

LEGENDS OF PRO WRESTLING

**150 YEARS OF HEADLOCKS, BODY SLAMS,
AND PILEDRIERS**

Tim Hornbaker

FOREWORD BY Jimmy “Superfly” Snuka



SPORTS
PUBLISHING

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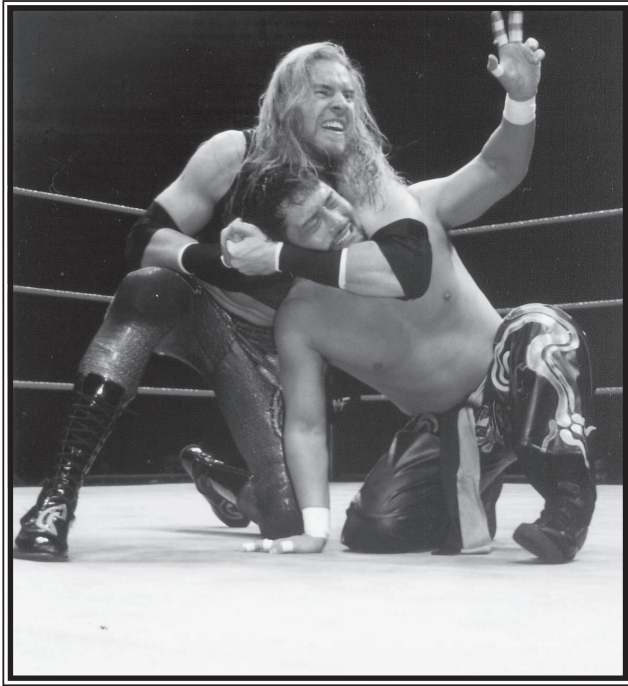


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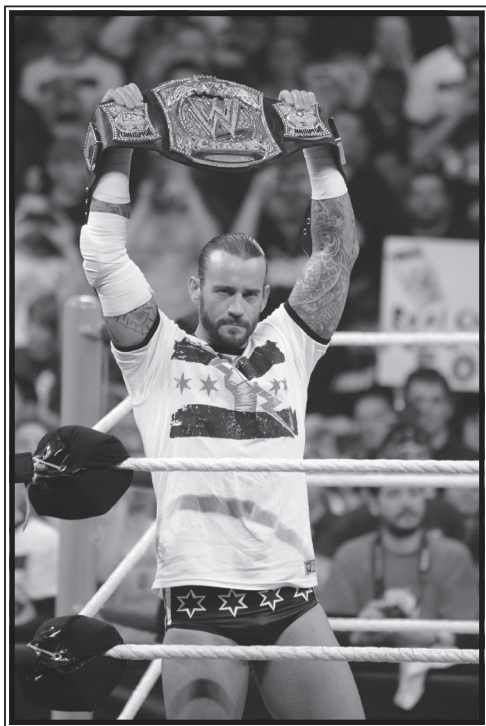
Christian

Born:	November 30, 1973
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	225
Real Name:	William Jason Reso
High School:	Orangeville District Secondary School (Ontario)
College:	Humber College
Trained by:	Ron Hutchison
Identities:	Christian Cage, Conquistador I
Nickname:	Canadian Rage, Captain Charisma
Finisher:	The Impaler, Frog Splash
Tag Teams:	Hard Impact w/ Edge, Suicide Blonds w/ Edge
Groups:	Thug Life (1997), Revolution X (1998), The Brood (1999), The Un-Americans (2002)
Career Span:	1995-Present

PPV Record:	54-68
WrestleMania Record:	4-5
WWE Raw TV Record:	84-119, 1 DDQ, 1 DCO, 12 NC
WWE Smackdown TV Record:	61-91, 1 DCO, 6 NC
Titles Won:	24
Days as World Champion:	522
Age at first World Title Win:	32
Best Opponents:	Kurt Angle, Chris Jericho, Edge
Movies:	2

Fierce, skilled, and wildly entertaining, Christian carries a lethal combination of characteristics that firmly solidifies his place among the top heavyweight contenders and/or champions in the sport today. Since 2006, he's won five World championships in TNA and the WWE, and continues to get better in both ring execution and promos, if that was even possible. Often compared to his longtime tag team partner, Edge, Christian has defined himself individually, and worked hard to achieve his own level of success. Three years after his pro debut, he went to Florida to train with the legendary Dory Funk Jr., and debuted in the WWF in 1998 along with Edge. Their longtime friendship translated to perfect compatibility in the ring, and Christian and Edge formed an incomparable tag team. They captured the tag team championship seven times, winning two WrestleMania TLC matches, and setting an early course for superstardom. Christian defined himself as a singles competitor and had a memorable feud with Chris Jericho in 2004.

In promos, he was able to mock opponents and tear on audiences with unusual flair, and fans were often mixed in reactions to his segments. Even while as a heel, he was still cheered. He joined TNA in November of 2005, and directed his focus toward NWA champion Jeff Jarrett. On February 12, 2006, he beat the latter for the crown and also warded off Abyss's stern challenge. He lost the belt in June in a King of the Mountain match to Jeff Jarrett. Christian, at the time, was known as a fan favorite, but turned heel when he attacked Sting in August of 2006 and beat Abyss and Sting in a three-way bout for his second NWA championship on January 14, 2007. He ended up losing the belt to Kurt Angle in May of that year. In 2009, Christian returned to the WWE and won the first of two ECW Titles from Jack Swagger. An injury sidelined him, but he rebounded to help Edge in the latter's war with Alberto Del Rio. When Edge retired in April of 2011, Christian faced Del Rio for the vacant World Title, and on May 1, captured the championship. Two days later, he lost it to Randy Orton.



