase & Power Warrior b Nasty Boys & Too Cold Scorpio, Kuniaki Kobayashi & Great Kabuki & Shiro Koshinaka b Riki Choshu & Akira Nogami & Takayuki Iizuka, Tatsumi Fujinami & Osamu Kido b American Love Machine & Black Cat, Masa Chono b Michiyoshi Ohara, Keiji Muto b Akitoshi Saito, Shinya Hashimoto b Kengo Kimura

7/17 Wildwood, NJ (ECW - 200): Jimmy Snuka won Battle Royal, Rockin Rebel b Hack Myers, ECW TV title: Mikey Whippreck b Chad Austin-DQ, Tommy Cairo b Sandman, Tazmaniac b Pit Bull #1, Sabu b Ray Ides, Mr. Hughes b Tommy Dreamer, ECW tag title: Public Enemy b Axl & Ian Rotten, ECW title: Shane Douglas b Snuka

7/17 Tokyo Korakuen Hall (FMW - 2,150 sellout): Judge Dredd b Hideki Hosaka, Combat Toyoda & Shark Tsuchiya & Tsuppari Mack b Megumi Kudo & Miwa Sato & Keiko Iwame, Katsujii Ueda b Goro Tsurumi-DQ, Yukie Nabeno b Crusher Maedomari, Mr. Gannosuke & Katsutoshi Niiyama b Ricky Fuji & Big Titan, Barbed wire barricade death match: Mr. Pogo & The Gladiator & Hisakatsu Oya b Atsushi Onita & Tarzan Goto & Mitsuhiro Matsunaga

7/18 Tattori (New Japan - 3,700): Shinjiro Ohtani b Tatsuhiro Takaiwa, American Love Machine & Too Cold Scorpio & Black Tiger

b Tokimitsu Ishizawa & Yuji Nagata & El Samurai, Michiyoshi Ohara b Osamu Kido, Akitoshi Saito b Hiro Saito, Hiroshi Hase b Tatsutoshi Goto, Kengo Kimura b Power Warrior, Nasty Boys & Black Cat b Tadao Yasuda & Riki Choshu & Tatsumi Fujinami, Akira Nogami & Takayuki Iizuka b Shinya Hashimoto & Manabu Nakanishi, Shiro Koshinaka & Great Kabuki & Kuniaki Kobayashi b Jushin Liger & Masa Chono & Keiji Muto

7/18 Onomichi (All Japan - 1,700 sellout): Masao Inoue b Kentaro Shiga, Dan Kroffat & Doug Furnas b Kurt Beyer & Ryukaku Izumida, Abdullah the Butcher & Giant Kimala II b Tom Zenk & The Eagle, Giant Baba & Rusher Kimura & Mitsuo Momota b Mighty Inoue & Haruka Eigen & Masa Fuchi, Stan Hansen & Takao Omori b Johnny Smith & Johnny Ace, Kenta Kobashi & Tsuyoshi Kikuchi & Tamon Honda b Richard Slinger & Terry Gordy & Steve Williams, Toshiaki Kawada & Akira Taue & Yoshinari Ogawa b Mitsuharu Misawa & Jun Akiyama & Satoru Asako

7/18 Yokkaichi (FMW - 3,407 sellout): Koji Nakagawa b Gosaku Goshogawara, Keiko Iwame b Mayumi Shimizu, Battle Ranger b Damian, Hisakatsu Oya b Masato Tanaka, Tsuppari Mack & Shark Tsuchiya & Crusher Maedomari & Combat Toyoda b Yukie Nabeno & Nurse Nakamura & Miwa Sato & Megumi Kudo, Big Titan b Katsutoshi Niiyama, Ricky Fuji & Judge Dredd b Mach Hayato & Tarzan Goto, No rope barbed wire street fight tornado death match: Atsushi Onita & Mitsuhiro Matsunaga & Mr. Gannosuke b The Gladiator & Mr. Pogo & Hideki Hosaka

7/18 Memphis (USWA - 1,650): Jeff Gaylord b Tony Falk, Bart Sawyer b Reggie B. Fine, Spellbinder b Doug Basham, Non-title stretcher match: Eliminators b PG-13, Jerry Lawler b Tommy Rich, Handicap hospital elimination match: Dream Machine & Doug Gilbert & Rich & Scott Bowden b Brian Christopher & Moondogs, Gaylord won Battle Royal to earn title shot, Unified title: Sid Vicious b Gaylord

7/19 Atlanta Center Stage (WCW Saturday night taping): Non-squash results: Ric Flair & Steve Austin b Sting & Rick Steamboat 27:00 ****, Austin b Brian Armstrong, Jim Duggan b Tex Slazenger

7/19 Kuraishiki (All Japan - 2,700 sellout): Satoru Asako b Kentaro Shiga, Masao Inoue b Ryakaku Izumida, Terry Gordy & Richard Slinger b Kurt Beyer & Tom Zenk, Mighty Inoue & Haruka Eigen & Masa Fuchi b Giant Baba & Rusher Kimura & Mitsuo Momota, Dan Kroffat & Doug Furnas b Abdullah the Butcher & Giant Kimala II, Jun Akiyama & Tamon Honda b Johnny Smith & The Eagle, Steve Williams & Johnny Ace b Stan Hansen & Takao Omori, Mitsuharu Misawa & Kenta Kobashi & Tsuyoshi Kikuchi b Toshiaki Kawada & Akira Taue & Yoshinari Ogawa 22:34

