

Wrestling

NEWS

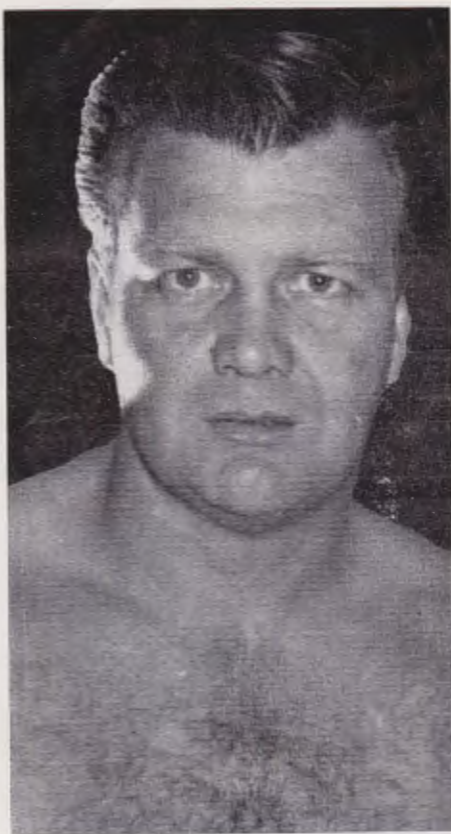


OFFICIAL ORGAN OF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING

SPIROS ARION: THE GOLDEN GREEK

MORE AND MORE LETTERS • 2,750 YEARS OF WRESTLING

PRICE: 30 CENTS



The Fabulous

SCOTT BROTHERS

Eventually promoters heard of this wrestling wizard who seemed able to beat bigger opponents without any apparent difficulty. The offers flowed into the Scott home.

So, in 1949, George switched over to the professionals, and began the career that has brought him the reputation of being one of the world's greatest heavyweights today.

In 1954 Sandy joined up with George on the Canadian wrestling circuit, and the name "Scott Brothers" began to mean something to wrestling fans.

"We have been one of the top 10 tag teams in America and Canada for more than 10 years. I think we have the ability to stay there", George said.

Do the Scotts have the usual brotherly tiffs and verbal clashes?

"Of course we have the usual brotherly differences, but they have never amount to anything", George said and Sandy nodded his head, grinning happily.

Fans will argue who is the better wrestler — George or Sandy?

But the brothers cannot supply the answer.

Sandy said: "We have always worked out together in the gymnasium because we feel the competition between us provides better training than we would get with other wrestlers".

"But", cut in George, "we have never had a real bout. If we did, one of us might get hurt. That would not be good for either of us, would it?"

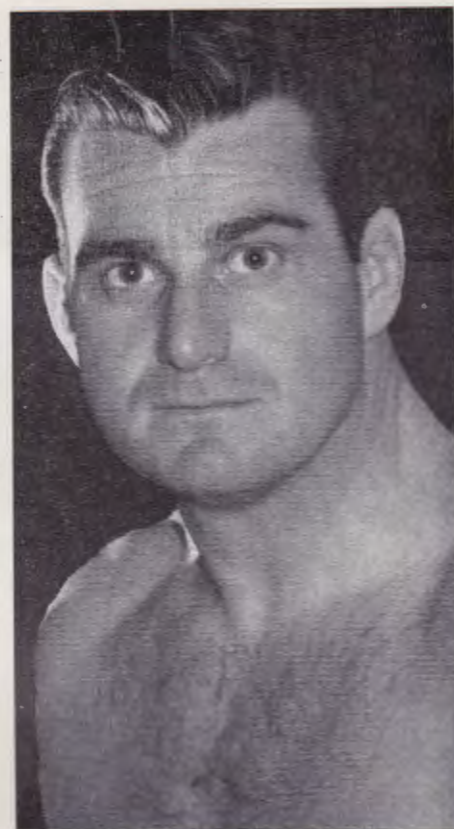
The Scotts have specialised in tag bouts because they get more pleasure from them.

"We are brothers who think and train alike. That is why we are such a successful tag team", George said.

The Scotts have another brother, Walter. However, it is unlikely the family could develop a three man tag team.

"Our other brother, Walter, is the baby of the family. He is a very successful accountant and sees us in action only occasionally", Sandy said.

George Scott always has his golf sticks with him, but he does not get to the course as often as he would like.



George and Sandy Scott have been America's most successful tag team for the last 10 years, and they put rivals "Skull" Murphy and "Brute" Bernard in a class of their own.

The brothers say, "Murphy and Bernard are purely back alley street fighters".

In fact, George said: "They are a disgrace to all who like to wrestle cleanly!"

Of course, this does not mean the brilliant Scott Brothers are hesitant about facing the rugged, ruthless and rules-breaking "Skull" and "Brute" in the wrestling ring.

This Scott Brother partnership can go back to when George was 14 and living at Hamilton, Canada.

"I was a tall, skinny kid weighing around 130 pounds, and wanted to compete in sport", George said.

"My time was taken up with ice skating, hockey and Gridiron football. But I always relished working in the gymnasium", he added.

"I was attending Central High School in Hamilton when I began working out with amateur wrestlers in the gymnasium. They told me I had the natural ability to be a success in that sport".

George was in championship class before very long, and seemed to improve in each tournament.

"Sydney is the only city so far where I have managed to fit in a game", George said.

"In the States I play off a 12 handicap", he replied to my question.

The Scott Brothers are among the most popular matmen to come to Australia. And they like Australian wrestling fans.

"Australians are more appreciative of skilful wrestling than fans in the United States and Canada", the Scotts said.

A change comes over the Scott Brothers when their itinerary takes them to Europe.