CM Punk

Photo Courtesy of Mike Mastrandrea

Born:	October 26, 1978
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	220
Real Name:	Phillip Jack Brooks
High School:	Lockport High School (IL)
Trained by:	Danny Dominion, Ace Steel, Kevin Quinn
Finisher:	GTS (Go to Sleep), Anaconda Vice
Groups:	Straight Edge Society (2009-2010), New Nexus (2011)
Career Span:	1998-Present

PPV Record:	32-49, 1 DDQ
WrestleMania Record:	2-3
WWE Raw TV Record:	53-37, 1 DDQ, 4 NC
WWE Smackdown TV Record:	39-35, 4 NC
Titles Won:	28
Days as World Champion:	427
Age at first World Title Win:	26
Best Opponents:	Samoa Joe, John Cena, The Undertaker

Reputed to be the "Best in the World," CM Punk just may be that, demonstrating his exceptional versatility time and time again. While not an overly imposing figure, he has all the tools to be a dominant figure in any promotion, and currently reigns as the WWE champion. His ingenuity inside the ring and out, and the way he connects with audiences is extremely rare, and in 2011, his popularity skyrocketed. His credo is "straight-edge" all the way, refraining from the purported ills of society, and has two X-marks

on his taped hands to represent his ideology. Having grown up in a suburb of Chicago, he attended a local wrestling school, and debuted in 1998. Punk's experience in martial arts, plus his athleticism makes for an entertaining show when he steps into the ring, and his personality-driven character completes the package. While working the independent circuit, he won the IWA Mid-South Title on five occasions between 2000 and 2004, beating Eddie Guerrero and A.J. Styles for two of his reigns. He also had lengthy feuds with Chris Hero and Colt Cabana that garnered a lot of buzz.

In the Ring of Honor promotion, he wrestled classic matches against Raven and Samoa Joe, including two sixty-minute draws against the latter in 2004. Despite his effort, he never overcame Joe for the ROH World Championship, but did beat Austin Aries for the belt on June 18, 2005. He dropped the title in August and went to Ohio Valley, a WWE developmental promotion. Punk beat Bret Albright for the local heavyweight title, and then debuted for the ECW brand in mid-2006, initiating a long win streak. He chased John Morrison for the ECW World Title, finally beating him on September 1, 2007, but lost it to Chavo Guerrero Jr. in January of 2008. At WrestleMania XXIV, he prevailed in an electrifying Money in the Bank ladder match. Three months later, on June 30, he watched as World Champion Edge was brutally beaten by Batista, and smartly cashed in his contract, capitalizing on the moment, and pinning Edge for the title.

At WrestleMania XXV, he won his second straight Money in the Bank ladder match, and on June 7, 2009, he cashed it in again at an opportune time, pinning Jeff Hardy after the latter's grueling match against Edge. In 2011, Punk was back at the top of his game and was outstanding in explosively candid promo segments that appealed both to the "smart" audience and the mainstream wrestling public. Even the non-wrestling sports community took notice of his dynamic performances. Punk beat Cena for the WWE Title on July 17, 2011 in a classic match, was stripped after apparently leaving the promotion, then beat Cena again to unify the two strands at SummerSlam. However, he was attacked by Kevin Nash after the bout, and then dropped the belt to Alberto Del Rio, who cashed in his MITB contract. On November 20, 2011, Punk forced Del Rio to submit, and regained the WWE championship. He ended the year still on top, and was constantly at odds with interim *Raw* General Manager John Laurinaitis.

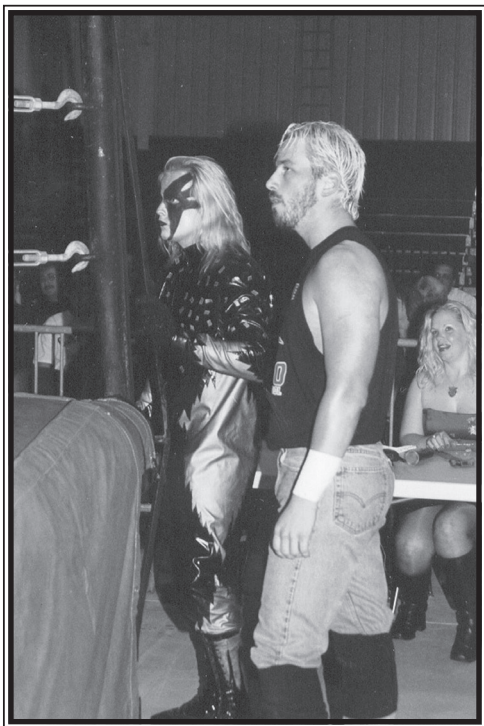


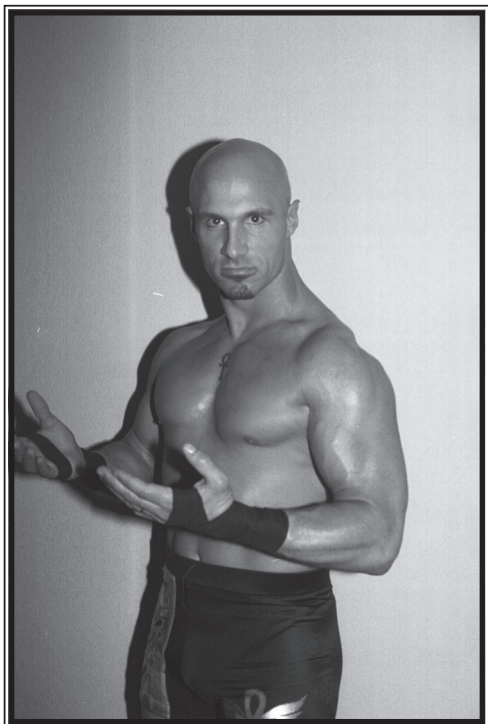
Photo Courtesy of Pete Lederberg—plmathfoto@hotmail.com