7/19 Gifu (New Japan - 4,000 sellout): Tadao Yasuda & Tokimitsu Ishizawa b Tatsuhito Takaiwa & Yuji Nagata, Akira Nogami & Takayuki Iizuka b Black Cat & Too Cold Scorpio, Shinjiro Ohtani & El Samurai & Jushin Liger b Hiro Saito & American Love Machine & Black Tiger, Masa Chono b Akitoshi Saito, Kengo Kimura b Yoshiaki Fujiwara, Riki Choshu b Michiyoshi Ohara, Tatsumi Fujinami b Tatsutoshi Goto, Power Warrior & Hiroshi Hase b Nasty Boys, Great Kabuki & Shiro Koshinaka & Kuniaki Kobayashi b Manabu Nakanishi & Keiji Muto & Shinya Hashimoto

7/19 Takasago (FMW - 2,756 sellout): Masato Tanaka b Tetsuhiro Kuroda, Mayumi Shimizu b Kaori Nakayama, Mach Hayato b Koji Nakagawa, Ricky Fuji & Big Titan b Gosaku Goshogawara & Battle Ranger, Tsuppari Mack & Shark Tsuchiya & Crusher Maedomari & Combat Toyoda b Keiko Iwame & Yukie Nabeno & Miwa Sato & Megumi Kudo, Judge Dredd b Damian, Hisakatsu Oya & Goro Tsurumi b Katsutoshi Niiyama & Tarzan Goto, No rope barbed wire street fight tornado death match: Mr. Gannosuke & Mitsuhiro Matsunaga & Atsushi Onita b Hideki Hosaka & The Gladiator & Mr. Pogo

7/20 Suwa (New Japan - 1,750): Tadao Yasuda & Manabu Nakanishi b Tatsuhito Takaiwa & Tokimitsu Ishizawa, Black Cat & American Love Machine b Yuji Nagata & Osamu Kido, Too Cold Scorpio & Black Tiger b Shinjiro Ohtani & El Samurai, Jushin Liger & Power

Warrior b Norio Honaga & Hiro Saito, Nasty Boys b Akira Nogami & Takayuki Iizuka, Tatsumi Fujinami b Akitoshi Saito, Yoshiaki Fujiwara b Tatsutoshi Goto, Shinya Hashimoto b Michiyoshi Ohara, Kuniaki Kobayashi & Shiro Koshinaka & Great Kabuki b Masa Chono & Keiji Muto & Hiroshi Hase

7/20 Okayama (FMW - 2,688 sellout): Tetsuhiro Kuroda b Gosaku Goshogawara, Battle Ranger & Koji Nakagawa b Masato Tanaka & Mach Hayato, Damian b Goro Tsurumi-DQ, Tsuppari Mack & Shark Tsuchiya & Crusher Maedomari & Combat Toyoda b Yukie Nabeno & Nurse Nakamura & Miwa Sato & Megumi Kudo, Hisakatsu Oya b Judge Dredd, Tarzan Goto & Mr. Gannosuke b Ricky Fuji & Big Titan, No rope barbed wire street fight tornado death match: Atsushi Onita & Mitsuhiro Matsunaga & Sambo Asako b Hideki Hosaka & The Gladiator & Mr. Pogo

7/20 Iwade (IWA): Original Jason the Terrible b Matsuyama, Canek b Oriental, Leatherface b Takashi Okano, Bunkhouse match: Johnny Gomez & Yukihiko Kanemura b Hiroshi Ono & Shoji Nakamaki, New Jason the Terrible b Miguel Perez, IWA title tournament final: Dick Slater b Nobutaka Araya to become first champion

7/21 Tokyo Korakuen Hall (All Japan - 2,100 sellout): Masao Inoue b Kentaro Shiga, Mighty Inoue b Satoru Asako, Tom Zenk b Kurt Beyer, Giant Baba & Rusher Kimura & Mitsuo Momota b Masa Fuchi & Haruka Eigen & Ryakaku Izumida, Abdullah the Butcher & Giant Kimala II b Terry Gordy & The Eagle, Stan Hansen & Johnny Smith b Dan Kroffat & Doug Furnas, Toshiaki Kawada & Akira Taue & Yoshinari Ogawa b Tamon Honda & Jun Akiyama & Takao Omori, Mitsuharu Misawa & Kenta Kobashi & Tsuyoshi Kikuchi b Steve Williams & Johnny Ace & Richard Slinger

7/21 Saku (New Japan - 1,680): Manabu Nakanishi b Yuji Nagata, Akira Nogami & Takayuki Iizuka b Hiro Saito & Norio Honaga, Black Cat & American Love Machine & Black Tiger b Tatsuhito Takaiwa & Shinjiro Ohtani & El Samurai, Osamu Kido b Akitoshi Saito, Power Warrior b Michiyoshi Ohara, Kengo Kimura b Hiroshi Hase, Great Kabuki & Shiro Koshinaka & Kuniaki Kobayashi b Tadao Yasuda & Tatsumi Fujinami & Yoshiaki Fujiwara, Keiji Muto b Tatsutoshi Goto, Jushin Liger & Shinya Hashimoto & Masa Chono b Nasty Boys & Too Cold Scorpio