"Sandy" takes on his real name — ANGUS!!

"I used 'Angus' on our first European season in 1960. I have kept it on subsequent trips", he told me.

We hope that these fine wrestlers and true gentlemen of the ring will enjoy a pleasant stay in Australia.

They say, they like us. Well, we certainly like them!

DES MAURICE



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters and expressions of opinion are invited from all lovers of wrestling, young and old; but please keep your communications short. All letters must carry your full name and address, but you may elect, if you so desire, to have a non-de-plume used as signature instead of your name.

Please address all letters and other correspondence to The Editor, WRESTLING NEWS, 61-63 City Road, South Melbourne, S.C.4., Victoria.

"LILAC" WRITES VERSES AND THE EDITOR WAXES POETIC IN APPRECIATION!

... Loved the articles on the real pioneers of wrestling. It dispels the idea I think many younger fans have that wrestling has just now happened here in Australia, and anyway, it makes very interesting reading.

What a feast we have been having here wrestling-wise lately. The honour of seeing the great Bruno Sammartino back in action again, and those two boys who would do justice to any flying trapeze—George and Sandy Scott. With the exciting Masked Destroyer intriguing all as to his identity, and the return of Spiros Arion in better shape than ever, we have had some of the best matches ever witnessed at Festival Hall over the last few months. Incidentally, one younger fan who had apparently not seen the handsome Greek wrestler before, was heard to exclaim as he entered the ring on his return, "Boy, Oh Boy, just what I want for Christmas!" (Imagine Santa trying to get all nineteen stone ten of Spiros down the chimney).

I have enclosed a sort of Christmas wish to all the Wrestlers I composed that I thought might give the boys a laugh. It's a little premature for the festive season... and it may be a little corny, but it comes very sincerely from an appreciative fan in thanks for twelve months good wrestling.

"Lilac",
South Melbourne, Victoria.

"Lilac" has certainly done it! The editorial office of "Wrestling News" was so impressed with her Christmas verses that we handed the entire centre spread over to this clever wrestling fan, so that not only the wrestlers but fans throughout Australia should enjoy her poetic summing up of "The New Era in Wrestling". Thank you, Lilac, and a Happy Christmas to you, too. Editor.

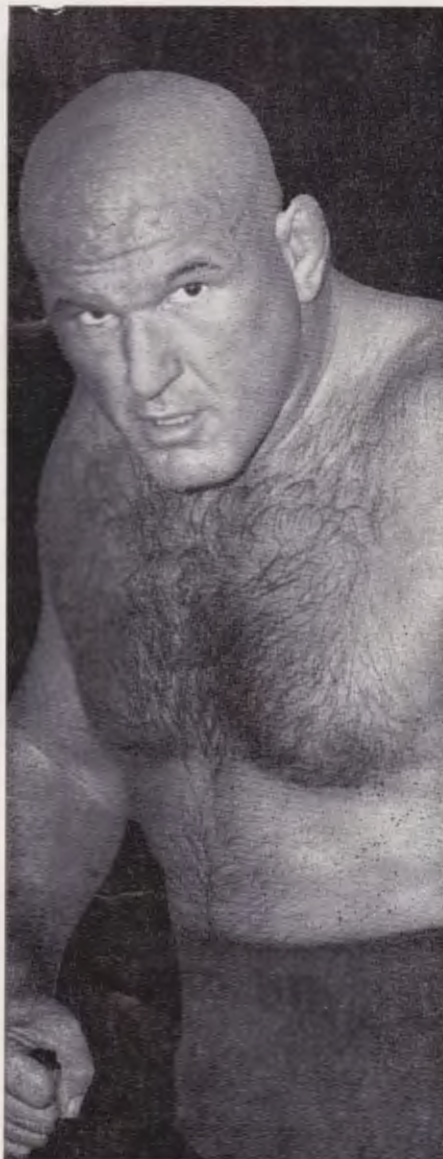
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DIDN'T LIKE OUR LADY WRESTLER

... I don't think you were quite fair. I asked for stories and action shots on those fabulous girl grapplers like Linda Carroll and Kay Noble and the like; instead of which you just printed an ugly action shot which didn't do the girl wrestlers nor the photographer justice...

Lee Stamford,
Adelaide, S.A.

Well, perhaps you are right and we apologise. Our action photo (in issue No. 6) was not too pretty. Thanks for your enclosed pictures. We'll see what can be done. Editor.



A POSTSCRIPT FROM "LILAC"

... You know the real reason why "Skull" Murphy closes his eyes while wrestling? —So he won't see his reflection in "Brute" Bernard's head!

"Lilac", South Melbourne.

Dear Lilac, We're anxiously waiting on your explanation of the "Brute's" circular movements in and out of the ring. But be kind to him. You never know, he may have a heart of gold—or something. Editor.

METHINKS HE DON'T LIKE HIM!

... I was in Festival Hall the other night and the same old thing happened: that referee is—and—; I bet most of the time, if you called him, he wouldn't know his own name. I'm puzzled why Messrs. Barnett and Doyle can't afford to hire another one with two eyes and some brains in his head! Honest wrestlers have to be defeated because the referee closes his eyes over illegal actions... Instead of calling for the bell and giving the fall to the two honest wrestlers who obey the rules, no, he just stands there and looks at them like he's stupid... When I make a statue of idiocy and stupidity, I will call this referee in to be my model... Is this man paid to be stupid?

Stephen Varga,
South Caulfield. Vic.