Corino, Steve

Born: May 29, 1973
Height: 6'1"
Weight: 220
Real Name: Steven Eugene Corino
Family: Brother of Allison Danger, father of Colby Corino
High School: Perkiomen Valley High School (PA)
Trained by: Tom Brandi
Finisher: Old School Expulsion
 Neckbreaker, Northern Lights Bomb
Career Span: 1994-Present

PPV Record: 5-10
Titles Won: 79
Days as World Champion: 974
Age at first World Title Win: 27
Best Opponents: Samoa Joe, Shinya Hashimoto, Dusty Rhodes

Leader of the “old school” revolution, Steve Corino has wrestled, toured, and represented a previous generation of pro grappling better than most of his contemporaries. He has over seventy-five wrestling championship victories, including the NWA and ECW World Heavyweight Titles. Born in Canada, Corino was raised in Trappe, Pennsylvania, northwest of Philadelphia, and entered the profession in 1994. Under 200 pounds, Corino was at a disadvantage early on, trying to wedge himself into a sport that spotlighted mostly behemoths; but he was persistent, and worked into contention for the ECW Title. On November 5, 2000, he beat Justin Credible to capture the ECW Title. The following April, he won the NWA belt from Mike Rapada, etching his name into the title lineage of many of the legends he admired. Corino remains a favorite wherever he appears, and if he continues at this rate, he’ll have won more than 100 titles before he retires.



Daniels, Christopher

Photo Courtesy of Pete Lederberg—plmathfoto@hotmail.com

Born:	March 24, 1970
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	220
Real Name:	Daniel Christopher Covell
Parents:	Charles and Marcia Covell
Wife:	Lisa Covell
High School:	Pine Forest High School (NC)
Trained by:	Sam DeCero, Mike Anthony and Kevin Quinn
Identities:	Conquistador I, Curry Man, Suicide
Finisher:	Last Rites
Career Span:	1993-Present

PPV Record:	46-59, 1 Draw, 1 NC
Titles Won:	37
Days as World Champion:	182
Age at first World Title Win:	34
Best Opponents:	A.J. Styles, Samoa Joe, Kurt Angle
Halls of Fame:	1

Wrestling fans who appreciate athleticism, daring acrobatics, and technical savvy, respect the work and dedication of Christopher Daniels. A product of Fayetteville, North Carolina, Daniels graduated with a degree in theater from Methodist College in 1991. He attended Chicago's Windy City Pro Wrestling School and debuted as a grappler in 1993, and has since won over thirty championships across the Continental U.S., Puerto Rico, England, and Japan. He has won the TNA X-Division belt four times, the NWA World Tag Team Title six times, and held the ROH World Television crown from 2010-2011. In January of 2011, he made his return to TNA and aligned himself with the members of Fortune. Known as the "Fallen Angel," Daniels has consistently been among the best pro wrestlers on the circuit and continues to shine regardless if he's working an indie show before a few hundred or in a championship match on pay-per-view. His value as a wrestler is appreciated by his peers, audiences across the globe, and by promoters who benefit from booking him.

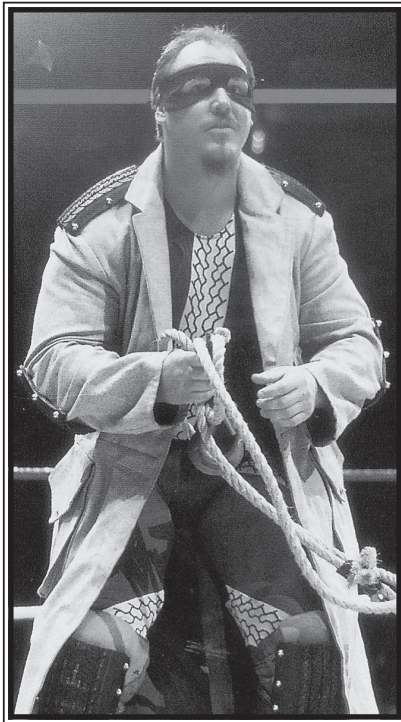


Photo Courtesy of Dr. Mike Lano—Wrealano@aol.com

Born:	October 6, 1959
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	260
Real Name:	Barry Alan Darsow
Parents:	Melvin and Adeline Darsow
Family:	Father of Dakota Darsow
High School:	Robbinsdale High School (MN)
Identities:	Zar, Krusher Darsow
Tag Team:	The Mongolians w/ Gor
Career Span:	1983-Present

PPV Record:	9-15
WrestleMania Record:	3-3
WWE RawTV Record:	0-1
Titles Won:	14
Best Opponents:	Randy Savage, Chris Benoit, Bob Backlund

Darsow, Barry

Teamed with Bill Eadie, Barry Darsow formed one of the most notable tag teams of the 1980s, Demolition. Darsow was “Smash,” while Eadie was known as “Ax,” and the pair won the WWF World Tag Team Title on three occasions. Their first reign lasted sixteen months, from March of 1988 to July of 1989. A product of Minnesota, Darsow played hockey in his youth and attended the camp of Eddie Sharkey after a few of his friends became pro wrestlers. Early in his career, he toured New Zealand as one of the Mongolians, and late in 1984, joined the Koloffs, Ivan and Nikita, as Russian “Krusher Khrushchev.” He defended the NWA Tag Team Title, which the Koloffs had won previously, and also teamed with Ivan to capture the U.S. Tag Team belts. While in the WWF, following his run as a member of Demolition, he worked as the “Repo Man,” and then as “Blacktop Bully” in WCW. At the Uncensored 1995 show, he wrestled Dustin Rhodes in the back of a moving truck. He’s since reunited with Eadie on the indie circuit and is a successful businessman in Minnesota.