7/21 Wajima (FMW - 3,310 sellout): Masato Tanaka & Mach Hayato b Tetsuhiro Kuroda & Battle Ranger, Yoshika Ishikura b Keori Nakayama, Tsuppari Mack & Shark Tsuchiya & Crusher Maedomari & Combat Toyoda b Mayumi Shimizu & Keiko Iwame & Yukie Nabeno & Megumi Kudo, Judge Dredd b Koji Nakagawa, Ricky Fuji & Big Titan b Damian & Katsutoshi Niiyama, Tarzan Goto b Hideki Hosaka, No rope barbed wire street fight tornado death match: Hisakatsu Oya & Mr. Pogo & The Gladiator b Mr. Gannosuke & Mitsuhiro Matsunaga & Atsushi Onita

7/22 Shimizu (All Japan - 3,300 sellout): Satoru Asako b Kentaro Shiga, Masao Inoue & Yoshinari Ogawa b Tsuyoshi Kikuchi & Ryakaku Izumida, Jun Akiyama & Tamon Honda b Kurt Beyer & Tom Zenk, Giant Baba & Rusher Kimura & Mitsuo Momota b Mighty Inoue & Haruka Eigen & Masa Fuchi, Johnny Smith & The Eagle b Terry Gordy & Richard Slinger, Abdullah the Butcher & Giant Kimala II b Dan Kroffat & Doug Furnas, Toshiaki Kawada & Akira Taue b Stan Hansen & Takao Omori, PWF world & Intl tag titles: Mitsuharu Misawa & Kenta Kobashi b Johnny Ace & Steve Williams 27:48

7/22 Nagaoka (New Japan - 3,800 sellout): Norio Honaga & Hiro Saito b Tatsuhito Takaiwa & Manabu Nakanishi, Yoshiaki Fujiwara & Tokimitsu Ishizawa b Yuji Nagata & Osamu Kido, Black Cat & American Love Machine & Black Tiger b Shinjiro Ohtani & Too Cold Scorpio & El Samurai, Nasty Boys b Tatsumi Fujinami & Tadao Yasuda, Hiroshi Hase b Akitoshi Saito, Keiji Muto b Michiyoshi Ohara, Masa Chono b Kengo Kimura, Shinya Hashimoto b Tatsutoshi Goto, Kuniaki Kobayashi & Great Kabuki & Shiro Koshinaka b Jushin Liger & Akira Nogami & Power Warrior

7/22 Montgomeryville, PA (ECW - 350): Tommy Dreamer b Pit Bull #1, Mr. Hughes b Tommy Cairo, Tazmaniac b Pit Bull #2, ECW TV

title: Mikey Whipreck b Steve Richards-DQ, Sandman b Ray Odyssey, ECW tag title: Public Enemy & Axl & Ian Rotten, ECW title: Shane Douglas b Tazmaniac

7/22 Fairleah, WV (SMW - 100): Thrillseekers b Bart & Brad Batten, Tracy Smothers b Killer Kyle, No DQ match for SMW title: Dirty White Boy b Kendo the Samurai, Rock & Roll Express b Chris Candido & Kyle

7/22 Esawa (All Japan women): Chapparita Asari b Rie Tamada, Kaoru Ito b Kumiko Maekawa, Yumiko Hotta & Suzuka Minami b Kyoko Inoue & Sakie Hasegawa, Aja Kong b Kaoru Ito, Etsuko Mita & Toshiyo Yamada b Manami Toyota & Mima Shimoda

7/23 Tampa (WWF - 3,000): Jeff Jarrett b Doink the Clown, WWF womens title: Alundra Blayze b Luna Vachon, Jerry Lawler b Duke Droese-DQ, Undertaker (Brian Lee) b Sparky Plugg, Bam Bam Bigelow b Mabel, Adam Bomb b Pierre, Heavenly Bodies b Smoking Gunns, Cage match for IC title: Diesel b Razor Ramon

7/23 Chicago Rosemont Horizon (AAA/IWC - 5,200/4,425 paid): Tito Santana & Too Cold Scorpio b Dallas Page & Louie Spicolli, Espectrito & Octagoncito b Mascarita Sagrada & Jerrito Estrada, Heavy Metal & Rey Misterio Jr. & Misterioso b Los Payasos, AAA tag titles: Love Machine & Eddy Guerrero b Octagon & El Hijo del Santo to win titles, Konnan El Barbaro & Perro Aguayo & Cien Caras b Jake Roberts & La Parka & Psicosis

7/23 Kofu (All Japan - 4,400 sellout): Masao Inoue b Kurt Beyer, Yoshinari Ogawa b Kentaro Shiga, Jun Akiyama & Tsuyoshi Kikuchi b Dan Kroffat & Doug Furnas, Giant Baba & Rusher Kimura & Mitsuo Momota b Masa Fuchi & Haruka Eigen & Mighty Inoue, The Eagle & Johnny Ace b Abdullah the Butcher & Giant Kimala II, Steve Williams & Terry Gordy & Richard Slinger b Stan Hansen & Tom Zenk & Johnny Smith, Toshiaki Kawada & Akira Taue & Takao Omori b Mitsuharu Misawa & Kenta Kobashi & Satoru Asako

7/23 Fukuoka (FMW - 3,472): Tetsuhiro Kuroda b Gosaku Goshogawara, Keiko Iwame b Mayumi Shimizu, Damian b Mach Hayato, Katsutoshi Niiyama b Battle Ranger, Combat Toyoda & Shark Tsuchiya & Crusher Maedomari & Tsuppari Mack b Megumi Kudo & Miwa Sato & Yukie Nabeno & Nurse Nakamura, Big Titan & Ricky Fuji b The Gladiator & Goro Tsurumi, Tarzan Goto b Judge Dredd, No rope barbed wire street fight tornado death match: Atsushi Onita & Mitsuhiro Matsunaga & Mr. Gannosuke b Mr. Pogo & Hisakatsu Oya & Hideki Hosaka