"Wow", as my friend Jack Little would say. This is the least inflammable bit from a three-page letter, and then I had to censor a few words. Not since my Army days have I heard red-blooded language like this. Alas, I think you're wrong, Mr. Varga, our referees are really first class, but don't forget, so are our wrestlers. Almost all have international experience, and if they want to be dirty, they certainly know all the tricks and then some to bamboozle the poor referee. Incidentally, most fans agree that the standard of our referees is very high. Or is that referee only stupid and—and—, if your favourites get beaten? Editor.

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COMMAND PERFORMANCE?

... What is wrong with Skull Murphy using telepathy? Only the other day our newspapers carried the story of Soviet scientists experimenting in psychic research and telepathy, fields once banned in Russia as "bourgeois chicanery". The "Komsomolskaya Pravda" reported about a recent experiment whereby a scientist in Novosibirsk recognised 12 of 25 cards "transmitted" mentally by another scientist in Moscow 2000 miles away. In another experiment a man under hypnosis fell over on a mental command from the hypnotist in another room...

"March of Science",
Waverley, N.S.W.

Most interesting, I'm sure, but hardly relevant. Anyway, the "Skull" denies using telepathy. The idea of a sleeperhold by hypnosis is certainly fascinating. Editor.

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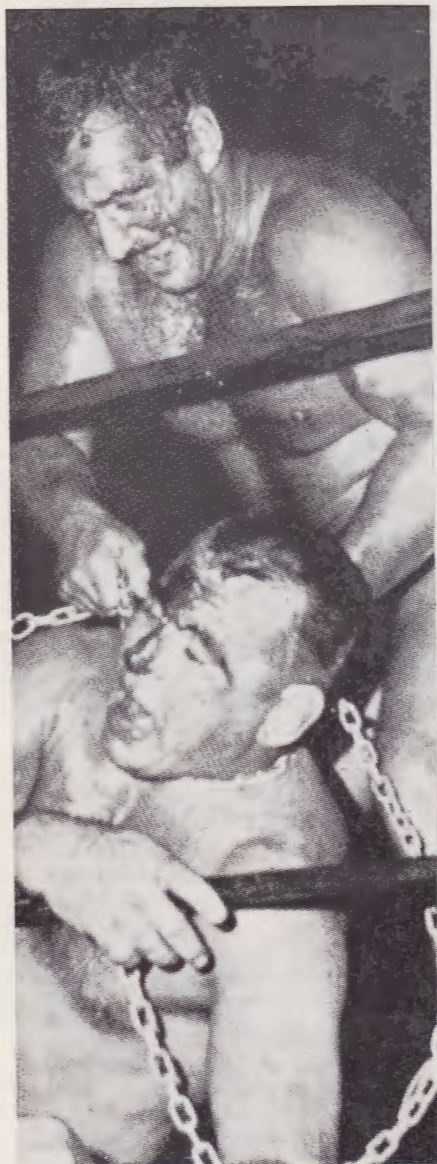
WHY NOT MIX 'EM?

Dear Editor, could you help promote the idea of mixed matches. I would like to see either a tag match of women wrestlers against men, or, if you bring out one of the top girls from U.S.A., I would like to have her matched against one of the top men here. We'd soon know who is the weaker sex!

(Miss) Marianne Stock,
Perth, W.A.

And may God have mercy on my soul! I'm a married man. Editor.

MORE LETTERS



IS WRESTLING "FAKED"?

...I've been to a lot of wrestling cards at Melbourne and recently watched a card from the front row. From there I could see quite clearly that wrestling is "faked" ... The wrestlers are good actors, so instead of championship belts, they should get academy awards ... I'll bet you don't publish this letter ...

William Puren (ex-fan)
Yallourn North.

You certainly lost your bet! I don't know what card you saw but you didn't like it, so you decided it was "faked". Have you ever had anything to do with professional athletes? Have you ever seen them train for hours on end, for weeks, for months, for years, until every muscle in their bodies is controlled, until they become the masters of their bodies? — It's true, if you or I would take just 5% of the punishment a pro wrestler gets in one bout, we'd be crippled for life! Or perhaps you'd like to get a 20 stone coalminer from where you live to pick you up, throw you over his head so that you land flat on your back, and then jump on you? — "Wrestling News" would have to send flowers to your family, wouldn't we? —

No, my friend, neither you nor I are even trained to fall correctly, let alone be kicked or punched or mauled. But just because these

fabulous men who throw each other about as if they were paperweights, and then come up for more, sometimes 3 or 4 times a week, all over Australia, just because these jet-age wrestlers under the Barnett/Doyle banner occasionally grunt a bit too much or hold their arms up as if frightened, or appear to be deadly tired and groggy one moment and completely recovered the next (all perfectly legal and done to confuse the opponent!) — you think they are all "fakes"!

Friend: let me assure you, in that case the wrestlers should all get "Oscars"! Broken limbs, concussion, hospital bills that seem to take all one's earnings, a legacy of blinding headaches from the many falls, crushed and twisted bones — are these all "faked"? Or would you rather see "chain-wrestling" as is done in some parts of the States to satisfy the sadistically inclined among the fans? Would you like this better?

I hope I've persuaded you to regard world championship wrestling again as it deserves to be regarded: as a fabulous sport by professional, highly trained world-class athletes who give their thousands of fans in Australia true value for the price they pay to see them in action.

Editor.

★ ★

HE'S A WONDERFUL GUY!

...In my opinion "Wrestling News" is fabulous and I enjoy reading it very much. My favourite wrestler is Larry O'Dea and I think we should be very proud to have such a fine matman who is an Australian ... Here is a short message from his No. 1 fan:—

Here's my view on Larry:
He's the greatest I have seen —
Because he's not like "Skull" or "Brute"
Their tactics — rough and mean.
His popularity, I'd say,
With all his fans is high:
Let me repeat in my own way —
That he's a wonderful guy.