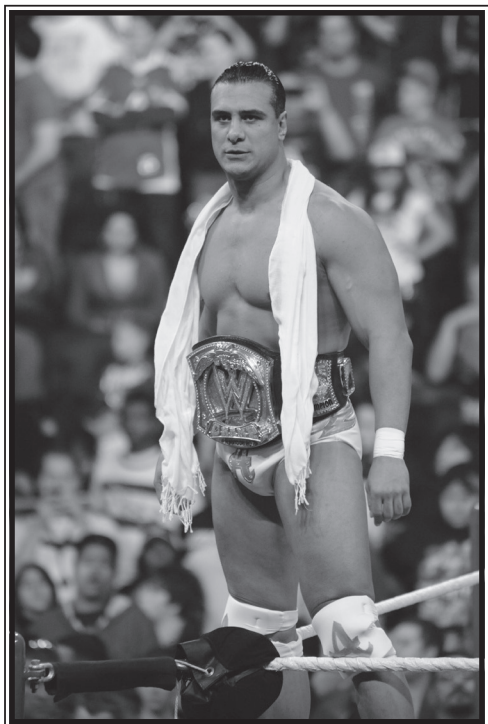


Photo Courtesy of Mike Mastrandrea

Del Rio, Alberto

Born:	May 25, 1977
Height:	6'5"
Weight:	260
Real Name:	Alberto Rodriguez
Family:	Son of Dos Caras, nephew of Mil Mascaras
Trained by:	Dos Caras, FCW trainers
Identities:	Dos Caras Jr.
Finisher:	Cross Armbar submission
Career Span:	2000-Present

PPV Record:	8-8
WrestleMania Record:	0-1
WWE Raw TV Record:	21-17, 2 NC
WWE Smackdown TV Record:	16-15, 2 NC
Titles Won:	3
Days as World Champion:	617
Age at first World Title Win:	30
Best Opponents:	John Cena, Edge, Ultimo Guerrero
MMA Record:	9-5

Many fans throughout the WWE Universe were pleasantly surprised that relative newcomer Alberto Del Rio won the 2011 Royal Rumble in Boston. A former amateur from Mexico, he was indisputably talented and his gimmick as an arrogant heel exhibited his charisma perfectly. His ring entrance saw him drive out in an expensive automobile and his own personal ring announcer alerted the audience of his arrival. For a number of years, he wrestled Greco-Roman for the Mexican national team and debuted as a pro in 2000, following in the footsteps of his father, Dos Caras. On July 8, 2007, he beat Universo 2000 for the CMLL World Heavyweight Title and held the belt until December of 2008. He went to Florida Championship Wrestling after signing a deal with the WWE and debuted in August of 2010, engaging in an early feud with Rey Mysterio Jr. After the Rumble, he continued his winning ways, adding *Raw's* Money in the Bank contract, and then captured the WWE championship twice between August and October of 2011.

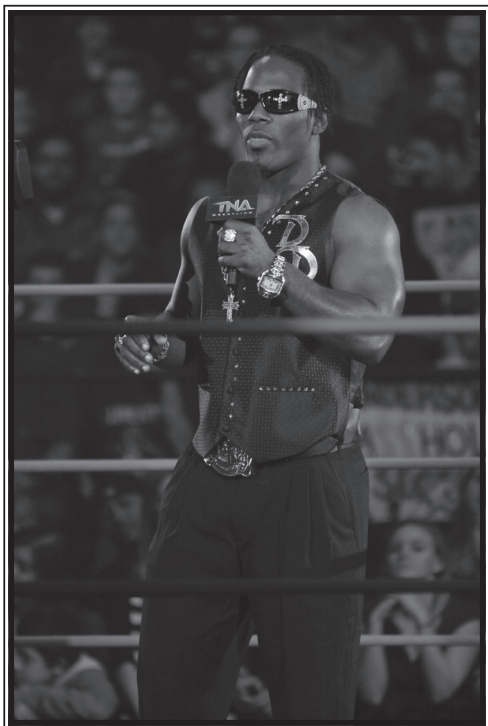


Photo Courtesy of George Tahinos

Born:	April 11, 1978
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	225
Real Name:	Elijah Burcks
High School:	Frank H. Peterson Academies of Technology (FL)
Identities:	Elijah Burke
Career Span:	2003-Present

PPV Record:	8-17
WrestleMania Record:	0-1
WWE Raw TV Record:	1-2
WWE Smackdown TV Record:	3-4
Titles Won:	1
Best Opponents:	Chris Benoit, CM Punk, Kurt Angle

Dinero, D'Angelo

A completely multi-dimensional wrestler with lots of potential, D'Angelo Dinero is one of the best current TNA superstars never to win a championship in the promotion. He's demonstrated skill behind the microphone and fluidity on the mat, and it seems like just a matter of time before he fights his way into the upper echelon of the promotion. Originally from Jacksonville, Florida, Dinero served as a corrections officer and boxed as an amateur before going to Louisville to train at Ohio Valley. While in the WWE from 2006-2008, he formed a partnership with Sylvester Terkay and nearly won the ECW championship on several occasions. After jumping to TNA, he prevailed in the 8 Card Stud Tournament in February of 2010 and feuded with Samoa Joe and Brother Devon.