7/23 Chilhowie, VA (SMW - 550): Dirty White Boy b Kendo the Samurai, Handicap match: Tracy Smothers b Killer Kyle & Jim Cornette, Thrillseekers b Bart & Brad Batten, Rock & Roll Express b Kyle & Chris Candido, White Boy won pole Battle Royal

7/24 New York Paramount (AAA/IWC - 3,300/2,800 paid): Dallas Page & Louie Spicolli b Indio Valiente & Bandido, Heavy Metal & Tito Santana & Too Cold Scorpio b Los Payasos-DQ, Mascarita Sagrada & Octagoncito b Espectrito & Jerrito Estrada, El Hijo del Santo & Octagon b Psicosis & La Parka, Konnan El Barbaro & Perro Aguayo & Cien Caras NC Jake Roberts & Love Machine & Eddy Guerrero

7/24 North Tonawanda, NY (WWF): Duke Droese b Adam Bomb, WWF womens title: Alundra Blayze b Luna Vachon, The Undertaker (Brian Lee) b Sparky Plugg, Mabel b Bam Bam Bigelow, Doink the Clown b Jeff Jarrett, Heavenly Bodies b Smoking Gunns, IC title: Razor Ramon b Diesel-DQ

7/24 Saga (FMW - 2,954 sellout): Koji Nakagawa b Tetsuhiro Kuroda, Keiko Iwame b Yoshika Ishikura, Battle Ranger b Gosaku Goshogawara, Tsuppari Mack & Combat Toyoda & Shark Tsuchiya & Crusher Maedomari b Nurse Nakamura & Yukie Nabeno & Miwa Sato & Megumi Kudo, Katsutoshi Niiyama b Damian, Tarzan Goto b Ricky Fuji, Atsushi Onita & Mitsuhiro Matsunaga & Mr. Gannosuke b The Gladiator & Hideki Hosaka & Mr. Pogo

7/25 Gadsden, AL (NWA Jim Crockett Promotions): Marc Valiant & Rick Garren b High Voltage, Rock & Roll Express b Michael Hayes & Mike Golden, NWA womens title: Peggy Lee Leather b Bambi, North American title: Greg Valentine b Junkyard Dog

Special thanks to: Shannon Rose, Andy Stowell, Norm Connors, Rich Palladino, John Muse, Brian Hildebrand, Stuart Kemp, Billy McCarthy, Tony Hunter, Dan Parris, D.C. Chambers, Andy Nichols, Christian Bunderla, Jesse Money, Pete Botts, Bay Ragni, Mike Mahoney Jr., Bob Koenig, Cory Van Kleeck, Dave Scherer, Tim Harshmann, Steve "Dr. Lucha" Sims, Stefan Pickshaus, John Martinez, Bill Needham, Doug Hamsher, Bob Kindred, Dan Curtis, Steve Prazak, Peggy Watkins, Gary Woronchak, Tim Whitehead

UWA

No shows at El Toreo until 7/31.

El Hijo del Santo was stripped of the UWA welterweight belt he'd won from Karloff Lagarde Jr. because Double Power is over and he won't be returning.

Dos Caras (representing this group) and Rambo (representing AAA) have been having a war of the words in the press over the break-up of Double Power. Dos said the AAA wrestlers were mad because they were losing more matches than they were winning. Rambo said it was because the UWA guys were getting 70% of the purses even though the AAA guys were the ones drawing the crowds.

Newcomer Mr. Atlas is getting a strong babyface push on top. He has the Scott Putski type of look.

Canadian Tiger (Mike Lozansky) has returned.

EMLL

Reina Jubuki (Akira Hokuto) most likely won the CMLL womens title from La Diabolica at Arena Mexico on 7/22. There was a satellite problem so that card wasn't available.

They are doing an angle where El Brazo wants to turn heel so he's costing his brothers the wins around the horn.

Worthless trivia: Wrestler Sangre Chicana has 20 children, 16 of them daughters. No wonder he isn't going to retire any time soon.

Ricky Santana left for South Africa and Miguel Perez for Japan in the middle of a feud with Rayo de Jalisco Jr. & Atlantis.

Vampiro is saying he's not going to jump to AAA after all, but will work AAA shows in the United States.

Pegasus Kid is in full-time as a headliner.

ALL JAPAN

Dan Kroffat captured the PWF jr. title from Masa Fuchi on 7/12 in Kagoshima with a finish of several reversals before Kroffat wound up on top.

Terry Gordy returned as a surprise on 7/16 in Nagasaki for the Bruiser Brody Memorial show. There had been no publicity out that he'd be coming back, but he teamed with nephew Richard Slinger to beat Masao Inoue & Kurt Beyer. From photos, he physically looks the same, although he's being kept low on cards and hadn't worked with the top guys the first week.

The only other major title match of the past two weeks was Mitsuharu Misawa & Kenta Kobashi keeping the tag titles beating Steve Williams & Johnny Ace on 7/22 in Shimizu when Misawa pinned Ace with a clothesline off the top rope in 27:48.

Misawa vs. Williams for the Triple Crown will be 7/28 at Budokan Hall, and they'll be back at Budokan Hall on 9/3.