C. E. (Larry O'Dea fan)
Ballarat, Victoria.

Thanks for your verse/letter. We couldn't agree more! Alas, we are not allowed to answer the other questions. To make up for it, here's a typical Larry O'Dea action shot.

Editor.



GEORGE ATTA and "Mr. Australia" MIKE HUNT

IN DEFENCE OF THE MOST MALIGNED PEOPLE IN WRESTLING!

...After reading William Thomas' bigoted attack on referees ("Wrestling News", No. 7), I feel I must add my own humble but sincere opinions on the subject. When confronted with such one-sided criticisms I am sorely tempted to "flatten" the paragon of fair-play who makes these thoughtless and unfounded accusations, but I leave the wrestling to professionals! Consider, if you will, Mr. Thomas & Co. the thankless and difficult task our referees must perform. Thousands of fans pack into the stadiums, each individual expecting the referee to see the match from HIS vantage point and to abide by the often prejudiced whims of the crowd; every wrestler, whether his style is rough or scientific, has his share of fans and the ref. is sure to displease some member of the audience every time ... The attributes of a referee are comparable to those of a saint; he must accept abuse from fans as well as wrestlers. Contrary to popular belief he has no fear of these menacing Samsons, once in the ring he is sole judge, jury and law enforcer, he must set aside any personal feelings and make his decisions without fear or favour. The controversial "five count" prior to disqualification causes some dissention among fans, but it is designed for the protection of ALL wrestlers; if the "clean" wrestler doesn't care to take advantage of it as most of the "rough" guys do, can we, in all fairness, blame the referee? Few of us have the wisdom of Solomon, fans, so please consider all the facts before sounding off at our referees ... after all REFEREES ARE PEOPLE TOO!

"Miss Fixit",
Marks Point, New South Wales.

You don't have to write a special apology because your "Letter to the Editor" was too "vociferous". I don't think it was. In fact, you made some very important observations which needed stating. I note you have met Ron Hansen, Hunter Shaw and "Mr. Australia" Michael Hunt. Of course they are nice guys and, to quote your other letter, "three of the finest men in the wrestling profession".

Editor.

ALL THE WAY FROM U.S.A.

...Have just read your No. 2 "Wrestling News" which a friend sent me from Adelaide. I think you have a real winner. If our promoters would publish anything as well presented and printed, they would sell thousands of copies. I liked particularly your story on Karl Gotch who has been wrestling here not so long ago and who is a terrific chap. The wrestling here in the East has been exceptionally good with Sammartino, Kowalski, Bobo Brazil and Dr. Jerry Graham fighting it out between them...Have you ever heard of "Gentleman Jim" Hady down under? You should

try to get him to wrestle in Australia. He is tops. Good luck to your magazine. Keep the good work up!

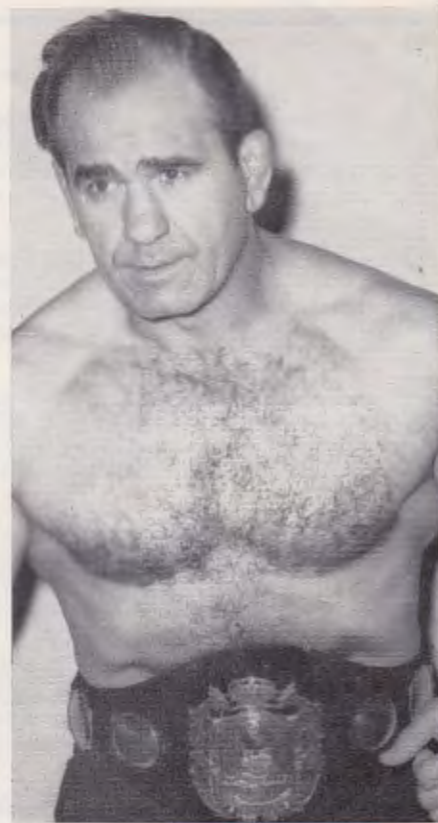
(Miss) Judy Roach,
Waterbury, Connecticut, U.S.A.

Thank you, Judy. Your letter was a very pleasant surprise. We've sent you a few issues after the one you liked so much to show you how we have fared. And don't worry. We not only know of "Gentleman Jim", we've seen him often—and, I assure you, thousands of fans throughout Australia agree with you wholeheartedly. Write again. Editor.



KARL GOTCH

keeps himself in tremendous physical condition by training rigorously and rigidly. He is proud that he has never resorted to rough tactics in the ring. (See letter above: "All the way from U.S.A.")



WANTED: LOU THESZ

...I have read all issues of your publication "Wrestling News" from cover to cover...but I haven't yet seen a write-up or a good picture of the one and only Lou Thesz who has no equal anywhere in the world. I know he is not as good-looking as some of the younger stars, but what a man. When are the promoters bringing him out to Australia?

(Mrs.) Martha Smythe,
Gardenvale, Victoria.

You are right. This is certainly a bad omission on our part. At least, we hasten to print a good picture of Lou. We'll see what we can do about a write-up. As to his visit here, we'll make enquiries. Editor.

WILL YE NO' COME BACK AGAIN?

...We all enjoy reading WRESTLING NEWS...It's really great to have a magazine where we can read about these fine and not so fine wrestlers who come out here...we were all very disappointed when Mark Lewin went home...we wrote to Sam Menacker who told us that Mark had hurt his neck, he also said that he didn't know if Mark would be back as his young son was now 1½ years old and he wanted to spend more time with him...

(Miss) Hazel Grave
Condell Park. N.S.W.