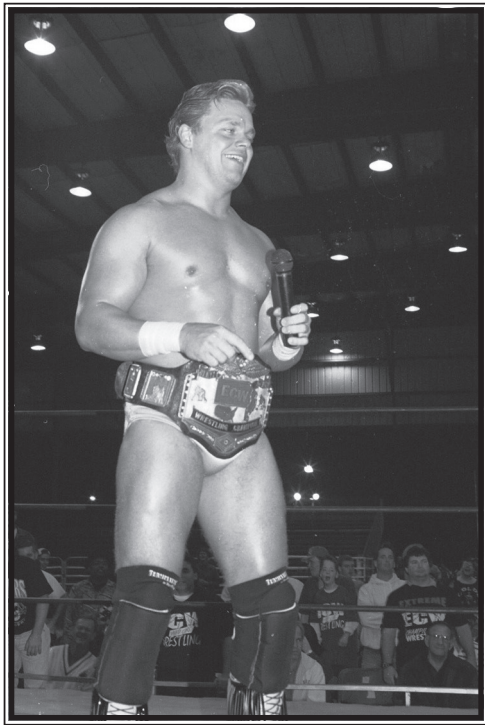


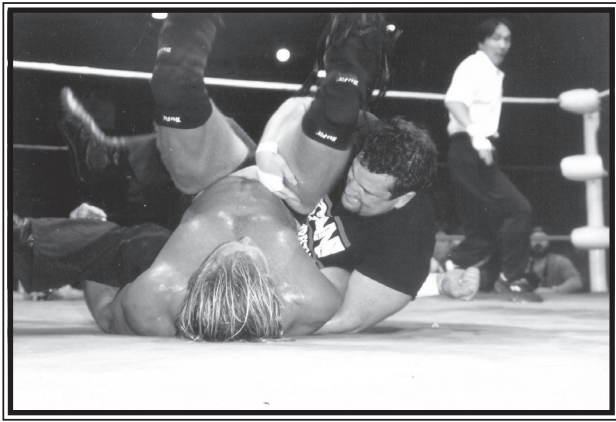
Photo Courtesy of Pete Lederberg—plmathfoto@hotmail.com

Douglas, Shane

Born:	November 21, 1964
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	240
Real Name:	Troy Shane Martin
Parents:	George and Louise Martin
Wife:	Carla Martin
High School:	New Brighton Area High School (PA)
College:	Bethany College
Trained by:	Dominic DeNucci
Identities:	Troy Orndorff, Dean Douglas
Finisher:	Pittsburgh Plunge, The Franchiser
Groups:	Triple Threat (1997-1998), The Revolution (1999), The New Blood (2000)
Tag Team:	The Dynamic Dudes w/ Johnny Ace
Career Span:	1982-Present

PPV Record:	32-23, 1 NC
Titles Won:	21
Days as World Champion:	Around 1,000
Age at first World Title Win:	29
Best Opponents:	Terry Funk, Taz, Justin Credible

The “Franchise” Shane Douglas helped launch a revolution in 1994 when he denounced the NWA World Title and proclaimed himself the inaugural champion of “Extreme Championship Wrestling.” It was a defining moment for the business as a whole and helped usher in a new era that influenced both the WWF and WCW. Douglas was a fan of wrestling as a young man and helped stage benefit grappling programs in his hometown of New Brighton, Pennsylvania while still in high school. By the mid-1990s, he was an experienced pro and the commanding figure behind ECW’s rise to prominence. He held the ECW championship four times, feuding with the likes of Terry Funk and The Sandman, and always delivered heated promos, especially when he ranted about Ric Flair. At the tail end of WCW’s run, Douglas won the World Tag Team and U.S. crowns. He competed for TNA in the beginning of 2003, and made his final showing in 2009. He’s wrestled all over the indie map, and has won many belts to include the MLW and XPW World Titles.



Dreamer, Tommy

Photo Courtesy of Dr. Mike Lano—Wrealano@aol.com

Born:	February 13, 1970
Height:	6'2"
Weight:	245
Real Name:	Thomas James Laughlin
Parents:	John and Susan Laughlin
Wife:	Trisa Laughlin
High School:	Iona Preparatory School (NY)
College:	Iona College
Trained by:	Johnny Rodz
Identities:	T.D. Madison
Finisher:	DDT
Career Span:	1989-Present

PPV Record:	15-20, 1 NC
WrestleMania Record:	1-0
WWE Raw TV Record:	11-25, 1 NC
WWE Smackdown TV Record:	0-4
Titles Won:	29
Days as World Champion:	49
Age at first World Title Win:	30
Best Opponents:	Raven, Rob Van Dam, A.J. Styles
Halls of Fame:	1

Tommy Dreamer is as passionate about pro wrestling as anyone involved in the sport today. His enthusiasm for the business is apparent every time he steps into the ring. Also known as the “Innovator of Violence,” Dreamer displayed just how hardcore he was in August of 1994 during a Singapore caning session by the Sandman. He was the heart and soul of ECW and only left the promotion because it was sold in 2001. During his nine-year stay with the organization, he won the World Tag Team Title three times, and then on April 22, 2000, he beat Taz for the ECW World Heavyweight Title. After ECW folded in early 2001, Dreamer traveled to Ontario and won the vacant BCW Can-Am Heavyweight Title over Rhino and Scott D’Amore. He joined the WWF in 2001 and remained involved with the organization through January of 2010. While apart of the ECW “brand extension,” he regained the ECW World Title. He emerged in TNA and was a member of the EV 2.0 troupe, then begrudgingly joined Immortal in 2011.