TV ratings saw the 7/9 show do a 1.4 (but a 3.4 Nielsen rating) and 7/16 did a 1.5

NEW JAPAN

Announced thus far for the five nights in Sumo Hall headlined by the G-1 climax tournament are 8/3: El Gigante vs. Nailz, Jushin Liger & El Samurai vs. Dean Malenko & Gran Hamada (returning to New Japan after about 12 years away), Riki Choshu vs. Masa Chono, Keiji Muto vs. Yoshiaki Fujiwara, Yoshiaki Yatsu vs. Osamu Kido, Tatsumi Fujinami vs. Power Warrior, Shinya Hashimoto vs. Hiroshi Hase and Shiro Koshinaka vs. Takayuki Iizuka; 8/4: Rick & Scott Steiner vs. Scott Norton & Hercules Fernandez, Liger vs. Hamada for IWGP jr. title, Choshu vs. Yatsu, Muto vs. Chono, Fujiwara vs. Kido, Hase vs. Power, Hashimoto vs. Iizuka and Fujinami vs. Koshinaka; 8/5: Liger & Gigante vs. Samurai & Tadao Yasuda & Satoshi Kojima, Choshu vs. Muto, Yatsu vs. Fujiwara, Chono vs. Kido, Hashimoto vs. Power, Koshinaka vs. Hase, Fujinami vs. Iizuka; 8/6: Choshu vs. Fujiwara, Yatsu vs. Chono, Muto vs. Kido, Koshinaka vs. Power, Iizuka vs. Hase, Fujinami vs. Hashimoto; 8/7: Choshu vs. Kido, Chono vs. Fujiwara, Muto vs. Yatsu, Iizuka vs. Power, Koshinaka vs. Hashimoto and Fujinami vs. Hase.

Current tour ended on 7/22. The Skinheads lost their 85 match series to New Japan by a 45-40 margin during the tour, however in main events virtually every show, Koshinaka & Great Kabuki & Kuniaki Kobayashi beat every New Japan team thrown at them including Muto & Chono & Hase.

7/9 television did a 1.4 rating.

Antonio Inoki is still making noises about putting together a match with George Foreman, who he didn't end up meeting in Orlando. Inoki met with Muhammad Ali in Denver on 7/16 enroute to Orlando.

FMW

The 8/28 Osaka Castle Hall card was announced with Atsushi Onita vs. Mr. Pogo on top again for Pogo's World Brass Knux title in a no rope barbed wire electrified explosive, etc. match, plus Tarzan Goto vs. Mitsuhiro Matsunaga, Double stretcher match with Sambo Asako & Mr. Gannosuke vs. Hisakatsu Oya & Goro Tsurumi, Ricky Fuji & Big Titan vs. The Gladiator & Hideki Hosaka, Sabu vs. Hayabusa, and WWA & Independent womens title with Combat Toyoda vs. Megumi Kudo.

Masashi Aoyagi is headed in as on 7/17 at Korakuen Hall, he jumped Onita after his Korakuen Hall match and did the same the next night. Onita had four matches that day as he had earlier worked three matches in a WAR tournament at Sumo Hall. Aoyagi said he wants one more match with Onita before he retires. Trivial note is in 1989, the first-ever FMW show was headlined by Aoyagi beating Onita. Aoyagi debuts 7/31 in Yokohama. Tarzan Goto and Matsunaga continue their angle with Goto warning Onita that Matsunaga is an Aoyagi spy (Matsunaga was originally one of Aoyagi's karate students before both became wrestlers).

It is expected that Onita will have a singles match against Great Sasuke on a Michinoku Pro show on 9/25 in a barbed wire explosive match.

The first job in the Big Titan vs. Gladiator (long-time tag partners here) feud took place on 7/23 in Fukuoka in a tag match when Titan & Fuji beat Gladiator & Tsurumi when Titan pinned Gladiator. The two have a singles match this week.

New woman wrestler Keori Nakayama is the daughter for former All Japan woman star Miyoko Hoshino, making her the first second generation Japanese woman wrestler.

OTHER JAPAN NOTES

WAR packed Sumo Hall on 7/17 for a one-night trios tournament where Genichiro Tenryu & Onita & Bam Bam Bigelow came out on top beating Ashura Hara & Earthquake John Tenta & Ginsei Shizaki in the finals. The semifinal, which based on photos looked to be incredible and probably was responsible for packing the place was Great Sasuke get pinned challenging Ultimo Dragon for the UWA middleweight strap in 22:23. World six-man champs Gedo & Jado & Hiromichi Fuyuki were upset in the first round by Hara's trio. Onita's team also beat Vampiro & Lion Heart (Chris Jericho) & Warlord and Kendo Nagasaki & Aoyagi & Arashi before the finals.

The Bull Nakano-Shinobu Kandori chain match on 7/14 at the Tokyo Coliseum drew 8,300 fans, ending with Nakano tying Kandori up with a chain and when she was immobilized, giving her a legdrop off the top rope for the pin. Kandori did a stretcher job and they even brought out the ambulance to sell the brutality of the match. Nakano starts for WWF on 7/28 in Canada.

UWFI announced 10/8 Budokan Hall and 10/14 Osaka Castle Hall shows, both headlined by Super Vader vs. Gary Albright. They are lowering tickets at both shows since they are billed as Fan Appreciation cards, with Budokan seats ranging from \$30 to \$80 and Osaka from \$30 to \$70.

Dick Slater won the IWA heavyweight title in the tournament final beating Nobutaka Araya on 7/20 in Iwade. Araya had beaten Canek in a semifinal while Slater had beaten Miguel Perez.

Tracy Smothers is with the group working as the New Jason the Terrible feuding with Original Jason the Terrible which does sound like something WWF is doing a little bit.