We here think you are nice, too, writing such long letters. It's too early to ask Messrs. Barnett and Doyle about a return visit by Mark Lewin. It is quite true that Mrs. Lewin wants hubby home for a little while, but wrestling is in Mark's blood, and he'll go where the top wrestlers are: so we should expect him back in Australia in the not too distant future. Let's keep our fingers crossed! Editor.

"My Christmas Wishes to

I've followed the wrestling for two years all-told,
And now on the fabulous mat-game I'm sold!
Let me tell you of some of the mat-men I've seen
In the last twelve months on the wrestling scene.

From Venice in Italy **DE NUCCI** was here —
When **DOM** came to Melbourne, I gave a great cheer;
Each time he appeared, I went in a spin,
And t'was not often that he didn't win.

We saw here in Melbourne a black and white jacket,
Inside was **DICK STEINBORN**, a real jet packet:
Remember those guys who were rubbing their tummy?
With Dick on the 'stretch', they screamed for their Mummy!

JOHNNY "Pretty Boy" **BOYD** from Tasmania hails,
Sometimes he wins matches but most times he fails.
Every time he wrestles — dark glasses I wear,
Or I'd ruin my eyesight with his colours, I swear.

A **SWAN** called **EDDIE** we've seen at the Hall,
He surely must have the best fan club of all.
He hails from Holland where the tulips grow —
To the top of the ladder young Eddie could go.

From **MARK LEWIN'S** Sleeper the wrestlers all flee,
(I sure wouldn't struggle if he put it on me),
The handsomest devil you ever did see,
And a pretty nice guy, too, I know you'll agree!

That toughie **ART NELSON** appeared at the Hall,
Till he got a good trouncing to the shock of us all.
Now we see him again on the wrestling scene,
I hold "Little" hope, if you know what I mean.

PAMPERO FIRPO, that wild roaring bull,
Was de-barked by De Nucci, who had his hands full.
But he never needs 'Linda' to keep out the cold
With his own generator in each whiskery hold.

There hailed from Japan, a **PROFESSOR**, no less,
TANAKA did leave most opponents a mess;
His share of defeats he did suffer, I know,
But please take my advice, dodge that big hammer blow.

An explosion hit Melbourne in early July,
We all looked in awe at a fabulous guy.
"The **BEARCAT**" he's called, and how "**WRIGHT**" they are,
When they call him the greatest we've seen here by far.

Young **LARRY O'DEA**'s a nice fellow, we know,
To the top of the ladder he surely must go.
He's taken on Young and he's taken on old,
And it's not very often you see this boy fold.

BOB Baker (THE BRUISER) persued by the girls,
He isn't that handsome — nor does he sport curls.
He's rough and he's tough, but they love him the same.
Which just goes to show — what's in a name!

Purple boots — six foot three — killer hands — not much hair,
Bet you don't have to guess to which man I refer,
"**KILLER**" Wally **KOWALSKI**, the king of them all,
When he gets on his claw, even the mightiest fall.

We pass to a red-head, here's where I pass out.
When I mention **BASTIEN**, I just want to shout
From the roof-tops of Melbourne, please come back here, **RED**!
And all over Australia the same thing is said.

From Japan came **MITSU, ARAKAWA**'s the name,
(Funny, him and old "**Toro**" don't quite look the same),
His hobby is cooking, he's a master all right!
But he's not tossing salad, when a win is in sight.

WALDO VON ERICH, boots, fists and all,
He sure turned it on at Festival Hall.
With wins left and right, great was his tally,
Wouldn't care to meet him up a dark alley.

From Italy, via the States, a world beater came,
BRUNO SAMMARTINO was the champion's name.
He's a magnificent matman and one of the few,
With a world champion title that's genuine, too.



he Wrestling Fraternity... ”

writes “Lilac”

sending us all —

Season's Greetings

A “gentleman” by name of **HADY** was here,
When the fans first saw **JIM** they gave a great cheer,
As agile a wrestler, as ever you'll see,
With holds aplenty, I know you'll agree.

ROY HEFFERNAN, the fabulous kangaroo,
Is pretty familiar to me and you,
His holds are many and his opponents all say,
When he ties them up, it's the end of the day.

Big **BILL DROMO** was a sight to see,
Tall and strong and built like a tree,
He wrestled well and made all the girls sigh,
Hope he's back next year to give it a try.

That bad boy from Ireland, “**SKULL**” **MURPHY** was here,
A fellow all mat-men have good cause to fear,
In the ring old John is really a killer,
And each match he's in, turns out quite a thriller.

John brought his mate by name of **BERNARD**,
Not really a “**BRUTE**” least that's what I've heard,
He's no need of hair-oil or brushes, that's true,
But his losses in matches you'll find very few.

A “pretty Boy” **HENNING** and a “Handsome” called **RACE**,
Late last June decided to grace
Our isles with their presence, and tops was this pair,
For blowing their trumpets they sure had a flair.

A wrestler named **BOCKWINKEL**, we called him **NICK**,
Popularity in Melbourne, he gained very quick,
A scientific mat-man — the best of his kind.
In this era of wrestling, a very good find.

Big **DANNY MILLERS**'s not really so bad,
In fact, when you meet him, he's quite a nice lad.
He's big and he's tough, all eighteen stone two,
I'm sure you'll agree that his defeats are few.

VITTORIO APOLLO came feet first in the Hall —
He's not very heavy, nor is he so tall:
But for speed and quick thinking, Vittorio's the most,
You'll find no one faster, if you go coast to coast.

A good-looker from Greece, **ARION**'s the name,
One of the best in the wrestling game,
The toast of Athen's, a favourite with all.
We were all glad when **SPIROS** came back to the Hall.