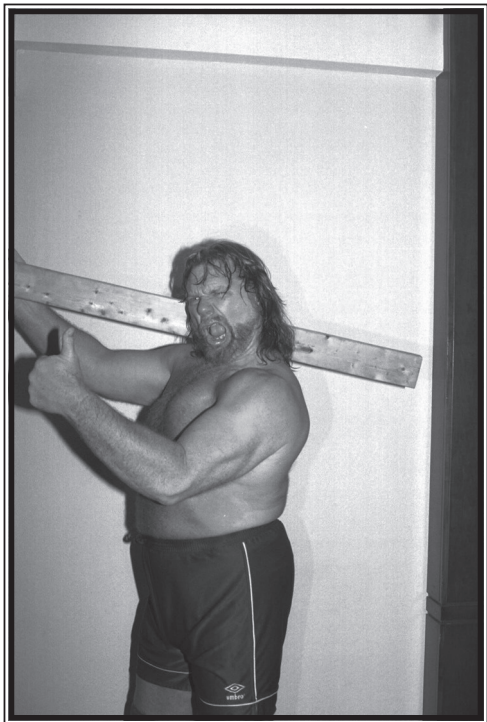


Photo Courtesy of Pete Lederberg—plmathfoto@hotmail.com

Duggan, Jim

Born:	January 14, 1954
Height:	6'3"
Weight:	280
Real Name:	James Edward Duggan
Wife:	Deborah Duggan
High School:	Glens Falls High School (NY)
HS Ach.:	New York State High School Wrestling Title (1973) (250)
Pro Sports:	National Football League—Atlanta Falcons (1977–1978) (injured) Canadian Football League—Toronto Argonauts (1979)
Finisher:	Three-Point Football Stance into Clothesline
Groups:	Team Canada (2000)
Career Span:	1979–Present

PPV Record:	18-21, 1 DDQ
WrestleMania Record:	2-1, 1 DDQ
WWE Raw TV Record:	5-15
Titles Won:	9
Days as World Champion:	Unknown
Age at first World Title Win:	50
Best Opponents:	Randy Savage, Ted DiBiase, Rick Rude
Halls of Fame:	2

The epitome of wrestling hero, “Hacksaw” Jim Duggan charged up audiences like few others, his explosive charisma inspiring chants of “USA,” and his magnetism radiating to all corners of arenas. A high school wrestler and football star, he was a starting offensive lineman at SMU as a freshman, and was the team captain in 1976. He was trained by Jack Adkisson in Dallas and made his professional debut in 1979. A few years later, he formed the Rat Pack with Ted DiBiase and Matt Borne in the Mid-South territory, and then turned fan favorite in 1983. One of his first big title victories occurred when he defeated Buzz Sawyer for the North American crown in 1986. In the WWF, he won the very first Royal Rumble on January 24, 1988, and beat Haku to become “King” in April of 1989. While as a part of WCW, Duggan pinned Steve Austin in 27 seconds for the U.S. Title on September 18, 1994. Six years later, he found the WCW TV belt in the trash and held it for nearly two months. He’s appeared in the WWE many times since 2005, maintaining his popularity, and was inducted into the WWE Hall of Fame in 2011.



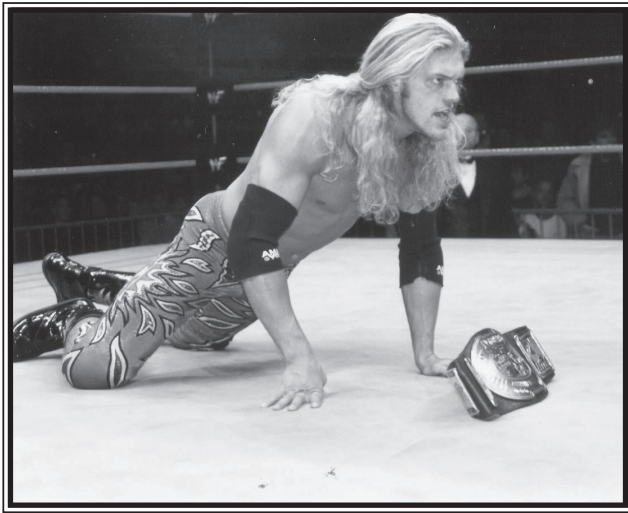
Photo Courtesy of Pete Lederberg—plmathfoto@hotmail.com

Eaton, Bobby

Born:	August 14, 1958
Height:	6'0"
Weight:	235
Real Name:	Bobby Lee Eaton
High School:	Lee High School (AL)
Wife:	Donna Eaton
Trained by:	Tojo Yamamoto
Identities:	Earl Robert Eaton
Finisher:	Alabama Jam (Flying Legdrop)
Groups:	The Dangerous Alliance (1991-1992)
Tag Teams:	The Jet Set w/ George Gulas, Bad Attitude w/ Steve Keirn, The Blue Bloods w/ Lord Steven Regal
Career Span:	1976-2009

PPV Record:	14-17
Titles Won:	43
Days as World Champion:	7
Age at first World Title Win:	22
Best Opponents:	Ric Flair, Billy Robinson, Jerry Lawler
Managers:	9
Halls of Fame:	1