Rixson Gracie, the older brother of Royce, has an ultimate fight tournament featuring himself and other martial arts stars on 7/29 at Tokyo Bay NK Hall.

Akira Maeda ran an angle on his 7/14 Osaka show, which drew a sellout 6,539. Opponent Dirk Leon-Vrij bloodied his nose and tried to stick his finger in his eye so Maeda came back with a leglock submission in just 2:54. After the match they had to separate the two of them and Maeda kicked him in the face reminiscent of the 1987 shoot kick with Riki Choshu that made Maeda the superstar that he once was.

Ryuma Go has shows on 8/1 and 8/3 using Jesse Barr, Billy Jack Haynes and Chavo Guerrero.

Joe Malenko returns for PWFG on 8/13.

As of 7/18, Yumiko Hotta leads the women's grand prix tournament with 13 points with two bouts left, Takako Inoue is second with 11 with two bouts left and Sakie Hasegawa has ten points with three bouts left. Top finisher gets a title shot at Wrestlemarinpiad against Aja Kong, and top two get to enter the Tokyo Dome eight-women tournament.

Chigusa Nagayo returns to All Japan women for the 8/24 Budokan show teaming with Toshiyo Yamada (who patented her entire style after Nagayo) against Mariko Yoshida & Hasegawa.

USWA

Sid Vicious won the Unified title from Jerry Lawler by default at television on 7/16. They had a match scheduled for television but there was a pre-match altercation with Vicious giving Lawler the choke slam. Lawler couldn't come out for his match later on the show so he forfeited the title. On 7/18 in Memphis, Vicious was to defend against the winner of a Battle Royal. The last three were Tommy Rich, Jeff Gaylord and Lawler. Gaylord was out cold in the ring while Rich and Lawler fought, going out together, leaving Gaylord as the winner. Vicious hit the ring immediately, called for the bell and gave Gaylord a choke slam keeping the title in about 20 seconds. The addition of Vicious brought the crowd up to about 1,650 fans and right near \$10,000. From what I'm told, everyone here is thrilled with Sid's attitude. I'm not being sarcastic.

Brian Christopher regained the USWA title from Dream Machine on 7/11 in Memphis.

Bert Prentice is history so The Eliminators and Spellbinder are being managed by Reggie B. Fine.

Some talk of Prentice running opposition.

Spike Huber turned heel on television on 7/23 with Sid saying the two have been friends for a long time and Spike is his secret weapon.

7/25 line-up has Bart Sawyer vs. Leon Downs, Spellbinder vs. Doug Basham, Koko Ware vs. Fine with Ware retiring if he loses and Fine having to return Frankie if he loses, PG-13 vs. Eliminators in a stretcher match, Lawler vs. Rich, Moondogs & Christopher vs. Doug Gilbert & Machine & Huber and a Battle Royal with the winner getting a shot at Sid that night.

SMW

Largely quiet two weeks with many of the group's wrestlers on tour or not around.

There was an incident or two involving Timothy Well and Chris Candido backstage which could have turned into a bad scene but since Well Dunn is gone from the territory, everything has calmed down.

Among those gone of late have included Chris Jericho (Japan), Tracy Smothers (Japan), Rock & Roll Express (Germany), Brian Lee (WWF) and Bruiser Bedlam (missed this past weekend).

Chris Walker did debut after all doing a run-in attacking Dirty White Boy on 7/23 in Chilhowie, VA after White Boy had won a pole Battle Royal, putting him in the torture rack. Guess Walker was on tour in England doing an Ultimate Warrior knockoff role when he was originally going to do the angle with White Boy.

Deadline for registering for Fan Week is immediately, if not sooner. SMW is also finally all caught up in mailing out souvenirs and will be sending out a new merchandise catalogue for all interested in September.

Jake Roberts' wife did have the baby so his story about why he missed the dates is accurate, but the question remains why he didn't make that clear to Cornette from the start because Cornette would have had no problem with it.

The widow and children of Whitey Caldwell will be appearing at the 8/5 Knoxville card to get a SMW Hall of Fame plaque. On the weekend television show, they dedicated the legends update segment showing still photos and newspaper clippings of Caldwell, who was the area's biggest star in the late 1960s and had a legendary 60:00 draw in an NWA title match against Dory Funk in Knoxville.

HERE AND THERE

ECW is expected to start on MSG cable in September, which will lead to expanding into the New York market. Next major ECW show is 8/13 with Mikey Whippreck vs. Jason for the TV title, 911 vs. Mr. Hughes and Terry Funk vs. Cactus Jack. Jack is still under contract to WCW at that time and word we get is they're cutting off working with ECW so we'll have to wait for confirmation of the match. Even though Funk works with WCW, he's an independent and not under contract to them. They'll be holding a tournament to determine the NWA heavyweight champ (who will end up working for Crockett) on 8/27 in Woodbridge, NJ.

Jim Crockett has his first set of shows this week, 7/25 in Gadsden, AL, 7/26 TV taping in Chattanooga and 7/28 in Spartanburg, SC. Among the names expected to be involved in the group are Greg Valentine, Junkyard Dog, Tommy Rich, Rock & Roll Express, Rod Price, Michael Hayes, The Cole Twins, Jim Cornette and Chris Candido with Tammy Fytch. Valentine will be North American champion, while Peggy Lee Leather will be NWA womens champion, although she'll probably lose the title to Bambi at the first taping. Tully Blanchard's work schedule won't allow him to make all the tapings so he'll cut hosting segments in studio around his schedule and Joe Pedicino will do play-by-play working either with Hayes or Cornette. Valentine will captain a heel trio called Hydra, with partners Ciba (Tony "Moadib" Norris) and Airies (Ron Powers). Supposedly the television will run Alabama, Mississippi, Northwest Florida and East Tennessee and Spartanburg, SC.