A toughie from Sydney, by name of **PINFOLD**,
Dressed in black top to toe, he would never catch cold,
And though **ALAN** has suffered defeats by the score,
He's back there, quite willing, to front up for more.

From Canada came **GEORGE** and **SANDY SCOTT**,
For opponents they sure make it awfully hot,
To watch these boys in the ring is a pleasure —
With a ‘sleeper’ and ‘stretch’ all thrown in for good measure.

A handsome young **BOLAS** from Greece was here,
When **STEVE** climbed in the ring all the girls gave a cheer,
A clever young wrestler with holds galore,
When he put on his leg-lock the bout was no more.

Is Dr. “A” Guy Mitchell — who can't sing a song?
(Perhaps the poor bloke really looks like King Kong).
He's hidden from view by a mask, what the heck!
“**THE DESTROYER**” — oh yea? Well, I'm Gregory Peck!

Referee — **MICHAEL HUNT** is a joy to behold,
There isn't a move or there isn't a hold —
That he doesn't know, and all mat-men have said,
That our Michael has eyes in the back of his head!

Commentator **JACK LITTLE**'s never short of a word,
Has the worst laugh of any I've ever heard.
Got one black eye, one white, but I'm sure you'll agree,
He's a very nice man, you can take it from me.

Announcer **PAUL JENNINGS** — a pretty good guy,
As a wrestling announcer he really does try,
And I don't really envy him his job at all,
When he's in there with wrestlers six foot something tall.

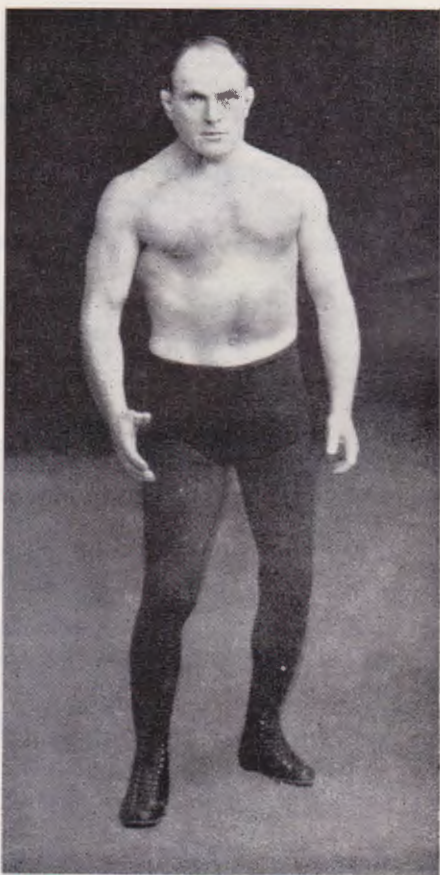
We now come to Promoters at Festival Hall:
One is **JIM BARNETT** to manage it all.
Jim's a real Gent — and it's plain to see,
That his tailor's kept busy, I'm sure you'll agree.

And a nicer guy would be hard to find
Than big **JOHNNY DOYLE** who's always so kind,
In his own airplane, he flies hither and fro, —
I know all would miss him if e'er he should go.

And so I must close, but before I go,
I'd like to announce so that all of you know:
That I wish you the happiest, best Christmas of all,
BE SEEING YOU NEXT YEAR AT FESTIVAL HALL!

CHAMPIONS OF THE PAST — 3:

Al Karasick



is a Russian political exile, former ballet dancer, student and linguist. He is the most travelled and certainly the most temperamental of all visiting wrestlers.

In the ring he is as agile and active as the proverbial cat, while out of the ring he is a brilliant conversationalist and keen observer.

With years of ring experience, Al Karasick is ever regarded as a formidable adversary, and when he deems it necessary, can rough it with any opponent.

Al has made hosts of friends here, so much so that he has ideas of some day forsaking the long, long trail and becoming a dinkum Aussie.

— MELBOURNE STADIUM, 1927

The above write-up appeared in a Championship Wrestling Souvenir of ten Light-Heavy-weight Wrestlers who contended the World's Championship at the Melbourne Stadium (now Festival Hall), forty years ago; this is the third in our series "Champions of the Past".

Readers will be interested to know that Al Karasick died only last year in Honolulu. Although he never made good his promise to Mr. R. Lean, of Stadiums Ltd., and to Mr. Alf Bridges, the referee, to return to Australia and settle here, he was always keenly interested in all happenings in Australia and a wonderful host to Australian friends who visited him in Hawaii where he was Manager of the Honolulu Stadiums until his death.

MEASUREMENTS

Chest (normal)	40 in.	Reach	70 in.
Chest (expanded)	46 in.	Neck	18 in.
Biceps	14 in.	Forearm	12 in.
Waist	33 in.	Thigh	22 in.
Ankle	9 in.	Calf	15 in.
Weight	12 st. 4 lb.	Height	5 ft. 6½ in.

The "GOLDEN" GREEK

by Sam Menacker

For centuries the gallant nation of Greece has produced great wrestlers.

When the Olympic Games were originated in 776 B.C., the first wrestling champion was **Milo of Croton**. He won three consecutive Olympic Games Wrestling Tournaments over a period of twelve years.

From 1932 and for thirteen years thereafter, the great **Jim Londos** ruled supreme as the world's heavyweight wrestling champion. Following his tenurs as title holder, no Greek held the title.

For the past twenty years, there have been many great and colourful Greek wrestlers, but none has had the ability to wear the belt emblematic of the World's Champion.

This fact was bemoaned by Greeks throughout the world.