Highly respected by wrestling fans and peers alike, “Beautiful” Bobby Eaton of Huntsville, Alabama was the backbone of two versions of the famed Midnight Express tag team. He originally teamed with Dennis Condrey under the guidance of Jim Cornette, and beat the Rock and Roll Express for the NWA World Tag Team Title in 1986. The second incarnation saw Eaton partnered with another talented heel, Stan Lane, and this duo won the vacant U.S. Tag Team Title in a tournament. On September 10, 1988, while still holding the U.S. Title, they beat Arn Anderson and Tully Blanchard to win the World Tag Team straps. As a singles competitor, Eaton held the CWA World Title in 1980 and won the Mid-America belt eleven times between 1979 and 1983. In 1991, he captured the WCW TV Title and had an impressive, high-profile televised match against NWA champion Ric Flair. Eaton’s son Dylan became a pro wrestler in 2006 and the two teamed up on several occasions.



Edge

Photo Courtesy of Dr. Mike Lano—Wrealano@aol.com

Born:	October 30, 1973
Height:	6'4"
Weight:	240
Real Name:	Adam Joseph Copeland
High School:	Orangeville District Secondary School (Ontario)
College:	Humber College
Trained by:	Sweet Daddy Siki, Ron Hutchison, Dory Funk Jr.
Identities:	Adam Impact, Sexton Hardcastle, Damon Stryker
Nickname:	Rated R Superstar
Finishers:	Edgecution, Downward Spiral, Spear
Tag Teams:	Sex and Violence w/ Joe Legend, Hard Impact w/ Christian, Suicide Blonds w/ Christian, Rated-RKO w/ Randy Orton
Groups:	Thug Life (1997), The Brood (1999), La Familia (2007-2008)
Career Span:	1992-2011

PPV Record:	61-59, 1 Draw, 1 DCO, 1 NC
WrestleMania Record:	6-4
WWE Raw TV Record:	115-121, 1 DCO, 1 DDQ, 23 NC
WWE Smackdown TV Record:	102-90, 1 DCO, 12 NC
Titles Won:	35
Days as World Champion:	548
Age at first World Title Win:	32
Best Opponents:	The Undertaker, John Cena, Chris Jericho
Managers:	4
Movies:	2

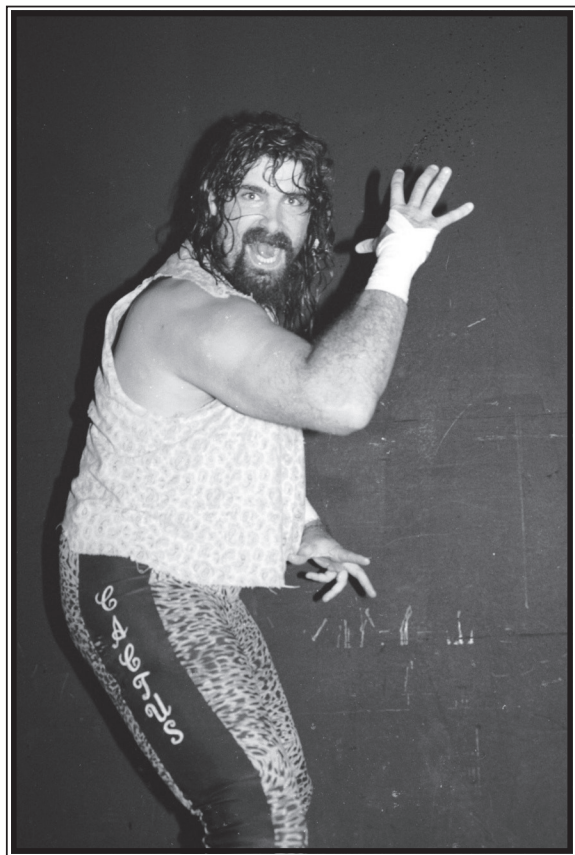
Eight days after successfully turning back the top contender to his World Heavyweight Title at WrestleMania XXVII, Edge announced his retirement from pro wrestling on *Monday Night Raw* on April 11, 2011. The decision, made on the recommendation of his doctor, shocked fans everywhere and effectively ended his nineteen-year career at the age of thirty-seven. Since breaking out of the independents for the WWF in 1998, Edge has been a significant player, winning more than thirty championships, including eleven

World Titles. His cunning personality and skillful ring work made him a headline performer, and the angles he worked and the feuds he engaged in were some of the most memorable in recent years. Destined to be a WWE superstar, Edge had dreams of wrestling in high school and pursued training at a Toronto-area camp. He made his debut on the Canadian independent circuit and toiled away for the next six years before landing a full-time gig with the WWE. His childhood friend, Christian, also joined the promotion, and the two joined the Brood along with Gangrel in 1999.

The tag team made up of Edge and Christian was uniquely special, providing a high-flying and fast-paced style that matched well with two of the other dominant squads of the period: The Hardy Brothers and the Dudley Boys. They engaged in a “Tables, Ladders, and Chairs” contest against their two rivals at WrestleMania on April 2, 2000 in Anaheim and won the lively match to capture the WWF World Tag Team Title for the first time. Over the next year, Edge and his partner won the championship five more times, and captured their seventh tag team title at WrestleMania X-Seven in Houston, once again defeating the Hardys and Dudleys in a dangerous, but exciting TLC bout. The adjustment to singles competition was easy for Edge and he won the King of the Ring tournament in 2001, as well as feuding with his former partner, Christian. He captured the U.S. Heavyweight Title from Kurt Angle, and unified it with the Intercontinental championship at the Survivor Series on November 18, 2001.