Chi Chi Cruz of Winnipeg wrestling (real name Corey Peloquin) was seriously injured in a 7/9 boating accident when his boat was hit by

another boat. Wrestler Robbie Royce was on the boat and knocked cold, and is complaining of headaches and suffered minor knee and wrist injuries but isn't expected to miss matches. Cruz underwent emergency surgery to repair his left elbow plus had a head-wound. He had a second surgery two days later.

Reader James Scofield of St. Petersburg was awarded the 1994 Ellis Island Medal of Honor for significant contributions to America's heritage. Scofield is a retired former news research coordinator with the St. Petersburg Times.

Radio show Inside the Squared Circle airs 11 p.m. to midnight every Saturday on WTEM (570 AM) in Washington, DC.

Sabu and John "Pee Wee" Moore (the young ECW ref who always gets choke slammed by 911) helped do a show on 7/23 in Lincoln Park, MI with Sabu beating Al Snow in a **** ladder match on top. The match was for what was billed as the NWA Independent world title.

Dennis Coraluzzo has three shows booked in Michigan, on 8/5 in Lincoln Park it'll be Sabu vs. Chris Benoit for the title, 8/6 in Jackson, MI it's Sabu vs. Benoit for the title and Jim Duggan vs. Ludvig Borga, and 8/7 in Lima, OH is Sabu vs. Osamu Nishimura of New Japan, Benoit vs. Al Snow and Duggan vs. Borga.

Howard Brody has a show on 8/7 in Miami Metro Zoo at 1:30 p.m. called Rumble in the Jungle with Duggan vs. King Kong Bundy, Tito Santana vs. Greg Valentine, Steve Keirn vs. Corporal Kirchner, Wrestling Clown vs. Bugsy McGraw and more.

Bill Eadie, Iron Sheik, Hercules Hernandez, Big Bully Busich, Chris Walker, Tiger Jeet Singh Jr. & Sr. and Richard Charland worked a show on 7/16 in London, England.

California International Wrestling has shows 9/11 in La Puente, CA at 2 p.m. with Road Warrior Hawk vs. Dan Severn, Sabu vs. Al Snow and Vandal Drummond vs. Fisco Nuclear in the long-awaited hair vs. hair match (I take that to mean Kurt Brown is finally getting a haircut. Severn vs. Snow will headline the GAME shootfighting show on 9/12 in Los Angeles.

Sandy Barr has closed down his Championship Wrestling USA promotion based in Vancouver, WA, reportedly due to money losses suffered (rumored to be around \$30,000 in total) for the combination AAA/CWUSA show with Tonya Harding on 6/22 that flopped at the box office. There is talk he'll be re-opening at some point shortly. One of the reasons Harding did so little is the Washington commission stuck to the rules and since she wasn't licensed as a manager, they wouldn't let her anywhere near ringside.

For those of you who are subscribers to Matwatch, Steve Beverly's publication, he had a computer disaster regarding his mailing list so please contact him and let him know how many issues you have remaining on your subscription.

AAA

The return to Juan de la Barrera Gym in Mexico City drew a sellout 10,600 fans on 7/15 with Los Hermanos Dinamita & La Parka beating Konnan & Lizmark & Perro Aguayo & Mascara Sagrada on top. Reportedly they turned 5,000 fans away at the door for this show. The show aired in Mexico on 7/17, which is a quicker-than usual turnaround for this group.

Apparently there was a major office robbery this past week. Don't know all the details but Pena received a phone call threatening his life and a warning not to be in the office one day. He went anyway, and five gunmen showed up and pistol-whipped one of the employees and stole \$15,000 in cash, a lot of personal jewelry of those in the office and destroyed the fax machine. There are no leads or suspects in the case.

Unlike some of the previous U.S. shows, the New York and Chicago cards were very well publicized with ads the last few weeks going into the show on Galavision. However, ads for Chicago were still airing

late Saturday night on the Galavision movie, after the show was half-over.

Fabuloso Blondy, who is returning, did an interview in the mags saying he was going to form a tag team with Black Magic, who is still an EMLL headliner.

AAA announced they would only run three more dates at Juan de la Barrera Gym for the rest of the year, two in August and one in October, due to the building being booked so heavily on Fridays, which is the traditional best drawing wrestling night in Mexico City.

There was a lot of mainstream news pub on the tour this weekend including a live remote from Chicago showing the wrestlers getting off the airplane and an interview with Heavy Metal.

Galavision this weekend aired the 7/8 Tijuana card, featuring a great Rey Misterio vs. Jerry Estrada match.

WCW

With the strong buy rate, expect Hulk Hogan and Jimmy Hart's influence on the product to increase. Jim Duggan, for example, debuted at the 7/19 Center Stage tapings (although one report said his matches were only taped for European television). Brutus Beefcake and Brian Blair appeared with Hogan in the post-match celebration although at this point there is no indication they are coming in. Highlight of the taping was a 27:00 **** match with Ric Flair & Steve Austin beating Sting & Rick Steamboat which should air on 7/31. Sherri of course interfered freely. Finish saw Steamboat and Austin as the legal men. Sting gave Flair the Stinger splash and put him in the scorpion. Sherri climbed to the top rope while Flair rolls to the floor. Sting then press-slammed Sherri and threw her over the top rope onto Flair. Flair didn't make a very good catch, either. While all this was going on, Austin scored a pin on Steamboat using the trunks. Bunkhouse Buck & Arn Anderson worked as a tag team managed by Rob Parker with Meng at ringside. After the match Meng attacked jobber Frankie Lancaster.