The national sport of Greece is wrestling, and all the best wrestlers from that nation travelled to all parts of the world, gaining wealth and glory for themselves, but it seemed that none of them could become "King Of The Wrestlers".

In the early part of 1965, Mr. Jim Barnett of the Barnett-Doyle Corporation, while on a European tour searching for wrestling talent, heard reports of a young wrestler, residing in Athens, who was mowing down all opposition. Mr. Barnett hopped a plane to Athens to watch **Spiros Arion, The Golden Greek**, in action. He was pleased with what he saw, approached Spiros with a contract and signed him for an Australian tour.

This was a great opportunity for Spiros, who was just approaching his 25th birthday. It was a great chance for him to be among the world's greatest matmen and a big chance for him to be among the world's highest paid wrestlers. He looked forward with eager anticipation to his tour — a chance to see a part of the world he'd never seen before, a chance to save some big money, and also to see his grandparents in Melbourne. He

had not seen them for twenty years. In fact, he did not remember what they looked like.

When Spiros arrived in Australia, he was immediately warmly embraced by the Greek community. Little did his fans realize they were welcoming the next champion. Spiros himself, though full of inspired ambition, never realized he was good enough to attain the title.

He scored an instant hit wherever he appeared, defeated tough opposition, and soon was clamouring for a match with champion "Killer" Kowalski.

The "Killer" steadfastly refused to sign for a match with Arion on the grounds that Spiros was inexperienced. Nevertheless, when "Killer" received a tremendous guarantee, he agreed to the bout.

There is no doubt that Kowalski completely underestimated Arion, for in the bout which took place in Sydney, Kowalski lost the title to the young Hellenic star.

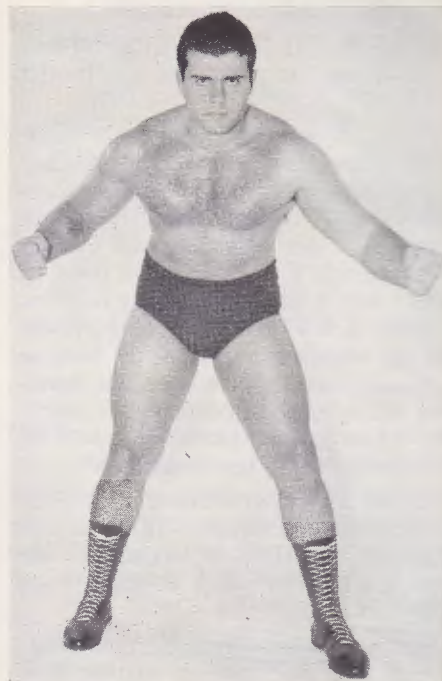
In all championship bouts there is a clause in the contract which guarantees the former champion a return bout within 30 days. In less than two weeks Champion Arion had another bout with challenger Kowalski and once again, Arion emerged victorious.

And in still a third bout Arion pinned the great Kowalski's shoulders to the mat.

For six months afterward, Spiros Arion, The Golden Greek, honorably defended his title with pride, dignity and glory. In December of 1965, he wrestled the "Killer" in Honolulu and dropped the title in a highly controversial and hotly disputed match.

He is now on the trail to winning that coveted championship belt once again.

Spiros Arion, The Golden Greek, now 26 years of age, is married to a lovely Grecian girl. They are the parents of a beautiful little boy, Stephen, who is six months of age.



Spiros, a gentleman in every respect, stands six feet three inches in height and weighs in at close to 20 stone.

He has one hobby — training. He believes that good condition is the best "hold" in wrestling. And when he is in the gym he works out with as many as five sparring partners in one afternoon!

Arion, The Golden Greek, was born in Athens, lived in Crete and then in Egypt. When he finished high school in Cairo, his first job was as a lift operator in a hotel. Then he became a receptionist.

In his spare time he entered amateur wrestling tournaments and won every one of them in Egypt.

When Spiros returned to his native Athens, he embarked on a professional career, journeyed to the United States and Canada for a short time and fared rather well. It was evident that he was improving every day and was on the way up — but there was something lacking. Spiros, realizing his shortcomings, kept training diligently. He returned to Greece, became the Greek champion and was active in his chosen profession when Mr. Doyle contacted him.

The Golden Greek has a tremendous physique and is one of the strongest men in wrestling. He has a marvellous personality and is well liked by all who know him. He is extremely intelligent, speaks five languages fluently.

He is security minded, saves his money, and no doubt has an eye on the future.

(contin. next page)

I spoke with Spiros recently and asked about his plans for the future. His reply:

"Well, I am too young to think about retirement. I love my wrestling career and expect to be wrestling competitively for many years to come. After all, I am only 26 years of age, and I certainly can put in at least 10 good years in the ring, barring injuries. I realize I am fortunate to be among the top wrestlers in the world here in Australia, and to have been the champion after being in professional wrestling for only three years. I respect all wrestlers and all my opponents".

Spiros, a great gentleman in and out of the ring, is a wrestler all of us can be proud of. He is a wrestler in the great tradition of Greek wrestlers from Milo to Londos.

Spiros has far surpassed the wrestlers of the past and is setting new records, reaching new heights and is being acclaimed as one of the greatest wrestlers of all time.

Spiros Arion is, indeed—The Golden Greek!!

"WRESTLING NEWS" DIGS INTO HISTORY TO REVEAL A

GREEK WRESTLING SAGA

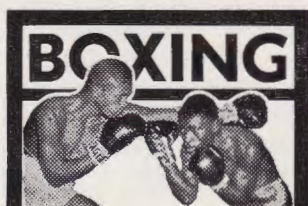
Greek Wrestlers have brought high achievement to the sport of wrestling for thousands of years, from ancient times to the present era of jet wrestling.