In 2002, he formed successful tag teams with Hulk Hogan and Rey Mysterio Jr., winning the WWE Tag Team Title with both partners, and a neck injury forced him from the ring in early 2003. At WrestleMania XXI, he won the initial Money in the Bank match, guaranteeing him a future World Title shot. That contract was cashed in on January 8, 2006 in Albany following champion John Cena’s successful title defense in an Elimination Chamber bout. Edge capitalized on Cena’s condition, and scored the pinfall for his first WWE championship. He’d end up losing it back to Cena at the Royal Rumble, but would regain it later in the year from Rob Van Dam. In 2007, he won the World Heavyweight Title after cashing in his second Money in the Bank contract and beating The Undertaker. That time around, he had to vacate the title because of another injury. He formed an on-screen relationship with Vickie Guerrero, the *Smackdown* General Manager, and benefited from her influence over the brand.

Edge was a five-time World Heavyweight Champion by the end of April 2009, having won the belt from Batista, Undertaker, Jeff Hardy, and John Cena. His relationship with Guerrero finally soured, but a legitimate injury forced him out of action yet again during the middle of 2009. When he returned in January of 2010, he came back with a vengeance, and won the Royal Rumble. It took him until December to win his sixth World Title in a TLC match over champion Kane, Alberto Del Rio, and Rey Mysterio. Guerrero stripped away his belt, but Edge regained it later in the same night from Guerrero’s new cohort, Dolph Ziggler, capturing his record seventh World Title on February 15, 2011. He survived the Elimination Chamber, and then beat Del Rio at WrestleMania, all leading up to an unexpected announcement. Edge was suffering from spinal stenosis and, to prevent further injury, retired from the business as the reigning world champion.



Foley, Mick

Photo Courtesy of Pete Lederberg—plmathfoto@hotmail.com

Born:	June 7, 1965
Height:	6'3"
Weight:	270-290
Real Name:	Michael Francis Foley
Parents:	John and Beverly Foley
Wife:	Colette Foley
High School:	Ward Melville High Scholl (NY)
College:	State University of New York College at Cortland
Identities:	Jack Foley, Jack Manson, Dude Love
Finisher:	Double-arm DDT, Mandible Claw
Groups:	Sullivan's Slaughterhouse (1990), The Corporation (1999), EV 2.0 (2010)
Tag Team:	The Rock and Sock Connection w/ The Rock
Career Span:	1986-Present

PPV Record:	28-56, 1 Draw, 1 DCO, 1 DDQ, 1 NC
WrestleMania Record:	2-3, 1 DCO
WWE Raw TV Record:	23-17, 1 DCO, 7 NC
WWE Smackdown TV Record:	9-6, 5 NC
Titles Won:	28
Days as World Champion:	110
Age at first World Title Win:	33
Best Opponents:	The Undertaker, The Rock, Shawn Michaels
Halls of Fame:	1
TV Appearances:	Over 25
Movies:	3
Published Books:	9

Mick Foley took a unique route to becoming an international wrestling celebrity, a path that he forged through years of hard work. He overcame unfavorable odds, including promoters who didn't see the marketability in his ring persona, and set himself apart by always giving 100 percent of his body to a match. The reckless character that he turned into inside the ring never held back. His bumps were outrageously solid every time, and fans could see the legitimacy of his passion for the business. While other wrestlers have longevity on Foley, few could say that they gave as much as he did across the length of his career. Foley's

matches were more like wrestling stunt shows with no regulator to limit the risks. He was a brawler on par with the “Hardcore Legend,” Terry Funk, and adept to the psychological side of wrestling, getting feuds and angles over by talking on the microphone. Foley had a continued presence in TNA and the WWE in 2011, and his ability to sell major storylines is still very strong.

Trained by Dominic DeNucci, Foley wrestled in the USWA and WCW early in his career, and received his most significant push in 1992–1993 when he feuded with Ron Simmons, Sting, and Vader. During one Atlanta show in April of 1993, Foley was powerbombed on the floor of the arena and knocked out, setting up a long-running amnesia skit that saw him wandering aimlessly around Cleveland, lost. The angle displayed more of his personality and exhibited another dimension of his character. His mystique grew further when he lost part of his right ear during a bout in Germany against Vader on March 16, 1994—but yet continued to wrestle. He appeared in ECW later that year, and electrified the not-so-easily impressed Philadelphia audience in battles with The Sandman and Terry Funk, and took his rivalry with Funk to Japan, where he met the “Funkster” in the finals of the IWA King of the Death Match tournament. Foley won that wild exploding barbed-wire bout. In early 1996, he began a new phase in the WWF as “Mankind.”

Entering into a lengthy war with The Undertaker, Foley gave forth a monumental effort during their June 28, 1998 Hell in a Cell match, and his actions defied believability. He took two huge falls from the top of the 16-foot cage, and continued to fight until being chokeslammed on tacks, and finally tombstoned. Foley’s ungodly commitment to the sport was evident, and made him an enormous superstar. From there, he won the WWF World Heavyweight Title three times and released his autobiography, which not only became a *New York Times* best-seller, but revolutionized the wrestling book business. He stepped away from the mat in 2000, but returned often to perform roles in both the WWE, and later TNA. Throughout this time, he’s penned two additional autobiographies, three children’s books, and two novels. On April 19, 2009, he returned to the ring to beat Sting for the TNA World Title and was positioned as the “network consultant” in 2011, but left the promotion before the angle got off the ground. He soon rejoined the WWE, and still makes the occasional appearance.