The 7/25 syndicated taping in Macon, GA saw them shoot an angle with Dusty Rhodes. Bunkhouse Buck was doing a squash when Dusty slowly came to the ring with Buck not noticing. Rhodes tapped Buck on the shoulder and gave him an elbow, then started giving Rob Parker the elbows. At that point, Terry Funk and Arn Anderson hit the ring but Rick Steamboat and Dustin (arm in a cast, selling the "broken arm" angle) came out.

They'll be doing the 8/6 and 8/7 TBS shows live from Disney in Orlando. On 8/6 they'll have another "interactive" match which judging from the line-up looks to be either Steamboat vs. Austin or Vader vs. Guardian Angel. The 7/9 live show did a 2.6 rating, which is about .7 higher than they had been averaging so the plan looks to be to do one live Saturday show each month.

For the weekend of 7/9-10, WCW Saturday live did a 2.6 (which, considering it had a Flair-Sting match, is not nearly as impressive as it sounds since last summer when ratings were weak they did a Flair-Sting match on a Saturday show which did a 3.4), Main Event a 1.8 and Pro a 1.3. For the weekend of 7/16-17 saw Saturday do a 2.1, Main Event a 1.8 and Pro an 0.8. For the weekend of 7/23-24, after the PPV with the title change, ratings were substantially up with the 7/24 Main Event show headlined by a Flair-Steamboat match doing a 2.5 which is the best Sunday rating in a long time.

Jesse Ventura was complaining to anyone who would listen about his treatment. Ventura cited that the Saturday ratings have continually dropped since he was replaced by Bobby Heenan (true, but that is more a result of seasonal variation than related to who the answer is) and was upset that nobody in the company gave him any lead time in knowing what role he'd play on the PPV. When Ventura was out there during the second match, he seemed to not turn off his bad mood even when the camera was on. By the way, Ventura has decided not to run for the U.S. Senate.

Jimmy Hart is apparently trying to get his friend Honkytonk Man in.

Apparently those in charge realize what the rest of us have about Michael Buffer and they'll use him for as long as they've already committed to but don't expect him to be permanent.

WCW canceled 7/31 in Miami Beach because advance sales were like two dozen. House show business past two weeks has seen El Paso on 7/14 drew about 950, Albuquerque the next day to about 1,200 (both of these were sold shows), Little Rock on 7/22 did nearly 2,000 while Tupelo, MS on 7/23 did more than 3,000 fans and \$28,000. Tupelo is by far WCW's strongest market (they run casino shows that are apparently well publicized since the first one a few months back drew more than 6,000).

Company sent out press releases and an accompanying photo to the media of Hogan & Hart with the caption reading "Hulk Hogan & Jimmy Cluff."

At the Orlando PPV, about 90% of the souvenirs being for sale in the building were of Hogan. The Orlando Sentinel, which did several major stories before and after the card, noted that and asked a vendor why in particular there wasn't any Flair merchandise and the vendor said that nobody wants to buy anything of Flair.

WWF

The beginnings of the Bob Backlund turn will start airing this coming weekend when they air Backlund attacking Bret Hart after losing to him in the WWF title match in syndication.

Also, they didn't jump the gun on the Undertaker vs. Undertaker announcement, but instead are doing a bit where Leslie Neilsen of Naked Gun movie fame is playing a detective trying to get to the bottom of the story.

Titan made a major play to raid Konnan since the AAA shows have proven to have some drawing power in New York and Chicago, but apparently Konnan is staying with AAA after all. He's got 18 months left on his AAA contract with Televisa.

Monday Night Raw on 7/11 (Bret Hart vs. 1-2-3 Kid) did a 3.0 rating, while All-American did a 1.9 and Mania a 1.1 that weekend. The following weekend saw Raw do a 3.1 (Ramon vs. Diesel for IC title), All-American 2.0 and Mania 1.3.

The last European tour saw the Germany shows do mostly full houses again, the Czechoslovakia show was canceled with no advance and some of the other shows drew 500 to 1,000. WWF was also in the Philippines in recent weeks and ran mainly small-town shows in the U.S.

Raw on 8/1 will be live from Youngstown, OH with Shawn Michaels vs. Razor Ramon and Alundra Blayze defending the womens title against Bull Nakano. On TV they built up Nakano as 5-10, 250 (she's more like 5-5 but if she sticks her hair straight up she'll look taller, although she may be 200 pounds). Nakano debuts on 7/28 in Moncton, New Brunswick.

Expect an acknowledgement to be made on television regarding the death of Joey Marella in a week or two, because matches he was refereeing were still airing as of this weekend.

The Piper sound-a-like at the PPV is Pat O'Neil from North Weymouth, MA. Reportedly he was paid \$2,000 for his part in the match.

The WWF Magazine on the newsstands did an article that did a major burial job on Hogan, mentioning his age and saying how he went with another organization where the talent is mainly past their prime, etc.

Brian Lee started on the road this past weekend as The Undertaker, beating Sparky Plugg in a number of cities.

Heavenly Bodies returned as Jimmy Del Rey is back from his injury.