SYDNEY — Sydney Stadium
Every Wednesday and Saturday night

BRISBANE — Festival Hall
Every Thursday and Friday night

MELBOURNE — Festival Hall
Every Sunday night



MELBOURNE — Festival Hall
Every Friday night

SYDNEY — Sydney Stadium
Every Monday night

BRISBANE — Festival Hall
Every Monday night

In his article on Spiros Arion — The Golden Greek — Sam Menacker mentions that **organised wrestling probably started with the Olympic Games, and that means a history of nearly 2,750 years.**

The Olympic Games, as we know them today, are a revival of an athletic festival which originated in Greece 776 B.C.

According to legend, however, the origin of the Olympic Games dates back much further. Ancient Greeks attributed the founding of the Games to a demigod, Hercules, son of Zeus. Actually, historians have been unable to establish with certainty the exact history of these festivals, in which the champions were crowned with olive branches cut from the sacred woods of the Temple of Zeus.

Nevertheless, **it has been found without doubt that already at the first Games held on the plain of Olympia, wrestling was one of the sports contested.**

And every four years from then on, for more than 1,000 years, the Greeks held these Games, until the Romans abolished them in 394 A.D.

At each of these a champion wrestler was crowned and given all honour during the four years of his reign. Wrestling was considered by many to symbolise the true Hellenic ideal that

the body as well as the mind and spirit should be developed, and in the contests the highest ethical standards of competition prevailed.

It is interesting to note that the Games were held regularly; wars were stopped, roads were free, for no one dared to break the truce of Olympia.

Crumbling monuments in Greece show beautifully built athletes in mat combat. Roman friezes, too, depict men in a great variety of wrestling holds, attesting to the popularity of the sport in olden days. In fact, ancient Egyptian inscriptions testify on relics of their extraordinarily vivid sculpture that wrestling was a well-known and highly respected sport in those early days of mankind.

With the benefit of this splendid background, Greek wrestlers of our modern times have achieved notable successes in contests in Europe, long before wrestling became an organised, professionally conducted enterprise in the United States or in Australia.

The Greeks brought over Greco-Roman style skills. The English, Irish, Welsh, German, French and Canadian wrestlers introduced their own varieties.

Wrestling was firmly established as the national sport of Greece in the nineteenth century, and it was only natural that descendants of the Spartans and Athenians should come to

RAY STEVENS

doesn't want to be a nice guy — Nice guys get nowhere in wrestling . . .

reports Des Maurice

Blond Ray Stevens — one of the most accomplished and successful wrestlers in the world — has a very definite reason for being the sport's bad man.

"I don't want to be a nice guy. Nice guys get nowhere in wrestling", Stevens yelled when queried on his ruthless tactics in the ring.

"I am the best wrestler in the world. I want to win the world championship, and I am prepared to smash up anybody who gets in my way", he added.

"Sure, I could be a gentleman in the ring. But where would THAT get me? Look at all those nice fellows. You don't see them holding the world championship belt! You have to be tough to succeed in the top rank of wrestling today!"

Stevens, 30, 6 ft. and 17 stone has spent HALF his life as a professional wrestler. He started his professional wrestling career at the age of 15, and admits he took a lot of hammerings from experienced opponents in those early days. This could account for Stevens' complete disregard of rules — and referees — in most of his bouts now.

"I play it hard now. That is the only way to win a world championship. I have had to put up with a lot of pain in getting to the top in the sport. Now it is the turn of somebody else to get beaten up", Stevens said.

"Referees. They are useless in the ring most of the time. All they do is get in the way when I am trying to win my matches", added Stevens.

I must admit that Stevens shows plenty of courage in most of his bouts. He never shirks pain, and will put up with excruciating punishment as he works out a counter hold.



Stevens made his professional debut at Columbus, Ohio. "I had a lot of success in amateur bouts, and turning professional was the logical thing to do. I was only 15, and weighed 190 lb. (13.8) for my first bout".

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If you want to keep informed about the fabulous world of professional wrestling, keep reading WRESTLING NEWS.

He kept on taking severe punishment against older, stronger and experienced opponents. "But I was learning all the time", the wily Stevens added.

Usually when Stevens faces an opponent in the ring today, he is "top dog". He breaks the rules and will resort to any illegal move to keep on winning.

But what of this blond champion outside the ring? Stevens is educated, well spoken and dresses immaculately.

His hobbies include motor cycle racing and flying. Stevens said: "I have seven motor bikes — all Harley Davidson models. My fastest does 115 m.p.h., and I love to ride this on a TT track". (A TT track is one with sharp left and right handed turns).

Stevens had one bad fall on his 115 m.p.h. bike. "I don't know how fast I was travelling when I slipped off. But I got so hot on one side as I slid along that I had to turn over to cool off", he said.

Stevens has one burning ambition on this Australian visit. "I want to thrash that big Greek, Spiros Arion. I will defeat him soundly, and send him back to Greece a beaten man", he warned.

Stevens claims he and Art Nelson are the world champions at tag wrestling. "We should be the champions because there is nobody who can beat us", he said.

Stevens feels that another five years will satisfy his wrestling ambitions. "I think I will get out of the sport then, and invest my money". And he has a very ambitious plan after quitting wrestling.

"I plan to purchase a schooner, and sail it around the world. I think a 50 foot schooner would be about the right size", he told me.

Can YOU imagine the fiery Stevens sitting up in his schooner sailing on placid waters in the Pacific or Atlantic oceans?

With nobody around to be hurt — except fishes!

Readers' comments are invited!